

Club Chairman Martyn Boyers

I am delighted to have been asked to be an 'Honorary Member' of the Seniors and look forward to a game with you, whenever that might be!

Hopefully you will have had the latest email with the Chairman's report, sent out Thursday 14th January, in which it outlines where we are, what steps we are taking and what is going on at the Club. So there is no need for me to repeat all of that but it highlights the activities that Elsham are involved in and the work behind the scenes that is going on, please have a read of it.

When I became Chairman I applied for the role because I thought I knew a lot about the Club and what was going on and I knew my business experience and background could support my intention of 'One Club One Aim'. Now I realise I knew very little about what went on and who did what. One of the first things I came across when I was appointed were Club documents that mentioned 'dispute resolution' and then in a SWOT analysis of the Club there is mention of 'Internal assassins'! I did wonder what had I let myself in for! so at my first Management Board meeting I asked the question, no one had an answer, so I have had to find out for myself, and I have!

What I have found out is the diversity and complexity of the people within the Club and the strong views they hold. My intention is to bring the strengths of the Club together, as quite simply we should all have the same aim, a great golf course, modern facilities and a welcoming clubhouse. Although we have specific 'sections' playing golf we are still One Club. The 'Seniors' are members the same as everyone else so it seems logical to me that playing opportunities, subscriptions and competition costs are consistent, transparent and fair. The appointment of Dave McNicholas as Director of Golf and the move to the BRS system will enhance this and will support 'Seniors' golf. Your section is well organised already, but I can only see the relationship improving, particularly around 'free' golf. I appreciate fully that Members of all sections can play Club matches, have exchange days and attend other events which means Elsham giving the same concession on a reciprocal basis. Some Members don't like it, so just for the record, I have no problem with it and see it as part of the offer of being a Member. It allows a bit of variety and adds value to Membership. However, it is my intention to quantify these activities across the sections so that in the future we can build it in to the information base.

The Club has had a torrid time financially for the last 3 years but be assured we are coming out of that despite Covid-19. The next challenge is membership which comes round in April. We are all frustrated by the restrictions but they are what they are, we must all stay safe or there is no golf at all. As you might have read in my report there are some concessions to Members and there is a vacancy coming up to join the Board, perhaps that will interest one of you? It is important to be open and transparent so minutes of my meetings are being posted on the web site as soon as possible and I am always receptive to comments or queries about the Club. It is a Members Club and I am keen to make sure everyone can have input and significant decisions are voted on.

Finally, I am optimistic for the future and we have a lot going for us, as Elsham is truly a very good Golf Club. To keep it like that it needs your support and so do I. The 'Senior' section has a lot going for it as well which is credit to your organisers. It could be seen that the 'Seniors' are a Club within a Club but I don't see it like that as after all we are on a journey; 'One Club One Aim'.

Stay safe
Martyn