Senior Captain's Report

Brian Sapsed

An interesting year you might say, I was looking forward to all the joys of captaincy, but instead I have become the COVID-19 captain!

Having said that, I think that we have achieved a great deal this year. I hope the updates that I send out to Seniors keeps them all well informed of what is happening within the Seniors section.

The lockdown has somewhat got in the way of our normal procedures for holding our twice weekly 'roll-ups'. Instead of meeting in the club house for an early morning coffee, chat, and a tee time draw, Seniors have been required to book in online and have tee times allocated to them. The system has worked well, but unfortunately stopped much of the socialising.

We have seen a number of new members joining during the year. Last year the average number of players attending a roll up was 27 with a high of 44, this year the average has been 41 with a high of 55.

Unfortunately, it proved impossible to hold our normal Seniors Away Day and Senior Captains Day. We did manage to hold a Charity Day that was fully subscribed and raised around £1370. The winners of the Captains Day Trophy, which we competed for on this day were Vice-Captain George Bond and his partner Noel Loftman.

My charity this year has been the Essex and Herts Air Ambulance, through the Charity Day, Exemption Cards, Donations and other events we will raise around £3500 this year.

On the competition front we managed to play both the Seniors Handicap Championship won by Alan Little (nett 67) and the Senior Championship won by Harry Stone (gross 76). A full list of winners will be published shortly.

On the club match front, we managed to play Cainhoe Wood (formally Beadlow Manor) both home and away. We managed a draw at home, but we lost away.

What does the 2021–22 season hold in store for us? Well, I certainly don't know, I have been asked to stand as Senior captain for a second year. Hopefully, we will have a year that is nearer the normal, we have a full diary of club matches and competitions planned.

The Seniors committee (George Bond, Stephen Barr, Jim Cameron, Nick Dingley, Noel Loftman and Andy Walker) has supported me throughout the year, we have divided up many of the tasks which we hope will lead to a cut down on individual workloads. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their hard work. Can I also thank Barry McKellar for many years' service on the committee, who decided to step down from the committee during the year.