



# Golf Club Newsletter

## February 2009

### ***Captain's Report***

Well the Christmas cheer is over, the extra kilos have not magically disappeared and the New Year's resolutions have all been broken or forgotten but our course still remains in tip top condition in what can only be described as extreme conditions. Our course maintenance staff has been working over time especially over the Xmas period and have done a fantastic job. Well done.

The removal of the old 150 metre markers has caused some concern amongst members and I can advise you that conifers will be planted later in the year in their place. We also plan to install 100 metre plates and re-install distance markers on all sprinkler heads which hopefully will stay in place this time after we use a different glue and insert a small screw to secure them.

The committee and it's merry band of volunteers where busy last year and most of you would be aware that we have re-measured the course and laid new tee markers on both the Men's and Ladies tees which was long overdue. We have also installed the 4 ball washers which have proved to be very thirsty during this heat wave we are experiencing. Thanks to those "silent" few who keep them topped up and add a little detergent as well. As I have always said... it is the little things that get noticed.

I have recently located our club trophies as I was concerned that they had disappeared when the renovations started. A large majority of them are no longer relevant and my thoughts are for the committee to determine what needs to be kept and then offer the remaining trophies or honor boards to any member who wishes to have them. We will keep a record of where they go should anyone enquire about them in the future. I am open to suggestions so please don't hesitate to contact me personally or via the website.

Speaking of the website, we have a new one and it can be located at: [www.ssaclub.com.au](http://www.ssaclub.com.au) It is a much more professional looking site and is very informative and gives you all the upcoming events within the club. Whilst the golf programme is included on the site we will no longer display results of competitions as this has simply become too time consuming for the committee. Results as always, will be displayed on the notice boards within the clubhouse.

I also had many queries as to what happened to those golf balls etc that have been cancelled from members' accounts because they failed to collect them within the time frames that have been specified. Our golf pros have advised me that they are included in the prizes for the Pro Shop Cup and I am satisfied that that is an appropriate outcome as it is the members responsibility to collect them on time.

Pennant season is fast approaching and begins on 22 March 2009. We still need players for the Scratch Teams and especially the Handicap Teams. Please consider representing your club and if you are interested you can contact either Bruce Sukroo or place your name on the availability sheets located in the Pro Shop and on the notice board. Please don't leave it until the last minute as Bruce is busy organizing shirts etc.

We have been fortunate enough again this year to secure most of our sponsors and I thank them, as they are critical to our club. Without them we would not be able to provide you with the current value of the vouchers and the ball rundown would be significantly reduced. These sponsors are separate to the tee sign sponsors who we have nothing to do with. Our sponsor's donations are put directly into our prize pool. These sponsors are listed in the middle pages of the Programme Book and I urge you all to support them and acknowledge their support when you do. A special thanks to Phil Palhares who is our major sponsor again this year.

As always the speed of play is a contentious issue and even with the course marshalling I have been doing there are still members who don't give due consideration to those they are holding up behind them. I again urge you all to take note of where you are placed in the field. Do not concern yourself with the group behind; the fact that you are not holding them up is irrelevant as it is your group's responsibility to **keep up with the group in front**. I again ask that if the Course Marshall needs to speak to you then please show due respect and do as they ask as they are volunteers and are only trying to make the game more enjoyable for everyone playing. If you wish to volunteer as a course marshall at any time then please contact any of the committee members.

The 2009 Golf Programme has now been printed and I wish to advise you of a major change in the eligibility to contest Club Championships for both Men and Ladies. The eligibility currently detailed in the 2009 Programme has now changed as the Sporting Body Sub Committee has issued a directive that all 7 & 6 day golfing members will be eligible to play in Club Championships. In the case of 6 day members if a round of the Club Championships is played on a Saturday those members are required to pay half the current SS&A member green fee which is \$24-00 therefore they would pay \$12-00 plus the normal daily competition fee. This applies to the Club Championships ONLY. Please ensure you consider this change when subscriptions are due to enable you to make an informed decision when deciding whether to take a 7 or 6 day membership.

Colin Thompson  
Captain

### ***From the Ladies'***

Happy New Year to all our lady members. We have had an extremely hot start to 2009 but still managed to have good fields in both 9 and 18 hole competitions, which is very pleasing. There have continued to be very high scores by some of our new 18 holers over the holidays. Well done!!

Some of our newer players may not be aware that winning vouchers may be collected at the Reception Desk if not presented on the day and also that they may access the computer inside the Pro Shop to look up any prizes (including balls) they have won. These have to be collected from the Pro-Shop within a three month period.

Our Pennant season gets under way the first week of March and is being organized by Gail Howard, so any questions should be directed to Gail (phone 60 246307). Please be aware that invitations from other Clubs are posted on the Notice Board opposite the Ladies Rest Rooms and if you are interested in entering any of these, you should also contact Gail. The Bowls and Tournaments for the year are listed in the Programme Book (which is now available in the Pro-Shop). The Eclectic commences on our Opening Day, which is Thursday 19th February, and we would like to see as many of you there as possible to kick off the season.

(Margaret Duncan)

### ***From the Vets***

Wodonga Veterans golfers have a busy schedule ahead of them, in addition to our Vets event each Monday there are at least 2 Vets events each month at the other clubs in the North East District Veterans Association.

Also thanks to the good work of Max Mueller and Richard Humphrey, the Veterans Group 32 (Wodonga, Thurgoona, and Albury) will each host 2 events in 2009.

The Vets held their first committee meeting for 2009 recently and the following were appointed:

- Chairman - Tony Penney
- Secretary - Geoff Williams
- Treasurer - Ron O'Connell
- Golf Committee representative - Peter Hynes

We would also like to clarify the fact that lady vets are very welcome and can compete in any of our events.

For more info on vet's golf see page 20 or the 2009 programme book.

(Tony Penny)

### ***Junior Golf***

Junior golf is now conducted on a Tuesday afternoon from approximately 4:15pm. Players with handicaps are competing in a 9 hole event for a major prize at the end of the program. Non handicap juniors, when deemed ready for on course play will play 3 or 5 holes followed by small group skill instruction. Others will be given instruction in a clinic situation to develop their basic skills further so they to can get onto the course.

Our Heat Policy is that no junior golf clinics will be held if the forecast is for temperatures greater than 35 degrees. This had to be put in operation during January.

Our junior tournament was held in conjunction with the VGA WGV Junior Summer Series was a success. Winners were:

- Girls U18 - Stroke – Catherine Odgers 79
- Net – Casey Wild 91-27-64
- Boys U14 – Stroke – Fraser Droop 87
- Net – Sam Allen – 90-29-61
- Boys U16 – Stroke and Net – Lloyd White 76-5-71
- Boys U18 Stroke and Net – Nathan Kungl – 74-11-63

These players qualified for the finals which were played at Rossdale Golf Club on 23rd January 2009.

See the Junior Notice board NE Junior tournament dates and entry forms. The first of these is Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2009 at Jubilee Golf Club. Clinic will be held by district professionals at 9:00am with the tournament commencing at 12:00 noon.

(John Wild)