



NELSON BAY  
GOLF CLUB



## WHAT'S ON

### NELSON BAY GOLF CLUB NEWSLETTER 3rd May 2017

#### **Dear Members**

There is quite a lot to cover in this newsletter.

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

A great deal of work continues to be done as we move toward the completion of the new clubhouse. Completion date is now set at 12th July as a result of delays caused by both hot and wet weather,

From the Project Manager's Report of 20th April, work planned for the next 4 weeks includes completion of:

- Electrical, data and security rough ins
- Upper floor services rough in
- Porte-cochere blockwork
- Kitchen exhaust hoods.
- Furniture for Club and Function Rooms has been ordered

All scaffolding to ground floor level is expected be removed within the next couple of weeks.

A snapshot of key activities that will happen in the next fortnight shows work continuing and /or commencing on installation of internal linings on walls & ceilings, external windows & glazing, roller shutters in outdoor gaming area and the lift car.

Other work will include tiling of kitchen and bathrooms, external painting and concrete toppings to the Bar and Terraces.

#### **Car Parking**

Further restrictions now apply with the closure of the staff parking area until further notice to allow for the relocation of the hire carts.

This is being done to allow excavation work to install gas /electricity and other services.

**It is essential that the 5 minute parking bays for bag drops and delivery of stock are used just for that. Please do not use these as long term parking spaces.**

### **Trading Results**

#### **Month of March 2017**

Despite the poor weather experienced in March we recorded a trading profit of \$9600 (excl. \$17,000 interest received on the invested insurance claim payment).

#### **9 Months Ended 31st March 2017**

Excluding interest received of \$140,000 (the large majority of which has been earned from investment of the Insurance claim), we incurred a loss of \$59,000 for the period.

This is a more than acceptable result given the circumstances under which we have been operating.

### **Business Interruption Claim**

Work is still being done to fully analyse our costs incurred since the fire in readiness of lodging the final claim through our Loss Adjustor Daryl Holland.

### **2017/18 Annual Subscriptions**

This is early advice that Membership Renewal notices will be mailed to you in the coming weeks.

Some points to note include:

- The Annual Membership Fee is unchanged from last year.
- The Fee continues to include a component to be set aside for repayment of the debt we will still have with the NAB when the Clubhouse rebuild is completed.
- Member's Cart Storage and Registration Fees will each increase by \$15
- Country Members will now be restricted to 12 competition rounds per year at Member's rates.

### **Member's Competition & Social Green Fees.**

The Board has resolved that the following increases will apply from 1st July 2017:

- Competition Fees will go from \$17-\$18 (incl. \$2 Debt Reduction amount)
- Social Green Fees for 9 holes will rise by \$1 to \$8
- Social Green Fees for 18 holes will rise by \$2 to \$13.

Social green fees have not increased since 2011

### **Reciprocal Rights with Forster Tuncurry Golf Club**

We have recently been notified of changes made by Forster Tuncurry Golf Club in regard to Reciprocal Rights. The main changes to note are:

- Playing rights are offered only to Full Playing Members

- There is a limit of only 6 rounds of golf (social or competition) per calendar year
- Privately owned motorised carts or bikes can only be used with prior approval from the Club and may be subject to a small charge.

### **Course Master Plan**

A draft of the Course Master Plan has been on our website now for a few weeks. To date we have received 6 formal responses.

These responses will be submitted to the Board of Directors for consideration after which the final plan will be presented to the next AGM for approval by the members. This is to ensure, that in the future there are no unwanted changes made to the Course without member approval i.e. 75% of vote required for change.

### **Kangaroos**

Researchers from the University of Sydney recently completed the 2017 Autumn counts and our thanks go to the following members who volunteered their time for this job: Phil & Rhonda Murray, Tony Knife, Keith Bryars, Geoff Cousins and Bill Harding.

Kangaroo Phil Murray has passed on a few points of interest arising from the count:

1. The fertility control period is now ended however, as yet we have not seen a population 'bounce back' as we thought may have happened..
2. As people always say, yes we see several joeys about in pouches, but it is the other end of the life cycle that seems to be more hidden – the death of animals.  
Joeys and older animals die but we do not see these losses as readily, as animals may die in the bush, on roads and are readily consumed by scavengers, predators or simple decay.
3. The golf course is just one part of a much larger eco system. Numbers of eastern greys on the course can vary from day to day quite dramatically.

The surrounding national park and bushland is 40 times bigger than our 70 hectare golf course.

Sometimes, for whatever reason, animals may be in the bush for days or more at a time and we experience low counts such as the 85 and 73 on Thursday 20 April 2017.

Example: My golf mate Neville George who lives way over in Fingal now sees one of our tagged animals regularly at his back fence.

### **Kookaburras**

Members John & Jan Bell recently had an unpleasant encounter with a rogue kookaburra halfway down the 21st fairway. The bird swooped from

the opposite side of the fairway, flew through their cart and took a sandwich out of Jan's hand along with a slice of her finger.

Please be aware of this and perhaps, for the time being at least, if you need to eat something on this hole, do it at the tee (but stay alert for the bird)

### **Emergencies on Course**

In recent months there have been occasions when it has taken an undue amount of time for help to arrive for players needing medical assistance on the course.

We would ask you to adopt the following procedure if the need arises:

1. If a major emergency please call 000 and then the Office / Bar (working hours) and also the Pro Shop.
2. If not a major emergency please call the Office / Bar during working hours and also the Pro Shop

### **Golfing News**

#### **Veteran Women Golfers Association Event**

We are privileged to be hosting this 2 day Country Tournament on Thur May 18 & Fri May19 in conjunction with the Veteran Women Golfers Association of NSW.

There are 210 entrants on both days, with visitors coming from far and wide. This will be an exciting event for the club. We are still desperately in need of assistance from members as spotters for the two days and for members to hire their carts to the visitors. Please contact the pro shop urgently if you are willing to hire your cart, and please contact Dave Flatt on 0410419967 or [dave\\_flatt2@yahoo.com](mailto:dave_flatt2@yahoo.com) if you can help as a spotter.

#### **Ladies 4BBB Knock-Out**

The Ladies 4BBB Match Play finals were played recently.

In Div.1 Linda Drake and Julie Newsham defeated Joan and Jenny Frost. In B Grade Beth MacDuff and Judy Schulz defeated Margaret Harding and Bernice Ticehurst, and in C Grade Shirley Anicich and Alex Poulos were winners over Marg Reimer and Cherry Dundas-Smith.

#### **Junior Pennants**

The Junior Pennant team recently completed a wonderful 3 round competition.

The squad of Connor Benjamin, Andrew Lange, Harry Cleare, Felix Kaluski, Zac Rimmer, Xavier Smith, Amy Squires, Zac Semmens, Jasper Lawson, Jack Lawson and Max Caligione , with Co- Managers Will Semmens and Chris Mawson thoroughly enjoyed their matches at Waratah, Newcastle and Belmont Golf Courses

To cap off the season the team took out the Trophy for the Winning Club Team, Connor Benjamin was the Individual Winner, while Andrew Lange finished 4th, and Amy Squires & Felix Kaluski were 2 of the 4 winners of

Encouragement Prizes.

This was a fantastic effort by everyone involved in the competition and the development of our Juniors and the sponsorship from "The Dirty Dozen" members of the Cadet & Junior coaching clinics.

### **Ladies Weekday Pennants**

The Ladies followed up their strong start to the season with solid performances in their most recent round:

Div.2 had an excellent 6/1 win over Merewether

Div.4 had a strong 5/0 win in the local derby against Horizons

Div.5 finished square in a very tight game against Muree

The next round is on Mon 8th May where Div. 2 play Toronto at Horizons, Div. 4 meet Charlestown at Muree while Div. 5 enjoy the Bye.

### **Ladies Club Championships**

These commence on Tuesday 9th May and conclude on Tues 23d May. The best of luck goes to all who are playing.

### **Men's Handicap Match Play Finals**

These will be played next Saturday 13 May, with Connor Benjamin meeting Peter Burgess in A Grade, Col Chalkley v Lee Barrett in B Grade, and Marc Pisani against John Harvey in C Grade. The finals will be played in the last two groups of the day at 12.03 and 12.10 respectively.

### **Men's Master Pennants.**

Our squad of Alan Daubarus, Michael Harris, Peter Sutton, Graham Allen, Graeme Luke, Craig MacKenzie, Bruce Bews, Daryl McAuliffe, Tony Short and Peter Burgess and is Managed and Coached by John Skeough and Kel Wright respectively.

The side has had two tough away matches, losing 6.5/1 against Charlestown ( with Craig MacKenzie winning his game) and losing 5.5/2 against Waratah ( with Bruce Bews winning his game and Graham Allen & Tony Short both finishing square in their games)

Their next match is at home against Tanilba Bay on Sunday 7th May where a win might just be enough to save the careers of the Team Manager and Team Coach.

### **Pennants Presentation Dinner**

This is very early advice that the 3rd Pennants Presentation Dinner to celebrate the Ladies, Men's and Juniors seasons will be held in the new Clubhouse on Sat. 9th December 2017.

Put this in your diary now and watch for more details.

### **Holes-in-One**

John Townsend achieved a Hole in One on Anzac Day on the 20th.

Not to be outdone, Phil Murray "aced" the temporary par 3 1st. There is no truth in the rumour that "Kangaroo Phil" had kangaroos gathered around the hole to deflect his ball in.

Earlier Norm Cousins and Michael Wojko had hit the perfect shot on the temporary 5th green . Sadly for Norm and Michael this green was taken out of play before they could give lessons on how to ace it.

Connor Benjamin also played the perfect shot on the 1st which would probably give him 4 stableford point off his 2 handicap. Well done to you all.

### **Cadets Coaching Clinics**

Term 2 clinics for those between the ages of 7-17 will commence at 3.15pm on Thursday 11th May. Please contact Warren Moses at the Pro Shop or on 0407 432 800 to register or for additional information.

### **Course Update**

The main items to bring to your attention which were included in the Course Superintendent's report to the April Meeting of the Board are:

#### **Greens**

These continue to improve with cooler night temperatures and milder days providing desirable growing conditions. Returfing and plugging of small bare areas will continue.

Unfortunately, because of the extremely wet weather we were not able to obtain bent grass from Avondale Golf Club as trucks could not access the course.

Efforts are being made to obtain bent grass from other sources, but this proving to be very difficult.

The new fan at the 12th Green has been installed and should be operational within the next week or so.

#### **20th Tee**

Work is almost completed on the reconstruction of this tee and thanks go to Members Brad McKay and John McCaw for their help with this work. Brad donated Machinery and John donated his time as Machinery Operator.

It is expected the tee will be opened fully for play in 2 weeks..

#### **Volunteers**

The volunteer groups we have working on different areas of the course are a great asset to our Club.

Steve Brown and the Monday morning boys continue their "Harbour Bridge" approach to maintain previously cleared areas. They will also be assisting with the removal of tree roots from fairways in coming months as well as repairing pitch marks.

Dudley Herbert's Thursday team continues to mulch garden beds and cut up and remove fallen branches. In coming weeks they will focus on repairing the red rock paths.

Ina Bombardierie's team of Ladies continue to get their hands dirty weeding, trimming and replanting garden beds around the Club entrance,

putting green, the pond at the 9th green, and other selected gardens.

Ian Pfennigwerth's group have been busy planting the trial garden at the 26th tee, repairing course seating and installing a new cart barrier on the 20th path.

We can always do with more volunteers. Please contact the Office if you have some time to spare.

### **Repairing Pitch Marks & Divots**

A plea to all members to repair as many pitch marks as possible while you are playing and here a couple of hints on how to do it properly:

1. Insert the pitch reparer around the edges of the pitch mark
2. Move the into the hole with a forward motion
3. Never use a piece of loosened turf for repair
4. Tap the repair work down gently with your foot or putter.
5. Your group adopt a hole or two for repair work.

### **Upcoming Events**

Water Wonderland, sponsored by Ryan Palmer, on Sat 10 / Sun 11th June

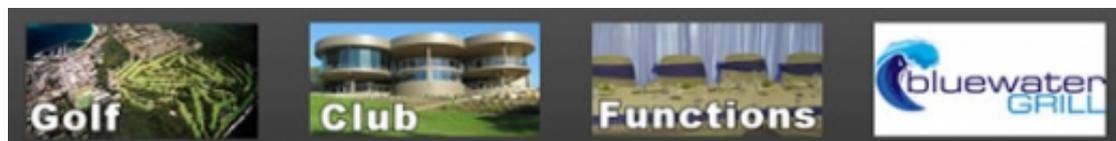
Men of League Dinner on Sat 5th Aug / Golf on Sun 6th Aug.

### **Staff**

We welcome Lesa Cooper to our Administration team and also Jordon Harding-Frame to the Bar Staff.

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

### **Max Pride President**



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