



Captain & President Newsletter December 2005



BUSSELTON
GOLF CLUB



Captain – Brian Pross

Hi Everyone

After a very busy month of golf where we enjoyed great weather it is time to settle down and prepare for the next season

For those members who are not aware I have taken on the Captain's job and Bill has accepted the Vice Captain's position. I would like to thank Bill and match committee (Mal Rigoll, Bill Cunningham, Vets rep Bill Davis, Junior Rep Alan McGregor, Scroungers rep Alan Pascal plus ladies captain Helen Rigoll and Vice Captain Gwen Nisbett for their input during the year, also thanks to Sprinter and other members of scroungers teams who helped with the cards etc during the year.

A special thanks to Lloyd for his efforts on scroungers days and we all wish you a speedy recovery. Lloyd's efforts along with our great entertainer Charlie Sue were rewarded by being named joint scroungers for the year (well done guys).

Further special appreciation must go to the ever present Brian Williams (thanks Brian from me – Bill and all members of the Golf club. We would battle to function without you. It would be remiss of me not to thank John, Pam and Sonya for their efforts during the year in co-ordinating and helping run the year's events. Thanks John for your direction in match matters when they have appeared to be above my head.

Last but not least, a great big thank you to every member of our Golf Club for their help in the smooth running of our events and to those who helped in any way with work around the club and on the course.

The match committee's aim this year is to get a better spread of events this coming season. This year was more or less a replica of previous years. We appear to have months when there are no special events and then we have a month like this November when every weekend or Friday we have special events and members become saturated with golf. Hopefully by spreading events out over the whole year we will be able to provide a more acceptable time table. With this in mind we would be grateful for members who may have ideas or recommendations to help us in this direction. Please see Bill, myself or any members of match committee. While on match committee several new members are needed in the coming year, we don't have restrictions on numbers and the more on match committee the more the input and the better we can provide our club with good service.

As mentioned earlier, this month was full on. It started with our second year of Bunnings Warehouse Leaney cup and what a fantastic weekend it was. Some great scores were recorded and all players, local and visitors were wrapped in the concept which augers well for the future.

**** Newsletter also on club website, our home page located at ;
<http://busseltongolf.mysouthwest.com.au>**



Main Scores were as follows:

Overall Winners: Terry & Wendy Krummer Royal Perth
Day 1 42 – 42
Day 2 44 ** Total 128 pts

Runners Up: Alan & Leone McGregor Busselton
Day 1 44-37
Day 2 43 ** Total 124 pts

Day 1: Winner Men John Greenfield Busselton 42 pts
Runner Up Brian Williams Busselton 40 pts

Day 1 Winner Women Kay Green Busselton 39 pts
Runner Up Renya Meirs 38 pts

Day 2 Winners: James & Jeanette Gilchrist 47 pts on CB
Runners Up: Tony Haabjoern & Margaret Denton 47 pts

A great big thankyou, to Bunnings for their sponsorship. Also John, Pat and Sonya for their great input and Scotty for the terrific food.

The following weekend saw the running of the Harvey Norman All -Comers Ambrose:

Winners were: Max, Ben and Matt Henderson and non member B Candice with a great score of 63-9& 7/8 – 53&1/8

Runner Up: Nigel Yoxall, Tony Haabjoern, Glen Tillotson and non member T Blurton 60- 5 – 55

Thanks to Harvey Norman for their sponsorship. Thanks also to Des Hulm for driving the drinks cart. The drinks were good, but the driving wasn't the best!!!

The highlight of the year for the Scroungers was the Busselton Toyota 2005 Scroungers Championship over two days, the 17th and 24th November. The great sponsorship and array of trophies supplied by Laurie were eagerly played for by a large field of players.

The winner of the overall event was our course superintendent Callum Hitchings with two very consistent scores of 42 – 39 – 81. Cal was wrapped when Laurie arranged his prize of 2 nights at the Burswood Casino Resort and Landcruiser full of Juice on very short notice.

Not so consistent but also registering a great score of 34 – 46 – 80 saw Tony Copeland with Rupper Up.

Round 1 Winner: Luke Kennedy 44 pts
Runner Up: Ern Cockle 43 pts

Round 2 Winner: Geoff Hatcher 41 pts on count back
Runner Up: Paul Cowley 41 pts

Thanks to Busselton Toyota's Laurie Salterini and his able deputy Libby for the great sponsorship, organisation, prizes and drinks supplied.

Friday 25th November saw a great day run by the Busselton Police namely Tony Strang and his wife with great assistance from Brian Williams , Brett Pengelly. Jeff Trott and the people from the Sea Rescue Association, to whom the money raised, was donated.

There were four sections for the various players. Winners will be in next month's newsletter. One feature of the day was an eagle 2 on no 5 by Brian Wilkinson. We put him on the breathalyzer but he passed with flying colours.

Thanks again to Tony and his helpers for their effort and as I said to Sonya when leaving, there were that many prizes given out, that I was the only player on the day that didn't get one. Big thanks to George and Bob for driving the drinks ute, and also Al for helping put out the novelties.

Our great new monthly trophy was this month played for by Saturday Mens Competition. As stated in last month's newsletter Lance Falconer Clerk is donating \$100 worth of Nivea products each month for various groups.

This months winner is Charlie Landbrebe with a fine score 34 – 39 – 35 – 33 - 141 pts

Thanks Lance for your great input into the club.

Scores for Rest of the Month as follows:

Saturday Mens:

29/10/05	Rics Tune Up Trophy	Greg Dudley	42 pts
12/11/05	Busselton Hyundai Trophy	Darryl Nicholls	
19/11/05	Rob Hogan Transport Trophy	M. Hahne, L Kennedy K Potter	58 nett
19/11/05	“ “ “ Runner Up	B Hilbert, R Curry P Fullarton	58 3/6 nett
26/11/05	Willow Bridge Monthly Mug	Mal Sanderson	66 nett

Vets Tuesday:

1/11/05	Brian Denny Trophy	Bob Casselton	40 pts
8/11/05	Don Pinnock Trophy	Jeff Lees	+5
15/11/05	Ted Wilson Trophy	Keith Green	40 pts
22/11/05	Peter Fullerton Trophy	Ray Horton	65 nett
29/11/05	Jack Wright Trophy	Norm Harker	44 pts

Scroungers Thursday:

3/11/05	Brumbys Trophy	Matt Henderson	42 pts
10/11/05	Prestige Products Trophy	John Gardiner	41 pts

Saturday Women:

29/10/05		Helen Criddle	42 pts
12/11/05		Margaret Smith	+4
19/11/05	Rob Hogan's Trophy	Judy Tunston, Denise O'Keefe & Colleen Morris	62 nett
26/11/05	Willow Bridge Monthly Goblet	Margaret Hitching	72 nett

Also announced on 19/11/05 was one of our prestigious events winner of Golfer of the Year for 2005. This was won in fine style by Dave Basten. Dave capped the year off by also winning the Eclectic Trophy donated by Pendrey Agencies. Thanks to Neil Henchie.

The Annual General Meeting was finalised with a truly worthy presentation, that being Life Membership to Trevor Espinos. Trev, for those few who don't know, has worked tirelessly for our club for approximately the last 35 years. He has held a number of directors positions during this time and has always put his hand up when needed in any official capacity. Knowing Trevor very well, it will not stop until he is no longer able to contribute. Well done Trev – thoroughly deserved.

Last but no least, I am perturbed by the lack of help we are getting in the club house (not the match side of things). I really think we need a director of house to co-ordinate corporate days and general house duties, such as arranging maintenance etc. If any one feels it may be their forte, please see any club directors or club managers.

As there was no nomination for Marketing Director at the AGM, we are also seeking somebody to fill this position; don't forget members, this is your club and unless we have members as directors, the day will come when we will have to pay people to carry out directorship and thus fees will go up.

We have one very important event in December, this being the Golf Box South West Junior Open and the Stephen Leaney trophy.

Saturday 10th December 1st round, hit off 7am to 9am.

Sunday 11th December 2nd round, hit off 7am to 9am.

Junior Men & Women. If any of our local Juniors have not nominated and wish to play, please see John, Pat or myself, as we still have vacancies.

Let's have a great month of golf.



President - Mal Sanderson

Below is an extract of my 2005 President's Report as submitted to the Annual General Meeting.

I have to admit that the past 12 months have been a sharp learning curve, but have also been very rewarding.

At last year's AGM I made a statement about my aims for my term of office. I gave full support to the Club's business plan with its emphasis on putting the club in an improved financial position. I also hoped that we would see an improvement in membership and in the voluntary involvement of members.

Let us now look at these topics in some more detail.

Financial Report:

As you can see from the set of accounts there has been a considerable improvement in our financial position. Our operating deficit was \$5,753 compared with \$63,383 last year, and we anticipate a surplus in the coming financial year. The financial performance of the club was ahead of budget in most areas and considerably ahead of last year's figures. We have minimized the overdraft ahead of schedule, and the club's bank account has been in credit since January this year. We have also managed to keep capital expenditure within budget.

Business Plan:

This is the backbone of the club. The plan focused attention on financial performance and the results speak for themselves. We lived within our means. It is proposed that we open a separate deposit account in the new year

into which we shall deposit income from the Irrigation Levy. At this time I do not see any need to sell Lot 60, but I intend to set up a committee to investigate the potential of the block, be it by sale or development.

There has been one significant change to the business plan. Investigations showed that there is a long-term benefit to be had by replacing our course grooming machinery with second hand (instead of new) machines an turning the machinery over more quickly. There will be an initial adverse effect, but we anticipate a saving of \$16,000 between now and the year 2013 when the Water Corporation is to be repaid. In the next 12 months we must continue to expand our membership, increase course utilization, maintain the highest level of course presentation and look after our aging clubhouse facilities.

Membership:

There has been an encouraging trend in our membership levels. Our membership has grown 10.5% overall with the Ordinary membership improving by 6.4. As a result we have benefited by increased income in both membership fees and competition fees. We need to foster this positive movement. We live in a vibrant and growing community and we all must become recruiting officers for the club.

Course Usage:

The number of competitors in club competitions did not change greatly over the year. Visiting green fee player numbers have increased and as a result of fee increases the club has had extra income. We run a variety of open competitions which are hugely successful - the Geographe Ladies Classic, the West Coast Open, and the South West Junior Open.

The club has also benefited by the introduction of the Leaney Cup. John Anderson came up with the concept and has developed it into a competition which will become a Busselton icon. As you can see, the Honour Boards have been updated and my congratulations go to all those who were successful in these events. I must also pay tribute to those who won other competitions throughout the year, and to thank those who did not win but continue to play.

Volunteers:

Over the last year there has been a gradual increase in the number of volunteers who come to do work of various types on the course. Members are often seen mowing fairways, spraying weeds, raking branches and generally cleaning up. To me the highlight was on the Tuesday following the West Coast Open when a remarkable 27 helpers worked at various times during the day to assist in coring and sanding the greens.

Regrettably the same cannot be said about some of our big events when we had to employ staff to make up the shortfall. We can make good money from our catering, but our profit is eroded when we lack volunteers. This is not a criticism of our ladies, 75 of our membership is male and I would like to see more men helping out in the kitchen.

Potable Water:

Our drinking water supply was disrupted earlier this year. The problem was the 26-year-old tank, which over the years had become contaminated by groundwater leaching into the walls. A shire inspection alerted us to the problem, and the solution was to line the tank with a state of the art plastic liner and to install a high technology ozone filter. The filter not only attracts suspended iron, it also kills bacteria. The cost was shared between House R & M and Capital expenditure budgets, and amounted to \$ 5,800. We now have a very effective filtration and purification system which will serve us well into the future.

Constitution:

Early in the year a number of members assisted me in redrafting the club's constitution to bring the document up to date, to be more flexible with membership categories and to make provision for an "executive" led management structure.

It was a requirement that the constitution had to conform with the Liquor Act. This is also undergoing review and is not expected to be enacted until the middle of next year. As a result it was decided to delay wholesale

changes until details of the new act are available. However it was also decided that we should proceed with one amendment which we are scheduled to vote on tonight.

The current constitution restricts fee increases to CPI (to a maximum of 5) and as the club always rounds down to the nearest \$5 we have been steadily losing income. I endorse the motion of Trevor Espinos and Mal Rigoll as it will give us more flexibility to deal with membership fees. Importantly, members have the safeguard that any scheduled fees must be ratified at the AGM.

Web Site:

The club has established a web site under the "My South West" banner and I must thank John Anderson and Bill Hilbert for their efforts. To complete the project a number of photographs of the course need to be taken and it is anticipated that the project will be finished by Christmas.

General:

We had a changing of the guard when our course superintendent, Eric Dennis, resigned to move to Melville Glades. He was ably replaced by his 2 IC Callum Hitching, who has done a fantastic job in maintaining and developing the course. His assistant Des Wilson has completed his studies and Corey dark has joined Brett Fraser as an apprentice.

We often take certain people for granted, which does not do them justice. Sonya is one of the pillars of this club and she is one of the reasons for the harmonious atmosphere in the club. Thank you Sonya.

My utmost respect must also go to our management team of John and Pat. Their advice and guidance over the past year is the major reason that the club has progressed, and the plans they have implemented will have long-term benefits for the membership. On behalf of everybody, thanks to the Andersons.

I have been blessed with an intelligent and hard working board, and while some are up for election or re-election I believe that the best interests of the club are well looked after by the directors. From me, thank you for your humour, your comments and your commitment.

A large number of members gave much of their time, energy and expertise to various events and projects over the past year. I will not single them out for several reasons, none the least of which is my embarrassment if I omit one. They are all notable members of our club and deserve a round of thanks.

Life Membership:

Congratulations to Trevor Espinos, Captain Brian has said all that needs to be said about Trevor's worthiness as the newest life member of our golf club, a fantastic contribution over a long period of time.

Ladies Captain Notes:

Our winter golfing season has now come to an end and summer golf has commenced. Monday morning 8.00 start 9 holes and Wednesday morning 6.30 -8.00 start 13 or 18 holes. My thanks to Margaret, Wendy, Lois and Judy for running these competitions through the summer months. Good golfing everyone.

Some very good golf has been played over the last month or so with many of the same names appearing each week Ruth Guest, Colleen Ryan, Rhonda Davies, Jan Mountney, Jan Espinos, Barb Albrey, Kay Slattery, Beryl Meyers and Jan Coldan have all featured well and broken their handicaps. Well done girls.

Our closing day was a great success thanks to Mandy and her Yahava Kaffeeworks van, Our Ambrose format is a lot of fun the winners were Mavis Gray, Beryl Russell and Midge Reynolds . Our Wind Up Dinner and Presentation of Trophies was a wonderful night. Our main trophy winners for the year were:

*Consistency Winner: Sharon Koch
A Grade Eclectic: Denise O'Keefe*

*B Grade Eclectic: Georgie Bruce Smith
C Grade Eclectic: Edie Rickwood*

In closing I wish everyone a safe and happy festive season and good golfing.

Course Superintendent:

Finally the sun is out and we are starting to see some growth around the course. This month we have begun to irrigate the course at volumes that will encourage growth. Up until this time ground temperatures have been too low to get any form of fertiliser to have positive results on the couch fairways.

Last week I took soil samples from some fairways to find our current nutrient status, EC, pH, etc. These results should be available by the end of this week. From these findings I will be looking into buying a particular blend of fertiliser, probably between 5 and 7 tonne to fertilise the course from tree line to tree line. The fertiliser will not be going out before the crabgrass that has recently germinated has been sprayed out.

We are also expecting our new second hand greens mower at the end of this week. This machine is the first purchase of our new machinery replacement program and will save us money in R&M and improve productivity due to the new features (back lapping kit, special cylinders etc). The machine will start mowing greens and will remain there until it has completed approximately 2000 hours. The machine will then be demoted to mowing tees and perimeters and the cycle continues. The Leaney Cup appeared to be successful. The greens were just ok, different management practices will be adopted if we decide to core after WC next year. I can have the greens much better in a shorter period of time I just got a little carried away with my destruction of the poa (winter grass). The greens are almost back now, we will be cutting lower once the new machine arrives this will help increase the speed and improve the ball roll.

The safety shower/eyebath and wash down trough have now been successfully installed and drained to a soak.

An old concrete liner, which we had was used but I needed to purchase a trafficable lid from L&B.

I have also purchased 20 bunker rakes that are the same as the ones we have. Originally from Royal Perth they were \$10 each and will replace the last of the wooden handle plastic headed variety, which I believe are absolute crap.

The rye grass on the 9th fairway has filled out well and is very close to being in play. We completed a seeding job on the 16th fairway today from the 100m marker to the green. This was another area struggling due to tree roots and shade. The quality of lie and fairway/rough definition will be sensational in about 7-8 weeks. This week we are going to prepare the right side of the 4th fairway from 100m-180m from the tee. This area struggles due to moisture competition from trees and shade. they are a heavy duty recycled plastic and will last many years. I have not yet purchased the required signage for around the shed, John and I will collaborate our combined requirements for a cheaper deal somewhere (hopefully).

I would like to improve our spray system that we have recently purchased. The on/off valve is very awkward to reach and a little dangerous. I would like to get an electric solenoid fitted on me mudguard or ROPS. It would make the job of spaying much easier and less stressful. I have been invited to attend a professional development day a Clifton Park on Wednesday 16th November. I am welcome to bring any members of the club/employee. The day is designed for networking and looking at Bunbury's new retic system.

COUNTRY VETS NOTES.

Tuesday November 8th saw Collie hold their event which attracted 147 nominations and eventually 129 starters as a result of late withdrawals, one instance was a car load from Margaret River who for some reason thought Harvey was the venue and arrived their too late to correct their mistake.

Good weather conditions saw a pleasant days golf with Frank BATTISTA of Collie 41 point winning on a countback from Ray ALPSalso of Collie, with Peter COSTELLO of Capel next on 40 points. Best for Busselton was Keith GREEN with 36 points.

The final event for the year will be at Bunbury on December 5th with some 20 players nominating on time and quite a few others who forgot to put their name down in time.

Our local meeting to elect delegates and discuss issues for 2006 was held at Busselton o November 29th with no complaints or problems of note and with no rush for new blood saw Mal RIGOLL and yours truly to again carry the burden.

The AGM of the CVGA will be conducted at Capel on Tuesday December 13th to finalise fixture for 2006 and any other matters which may arise.

Best wishes for the coming Christmas and a sincere hope that the year 2006 will be full of lucky golfing and good health to all our ancient bones.

Golf Joke of The Month:

A man is stranded on a desert island, all alone for ten years. One day, he sees a speck in the horizon. He thinks to himself, "It's not a ship." The speck gets a little closer and he thinks, "It's not a boat." The speck gets even closer and he thinks, "It's not a raft." Then, out of the surf comes this gorgeous blonde woman, wearing a wet suit and scuba gear. She comes up to the guy and says, "How long has it been since you've had a cigarette?"

"Ten years!", he says. She reaches over and unzips a waterproof pocket on her left sleeve and pull out a pack of fresh cigarettes. He takes one, lights it, takes a long drag, and says, "Man, oh man! Is that good!"

Then she asked, "How long has it been since you've had a drink of whiskey?" He replies, "Ten years!" She reaches over, unzips her waterproof pocket on her right sleeve, pulls out a flask and gives it to him.

He takes a long swig and says, "Wow, that's fantastic!" Then she starts unzipping a longer zipper that runs down the front of her wet suit and she says to him, "And how long has it been since you've had some real fun?"

And the man replies, "Wow! Don't tell me that you've got golf clubs in there!"

***** Thought for the
month – The divot you
don't fix, could be the
one that next time
round fixes you !!! *******