

LITTLE SAI WAN GOLFING SOCIETY



FOUNDED 1964

Annual General Meeting – 24th May 2018

Captain's Report

Good afternoon gentlemen. Once again, I would like to start by thanking each and every one of our members - those of you here today, but also those who for whatever reason could not attend today's competition and our AGM. Thank you for your continued support, for your participation in our monthly competitions and for your ongoing commitment to our great Society.

As some of you may be aware, I was honoured and privileged to originally be voted in as Captain in 2012. I must be honest when I say that I am not exactly sure what characteristics or traits were identified that qualified me for such an esteemed role – telling good jokes was clearly not a requirement - but I hope that I have lived up to the role over the last 6 years. I am a great believer in the importance of new blood within a Society and within a Committee and I have made it clear to the rest of the Committee that should I be offered the role of Captain again this year, that at the end of the year I will look to step down to make way for someone else.

With this in mind, I would like to highlight two things that the Society needs your help with in the coming year. As Roger Best mentioned in his report, we need to be mindful of our membership numbers and really do need a bit of a push this year on bringing new members in to the Society – but please be aware of course that they will need to meet our membership criteria of being quality golfers and quality chaps. Secondly, we need more of our members to offer their services up for roles on the Committee.

In that context, I would like to take a moment to thank our existing Committee members for their hard work over the last year, for their time and energy behind the scenes, ensuring the smooth running of the Society. A special thank you to Duncan Spooner, who I understand will be moving overseas very shortly and will therefore be stepping down from the Committee. Duncan has made a significant contribution to the Society; as a Committee member and as a player in both our monthly medals and as a member of our Ryder Cup Team - we look forward to receiving details of the proposed UK tour soon. Thank you also to Rob Henderson, who stepped down from the role of Secretary and from the Committee during the year. As most of you know, Rob has been a member of the Society for many many years and continues to play in – and win – our monthly medals. Well done Rob and thank you.

As some of you will have seen, in addition to the monthly medals and the annual Ryder Cup Tour to Thailand, we continue as a Committee to look at other locations where members of

our Society can play golf together. This includes the Overseas Golf Opportunities list, which can be found on our website. This provides details of clubs and locations around the world where we have existing and past members that are available to play or arrange a game of golf when you are on your travels. Many of our members took advantage of this during the year, but we would encourage more to do so. We are also looking at a couple of social tours potentially to Singapore and maybe to New Zealand in the New Year – please check the LSWGS WhatsApp group for more details. These tours will only take place if there is enough interest, so please do let us know if you are interested.

As for the Ryder Cup, last years' event was the first time that the Society fielded a team of 20 against 20 formidable Big Sai Wan players. As most will know, the Tour was a resounding success, the entire competition going down to the final match with ultimately a win for Little Sai Wan under the captancy of Randy Bishman. This year the Ryder Cup will once again be held in Thailand, will be 20 against 20 and will take place in the last week of November. I would recommend this Tour to absolutely everyone. It is a great way to get to know fellow Society members intimately... particularly in the Greensomes and Foursomes matches. Also a great way to get to know some of the Big Sai Wan players better ... particularly in the Singles matches!

So in closing, a massive thank you to each and every one of our members for continuing to make this Society what it is today. If I may, I would ask you to be up standing and to raise a toast to ... 'Our Great Society'.

Thank you gentlemen.

Tony Michell
LSWGS Captain