



ON PAR

Kiwis win the Thirlstane Cock O' Walk 2016



If it isn't enough that New Zealand can beat us at cricket and rugby, now they are even beating us at golf. The winning pair both come from across the ditch so the Cock O' Walk has now become an International event. Congratulations to Sam Vickers and Jason Heatley on winning the event against a very formidable pair in the final round. Although they had a few shots on their opponents because of the difference in their handicaps, nevertheless they still had to overcome nerves from being on the big stage to hold off and beat Nathan Richardson and Mark

Atkinson. The competition was fought down to the wire with Nathan and Mark being one up after the third hole then the next nine holes were squared. The game was all squared on the thirteenth hole and remained so until the New Zealanders won the last hole. A contest that was played with great sportsmanship by both teams. (Below) Sam sinks the winning putt.



2016 Foursomes Champions



On a typical spring day where all four seasons occurred during the game, Darren Richardson and Rick Timmerman won the 27 hole Thirlstane Golf Club Foursomes Championship last Saturday with a Gross 126. A nail biting finish was determined on the third playoff hole against the Nett Champions, Stuart Mathewson and Marc Turner. Rick & Darren are no strangers to the winning circle of the foursomes, having won the event together three time before.



Gracious in defeat, Stuart said Marc played the best golf he had seen him play in twenty years.

Nett Champions Marc Turner and Stuart Mathewson.

September Working Bee



The monthly working bees at the Club are producing some great outcomes with the Beer Garden receiving a facelift and the footbridge to the loo from the eighth tee being repaired by the Baggott brothers after it was damage by flood waters.



An excellent turnout of 13 volunteers helped complete the scheduled projects which also included cutting, splitting and stacking more firewood around the new 12th tee bed. The log splitter that was hired for the tough bits had a good workout.

The ladies once again provided a wholesome morning tea and lunch which was obviously far too much for some of the boys who would have had to come up with some good excuses why they weren't hungry when they got home and we didn't get much more work out of them after the big feed.

October 6 Working Bee

The next working bee will be on Thursday 6 October. The list is on the notice board so please, if you are available, put your name up as it gives the ladies an idea of how many they have to cater for.

The main tasks for the upcoming working bee include moving an internal wall in the workshop,

whipper snipping around the dams as well as trimming trees and cleaning up between the fairways.

If you have a petrol engine whipper snipper it would come in handy next Thursday.

The course would not look as good as it does without the hard work of the dedicated regular volunteers who work on the course at least twice a week as well as those who turn up for the working bees whenever required. The Club extends a big thank you to all of those members.

Cart Etiquette

Since the ride-on carts have been allowed to return to the course, most members have made a terrific effort to adhere to the plan outlining where they should be driven. The President and committee express their gratitude to the members who utilise ride-ons for their understanding and genuine desire to preserve the course conditions so they remain playable for everyone.

Buggy Storage

Don't forget to put your name on the list on the notice board in the spike bar or ladies notice board if you would like to see a new buggy storage facility made available to all members. The facility would be for push carts as well as ride-ons. So far there aren't enough names on the list to warrant a new facility so if you want it, you need to let the Club know.

October Sponsors

This month's sponsors are Jackson Motor Company (JMC), Robert Fergusson and the Thirlstane Golf Club Match Committee.

JMC is sponsoring this Month's Medal, Stroke and Putting. They are Tasmania's largest and one of the most reputable new and used car dealership where you can get great deals on a variety of new and used cars. See Barry Wood in Devonport for a great deal on a quality used car.

Robert Fergusson in Devonport is the sponsor for the 2 Ball aggregate stableford on 29 October. They stock a wide variety of electrical and plumbing products. Their showrooms have some of the latest and innovative products currently on the market. Call in and see them in Williams Street Devonport, next to KFC. Mathew Connelly is always available to assist you with any of their products.

The TGC Match Committee is sponsoring the Club Championships. The Match Committee includes Anthony Webb, Mark Atkinson, Neville Smith, Aussie Osbourne, Tony Dick, Foxy Levett, Hank Timmerman, Tony Vaughan, Rohan Clarke, Marcus Brown and Colin Mathew.

Club Championships

The Club Championships are being held this month. If you have at least five TGC competition cards in over the past twelve months you are eligible to play in the Championships. This is the final year that two previous pennant games can be included in the five game rule.

The two by 27 hole rounds will be played on Saturday 15th & Saturday 22nd of October. To enter you must put your name on the board. Good luck in the Championships.

Boags Country Championships

The Boags Country Championship that was scheduled for last month at Sheffield has been postponed until Sunday 16 October due to inclement weather. The Club is looking for a team of 16 players to head to Sheffield to play for the Boags Trophy against Exeter, Sheffield and Penguin. This is a once a year event proudly supported by Boags. The competition is a single stableford event. The sheet is on the board in the spike bar. It is always a great day. Please help to support it.

October is Golf Month

This month is National Golf Month. Golf Australia has embarked on a National campaign to promote the sport of golf in an endeavour to encourage more people to take up or return to the sport. In Tasmania, each Club has been invited to organise an event to be sponsored by Golf Tasmania. This Club has invited members of other local sporting clubs to play and compete against each other in a three-person ambrose event to be conducted on Sunday 23 October. The game will be followed by a sausage sizzle. Golf Tasmania has offered a further incentive of \$500 if we can encourage people to join our Club as a result of this event. If you know anyone in a sporting club on the Coast that can get a team of three together for a fun day please encourage them to come along. At \$10 for a team of three, you will not get better value anywhere. Of course our own members are also encouraged to join in and make any new players feel welcome.

From The Committee.

Club Organisational Health Report

The Club Secretary recently participated in a questionnaire conducted by Golf Australia to determine the corporate health of the Club in comparison with all other Clubs. Whilst the outcome was not bad in comparison, nevertheless there were some shortcomings identified which, if not addressed will inevitably see the Club struggle to maintain membership numbers and a strong financial position in the future.

Fortunately the Club has already recognised that it needs to develop a strategic plan as outlined in last month's newsletter and a steering committee has been established to produce a 'road map' on how we move forward with this development. The subcommittee includes Shane Wootton, Mark Atkinson, Sue Westlake, Bevis Dutton and Rodger Paice.

The development of the plan will inevitably seek the input of all members through various means. The committee embraces the progression of the changes ahead and asks all members to work with them to help shape the future of this great club.

Car Park Surface Repairs

Quotes are currently being obtained to repair the surface of the car park in the area where water currently pools. The committee is endeavouring to have the surface repaired this summer.

Forum with Golf Tasmania

A lot of Clubs have recently expressed concerns about what their affiliation fees actually pay for so Golf Tasmania agreed to attend forums throughout the State to justify their existence. In the NW a forum was held on Sunday 25 September at the Devonport Golf Club. It was not very well attended by other clubs but this Club was represented by Anthony Webb and Sue Westlake.

According to Captain Webby, he heard little value being returned to smaller golf clubs around the State for the amount they put in per member whilst the major tournaments at the larger Clubs in the State are financially well supported by Golf Tasmania. One thing he did learn though was that apparently all Clubs are covered by insurance through Golf Tasmania for public liability as well as damage in some circumstances.

Unfortunately without affiliation, clubs lose their golf rating and accreditation for handicap maintenance so opting out is not an option.

Match Committee

2017 Mens Pennant Season

The pennant roster for 2017 has been finalised. The dates for 2017 are

Rnd 1 - Feb 19, Rnd 2 - March 5, Rnd 3 - Mar 26, Rnd 4 - April 2, Rnd 5 - April 9, Rnd 6 - April 23, Final Round - 7 May. The dates have been changed for next year align them with Pennant rosters throughout the State.

Trial discontinuation of Draw for Monthly Medals

After rigorous debate a motion was passed by the Match Committee to discontinue the draw for the Monthly Medal events for a trial period of twelve months commencing from November. It was recognised that many members liked the draw as it gave them an opportunity to play with other members with whom they might not otherwise get an opportunity to do so. It was also recognised that others do not like the draw and do not enter those competitions if they cannot play at a time that suits them or with whomever they choose. It was also recognised that many members believe the draw is manipulated to suit the wants of some members therefore not making it a true draw in any case.

If numbers for those competitions do not improve over the trial period, the draw will be reinstated next November (2017).

Sunday Competitions

The possibility of Sunday competitions was discussed and it was resolved that members would be canvassed through a newsletter article seeking interest to conduct and participate in Sunday competitions. A sheet has been placed on the notice board seeking names of members who

- may be interested in playing in an organised competition on a Sunday, and
- would consider running the competitions by starting the field and marking the scores.

Longest Drive on the 9th/18th

The 9th/18th sponsor, Captain Webby has agreed to provide an additional ball prize for the longest drive by a Lady member each Saturday because of the 78m difference between the Mens and Ladies tee.

Handicapping New Members

The Match Committee resolved to establish a maximum handicap for new members of 27 for men who join the Club having never held a handicap. Handicap adjustments are made very quickly as the first few competition cards are submitted to Golfink so the new maximum should not have a significant adverse effect on a new player.

Ladies Committee

The Tasmanian Senior Ladies held a tournament at our Club on August 29. 46 players from around the State participated and the day was reported to be very successful.

The Ladies committee presented a cheque for \$2000 to the general committee through general fund raising by the ladies. President Bevis Dutton thanked the Ladies on behalf of the Club for their great ongoing effort and support to this Club.

Membership Committee

The committee approved pro-rata membership for new members being calculated from the date their membership is approved regardless of whether it is one month into the Club year or six months. A new member who joins in May will only have to pay 10 months' subscription and a new member who is approved in January will only have to pay three months subscription before the next club year.

New Members

The committee approved seven applications for new members including

Anthony Sherriff from Devonport - Full Member
Gina Philp from Evandale - Country Member
Peter Shackleton from Shearwater - Full Member
Brian Shackleton from Latrobe - Full Member
Hugh Healy from Port Sorell - Full Member
Swain Sheean from Ambleside - Social Member
Caleb Sheean from Ambleside - Social Member

The President and committee welcomes the new members and trust that they have a long and fulfilling association with the Club.

Grounds, Greens and Green Keeper Items

The greens will be cored on 27 October. If you are able to lend a hand for the coring, your assistance would be greatly appreciated. The November working bee will be brought forward to incorporate the coring.

Opening of the New Tee Beds

Don't forget, October 29 is the date set for the commissioning of the new tee beds on the 7th and 18th. Egg and Bacon rolls will be available in the rolling start for the Irish Stableford Medley that has been scheduled for the day. This event is being sponsored by Boags so there will be some great prizes on offer.

New Flag Poles

The Club thanks the Veterans for their initiative in purchasing brand new flag poles for every hole. Mik Danos spotted a bargain on line and suggested the new poles be funded by the vets. They look great and really give the course a lift.

Golden Circle Winners - September 2016

3 September	10 September	17 September	24 September
\$30 L Boyd	\$30 D French	\$30 D Holland	No Draw. Two draws to
\$20 S Graham	\$20 L Viney	\$20 T Webb	be held on 1 October
\$10 P Timmerman	\$10 M Moore	\$10 P Bonney	

Laughs For the Month

A devoted husband went to the maternity ward of the hospital with his six year old daughter to witness the birth of, as it turned out, his son.

All went extremely well, the attending doctor took the newborn by the ankles and gave him the mandatory smack on the bum to get him breathing OK.

The wee daughter said "You should smack him again, he should never have crawled in there in the first place."

One day, a scotsman went playing golf. After standing a while on the green he asked the boy standing beside him: "You are my caddie for today?"

"Yes," answered the boy.

"You are good in finding lost balls?"

"Oh yes, I find every lost ball!"

"Okay, boy, then run and search for one, then we can start!"

President Bevis

Bevis is out of action having just had a complete knee replacement. He will not be out on the course for a few months. We hope his recovery is swift and uneventful. So far so good. Good Luck Fred.