



## Captain's Report for the Year 2019

31 January 2020

### Summary

1. 2019 saw the NATO Golf Club with a new Captain, finding his way around. After a rocky start to the year, 10 of 12 schedule events were held. On average we have three to four flights per event, with four being the maximum. The two cancelations were the Celtic Quaich and the Valentine's Massacre, in the beginning of the year. Cancellations were due to lack of participation. The Turkey event is no longer and official NGC event, but remains a very successful event organized by NGC members and well attended. This year's trip to France was held as a friendly and again considered a success. Very importantly, after much negotiations, were pulled off the annual NGC v. IGC Match Play event and retained the Cup.

Looking into 2020, we have no less than 12 internal events and three external events. France is planned for four days, focused on match play. NGC V. IGC dates are already set. Through the implementation of our new website the entire 2020 schedule is up and available for planning.

Finally, in 2020, we are shaking things up with varied formats (Stableford, Stroke play, Scramble, Match Play and SKINS) and locations. Additionally, in one fashion or another we will implement a club handicapping system to provide greater transparency during competitions. Finally, we will have a Season Long Point Race for the ultimate trophy, The NATO Cup.

### Club Activities

2. Following the AGM, the Executive moved quickly to establish a new website and organization of events. The first few weeks were a transition period with short notice on scheduling of events. We believe this continued to impact turn out, initially. However, as the website stabilized, and we projected further out turn out improved as the year progressed.

3. Event results are now reported on the Club Blog, called The News on the new website, at [www.natogolfclub.org](http://www.natogolfclub.org). Because of this, results will not be reported again here. I encourage all NGC Members to look check The News Often. Results are broken down by year in this section for ease of review.

4. Looking forward on the website. We intend to update the text and provide some additional history on the club, its founders and leaders. Additionally, we will improve the memorialization of Cup Winners, on a different "trophy wall."

5. In scheduling events this year, we want to shake things up and provide a good mix of formats that include both competition and just good old fashion fun. As such, we hope to break loose with more than 12 events for the year, outside of our normal competitions. These may be simple three flight fun days.

6. We have had significant new membership over the past six to seven months, with a very good mix of handicaps. This has in turn resulted in more members inviting each other to play, outside of club events. I would like to specifically encourage this in the future. We are Afterall, a social golf society.
7. Related to handicaps, as mentioned we will implement a club handicap system. Club members are finding it difficult to update handicap indexes in a timely fashion, especially our higher handicappers. Implementing a club handicap system will allow this process to be more fluid, accounting for both ups and downs. The handicapping system is designed to provide the ability for all levels of players to compete with each other, however, it only works if functioning in both a timely and transparent fashion.
8. We have three options under consideration, each of which are defined in the 20 Jan 2020 Blog post on the website. Please review and provide feedback to the Captain. In the meantime, begin using the Handicap Tracker Application and enter each round you play, anytime of year, any location, and weather.
9. I would like to draw your attention to this year's trip to France. We have up to four days of golf planned, where we will do a mix of match play formats. There is no trophy involved, just good competitive fun. We secured tee times and scheduled them around the final weekend of the traditional NATO vacation period. This should allow plenty of time for planning.
10. Finally, and very importantly, in 2020 we are implementing a new event. The Season Long Race for the NATO Cup. The annual Closing Cup, will be the final event of the season, ending in a dinner and the awarding of the NATO Cup. The point season will run from the Christmas Cracker to the Closing Cup (except this year). The NATO Golfer with the most points at the end of the season, takes the Cup. Point values for events are posted on the website and can be found when registering for events. Though winning gets more points, points are available for showing up to play. Not showing up is like throwing points away.
11. If you have further suggestions or ways we can improve turn out, please reach out to me. 2020 promises to be a great year for NATO Golf Club. We have a good number of fun events planned with strong membership. Get out and play and get to know each other. I look forward to seeing each of you at one or more events in the year.

Michael Center  
Club Captain