



Captain & President Newsletter December 2006



BUSSELTON
GOLF CLUB

**** This Newsletter and all previous issues are also on our club website, our home page is now located at ;
<http://www.busseltongolfclub.com.au>**

Annual General Meeting

This was conducted last Tuesday the 28th November at which a new board was appointed;

President: Mal Rigoll
Vice President: Marion Fraser
Captain: Bill Hilbert
Vice Captain: Kevin Rainbird
Course Director: Doug Rowe
Finance Director: Wayne Royer
Ladies Director: Wendy Gulberti
Marketing Director: Vacant

Outgoing President Mal Sanderson presented his annual report, extracts are listed below;



"This year we have seen some substantial changes.

- Long term Club Managers Pat and John Anderson retired.
- The replacement Executive Officer, Kevin Haigh, resigned after only 3 months
- The Club took over the operation of the Golf Shop.

I am pleased to announce that Mr Ian Stubbs is our new Executive Officer and he commences work tomorrow. Ian is a long term member of this club and I wish him every success in his new career.

Financial Report:

As you can see from the set of audited accounts this has been a year of negative growth. Our operating deficit went in reverse from about \$5,800 to about \$48,200. Bear in mind that the 2004 deficit was over \$63,300. We must also realise that our financial position was affected by the purchase of the Golf Shop and an additional \$63,200 to Pat and John in accrued leave payouts.

Some other points to note are:

- A 10% increase in income from golfing activities.
- A 5% increase in overall turnover.
- The numbers playing competitive golf increased by over 4%.
- Women's competition fees increased by 11%.
- Tournaments contributed an extra 29%, mainly from increased fees.
- Green fees increased by 13% which was mainly volume..
- Membership continues to grow in numbers and income.
- Payroll increased as did payments to suppliers.

The Golf Shop:

The purchase of the Golf Shop had an initial adverse effect on the club's finances. The purchase and associated costs, plus the cost of motorised carts accounted for almost all the \$59,100 increase in Capital expenditure. The club expects that after a full year of operation the Golf Shop will become a significant profit centre. In a full year it should contribute over \$25,000.

As the Club now operates the Shop we have the opportunity to gain greater control over course utilisation. I foresee a Shop-based reservation system for members and green fee players, with competitions also being run from there but with assistance.

The club is in the process of applying for a Special Facility Licence to permit the sale of alcoholic beverages to all users of the course, and we are also seeking to extend the licensed area to include the shop and an area between it and the putting green. This should create efficiencies in Bar operations.

We believe that hiring motorised carts is essential to the profitability of the Shop, and to that end we have leased 5, and will rent another 5 for the busy summer season.

Business Plan:

To some extent we have deviated from the plan with the purchase of the Golf Shop, but we must not lose sight of the requirement for financial austerity if we are to meet our commitments. I see a bright future for the club, but it must be managed well.

Clubhouse:

Changes have happened. Walls have been rendered, partitions have been removed and some painting has occurred. There are plans for exterior painting and furniture replacement, and I am aware that some of these are not proceeding as quickly as some would like.

Volunteers:

I must thank the organisers of the coring and sanding days. Volunteers were rostered as early or late and the day went like clockwork.

We also seem able to press-gang enough people to make sure our open tournaments run smoothly, but our catering component still languishes. It would be nice not to have to pay professionals to cater for our big events.

Constitution:

We had a small amendment last year. When I first took office I met with a group of long term members to review our whole constitution. We obtained copies of constitutions from other clubs and from Clubs WA and then went through ours from start to finish. I am a firm believer that a constitution is a framework or skeleton which holds the club together, and the fine details are in club by-laws and policies.

The result will be voted on later tonight.

One of the problems associated with licensed clubs is that their constitution must be approved by the Liquor Licensing Board. I have sent the proposed constitution to them, and after some negotiation they have given us approval subject to endorsement by the membership. It has subsequently been pointed out that we still use the terms "chairman" and "deputy chairman" in our document and I hope amendments will clear up that point and another about the end of our financial year.

Fees:

This meeting needs to endorse the proposed fee structure for the coming year. It is outlined on the back of the agenda. The increase is 4.3% which, while slightly less than CPI will help our cash flow situation.

It is with sadness that I acknowledge the passing of several of our members in the last year. In particular I am moved by the recent death of our Patron, Jack Guthrie. Jack was a great man and a great club member who had lots to offer. I do not believe that we would be on this site and enjoying this course without his efforts.

Farewell golfers, and my sympathies to all the families involved.

Club's Centenary:

Next year sees the Club reach it's 100th birthday. There are a few things in the pipeline to help us celebrate this event and I hope all members will support the events.

Thanks:

- *To the Board which was elected last year. Your concern for the club and your contributions more than made up for my ignorance in many areas.*
- *To Jim Fleming and Mal Rigoll for filling vacancies on the Board.*
- *To Keiran Ryan for maintaining finances and payroll when we had no Executive Officer.*
- *To John and Pat Anderson for coming back to sort out our accounts and prepare them for the annual audit, and for their 13 years of service prior to that.*
- *To Doug Rowe and Callum Hitching for creating the finest course in the South West.*
- *To people like Midge Reynolds, Brian Williams and many many others who work tirelessly to make this a better club*
- *To Sonya for her integrity and good humour.*
- *And, to the members of the club, thank you for your continued support.*

I would like to congratulate Mal Rigoll, Marion Fraser, Wendy Gulberti, Doug Rowe and Bill Hilbert for their unopposed election to the Board. The directorates of Vice-Captain and House/Marketing are still vacant.

I would like to wish the incoming Board every success in its endeavours in the future.

I hope your term in office will be as rewarding as mine”.

From The Captain

I am privileged to take on the role as captain of this great club and both Kevin Rainbird as my deputy and myself look forward to the year ahead.

I wish to thank Brian Pross as the outgoing Captain for the great job he has done over the last 2 years and I am sure I will be seeking his advice on many occasions ahead.

As a team Kevin and I encourage all members to come to us with any issues, concerns or ideas they may have to make the playing of golf an even more enjoyable experience at the club.

The month of November saw a number of “Special” events;

- Sunday 5th, the Mixed Closing Day with a 4BBB Par, winners were the husband and wife team of John and Helen Ten Seldam with +12, runners up Don Hampson and Verna Adams +10.
- Friday 10th, the Busselton Police Golf day, a great day despite the weather and \$4500 was raised for the Sussex Bush Fire Brigade. Well done to Tony Strang and his team and all the volunteers from our club. The winners were COPS – Mattison Staples, Male Robber – Dave Robinson, Female Robber- Phil King, Snitches – Martin Dow.
- The weekend of the 18/19th saw the 3rd running of the Vasse Newton Leaney Cup. A great field enjoyed 2 great days of weather and the comments as always were very favourable. This event is getting great exposure and is now a feature on the golfing calendar for all clubs around the state. Well done to Mal Sanderson and all his helpers in staging the event to such a great success. The winners were Lynda and Wayne Ovenden from Lakelands with locals Jan and Ray Mountney runners up.
- The Toyota Scroungers Championship was conducted over 2 Thursdays 16/23, thanks to Laurie and all the team at BSN Toyota for another great competition. This is a feature event that all scroungers golfers look forward to each year. The winner this year to enjoy the Burswood was Will Cunningham on 76pts with runner up being Peter Snook on 75 on a count back from Trevor Espinos. R1 winner Brian Elwood and R2 winner Phil Newton.
- Weekend of 25/26th we had the 36 Hole South west Junior Open, the best young golfing talent took to our course, having watched some of these juniors play you could only admire the talent on display. The boys winner was Jason Scrivener with a great score of 142, runner up being Matt Jager 146. The girls saw Whitney Hillier the winner with another great score of 143 from Kristie Smith 152.

Winners in other competitions conducted during the month were;

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Competition</u> | <u>Sponsor</u> | <u>Winners</u> |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 2 nd | Scroungers | Bakers Delight | John Muir 43pts |
| 4 th | Sat | BSN Hyundai | David Bull 43pts |
| 7 th | Vets | Don Pinnock | Tony Habjeorn +2 |
| 9 th | Scroungers | Prestige Products | Ron Newman 42pts |
| 11 th | Sat | Rob Hogan Transport | Alf/Dave Basten 50pts |
| 14 th | Vets | Ted Wilson | Bob Norman 40pts |
| 18 th | Sat | Club | Laurie Cransberg 40pts |
| 21 st | Vets | Doug Rowe | Glen Woodward 65nett |
| 25 th | Sat | Willow Bridge M Mug | Nigel Yoxall 66nett |
| 28 th | Vets | Frank Frimston | Charlie Broadbent |
| 30 th | Scroungers | Muffin Break | Phil Harris 42pts |

Thanks again to all the sponsors who donated trophies during the month, without your generosity the club couldn't provide the competitions we all enjoy.

Divots, Plug Marks and Other

Golfers I would remind you all again that it is the responsibility of us all to do our part in maintaining the course. To that end I implore all of you to fix as many divots and pitch marks as you can and not only your own. If we all do our part, it just makes so much difference to the course quality.

On another matter of etiquette, it has been brought to my attention that some groups are being a little too boisterous out on the course, we all enjoy a bit of fun, drink and the company of our playing partners, but please be aware of other groups around you and afford them their rights.

Ladies Golf Report

The Ladies Winter Golf has wound up for 2006 with a lovely day of golf, and then Presentation Dinner enjoyed by 53 ladies.

Results:

1.11.06 Stroke & Putting - Secretary, Treasurer, and Handicap Managers Trophies.

(Barbara. Paterniti, Helen Criddle and Kay Green)

A Grade Winner: Di Sanderson 69 Nett

Runner Up Denise O'Keefe

B Grade Winner: Jan Finlay 69

Runner Up Kay Green 71

C Grade Winner: Edie Rickwood 71

Runner Up Dot Marsh 75

8.11.06 Par - Zippy's Hair Studio and Di Evdokimoff Trophies.

Winner: Marion Fraser +6

Runner Up: Jan Coldan +4

15.11.06 Stableford - Barb Paterniti Trophy.

Winner: Jan Mountney 42 points

Runner Up: Marg Denton 42

22.11.06 Closing Day - Yahava Coffee, Edie Rickwood, Marg Hogan and Trish Hancock Trophies.

Amrose in 3's Heartball Format

Winners: Mavis Gray, Jan Coldan, and Ann Grist 78/65

Runners Up: Val Johnston, Lesley Tucker, and Barb Moylan 80/66

End of Season Trophy Winners:

Consistency: Denise O'Keefe Runner Up: Marg Parrott

Eclectic A Grade: Marg Hogan Runner Up: Jo Taylor
 B Grade: Sarah Bullen Runner Up: Gwen Nisbet
 C Grade : Edie Rickwood Runner Up: Barb Moylan.

Silver Spoon Winner Colleen Morris

International Bowl Silver: Beryl Russell Bronze: Colleen Morris

Putting: Denise O'Keefe

Birdies: Denise O'Keefe, Sharon Koch, Mavis Gray.

Gobblers: Colleen Morris, Josie La Cava, Helen Criddle, Sarah Bullen.

Longest Drives: A Grade: Dale Morgan B. Grade: Rhonda Davies C Grade: Barb Moylan.

Country Week Winner Kerry Milligan.

Congratulations to all winners and thanks to all trophy donors.

Summer Golf has commenced, Starting time between 6.30 and 8.30 am playing 14 or 18 holes. Times may change with the introduction of daylight saving. Please contact Dot Marsh 97511227 or Beryl Meyers 97521720. Our thanks to Dot and Beryl for volunteering to run this competition.

Wishing you all a safe and happy festive season.

signing off Helen Rigoll

Country Vets

Tuesday November 7th saw the Collie Vets event held in good

weather on their interesting course with a field of 112 starters

including a reasonable contingent from Busselton.

Winner of the day was Jim HINES of Collie with 42 points with Alan BANKS, also of Collie, being runner up with 39 points.

The next, and final round for the year, will be held at Bunbury on Monday December 4th with some 22 nominations from Busselton.

Capel Golf Club will host the annual conference for the CVGA on Tuesday December 12th when fixtures for 2007 will be decided with Busselton at this stage being listed for March 6th.

Sanctuary looks like coming back into the competition, alongside new clubs Augusta and possibly Nannup, which alongside a City -V- Country match at Harvey in March 27th, will make for a full year, with also a bit of interest being shown in the Australian Vets event listed for Darwin in late June.

Our own vets AGM at Busselton on Tuesday November 28th resulted in a somewhat poor reponse with nobody prepared to step forward to take up a position as a local delegate to take over from Mal RIGOLL who has moved on to a higher calling.

New Rules For Senior Golfers

With more and more senior golfers around the world, there is a worldwide movement taking place to get the rulers of the game to bring in special "Seniors" rules, what is proposed is listed below;

Rule 1.3.5 A ball sliced or hooked into the rough shall be lifted and placed on the fairway at a point equal to the distance it carried or rolled into the rough with no penalty. The senior should not be penalized for tall grass which groundskeepers failed to mow.

Rule 2,d.6 (b) A ball hitting a tree shall be deemed not to have hit the tree. This is simply bad luck and luck has no place in a scientific game. The senior player must estimate the distance the ball would have traveled if it had not hit the tree and play the ball from there.

Rule 3.b.3(g) There shall be no such thing as a lost ball The missing ball is on or near the course and will eventually be found and pocketed by someone else, making it a stolen ball. The player is not to compound the felony by charging himself or herself with a penalty.

Rule 4.c.7(h) If a putt passes over a hole without dropping, it is deemed to have dropped. The law of gravity supersedes the Rules of Golf.

Rule 5.

Putts that stop close enough to the cup that they could be blown in, may be blown in. This does not apply to balls more than three inches from the hole. No one wants to make a travesty of the game.

Rule6.a.9(k)

There is no penalty for so-called "out of bounds." If penny-pinching golf course owners bought sufficient land, this would not occur. The senior golfer deserves an apology, not a penalty.

Rule 7.g.15(z) There is no penalty for a ball in a water hazard, as golf balls should float. Senior golfers should not be penalized for manufacturers' shortcomings.

Rule 8.k.9(s) Advertisements claim that golf scores can be improved by purchasing new golf equipment. Since this is financially impracticable for many senior golfers, one-half stroke per hole may be subtracted for using old equipment.