



Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire

Worcestershire Masonic Golfing Society

President: RW. Bro. R C Vaughan

Secretary: T P Battle, 3 Meadow Lane, Alvechurch, Birmingham, B48 7LH
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23 January 2018

To ALL WMGS members

New Format of Provincial Golf Matches

At our September '17 committee meeting, the committee considered and approved a proposal to amend the format of our annual Provincial matches.

Whilst WMGS, certainly for the past 3 years, have had a minimum of 22 members (even as much as 27), wishing to play in EACH Provincial match, Herefordshire (11 in 2017), Shropshire (8), Oxfordshire (6) & Warwickshire (10) frequently struggle to meet the required 12 players per match. In consequence many WMGS members are unable to fulfil their expectations for the season.

As a background to these proposals are the following extracts that I put forward to our committee having discussed our views with our fellow Provincial golf secretaries.

Since the format of match play would not be possible, each 'Provincial 3 Way' match would be in the format of a full handicap stableford competition, with ALL the members who play feeling engaged and contributing to the result of the match(s).

Adopting the 'Provincial 3 Way' principle, results of the match(s) would be calculated as per the following example:

Say, Herefordshire have 11 players, Shropshire have 10 players and WMGS have 17 players. ALL players scores would count, with the match vs Herefordshire being the aggregate stableford points on best 11 scores and of the match vs Shropshire being the aggregate stableford points on best 10 scores.

The presentations would be made at the Festive Board for the three separate competitions, i.e. WMGS vs Herefordshire, WMGS vs Shropshire and Shropshire vs Herefordshire.

Each Province would host the match in rotation, with the venue being suitable to cater for 36+ golfers and 40+ diners, playing in groups of 3, one from each Province.

Past Captains

1963-1965	F.E.Miller
1966-1968	W.F.Bird
1969-1970	L.N.Bowley
1971-1972	G.J.C.Holmes
1973-1974	E.W.Evans
1975-1976	W.P.Johnson
1977-1978	F.Watkins
1979-1980	B.C.Colson
1981-1982	H.W.Day
1983-1984	B.G.Preston
1985-1986	D.E.Fedeski
1987-1988	J.G.H.Seale
1989-1990	D.Lewin
1991-1992	J.Stephens
1993-1994	B.S.Pethard
1995-1996	F.Peach
1997-1998	C.M.Nolan
1999-2000	W.Kerr
2001-2003	K.D.Dunham
2004-2005	K.A.Prescott
2005-2007	A.Adams
2008-2009	J.Gibbons
2010-2011	D.J.Silk
2012-2013	C.Ash
2014-2015	A J Hill
2016-	I D Belsham

Chairman: K D Dunham, Captain: I D Belsham, Secretary: T P Battle, Treasurer: D J Silk

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The adoption of 'Provincial 3 Way' matches in this format give us the following benefits:

- *ALL members would have the opportunity that they can contribute in each match they wish to participate in.*
- *The TOTAL cost of Provincial matches would be significantly reduced*
- *Significant reduction in secretaries administration time and costs*
- *Reduces our (WMGS) annual schedule to 4 events: The Annual Event, and 3 off 'Provincial 3 Way' matches – playing In June, July, August and September.*
- *Avoids disappointment to WMGS members who fail to have the experience they expected to have on the day. i.e. opponents unable to have a full team*

There was a general consensus among the Provincial golf secretaries that this format will be helpful to all Provincial golfers and has been well supported'.

The annual schedule would retain as far as possible the dates that we are familiar with i.e. Staffordshire & Warwickshire in first week of June, Annual Event first Tuesday in July, Herefordshire & Shropshire the second Thursday in August, and Gloucestershire & Oxfordshire in the first week of September.

Whilst it could be seen that this proposal is more biased to WMGS, I believe that in it's totality it is a win, win, win for all concerned.

It has been agreed by all opposing secretaries that this format will commence in 2018 with the WMGS schedule being issued to ALL WMGS members before the end of February 2018.

Your committee trust that you will understand and enthusiastically support this new format for our Provincial golf matches and conclude that continuing as before was unsustainable for the long term.

Paul Battle
Secretary

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