

Hi All,

From a Match and Handicap perspective 2023 has been a challenging year, primarily as a result of the introduction of the new Scottish Golf VMS system. The use of this system marked a significant change from what was used in previous years. Thanks go to all members for staying patient and to the shop staff who have adapted to the new system. Ultimately by the end of the year I believe we had things running as efficiently as possible and we will continue with this practice into next year.

On the subject of the new system, we foresee minor changes continuing into 2024, these should prove to be far less drastic than what we seen at the beginning of this year. The largest foreseen change will be when POS integration comes online, it remains to be seen if this will be a blessing or a curse from a Match and Handicap perspective. Even with this change, we hope that the member experience on the system will be largely unchanged and we will do everything from our perspective to ensure that is the case.

Reflecting on the competitions from 2023, we have seen great attendance most Saturdays and Wednesdays and all of the knockouts were well attended. Thank you to Ian Currie who continues to do a great job at ensuring all ties are played in a timely manner. Another positive was the attendance in this year's Road to Dundonald, we will hopefully attract the same number, if not more, for next year's competition. Again, we thank the membership for their support of the competitions and we will be running a fairly similar competition calendar for next year and hope to issue the updated fixture list early in the new year.

Moving into 2024, Scottish Golf will be implementing a new system for calculating course handicaps. In summary, the calculation will be identical to what it is currently but with an additional adjustment to account for the difference between the course rating and the course par. At Kilsyth, this change will mean that all members will likely see their playing handicap be 1 stroke lower on the opening day of the 2024 season when compared with the closing date of the 2023 season. Scottish Golf have shared a document outlining this change and additional minor changes. Given the fact this will affect our membership, we will circulate the Scottish golf document at the beginning of next year and I am always available to address any questions or queries that may result from this change.

Unfortunately, I am not able to attend the AGM this year but if there are any questions for me, I will look to respond as quickly as possible.

Kind Regards,

Michael