



Knighton Heath Golf Club

Hello to everyone,

I find myself writing this update in probably the strangest and most frightening period in any of our lives and certainly one none of us could have predicted at the start of the year.

I would also like to add my thanks to the army of people working 24/7 to keep people alive and well – not easy when you see what is happening around the world.

I would also like to send my best wishes to the whole membership during this confinement as difficult as it is for some to stay in – **You Must Stay at Home** – this will then help to remove the virus and get the world back to some sort of normality.

At this time the green keepers are continuing their work on the course – they are working in two shifts alternate days. I have asked them to photograph their work and post them on the club site for all to see. You may or not be aware that we have had idiots on the course who have burnt the 16th green and 17th tee box. Alan and his team are repairing the damage, which has been photographed and posted by Reunert.

We have had comments from some members about not been informed of what is happening at the club – Reunert has sent out 13 news flashes to date, to try and inform the membership of everything that is occurring!

I appreciate that the course is currently closed for us to play – but if you live local and want to exercise by walking around the course, that will be alright and will hopefully discourage idiots from coming on to and damaging the course any further. Some members are already doing this and have caught people and families abusing the course, haven spoken to them and explained the consequences of their actions most have then moved on.

However, we as a Committee cannot sanction marshals or volunteers at this time in contravention of the government's policy (instruction) of staying at home.

The course will reopen at some point in the future and will be in the best condition that any of us will have ever seen. With that in mind the day to day running of the club continues without rest and at a cost – hence the need for subscriptions. At this present time the Manco team are still meeting (using Skype) and fighting with figures, to try and represent the loss of golfing played, both prior to and since the present pandemic.

We are looking at various ways and new ideas of breaking the cost down. Trust me it is not easy – we will be sending out new subscriptions shortly – not everyone will be happy or like the fact they are paying for something they cannot use at the moment.

Please see past that and look to the future when we are back playing and enjoying a laugh and a beer in the club house and reflecting back on these strange days.

As I mentioned earlier the club still costs money to keep it going. If the membership or a large portion decides not to pay the subscription, the golf club will cease – this is not a threat but is fact.

When we budget (as other clubs do) each year a portion is estimated using previous years for income from societies and daily visitors – without any of these this year we as a club are now close to the bone. Reunert and Des (Finance) are both using everything at their disposal and whatever the Government is offering to get the club through the present predicament.

We have had some members already threaten to leave and go to other clubs in the area – in case they didn't realise it no other club is open – but if they do leave, we will wish them well.

Finally, this pandemic will end – sadly no one knows when – but it will. When it does I, Manco and all of the staff will be here to welcome you back to your chosen hobby at Knighton Heath GC.

I personally wish every member good health during this pandemic – **remember Stay at Home and stay safe.**

Jim Airth

**Jim Airth
Chairman**

5 April 2020