



33RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY 22ND JANUARY 2026

SENIOR MEN'S CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Mr President, Vice Presidents, Captains, Vice Captains, Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Senior Men comprise more than a half of the overall Membership of the club. Many of these playing golf midweek, under Bronze and Silver memberships. Some of these Members are happy to enter Club Competition and/or Inter Club Competitions, others simply want to enjoy the pleasure of playing golf with their friends. It has been a privilege to represent all these Members as Senior Men's Captain during the year.

The highlights of the year were as follows:

Senior Men's Club Championships

In a change to tradition, 2025 saw the introduction of a stand-alone Senior Men's Club Championships, separate from the main Club Championships. This took the form of a one-day, mid-week, 18-hole competition, held on 11 July 2025, with prizes for both Senior Men's Scratch Champion and Senior Men's Nett Champion. In total 82 Members took part which was more than twice the number of entrants when the Competition was held as part of the Main Club Championships, held over two days at the weekend.

Matt Dale won the Scratch Competition with Peter Povey winning the Nett Competition.

Senior Men's Winter Pairs League

This competition saw 20 pairs competing, starting on a league basis, with 5 pairs in 4 leagues, competing against each other, with the winners and runners up of each League progressing forward to a knockout stage.

The ultimate winners, for 2024/25, of the knockout stage, were Peter Baker and Clive Searle.

Senior Men's Open

The Senior Men's Open was held on 15 May 2025, with a total of 142 competitors taking part. Bromsgrove Members were well represented on the leaderboard with 6 of the top 7 teams being made up of Bromsgrove Members. The profits on the day were in excess of £1,300 which were all added to club funds.

The winners were Richard Fox and Paul Sherborne.

Redditch Trophy

The Club entered two teams in the 2024/25 Competition. Team A lost to Dudley, a very difficult club to beat in any form of competition, in the quarter-finals. Team B lost in the second round.

In addition, we also entered two teams in the 2025/26 Competition. I have included this in my 2025 Report as both teams were able to fully participate in the New Year celebrations, having been knocked out in round 2, in November 2025.

Senior Friendly Matches

There were 22 scheduled matches due to be played in the year and we were able to complete all 22 fixtures, with a little rescheduling, due to the weather on one occasion, and “unforeseen circumstances” on another two. We were victorious on 11 occasions, and with 3 draws and only 8 losses, it was definitely a winning season.

It was a challenging year when it came to finding players, and most matches were played without a reserve on hand. I had to call on the Senior Men, playing in the Tuesday Men’s Morning Group on several occasions to fill the team sheet. As a result of this, it is no surprise that there were 65 Members who represented the Club during the year. Of these, 25 played in 3 or less matches with only 6 members playing in 12 or more matches.

Whilst it was a problem at the time, with hindsight it is gratifying to see that the Members did step forwards when needed, to ensure that we were able to fulfil all our obligations. It was also very pleasing to find a number of higher handicap players who did not originally consider themselves “good enough” to apply to play in the team, but who thoroughly enjoyed the experience and became significant contributors to the team during the year.

There was one change in opposition during the year. With Little Lakes closing, we were able to introduce matches against Bransford to replace them. Looking forward to 2026, we have been informed that our matches against Harborne have been cancelled. At this stage we are not looking to replace them on the rota.

Senior Captains’ Away Day

This year the Senior Captains’ Away Day was held at The Mount, in Perton, near Wolverhampton, on 30 June 2025. 48 players took part, with 32 men and 16 Ladies. It was a pleasure to see more ladies participating this year, a trend which I hope will continue in the future. We were able to take advantage of a Shotgun Start, so many thanks to Jeremy Harrold the Head Pro at The Mount, for working with us and allowing us to achieve this.

There were a few players with Sat Navs unfamiliar with the outer reaches of the Black Country, who struggled to find the location, but only one who actually missed the start. She joined her/(my) team on the 10th hole, having missed only 2 holes, so all was well in the end.

My apologies to anyone who was distracted by strange noises when playing the 9th and 10th holes. They were directly adjacent to the Dinosaur Enclosure, and the intermittent roars could be a little off-putting. I cannot imagine having to live in one of the houses running alongside the 9th fairway and green.

Some might consider that to have ordered “Roast Beef and all the trimmings” on arguably the hottest day of the year was an unfortunate choice, but the caterers provided us with an excellent meal which was of exceptional quality and was thoroughly enjoyed, with the perfect choice of ice cream to follow.

The winning team were Dave Ellerton, James Lowe, Paul Thomas and Linda Houston, with a 1-point lead over the 2nd and 3rd placed teams.

Regrettably most of the players, wilting under the heat, left after the prizegiving and did not enjoy the delights of the mini golf match held under the setting sun, in the Dinosaur Enclosure. Whilst strict scoring was not applied it is the general consensus of everyone else who played, that the victor here was Jude McManus.

Tuesday Men’s Morning and Unofficial Competitions

There are now 85 men listed on the mailing list, a further increase on 2024. The TMM is granted 40 official spaces with a further 12 unofficial places being booked independently. All 40 official places were utilised throughout the year, but with only 1 Tuesday when there were only 40 men playing. The average number of men requesting a tee time was 51, and on 13 occasions during the year, players were asked to go onto a waiting list, due to excess demand.

The TMM continues to hold its regular “unofficial competitions”. Our sincere thanks to Deryck Hall for running the TMM generally, and for deciding on the format of these unofficial competitions. However, he has only himself to blame when the competitors fail to understand the rules for scoring in these competitions.

Finally

Finally, I would like to give my very sincere thanks to the many people who have supported and encouraged me during 2025. I would like to highlight in particular the support of Graham Solomon, who had an encouraging word for me every time we met.

It has been my pleasure to have been able to serve throughout the year.

Paul Stanford
Senior Men’s Captain 2025
January 2026