## Recruitment + Retention

HDUGC Oakdale Golf Club March 2016

Tom Freeland Yorkshire County Development Officer





# **Potential players**

Q: What is the reason you have never taken up Golf?

I do not know how to get started

42%

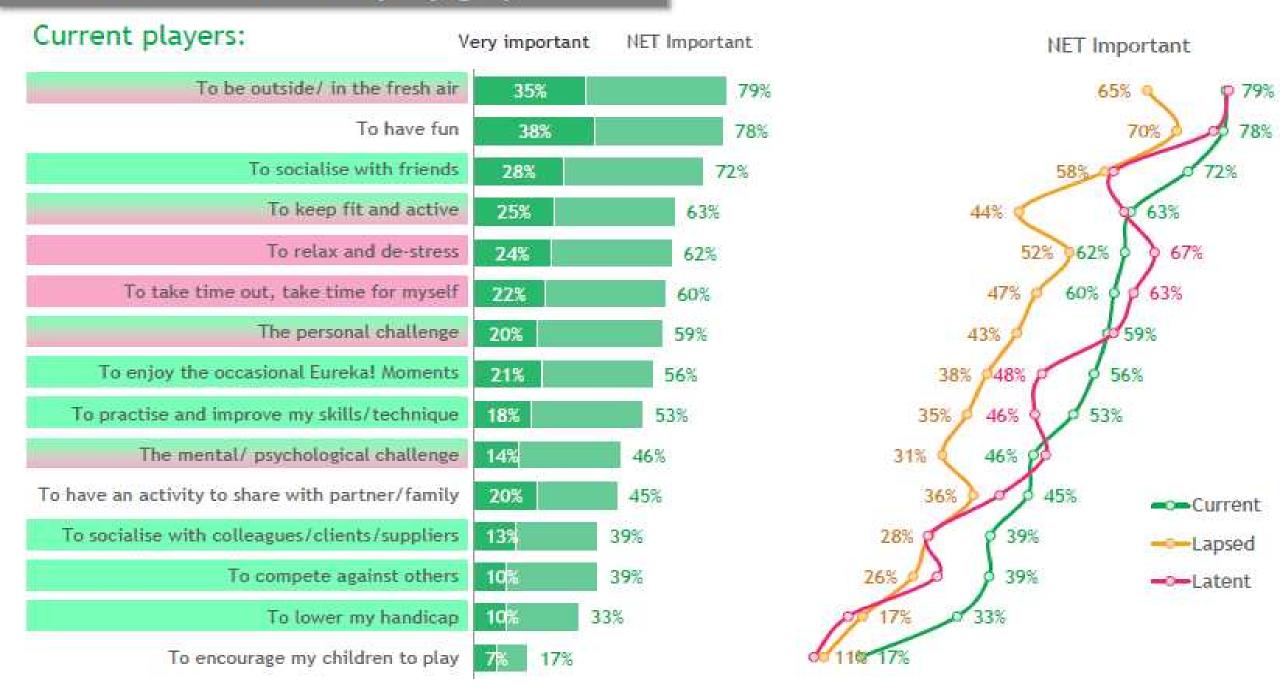
Q: What would encourage you to give Golf a try?

Easy access to affordable golf lessons

55%



### Current motivations to play golf



### **Young Actives**

Size:









26% Female

Average age 38 74% aged under 45

Malo

40% HH income <£25k

80% White

39% Single

50% No children

### Golf Activity

1% are golf club members 26% handicap of 24 or less

20%+ play 18-holes / 9-holes / driving range / pitch and

putt monthly+ in the summer

29% play in the winter

23% have a regular commitment to play

44% play with close friends,

32% with family members

#### Motivations & Barriers

15% golf is an important part of my life

45% would like to play more

50%+ play to be outside, have fun, socialise, relax and for

50%+ interested in par-3 courses and in-home golf games

the personal challenge

MAIN BARRIERS:

69% golf is expensive

61% not enough friends to play with

54% time pressures













### Context

Just under a third are current players (30% Current, 35% Lapsed, 35% Latent) Young and active, but less affluent (including more non-white players) Enjoy the occasional game, but play infrequently and generally not at a high level Some interest in playing more but have limited time and money Some current involvement in playing other sports (inc., swimming and football)

"I enjoy it but I don't play often enough to be any

### Golf Activity

Enjoy

playing

Virtually none are members of a golf club (1%) but 26% are interested in joining one

Play infrequently in the summer (18-holes, 9-holes, pitch and putt and/or driving range) and less in the winter

Usually play for less than 3 hours

Almost half would like to play more

Play with close friends primarily, family members secondarily

playing

A few play in informal social competitions

# Social vs. Golf

Enthusiasm

Enjoy the balance between playing the game and socialising with friends/family

Enjoy playing every now and then but can take it or leave

### Motivations & Barriers

Golf is relaxing and sociable but also expensive

Could be enjoyable to play and spend time outside with friends, but not really motivated to try it/play more

Expense is main key barrier, compounded by time pressures and lack of playing partners

Some issues with exclusivity (only 12% feel it is 'for people like me')

Haven't joined a club because of the cost involved and limited justification to cover that cost, but the expense is less of a barrier to this group

Advantages of short courses (e.g. par-3s) could breakdown some of these barriers

"I might play more if more of my friends played"

"I did think about joining a club but you'd need to play 2-3 times a week to justify the cost"



### Casual Fun

Size:















Only a quarter are current players (26% Current, 48% Lapsed, 26% Latent) Range of ages and mix of men and women

Have more time to play (no kids, not working) but little inclination Enjoy an occasional 'knock about' (mini/crazy golf or pitch and putt) with family or friends

Play at a low level (only 20% have ever had lessons) Limited interest in golf in general (41% never even watch golf on TV) Some current involvement in other physical activities - mainly swimming

"We all enjoy a game of pitch and putt on holiday"



### Golf Activity

Enjoy

playing

None are members of a golf club and only 6% are interested in joining one

Play infrequently during the summer, and very rarely play a full round (mainly mini/crazy golf, pitch and putt or driving range)

Playing less than they used to and expect to play less in the future. although some would like to play more

Usually play for 2 hours or less

Play with family and close friends

Very little competitive play (even informal social competitions)

playing



Interest in playing the game itself is pretty low, only real appeal is the social side of spending time with family/fiends

Enjoyable to play every now and then but no real enthusiasm for the game

### Motivations & Barriers

Golf is sociable but also expensive and exclusive

Will be motivated to play more, or start playing, by desire to have fun socialising with family and friends

Expense is the key barrier

Exclusivity issues may dampen the 'fun' element

only 5% feel it is 'for people like me'

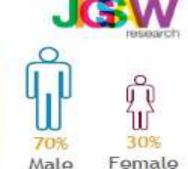
- dress codes and unwelcoming attitudes of other players can be barriers

Cost of joining a club is too high to justify the expense, plus view clubs as exclusive and old fashioned

Alternative forms of golf (e.g. Warehouse/Street golf) could help sell the social side of the game

"I don't take it seriously enough to be a member"

"I got told off once for changing my shoes in the carpark!!"



Average age 42 Range of ages

88% White

37% Not working

36% Single

52% No children

### Golf Activity

0% are golf club members 10% handicap of 24 or less 10-15% play mini/crazy golf, pitch and putt and practice at driving range monthly+ in the summer

16% play in the winter

14% have a regular commitment to play

46% play with family,

46% with close friends

#### Motivations & Barriers

1% golf is an important part of my life

32% would like to play more

704+ play to have fun and socialise

51% interested in Warehouse/Street golf

#### MAIN BARRIERS

90% golf is expensive 63% dress codes are too strict

61% takes too long to play a full round

50% other golfers are stuffy/spooty

# What are Juniors looking for?



A solution to the problem that golf takes too long is shorter courses. While 6-hole courses are perceived to be too short, 9-hole rounds appeal to young people and could be made quicker with forward tees.



### MORE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

Young people don't feel comfortable in the traditional club environment and require a place to meet and share time with their own peer group



The perception that golf is expensive and you need to buy all the equipment and/or join a club, could be overcome with affordable equipment hire or free rental. It may also offer an additional revenue stream to courses.



Some of the junior golfers said that 18-hole rounds took too much time. Most agreed that the option to play 9-hole rounds would be preferable.

# **Golf Express**

### **Primary**



- 1. Latent golfers
- 2. Males 35-55 year of age
- 3. These are the people who can play but now don't have the time through work and family commitments.



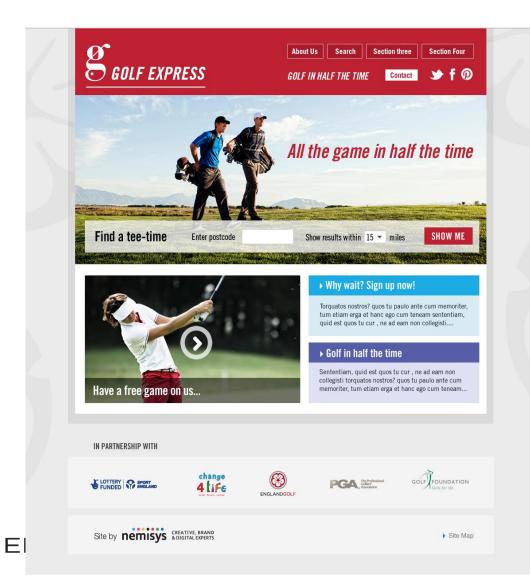
### **Secondary**

- 1. New Golfers
- 2. Existing members that are time poor

"Remember those 25-40 year olds? They are working..... help them 'fit in' their golf."



### **Communication** channels



Golf Express consumers have a different set of needs to GIG or EG as they are latent golfers.

However their communication expectations will be the same:

- easy to access
- clear information
- product available when they want it

#### **Communication Platforms**

- Website
- Social media Twitter/Facebook
- Content

### Golfexpress.org

A micro website built within the GIG site so that it benefits from the GIG technology, finder mobile and tablet responsive.

Golf clubs will upload their offers through Golf Express tile in Clubhouse. These will view until offer date expires.

CGPs will access through own site, like GIG Basic reports will generated.

It will appear from the outside as a stand alone site.



## **Get into Golf**

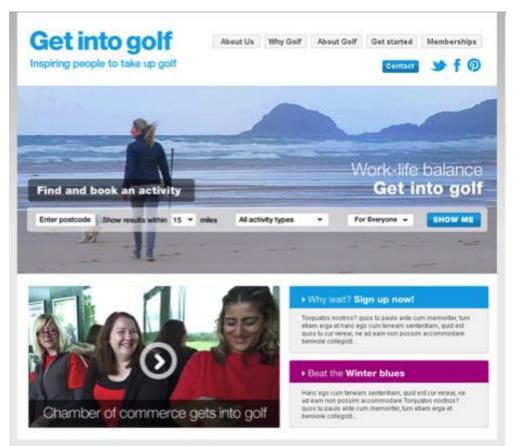
It aims to provide and promote introductory and intermediate activities.

It helps make the game more accessible than ever before.

**Get into Golf** 

Over the last 18 months more than 90,000 people across England have participated.

Bookable online or at the club.
Activity booked in under 5
minutes



Site has also been improved to work on tablets and

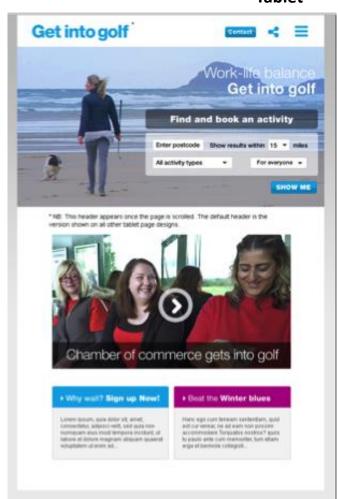
mobile devices.

Making it easier to view and book.

Desk-top

# Get into golf

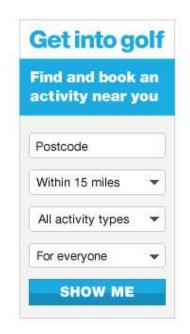
**Tablet** 



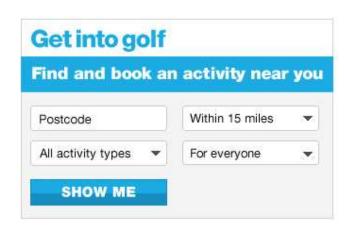
### Mobile

Get into golf	< =
Find and book an	activity
Enter postcode	
Show results within 15	▼ miles
All activity types	•
For everyone	•
SHOW MI	
2 1	
Work-life balar Get Into golf	1C <del>0</del>

# **Activity finder** has been built as a widget to embed into external sites



There will be 3 different designs that will scale to the space available Instructions and a link to the widget will be provided

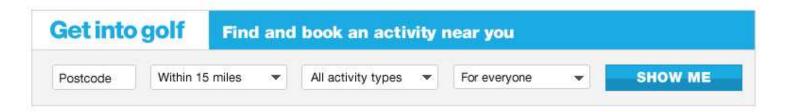


#### **HOW IT WORKS**

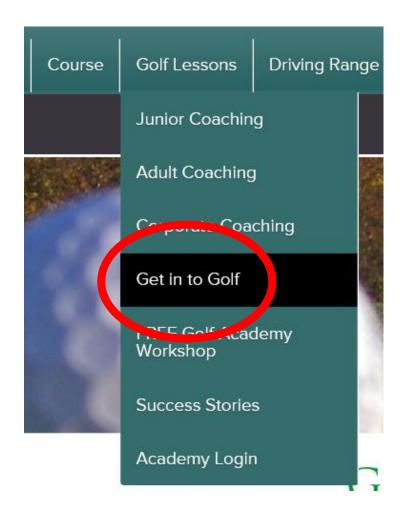
- 1. Club embeds into their own site
- 2. Customer adds in their postcode
- 3. Takes straight through to this page on Get into golf activity map

#### **BENEFIT**

Club has an 24/7 booking system



## **Club Website**



### Adult Group Roll up sessions - just turn up!

### 'Beat your Handicap' Adults' roll-up

Every Tuesday at 10.00 - 11.00am £6.50 pp(includes FREE coffee).

### BEAT CLUB - Break 90/80/70

Every Tuesday evening 6 - 7pm Adult Roll up £6.50pp game improvement session & Free Coffee, supported by Golfshake

#### 'Pink Ladies'

Every Friday & Saturdays 10.00 - 11am. £10 pp - includes coaching, 9 holes West Wood Course voucher, Free Coffee + donation to Breast Cancer Research Centre, City Hospital.

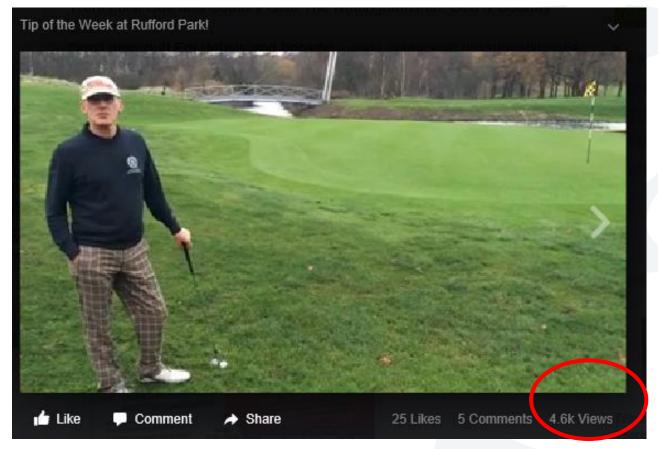
GOLF » Golf Course Hole by Hole guide Visitor Information/ Green Fees Driving Range Junior Golf Get into Golf olfers Lovacty Card GOLF OFFERS Open Competitions

- rirst impressions count
- Is your website geared up for the new beginner golfer traffic?
- The more you TELL the more you SELL



- Regular updates on Facebook/Twitter
- □ 30 second 'tip of the week' videos
  - Video of you coaching someone. Gives someone confidence in knowing who you are/what to expect before they come to the club
  - Look on Rufford Park Facebook page & Notts
     County Golf Partnership page for ideas
- ☐ Invite new participants who are attending Get into Golf sessions to the page
- Not everyone will be at the club to see you or view the corridor noticeboards









Steve Pearce @stevepearcey - Mar 12

Lots of exciting things happening @BedaleGC this #spring visit @getintogolf & regis pic-collage.com/ 5CQ08aXY





Steve Pearce @stevepearcey - 13 Jun 2015

Here's Wilma having her 1st taste of golf @ the Bedale Festival #growgolf @EnglandGolf @GolfRootsEM



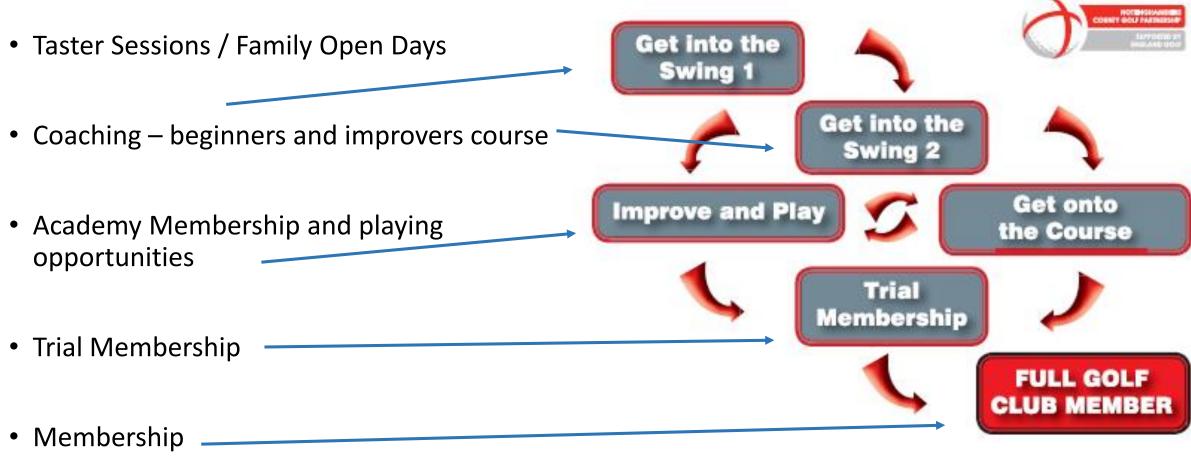








### **Recruitment Offers**

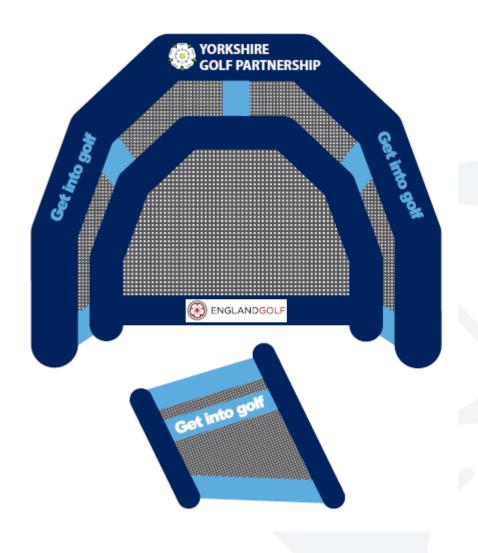


• Ensuring flexibility is there for everyone



### **Inflatable Golf nets**

- Great promotional tool
- Creates connections with the public
- Easy to set up
- Ability to target areas with high footfall.
- The net is very versatile and can be used in and outdoors.
- Free of charge to use
- Ideal for getting participant information and sign posting to your club/facility





### **Inflatable Golf Net – Usage example**

Plan years activity and the courses you want to run

Use Inflatable net at targeted event

Collect participant data

Give participant details of courses running – if practical sign them up at the event

End result is to signpost to the club for follow on sessions.



# What happens when people come to their first Get into Golf session....

- What is the initial process at the first session?
  - Meet and greet
  - Tour of facilities
  - Data collection who's job is this?
- Is it just the PGA Pro there?
  - Pro can't do everything. Primary role is to coach and make it fun
  - Are there any club volunteers/PGA assistants there to assist in the above?

# Get into golf registration card

### Date: Are you at: Beginner course Play Taster session Data collection imperative for all visitors to golf club About you: Female | Male We can help put a process in place Your age group: 30-34 45-54 65+ If you are under 18 years of age, please confirm you have asked permission from your parent/ How did you find out about Get into golf: guardian prior to providing an email address Online Facebook Twitter First name: Second name: Leaflet Newspaper Poster E-mail address: Via my employer Word of mouth If you do not want to share your details with the England Golf and partners, County: Post code: (partners being Counties, Clubs and PGA Professionals) please tick. Do you have a disability: Yes

**Data Collection** 

Magazine

getintogolf.org

Radio

BBC

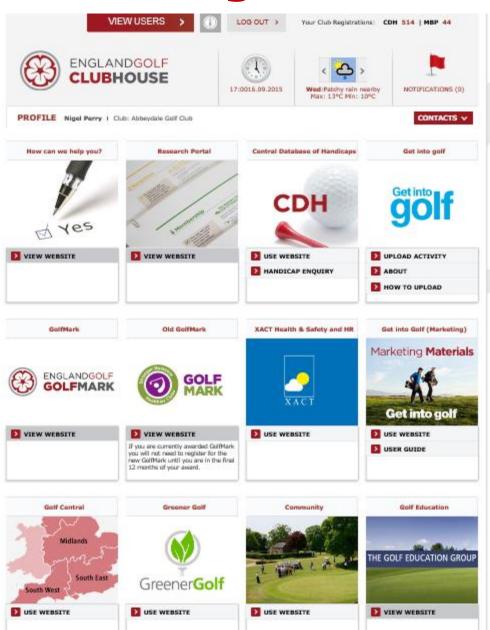
### We know it works... National research findings

- Service offered by **the coach/professional** at each session which was rated as the initiative's single greatest attribute (4.8 out of 5).
- Women are more likely to attend introductory golf sessions as a result of a desire
  to emulate a family member who plays rather than a golfing friend. For
  men, it is more common to be influenced by a friend who golfs than a family
  member.

 Female attendees were also more likely than men to have harboured a desire to play golf but to have felt in the past that there was no opportunity for them to do so.

• 77% of attendees are **more positive about golf** now than they were before the programme.

### **England Golf Clubhouse**



- Online platform /database of knowledge.
- Main club administrator can add you to the system.
- If not contact Club Support on 01526 354500

#### 1. SINGLE ENTRY

This is for an activity that is a course or does not run on consecutive weeks.



# How to upload activities?



#### SUITABLE FOR?

Beginner courses, improver courses, learn golf in a day and single entry activity.

- Please complete all fields and select from drop-down boxes.
- Information buttons will help guide you through the form.
- Press submit and finish to publish activity.
- A prompt will appear should there be any missing or incorrect information.
- Activity will remain on site until start date has expired.

#### 2. REPEATED ENTRY

This is for an activity that will reoccur on the same day and time over a number of consecutive weeks.



#### SUITABLE FOR?

Taster session, beginner session, improver session.

#### DO NOT USE FOR

Courses

- Complete all fields from drop-down boxes as in option.
- · Start date is the first activity date.
- Number of weeks is how many you would like this to repeat for.

#### TO ADD A MEMBERSHIP

- Click add Membership offer and follow the same process as above.
- Memberships will remain on site until end date has expired.

### **Irongate Marketing Materials**







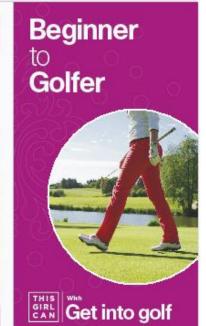


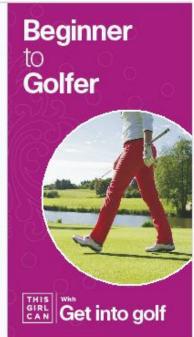


For more information

and to book













Learn in a relaxed and friendly environment at Woodhall Spa Golf Club The Broadway, Woodhall Spa, LIN10 6PU

Equipment will be provided, just book and turn up on the day in

All classes are delivered by PGA professional coaches

### Get into golf





To find out more and to book visit cetintogolf.org/lines or call 0800 118 2764





# We want to remove barriers to playing golf by showing the game is fun, informal and inviting

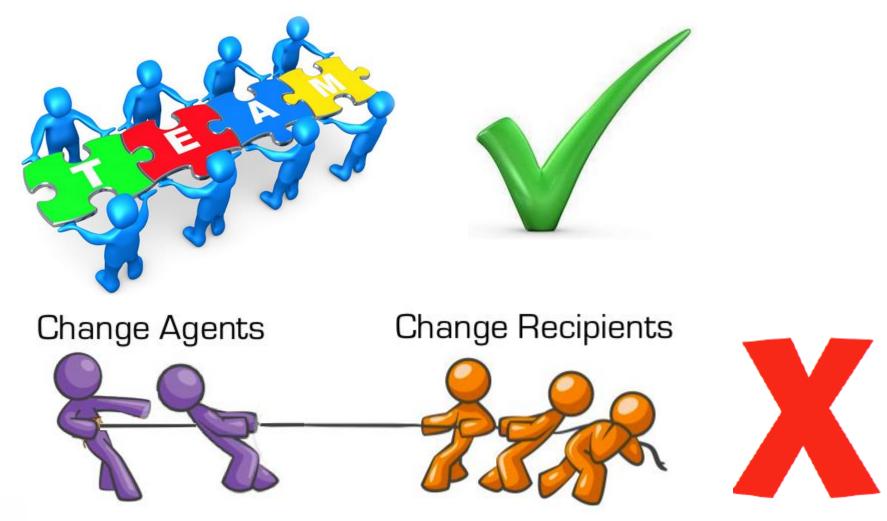
- What do you want to achieve?
- □ Clubs that are doing well are trying things and are not scared of failing.

If things are not working out then make changes

- □ Please contact us if you would like to arrange a meeting
  - Beneficial for us to sit down with yourselves and the Club Manager and volunteers who can help with recruitment



## **County Development Officer Support**







# Contact Details

Thank you for your time

**Tom Freeland** – covering Bradford, Harrogate, Leeds & Teesside t.freeland@englandgolf.org 07736 880910

