



The Vale

Newsletter of Aylesbury Vale Golf Club
www.avgc.co.uk

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Edition 73, September 2020

Comment

Many congratulations to our 2020 Club Champions, whose names appear later in this newsletter. We are grateful to the Club management for allowing this important competition to take place.

This newsletter is produced each month for all Club members. If you would like to receive the monthly copy by email, just ask the Editor to add you to his list.

To help add interest, why not send the Editor something golf-related that he can include in an issue – perhaps a review of a course that you've visited or something that you have for sale.

The Editor can be contacted at: lanceredler@yahoo.co.uk

News and Updates from the Club Management

The Course. The greenkeepers have been hard at work trying to keep the grass under control! It has been a little like painting the Forth Road Bridge - clean the machines off before taking them out again. At the time of writing there looks like a small weather break for the Champs weekend so we can only hope that everyone enjoys themselves.

The Clubhouse. We wait with bated breath to see if any Clubhouse restrictions are imposed once schools re-open. We will look at covering the patio area, if everything remains open, to give us as much seating space as possible.

Greens Maintenance. Monday 7 September - Wednesday 9 September are the dates for our bi-annual greens maintenance programme. This year we will close nine holes each day for the maintenance whilst leaving the other nine free for uninterrupted play. This could be a good opportunity for members to book an away round at a SmartGolfer network course. Just drop your card in at the Pro Shop if it needs updating.

Chris Wright

Rules of Golf

Readers haven't faced quiz questions for some while, so we will pose a series of questions of varying degrees of difficulty over the next few months. The answers are given just before the Men's Section reports. (Questions and answers have been provided by the R and A.)

Question 1: The 'general penalty' is a two-stroke penalty in stroke play and match play.

A – False. B – True.

Question 2: An animal is an outside influence.

A – False. B – True.

Question 3: If it is 75% certain that a ball that has not been found is in a penalty area, the player may take back-on-the-line relief from the penalty area under penalty of one stroke.

A – True. B – False.

Question 4: In stroke play, a player playing from the teeing area misses the ball completely. He pushes his tee farther into the ground and plays. What is the ruling?

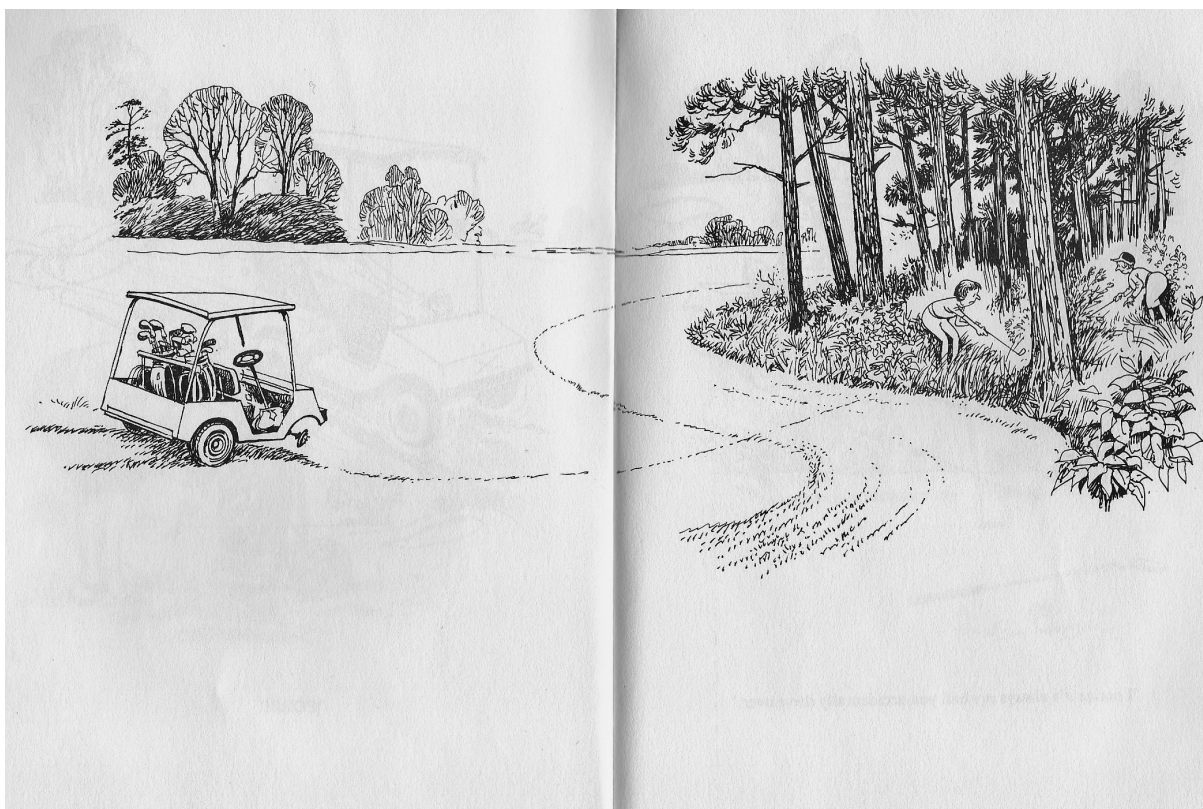
A - There is no penalty. B - The player gets one penalty stroke. C - The player gets two penalty strokes.

Question 5. In match play, a player marks the position of her ball on the putting green, lifts the ball and sets it aside. By mistake, she putts the ball from the spot at which she set it aside. What is the ruling?

A - The player incurs a penalty of two strokes and must correct her mistake by replacing the ball at the correct spot before playing from the next tee. B - The player loses the hole. C - The player must correct her mistake by replacing the ball at the correct spot otherwise she loses the hole.

Question 6. Equipment includes the player's sweater when it is being carried by him or his caddie.

A – True. B – False.



Club Championship

Many congratulations to the 2020 Club Champions:

Men: Club Champion (gross) Darren Horne
Club Champion (nett) Lee Bracey-Wright

Ladies: Club Champion (gross) Sue Bellingham
Club Champion (nett) Jean Barnett

Hole-in-One

Congratulations this month go to Joe Collier, who achieved his first ever hole-in-one on Monday 3 August, on the 8th hole, playing social golf at AVGC.

2019/2020 Winter Knockout Competitions for Men and Seniors

Congratulations also go to the winners of the:

Men's Winter Knockout Pairs competition – Graham Magill and Andy Pye - who beat Andy Frankum and Gary Shackleton in the final round;

Seniors' Winter Knockout Pairs competition – Andrew Bond and Bob Doherty – who beat Julian Bamford and Peter Docwra in the final round.

Rules Quiz Answers

Definitions and Rules can be found in the Player's Edition of the Rules of Golf.

Question 1. Correct answer A. Explanation: The general penalty is loss of hole in match play and a two-stroke penalty in stroke play.

Question 2. Correct answer B. Explanation: See the definition of Outside Influence.

Question 3. Correct answer B. Explanation: A player must have knowledge or virtual certainty (95% likely) that his or her ball is in a penalty area in order to take back-on-the-line or lateral relief under Rule 17.1d. See Rule 17.1 and the definition of Knowledge or Virtual Certainty.

Question 4. Correct answer A. Explanation: If the player's ball in play is in the teeing area after a stroke (such as a tee'd ball after a stroke that missed the ball) or after taking relief, the player may lift the ball without penalty and play the ball anywhere in the teeing area from a tee or the ground. (Rule 6.2b(6)).

Question 5. Correct answer B. Explanation: When a ball is lifted, it is out of play - see the Definition of 'In Play' and 'Wrong Ball'. When the player made a stroke at her ball which was out of play, she played a wrong ball, the penalty for which is loss of hole. (Rule 6.3c).

Question 6. Correct answer A. Explanation: See the definition of Equipment.

Men

A Word from the Men's Captain...

I won't dwell too long on the subject of the weather, but it's remarkable that we've experienced all four seasons during the month of August. At least Luke and his team could heave a huge sigh of relief during the rain!

The good news is that the weekly alternate competitions are running smoothly, and I for one was pleased to finally play a stroke play competition, albeit my score didn't quite reflect my enthusiasm.

To keep up to date on the latest news regarding the Men's Section, please use the following link: <https://sites.google.com/view/avgc-news/home> . Neil Meldrum has done an excellent job keeping the news pages up to date, but we're still open to suggestions for any additional information that our members would be interested in reading.

Answers to questions that have been posed to the committee can be browsed on the Q&A page, which is under the 'Contact Us' menu link at the top of the page: <https://sites.google.com/view/avgc-news/contact-us/q-a> .

A gentle reminder to old and new Club members alike; our chosen Captain's charity for my brief tenure is [Hospice at Home](#). Like many smaller charities with limited resources, they have found it particularly difficult over the past five months; the good news for families relying on their support is that they have recently completed a risk assessment with a view to resuming home visits. The relief they provide is hugely appreciated, so fingers crossed the news is positive for them, and they can continue to support families at the worst of times.

With our charity in mind, can I remind those wishing to make donations for visiting the pond on 13 or the bunker on 18, that we are still open for business. I know you are all eagerly anticipating the reappearance of the tin in the bar so you can contribute; in the meantime, online donations can be paid directly to our charitable fund (no pressure!):

Barclays Bank

Account name: Aylesbury Vale Golf Club Match Committee

Sort Code: 20-03-18

Account number: 30618683

Reference: Donor's name CA (add 'CA' to your name so that it's clear to me that it's a donation)

Regarding the Captain's Draw, I'm not actively chasing anyone, but I do expect our munificent members to fill the tin when it makes its triumphant return!

On the subject of the Captain's Draw, I do have many four ball vouchers acquired pre lockdown; I'll be contacting the generous Clubs who provided these, to hopefully extend them for use next year. It doesn't seem fair to add unnecessary pressure to Clubs this year; like AVGC, I'm sure they're giving priority to their own members.

Congratulations to the Club Champions and 'well done' to all those taking part!

Gross winner: Darren Horne

Nett winner: Lee Bracey-Wright

FTQ Plate: Jamie Carlin

With social distancing rules still in place, it's sometimes easy to forget the simple things; please adhere to all the Club rules, they're in place to keep everyone safe. Although they can't guarantee you'll go home with a smile on your face, they should at least see you return to your loved ones in one piece.

Finally, I'd like to thank both Mark Mansfield and Adrian Fallon for their time on the committee; both have now stepped down, although Mark is continuing to support the charity with the bonus ball, which is much appreciated.

And remember, keep smiling...

Keith McGoverne

August was a busy month, with Midweek Stablefords starting along with the usual weekend competitions and finishing with the Club Championship. The first of August saw a Stableford take place and in Division 1 Shaun Houghton was the winner with 40 points, with Nick Brewer and Will Platten second and third. Ben McDonald was the clear winner in Division 2 with 43 points, followed home by Andrew Pearce and David Carroll. Division 3 was decided on countback with Ali Thorne edging out Adrian Matthews, both scoring 41 points. Gavin Procter was third.

The following week's Stableford saw Shaun Houghton continue his rich vein of form, winning Division 1 on countback from Nick Davies with 41 points, followed closely by Nigel Welling in third place. Craig Hutchinson took the honours in Division 2 with 42 points. Dan Baldock and David Needs took the minor places. In Division 3 43 points was the winning score from Lee Hutt, a point clear of Nick Meekings with Ian Moodley third.

The third competition of the month saw the first Strokeplay event since lockdown, with Will Bond producing his rollup form with a nett 65 to win Division 1. Justin McDonald and Jez Anderson were second and third. In Division 2 Clayton Barlow (nett 68) took the honours, with Keith Loxton and Brian Smith second and third. Division 3 saw Tom Read take the honours on countback from Julian Bamford, both with nett 70s, with Connor Smith in third. The final weekend before Club Championship saw another Strokeplay event and in Division 1 Brendan Langan (nett 69) was the winner a shot clear of Nigel Welling and Kris Manley. A similar story in Division 2 with Elton Carter (nett 68) winning by a shot from David Harrison and Andrew Bond. Mark Searle was a clear winner in Division 3, his nett 69 being two shots clear of Tim O'Sullivan with Phil L'Aiguille in third.

There were two Midweek Stablefords in August and the first one saw (Uncle Bob) Bob Parish winning with a superb 45 points. Shanil Patel (42 points) was second with Will Shackleton a point further back in third. The second Midweek Stableford saw the top three players all record scores of 40 points, but countback determined that Adam Lawrence was the winner followed by Craig Hutchinson and Gary Brazier.

So to the final competition in August, the Men's and Ladies' Club Championships. Day 1 proved to be a tough day for scoring, with a cold blustery wind sweeping across the course. Defending Champion Darren Horne recorded the best score of gross 76, which was equalled by Nick Brewer with Jason Thornalley just one shot back. Day 2 saw a slightly calmer day but Darren Horne wasn't going to lose his grip on the title, a 71 being enough for a nine-shot victory over second placed Will Platten, with Tony Messenger a shot further back in third.

The Nett Championship saw Lee Bracey-Wright surge through the field on Day 2 with a best of the weekend nett 63, which gave him a winning total of 135 to take the title from highly fancied Alistair Thorne in second place with Jon Clements in third. The event began with 121 men and 18 ladies, our biggest ever entry, and it was great see many of those competitors stay behind for the presentation.

Dave Lea, Competition Secretary

Competitions

Stableford 1 August	Div 1 1 st : Shaun Houghton 40 Pts 2 nd : Nick Brewer 39 Pts 3 rd : Will Platten 38 Pts	Div 2 1 st : Ben McDonald 43 Pts 2 nd : Andrew Pearce 38 Pts 3 rd : David Carroll 38 Pts	Div 3 1 st : Ali Thorne 41 Pts 2 nd : Adrian Matthews 41 Pts 3 rd : Gavin Procter 40 Pts
Midweek Stableford (1)	1 st : Bob Parish 45 Pts 2 nd : Shanil Patel 42 Pts 3 rd : Will Shackleton 41 Pts		
Stableford 9 August	Div 1 1 st : Shaun Houghton 41 Pts 2 nd : Nick Davies 41 Pts 3 rd : Nigel Welling 40 Pts	Div 2 1 st : Craig Hutchinson 42 Pts 2 nd : Dan Baldock 40 Pts 3 rd : Dave Needs 40 Pts	Div 3 1 st : Lee Hutt 43 Pts 2 nd : Nick Meekings 42 Pts 3 rd : Ian Moodley 40 Pts

Medal 15 August	Div 1 1 st : Will Bond nett 65 2 nd : Justin McDonald nett 70 3 rd : Jez Anderson nett 70	Div 2 1 st : Clayton Barlow nett 68 2 nd : Keith Loxton nett 69 3 rd : Brian Smith nett 69	Div 3 1 st : Tom Read nett 70 2 nd : Julian Bamford nett 70 3 rd : Connor Smith nett 71
Midweek Stableford (2)	1 st : Adam Lawrence 40 Pts 2 nd : Craig Hutchinson 40 Pts 3 rd : Gary Brazier 40 Pts		
Medal 23 August	Div 1 1 st : Brendan Langan nett 69 2 nd : Nigel Welling nett 70 3 rd : Kris Manley nett 70	Div 2 1 st : Elton Carter nett 67 2 nd : David Harrison nett 68 3 rd : Andrew Bond nett 68	Div 3 1 st : Mark Searle nett 69 2 nd : Tim O’Sullivan nett 71 3 rd : Phil L’Aiguille nett 73
FTQ Plate 30 August	1 st : Jamie Carlin nett 69 2 nd : Will Bond nett 71 3 rd : Tony Sadler nett 72		

Seniors

A Word from the Seniors’ Captain...

We had a great response to the Summer Six competition with 83 seniors playing at least one round and well over 20 playing all six rounds. A very tight finish saw Dave Needs just take the trophy following a tie resolution (best 5 scores after tied on best 4 scores) from Phil Salt.

On the question of future competitions, the Committee has been busy and intends to organise a competition, where possible every Monday in our protected booking spot. You can find details of the competitions on our web pages accessible through the Club website. Please ensure you review the webpages regularly as this is how all communications will now be made.

In more detail, two of the three Mondays in September will see ‘3 clubs and a putter’ and the drawn greensomes. Please ensure you email Dave Lea at least 14 days in advance of the competition if you wish to enter.

We will also run the Winter Pairs knockout starting in October and pairs wishing to enter that draw should do so by emailing Dave Lea by 22 September.

October also sees the start of the Winter Eclectic, but there is no need to formally enter, just submit your first card. Details of this and all other Winter Competitions can be found on our webpages.

The Winter 8 will also start in October together with a new Stableford competition – the Covid League - to be played on Mondays when there is no Winter 8. We also hope to play the Seniors Pairs Champs in October, but please check the website for this.

The Seniors’ Club Championships will be played on Saturday 3 October – again please let Dave Lea know if you wish to enter the draw.

The Committee has decided that all **Seniors** Competitions will, to avoid cash handling and administration, be free to enter for the time being and we will review this position in coming months and notify any change. As a result, there will be no cash prizes, but trophies and mementos will be awarded and honours boards updated.

On the last Monday in September, the Midweek Club Championship will be held with entries as normal to Dave Lea. Please be aware this is not a Seniors’ event, but a Men’s event (but all Seniors welcome) and therefore an entry fee is payable. Please refer to the Men’s web pages (under Men’s Competitions) for details of how to transfer the entry fee (£5) to the Treasurer.

Finally, on competitions, we have noticed a few non-returns of scores. It is vital that all scores are returned to calculate the CSS correctly and alter handicaps as appropriate. Should you have any technical difficulty getting your score into HowDidiDo, please email or telephone Dave Lea (preferably before 6pm on the day of the competition) and he can manually add your scores to the competition.

And lastly, I have had some comments made to me on the perennial issue of slow play. It is the case that we don't all play at the same pace, but as Seniors we are mostly a very courteous bunch of golfers. If the group behind happens to be playing quicker than your group, I am sure we would all want to be aware of that and as a courtesy let them play through at the earliest opportunity.

Larry Goddard

Competitions

Summer Six (3) 3 August	1 st : Keith Foster 43 Pts 2 nd : Phil Salt 43 Pts 3 rd : Mike Bender 41 Pts
Summer Six (4) 10 August	1 st : Keith Loxton 48 Pts 2 nd : Nigel Welling 46 Pts 3 rd : Dave Simons 46 Pts
Summer Six (5) 17 August	1 st : Dave Needs 41 Pts 2 nd : Mike Boden 39 Pts 3 rd : Dean Palmer 39 Pts
Summer Six (6) 24 August	1 st : Mike Bender 41 Pts 2 nd : Dave Needs 40 Pts 3 rd : Terry Curtis 39 Pts

Ladies

A Word from the Lady Captain...

Our Club Champion 2020 is Sue Bellingham, runner up Ghie McGinley. The Nett winner is Jean Barnett, runner up Sue Bellingham. Big congratulations to you all and well done to all the ladies that played

August has seen a big step forward for the Ladies' Section. Thanks to Charlotte Simpson, we now have an online banking facility for paying our competition fees. She has also created a website giving us all access to our news such as handicaps, competitions, sign in and score entries, your own competition account, our committee meeting minutes and lots more!

All our winter Knockouts have been completed well done to the winners and everyone who played.
Results:

5 Day Singles Winner - Jane Codrai, runner up Ghie McGinley.

5 Day Mixed Winners - Vanessa and Andrew Bond, runners up Jane Whigham and Richard Braithwaite.

7 Day Mixed Winners - Jane and John Barker, runners up Vanessa and Andrew Bond.

The extremes of weather haven't interfered with the golf too much and we have had good numbers entering competitions with some good results (see below).

Well done ladies - and Happy Golfing.

Kath Scott

Competitions

Stableford 1 August	1 st : Catriona Armor 40 Pts 2 nd : Sarah Walker 39 Pts 3 rd : Julie Lea 38 Pts
FF Stableford (1)	1 st : Lesley Wright 41 Pts 2 nd : Julie Merriman 35 Pts 3 rd : Avril Gates 35 Pts
Stableford 5 August	1 st : Jane Codrai 41 Pts 2 nd : Kath Scott 40 Pts 3 rd : Lesley Wright 40 Pts
Stableford 9 August	1 st : Sarah Walker 42 Pts 2 nd : Jean Barnett 38 Pts 3 rd : Catriona Armor 37 Pts
Stableford 12 August	1 st : Jane Whigham 38 Pts 2 nd : Julie Hoar 36 Pts 3 rd : Jean Hill 34 Pts
Medal 15 August	1 st : Catriona Armor nett 68 2 nd : Sue Bellingham nett 76 3 rd : Jean Barnett nett 76
FF Stableford (2)	1 st : Charlotte Simpson 33 Pts 2 nd : Julie Merriman 32 Pts 3 rd : Lesley Wright 32 Pts
Medal 23 August	1 st : Jean Barnett nett 72 2 nd : Lorraine Fox nett 75 3 rd : Lesley Wright nett 77
Stableford 26 August	1 st : Jean Attenborough 39 Pts 2 nd : Jane Barker 34 Pts 3 rd : Lesley Wright 33 Pts

Juniors

Club Championship. According to the club calendar, the Junior Club Championship competition is to be played on Sunday 13 September, with the first tee time at 1120. At the time of publication no further information is available.

GARDEN AND WILDLIFE ALERT

Barry Quantrill is a long-standing senior Club member whose family has been touched by the spectre of cancer.

Grateful to the NHS, Barry has been raising cash for Cancer Charities by using his carpentry skills to make a delightful range of BIRD NESTING BOXES, BIRD FEEDERS and TABLES, BAT BOXES, PLANT CLIMBING FRAMES and BUG HOTELS.

These beautifully crafted and painted wooden products are guaranteed to attract local wildlife for many years to come. Different species of birds are accommodated and there are varying sizes of plant climbing frames. Various colours are available. Prices for these items are ultra-competitive and literally 100% of the proceeds are donated to charity.

For any further information or to arrange a viewing telephone Barry on 01525 374257. Delivery can be arranged.



and in Conclusion...

...the last word is... What a lot of golf has been played in August, despite the weather!

...and a touch of humour... Your best round of golf will be followed almost immediately by your worst round ever. The probability of the latter increases with the number of people you tell about the former.

Lance Redler

Editor

cc: Club Professionals, charities

What's on this Month?

(All-Section and Club events are in **bold**)

Men

Saturday 5 September – Professional's Cup 0700-1200

Monday 7 to Wednesday 9 September – HOLLOW CORING OF GREENS

Sunday 13 September – Penny Cup 0700-1115

Saturday 19, Sunday 20 September – Pairs Club Championship

Saturday 26 September – Greensomes Stableford 0715-1145

Monday 28 September – Mid-Week Club Championship

Seniors

Thursday 3 September – Medal & Ed Burns' Putter 0715-1030

Monday 7 to Wednesday 9 September – HOLLOW CORING OF GREENS

Monday 14 September – 3 clubs & putter competition 0730-1100

Saturday 19, Sunday 20 September – Pairs Club Championship

Monday 21 September – Drawn Greensomes 0800-1000

Monday 28 September – Mid-Week Club Championship

Ladies

Wednesday 2 September – Stableford 0930-1030

Saturday 5 September – Stableford 0700-1200

Monday 7 to Wednesday 9 September – HOLLOW CORING OF GREENS

Sunday 13 September - Stableford 0700-1115

Wednesday 16 September – Midweek Club Championships 1000-1100

Wednesday 23 September – Stableford 1000-1100

Saturday 26 September – Greensomes Stableford 0715-1145

Wednesday 30 September – 3 clubs & putter competition 1000-1100

Key Contacts

Club Management

e-mail: info@avgc.co.uk

www.avgc.co.uk

Tel: 01525 240196

Memberships/Shop/Tee bookings: Chris Wright, Garry Hutchinson, Jason Thornalley, Dan Lazar
Restaurant/Functions: Jason Thornalley, Chris Wright

Head Chef: Heinz Simon

Head Greenkeeper: Luke Foley

Teaching Professionals: Russell Phillips 07843

692948 or r.phillips@avgc.co.uk

Terry Bunyan 07588 272322

or terrygolf1965@gmail.com

Men

Captain: Keith McGoverne

Vice-Captain: Neil Meldrum

Treasurer: Keith Loxton

Competition Secretary: Dave Lea

Admin Secretary: Roger White

Handicap Secretary: Roger White

5-Day Representative: Peter Codrai

Seniors

Captain: Larry Goddard

Vice-Captain: Keith Loxton

Treasurer: Mike Boden

Competition Secretary: Dave Lea

Admin Secretary: Mike Pelizzoni

Social Secretary: Peter Codrai

Ladies

Captain: Kath Scott

Vice-Captain: TBA

Treasurer: Charlotte Simpson

Admin Secretary: Lesley Wright

7-day Competition Secretary: Sheila Perkins

5-day Competition Secretary: Jackie Boden

Handicap Secretary: Jean Barnett

Juniors

Captain: Abi Pearce

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