



FORE!

The newsletter of the
Goulburn Golf Club Ltd

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MAY 2011 EDITION

So – is it May already?? – must be time for another issue of the FORE!

A Grade Pennants Returns to GGC.

Big news in the month just gone was the return of the ACTMDGA A Grade Pennant to Goulburn Golf Club, after our last win in 2005.

What a decisive comeback, winning the final 5-1, after being at the bottom of the table after the first two rounds.

The full 2011 squad comprised Jono Gann (Capt), Luke Bartlett, Michael Gerstenberg, Luke Humphries, Col Lamb, Dave Laurie, Jake Mitchell, Stuart Weatherstone, and Gary Worboys. Highlight of the finals day, played against the undefeated Gold Creek at Federal in pretty ordinary conditions, has to have been Michael Gerstenberg's hole-in-one on the sixteenth, putting both his match, and the event safely beyond doubt.

The team was shrewdly, and very ably managed by Digga Gann, himself a very experienced former pennants player for GGC, and was sponsored by Barry McEntee's Goulburn First National Real Estate.

The side also has expert professional advice between, and immediately before matches, from our own PGA Pro, Graeme Bugden, his second A Grade Pennants victory since his return to GGC. So if you see any of these gents around on-course, or indeed in the clubhouse, please congratulate them for what was a tough job, but a brilliantly executed one – on behalf of all GGC members and staff.

Golfing Members' Forum, 12APR11

Nineteen members attended this meeting, arranged by way of a request from the previous Open (Club) Forum, held in late March.

Although it would be fair to suggest that this meeting was somewhat poorly attended (of the nineteen, there were four ladies, and fifteen gents, six of whom were GGC Directors), and, notwithstanding the intent of the evening, that being to discuss matters pertaining more so to golf & golfers, some more interesting thoughts were aired, discussed and advanced. A brief summary of that meeting appears below.

- **Volunteers:** The work of volunteers around the course was gratefully recognised and acknowledged, particularly that of Neville Taylor and Bryan Webb and their valuable volunteer support to the greens staff more lately.

Jack Treweek's band of course-waterers was recognised as well. Jack also undertook to discuss with, and provide a list to, the Secretary-Manager of some other volunteers.

The ladies will also be undertaking some remediation work around the rose garden at the rotunda.

- **Course Improvement(s):**

Attendees were advised firstly that any improvements to amenities for members, (particularly on-course) were subject to available funds, grants, donations, or (dare it be mentioned) a quite noticeable

INCREASE IN CLUB PATRONAGE –

this last component is essential, and simply cannot be understated.

It is, after all, **your club**, and its ability to continue to provide the experiences it does in to the future relies heavily on the patronage of its members – simple as that – **over to you, members & guests.**

• **Suggestions on the night included:**

- More fairway and “directional” bunkers, however it was pointed out that the establishment and maintenance of bunkers makes it somewhat prohibitive given the club’s current or present ability to spend.
- The mounds now on-course had made “a hell of a difference” – maybe some more?
- That we improve what we have, within existing budget/resources
- Continue tidying-up and rubbish removal following the December course flooding
- “The number one priority should be the Men’s tees”.
- Install a fully-automated course watering system (This is on the wish-list, but it is said this would cost in the vicinity of \$400,000)
- Develop a priority list (see “Proposed 12-Month Program of Works” in next column).

Please be reminded also that there is a list available at the club for people who may have an interest in providing some **voluntary time** “around the grounds”.

Goulburn Sand and Soil will accept small loads of green waste (such as up to a trailer-load) at their Braidwood Road Depot, whilst larger amounts will need to be removed to their quarry and large industrial-sized “mulcher” at the top of Carrick Hill.



- **Signage:** Reference was made to the fact that the club entrances and an actual indication that the club is where it is, are fairly poorly-signposted, and/or lit. A request for (much) bigger, better, well-lit signage and direction is being explored.
- **Match Fees and Drinks Vouchers**
It was abundantly apparent within about ten days that this initiative, though well-intended, was not going to achieve its goal, that being to entice and retain golfers in the club after their round. The Sec-Man presented figures to the Directors on a cost-vs-return basis, and it was agreed to terminate the initiative, effective immediately (12APR11).
- **Mowing and Trimming:** Replying to a question regarding the height of some overhanging branches on-course, and the associated potential for injury, Mr Potter advised those present that the next round of course maintenance included tree-pruning, and leaf pick-up - there is evidence already to support that this is under way.
- **Proposed 12-Month Program of Works**
 - Six (6) tees to be resurfaced.
 - Upgrading of (some) bunkers.
 - Through the efforts of the Trust, led by Gail Moroney, The **VEOLIA TRUST** will provide around \$11,000 for asphalt for the pathways between the 15th Green and 16th Tee, and the 17th Green and 18th Tee, while the pathway from the 16th Green to 17th Tee will be “road-based”. Well done, Gail and the team, & thank you.
- **Roadway from May St** to the Course Supt’s complex will be repaired (and raised), and **two mandatory items of work in that area** will be the installation of a concrete apron around the fuel pumps, and the re-establishment of the existing septic tank facility.

- **Gazebo/Rotunda** adjacent to 14th Green / 15th Tee: As has been previously reported in this august journal, the Hope family intends to erect this structure in Gordon Hope's memory. It will be included in the program of works, albeit at minimum or no cost to the club, and will prove an attractive and valuable asset in a very short time, no doubt.

- **Improving Entertainment:**

One suggestion from the floor was that "the place needs livening up.....instead of total boredom". It was pointed out that efforts to do so in the past had gone largely unsupported, with the club taking a heavy hit again, in a cost-vs-return sense. It was further suggested that "theme nights" (an "Elvis" night, for example) can make money, and this will be considered.

A couple of Sunday afternoon performers have been scouted, but their dates are yet to be confirmed and finalised. Alternate performers were suggested as well, and will be explored by Secretary-Manager and Social Committee Chair.

- **Ray Leeson**

Recent incoming advice has it that our Patron Ray will be undergoing more hip surgery soon, if it hasn't happened already. Our thoughts and best wishes are with Ray for both an uncomplicated procedure, and successful process of rehabilitation.

- **Restaurant**

The new caterers appear to have become well-settled now, with a great new menu, lunchtime specials, and also blackboard specials weekly. They are also planning "theme nights", where a particular variety of meal is showcased, and are already returning some value to the club by way of vouchers through the Friday night raffles. **Why not try it?**

The Goulburn Group (TGG), and their plan for the Rehabilitation of "Stubblings Paddock".

GGC VP Harry Ford and I attended a presentation by this group at Goulburn Mulwaree Council on the evening of April 5th last. There can be no doubting the group's enthusiasm for the task ahead, and the possible all-round benefits. The group has already received a NSWG grant of \$70K to begin works at the site.

While the implications are as yet unclear for Goulburn Golf Club, the proposal on our northern and eastern boundaries is sure to generate both interest and discussion in the future.

Copy this site in to your browser, where you will find much more information, including design concepts for the wetlands development program, and plenty of other literature to enlighten you about the forthcoming proposal. See <http://www.goulburn.nsw.gov.au/economic/19490/19492.html> This website contains and explains much more information that can ever be discussed here, and is fully supported by council.

- **Match Disqualifications**

Just a quick reminder that most DSQs at GGC are due to misdemeanours under Rule 6, namely 6-2-b (Incorrect/No Handicap), 6-6-b (Card not signed), and 6-6-d (Incorrect score for hole).

Please make sure your card is correct.

- **Scorecards**

People still seem to be having some difficulties with the new(er) scorecards – a recent 4BBB Audit revealed some **glaring errors** in terms of the scoring. There is info on the downstairs board – please revisit this, and strive to comply. Hopefully an example will be included in the next issue, if space allows. A poorly-compiled scorecard is terribly difficult to check, and adds unnecessary time to the job – one always done in your best golfing interests.

Divots and Plug-Marks.

Reluctantly, and after trying most other means of compliance, the Golfing Committee has had a new By-Law endorsed by the Board of Directors, in the interests of preserving and maintaining the playing surface.

The By-Law, in essence, reads thus:

“.....this Committee recommends to the Board of Directors that a By-Law be introduced to address the issue where members do not carry/use a sand bucket when playing.

In that regard, it is recommended that the Golfing Committee be authorised to impose the following penalties for such infringement/s:-

- o *1st instance - Verbal Warning (Recorded)*
- o *2nd instance - Withdrawal of golfing privileges for one week*
- o *3rd instance - Refer to the Golfing Committee for further action.”*

Hopefully the need for any disciplinary action will not arise, however it does emphasise the growing seriousness with which these matters are viewed – anyone who has been forced to hit out of someone else’s divot, or repair someone else’s plug-mark before putting must surely share in the Golfing Committee’s frustration.

Golfers are requested to have a look at home, or in the back of the car, for any sand-buckets, and return them to the club, so that they may be included in the initiative – it has become quite apparent that some later starters miss out on getting a sand-bucket, and this will help to address this. We do have enough of them – just not at the club!

Thank you for your assistance – this is an issue for all golfers, and your cooperation is appreciated.

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LADIES CALENDAR, MAY 2011

DAY	DATE	EVENT
WED	04MAY	R4 GNSW, & MEDAL
SAT	07MAY	R2 HODDLE CUP
WED	11MAY	SINGLE STABLEFORD
SAT	14MAY	SINGLE STABLEFORD
WED	18MAY	SINGLE STABLEFORD
SAT	21MAY	STROKE - GNSW/CLUB MEDAL(S)
SUN	22MAY	SPONSOR CHALLENGE
TUE	24MAY	R1, FOURSOMES CHAMP
WED	25MAY	R2, FOURSOMES CHAMP
SAT	28MAY	CLUB KENO CHALLENGE (Mixed 4BBB, with Medley in conjunction)

GENTS CALENDAR, MAY 2011

DAY	DATE	EVENT
THU	05MAY	SINGLE STABLEFORD
FRI	06MAY	PENN: CSGA PLATE
SAT	07MAY	STROKE – MAY MEDAL
THU	12MAY	SINGLE STABLEFORD
FRI	13MAY	PENN: BRONZE SHIELD
SAT	14MAY	R1 WINTER CUP**
SUN	15MAY	R2 WINTER CUP
THU	19MAY	SINGLE STABLEFORD
SAT	21MAY	SINGLE PAR
SUN	22MAY	SPONSOR CHALLENGE
THU	26MAY	SING STAB + 4BBB
SAT	28MAY	CLUB KENO CHALLENGE (Mixed 4BBB, with Medley in conjunction)

**A single stroke in conjunction will be the event on this day, for players not participating in the two-day Winter Cup. Well, that’s about all there’s room for in this issue. You can provide your feedback and comments around the information that’s been provided, as well as any other information you would like to see included, either through Bob Kirk in person, or at ManagerGGC@bigpond.com.au

I look forward to your critiques. Until the next issue, all the best. Michael Deegan. Editor, *FORE!*