



Below are email responses from Members regarding the Consultation Document

As a Senior Member who enjoys social and competition golf I believe the proposed Hybrid system would work best for me for the following reasons:- Prior to Covid restrictions our Saturday social group of up to twelve people could gather on the first tee at the same time each weekend, and head off in random 3 balls competing against each other. The groups outside our own group would also meet at their own agreed times and we saw the same folk each week ahead or behind us. There never seemed to be any queuing on the tee.

This all seemed to work reasonably well under the TU&P system.

We gathered in the Clubhouse after our games to compare scores, and have a catch up over a coffee and a bacon role.

I have found the EBS prevents us from booking similar times and we usually have to play with the same 3 or 4 ball every week which also prevents the social interaction with the rest of this group.

Post Covid, the EBS system will continue to prevent social gathering in the Clubhouse after the game due to game times being booked so far apart.

However, I am happy to enter Saturday Club Competitions using the EBS system

I am of the view that we should revert to the tried and trusted turn up and play system.

With regard to the arguments for EBS:-

1 It is not necessarily "easy access " to booking. Trying to book a convenient tee time can be difficult and stressful.

2 I see little evidence of players joining up and getting to know other members . (More of this later)

3 In "iffy" weather I suspect there are a number of no shows but anyone wanting a game at short notice will be unable to use that tee time.

In my time as president I canvassed a number of members regarding the way members could, and most often did, enter competitions with their mates. The general view was that it made the club cliquey and was against the ethos of a members' club. Whilst BRS should be used for competition entries, I suggest entries should be in half hour slots with an agreed closing date, a random draw made and the final times communicated to the entrants. I understand BRS can be adapted to accommodate this and believe this is a good way for members to mix.

As far as a hybrid system is concerned, we effectively already had this as visitors were allocated reserved times and members turned up and played around these times. To extend this to social golf would be confusing and too difficult to administer

As with all rules and regulations in life you will always find a minority that will not follow some of them and cause annoyance to the majority (though the minority will probably not accept they are doing wrong!)

With regards to golf, we ask people to replace divots, how many do not, we ask people to repair pitchmarks, how many do not?

We ask people to play ready golf and not hold up play, how many times do you see poor examples of that?

So, although it is a tad frustrating and annoying, EBS fastest finger first for set tee off times, may be the best, most orderly option.

I would be happy with TU&P except for set times for Ladies day, Red Squirrels day, visitor tees and competition days, as I am retired, but, you will get those that do not check the booking times taken on the club website for those prearranged matches and try to fit themselves in!!!

Final thought. Volunteer (fed and watered) stewards at the 1st tee could be an option to keep groups moving on time and stopping anyone from turning up to try and tee off after the TU&P time slots so as not to have the EBS slots run late?

Trials of both methods could be an option with member feedback after them?

Apologies for the essay, rather than a yes or no to your options 😊👍

The hybrid proposal, while trying to please the minority will, in my opinion create major problems.

Firstly, it is a complicated addition to the EBS with different TU&P times on different days during a week.

Secondly, I Cannot see what will happen if the tee has members waiting to tee off at the end of the TU&P period and when the EBS booking kicks in - does this mean that anyone who has not tee'd off at the end of the TU&P period forgoes their game in respect of the members who have booked at the start of the EBS period. I see conflict looming if this situation arises as it will, particularly on Sat and Sun mornings, and early afternoon.

Having played golf around many other courses i cannot recall any such hybrid system in operation. Probably because it is impracticable.

Having read your 3 options for Social Golf I would vote in favour of retaining the BRS system. I like to know exactly when I am playing and can work around it. I think it benefits the lady members as well because we pay the same fees as the men and therefore we should have the same opportunity of booking a tee time as the men despite the fact that there are less lady members. It definitely helps if you are a person on your own looking for a game and don't have a regular group to play with, then you can see who is playing and put your name down with them.

I disagree with the fact it says BRS stops people playing on a whim. There has been a lot of vacant slots available to book since we restarted playing golf and I can't believe that a 10 or 20 minute difference in a tee time that someone might not want makes much difference. People coming up on a whim might have to stand 30 or 40 minutes in a queue if it was just turn up and play - I know which I would rather do.

As regards large groups wanting to play together, then if they got their act together and organised themselves then 4 members who can do "fastest finger first" could book 4 slots as near as possible to each other and enter 3 other members in each slot and their group would be accommodated and they would still be able to socialise in the clubhouse afterwards.

The comment made about one BRS tee time group being late and having a knock-on effect that can back up the course - I would like to know how many times this has been happening especially when at one stage there were supposed to be marshals on the course?

The views for the Hybrid System all sound very good, but I can't imagine the majority of members taking in all those tee times and remembering when they can and can't do turn up and play. What happens when loads of members do the turn up and play in the allotted times and there are so many of them that they then encroach into the next BRS time? Are they then just going to go home after waiting to play for about 30 minutes, and if not then the BRS times are definitely going to have a knock-on effect that can back up the course?

Keep BRS and then everyone knows where they are at.

I thought that I might be in favour of a hybrid system, but, having carefully read your proposals, I think they are probably unworkable. For example, what happens if more than the TU&P time slot capacity arrive at the tee? When the next contingent of booked members arrives, they will expect their slots to be available, not unreasonably. Who is going to tell the residual TU&P members waiting that they have to go home?

The only way that I can see that this would work would either be a starter to control matters or some form of registration in the shop (no different to BRS system booking).

I can visualise difficulties trying to make the hybrid system work.

As a member of a group which plays on Tuesdays and Thursdays I regret that the much-valued end of play socialising in the clubhouse may not be possible in its old form.

The only way might be to permit some sort of group bookings (2 or 3 tee times) blocked off in BRS and which have to be filled by a certain time before they then become generally available. But that opens the door to more and more friends groupings applying for this facility. It would get out of hand.

However, I have concerns about how BRS works in terms of people not turning up for their booked slots. People are not releasing when their plans change or when they don't fancy the weather.

I give below my reasons for strongly recommending that we stay with the BRS / EBS Booking System, which I believe has worked very well over the past 12 months;

Carlisle and Workington Golf Clubs enjoy the largest memberships of all clubs in Cumbria. The volume of booked tees on EBS over the past year is arguably in itself sufficient evidence to justify a 100% EBS booking system. Under a TUAP system, only a small percentage of daily golfers need to arrive at the first tee at the same time, to create significant delays & frustration.

Ten years ago, an England Golf survey concluded that time needed to play golf was the biggest reason for the damaging decline in golf club memberships, as experienced at that time. Slow play was obviously a factor; however, Members clearly have other demands on their time, eg work & family. EBS guarantees a certain start time so it also follows that an estimated finishing time can be accurately predicted. This is not the case with TUAP, which creates uncertainty in both start & finish times.

TUAP & the use of a ball chute would be a retrograde step, turning the clock back to the bad old days of queuing up on the first tee, like a Municipal Golf Course. We pay Private Membership subscriptions to avoid this. If you are unlucky enough to arrive at the 1st tee behind one or even two "bounce" groups, it can be 20 to 30 minutes before you can tee up. Members become second class citizens behind visitors - because visitors have booked a guaranteed start time, whereas members cannot.

I have on several occasions invited a guest to play Carlisle, in many cases travelling up from Merseyside or Lancashire. There is nothing worse than bringing a guest, who has driven for two hours, and then having to queue up on the first tee. Especially in the knowledge that it doesn't occur at your guest's club, as they use a booking system!

"Bounce Groups" (like ours) can still play by drawing the teams beforehand, then booking consecutive tee times so they can eat /drink together afterwards. This has worked well over the past year.

Under a TUAP system, "Bounce Groups" frequently result in five balls. However, this problem has been eliminated due to the EBS booking system.

The ability to play last minute golf "on a whim" is actually enhanced by having an EBS booking system. On the day, you can identify & book a free slot & turn up to play, as opposed to turning up & queuing, or possibly not being able to play at all. This frequently results in members walking out on the course & cutting in on other tees, eg 4th, 9th & 16th.

Another advantage of the EBS booking system is that the club can monitor how busy the course is at any time. Last minute requests for bookings from visitors can be accommodated (into available slots) without upsetting members, thus leveraging Green Fee income upwards.

If there is an emergency resulting in the need to contact a member or visitor, EBS makes it easier to "guesstimate" where the golfer is likely to be on the course, if they cannot be contacted by mobile phone.

In my opinion, the suggested Hybrid system is too complicated & will result in confusion, either accidental or intentional!

Some members do not like the "pressure" of the Thursday 6pm EBS booking system. We could investigate an alternative procedure to reduce "stress" at this key time. Rather than having just one time to book all seven days' golf, why not open booking at 6pm each evening to book one day a week ahead? Because most golfers have regular weekly playing days, making it difficult to book a week ahead when out on the course, some clubs book eight days ahead, eg Wednesday evening booking for the Thursday of the following week.

EBS The electronic booking system is fair and does give everyone an equal opportunity to book games, and mix with other members however in reality people do tend to play in the same fourballs each week.

TU&P This format is great if you want to meet up with your pals at a given time, throw the balls up and off you go, however it can be frustrating if lots of people have the same idea at the same time, causing long delays on the tee!, I for one am guilty of this, being part of the squash lads that used to play on Saturday afternoons

Hybrid system If we were to incorporate both systems I would personally NOT split the time zones on the same day, I would prefer to have whole days either TU&P or EBS possible alternate days just to keep it simple, otherwise you run the risk of TU&P over running into EBS timed slots which could potentially cause anger and frustration for some members who find themselves in a queue waiting to play and someone turns up with a reserved time slot, however If we do decide to have split sessions on the same day it would make sense to have EBS first part of the day, say 7am to 12:00 then TU&P.

In conclusion at the start of this pandemic I didn't think I would like the EBS, but in truth I am used to it now and quite like the fact that I know when I'm playing and there is not going to be a queue on the tee, so for that reason my vote would be to stick with the EBS, it's the fairest system.

As a longstanding member of Carlisle Golf Club since 1984, I have over that time experienced the pros and cons of Turn Up and Play and along with many others have always resisted any tee booking system.

The vast majority of members are creatures of habit playing their social golf on the same day(s) and at roughly the same time each week. The size of these collective groups can vary from a single regular 4ball to a collective number of 4balls making larger groups overall of 8, 12, 16 or more golfers.

The Coronavirus virus pandemic forced the Club to introduce an electronic booking system (EBS) when golf resumed under the 'Play Safe' guidelines to comply with both track and trace and social distancing requirements.

Within your consultation document there is an assumption that when restrictions are lifted in June, that the need for track and trace will also be removed. Personally, I have not seen anything from the Govt or England Golf to confirm that either way, but if it has to continue then the EBS will have to continue for all social golf.

Having experienced EBS for social golf during the last 12 months, my opinion has changed and I would favour a hybrid option but would simplify it considerably as follows:-

- Club Competitions tee reservations take priority and I would have a buffer zone ahead of the first morning tee times
- Turn Up and Play available daily before 09:30 and after 16:00
- Social Golf available daily between 09:30 and 16:00 with all tee reservations utilising EBS
- Members playing a tie in one of the Club Knock-out Competitions to be able to reserve their tee time in advance via the Club Shop or Office

Having looked at BRS over recent weeks, there are plenty of gaps for the spur of the moment golfers to book a tee time or join others. I would prefer not to turn up at the 1st tee and find I am joining a queue and having to wait 15/20 minutes before I can tee off. I have experienced this before and on one occasion had to wait over an hour!

I do not agree with having Turn Up and Play in the middle of the day as they would potentially overrun into the Social Golf EBS booking times.

I always prefer simplification and would favour keeping the same basic daily timeframe for Turn Up and Play or Social Golf booked by EBS all week, unless there is a Club Competition which automatically takes precedence and will block the tee.

Likewise Visitor Party bookings should be available 09:30 - 12:00 and 13:30 - 16:00 daily unless there is a Club Competition, with a daily limit on the total number of visitor bookings allowed.

Most of these changes will, as I'm sure you are aware, necessitate an update to the Club's byelaws.

One final comment regarding Club Competitions, something needs to be done to condense the tee times after entries close, so that any unused tee times are released back to the membership for Social Golf. I know that this is something the Ladies Committee do each week and something similar needs to happen with the men's competition, thereby making more time available for Social Golf and the spur of the moment golfers.

Lastly, you have been trialling 7/8 minute gaps for competitions and social golf recently. During this trial more groups are catching up and having to wait for the group in front to clear, which didn't happen when the gaps were 10 minutes. When we played last week, going out after men's competitions, we were continually waiting to play shots and at one time there were 6 groups of social golfers banked up on 2 holes.

Whatever system is adopted it will not please everyone, so the hybrid option offers a mix of both options.

1. You state just before the outline of times for “turn up and play” under the hybrid system – “outside of competitions which will always take priority”

I would ask if this is a fair view for all members? In particular have you any data on the percentage of members who play in competitions or more particularly what percentage do not enter competitions at all? Some of us who have never entered competitions feel that as a member we have no privileges at all. Ladies have priority on Tuesday, Red Squirrels on Wednesday, Competition Golfers whenever there is a competition but people who just want to play social golf have no privilege at all – other than being able (subject to privileges for others) to play Carlisle Golf Course.

I saying this about competitions we must remember that it is not just the regular medals / competitions marked on the calendar as there are also Knock Outs which members arrange at times to suit them but take priority.

Also there are the scratch league games – our group used to play Wednesday evenings in summer when we were still working. Alternate Wednesdays were disrupted but when the B team moved into division one every Wednesday was affected and sitting on the 11th tee for an hour to let the teams through lost it’s attractiveness after a few weeks.

This may not strictly be part of this consultation but as point has been made in your document I thought I should at least give my view.

2. Even allowing for number of competitions should the closing date / time be brought forward so that (assuming 6pm Thursday stayed as booking time) the competition times could have been compressed before EBS opened giving more times available for social golfers.
3. Have you considered how other local clubs used EBS before it’s necessity for “Track and Trace”? I understand that some allowed a booking up to two weeks ahead as rounds were completed. This took away the pressure of 6pm Thursday and allowed those prepared to plan ahead to get bookings they wanted. Should such information be part of consultation?
4. You (correctly) point out in the views against EBS that it restricts larger groups being able to play together and the consequent knock on effect on social 19th hole. Nowhere in any proposal for EBS / hybrid have you raised the possibility of allowing such groups to book consecutive times.

The group I play in has for many years played at lunchtime Tuesday and Thursday with up to 16 playing on a day (good weather) and 8 to 12 through the winter but since EBS we have managed at best two groups reasonably close to one another and cannot mix players like we used to so are playing with same people every week. The only way we can play the way we used to is to visit another course – surely there must be a way to allow such bookings at home course if not I could not vote for anything other than “Turn up and Play”

5. You state that there is easy access for all members and equal access to times but I believe that to be somewhat incorrect and this is supported by the fact that in views against you correctly point out that members have to be available when EBS opens and “fastest finger first” can be annoying and frustrating. We have found that in order to book Tuesday and Thursday we need two separate people in each four ball to do booking as it is impossible to book Tuesday and the find a suitable slot for Thursday. Also some members in rural areas have given up attempting as their broadband is so slow. Perhaps the thought in 3 above could help.

6. I note on the hybrid system that you are allowing turn up and play on Tuesday morning / lunchtime in the winter but are using EBS in the summer. Why? If we play all winter and support the club by visiting the 19th why are we not allowed the same in the summer? We have played that way for many years as I am sure many members will know without causing problems but EBS prevents us playing as we used to.

In summary

- a. Do we need as many competitions blocking times.
- b. Can we not have a system under EBS to allow groups to book consecutive times?
- c. If not Turn up and play is only system that could get my vote.

Many thanks for your paper on the possible future booking systems. We play in a social fourball and are keen for the EBS to remain in force. We were slightly concerned when it was introduced but have found it to be a great advantage over the old system.

You have listed the advantages of the EBS system and I would add the following:

Easy access to the system.

1. We play twice a week and prefer to play in the morning. Since the system was introduced we have probably played over 60 rounds but we have had no problem in booking games at our preferred times.
2. Admittedly we tend to book them Thursday night but the fact that you have allowed three bookings per person per week indicates that there is ample space on the system.
3. Looking on the booking system last Saturday there seemed to be plenty of free spaces for those who had not booked on Thursday night throughout the following week.
4. There is no real difference between booking on line and placing your ball in the chute as you are still "booking" a place. Except of course with the chute system you have none of the advantages of the EBS system and you do not know when you will tee off, you do not know when the game will end and you are likely either to be bunched up to the game in front or the game behind will be on your tail.
5. Most of the top clubs seem to operate a comprehensive booking system which in this day and age given the prevalence of computers, laptops, mobile devices etc would probably be expected by any guests and indeed members.
 6. One disadvantage is when players book a time and don't turn up thereby restricting access for others. If this is down to the weather then perhaps this understandable but in previous minutes you have mentioned a system of checking in on the first tee and if implemented, I expect that to solve the any problem encouraging those who don't turn up to cancel in advance allowing others to book the space..

Certainty of times

7. This is perhaps the biggest advantage and allows individuals to better plan their days.
8. The booking system seems to allow a far better flow to the game. In all the games we have played we have very rarely had to wait for the group in front and despite being high handicappers we have always managed to finish well within the allocated time for a round. The only time this didn't happen was when the time slots were reduced down from ten minute intervals and we had to wait for almost every shot and ironically, the full round took longer than a ten minute interval round.

9. Knowing when the round starts and finishes allows you to make other appointments. I could have played this morning knowing that I had sufficient time to meet a lunchtime appointment whereas on the turn up and play, I would not have had any certainty and therefore would not have played. When the bar was opened we usually would have a drink after the round. Occasionally, having to wait to play meant we did not go into the bar due to time constraints which, although perhaps a minor point, would mean less takings for the club. With turn up and play, there have been times when we have waited over an hour before teeing off and sometimes given up altogether.
10. There is also the point under the old system that when you turned up in the car park and saw others getting their clubs out, you would rush to get to the first tee to get your ball in the chute, not a lot of difference between that and Thursday night finger on the computer.

Hybrid System

11. Having times when you can book and times when you can't seems to be a rather poor compromise. The set times to book and not to book are likely to lead to confusion as people often don't pay attention. In addition, assuming a significant number of people prefer the booking system then, by restricting the number of bookable places this means Thursday night will be more hectic and those who do not manage to get a slot may decide not to play as much having lost all the advantages of the EBS system and hence, less people in the club and less people spending in the bar.

I do hope we manage to retain the booking system.

Views for EBS / Against TU&P

- Provides a better short and long term planning tool based on data analysis from a clubs perspective;
 - Tailor bar and catering requirements for identified peak times
 - Identify targeted maintenance activities during lulls in bookings
 - Identify opportunities for additional/opportune visitor slots and revenue
- Can result in empty/wasted tee times unless you allow an opportune TU&P player/group to occupy an empty tee/s on the day of play
- Still far from ideal for non-IT literate members

Views for TU&P / Against EBS

- Bullet 1 would promote freedom of play and not stop it.
- Bullet 2 would allow larger groups of friends to be able to play social bounce games and thus increase the 19th hole social aspect of the club not restrict it
- Bullet point 3 would become irrelevant if it's TU&P
- We are creatures of habit and most individuals, small and large groups tended to migrate towards their favoured day/time without any problem. I've never had a lengthy delay on the 1st tee
- TU&P promotes flexibility; delayed at work, dropping the kids off, shopping – no problem. Contact your playing partners so they can have a pre-game coffee or get on the practice area for 20 mins. With EBS you lose your slot.
- Facilitates the ability to jump onto the 9th tee if the 1st is full or you just want to play the back 10 instead of the front 8 if time is short or you just don't want to or can't play 18 holes.

Views for Hybrid System

- Unless there is an absolute majority for either TU&P or EBS and the vote is split fairly evenly this is probably the happy medium.
- Perhaps this could be introduced as a trial for the rest of this season then reviewed and re-voted upon at the AGM if applicable.
- Need to be mindful of the group that turn up at 0915hrs or 1310hrs
- Weekends generally have an EBS competition on one of the two days. Should times after the competition and the alternate day be TU&P
- Scratch league, ladies, juniors and red squirrels matches will affect the fairness of EBS/TU&P slots and may need to be adjusted to even things up.

Outside of competitions, which will always take priority, our hybrid system proposal of daily time zones is detailed below FYI.

Mon/Thurs/Fri/Sat/Sun

TU&P - 7.00am - 09.23am: 12.00pm - 13.23pm: 16.00pm – End of daylight

EBS - 09.30am - 11.53am: 13.30pm - 15.53pm

Tuesday (Ladies Day Priority) – Ladies should be encouraged to fill their slots from the front and free up empty tees, possibly for TU&P

TU&P

October to March: - 7.00am - 8.53am: 12.08am - 12.53pm:

April to May: - 16.00 - 16.38: 17.08 - Dark

June to July: - 16.00 - 17.38: 18.08 - Dark

August to September: - 16.00 - 16.38: 17.08 - Dark

EBS – All year: 14.38pm - 15.53pm

Alternate Wednesday's (Red Squirrels Priority - 10.30am – 12.00pm) – Red Squirrels should be encouraged to fill their slots from the front and free up empty tees, possibly for TU&P

TU&P - 7.00am - 09.23am: 12.08pm - 13.23pm: 16.00pm – Dark

EBS - 09.30am - 10.23am: 13.30pm - 15.53pm

Going forward, we will also endeavour to ensure that visitor bookings are only allowed between 09.30am and ~~11.53~~ 12.00pm and 13.30pm and ~~15.53~~ 16.00pm on non-competition days.

- Will visitor bookings remain restricted (I think it's x 16 am and pm)?
- Will society bookings be capped by qty per month/week/day?
- Will both be clipped during winter months (Oct-Mar)?

As a new member, it's pretty hard to introduce yourself to other members (even although I know an awful lot of members), I'd hate to be in a position where I don't know many members. BRS allows a new member to tag on to other groups and gives the opportunity to meet other members.

BRS a certain tee time an allows for those members who have time pressures to be certain on their time.

Further to your matter, observing competition three balls, it's the same old threesomes each week. A thought might be for a member to choose a one hour time slot and be drawn with different people each week. How much ground hog does one person need???

Personally I have found the EBS system very useful: I prefer knowing when I am going to play golf so that I can plan the rest of my week (what little remains of it!). I have also been able to play with a wider range of people than I might otherwise have done and this has been particularly important to me as a newcomer. I am sure other people also prefer EBS for a variety of reasons including fitting around work and family commitments.

I am aware , however, that some people prefer TUP and because I think it is important that members do have a choice I am inclining towards a hybrid system.

I do wonder ,though , how many people want TUP and what the impact of a hybrid system may be. Will the Thursday night finger on button pressure be further increased as fewer bookable slots are available and will people who find it difficult to TUP find they can't play as much golf as they have been playing? Difficult to predict!

It seems that at present on most days 95 slots are available for booking; if I have added things up correctly this will reduce to 42 on most days ,22 on Tuesdays, 28 on alternate Wednesdays and presumably a similar number on other competition days. I see that many of the TUP slots are at the less popular early am/ late pm times and this will mitigate the impact of the reduction of bookable slots but it is a cause for concern. I wonder if consideration could be given to reducing the number of TUP slots on competition days, Tuesdays and alternate Wednesdays?

Just a logistical question; what happens if too many people turn up and cannot be fitted into the TUP slots? I assume the use of the TUP slots and demand for other slots will be monitored.

I was going to ask about how the vote was going to be organised but my potential concerns about a close three way split have been alleviated having read the MC minutes received today!

Having previously raised my concerns with you over this issue I would like to add the following points:-

1. We should be focusing on getting back to normal as a priority, which is returning to the position the club was in prior to Covid, that means turn-up and play for social golf. It is simply the wrong time for the club to change now. After course closures and restricted play let us all celebrate retuning to normality on the 21st June.
2. When the vote takes place it should be a binary choice between BRS or no BRS for social golf. Once the vote is decided which ever way, if members wish to propose the Hybrid system then a vote could take place

again. The EU and Scottish referendum votes were binary choices because that is the correct and only fair way.

The introduction of the BRS system for social golf during the COVID pandemic was a necessity and I admit at the time was obviously happy to comply with.

With being used to turn up and play prior to the above restrictions the end of BRS for social playing couldn't come quick enough.

"However" now after experiencing the system for the duration of COVID I think the system is a very efficient way to play golf socially and fully support it for the future of the club, combined with a voluntary course marshal to ensure security to members and ensure any walkers and ball collectors keep to the bridle ways rather than wandering around the course.

I think the use of ball chutes to secure games are not reliable and should be retired.

The hybrid system mentioned seems a complicated and very time consuming method to manage which would possibly restrict and confuse the membership with bookings.

Fully support the BRS for competition, "However" don't believe the system allows itself user friendly for members meeting and playing with other players (meaning the same groups mostly play together) So could the system be used where time slots are available (example 10:00 to 12:00 or 1:00 to 2:00) and use a draw system for Competitions only (as we used in the days prior to BRS ?) that way a mix of members could play and meet with others.

The last point is NOT to have visitors in the "middle" of competitions (at the beginning or at the end yes).

I am against the continuation of the BRS system for social golf, due to the lack of consideration of some members, who fail to turn up when they have booked a slot, which could have been taken by those who really wanted it but were too slow-fingered in the rat race on Thursdays. This has happened to me on more than one occasion, and was perpetrated by several people - so no excuses!

I am in favour of the hybrid system, as it seems that everyone will be able to get what they want, apart from a tiny minority who will never be satisfied with any arrangement.

I would like to thank the committee for all the they have put into solving this problem, and for coming up with a workable solution.

As a member we pay a fee to be able to play golf and use the facilities when our free time is available.

There are many restrictions already in the calendar ie

Competitions, Ladies Tuesday, Squirrels Wednesday ,Visitors and sponsor/ corporate days.

I think that using the EBS for times in addition to these restrictions will make it even more difficult and reduce the flexibility that members would enjoy by being 'A Member'.

The committee have clearly discussed the options with great care and consideration. It would be fair to say the BRS booking system works well and over the last year has become gradually more acceptable to members.

My own thoughts are the BRS system should be retained and operate everyday from says 9am to 4pm. This would provide some flexibility and avoid members complaining that slots have been booked out for visiting parties and they can't book or play.

My only other suggestion is that BRS is set up for booking the week ahead on Thursdays. If the system will allow, consideration may be given to changing to a daily booking system.

Throughout the pandemic the EBS has fulfilled the requirements of the COVID rules applied to golf clubs. The benefit for the club also allows monitoring of the foot traffic and to see peak flows.

As a members club it is important to allow social golf to be seen as important as competitive golf, to some even more so.

I would like to see the competition booking continue on EBS and all social golf to be TU&P. There should be no slots for EBS on free from competition days. This in turn will see increased use of the club facilities.

Mention is made of late EBS booking causing a backlog on the first tee, late arrivals should not be allowed in any situation.

In summary:-

All comps on EBS

All social golf Tu&p.

As a new member to club I obviously have not seen the old system so can't pass comment but I can't personally see how it could be any easier to arrange and play golf with your mates than by using the brs system? For me personally and I'm sure there are plenty in my position who work full time and have a young family etc. Being able to book a tee time is realistically the only option I have as I do not have time to turn up and then wait a long time for a tee on a weekend or after work. The argument in terms of multiple groups not being able to book together and the 'fastest finger' are surely null and void when you scroll through the tees for next week where there are numerous times available each day even on the days where lots of comp tees are taken? I agree the first few weeks after lockdown it was chaos but those days have gone and things have balanced out? In terms of not being able to play in a whim? I am pretty sure that you can book a same day tee on brs and if there are no slots which is unlikely unless peak time, it would also mean there would be a big queue for turn up and play option?

I can understand that for people with no commitments or retired etc turn up and play is fine, but the reason golf in general has had such an upward incline since covid is due to its flexibility and brs is part of that in my opinion.

Whilst I recognise the temptation to encourage visitors and provide the M C with management data, the system stops members from meeting socially and playing in regular groups on regular days and times.

The old system necessitated members visiting the club house and pro shop to book comp's helping with member flow and sales.

If you look into which members spent money in the clubhouse you will see that certain groups of members spend much more than the average. The red squirrels would be an example.

Carlisle golf club is just that a club, which is financed by members annual fees. The vast majority of members only play social golf and shun medal competitions. Anything which hampers social golf goes against the interest of the bulk of the membership. I know of an ex captain who will only play if he can get someone to book a game for him.

I know it is not what the Golf England want but if you look into the age groups of the membership the over 55 are the largest group.

If the club is to go forward their views should weigh the balance.

BRS works for members who are used to i-phones etc and do not use the club house on a regular basis, but it's plain to see that it has been blocked by members reserving tee times and no one has monitored who has failed to turn up or cancelled at the last minute.

Maybe there is a middle ground but I'm not sure your third way is right.

While I appreciate a hybrid system would be the most likely to appease more members, having turn up and play before or in the middle of a booked system is likely to cause issues. If there are more groups turning up for a gap than can tee off I can't see people going home! It is more likely they will 'cram' onto the course causing a backlog for the booked times. Having turn up and play only after 4pm would avoid this problem.

I certainly prefer the booked system for all the reasons outlined and to spread out the members at sensible intervals. Previously you could turn up, wait for ages on the tee, have a slow round because it happened to be busy at that time when an hour later could have been really quiet, you just didn't know.

Call me old fashioned but I would like to return to the TU&P for the following reasons.

It would prevent the frustration and panic of booking a tee time on a Thursday evening(I suffer from arthritic finger) When our group play on Thursdays the ladies tend to book a number of tee times, but if the weather is inclement fail to turn up having booked times on BRS.

For over a year our group totalling 21 have been unable to play at consecutive times and we also haven't been able to mix the groups up because of track and trace.

We have all missed having a drink together after the round.

Living close to the course my wife and I like to play the the top 8, at the moment we have to pre plan and can't just turn up at the drop of a hat.

As a post script I think one name only for competitions is an excellent idea.

Congratulations to the MC for all their hard work and moving the club forward

Personally I would like it to go back to how it was before COVID restrictions - ie. Turn Up and Play was the format, with BRS running in the background so I could see when comps, group bookings etc. were so I could avoid them. I would prefer non members/group booking were after say 9 or 9.30am to allow us members to enjoy the course at a priority time. I find BRS actually restricts playing golf on a whim and also makes it more difficult to join people you don't know as people are still managing to block out on BRS to keep themselves as 2 or 3 balls, whereas, with Turn Up and Play, I have found we are friendly lot at Carlisle and tend to ask singles to join in with a group or challenge another 2ball to a match.

However, I am aware that there is more to Carlisle Golf Club than just what I want, so I would have thought that a hybrid model should be trialled at first to assist those people that need certainty so long as those people that book do actually turn up - if members do book and not turn up during the BRS time, then they are being selfish as it blocking potentially others, mainly "whim" golfers - so whenever BRS is used, it needs policed.

Views for EBS / Against TU&P

- DURING THE WEEK, RARELY HAD TO WAIT WHEN TURN UP & PLAY, PLUS YOU COULDKD JUST SHOOT OFF DOWN THE 9TH IF 1ST BUSY, SO NOT SURE HOW BIG AN ADVANTAGE THIS IS
- IN MY EXPERIENCE, MORE LIKELY TO JOIN UP WITH TURN UP AND PLAY THAN BRS.
- EVERYONE HAS ACCESS TO TURN UP AND PLAY
- EBS REDUCES THE PRESSURE OFF THE FIRST TEE SHOT WITH A CROWD - THIS CAN BE DAUNTING FOR NEW/LESS EXPERIENCED GOLFERS

Views for TU&P / Against

- TU&P INCREASES FREEDOM TO PLAY ON A WHIM AND BUMP INTO FRIENDS TO MAKE YOUR GOLF MORE SOCIABLE
- TU&P ALLOWS THIS TO HAPPEN AND GETS MORE PEOPLE ON THE COURSE
- YEAH, LIVING WITH WEAK BROADBAND IS FRUSTRATING AND WHILST I DO GET GAMES BOOKED IN, THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE I STOP EVERYTHING AT 6PM ON A THURSDAY AND DEDICATE MYSELF TO IT FOR 15-20 MINUTES EACH THURSDAY.

Views for Hybrid System

- NO DEFAULTS SHOULD BE ALLOWED, GOT TO SPECIFY A PREFERENCE OR NOT VOTE.
- Assists control of visitor bookings and numbers in any one day - THINK PRE COVID SYSTEM DID THIS WITHOUT HYBRID
- PROPOSAL NOT ACCOMODATING THOSE THAT START ON 9TH TEE WHEN 1ST TEE BUSY FOR A SHORT WHILE.

Outside of competitions, which will always take priority, our hybrid system proposal of daily time zones is detailed below FYI.

Mon/Thurs/Fri/Sat/Sun

TU&P - 7.00am - 09.23am: 12.00pm - 13.23pm: 16.00pm – End of daylight

EBS - 09.30am - 11.53am: 13.30pm - 15.53pm

PROBLEM WITH THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS TO THOSE GAMES THAT SHOT OFF DOWN THE 9TH AS THERE WERE A FEW GROUPS ON THE 1ST TEE - ARE WE LOOKING TO KILL OFF STARTING ON THE 9TH? I THINK YOU NEED TO SAY EBS HAS PRIORITY AT THESE TIMES, BUT BOUNCE GAMES ARE MATCHES THAT STARTED ON THE 9TH CAN STILL GO OFF THE FIRST AT THESE TIMES.

Tuesday (Ladies Day Priority)

TU&P

October to March: - 7.00am - 8.53am: 12.08am - 12.53pm:

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO TU&P IN THE AM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER OR IS THE PROPOSAL IT HAS TO BE EBS FOR THESE MONTHS EITHER SIDE OF THE LADY COMPS?

April to May: - 16.00 - 16.38: 17.08 - Dark

June to July: - 16.00 - 17.38: 18.08 - Dark

August to September: - 16.00 - 16.38: 17.08 - Dark

EBS – All year: 14.38pm - 15.53pm

Alternate Wednesday's (Red Squirrels Priority - 10.30am – 12.00pm)

TU&P - 7.00am - 09.23am: 12.08pm - 13.23pm: 16.00pm – Dark

EBS - 09.30am - 10.23am: 13.30pm - 15.53pm

Going forward, we will also endeavour to ensure that visitor bookings are only allowed between 09.30am and 12.00pm and 13.30pm and 16.00pm on non-competition days. - OK BUT THERE MAY BE EXCEPTIOONS FOR LARGE GROUP BOOKINGS THAT ARE GOING TO BE RENUMERATIVE FOR THE CLUB I PREUME - JUST THESE WILL BE THE EXCEPTION?

PREVIOUSLY THERE HAS BEEN CONCERN OVER A VOLUME OF SPONSORS DAYS ON FRIDAYS - I REALISE THAT SPONSORS NEED TO BE ABKLE TO USE THE GOLF CLUB FOR THE ADDITIONAL FEES THEY PAY, SO WHAT IS

THE PROPOSAL AROUND SPONSOR DAYS AS LOSING SEVERAL FRIDAYS DURING THE BETTER MONTHS CAN BE AN IRRITANT FOR STANDARD MEMBERS.

For the following reasons I would 100% go back to the TU&P system when COVID constrictions allow.

1. Offers the flexibility to play when I want, if I want.
2. I understand that using EBS may allow members to join a game, which would enable them to play and get to know other club members. However I am aware that names of players are entered on EBS (who are not playing) to block other members from joining them. Very insular.
3. It would stop members not turning up for their allocated tee time because the weather forecast has changed and they may get a little wet.

I would like to see EBS as a permanent thing, but know this won't happen, so I will opt for the split times, I like EBS as it means as a shift worker, who plays with other shift workers, i know I will get a game when I arrive at the course and will not be stuck behind 10 or more golfers waiting to tee off.

It looks a bit like Carlisle golf course has to be dragged kicking and screaming into what is the future of golf.

As a Senior Member who enjoys social and competition golf I believe the proposed Hybrid system would work best for me for the following reasons:- Prior to Covid restrictions our Saturday social group of up to twelve people could gather on the first tee at the same time each weekend, and head off in random 3 balls competing against each other. The groups outside our own group would also meet at their own agreed times and we saw the same folk each week ahead or behind us. There never seemed to be any queuing on the tee. This all seemed to work reasonably well under the TU&P system. We gathered in the Clubhouse after our games to compare scores, and have a catch up over a coffee and a bacon role. I have found the EBS prevents us from booking similar times and we usually have to play with the same 3 or 4 ball every week which also prevents the social interaction with the rest of this group. Post Covid, the EBS system will continue to prevent social gathering in the Clubhouse after the game due to game times being booked so far apart. However, I am happy to enter Saturday Club Competitions using the EBS system. I joined the Carlisle Red Squirrels when I retired about three years ago to play golf during the week on Wednesdays with folk of a similar age and I have enjoyed the friendly competition and social aspects of this group. Prior to Covid restrictions all I had to do was turn up at a certain time to be guaranteed a competitive game with two other players. During Covid restrictions it has been very difficult to book a game using EBS with random individuals from this group as the timings are spread throughout the day. It has effectively broken up the social aspect of the game. Previously this group would gather in the Clubhouse to collate scores and announce winners etc. If the EBS system were to continue post Covid this important social aspect of the game would be lost. I was aware that the Red Squirrels had been trying to negotiate a regular tee time with the previous committee and am happy to see this matter appears to have been resolved with the new committee. With regard to Club Congu competitions on Wednesdays I do not have a problem entering my name for these using the EBS system. In conclusion I would confirm the proposed Hybrid system proposed would work best for me (TU & P for social golf and EBS for competitions) with the Red Squirrels times reserved on alternate Wednesdays.

I would support the hybrid option which effectively gives two options to play.

The EBS can be a bit of a lottery and of course you need to be always available at 6PM every Thursday to "buy a ticket".

TUP at least offers the chance to play early or late.

I am in favour of the on-line booking system remaining in place on a full time basis. As someone who still works full time it's very helpful as it means I can finish work late afternoon and be guaranteed a tee without having to worry about queuing, or having to decide whether or not to go down the 9th. It also means I can book from the comfort of my own home without having to make a special journey to the club.

I did consider the proposed hybrid system would, as suggested gives a balance to all members preferences, but I think going forward, the EBS system would be the best option!

With EBS, there is no confusion, you book your preferred tee off time (if your fingers are fast enough!) and you know in advance the day and time you are playing!

My choice would be therefore to stick with BRS

My personal preference is for the EBS system, I really like the certainty of knowing when I will be playing, and I like the ability to slot in with different groups. The Thursday Scramble, or FFF, has become less of an issue lately, there are lots of times available for people like me with a less rigid schedule, although doubtless it will return when daylight reduces.

However, trying to look with a broader perspective:- regarding latecomers, the occasional delay is inevitable, especially when we've been urged to arrive fairly shortly before our tee time, but not those caused by poor time management. It's difficult to avoid the backing up scenario without having someone 'policing' it, and that's not on. Perhaps urging players to arrive earlier will help, now that the pressure not to mix is off slightly. Why am I such an optimist?

The hybrid solution looks complicated but I guess we would become used to it, and I think it would look less complicated if the EBS times were listed, preferably with round numbers, i.e. for some reason it looks more manageable if the times defined are hours or half hours rather than e.g.10.53. I guess there might be difficulties if there's a queue of TU&P golfers immediately before the start of booked tee times though? It's been so good to have less confrontation in the air, so it would be a shame to introduce a possible source of that.

This hasn't included anything about whether or not tee times for club knock-outs can be booked as any sort of priority, I don't know whether that can be part of this discussion or whether it's a completely separate issue.

1. Most members (excepting new members) have experience of both EBS and TU&P but not a hybrid system. Could I suggest that if hybrid is chosen it is subject to review after a fixed period of time.
2. If hybrid is chosen could the time bands be reviewed and tweaked as necessary in the future?
3. Could I suggest that if TU&P is chosen it is possible for those playing ties in club knockout competitions can be booked. Traditionally ties have courtesy on the first tee but this can lead to awkwardness.
4. My understanding is that Red Squirrels have a tee time on alternate Wednesdays in summer but every Wednesday in winter. The document only mentions the summer situation
5. When there are 3 choices to be voted on it is quite possible that the winning choice has less than 50% of the votes. ie it is not the choice of a majority of members. Might I suggest that members voting can give a second preference and the method that comes third has those second preference votes split and added to the other two options.
6. I believe that to return to TU&P only is a retrograde step. The EBS system allows lone members to join others for a game and this includes at short notice or on a whim. Also at present there do seem to be spare unbooked slots which could be used at short notice by those playing on a whim

In your communication you have covered the merits of each option very well but in a case like this compromise always appears to satisfy all parties. In this regard I would favour the hybrid option as it balances all member preferences, whilst at the same time it would give the MC much information on how the course is used. I note that with the EBS the ladies have made much better use of the course, this I believe needs to be maintained and would be with a hybrid system. If I was to make one suggestion with the hybrid option it would be to extend the TU &P early time of 7.00am to 09.23 am to 10.00am as there could be quite a number of larger groups playing. In my eleven years of playing at Carlisle golf club I have never seen the chute being used and I would say that this needs enforcing, so if a group of twelve turned up

, one ball in the chute would not suffice, it needs three or four balls depending if three or four balls are being played. The information the MC could collect with the hybrid system would determine whether to stick with the option or implement the favoured one being used.

Thank you for deeming this issue a "key matter"

Well I never thought I would say this but I do quite like the BRS

It has got rid of the frustration of turning up on tee and finding 4 groups queuing, I am able to walk up and tee off straight away at my chosen time. People just need to be organised (I suppose that is a big ask for some)

It has also enabled members to join up and play socially with others that they wouldn't previously known were playing without seeing their names on the BRS tee sheet.

During the summer months there a lot of slots available especially in the afternoon.

If I want to turn up on my own or with another person and play a few holes I can check if there is a slow 4 ball at a certain time and look to avoid that time, then book it on BRS

That said I think a hybrid system is required to allow people to turn up and play at certain times, although the example of times given in this email is more complicated than trying to understand the government tier system with Covid

I think a more simplified version would be

Turn up and Play – April to September

Week days - Before 8:30am, 2:00pm to 3:30pm and after 5:30pm

Weekends – Before 8:00am and after 3:00pm

Turn Up and Play - October to March

All days - Before 8:30am and after 3:00pm

During some months when day light is limited eg November to February, as before there could be a limit to booking more than 3 rounds a week on BRS, but more can be booked after Sunday if spaces are or become available.

I would like to see the booking time for BRS put back to 7:30pm on a Thursday, but that is a personal preference as I always seem to be busy at 6pm, however the current arrangement is acceptable, I just have to be organised!!

What I would also like to see somewhere visible (near first tee & changing rooms) is a list of visiting parties and competitions for the next 2-3 weeks, when the tee is booked up for a significant period , as this allows me to plan and organise myself and other people to be available to play when the first tee is not blocked.

The hybrid system is a very appealing option in that it allows informal groups to play together once again but also allows the certainty of a booked tee should you so require.

I may have missed it but on competition days will the members' slot be TU&P or EBS?