




Captain's Report for the Year 2020

31 January 2021

1. 2020? What can one say? It's been a rough year. But, we managed to hold 10 of 15 scheduled events in 2020. More importantly, we did not cancel a single event based on low turnout. In fact, we have maintained good turnout for the various events, though we can still do better.
2. A note of pride for all of us, we were victorious again in our annual IGC v. NGC match play event. A great success, given the size of IGC as a club and the quality of many of their players. This particular year, was a serious win, which IGC were happy to comment on, though not happy with the result. Plans are in the works now for the 2021 event. We are also looking for other golf associations or societies to hold competitions with. If you have recommendations, please let me know.
3. We had a host of new members of all handicap ranges, which we love. The informal club handicapping system has been working pretty well. We will work to remind everyone in 2021 how this works. Additionally, Belgium moved to the World Handicapping System in November, though many clubs continue rigid rules on when and how scores can be submitted. We will continue the informal approach. With this, we should recognize many of our previously higher handicappers have been hard at work. We have seen some good handicap reductions, for that work. Kudos to you!!!!
4. Finally, for 2020, we awarded for the first time our end of season NATO Cup. Congratulations to Benni Gonzonales. Now, let's get into 2021 and work for this year's cup.
5. For 2021 we have reshuffled the trophy events in sequence within the better part of the year, COVID permitting. As the NGC golf seasons now stretch across two years, we have named them accordingly. The 2020/2021 Season began after the Closing Cup on 01 November 2020. The Season runs through the Closing Cup to be held on 19 June 2021. This is a compressed season, to set the stage for the full season of 2021/2022.
6. The 2021/2022 Season begins on 10 July 2021, through the season's Opening Cup scheduled for 04 September.
7. As promised, for the calendar year 2021 we have scheduled 18 events, so far. We are working on a 19th event, as well as our away trip to France. Once done this will be 22 days of golf during the year or roughly every two weeks. A lot of effort has gone into this, as we want to maximize your opportunity to play.
8. We are updating our stock of trophies. For those who have not seen it, please checkout out the photo of Benni holding the new NATO Cup (claret Jug style). It really is quite something. We have four more new trophies in the works as of the writing of this report, for presentation when those events are held. This has been made possible by four of our members volunteering to donate the new trophies.

9. Along with the trophies we are working to provide takeaway trophies for the winners, rather than the traditional bottle of wine. These will include a small crystal trophy for the champion of that event, as well as a crystal takeaway for Longest Drive (Ladies and Men) and for a Uni-sex Closest to the Pin. This is a great step and will give winners a really nice memento to brag about later. We plan to procure extras, which would allow previous winners to purchase the same things, if they wish, through our online store.
10. COVID will remain an issue for us in 2021. However, we are pushing ahead, having confirmed with clubs well in advance. Part of this has driven the introduction of a 'ticket sales approach' on the website. That way, NGC will collect the green fees through the sale of tickets and pay the golf clubs in one block for all players, as the club houses want to reduce foot traffic inside.
11. This brings us to the website update. Firstly, I am pleased to announce the website now accepts, bankcontact, bank transfer, Visa and Mastercard as payment options.
12. Membership is now subscription based. Your membership moving forward will be on a 12 month basis, rather than a calendar year, from the day of sign-up. For convenience it will auto-renew, prompting you in advance to cancel your membership if you don't wish to renew.
13. Additional website updates are in the works. Firstly, we will continue to capture our history with a page listing the Club Officers since 1989. Much like you see in club houses at various courses. More importantly, we will have pages of event winners and club champions, as far back as we can go. We believe this a much better way to showcase our winners over time, as we do not have a club house where we can show off our trophies.
14. Moving forward with the new trophies, the winner of an event takes the trophy home for the season (treat them nice, many are crystal). At the next season's event, the holder either win again or award it to the next winner. This way we will capture photos of both champions. Much like the previous winner slipping on the green jacket for the new winner.
15. NGC is made up of some great people, who it has been my pleasure to get to know. 2021, COVID or not, is going to be a great year with some great golf. We will keep you entertained through the blog site between play. Now, let's fill up the 24 slots at each event and have some fun. Let's Go, Let's Go!!!!!!!



Michael Center
Club Captain