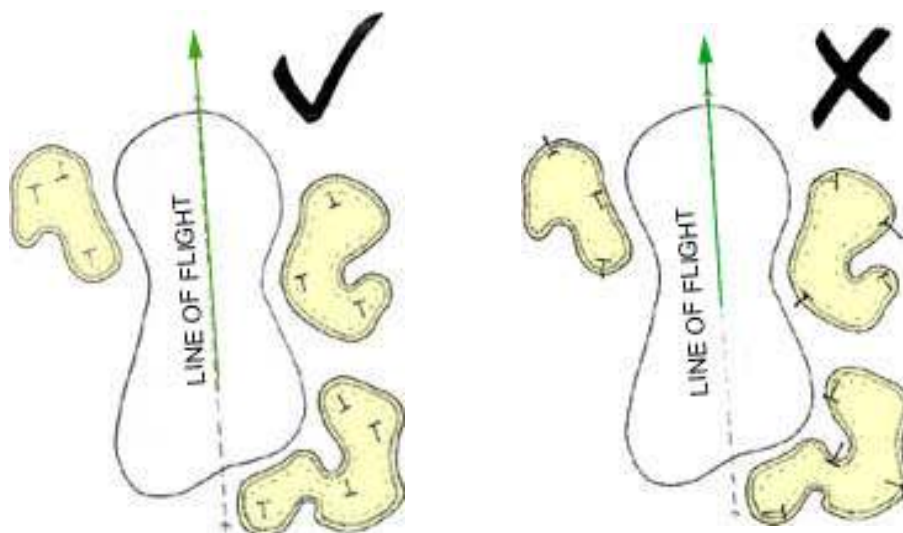




**\*\* This Newsletter and all previous issues are also on our club website; our home page is now located at: <http://www.busseltongolfclub.com.au>**

## OUR BUNKERS

There is little doubt that a lot is spoken about our bunkers. I am sure everyone will agree that they have improved out of sight over the last month or so. We are not hearing so much about the state of the bunkers lately but a lot is being said about the positioning of the rakes. Everyone seems to have their own idea on where the rakes should be left but after taking particular note of where the rakes are being left during competitions, it is clear very few of our members are not aware of the official requirements. They are: **“Always leave the rake in the flat of the bunker with the handle parallel to the line of flight of the hole being played. Rakes should be placed as far from the edge as possible”**.



Other rules relating to the care of our bunkers are:

- Before leaving a bunker, a player should carefully fill up and smooth over all holes and footprints and then leave the rake with the handle pointing toward the tee of the hole being played in the middle of the bunker.
- Always enter the bunker at the lowest point.
- Pull rake toward you as you exit the bunker.
- If required, rake other affected areas.
- Do not pile sand at the edge of the bunker. Push back excess sand.

## FIXTURE BOOKS

If you have not yet received your 2009-2010 fixture book, they are available from the office.

## STAFF CHANGES

**Nick Leeder** has decided he wants to undertake an apprenticeship (Horticulture – Turf) so he is now full time on our course staff under Callum's supervision. Nick originally started as a trainee and gained experience in operating the shop, working behind the bar, administration and working on the course. We extend our best wishes to Nick with his career change. He has obviously got to know the course pretty well judging by the golf scores he has been returning.

When deciding on a replacement for Nick, it was decided to look for a "Jack (or Jill) of all trades". We went looking for someone that would not only care for the Clubhouse and the Clubhouse gardens but also be capable of looking after the Golf Shop and working behind the bar. We were fortunate in being able to employ one of our members **Jeff Hatcher** to this position. Jeff is making a great impact already and we welcome him to the Club's staff.

### CONNECT HEARING GEOGRAPHE LADIES GOLF CLASSIC

The 2009 Connect Hearing Geographe Ladies Golf Classic was an outstanding success. A full field of 240 lady golfers played in ideal conditions over the weekend of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March. The course was in excellent condition thanks to Callum and his boys.

The winner was Jessica Speechley from Lakelands with a gross score of 144 for the 36 hole event. The nett winner was Lois Tenni of Mandurah with a score of 140.

The Club expresses its appreciation to the Tournament Director Mal Sanderson and his band of helpers that all worked so hard to make the event such a success

### MEMBERSHIPS

If you have not yet paid your subscriptions for 2009-2010...you should have. Subscriptions were due on the 1<sup>st</sup> March. Un-financial members cannot win trophies and that includes golf balls from the run down. The competition fee payable by un-financial members is \$35.

At this time of the year we do receive a significant number of resignations. Resigning members are mostly those that have left the district or because of changed circumstances (work, age, health, etc) can no longer play. While there is no doubt the current economic climate is going to have some impact on our membership numbers, hopefully it will not be too significant

## GOLF RESULTS

*Scroungers 12<sup>th</sup> March* Sponsor **Capel & Districts Realty** – Winner Nick Leeder 44 points, runner-up John Cook 43 points

*Saturday Men 14<sup>th</sup> March* Sponsor **Steve Turner & Associates** - Winner Nigel Hampson +3, runner-up Miles Rajander +3

*Saturday Women 14<sup>th</sup> March* Ball Sweep – Mavis Gray +3, runner-up Winsome Armstrong +1

*Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March* Sponsor **Fennessy's Holden & Nissan** – Winner Sharon Koch 41 points, runner-up Beryl Meyers 40 points

*Vets 17<sup>th</sup> March* Sponsor **Jim Carwardine** – Winner Laurie Delahunty +6, runner-up Barry Pilatti +2

*Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March* Sponsor **Zippy's Unisex Hair Salon** – Ann Morgan 44 points, runner-up Marion Mezgar 40 points

*Scroungers 19<sup>th</sup> March* Sponsor **Compass Ford** – Winner Andy Kilmister 41 points, runner-up Lance Falconer-Clark 41 points

*Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March* Sponsor **Boss Office National** – Winners John Gardner & Drew Mountney +9, runners-up Kale Potter & Rhys Cransberg +8

*Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March* – Winner Mark Ramirez 68, runner-up Marion Fraser 69.

*Vets 24<sup>th</sup> March* Sponsor **Ken Madden** – Owen Isbel 42 points, runner-up John Schuts 38 points

*Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March* Sponsor **Fennessy's Holden & Nissan** – Winner Sheryl Hunter 64, Raeleen Basten 68.

*Scroungers 26<sup>th</sup> March* Sponsor **McDonalds Busselton** – Winner Rick Smith 41 points, runner-up Greg Walsh 41 points

# Comming Events

**CORING OF THE GREENS – MONDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

**FREMANTLE GOLF CLUB VISIT – FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY – SUNDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY**

**MEN'S CAPTAIN'S TROPHY ROUND 1 – SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE.**

**MEN'S CAPTAIN'S TROPHY ROUND 2 – SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE.**

## MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY STATISTICS AS AT 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

<b>DESCRIPTON</b>	<b>MALE</b>	<b>FEMALE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Ordinary	406	106	512
Life	2	2	4
Ordinary – Staff	7		7
Sunday	44	6	50
Regional – Busselton Handicap	48	7	55
Regional – Other Handicap	43	31	74
International	3	4	7
Intermediate	8	1	9
Junior	15		15
Sub-Junior	4		4
Social	1	2	3
Honorary	1	2	3
Legend		5	5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>748</b>

Note: Not all of the above members are financial and may be removed from the membership register if subscriptions are not paid.

## WATER CORPORATION LOAN

The Club is on target to collect sufficient funds to repay the Water Corporation loan in 2013. Since the beginning of the Club's current financial year (1<sup>st</sup> October 2008) we have collected \$29,254.72 from the loading on competition fees and \$24,134.00 from the loading on membership fees. These monies have been placed on Term Deposit bringing the total reserved funds on investment to \$140,783.30.

# GOLF AUSTRALIA MOVES TO GLOBAL COURSE RATING SYSTEM

Golf Australia recently confirmed Australia's adoption of the United States Golf Association Course Rating System.

This resolves the course rating component of the national handicapping & course rating review. The Board of Golf Australia will determine the future direction of the Australian Handicapping System (and CCR) following a state forum to be held at the end of April.

The course rating decision follows a lengthy period of review and will see the existing Australian Women's Course Rating System and Australian Men's Course Rating System be replaced by the USGA Scratch Course Rating System.

In making the announcement, Mrs. Lenagan commented: "We've spent the past three years on a process which has involved inviting feedback and then listening to what everyone has to say. That's meant having a dialogue with not just state associations, golf clubs and individual golfers, but also Golf Management Australia, Golf Link, the media, and any other party that's shown a desire to engage on this issue."

"This outcome is a genuine good-news story for the industry, and takes us further down the path of removing unnecessary inconsistencies between women's and men's handicapping in Australia."

Golf Australia CEO Stephen Pitt said Australian golfers could look forward to the benefits of the new system.

"The USGA Course Rating System is considered world's best practice and is the result of significant financial and scientific investment. It is exciting that all Australian clubs and handicap players will now be exposed to the benefits experienced by most golfers around the world."

Golf Management Australia President Max Mason said he was pleased with the new direction and the consistency it would bring. "I applaud the initiative taken by Golf Australia in adopting the USGA Course Rating System that now applies in USA, Europe, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, much of Asia as well as our friends across the Tasman. This system will greatly improve the relativity between all courses and provide greater consistency in the rating procedure."

Golf Australia Handicapping & Course Rating Committee Chairman Ian Read, explained the finer points of the system:

"Fundamentally this will see the 'actual measured length' of a course being replaced by 'effective playing length', and that's important because the course rating will now reflect what it is that the golfer encounters. This means giving greater consideration to the factors we all know make such a difference. And I'm talking about the obvious things such as roll, elevation, prevailing wind, altitude, and forced lay-ups caused by dog-legs and dams or streams, etc. It really is a major step forward.

"We'll also be putting a national training regimen in place to ensure the same approach is being exhibited by raters whether they be in Broome, or Cooktown, or Melbourne. The review process strongly identified the inconsistent rating of courses as being a real problem so whichever way we went; we knew there was going to have to be a significant investment in training. Now we're able to tap into resources and processes the USGA has spent a lot of time and money in developing, so from a real-cost perspective the pieces fit together very nicely." Clubs will use the new scratch ratings immediately their course has been re-rated, with the implementation timetable being as follows:

- Approximately 120 personnel to be trained throughout Australia between June and October 2009. This will include the USGA conducting seminars in Australia in June.
  - September 2009, begin rating courses with an initial concentration on new and changed courses.
  - By the end of 2011 we expect that all courses will have been completed, with most metropolitan courses to be finished by the end of 2010.
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# MONTHLY GOLF ROUND-UP

The new season started with one of our main events of the year, the Connect Hearing Geographe Ladies Golf Classic. Thanks to a great behind the scene team of loyal workers, the event ran very smoothly. A special thanks to Tournament Director Mal Sanderson and the sponsors whom without we could not run such an event.

Vets during the month have attracted very good fields. The Country Vets Golf Association was held in Busselton on the 10<sup>th</sup> March. 160 starters tried hard to master the course but the course won as the winning score for the day was 38 points. Bob wall and Ross Quantock both had 37 points.

Scroungers are still drawing big fields. Fortunately we are seeing quite a few playing in the mornings. We encourage more to do so as it will ease the overcrowding in the afternoons.

Saturday events are still very popular and once again we are getting quite a few morning round players. As the fields continue to grow, at some time in the future we are likely to require more members to play in the mornings.

Thanks to John Gardner, Sundays are getting more popular all the time and this is a very pleasing outcome.

Some excellent golf was played during the month and following are some of the better ones. Glenn Tillotson won the Collie Riverside Open, Kim Espinos, Pat Anderson (Bunbury) and Craig Ridge all had an eagle on No. 13, Kale Potter eagled No. 8, Brody Ninnette had a hole-in-one on No. 17 while Jeff Hatcher aced No. 3. An excellent 69 off the stick for 44 points was scored by Nick Leeder. Ismail Matson won the Willow Bridge Monthly mug for the second month in a row with a 67 net.

We don't have any golf jokes but I would have to say Sandi Reti takes the honours by running out of petrol for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time coming home from Walpole.

**Brian Pross**  
**Captain**

## JUNIOR PROGRAMME

The Club will begin its Junior Coaching on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May when registration will take place in the Clubhouse. The programme will run from the 3<sup>rd</sup> May until the wind-up on the 13<sup>th</sup> September. Further coaching will be undertaken by Robert Farley a Professional Teacher at dates to be later advised.

A new idea from the Graham Marsh Golf Foundation will be implemented this year. It is called "Tiger Golf" and is geared to cater for all stages of skills. A small course will be laid out using the normal Club holes. The distance of the holes will be different with a course of 1600 metres of 9 holes for the older and more skilful juniors and a smaller course of 750 metres for the smaller beginners. The participants will be instructed in etiquette and the rules. The parents of the juniors will be encouraged to play with their children on the smaller course.

Later in the year, some Wednesday afternoon sessions for the juniors will take place on dates to be determined by the Co-ordinator.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the Juniors Co-ordinator, Greg Carr on 9752 1516, Dave Holden on 9754 3326 or the Golf Shop 9753 1025.

**Brian Pross**  
**Captain**