

President's Report to the AGM Goulburn Golf Club 9 October, 2018

As I write this report I am extremely happy and impressed that members think and care enough about our Club to have an election.

To become a Director gives you the greatest opportunity to be involved in the decision making processes that are necessary to maintain a Club such as ours.

Thanks to you all for standing.

Acknowledging the outgoing Board

The first thing that I want to do is to acknowledge the work of the outgoing Directors.

We have worked well together and done the very best we can to manage the Club for the long term benefit of the Club and all members. I want to thank all the Directors personally for their support and contributions.

Acknowledging the Secretary/Manager and Staff

There is no way this Club could function without our Rob Kennedy (affectionately known as "Kenno"). Kenno's involvement in all aspects of the Club worries me in a way, because he is so hands on and quite frankly is probably doing too much. Perhaps he has no alternative other than to do too much but you should all know and appreciate how much he is involved and dedicated to all aspects of Club management. It is obvious to me that it is more than just a job.

He manages all staff, works with Carol to maintain the books in compliance with all the rules and in that capacity they both work well together with our Club Accountant/Auditor Tim Allen from Laterals GLP.

Thank you also Carol for your continued support and wonderful loyalty to our Club.

Kenno also works closely with our Chef Aaron Bryant (Kiwi) and manages the responsibilities and finances involved in the kitchen. This is an additional load that Kenno has readily taken on and it is producing good results. That said, we could support it better and I ask members to support the bistro and Kiwi better than you currently do.

Kenno is also involved on the Finance & Greens Committee meetings. He attends those meetings and maintains the Minutes for those meetings.

All in all I am somewhat in awe of the work that Kenno does and I can only compliment him on the way in which he approaches his job and he works with the Board and all Directors.

Acknowledging the work of Committees and their members

I also want to congratulate the Committees that work with the Club particularly the **Ladies Committee** led currently by Annie Gilmore and the Ladies Club Captain Debbie Collins. They and the whole Committee do a marvellous job in looking after ladies golf, improving and promoting our Club.

Golf as a whole at the Club and particularly the **Mens** golf is looked after by the Club Captain Greg Croker, assisted by Steve Polosak and the group on the Match Committee.

It is reassuring to the me and the Board to have two such able people (Greg Croker & Debbie Collins) leading such bodies making sure that golf continues for the Ladies and the Men.

Quite frankly golf is all most members are interested in as they just want to play golf. After all we are a Golf Club. That is how critical and important these roles are.

On the **Greens Committee** those that have regularly attended are Ann Ridley, Scott Nolan, David Laurie, Kenno and Carol Smith. Their care and involvement in the Club is much appreciated and I thank you on behalf of the members. The benefit of their deliberations is there for all to see.

Course Superintendant David Laurie (DL) and his staff do an absolutely marvellous job. I hear nothing but praise for DL and his team's work. Once again DL and his employees operate on a very limited budget and what they are able to do has been marvellous and is much appreciated.

The Board established a **Finance Committee** this year and co-opted onto that Committee **Graeme Hewett** who together with Kenno, Vicki Scarfi and myself. I think the Finance Committee has been of great assistance to the Board and also to Kenno and they have worked together with Kenno and the Accountant and the reported to the Board so we have been able to monitor where we are at, at any given time. A great comfort for Directors in what are always tight times.

TheTrust is a Committee that is technically outside the Club structure but critical to the management of what is the Course on Crown Land. They have done a marvellous job sourcing grants and getting improvements on the Course that we would not have a chance of getting without their proactive actions. Hats off to all trust members and THANKS.

Financial Result

The financial result is good. Not marvellous but very good. There is a profit of \$34,627.00 which when you look back to last year you might think is not so good because last year's profit was \$62,222.00. Note however, that last year's profit was in fact illusory because it included the sum of \$70,000.00 received from the sale of poker machines and therefore it was not really a profit.

This year's result is a solid result but we need to keep working very hard. Bar trading and poker machines are just stable and could do with a lift. Course trading has not been too bad considering the numbers playing which is down.

New Cart Shed area

The new cart shed has been constructed with the support of members who were prepared to put their own money in and, in advance, so that we had the funds to build the shed area. We would not have been able to afford the shed if it weren't for those members and for the valuable work undertaken by Greg Croker and others such as Kenno, Mick Hando & Scott Nolan who all chipped in (at better than mates rates) to produce the result which has provided additional cart spaces and ultimately a benefit for the Club and members and also an income for the Club.

Jemena

Some members may have heard that we had been in negotiation with Jemena who are remediating the old gas works across the river. Those negotiations are ongoing but we believe that it will produce for the Club some pumping infrastructure and then availability of treated water. This should come to fruition in the next 3-6 months providing a valuable water source to the Club albeit temporary.

Fairway watering

As always an ongoing "wish list item" for the Club. It is on the way but is inevitably tied up with the Council getting funding to enable the watering systems to be extended to Carr-Confoy Park and ultimately to the Club. We are constantly reviewing our relationship with the Council and making sure that we are still part of this plan. Unfortunately as things go it has been spoken about for many years and seemingly continues to be spoken about but I am sure that we will get there.

Tomra - Recycled Bottle Station

Some members may have heard that we were planning to enter into an arrangement with the recycling agents and put in something like the recycle depot which is in the Woolworths Carpark.

Unfortunately that has been shelved at this stage by the recycler. It was not shelved by us and we were keen to do it as it was going to produce a good source of additional income for the Club.

Facebook

The Club desperately needs to lift its game in terms of publicity but hopefully without too much expense which is always a problem. We need to lift the level of awareness of the Bistro and what it offers. Facebook is the answer and we are looking for someone who is really interested and good at Facebook who can take every opportunity to upload onto our Facebook page anything that is going on at the Club, details of specials in the bistro etc. Andrew Grove (who uses Facebook so well for Groove Golf) has offered to assist but quite frankly we should get a Club Member to do this if we can. Is there anyone out there who would like to take on that role?

Groove Golf

Andrew and Rebecca have always worked extremely well with the Board. Andrew comes and makes a small presentation to each Board Meeting and is often at the Greens Committee or Match Committee meetings. Their dedication and support to the Club is undoubted and having their support and particularly Andrew, is what makes a golf club. Thank you Andrew and Rebecca for your continued support. Your financial commitment to the Club in developing the driving range is appreciated and we thank you.

Conclusion

All in all a solid year backed by a Board of which I am proud to be a member and I thank them for their continued support and for standing again.

I look forward to the election and a solid progressive future for our Club.

Morris Owen, President, 26 September, 2018

