



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)

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write, the course is entering the sixth week of closure from the rain drenched La Nina summer we have all endured. I took up the kind offer of the Northbridge Club for us to play in their Thursday competition last week. It is a course I know well as I grew up in a house next to the third fairway and my father was a club champion. Sadly, these fond memories were not enough to equip me to play a decent round and the weather became pretty miserable as the day progressed. The ball count in my bag was significantly depleted as I packed my wet gear back in the car, but I was grateful for the opportunity to play.



Whilst the course has been closed, the Board had to determine whether to restrict the opening hours of the Club to save on wages, given the lack of patrons. We determined to keep largely to the advertised hours and support our valuable staff by honouring the roster, so that they could have security of income. Many cleaning jobs were tackled during the quiet shifts. We have been very fortunate to have hosted many functions in the last month and the staff have done a sensational job in setting up and supporting the needs of the attendees and organisers. We have had some great feedback from those who have hired the Club for wakes, parties, conferences and even an easter egg hunt and the goodwill that is generated by the service delivery of our team will do much to enhance both our financial performance and our standing in the community. A big thank you to Mish, Jacinta, Andy, Lawson and most especially, Amanda for your diligence and care.

The conference room has been dried out and we are awaiting the Council's completion of the roof repair and replacement of the insulation bats before our insurer will replace the carpet and ceiling tiles. Our refurbishment of the BBQ café is also in progress. We have commenced the plumbing work to correct the existing waste and hot water solutions which were illegal and unsafe. We will be installing a small hot water tank in the storage cupboard next to the kiosk and redirecting the wastewater with a pump to go out, up and over the sheds to connect with the grease trap. New cabinets and benches are also on their way that comply with the Council's safety standards. This has been an expensive start to our setup of the café, but the Board are relieved that we can clean this slate and go forward with confidence.

The Pro Shop are proposing to run a Pro Am event later in the year that will run as multiple rounds at both the Northbridge and Lane Cove courses. We have expressed our interest in this proposal and will share more information as it firms up in the coming months.

CINDY BROWN

TO MY FELLOW MEMBERS, THANK YOU



Thank you for the support of so many of you following Margaret's passing away, (and also over the long period of her residential high care).

My family and I were overwhelmed at the numbers of you who, by attending her funeral and/or the wake, or by other means honoured Margaret and supported me.

I shall be trying to thank as many as I can in person, but in case I haven't a contact point for some of you I send this general message also.

This month will complete 30 years of membership for me (Margaret's membership was also close to that mark) and our lives have been enriched by the friendships made with so many of you over this long period.

DOUG CAMERON

NIC CORISH MEMORIAL DAY

The fourth Nic Corish Memorial Day will be on Saturday 7 May 2022.

Great prizes for the winner of the Nic Corish Cup for the best family 4 Ball team score, but also for the best other team score and singles in conjunction. Hopefully the Trophy can be presented to the winning team on the veranda at the end.

It is an invitation day and particularly for members to invite a family member; "family" being defined incredibly widely to include anyone you consider as family.

They should have a handicap. But if you have a family member, who would benefit from playing, contact Club Captain, Wayne Belgre, about qualifying him or her for the day.

The day celebrates Lane Cove as a family club and the enjoyment of playing with family members. This was one of great joys of my life, playing with Nic over a 10-year period. He loved being a member and having a few drinks afterwards and it is wonderful for my family to celebrate his memory in this way.

Saturday 7 May 2022



We also will have material there from Beyond Blue and the day will support the Nic Corish Foundation which, in a small way, publicises the need to never take your kids' and loved one's welfare for granted; that there is no need to hide depression and anxiety, and there are plenty of friends and resources they can reach out to.

The Timesheet will open a week early on 23 April for "family teams" only to put their names down. Please keep guests to one unless there is still room after 4 May. It is likely to be booked out so please get your name down early. I look forward to seeing you there.

ANDREW CORISH

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Hopefully everyone has been receiving my e-mails letting you know about the state of the course. With a bit of luck, we might have better news soon and we can all get back on course to play the game we love.

As soon as the Committee works out a revised playing timetable for our scheduled events, we will let you know. Obviously, any new timetable is dependent on some fine weather, so we ask members to be flexible.

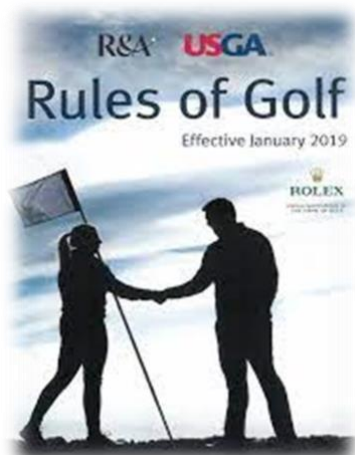


One major scheduling problem is the Singles Match play, the knockout. Members in that event will be sent an e-mail detailing revised dates and we ask that the revised dates be strictly adhered to, or we may never get the event finished.

Please remember it is the responsibility of each player to contact their opponent to book their match. If the match is not played by the specified time the Committee has the option of deciding the winner by tossing a coin. Not something we want to do.

However, it's raining at the moment, the course is saturated, so what to do? Golf has been called off again. Some might say doing a few chores around the house might be the go, but that is for some other day, not golf day! Ah, yes, here's a good idea - what about reading a book?

Let's look on the Belgre bookshelf and thumb through the three books I have – Yep, this is the one, that top seller, *“The Decisions on the Rules of Golf”*.



I find the easiest way to learn the rules is to look up the ruling for a situation I found myself in last week. And you know what? I often learn something!

I bet many members have never read the rules book and often do not know what to do in the various circumstances they find themselves in. Understanding the rules and being able to quickly resolve a situation makes the game much more enjoyable (and quicker)!

One of the rules that often comes into play is “unplayable ball” – Rule 19. Let's take the example of your ball coming to rest in the middle of the fir tree on the right-hand side of the 3rd / 12th hole. If this situation happens to you what are your options?

- 1 Play the ball as it lies.
- 2 Under penalty of 1 stroke, replay a ball from the spot where the ball was last played (“stroke and distance”).
- 3 Under penalty of 1 stroke, drop a ball within 2 club lengths of where the ball lay no nearer the hole.
- 4 Under penalty of 1 stroke, drop a ball behind the point where the ball lay but not nearer the hole, keeping that point directly between the hole and the spot where the ball is dropped. There is no limit to how far back you can go.

Knowing the rules can often be an advantage in getting you out of a difficult situation

As I look out the window the clouds appear to have disappeared. Let's hope they can stay away for a while, and we can play some golf.

WAYNE BELGRE

THE COURSE – Question and answer

Members will know that I have been acting on behalf of the Board as a liaison with Green Options, (who look after the course) and Lane Cove Council, regarding issues identified by Club members related to the course.

Following the unprecedented amount of rain over the last month, several matters were raised with me, the first being concern about the mowing of the course soon after a huge drop of rain on 8 March.

The following is the reply from Darren Jones of Green Options to my passing on members' concerns of possible damage to the course.

Hi Ralph

We mowed the course with consultation with council who have been to site post the mowing. This was done with Bryan from council who is very familiar with the course, and we believe that we were better to mow starting now as it will take so long to dry out that we didn't start mowing it would be worse at the back end. Everything considered we believe that the timing of the mow was the best course of action, and it will aid in getting the course opened up sooner rather than delay the opening.

Darren Jones, Green Options

The second matter raised by members related to the flow of water forming a boggy stream 50 metres in front of the first tee, pictured below. A number of members reported that there was a strong diesel smell about this flow, and Council was contacted about this concern. Apparently there had been a number of complaints from residents and neighbours about the Pathways development site at Blaxlands Corner, situated uphill to the left of the first fairway.

David Stevens, Commercial Operations Manager, Lane Cove Council, replied that this matter was, "*front and centre for Council to the extent that Councillors have been briefed on the situation daily and Council's GM has spoken directly with Pathways*",....."*regarding sediment issues that resulted in the trespass into public land*" and,

....."*the issue in the Golf course requires Pathways to clean up and restore the condition of the land to how it was prior to the trespass*"

....."*This is not going to be a quick process, but Pathways have made a commitment to repair any damage caused by the Building Work(s).*"

In the Cove also addressed this matter and reported that, in relation to the diesel smell, "*Council and the EPA investigated this matter approximately two weeks ago and*

were satisfied that the odour was related to the heavy excavation of the hydrocarbon rock. There was no threat to safety, flammability, or prolonged exposure".

Despite this soaking of the course from the wettest March on record, Chris Rae and his fellow Green Options assistants, have managed to cope well with a number of unusual challenges, notwithstanding there has been little golf. Thanks too to Robbie Curtis from the Pro Shop who has kept us informed on course conditions via email. We look forward to a return soon to a course recovering from its drenching.

RALPH SADLER

LANE COVE JUNIORS ON THE MOVE

Golf is perhaps the only 'sport for life'. So, it's fantastic to see so many juniors taking up the game. In fact, when I recently attended my middle child's parent/teacher interview, his teacher remarked on just how golf crazy so many of the kids in her class were. And yet people still try to tell us it's a dying sport!

As head of the newly formed Lane Cove Junior Sub-Committee, I'd like to say what a privilege it is to be helping juniors into our great game and what an exciting time this is for the Lane Cove Juniors. I'd also like to say a big thank you to Cindy, Lisa, Tony and Kasey with whom I have the pleasure of working with on the Sub-Committee.

Lane Cove boys top the table in Tyro Shield



The future of Lane Cove Golf Club was on full display this March in the Jack Newton Junior Golf Tyro Shield. The 'Tyro' is a nine-hole short-course Ambrose event designed to introduce juniors into the world of competitive golf.

Lane Cove GC was grouped with local rivals Northbridge GC and Roseville GC in a three-round event. Such is the depth of Kasey's junior program that we were able to field two teams of six players - a boys' and girls' team - while the other clubs fielded just one.

The first round was scheduled to be held at Roseville but, of course, the heavy rains intervened. Fortunately, Northbridge - which must have the best drainage of any golf course in Sydney - stepped in to

play host and, on Sunday 13 March, round one began with the Lane Cove Boys taking on Lane Cove Girls and prevailing 2 1/2-1/2 over three matches.

The following weekend the competition moved to Roseville, where Lane Cove Girls went down 3-0 to the hosts, while Lane Cove Boys romped home against Northbridge, winning 3-0.

The third and final round was scheduled to take place at Lane Cove on 27 March but sadly, and as we all know too well, the course was closed, and no play was possible. The ongoing situation with our course means the organisers were forced to abandon the final round, leaving the Lane Cove Boys atop the table and undefeated.

Congratulations to all the Lane Cove golfers who participated. They were real ambassadors for our Club, not just through their strong performances but also through their genuine enthusiasm for the game, camaraderie and sportsmanship. More than one parent and manager from the opposing teams noted how lucky we were to have such a great bunch of talented kids coming through the club.

Well done to Lane Cove Girls: Samathan Yu, Sophia Yu, Jane Tisdell, Beth Tisdell, Jolena Zhang, Sophie Yoo, Tiffany Yu and Euna Cho; and Lane Cove boys: Millan Wang, Ethan Hassin, Ripp Cannon, Stone Cannon, Leni Leidl, Monty Grayden and Bertie Grayden.

New Junior comp beginning shortly

Based on feedback from members, encouragement from the Council as well as from the golf pros, we have decided to create a new junior competition, which will run separately from the senior competitions, giving juniors the opportunity to progress their skills in a real game situation. The competition will be a bi-monthly event that will serve as a steppingstone for juniors into full membership.

The competition will be a nine-hole event, with the inaugural round scheduled for Sunday, 24 April. The idea is that when juniors sign up for membership, they will usually play in this event before graduating to the full men's and ladies' competitions.

We're after volunteers to help run the Junior Competition. So, if you're looking for a way to volunteer to assist the Club and would like to be involved in helping juniors into our great game, please let me know at ralphgrayden@gmail.com.

RALPH GRAYDEN



WOMEN'S GOLF

Rain and wet weather were the main topics of the last edition of Links! It is quite a shock to realise just how long this period of wet weather has been with us.

March has been a very sad month for golf. Our captain, Robyn Glover, has presented quite a list of scheduled events for April including Bronze I and II and Veteran's Cup, Canadian Foursomes, Centennial Cup (Easter) and the postponed Medal Rounds 1 and 2. That's a lot of catching up to do when the course is still closed, and the rain persists.



March was a good month for birthdays, and we hope all birthday ladies had very happy days celebrating another year. Robyn McElvenny has gone to the US and Mexico for a holiday. Now that's a good way to mark a birthday. We haven't heard many overseas stories lately.

Lisa Blackwell, Hannah Xuan, Robyn Seale and Sharon Johnson also had birthdays in March, and your correspondent enjoyed her birthday in sunny Adelaide. If you feel like getting away, a road trip west of the ranges is highly recommended.



Some of the Lane Cove ladies have been gathering at the Club on 'golf' days for a toasty and coffee or a glass of wine, just to catch up on news and have a chat with Amanda and Mishy. This week we heard stories from our Treasurer, Sharon Johnson, of her new roles as oven-fixer, carpet-dryer, generator overseer, and Council liaison officer. She also gets the credit for installing a shiny, new espresso machine. Sharon, we thank you for your excellent work.

On Sunday 3rd April, the ladies Committee had planned to host the first graduation ceremony for the Junior Scholarship Girls.

Unfortunately, due to Covid and some other issues, the event has been postponed to a later date when we hope all the girls and their families will be able to attend.

It is hard to believe that there are no results to report for March. Our President, Joan Weine, has not played golf for six weeks, she says. This must be a record and we wonder how she has been coping with the withdrawal from her usual three days a week of golf. The happy result is that she has recovered from her injuries.



At deadline, on Sunday, when the clocks went back an hour, the weather gods have kindly given us a taste of sunshine and some optimism for enjoyable golf soon. Bravo!

SUSAN RIDD



MEN'S GOLF (Backy's Blurb)

GREETINGS ALL.

Somehow, I am not too upset about all the rained-out events as I was going to miss most of March's golf due to a scheduled holiday and work commitments. No consolation for all you 'keenagers' but found if you want sunshine and golf courses where the ball still bounces, head west young man!

Our annual bicycle tour was washed out at the proposed site, being the BVRT (Brisbane Valley Rail Trail). Apparently, the trail was washed away down the Brisbane River and is now forming a new island in Moreton Bay.



So, a hasty route was planned by our trusty South Australian friends out of Gundagai. We even stayed two nights in Temora, the hometown of our much-valued Events and Bar Manager, Amanda Wilesmith.

I found our S.A friends walking off the lovely Gundagai course feeling very hot in the 32-degree heat. They've recently retired and taken up our favourite game, joining Westlakes GC and getting right into it. So, the week was spent pedalling about the sunny countryside with them talking all things golf as newcomers to the game often do.

By now you know I'm always happy to divulge facts and favourite anecdotes from my five decades of involvement in the game, especially when the subject of learning is asked. Of course, here are a few I recalled.



* During my taxi driving days, I picked up Peter Lonard from Oatlands GC and took him to the Footy Show at Channel 9. Got chatting (as you do) and mentioned I had just bought a set of Wilson Fire Sticks through the Northshore Times (no ebay back then). These were the new carbon/graphite type of shaft and were over two grand back then, and I got them for \$800.

He said, " Oh, I've just fallen out of contract with Wilson and have gone over to Titleist."

"Are they better?" I asked, a little crestfallen.

"Mate, I could grab any old set of clubs and shoot a good score, it's all in the swing". He reckoned it's 80% swing and 20% equipment.

"Greg Norman was playing carbon shafts the other week", I said.

"No he wasn't, he just painted steel ones black to sell his Cobras. The only carbon club a pro wants is the driver because they sometimes just 'go off', and you get an extra 20 yards. You don't want that in an iron."

Armed with this encouraging info I headed out the next week to play for Manly Cabs vs RSL at Cabramatta and flushed it, shooting 42 points off 8 handicap, and won \$40. Move over you fancy pants pros!

Recalling Lee Trevino's comments on the swing helps. "It does not matter if you take it back inside or outside or even with an S lane on the backswing, it's what happens with the clubhead at the ball that counts, clubhead square and descending down and through the ball and club travelling right through to your finish."

Continued over

MEN'S GOLF continued

Have you ever noticed where pros hands are at the end of their swing? Right up high around their ears or back of their head. OK we might not have the flexibility for that but wherever your full finish is that's where you should be.

Nick Faldo talks about 'Buttons and Buckles'. They should be pointing at the ball at address and pointing where you intended the ball to go at the finish.

Anyhow, having shanked my way from 8 to 11 over a six-month period, I figured it was deceleration and fixed it with Nick's advice.

HERE ENDITH THE SPRAY.

MENS GOLF RESULT!!!!

One event played this month. It's quite possible more golf was played in the Ukraine than here.

Anyway, for the records, what we do have is a follows,
23 March 2Ball Multiplier

Winners; Dave Martin (20) and Paul Kelly (11) 65

Runner up; Paul Hofman (13) and Paul .Johnson(15) 56

Singles win; Paul Kelly (11) 37pts

Runner up; Stuart Campbell (25) 35 pts

Hopefully see you on the green soon!

Cheers,

BACKY (Bacculus) for and on behalf of EVAN JONES



CINNAMON KLUB

Lane Cove Golf Club is delighted to announce a new and exciting catering option is now operating from the clubhouse.

For take away orders or inhouse dining, Cinnamon Klub is open to the public Wednesday to Sunday. 5.30pm to 9.30 pm, with a delicious menu that encapsulates the best of owner and chef Kailash Bhandary's 30-year career.

Kailash is a Greenwich local with many ties to the community.

Simply head to www.cinnamonklub.com and peruse the menu. Orders can be placed from 5.30pm Wednesdays.

Please join us in welcoming Kailash and his team. We hope you will all support this exciting joint venture between Cinnamon Klub and Lane Cove Golf Club.



And didn't it rain, and rain, and rain! (And still?)



"YEAH, MAYBE THE COURSE IS STILL A LITTLE TOO WET TO PLAY ON!"

AT THE PRO SHOP

NOW THROUGH APRIL 20TH



LOYALTY REWARDED

PURCHASE THREE DOZEN AND GET ONE DOZEN FREE.