



# LINKS

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

**VOLUME 16**

**NO 3**

**APRIL, 2021**

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## **FROM THE BOARD**



The Board would like to update members on recent developments in respect of the future of the golf course.

Following our informal meeting of members on 8<sup>th</sup> March we presented a formal outline of a business case to Council where the Club shared competition fees and increased membership fees with Council. We met with Council to

discuss this proposal on 10<sup>th</sup> March, following which Council requested the Board take the proposal to the next step and present a formal business plan.

As part of the Board's process, we invited Mr Stuart Cameron from Bechini and Associates to attend our Board meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March to inform the Board of the details of his report to Council. Mr Cameron audits several local golf courses and presented a report to Council earlier this year on the operation of the Lane Cove Golf Course. Mr Cameron suggested that the Club take over the responsibilities for the operation and maintenance of the golf course from the current operator. The Board believes this is a sensible proposal as it is the members that have the greatest interest in the running of the golf course and its sustainable future.

The Board has spoken to Council about this new proposal and at the request of Council submitted a brief outline of the new proposal to Council on 26<sup>th</sup> March. Following Council's initial review of our outline, they have requested the Board now work up a detailed business plan for consideration by Council. To support our new proposal the Board is working to determine the estimated income, expenditure and resources required to operate the golf course to enable us to have initial insight into the net outcome were we to take over the operation of the golf course.



The Board realises this is a 180 degree turn from our original proposal that we put to members on 8<sup>th</sup> March. Therefore, the Board invites all golfing members to another "informal members meeting" at the Club at **6:00pm on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April** to discuss this new proposal.

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## **FROM THE BOARD** *continued*

Further during recent telephone discussions with Council, they have requested we remove the "save our golf course" banner from the Club's driveway and as a measure of good faith the Board has agreed to remove the banner. Once again, the Board would like to thank Ralph and Jan Sadler, for funding the banner together with help from Helen Prentice and Susan Ridd.



## **PACE OF PLAY** *Scottish old school practically?*

An American journalist talked to GM about the Scottish obsession with playing quickly. He recounted his visit to one famous club where he'd twice had amusing experiences with regards the pace of play.

On a visit a few years ago, he and an English journalist had been taken out by the secretary who had been quick to point out that three-balls were only very rarely allowed on the course.

"Now this is not normally the done thing," he said with lilting Scottish brogue, and I should advise you that a three-ball here will take no longer than 2 hours and 50 minutes."

**Press on boys, you've got 4 minutes to break the course record!**

They drove off the first and the secretary charged away at a mighty speed. The journalists were jogging to keep up and picking up left, right and centre as they struggled to maintain his pace. Then the English writer's mobile phone rang (appalling etiquette in itself,) but he was forgiven when it turned out to be his wife who had gone into labour. Hasty goodbyes were said and the Englishman headed back towards the clubhouse.

The secretary turned to the American and said, "Right, we're now a two ball and I should advise you that a two-ball here will take no longer than 2 hours and 35 minutes, so we better step on it."

Another time at the same club, the American journalist was chatting to the starter as he waited to tee off. Just sharing a bit of trans-Atlantic banter. As he was told to make his way to the tee he jokingly asked the starter, "Say, before I tee off, what's the course record here?"

"I believe it's 1 hour and 56 minutes," was the starter's deadpan reply. **From Golf Monthly, 2015**



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"THIS COURSE IS A GREAT EGO BUILDER!"

## CAPTAIN'S CORNER



March certainly was a crazy month with all the wet weather, but let's hope that is all behind us and we can get on with some serious golf.

Members should have noticed we have had a lot of new members playing recently, and it's fair to say our membership has gone from strength to strength.

If you happen to be playing with a new member and he is playing for handicap, please assist them with the etiquette, rules and scoring. This will make their day a lot more enjoyable and will help in maintaining a strong membership base.

Also please remember when the round is over to put the new member's card in the pigeon hole for the Men's Golf handicapper. This is so the score can be used in accessing the new member's handicap.

Luckily the weather did not delay our first Major too much, with us now being down to the final. The two trojans who made their way through are Mark Simonsen and our Pres, Dermot Duncan. Because of scheduling problems caused by the weather, the final was delayed but will now be played next weekend on Saturday 10th April. Both are in great form and we wish them both the best of luck.

Over the Easter weekend we had our first mixed event for the year. It was good to see lots of male and female members teaming up for the time-honoured Centennial Cup. Always a competitive event, it was taken out this year by Adrian Hall and Rose Antico-Hall. Congratulations to them both.

The month of April has some special events scheduled. For the first time we have a team event associated with a Medal - a 2 man team aggregate nett stroke. This is a 2 man team event and you simply add the **total nett score** after 18 holes, of you and your partner. The team with the lowest aggregate nett score wins.

The other annual event coming up is the Yellow Ball game. To be played on Saturday 17th April, this is always a special competition with everyone trying to partner up with someone who can get over the gully on the 2nd / 11th and 4th / 13th holes. It also generates some very high level ball searching if the yellow ball goes astray. So pick your partners carefully and good luck to all.



Now some good news for all the male members. The Committee recently introduced a Nearest the Pin prize for the 6th and 15th holes. Anyone's shot that finished less than 2 club lengths from the hole will win 2 ball credits.

Even better news, the Committee has decided to extend the NTP to include the 4th and 13<sup>th</sup> holes.

So as from next weekend, if your shot ends up less than 2 club lengths (any club) from the hole on the 4th / 13th or 6th / 15th holes, just write your name on the whiteboard and you will receive 2 ball credits.

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### ***CAPTAIN'S CORNER continued***

To finish this month some housekeeping. One thing I have mentioned before and which needs to be mentioned again, is the process for members when they complete their round. Members must complete all scorecards (including entering scores in the computer) BEFORE they go onto the balcony for a drink or some food.

It really is a terrible look watching members come onto the balcony after their round, scanning the scoreboard, and then sitting down and filling out their (sometimes winning) scorecard.

Not that I doubt the integrity of members, but please, for the appearance of fairness this procedure must be followed.

***WAYNE BELGRE***

### ***WOMEN'S GOLF***



March has been an eventful month for the women golfers at Lane Cove.

We have played two Medal rounds and the course was closed for nearly a week due to torrential rain. For the second time in this new golfing year, the Thursday Medal round was postponed due to very bad weather and the closure of the course.

The Sunday ladies played their second Medal and Goodwill Plate competition on 28 March in perfect, sunny weather.

The conditions obviously suited Jo Hannay, who returned to golf after some months off. She blitzed the field and according to a reliable source, chipped in on three or four holes thus eliminating pesky putts, and consequently won the Goodwill Plate. Congratulations Jo.

#### ***Sunday results:***

Winner Nett and Goodwill Plate: Joanne Hannay (31) 60, Gross 91 (putts 26!)

Winner Gross: Suzique Doughty (15) 88

The 9-hole competition was won by primary schoolboy Kai Mandalidis (20) with 22 points. His big sister Lara, aged 12 years, won the Junior Club Championship for 2020. What great young golfers these Mandalidis siblings are! Congratulations.

On Thursday, we played the same competition, also in very pleasant weather.

The results for the Thursday second Medal:

Winner Nett and Gross: Mon McLeod (**pictured right with President Joan Weine**) (29) with 68 (29 putts) and 97 scratch.

Congratulations to Mon who also won her Silver Brooch.

Winner Division 2, Lisa Blackwell (48) won with a Nett 77.

Well done, Lisa.

***Continued over***



## **WOMEN'S GOLF** *continued*

### **Chicken Run**



The last round of the very successful mixed Friday 9-hole competition was played on 26 March. Fifty players participated over the period of daylight saving and all costs and prizes were covered by a \$2 donation from each player.

Special thanks go to Greg Stephenson who provided the prize Chicken each week and to Evie Nikellys who contributed a bottle of wine for NTP. Dave Martin kept players happy over the season with pies and sausage rolls each week, and on the last evening provided sliders and chips at no cost. Joan Weine was very pleased to be able to present Dave with a gift of \$60 on the last evening.

And the Winner of the Chicken Run: Joan Weine, with the most wins in the season, while Dave Martin finished as the runner up.

### **Junior Girls Scholarship**

Lane Cove is participating in a program designed to promote and increase the number of girls playing golf. The scholarship provides a 24-week coaching program for junior girls. Five girls will receive coaching from Kasey Dive.

The Women's Committee has donated \$1200 towards the cost of the program. Joan Weine very generously decided to donate her Chicken Run winnings - including a lovely bottle of Moet champagne contributed by Evie Nikellys - as the first prize in a raffle which raised \$308 for the scholarship program. Monica Cowper contributed chocolates. Jan Sadler was the lucky winner on Saturday after playing in the Centennial Cup. Thank you everyone who contributed and bought tickets.

Many thanks go to our Captain, Marianne Mitchell, who has enthusiastically liaised with the Vision 25 Australian Golf Foundation, our Professional Kasey, and others, to get this program started at Lane Cove. Other volunteers who will help on the program are Joan Weine, Robyn Glover and Sharon Johnson.

The Scholarship will be launched at the Club on Sunday 18 April where the successful girls will be inducted into the program.

Best wishes to everyone for enjoyable golf during the Bronze I and II and Veteran's Cup stableford rounds in April.

**SUSAN RIDD**

## **TRIGGER TROUBLE**

Are you one of those head-case golfers who is fraught with fear at starting your swing? The solution may be to engage your inner-child.

"When you were a kid, you didn't think about how to throw a ball or shoot a foul shot. You just looked at the target and pulled the trigger," says Golf Magazine Top 100 teacher Keith Lyford.

"Try my two-second rule. Just swing two seconds after you last look at the target. This prevents you from staring and keeps the image of the target fresh in your mind."



## MEN'S GOLF



Optimism, is it a blessing or a curse? Golfers are an optimistic bunch as we tee up on the first every round, forgetting the last disaster played and or expecting to excel again, like last week's win.

Not sure if you saw Phil Mickelson's optimistic 2<sup>nd</sup> shot on a par 5 recently. Going for the green surrounded with a rocky water hazard area, he ended up on the rocks and proceeded to card a 10 after draining a 20 foot put!

One can be overly optimistic at times.

Recently my cycling group (the Piggies, a drinking club with a cycling problem), completed our annual tour which was cancelled last year due to the Covid lockdown. Day one saw a wet ride from Armidale to Bundarra, then the heavens really opened up, flooding our way to Bingara.

That wasn't going to stop our route master 'Rattie the Route Rat'. He still wanted to ride even though there were five causeways to cross. "We can wade across", he claimed. A more optimistic guy you could never meet. He has those rose coloured glasses firmly welded to his crazy noggin!

Fortunately the sensible ones in our group (read the women), said no way, so the local school bus was hired, and thanks to good 'ole country 'can do' hospitality, we were safely delivered to Bingara, our next destination.

A case of over optimism averted. It could have had us in the news as one of those knuckleheads who plough on into flood waters and need rescuing. Sometimes discretion is the better part of valour.



Just a thought as we tee up for the medal and you find yourself with the decision will I go for the 'Hollywood' shot or just chip out?

Last month's Medal also hosted the PRESIDENT CUP, which was won by Bob Staley (16) 76/60. Well done Bob!

### Medal Results were:

#### A Grade

WINNER - Peter Doherty (6) 68/62      R/UP - Chris Taylor (4) 67/63      SCR - Chris Taylor 63

#### B Grade

WINNER - Bob Staley (16) 76/60      R/UP Walter Heim - (16) 79/63      SCR Bob Staley - 76

#### C Grade

WINNER - Buddy Hyde (22) 82/60      R/UP - Wing Cheung (24) 85/61      SCR - Buddy Hyde 82

The nearest-to- the- pin new concept has been embraced by quite a few players with the 4<sup>th</sup> hole being added. A little controversial was Steve Tan's claim, as he was genuinely 2 club lengths from the hole but not on the green! Sorry Steve but that doesn't qualify as you have to be on the putting surface.

A good optimistic try though!

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## **MEN'S GOLF continued**

**MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP** is still under way, and as usual, possibly the 'Major' with the most controversy. A late withdrawal saw a bye in the quarters - an unfortunate occurrence. People's busy schedules make it hard to commit to a long competition like this and no matter how hard our Captain and Secretary remind players to check their diaries, these things still happen.

Anyway, the semis saw a couple of great matches with the following results. Dermot Duncan beat Andrew Limmer, 2 up.

It seems these guys don't know how to halve a hole, as there was a lot of movement during the round. I understand Dermot was 2 up early then a few down to Andrew, then clawed his way back to win 2 up. Did you actually halve a hole guys???

Mark Simonsen beat Wayne Belgre on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Wayne thought he had the game in the bag when Mark had a 2 foot putt miss on 16. But the golf gremlins had other ideas when his drive on 17 could not be found and again on 18, a lost ball off the tee.

Credit to Mark through all the trauma as he kept his cool to score a 4 on the 19<sup>th</sup> to win.

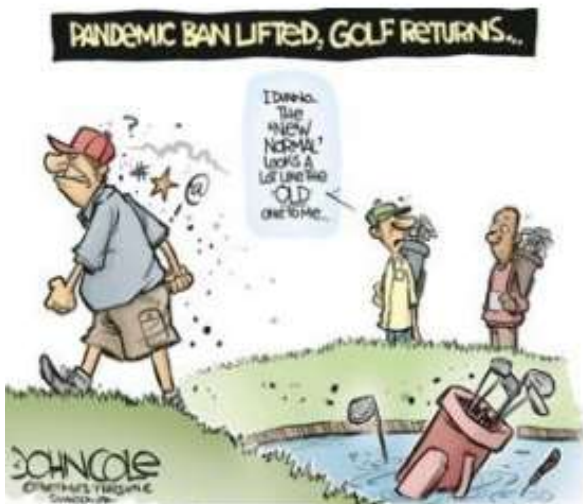
*(Editor's note – both Wayne's lost balls were found by others playing in following groups. One finder said he could not believe the ball had been lost on 18, so obvious was its position! Looking in the wrong area? Quite often an example of Drivus Gloriosis – i.e. a golfing condition characterised by thinking the ball has been hit longer than it was in reality?)*



GOOD LUCK to both finalists, Dermot and Mark! (Although these boys have been with the Club a few years now, being a 30 year man, I still think of them as the new guys, and it's great to see them playing so well and improving every time they go out to play. Cheers and well done)

HOPE YOU ALL HAD A HAPPY EASTER and GOOD GOLFING TO ALL.

## **BACKY for and on behalf of EVAN JONES**





# Tee 4 Two BBQ Café

## MENU

### ALL DAY BREAKFAST

1	Bacon & Egg Roll	\$ 6.00
2	Ham, Cheese & Tomato Toastie	\$ 6.00
3	Pancakes w/o Maple Syrup	\$ 8.50
4	Egg, Bacon & Tomato on Toast	\$10.00
5	Big Breakky	\$13.50



### BURGERS – with chips add \$3.00

10	Choice of Beef, Chicken, Veggie or New Yorker Burger	\$10.00
11	Cheeseburger	\$10.50
12	Schnitzel Burger	\$11.00

### CLASSICS

13	Sausage & Onion Roll	\$ 5.50
14	BLT	\$ 7.00
15	Fish & Chips (w/o Salad)	\$14.00
16	Schnitzel & Chips (w/o Salad)	\$14.00
17	Pie & Chips	\$10.00
	Coffee	\$ 4.00
	Bowl of Chips	\$ 5.00

Opening Hours: Thursday & Friday (12.00pm to 3.00pm) and Saturday & Sunday (10.00am – 4.00pm)

 180 River Road Northwood NSW 2066  0408 707 667

Prices current as at January 2021