

Here is the Club's May 2019 newsletter.

We hope you enjoy following what is happening at your Club.

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

Members

With the half year nearly over, you will be receiving your annual fee in the post shortly and finally, we now conduct business in the financial year structure.

It has been a business as usual month this month, no highs or low, good fields with fine weather. Plenty of golfers are playing well but with no run, the course has been tough though in excellent condition.

I have enjoyed the way Peter and the crew have closely cut areas around various greens and the fairways not only look good, but are just great to play off. The pride our greens team are showing in their work and our club is splendid.

You will see the drainage works on 4 & 5 being pegged out shortly. This will be constructed in due course with all the relevant documents etc in place thanks to the generosity of Kerry and Sharon Campbell in allowing us access to their dam.

It's been a good month around the club

Not much else for me to report

**Cliff Searle**

**President**

## **CAPTAINS REPORT**

The Course is a little damp. Although the amounts of rain are not much at all, it's the fact that it has been consistent on most days, enough for the course to remain wetter than normal. This obviously leaves some parts of the course wetter than we would like; it's holding up pretty well and not requiring many cart restrictions. \*See final paragraph.

I copped a lot of comments from last month's tirade aimed at the male members using the wooded area between the first tee and the tenth green inappropriately, well, it appears that it is also happening on the 10th tee area too! That's even closer to the toilets in The Clubhouse!! Cut it out!

The Men's Championships have been completed with Michael Hogan yet again winning the title for the 6th time. Congratulations! The full list of winners is on the website. Good to see a couple of new names getting amongst it. All winners received varying cash amounts added to their house account. The credits can be used at The Clubhouse, Pro Shop and to offset against your upcoming Subscriptions in June. Our thanks again to

Sponsors Wide Bay Mazda, they are also sponsoring the Ladies Championships that commenced with their first round on the 22nd May. A big thank you to them! They intend to have cars on course during the event and attend the presentation of prizes.

The next big event on our calendar (despite not being physically listed in the book) is the Wide Bay Open & Closed Championships on the weekend of 15th & 16th June. Our local "House of Golf (inc Pro Shop)" are sponsoring the event that has some basic conditions attached to it.

- Two-day entry fee of \$50 payable on Saturday. It is a 36-hole event only with no single day prizes.
- Entry fee includes pin shots and a light lunch each day. (Hamburger Bar)
- Single day players (\$25) are not eligible for Championship event. However, they are eligible for daily Pin Shot prizes.
- Nominations; Preference will be given to players electing to play both days in this Championship event.

As we can only have a limited field in the Shotgun starts at 7am & Noon, your nomination goes into a draw for a place in the final field. Drawn on Wednesday 12th June.

July also a big event month with the "Legends Pro Am" being conducted 19th to 21st July. The Pro-Am organisers Jenny Davies and Gerry Taylor (also Shaun Edward & Chris Mizzi I believe) have put together a fantastic variety of attractions and highlights to make this, in my opinion, the best ever event of its kind here at HBGC. I won't steal their thunder, keep your ears and eyes open and make sure you note the dates down in your diary/phone/calendar, etc. Something for everybody, day & night!!!

You may have noticed some new Drop Zones near the GUR gardens behind the 11th Green. Thanks to Doerte Hecker, who brought this to my attention via the Suggestion Box. For those who for whatever reason, find themselves landing a ball in that GUR garden you have to use one of the two Drop Zone boxes dependant on where your ball is located in the garden. Follow the blue paint and the location of the blue stake in the middle. No more guessing.

The Temporary Local Rule regarding the free placement of your ball if it is located in the furrow on the edge of the green is being abused by some people. The rule specifically says the "furrow" (small trench or groove). So, unless there is a definite furrow, no relief is available. To merely come to rest on the edge of the green without the furrow does not comply and the ball can be marked and cleaned but must be replaced exactly where it came from as anywhere else on the green.

I would like to thank Matt in the Pro-Shop for his extra work involved in getting all these special events sorted out in the MPower computer system. The two Championships, the upcoming Wide Bay Open, the Pro Am, etc. He says as long as the

system doesn't crash (has happened on several occasions) all should go to plan. The Wide Bay Open is held over two days with 7am & noon Shotgun starts, so expect a few delays whilst card printing, etc is underway. No doubt Gerry, Chris and maybe Shane might assist too. Good luck fellas.

At the last Management Meeting we passed a resolution to allow current and ex Defence Force personnel to play free on each Labour Day and Remembrance Day. More details as the next of those days is upon us. It happens to be a Monday, so I will discuss final details with the Vets Committee as it draws closer.

Another big Club event happens in June, Sunday the 23rd in fact, THE IAN GLAISTER FLOORING MIXED FOURESOMES. So, grab a partner to be part of this honour board 27-hole event that always draws a big field.

\*These cart restrictions (first para) are always advised on the score cards, and I believe the Vets committee make these restrictions known to their group verbally as well. As indicated previously, offenders found driving their carts on "closed fairways" can be disqualified. One such Vet was disqualified recently for blatantly dis-obeying this temporary rule. Remember the reasons for these rules, they are there to protect the course and doing whatever we can to allow members to use their carts as much as possible. Be aware!

Remember, we are a Ready Golf Club, hit when ready, as long as it's safe to do so!

Finally, "Golf; It's only a game, enjoy it and let everybody else do the same!"

**Gary Oborn. Club Captain.**

## **GREENS AND FORWARD PLANNING REPORT**

Dear Members, please find the May update from the Greens and Forward Planning Committee.

Last update I reminded members of the projects being planned for future works on the course. As highlighted, the 16th green expansion has now been completed and starting to take shape. On top of that works, comes the next phase which is the 4th hole,

This project has been continuously reported since I began my role as the Green's Chairman and has developed into a resilience initiative. I am pleased to announce that we have developed the proposed drainage plans and are now in quotation stage. The works will comprise of the following;

1. Installation of an underground pipe system with grated surface inlet pits to drain surface and subsurface stormwater to a discharge point downstream of the course. Approx 350 metres of pipe along the left-hand side of the fairway;
2. Installation of approximately 700 metres of lateral subsurface drainage (agricultural lines) to drain saturated soil to the underground pipe system;
3. Installation of “end of line” flushing points to the subsurface drainage for future maintenance access;
4. Construction of an overland collection swale along the left-hand side of the fairway over the pipes system and then crossing the front of the 4th green to join the existing overland flow channel;
5. Lowering of the pipe culvert crossing at the right-hand side of the 4th green;
6. Reshaping and cleaning out of the open drain from the right hand side of the 4th green to the Hythe Street road reserve at the northern boundary of the golf course property.

Members, this major project aligns with the journey we undertook at the beginning of 2018 to make our course resilient to stormwater and flooding. In particular, the work is to allow the 4th fairway to recover from storm events quickly so we can get motorised carts back on the lower areas of the course earlier. It is envisaged that once this work is complete, we can begin to look at the expansion of the 4th green as part of the long-term revamp of the hole.

The bunker drainage is continuing and progressing. Once again members are expected to not be impacted as these works progress however, there may, at times be bunkers out of play during the upgrade period. The greens staff will be carrying out the project to keep costs down. This method of rectification is working successfully on other bunkers on the course and is proving to be effective.

The irrigation valves replacements are progressively being delivered under the direction of the Greens Superintendent with zone 1 of the 3 zones nearly complete. Members may notice this occurring on the course and should be wary of the work areas when playing.

Other smaller projects recently installed include new ball washers at the 4th, 12th and eventually the 17th holes. These compliment the ball washers already in place and allow obsessive members who like a clean golf ball (like me) to be content. Expansion of the turf nursery at the 14th tee and progressive cutting down of the rough around the 6th, 10th and 17th greens will develop over the coming months.

Other projects progressing to budget consideration include;

- Progressive installation of cart paths throughout the course;
- Additional irrigation pump for the reuse water supply;
- Reserve irrigation pump for the water distribution system;

- Expansion of the 4th green;
- Installation of steps to some tees for improved access.

Recently the management committee endorsed the 2019/2020 budget, which includes the progressive renewal of the green's fairway mowers. These are one of our most expensive but essential equipment needs and I am happy to advise that our repair to equipment costs have reduced, surface conditions continue to improve and cutting efficiency is up. I am especially grateful to the members who have weathered the fee increases to allow this equipment replacement, irrigation replacement and overall asset management plan to develop.

Members, 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.

Congratulation to our Greens Superintendent Peter Fraser, for being selected to participate as part of the greens staff for the Australian Open. This is a terrific opportunity for Peter to learn about course care at a major tournament and bring this knowledge back home. Congratulations also to the green team for their continued professionalism and dedication to the course. With the Wide Bay Open coming up I am sure the course will be brilliant and be a positive talking point to all who play.

As always, 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 & Bob Goodwin**

**Greens      Chairman      &      Forward      Planning      Committee      Chairman**

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**COURSE SUPERINTENDENT**

Dear Members,

We have had some very welcome rain over the last 3 months with a total of 346mm recorded. With this rain and the program I have in place, the course has never looked better and grass coverage coming into winter is superb. We have a few projects coming up in the next couple of months which include:

- Expanding the greens nursery beside the 14th tee
- Expanding yellow tee on 2 for more teeing options when it is a back pin
- Bunker drainage on 2 small bunkers on 8
- Ball valve replacement on going

The 16th green is coming along nicely with it now being cut at 4mm, won't be too much longer and it will be in play. There is a new drop zone in place at the rear of the 11th green for those who go into the garden. We have finished shaving down the green surrounds and they are looking and playing a lot better; you now have more options around the greens and tie in nicely with the fairways.

We recently root pruned the right hand side of 15 and through winter we will be doing the rest of the problem areas. The ball valve replacement program is ongoing with 1 zone completed and zone 2 not far off. You may have noticed some new ball washers around the course and we have one more to fit at the 17th tee. The new ball washers come with towels provided and have recently noticed that 1 has already been taken. Please leave the towels attached to the ball washer. They are there to be used by all golfers and not to be taken for personal use. Thank you.

Enjoy your course.

**Peter Fraser**

**Course Superintendent**

## **LADIES**

Our Ladies Mid-Week Pennant season has come to a close with Hervey Bay finishing in 3rd place, behind Isis and Maryborough. Whilst Isis won the competition convincingly most matches were closely fought out with lots of narrow wins and losses.

Hervey Bay Results:

HB v Maryborough we squared 2.5/2.5

HB v Bargara we won 3 / 2

HB v Isis we lost 2 / 3

HB v Bundaberg we lost 1 / 4

Thank you to all of the Ladies who gave up their time to represent their Club. A big thank you to Colleen Bennett who did most of the leg work and had our Ladies ready to go. A thank you must also go to the ClubHouse/RSL for allowing us to travel to Bundaberg and Bargara in their bus.

Our Wide Bay Mazda, Ladies Club Championships are well underway with three rounds completed. The final round is a very tight affair in most categories. Results have been posted on our new webpage. Click the link to the brand new Facebook page and you will find the results.

Good luck to all the Ladies who are in contention in the various Divisions both Gross and Net.

Presentations will take place as soon as possible after the final scores are tabulated on Wednesday June 5th

The new Facebook page will become a place to find out what is happening around the club. Be sure to have a look on a regular basis.

The Mixed Foursomes Championship is approaching, if you haven't secured a male partner yet there is still time to find one. This event will be held on Sunday June 23rd.

I will be away from June 9th – July 16th. Should any unexpected issues arise, please chat with Colleen Bennett (VC)

**Kath Griffith**

## **VETERANS REPORT**

We have had to reduce the numbers on the starters table due to the lack of volunteers. This has been in effect for a few weeks now and is working well.

Our Open Day on 29th May was well supported and proved to be very successful, thanks in no small part, to the very generous support of The House of Golf. Our grateful thanks to Steve Taylor. Winners and prizes have been put on the Vet's web page. The comments of visitors were all very positive re condition of the course and organisation of event. Thanks again to Peter and his staff for presenting us with a magnificent playing surface.

There was discussion about next year's open day being a shotgun start with a selected lunch menu being available. The reasoning behind this is that there were very few prize winners at presentation and that is embarrassing and disrespectful to our generous sponsors.

If you have ordered a new shirt it should be here soon. We have paid the supplier and that sets the ball rolling for delivery.

The bad news is that, all shirts being ordered in the future will be priced at \$40 for short sleeves and \$45 for long sleeves.

There are still some grumblings about the breakdown of the handicap divisions. Captain Sandra along with Rod Shepherd are continually monitoring the fields and adjusting as required. It makes no sense to have one grade with less than 10, another with 40 and a third with 60+, all playing for the same prizes.

The QVGU no longer provide a printed booklet with all the district events throughout Queensland. These dates and venues can be found on the QVGU website under “tournaments”

The State Veteran Championships were played on 20th and 21st May at Maroochy River. The conditions were somewhat less than favourable but despite that I am pleased to announce that the lady champion for 2019 is our own Kathleen Griffith. Kath also picked up a pin shot. Also in the winner’s circle was Doerte Hecker who was 18 hole net Runner Up on 21st. Well done to both ladies. Arnold Olzard also picked up a runner up prize as well as winning first prize in the raffle

We are advised that all members wishing to play in open days must send in their own nomination forms with money. Bulk entries from clubs will not be acceptable

It was decided at our recent meeting that we supply a seat at the 16th tee (to the right of the blue tee marker) The Vets don’t play off the black tees and as there is often a delay on this tee we felt a seat at the lower level would be appropriate.

Our membership currently stands at 231 (149 men and 82 ladies) and is increasing every week.

**Hugh McLaughlin**

## **JUNIORS**

After a short break in April for the school holidays, the juniors were back in force after the completion of the Hervey Bay Men’s Club Championship. The Men’s Championship in May, saw many of the junior boys playing and gaining valuable experience. The boys represented the juniors well and Braiden Taylor came away with a trophy for the Junior Club Champion and he also spent the past weekend in Bundaberg, under the tutelage of State coaches, developing his game.

Lydia Shackell has been playing superbly in the Hervey Bay Ladies Championship. After the Round 3 she is coming 2nd in Division 1, three shots behind the leader. We wish Lydia well for the last round on Wednesday.

Last weekend saw many of the juniors head to Tin Can Bay for their Junior Classic. Tyler Fraser received an encouragement award for his efforts throughout the day.



Results for the Tin Can Bay Junior Classic were as follows:

3 Hole Nett Winner: Rebekah Mizzi

6 Hole Nett Winner: Oakley Hall

13 Hole Nett Winner: Chase Rendell

18 Holes

Allira Shingles Gross: 84 Nett: 70

Jordan Schroen Gross: 97 Nett: 80

Travis Taylor Gross: 106 Nett: 78

Finn Churchward Gross: 102 Nett: 74

13 Holes

Zane Stowers Nett: 53

Tyler Fraser Nett: 53

9 Holes

Taj Peek Nett: 56

6 Holes

Finnian McDonald Nett: 38

Jude Phillips Nett: 44

Jordan Greer Nett: 48

3 Holes

Tasmyn Shingles Nett: 11

Shylah Shingles Nett: 15

Malikah Norman Nett: 20

The next away game is the Isis Junior Carnival on Sunday 9th June. Good luck to all the juniors playing in this event. Our next home game is Sunday 16th June. After that sees the juniors on the road once again, this time in Bundaberg for the Junior Carnival.

Brian and his dedicated team of volunteers, continue to have a tribe of young golfers under their guidance, on a Monday afternoon. The children are developing their golfing skills and their understanding of golfing etiquette with the coaches continued instruction and encouragement. We have had a few golfers move up from 3 holes to 6 holes and beyond. Thank you!

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt THANK YOU to Wayne (Butch) and Penny Brittain for all that they have done, coaching and organising, the juniors over many, many years. Without their guidance, patience and commitment, the junior program would not run as smoothly as it does. From all of us, past and present, we wish Penny and Butch all the very best for their next adventures in Bribie. We miss you already!



**Yours in golfing!**

**The Juniors**