



NELSON BAY  
GOLF CLUB



## WHAT'S ON

### **NELSON BAY GOLF CLUB NEWSLETTER 15th March 2017**

#### **Dear Member**

#### **Clubhouse Re-build**

A great deal of progress has been made since the last Newsletter.

The roof is almost complete and a large number of trades are now concentrating on the internal works.

Ground floor wall framing and installation of aluminium windows has commenced as has the internal blockwork.

Other work that is in progress includes blockwork to the "Port Cochar", electrical trades rough in and installation of heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems

Construction is still estimated to be completed by June 2017.

#### **Golfing News**

#### **Men's A. Grade Pennant Season**

The players have continued to perform very well against top quality opposition and last weekend delivered the "coup de gras" with an outstanding 4.5 to 3.5 win over the very strong Newcastle team.

A great result with winners on the day being Connor Benjamin 1 up, Craig Mackenzie 4/3, Peter Gibson 2/1 and veteran Daryl McAuliffe 2/1 while Andrew Lange squared his match.

#### **Men's Super-Senior Pennants Team**

As previously reported the team finished 2nd in their Division, losing only one game to the very strong Tuncurry side, and so moved to the knock-out stage of this competition.

The first knock-out match was against Wyong at Morrissett which saw a 6/2 win to Nelson Bay and so set up a final 16 game against The Lakes at Gosford last Monday.

In a nail biting finish The Lakes prevailed by 4.5 to 3.5 matches with 4 of these being decided on the 18th hole. Winners for Nelson Bay were Mike Harris (who was undefeated in the competition), Roy Johnson (promoted from No.7 to No. 3.) and Peter Murray while Max Pride squared his match.

This concluded another excellent season for our Super Seniors.

### **Ladies Weekend Pennants**

The Ladies also finished their season last weekend and unfortunately it was not on a high note.

The Nemos lost 3/1 against Belmont and The Dolphins lost 2.5 to 1.5 against Kurri, results which saw Belmont win the 2017 Pennant, from The Nemos (2nd place) and The Dolphins(3rd)

Well played again to all of our players.

### **Ladies Weekday Pennants**

The Ladies kicked off their season in outstanding fashion with wins in all 3 Divisions. The results below tell the story:

Div.2 had an excellent 7/0 win over Pacific Dunes at Merewether

Div.4 had a narrow 3/2 win over Newcastle at Charlestown

Div.5 had a strong 5/0 win over Waratah at Toronto.

Very well done to the Ladies and keep up the good form in Round 2.

### **Junior Golfers**

The 2017 Junior Pennant season commences on April 11th at Waratah Golf Club. Rounds 2 & 3 will be played on April 20 at Newcastle and April 21 at Belmont respectively.

An Advanced Junior Pennants Program was set up last September with the aim of developing enough Juniors with a handicap for us to enter an Independent pennant team in the upcoming competition. In recent years our Juniors have played in a composite side with players from other Clubs.

Experienced and talented Juniors Connor Benjamin, Andrew Lange & Harry Cleare are still eligible to play for the Junior team and they are keen to participate and help develop the new Juniors who have recently acquired handicaps.

We now have 5 new juniors with handicaps & an anticipated 2 more within a few weeks which will be enough to form our own team. The likely Junior squad members are: Connor Benjamin, Andrew Lange, Harry Cleare, Amy Squires, Zac Rimmer, Felix Kaluski, Xavier Smith Zac Semmens, Jack Lawson, JesperLawson and Max Caligione.

We wish these young players all the best and thank everyone who has assisted to get the new players to this stage of their golf development.

### **The Rider Cup**

This most prestigious event was contested for many years between the Saturday EMG's (Early Morning Golfers) and The Early Birds (Kaye Porter's "Comrades")

After several years in hibernation the event returned to the golfing calendar and was played on February 25 and I must say it has been somewhat difficult to get an accurate result of the game.

To quote Richard Graystone" Played as handicap match play, one on one, EMG's 11 EB's 4 and 4 squared matches total of 19 matches.. Unfortunately I was in NZ but would have won my match"

To quote David Rann "As Richard was not even there, it would be easy to accept his fantasy version of the EMG victory. Like a fisherman telling you how big the catch was!

The result "EMG 10 EB 7" giving total of 17 matches..Who knows the real score?



### **Twilight Golf**

Our final Twilight Golf round will be played on Thursday 30th March at 4.15pm. It will be the very popular Cross Country event. Entry is via the Kiosk in the Clubhouse or on-line.

### **Australian Police Championships**

On Thursday 9th March we hosted the final singles round of the 2017 Australian Police Golf Championships.

I would like to thank all of our staff, volunteers, the Pro Shop and Caterers for the absolutely fantastic job you all did on the day.

We received extremely complimentary feedback from the players and the Organising Committee. Very well done by all of you.

### **Course Update (from Captain Peter Power)**

We have had a very taxing summer with record temperatures recorded and this has stressed the greens, keeping our Greens Staff very busy with as many as 5 staff continually hand watering greens during this period of constant hot weather,

The 5th green is progressing slowly and will be brought back into play

when we feel it has sufficiently recovered it is inspected on a daily basis to determine its playability.

The cooler weather also allows us to resume herbicide programs on greens to control selective weeds. Use of herbicides on greens during high stress (e.g. heat stress) periods is not carried out as it is usually detrimental to the bent grass.

We have been hand weeding foreign grasses, and as a continuation from last year removing Queensland Blue Couch before it becomes dormant and is still able to be seen.

This is an ongoing project and will take time to complete. Priority will be given to greens 1, 7, 14, 18, 20 and 24.

### **Winter 2017 Projects.**

Now is the time for winter projects as the green staff are not continually cutting fairways and nursing greens.

Patching out greens where there has been turf damage and where we have removed Queensland Blue Couch will be done using Bent grass (between 100 to 1500 square metres) kindly provided to us by Avondale Golf Club. Our thanks go to Avondale for this contribution.

We will send a team of our greens staff down to cut and pallet the turf on Thursday 16th March and this will be laid on prepared areas on the nursery adjacent to the 3rd and 11th holes.

The 20th tees are scheduled to be rebuilt commencing the 20th March. Use of a temporary tee will be in place for a few weeks while the turf establishes.

The turf mounds constructed on the 3rd fairway adjacent the maintenance shed have been covered using cores removed from the 3rd fairway.

Work is under way on the 26th trial garden with Ian Pfennigwerth and his gardening group now preparing the area for planting out in the next month.

Installation of a air fan at the 12th green will be carried out this month as soon as we receive delivery. This will provide some much needed airflow in that area.

**The Course Master Plan** will be placed on the club website very soon for members to review and comment and some of the projects we will be working on in this are as follows;

- Root pruning and removing surface roots from fairways and green surrounds.
- Rebuilding and levelling tees including 20th, 25th and ladies 7th.
- Bunker remodelling; the 23rd left hand side fairway bunker and the left hand side greenside bunker.

Rebuilding the 1st and 19th tees and landscaping of the surrounding areas will be carried out in conjunction with the clubhouse building works.

Please send any comments you have in regard to the Course Master Plan to the General Manager in writing.

As a finishing note on the Course update, the remarkable photograph below taken highlights the amount of foot traffic from just one group of four golfers on a green.

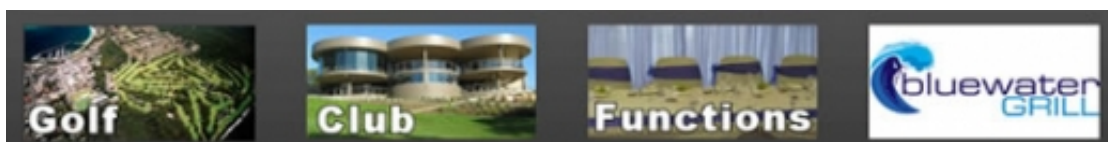


### **Vale Peter Lewis**

It is with much sadness that I advise Members of the passing of recently retired Director Peter Lewis. Peter was a tireless worker for the Club and led the band of volunteers who have done so much work on the course. Our deepest sympathy goes to Peter's wife Joan and their family.

That is all for now. Hope to see you on the course and in the clubhouse.

Max Pride  
President





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