



Dear Members,

I have several topics to update you about and I have been advised that some members have not been reading my previous updates in Links over the last few months, so I will repeat some details previously published.

Clubhouse Closure

This weekend we will have farewell events on both Saturday and Sunday for golfing members to play golf and enjoy food and drink in our much loved clubhouse. We have encouraged as many members as possible to play and if they cannot play, at least call in to the clubhouse to be part of the farewell. The Board has set a generous budget for each day and will pay for all food and a couple of drinks for each *golfing member*. Amanda has full discretion on how the budget is distributed and as always, she will be most inclined to reward those who meet her high standards of behaviour.

The tenders for the main construction contract for the new building are due on Monday 26th June. If the tenders are higher than the budget, the Council will delay the demolition work and apply their "Plan B", whereby they have already identified ways to reduce the scale or amenity of the proposed building. If this scenario occurs, they expect the delay to be about three months, so demolition would be deferred to September. However, even if the demolition is deferred, we will not be reopening the clubhouse after this weekend. Amanda has done an amazing job of selling and/or giving away so many of our assets based on the closure date of this weekend, that it would be hugely difficult to renegotiate on all of these deals for delivery at a later date.

The last event to be held in our clubhouse will be on Tuesday 27th June where the Board will be providing dinner for our hard-working staff.

Recent Course Changes

The bridge over the 2nd was supposed to be a 3-5 day process but is now into its third week. I have been promised by Council that the bridge will be open before next Saturday.

The stormwater project for 4 Northwood Road finally commenced this week and as a result both the 1st and 7th tees have been moved up a long way during the mid-week competitions. I have been assured by Council that there will be no work done this weekend and so the normal tees for these holes will be playable.

Future Course Changes

If the tenders received on 26th June are within the published budget, Council will proceed as soon as possible with the preparations for the site demolition work and the installation of temporary facilities. They have sourced an all-terrain mobile crane that will enable the temporary pro shop and the new member's equipment shed to be installed near the current 3rd tee. There will be temporary toilets in the Gamma Road park. They will also be installing temporary buildings for the use of the greenkeepers in the flat area at the beginning of the current 1st tee.

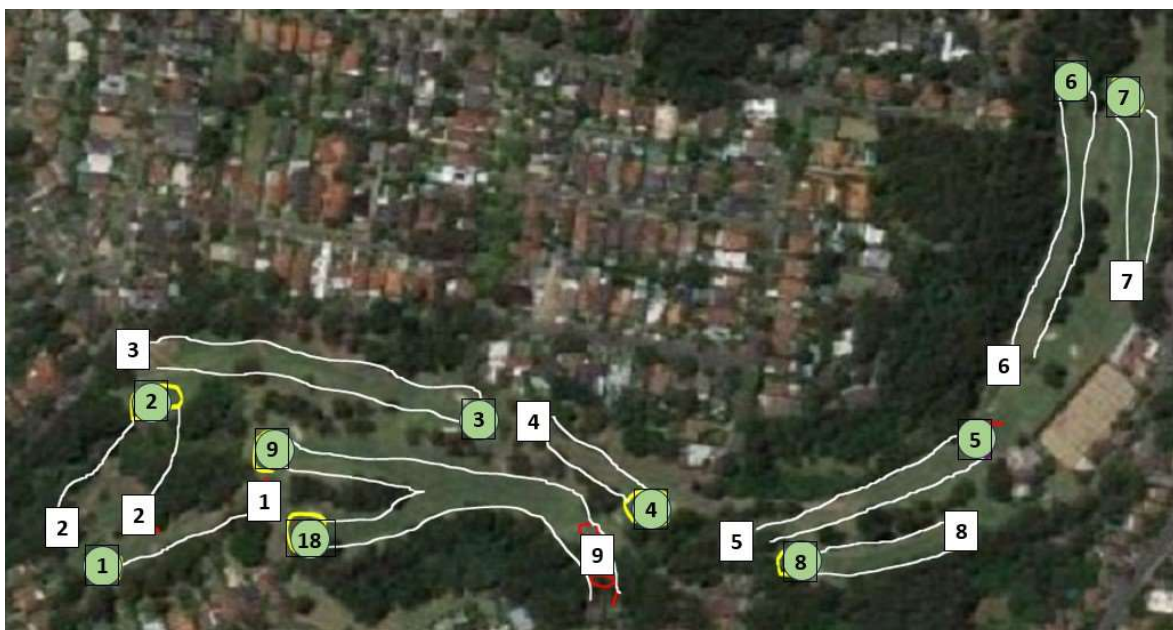
It is likely that the course will be closed for two days while the greenkeeping sheds are installed as this will involve cranes and heavy machinery. Council is aiming for this to be Thursday 29th and Friday 30th June, but this is not confirmed, and it is possible that the Thursday competition may still go ahead. Council has the target date of Monday 3rd July as the date from which play will commence from the current 3rd tee. However, they have assured me in writing that if there is a delay in the temporary facilities being installed, then play will continue from the current 1st, including use of the car park. Other than the closure for the greenkeeping shed installation, **we will not be shut out of the course for any significant period.**

Council are also building a pathway with a handrail to make access safer from Gamma Road down to the new pro shop location. This will probably not be completed until the middle of July, so in the interim members should walk down past the water tank and across the front of the 11th green as the safest entry method.

At my urging, Council adopted the position that the ninth fairway should be available for our play during the demolition phase, unless the contractor could demonstrate why they needed it. Unfortunately, the demolition contractor has justified their need to reinforce the grass embankment so that it can support the heavy machinery for the demolition and earthmoving works. They will be installing their fencing on the 9th fairway, so the 9th as we know it will be unavailable. Instead, we will play the solution I recently outlined in Links, as a par 3 from the current 9th fairway back to the current 8th green. This is a far better solution than playing the 11a, as it means that the current 2nd and 11th holes will be played in their current full state as the finishing 9th and 18th.

Kasey's team will mostly use the 11a area for teaching, moving to the 2nd when the competition is on the back nine.

The diagram below shows the course layout including the new hole numbers. Golf NSW will be rating this course in time for the early July start date and there are members working on re-indexing the white, red and blue courses. Please note that this diagram shows that the new 5th (current 7th) is shown as a shorter par 3 version, but this is only required for the stormwater works from Northwood Road. The full length 5th (current 7th) should be returned later in July.



Competition Management

I had a good meeting last week with Clinton, Todd and Robbie and they are very happy to assist with our competition management. There will be a Cards Box in the Pro Shop where members can put their completed cards and the staff will enter them as quickly as possible, finalise the competitions and publish to the newspaper.

Male members will have an account with the pro shop which will be updated with credits for those that win events and these balances can be used at either Lane Cove or Northbridge Pro Shops or for lessons with Kasey's team. The women's committee may also consider adopting this procedure.

The Pro Shop will also register new members in 1Golf and upload the schedule of events.

It would be very helpful to have some male members who are prepared to be a point of liaison with the Pro Shop for the competition going forward for the next couple of months. Please contact me if you are prepared to take on this role.

Socialisation Post Closure of the Clubhouse

The women's committee have made arrangements for post competition lunch with the Diddy for the Thursday competition and with the Crow's Nest Hotel for the Sunday competition. Both venues have been very accommodating and the hotel has a private room that they are happy to make available for a regular booking without a booking fee. Any male members who want to organise a similar arrangement for the Saturday afternoon competition should contact the women's committee or myself for further information.

Equipment at the Clubhouse

Members who currently store their equipment at the clubhouse must take it home by Sunday 25th June. When we send our communications for membership renewal, we will provide details of the new arrangement with the Council owned premises.

Membership Renewal

We will send out our membership renewal emails in the first working days of July. Adult memberships will be \$700 and competition fees of \$10 for 18 holes and \$7 for 9 holes will apply from the first rounds conducted in July, regardless of which course layout is in operation.

I hope as many members as possible will participate in our "farewell to the clubhouse" weekend and will opt to continue to be part of our membership group.

Warm regards,
Cindy Brown
President