



Here is the Club's January 2019 newsletter.  
We hope you enjoy following what is happening at your Club.

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN**

Members

Christmas and New Year have been and gone and January golf almost finished already!

I haven't reported to you since late November and there have been some changes.

Most notably is the new face in the office, Sandie Wilson, our office manager, Harmony and Tyson decided to move on. Sandie is well qualified and experienced in office management and accounting.

I mentioned in the November newsletter the junior dinner was a glittering affair, well the Vets dinner was a great time, well attended, well presented, great fun and topped off with Al's extremely difficult quiz.

I attended the ladies breakup, a good time was had by all and our ladies know how to enjoy themselves.

The Club presentation night was a highlight of the golf year. Our various winners and club champions were duly honoured. The Clubhouse outdid itself with the dinner.

I sincerely thank our club sponsors .

Congratulations to Peter and our greens staff. The course is in great condition; just a pleasure to play. Some rain would help but thank heavens for our irrigation system.

99% of our members have returned. We are seeing some 6 new members each month which is excellent. 6 cart sheds became available and these have been allocated.

Through January, good scores have consistently been posted, our fields are well attended and the vibe around the club is good.

There have been a couple of balls over the fence into vehicles and into property. The club insurance does not cover these actions. The person who caused the problem is

accountable for their action. If the club identifies the person, it will take the appropriate action. Please take care particularly down 11 and 13 .

Golf is now back in earnest. Monday, the Vets field is full. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday golf is very well attended, the ladies are in full flight but would love some more ladies to join them on Wednesdays, I played last Friday and was pleasantly surprised with the strength of the field with the Friday members. I think this is a very successful type of membership. For tradies and probably anyone really, the Sunday Morning boys are looking for more friends to join them as members. For those that don't know, they are a friendly group (sort of social club) who play very early Sunday morning, enjoy a cold drink on a hot day, play a closely contested competition and support our juniors.

Also on Sundays, there is a dedicated group who play the comp. Many husbands and wives play together that day. Gayle and I enjoy our Sunday golf with plenty of tee times available.

**Cliff Searle**

**President**

## **CAPTAINS REPORT**

2018 is gone! Let's hope it took all the negatives you had with it, from your personal life and including those golf crazies; hitting the wrong ball, hitting balls OOB, and duffing shots into bunkers and lakes, (lakes now called Penalty areas).

The Christmas break also gave some of us some extra time to spend with our game as well. I hope that you and your families and loved ones celebrated the season and are already in the swing of things as we head into 2019 with renewed vigour and determined to make this year a special one.

On a more positive note, 2018 saw lots of improvements and additions to our Golf Club, with drainage work, some changes to fairway extensions, a green or two extended, a heap of trees removed to make the course a little fairer and some successful trialing of a product that pumps excess water from our flooded bunkers. We must also appreciate the results being achieved by the Greens Management and staff, with the help of some new machinery, for the positive changes to our course surfaces too. The professional consultancy advice has made a real difference to our surfaces, particularly the soil test results and recommended treatment thereof coupled with the great new mechanical products as mentioned above. To Superintendent Peter and staff, keep up the good work.

As far as the game of golf goes, the most obvious topic is the New Rules that became

effective from 1/1/19. By now you should have the new rules book and any accompanying information to help guide you through your competitive golf life. Questions to myself and other Match Committee people have been minimal, so I hope that would indicate that most members are coping nicely with them.

If you need clarification on any rules, please don't hesitate to ask me either in person or through the "Suggestion Box". Your enquiry will be treated confidentially if you wish. You just don't know unless you ask, and I'm sure if you need help, others will as well.

Congratulations to the 2018 Eclectic winner Michael Wright and net winner Jordon Benson. Also the 2018 Matchplay title went to Jordon Benson who defeated Michael Hogan. Incidentally, this year's event will have much stricter conditions attached to it. "Must play before...." datelines will be enforced, maybe with both players being eliminated from the competition. Vice Captain Keith Disher will run the competition.

On a sad note former Member Peter Anderson passed away a few weeks ago. Pete had to forego his membership due to his ongoing serious health issues. Our thoughts are with Annie who is a very active Lady member as well.

On a brighter note: Wide Bay Mazda, a major sponsor of the Ladies and the Vets, and last year's Men's Championships, has just won a National award, The Provincial Mazda Master Dealer for Australia. As a club we certainly appreciate their contribution and we congratulate them for this prestigious award.

I also thank all members that renewed their membership commitment to the club for 2019. From my perspective I am more than confident that this current Management Committee will continue to perform in a positive manner with the members, employees and our course and surrounds receiving the attention warranted. Our other team members, the RSL & The Clubhouse, and our Pro Shop people all play a part in making this clock tick.

Let's all work towards a great golf year in 2019, raking bunkers, fixing divots and plug marks and playing Ready Golf!

**"Remember, it's only a game, enjoy it and let everybody else do the same!"**

**Gary Oborn. Club Captain.**

## **GREENS CHAIRMAN**

Firstly, I would like, on behalf of the Greens Committee, to wish all club members a Happy New Year. I hope that 2019 brings good golfing and prosperity to you all.

For those members unaware, the Greens Committee members are;

John McLennan – Chair  
Cliff Searle – Club President  
Bob Goodwin – Vice President  
Peter Fraser – Course Superintendent  
Gary Oborn - Men's Club Captain  
Keith Disher - Men's Club Vice Captain  
Kath Griffith – Ladies Club Captain  
John Castelli – Committee Member  
Phil Hummeston - Committee Member  
Gerry Taylor – Club Professional

I would also note that the majority of the Greens Committee members are also on the Forward Planning Committee. This is no accident as the design and improvement to the course also impacts on the course ongoing maintenance and operations. Therefore, the cross connections between committee objectives are aligned ensuring course improvement infrastructure projects will have seamless transition when handed over to the Greens Committee and staff to maintain.

The committee met for the first time early January to set a plan for the first half of the 2019 year and to assess the performance of the last 12 months. At the meeting the following proposals were discussed for consideration by the Greens Committee as potential projects over the coming months. They include;

- Developing a greens expansion program. This project will entail assessing each putting green and detailing where they can be increased and improved without a major rebuild. The potential expansion works will be scoped and estimated for budget consideration.
- Developing the course bunker drainage and profiling program. The project will investigate each bunker on the course and assess the drainage collection, discharge arrangements. Potential improvements will be collated and costs estimated for budget consideration.
- Expansion of turf nursery. This project will entail expanding the existing turf nursery to maximise the growing area for the greens expansion program.
- Costing for drainage of the 4<sup>th</sup> fairway. This is still a major project that will require a big budget. So far there are 2 options proposed that would require underground drainage, cross fairway sub surface infrastructure and open earthwork excavations. The first part is to develop estimates of costs for budget consideration.
- Cart path extension program. This project will involve reviewing the current cart paths infrastructure and workshopping an overall cart path layout that will be used

to guide future cart path projects for the entire course. Once developed and adopted, the masterplan will inform priority cart path and assist in setting estimates of costs for budget consideration.

Other projects that are in the pipeline include

- Ongoing wiregrass eradication program;
- Irrigation pump renewal;
- Replacement of mechanical Bunker Rake
- Update of the Course Asset Management Plan.

Members, you can see that the committee has given themselves a big workload over and above the normal maintenance that Peter and the Greens Team do on the course.

However, we believe the proposed forward planning approach is the better way as it will inform future budget allocations, minimise risk and apply through project management principles.

On course works to be carried out by the Course Superintendent and Greens Team over the coming month include;

- Greens renovations which will involve solid tyne aeration, fertiliser, gypsum placement and top dressing
- Tee and fairways renovations
- Bunker softening and sand topping up where need;
- Continuation of turfing bare patches on some fairways;
- Raising sprinkler heads and replacements as needed.

With respect to last year's projects these are to be holding up very well and are settling in nicely.

As I stated last newsletter, if you wish to offer a suggestion please put it in writing and drop it in at the office or use the suggestion box provided. Alternatively, you can email the club through the secretary or reception addresses. The committee is more than happy to receive your comments and review them constructively for consideration.

Well that it for this month. I look forward to receiving your written suggestions put forward on how we can further improve the course and keep our club progressing.

Happy Golfing

**John McLennan**

## **Greens Committee – Chairperson**

### **GREENS SUPERINTENDENT**

Dear Members,

Happy new year to all, lets pray for rain. So far this year we have had 6.5mm of rain. Last years total was 1088.5mm which was down from the previous year.

We have the VW scramble coming up on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February, on the Monday after we will be doing our greens renovations. These renovations are only a minor ones with solid tyne aeration, fertiliser, gypsum and a top dress. The greens will come back quickly after this renovation. Once the greens are completed, we will be doing the tees and fairways. Bunkers are a high priority with softening up and topping up where needed. The bunkers are constantly wet due to the high volume of water I am putting out in this dry period. As you would have seen we have also turfed bare patches on some fairways with more planned.

I have started a program to rid the fairways of wire grass and crowsfoot. It will be a long process so please keep that in mind.

Lastly I would like to mention we have cart paths around our tees and greens, they are there to be parked on. I am seeing a lot of golfers driving and parking too close to greens which is creating a track or bad lie, so please use them.

Enjoy your course.

**Peter Fraser**  
**Course Superintendent**

### **LADIES**

Happy New Year, to all Members, I trust you enjoyed the festive season.

Our Ladies closed out 2018 with an Ambrose event with a shotgun start, followed by lunch and presentations. Well done to the winners of the various season long events and a huge thank you goes out to our generous sponsors. Our sponsors, large and small are greatly appreciated and without them much of what we do simply couldn't happen. This event was the last as Captain for Jenny Davies. To Jenny and her committee of 2018, many thanks for your time and effort. There is a lot of work involved in making these events happen, much of it unseen and unheralded. Again thank you to Jenny and her committee for your hard work.

To recap our season long prize winners:

Prize Winners / ***Sponsor:***

Medal of Medals

- Weds - Kath Griffith
- Sat - Kath Underwood

Wednesday Points

- Winner Kath Griffith
- Runner Up Leanne Reynolds
- 73/+ Cherrie Staunton
- 61-72 Lyn Bretherton
- Under 60 Kath Griffith

Saturday Points Kath Underwood

Saturday Putts Wendy Taylor

Putter of the Year (***Bev McIntyre***) Leanne Reynolds

Golfer of the Year (***Prime Estate Agents***)

- Winner Kath Griffith
- Runner Up Cherrie Staunton

Eclectics

- Weds Div 1 Marsi Taylor
- Weds Div 2 Edna Thompson
- Weds Div 3 Bev Roberts
- Saturday Lydia Shackell

4BBB Elimination

- Winners Tina Sara & Sue King
- Runners Up Regina Schaerer & Connie Lendich

Chip-in / gobblers (***D&M McCloud***)

- Weds Winner Jan Stephenson
- Weds Runner Up Cherrie Staunton

Wednesday Birdies

- Div 1 Marsi Taylor
- Div 2 Colleen Bennett
- Div 3 Bev Brown

Gertrude McCloud

- Div 1 Lyn Bretherton
- Div 2 Cherrie Staunton
- Div 3 Patricia Wolzak

Greatest Handicap Reduction Wendy Harris

And now to 2019.....

Another Golf Year has arrived and we can turn our attention to playing some good golf

and reducing our handicap.....hopefully.

Introducing your Ladies Committee: Kath Griffith (Capt), Colleen Bennett (VC), Isabel Tapp, Cherrie Staunton, Gail Sheehan, Jenny Brett.

Ladies, our Season opens on Wednesday February 13<sup>th</sup>. We will kick off the new season with a 4 Person, Best 3 Stableford scores to count on each hole event. A 9:00am shotgun start is planned with lunch and presentations in the Clubhouse to follow the golf. I look forward to seeing lots of our Lady Members at our opening day.

Eclectics for both Wednesday and Saturday competitions will begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> singles events following our opening day. As it turns out, the following Saturday is the First Monthly Medal of the year up for grabs and the following Wednesday will be the first Weds Monthly Medal to be contested. Wednesday eclectic is included in the daily competition fee, Saturday eclectics require the nominal fee (\$5:00) to be paid in the Pro Shop when registering.

All other season long events also begin, so sharpen up the short game to get your birdie, gobblers and putting points off to a good start.

A Handicap Matchplay event is planned and will be a round robin event. There is a nomination sheet on the Ladies Notice Board. Place your name on the sheet to be in the draw. Hopefully we can form a number of groups of at least 4 and guarantee participants a minimum of 3 matches before moving to semi-finals/finals. More information coming in the next few weeks on the structure.

We will soon be seeking interest in representing your Club in Pennant (Handicap Matchplay). Matches are played on Fridays and begin in April and conclude in May. If you are available, why not put your hand up and represent your club.

Lastly, lots of information is being provided on the Members Portal Message Boards, be sure to login and keep yourself up to date with what is happening.

Have fun and enjoy 2019.

## **VETERANS**

Our 2019 season got off to a flying start on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January. We kicked off, or should that be teed off, with a 2 ball mixed ambrose event. There were 140 players in the field, a terrific turnout! Maybe next year we could look at making it a shotgun start and have everybody in the clubhouse together. We could then welcome any new members who are playing with us for the first time.

We finished the day with approx 136 memberships renewed for the coming year, plus



around 6 new members. I am quite confident that we will reach last year's numbers of 277. As an aside, with new members coming on board, not just with the Veterans but also full club members, we anticipate that the Club will be having a new members night very soon.

The calendar of events for the year was also distributed. There are a couple of late changes that occurred after printing and these will be displayed on the whiteboard at the starters table.

Our captain, Jeff Clayton, has, with the Vets Committee approval, initiated a trial using the white tees. There is a slope rating for these tees so handicaps will automatically be adjusted for this event.

We are continuing our financial support of the junior programme at HBGC. This is considered to be a very important commitment. These juniors are not just the future of our club but the future of the game itself. The committee will be in discussion with the junior coordinators with regard to this.

Our fund raising also started with the ever popular "Bunnings Sausage Sizzle" My thanks, once again go to the volunteers who "sizzle the sausages" for us.

**Hugh McLaughlin**

## **JUNIORS**

We hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and a Happy New year!! Some of our Juniors have been busy over the holiday playing golf at different courses and events over the holidays.

### **PGA Gold Coast**

Zane Stowers and Chase Rendell our 13 hole Juniors had a great experience at the PGA on the Gold Coast where they had the chance to meet some of the Pros and be kid caddies. Zane was caddy for Pro Nick Taylor from Canada and Chase caddied Ryan Fox. They even got the opportunity to hang out with some of the Pros at the Oakley beach party. They then teamed up for the Junior masters ambrose event and tied for 2nd place on a par round of 36, what a memorable experience for our young Juniors.

### **Greg Norman Junior Masters**

Braiden Taylor, Allira Shingles and Lydia Shackell made the trip to the Gold Coast in December to compete in the Greg Norman Junior Masters. They all enjoyed the experience and had a great time golfing on some tough courses against tough competition. Lydia played some amazing golf and made the cut to compete in the final

round on day four and finished in 7th place overall in the 15 years & under girls with rounds of 83, 75, 81, 80; what a fantastic achievement, we are very proud of you. Allira played in the 13 years & under girls finishing in 19th place with rounds of 97,87, 93, Allira also won the shootout competition on day 1 and was awarded a prize in the opening ceremony by PGA golfer Jake McLeod. Braiden played in the 13 years & under boys event in a huge field finishing in 36th place with rounds of 94, 95, 95. Braiden also had the pleasure of being our Wide Bay Representative in the opening ceremony. We would like to sincerely thank the Hervey Bay Golf Club in their donation to our three Juniors to help get them to the Greg Norman Junior Masters. We are very grateful and thankful to be part of such a supportive club.

#### **Titleist 2 Day Summer Classic Mt Coolum**

Lydia Shackell had two great rounds of 81 & 77 to finish in 6th place overall in Division 1.

Braiden Taylor played very well and played to his handicap both days with rounds of 93 & 89

Allira Shingles had rounds of 91 & 92 and got her first ever Eagle on a par four.

Travis Taylor played very well in the 9 hole comp taking out the Nett Winner Prize by 12 shots with rounds of 17 & 28 Nett. Well Done!!

Sunday the 3rd of February will be our Junior sign on day 9-10am where we look forward to seeing all of our Juniors and hopefully some new faces keen to join our Junior Program. We are looking forward to another wonderful year of golfing.

#### **Karleigh Jensen**

#### **THE NURSERY.**

Janice and her greenfinger helpers have raised over \$13,000 in the last 10 years.

We are in need of more pots for the nursery especially the ones that are 5"-6" in diameter. Please leave them at the nursery.

We are very appreciative of any assistance given. Thank you.'