



Newsletter of the Lane Cove Golf Club
For the information of members and their guests

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(Edited by Ralph Sadler - email; ralphsadler@icloud.com)

THE STATE OF THE COURSE

Following several messages from members expressing concern about the current state of the course, the Board has had numerous contacts with Lane Cove Council and this will be ongoing. Below is the first response from Brian Dempsey, Manager Civic Services. Brian spoke at length to the retiring Greenkeeper Bob Batho before Bob's departure. Three issues were raised and the responses are in italics and colour as below.



1. Tee Boxes get constant use and like greens require regular attention. The current condition can only be described as at best very poor. Many are now just sand with little or no grass present in the playing area that would meet an appropriate standard, holes 2/11, 4, and 8/17 being the worst. On any other golf course in Australia our tee boxes would be declared unplayable.

The tees in question are worn due to the excessive practising on most of the tees after hours. Members of the public are dropping a bucket of balls and teeing off. Unfortunately a lot of this use is on the plates making it hard to repair. Bob also said many of the members practice off the plates especially when championships are on, putting a lot of stress on this area. All tees have been over sown with rye grass on multiple occasions but the use is making it hard for it to establish. I will look at doing some selective pruning to allow more sunlight onto some tees where possible

2. The fairways and delineation with the rough areas in very poor condition due to the extended dry weather. So many bare patches. A fairway watering system was installed about five years ago at great expense but doesn't seem to be used.

The fairway watering was extensively used in summer but due to the dry weather the bore ran dry in late December. When the bore ran dry the pump burnt out and took several weeks to repair. The same issue happened in late February. The fairways are built on clay and sandstone with little topsoil so are really effected by long dry spells as we experienced. This dry weather extended through the autumn not allowing the grass to establish or grow very well. This has been an ongoing issue since the course was built. (Continued over)

THE STATE OF THE COURSE continued



3. Bunkers all require sand and some attention to cutting and trimming the edges. Prior to a recent inter-club competition, our members have assisted by removing the offending weeds and grass.

Our greenkeeper Bob has intentionally left some grass on the edges of the bunkers to stop the dogs and public collapsing them with the constant use each afternoon. Every morning the staff has to spend time rectifying damage from the night before. I will instruct the staff to remove excessive weeds. Bob assures me that there is plenty of sand in the bunkers. I am happy for you to contact me should you require any more information. Brian Dempsey

Further to the issue of course maintenance, President Alan Moss reported that recently he had received a courtesy call from Council explaining that they have found a 2iC Green Keeper (for the course), but have not been able to replace Bob Batho at this stage.

As an interim solution and possibly long term, Council have engaged a contractor, “Green Solutions”, to carry out the necessary course maintenance. Green Solutions come highly recommended and have been doing work at Randwick. Council wanted to let us know what was happening and that it did not want the course maintenance to be affected by the staff shortages.

The state of the tees and the overhanging trees, which are preventing the grass from surviving, was also discussed. Alan asked if Council could use this contractor to implement the tree lopping program agreed some years earlier with Council and representatives of the Club. The request would be relayed to Martin Teresencko, Executive Manager Open Space and Urban Services, and Bryan Dempsey, Manager Civic Services.

THE BOARD

WHAT'S ON AT THE CLUB FULL SWING QUARTET



Fridays 7.00 – 10.00

GUEST ARTISTS

10 August – Marilyn Mendez

17 August – Johnny Nicol

24 August – Maree Montgomery

31 August – Oliver Thorpe

***An entry fee of \$10.00 applies
- (Children free)***

BLUNTS PLAYER OF THE MONTH AWARD



It's good to see people who help the Club out off the course rewarded for their efforts on the course. Such is the case for the winner of the July Blunts Player of the Month award.

Robyn McElvenny has been busy and she has put in solid efforts in all her golf outings this year.

Robyn started the year winning the mid-week Summer Cup, she represented Lane Cove with Yve Nikellys in the Pewter Plate at Richmond Golf Club, was a member of the Bronze IV pennant team and won the B Grade nett in the 2018 Club Championships!

Now Robyn can add the July Player of the Month award winner to her growing list of achievements. Robyn had rounds of 31 and 35 to win the award.

Off the course, Robyn has always contributed in a large way to the entertainment at the Women's Opening Dinner Night and has recently volunteered to act as Development Officer for our juniors.

Robyn must be truly congratulated for taking on the junior role, as it is an important stepping-stone for juniors playing at our Club, and important for the future of the Club in maintaining membership.

Thanks and congratulations Robyn

WAYNE BELGRE

Life in the Trap by Rick Newell

www.lifeinthetrap.com



CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Slow Play!

Slow Play!

Slow Play!

Slow Play!

I know I have mentioned it many times before, but are we ever going to eradicate this evil menace so we can all enjoy our time on the golf course?

There have been some glaring instances of slow play recently and it is truly frustrating to see groups some fairways behind and appearing not to make an effort to catch up. When I speak to the groups concerned, there is always an excuse and never an acceptance of the situation and a promise to do better.

Please think of other players and catch that group in front!!!



Don't forget the Committee's initiative, the "*Hole of the Day*". We don't want the efforts of the Greens Committee wasted. Please empty your buckets on the assigned holes each week and we might just see some improvement in our fairways.

With the current situation regarding our greenkeeper in limbo, a little help from our members would go a long way to helping the course.

Lastly, I must mention our Club professional Kasey Dive and her efforts with local juniors. She currently has around 70 juniors registered in her Junior Programme. That is truly a great effort to have so many children interested in learning to play what we already know is a great game.

But Kasey needs some help. She wants to have the children play 9 holes on the course on Sundays in the medley time slot, about 12.45 onwards, rather than just practise on and around the 1st hole each lesson.

To do this she needs some "seniors" to help the children as they go around the course. Not to instruct as to how to play the game, but little hints about etiquette and rules etc.

Robyn McElvenny has already volunteered for the Junior Development role and to have some of our members to walk around with the children while they play would be of great benefit.

So to anyone out there, who might have a few hours of spare time on the weekend, have a think about assisting Kasey and the children. It will require that you acquire a Working with Children certificate (easily done on line and then a visit to Service NSW). Please contact Robyn if you can help.



WAYNE BELGRE

MEN'S GOLF

It's been another big month for Lane Cove. The 4 Ball knockout is well underway and we have the final coming up in a few weeks. Jeff Back and Dermott Duncan will be taking on Alan Moss and John Erasmus in the final.



Jeff and Dermott had a hard fought win over Bob Staley and Pete Siapos, winning on the 23rd hole in one semi final. The battle went well into the evening and had to be finished under lights. The players were gone so long, most at the Club had gone home, before they returned with a result. Fortunately all four players managed to get enough sleep to perform very well the next day in the Warren and Gibson at Rosnay. Alan and John had a convincing win over Wayne Belgre and Pete Doherty in the other semi final. The final should be a great match.

Our Warren and Gibson pennant teams have begun their season. It was a mediocre start for the **Warren team** going down away 2-1 to Rosnay and could only manage a half at home which puts us in a tough position to make it through to the play off round. With Woolooware having a 3-0 away win over Georges River, we will have our work cut out to stay in the comp with some chance of reaching the next stage.

Results were as follows:

WARREN v Rosnay at Rosnay:	Lost 2 - 1
1's: Evan Jones and Ben Leckie	Lost 3-2
2's: Andrew Corish and Alasdair Caush	Won 2-1
3's: Jeff Back and Andy Moran	Lost 1 down

Jeff and Andy clawed their way back from being five down to being all square coming down to the 18th. Somehow on the 18th, both their balls went missing from the fairway. There was a lot of public on the course and apparently it isn't unusual for balls to go missing there. (Trained crows perhaps?) Ben and I were all square after 14 but lost two consecutive holes and didn't get to the 17th which was a long par 5 which we thought would've given us a good chance. Andrew and Alasdair played some great golf and were never behind in their 2-1 win. Results follow below.

WARREN vs Rosnay at Home	Squared 1 1/2 to 1 1/2
1's: Evan Jones and Ben Leckie	All square
2's: Andrew Corish and Alasdair Caush	Won 1 up
3's: Jeff Back and Andy Moran	Lost 2 down.

Alasdair and Andrew were 6 up with 6 to play and lost 5 straight but managed to hold their nerve on the 18th to claim victory. Jeff and Andy were 5 up after 7 holes but once their classy opposition got a grip of the Lane Cove greens, there was no stopping them. Ben and I were 3 down after 10 but clawed our way back to be 1 up after 17. Ben's putt on 18 went oh so close and the Rosnay putt just found its way to the cup to snare the draw. Alasdair and Andrew have had a great start to the year with 2 wins from 2 starts. Well done gents! Next week we take on Georges River away on what should be a great day out.

The **Gibson team** has made a great start to the season with an away win at Rosnay, followed by a thumping of the same opposition at home in Week 2. After two weeks, we are yet to lose a match!

At Rosnay, all three matches went to the 18th hole, with vital putts being sunk on all greens to get the good result. All matches were never more than 1 up or 1 down throughout, leading to the nail biting finishes. Newcomers to interclub pennant golf, Mark Simonsen, Dermot Duncan and Matthew Breeze all made valuable contributions to their matches. A wonderful start, as away wins are like gold when it comes to crunch time at the end of the round robin matches. *(Continued over)*

MEN'S GOLF continued

GIBSON v Rosnay at Rosnay	Won 2 - 1
1's Rod Paterson and Mark Simonsen	Won 1 up
2's Bob Staley and Dermot Duncan	All square
3's Peter Siapos and Matthew Breeze	All square



Gibson team v Rosnay, 29 July 2018

**L to R Rod Paterson, Mark Simonsen, Peter Siapos (C), Matthew Breeze, Ralph Sadler (Manager),
Duncan Dermot, Bob Staley**

After the closeness of the Round 1 matches, the advantage of home course was made very evident and the promise showed in Round 1 was even more clearly demonstrated as we met the same opponents at home. From the start, our hilly course with narrow fairways caused the Rosnay pairs all sorts of trouble and the Lane Cove groups turned 6 up, 6 up and 3 up at the 9th! All pairs maintained the pace for a resounding and conclusive 3 – 0 victory. The final detailed results were as follows; -

GIBSON v Rosnay at home	Won 3 - 0
1's Rod Paterson and Mark Simonsen	Won 3/2
2's Bob Staley and Dermot Duncan	Won 6/5
3's Peter Siapos and Matthew Breeze	Won 6/4

Well done to all pairs, but more to do! Next round we are off to Georges River, who have lost both their matches, home and away to Woollooware GC, so a good result is called for before we meet Woollooware away in Round 4. The competition has been kind to us as we play our last two rounds at home, the last against Woollooware!

The score of the month goes to Gibson Manager and Editor in Chief **Ralph Sadler** who shot an amazing 46 points! If he keeps that form up he might find a place for himself in the Gibson team that he manages!

Of interest is that two of our former juniors, have recorded some excellent results. Aiden Powter won the JNJC U17 Nett Junior State Age Championship and Will Flannigan won the U16 Nett Junior State Age Championship. Not a bad double for local players. The tournament was played at Belmont and Charlestown during the school holidays. We give our juniors a good start, which is why we need help to look after our current batch of juniors – see the Captain's Corner about the way you might be able to assist.

The monthly Medal will be played next Saturday. Good luck to all and I'll see you on the course.

EVAN JONES

WOMEN'S GOLF

Captain's V President's Event

This annual competition was held on Sunday 15th July, and this year the Captain's Team was victorious. In this event, all the stableford scores for each team are totalled up, and the results were.....

Captain's Team..... 251 Points.

President's Team..... 232points

Vanna Mutton won the NTP and Jo Cunningham and Jan Sadler won the longest drives. The President's Team graciously shared their "loser's cake"..... (Sue Kallas's speciality mandarin cake).

And, of course, as it was a special day, Margaret Tanner provided the flowers. At Lane Cove we really know how to change a competition into a party!

Also....Memorial Day

This is also the day when we remember friends who are no longer with us. **Edie Downes'** score of 30 points won her the trophy. Congratulations, Edie.

Bronze IV Pennant

In the first round of this Pennant, held at Gordon Golf Club on the 13th July, the result was Avondale 3.5 and Lane Cove 1.5. Then, the next week at Castle Hill our team had a 3/2 win over Elanora. We hosted the next round, so, many thanks to all those who spotted and helped in the clubhouse, to make this a successful day. And, of course, Jacqui Brooks' famous butterfly cakes were a big hit with our visitors! Our ladies are enjoying playing on some very good courses and meeting some lovely players from those clubs.

Keno Women's NSW Fourball Championship v Par

This event was played on Sunday 22nd July, when **Barbara Oliver** and **Cindy Brown** did quite well with +1. But then, on Thursday 26th, the team of **Joan Weine** and **Helen Prentice** had a very impressive +10! Joan said, "Gee, Helen played well", and Helen responded with, "(sigh)... it felt like the Helen of old!" I think they both must have been amazing! Runners-up, **Susan Ridd** and **Jan Sadler**, came so close, with +9.

Joan and Helen will go to the Metropolitan playoff at Glenmore Heritage Valley Golf Club on 5th October, and if they keep up that scoring, they may go on to the state final at Bonville. Best of luck for the playoff, ladies!



Blunt's Player of the Month

Congratulations to **Robyn McElvenny**, who won this prize with 66 points

New Members

We have welcomed two new members, **Rhonda O'Connor**, and **Elizabeth McMurray**. We wish you many happy golfing years at Lane Cove.

Vale Margaret Gumley

This month we farewelled a much beloved and admired past member, Margaret Gumley. In her time at Lane Cove she achieved many golfing highs, including the Club Championship. Many thanks to all the ladies who helped with the wake. Her family appreciated our assistance and kind thoughts.

Upcoming Events

- * Kasey's next clinic will be held on Saturday, 11th August.
- * There have been changes to the dates of the Foursomes Championship, as the greens are being cored on September 11th. So, the Thursday rounds will be played on 30th August and 20th September and the Sunday rounds will be played on the 2nd and 9th September.
- * The Golf NSW Bowl 4BBB will be played on Thursday 23rd August and Sunday 26th August.

SUE KALLAS

BITS AND PIECES

* Have you checked out the new Website? If you have and you like the new site, why not Like it!

* The latest news on **Barry Watkin**. Barry went into hospital on 2 July and was diagnosed with pneumonia and an ecoli virus in the lung, which is, as the doctors said, unique. Trust Barry to be a trailblazer! He is still in hospital. But the good news is that it appears he does no longer need dialysis and his blood work is stabilizing, all of which is good. Unfortunately all the drugs have caused gout, meaning he cannot walk! Depending on upcoming results, he might be home this week. He is missing golf and looks forward to getting back to the course. The doctors say it could be at least a month before he is able to play. All members wish Barry well for a speedy recovery.

* Where does the truth lie? Seen proudly displaying the ball that did the trick, **Jim Patfield**, aka Uncle Jim, after a miracle shot on the 9th. In a recent round, Jim decided to take a different approach on the 9th. His second shot, directed towards *Tee for Two*, meant he could only dream about the fairway. But, with the ball below his feet and a 40-metre carry over the bunker, Jim hit his 3rd shot; one bounce, two bounces and then it rolled in. Jim claims it as the shot of the century. Dispute exists as to the length of the carry with Jim making an ambit claim for the actual distance. Whatever, congratulations on a truly remarkable shot Jim. Straight to the pool room with the ball?



* Eels - not only found on the bottom of the NRL ladder. Club pro Kasey Dive almost climbed the tallest tree on the first hole fairway as she nearly stepped on an eel, pictured. After heavy rain the previous day (hands up those who remember “heavy rain”?) it must have decided to have a holiday and realised the grass is not always greener on the other side. Having made its home in Lane Cove, it must be a well 'eeled eel! (Sorry!)

Thanks to Mark Wallace from the Pro shop for these two pix and stories)

GOLF'S NEW RULES ON VIDEO

For the past five years golf's governing bodies have been working on a makeover of the Rules of Golf. And here they are.

As of 1 January 2019, the results of the first fundamental Rules review in 34 years come into effect. So with the aid of these simple videos, we present the main changes.

These videos and explanations are expected to have the most impact on the game and be of most interest to golfers. They're organised into eight categories and, within each item, you will find the main reasons for the change.

And if you would like to read about all of the changes, please click [here](#).

But remember, they aren't in place until the new year, but it will pay to become familiar with them in advance. So if you have any questions, please feel free to [contact us](#) at Golf NSW any time.



DAVE MARTIN'S TEE 4 TWO

BBQ CAFE

Now open on the terrace

Thursdays & Fridays from 9.30am

Saturdays & Sundays from 10.30am

<u>TEE 4 TWO</u>	
<u>BBQ CAFE</u>	
Coffee	\$3.5
Bacon Egg Roll	\$5.5
Sausage + Onions Roll . .	\$5.5
BLT	\$6.0
Ham, Cheese + Tomato (roasted)	\$5.5
Pancakes w/ Maple Syrup	\$8.5
Eggs, Bacon + Tomato (on toast)	\$10.0
Big Brekky	\$13.5
Beef Burger	\$9.0
Chicken Burger	\$9.0
Veggie Burger	\$9.0
Cheese Burger	\$9.5
Burger <u>WITH</u> Chips	\$12.0
Chips	\$5.0
Wedges (with Sweet Chilli + Sour Cream)	\$6.5
Fish + Chips (+salad)	\$14.0
Chicken Schitzel + Chips (+salad)	\$14.0



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