



# ***NORMY NEWS***

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*April 2021*

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## ***April 12<sup>th</sup> - outdoor drinking allowed /Hospitality returning***

We are sure that most of you are aware by now that from next Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> April, Golf Clubs will be allowed to serve alcoholic drinks outside of buildings (like pub beer gardens). We will therefore revert to the arrangements we had in place last year when similar restrictions were in place, e.g. orders will be taken for drinks at the French doors of the Hatfeild Suite which will be left open. You will then return to your outdoor seating until called back to receive your drinks order. 2 metre Social distancing will be expected at all times. Please note scaffolding currently being used to repair the Balcony floor will not be removed until next week, however the L/H French door will be available for safe use.

People will also be expected to sit down whilst drinking and not stand up. If the area becomes too crowded and seating is not available then you will not be allowed to remain in the area unfortunately. It is vitally important that everyone adheres to these arrangements and restrictions as we are sure the local constabulary will no doubt be making random checks of all licensed premises in the neighbourhood.

Unfortunately if the weather is poor we won't have the marquee up this year as it proved inadequate when strong winds prevailed and was damaged in the winds of last year. **The bringing of one's own alcohol is strictly forbidden, anyone in breach of this club rule will risk serious disciplinary action from the club.**

The 12<sup>th</sup> April also sees the much welcome return to our ability to host Weddings, conferences, seminars, etc. This return of hospitality is a much needed boost to our income streams and is vital to the

success of our business plan. However, as it is so crucial to us it does mean that between April 12<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup> (allowed inside) there may be some pre-booked hospitality events in the Hatfeild Suite that prevent it opening its french doors to members. Obviously we will try and minimise these wherever possible, but please accept our apologies in advance.

### ***Member Offer – Have a drink on us!!***

The Board of Directors are looking at innovative ways of showing appreciation towards members for their loyalty in renewing their membership at these difficult times for everyone. Wherever possible we will try and come up with a monthly offer for members. Therefore this month's offer is for one free drink for every member (up to the value of a pint of San Miguel) starting from next Monday at 1pm and must be used by the end of April (that's one for the month, not one every time you visit the Club). The value (£3.50) will be applied automatically on your green card.



### ***Membership***

Membership subscription renewal have finished now and as you could expect due to the pandemic, club/course closure, etc. it has proved an extremely difficult decision for everyone involved which has obviously meant a larger than usual number of members having to really consider whether they have and are getting their required value for money from their subscriptions. The pandemic has greatly affected many member's decisions and resulted in a greater than normal amount of members leaving the Club, however we are pleased to say that virtually all these have been replaced by keen/enthusiastic new members, many of whom you will no doubt be meeting out on the course over the coming months.

Please ensure that we make all new members feel comfortable and ensure we give them the traditional warm NGC welcome that the Golf Club has become well known for over the years. For those new members, we apologise that we haven't been able to formally greet you as would be our custom in normal times, however we can guarantee you all that once all restrictions are taken off (from 21st June onwards is the current plan) we will be arranging a new members evening for all new members who have joined since the original lockdown of 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.

### ***New Director Appointed***

Readers of this newsletter will have read in last month's edition how we appealed to all members asking whether anyone was interested in coming on to the Board to fill the vacant position of House Director. We are pleased to announce that Shane McDonnell has approached us and is willing to undertake the vacant role. Shane's CV is ideal in that his background and current employment is all about property management, facilities management, etc. and therefore will be very aware of many of the property issues organisations such as us face. The Board is now made up of 7 volunteer/unpaid members who put in their own free time to work together trying to take the Club forward in a positive and progressive way. Current Board members are;

- Finance Director – Mike Withers
- Greens Director – Andy Hall
- Golf Director – Rich Carter
- House Director – Shane McDonnell
- Governance Director – Graham Fox
- Membership Director – Richard Poynton
- Business Development Director – Shaun Stanley

### ***2021/22 Club Vice Captain***

The Club have agreed for Harold Box's Captain's year to roll over to this year due to the disruption caused by the pandemic. His Vice Captain will be Mr. John Flockton who many of you will know. John is a very active member always supporting the Golf Club in any way he can, whether it be playing club competitions, representative the Club in competitive golf, attending social events, etc. John will now

embrace the role of vice-captain supporting Harold wherever necessary and will obviously be our future Club Captain in 2022/23.

### ***Name of the Golf Club***

Many of you will remember from last April the decision taken by the Directors at the time to ask the members their view and opinion of whether to change the name of the Golf Club from Normanton GC to Hatfeild Hall GC by holding an on-line vote. Many of you will be wondering what's happened in the 12 months since then? Well obviously the whole world has just about stopped functioning because of the global pandemic, so the answer is very little. However, we have since made enquiries as to the proper legal process to follow by seeking professional advice and have now been made aware of the exact legal procedures to be followed and will actively pursue the matter when circumstances allow and we are back to something like normal business. We hope this clarifies the latest situation on the matter.

### ***Bench Renovation***

We must give our grateful thanks to Norman Picket and Nigel Todd for their splendid work in carrying out the much needed renovation of our outside benches which now look tremendous as some photo's below show.



Before

After

### ***Protecting the Greens***

Whilst we were happy to see Buggies back out on the course for members use so early in the year, we are less than happy to see some of them being parked right on the top of the Green surrounds/mounds which won't do these areas any good at all for growth. Could we please remind all members hiring buggies to refrain from parking them so close to the Greens. It's only another couple of yards to walk which shouldn't be too much to ask for any of us.

### ***Donations and Fundraising***

Thanks must go to those members who decided to return their 2020 refund to the Club to use out on the course. Also others who have donated specific amounts up to £200, as well as our ever supportive Sections, who always find amounts to donate from their funds. Many thanks everyone.

We will be starting our fundraising campaign for work to be completed on the course in particularly the 13<sup>th</sup> pond repair. We have now set up a specific account where the donations have been deposited so we can accurately report how much we have raised which we will regular inform you on. Throughout the year we will be holding events such as holding a week of competitions commencing 11<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> May where we will try and generate extra income from holding fun additions to the competitions. We will also be looking to hold a raffle over this week. Anyone who wishes to sponsor/donate a prize for either the raffle or the competitions, please contact Rich the Golf Director. All monies raised will go towards achieving our goal of raising several thousand pounds towards the 13<sup>th</sup> pond restoration project which will ultimately mean more money being spent on course improvements elsewhere.

## ***Social Media***

You may have noticed recently that our Golf Facebook page on social media "*Normanton Golf Club at Hatfeild Hall*" has been very active of late due to Tom Giles who is one of our Tigers Organisers agreeing to look after it. If you're not following the page already, please do give it a follow as the page provides important updates regarding the course, upcoming fixtures, competition results and even competitions to win prizes - the first of which is a £20 bar tab!!

Tom is pushing the benefits of the Golf Club to prospective members and visitors and we aim that the page will be a fantastic resource for both members and guests to find information out about the course, as well as encourage visitors to come and play the course. Remember as we're a club owned by the members, when we get visitors to pay to play, the club makes more money which in turn allows us to pump more money into the improvement of the course. The best way to promote the page is by giving it a like and share (and you'll hopefully win a £20 bar tab too).

As a polite request, we do ask that members refrain from posting any negative comments on the clubs posts, any concerns should be raised through either the pro shop or office where either the Club Captain or Directors can deal with them direct rather than via social media. In addition, if you have anything that you'd like the club to share via Facebook such as a hole in one or progression in an external competition please let Tom Giles know via email at [tigers@normatongolf.co.uk](mailto:tigers@normatongolf.co.uk)

**\*Anyone with any news items for future letters, please contact Richard thro the office at [office@normantongolf.co.uk](mailto:office@normantongolf.co.uk)**