

ON
THE

GRAPEVINE

February 2017



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In this edition...

- Juniors... **2017 McMillan Shield Competition**
- **RULE of the month...** GOLF ETIQUETTE
- **FROM THE CAPTAIN...** Vardon & pennants
- **FROM COURSE SUB COMMITTEE...** *Volunteers required to tackle Parramatta Grass*
- **A WORD FROM THE GIRLS...** *a must read*

FROM THE PRESIDENT... *Don Johnson*

I believe it is about 20 years since the **Club's Constitution** was updated. A committee has been formed comprising of **Joan Coles, Grant Harrison and Greg Kemp** to recommend amendments to bring us up to date. These people have all had experience in this area and their acceptance to assist is greatly appreciated. There are some areas where the law has changed so clauses in the Constitution should be changed. Expectations are that a new constitution will be available for adoption at the Annual General Meeting.

The **Strategic Plan** is continually being updated and amended to make sure we achieve the outcomes that were considered when the plan was set up. Jim Sundquist is in the process of finalising various amendments to the plan and on completion if any member would like to receive a copy of the plan please contact the office.

Caitlin Peirce, one of our Junior Members, was second in the Vardon Event held at Tea Tree Gully Golf Club recently and as a result of this she has been **chosen to represent the State** in the Junior Team which will be playing at Port Kembla. Congratulations Caitlin, we look forward to monitoring your performance.

It would be remiss of me not to mention the condition of the course that we are currently playing on. **Rob Millington and his staff must be congratulated** on the way the course is presented and this has been echoed by people who are not members and have played on the course.

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(FROM THE PRESIDENT ...continued)

With the assistance of **Jeff Bradford and his team and their sponsorship** another new pump will be installed in the pump shed. This will then give us total new equipment which will last for a number of years. I believe we now have one of the best pump sheds of any golf course in Adelaide.

Once again I remind members of the **Seniors Pro-Am to be held on the 3rd of April**. Details will be advised shortly including costs for the morning and afternoon. The costs of this event are structured to break even financially and not solely for profit.

FROM THE CAPTAIN...*Paul Sutcliffe*

Already In February we have seen some excellent results being played, some spectacular! A week or so ago Richard Rowe was outstanding with a score to remember, 9 up, while Bobby Dickson's nett 67 and Ron Slaghekke's nett 69, won the Saturday and Sunday Monthly Medals respectively. Not to be out done Vicky Cammack put together a very handy 5 up.

Spectacular yes – a very rare event – **an albatross two on the first hole by newly joined member from Darwin, Rex Williamson**. Should anyone be putting together an Ambrose Team in the future, any of these players would be a rather handy addition to your group!

Talking about talent! It was on display at the Vines during the Golf SA Vardon Event in the past week. The Event known as the **John Crosby Amateur Vardon** is played annually, over two rounds and this year featured an excellent field of quality players, many being State Representatives including our soon to be State player, junior Caitlin Pierce. We are thrilled with her progress to this level.

The Vardon Winner's Trophy features the name of John Crosby. John is a Life Member of the Club, a former Captain and President as well as a well performed 'A' Grade player representing the Club at Simpson Cup Level. He brought attention to our Club by being elected as President of SAGA (now known as Golf SA) and then as the National President of Golf Australia.

John has generously sponsored the Event again this year and we thank him for his continuous support of the Vines.

The winner of the Event was Samuel Burton of Tea Tree Gully Golf Club with Scores of 71/68 -139

Other winners were: Female Vardon Winner, Ella Adams from Grange Golf Club 76/73 – 144 and Lauchlan Barker from Glenelg 78/79 who was the Junior Winner.

Vines players featuring were best overall Nett Winner, young **Jordan Percy** 72/70 – 142; Best AM Nett, **Paul Gregory** (72) with PM Best Nett being **Michael Bruggeman** (70). All of these players will feature prominently in our Pennant teams this year.

As for Pennant, planning for both Women and Men's teams is well advanced. With a stellar year in 2016 by our women and the men retaining their position in the Simpson Cup, the Club can be quietly confident of a good season to come.

Over the past weeks good fields have been competing even though the heat has disrupted some competitions.

Be it heat or cold no player wants to be taking any longer than necessary to play a round. All players should remember that the Club has embraced the "Ready Golf" form of the game. That is where it is safe to do so – hit your shot without delay. To save a few minutes along the way if there is the opportunity move to the tee – Hit off – then mark your score card! If all players embrace "Ready Golf" everyone will benefit.



RULE of the month...*explanation*

...from John Ward

GOLF ETIQUETTE

With so many new members joining the Golf Club during the previous 12 months or so, some are also new to the game of Golf, it is an appropriate time to refer all players (and some long serving members, who may have forgotten) to:-

SECTION 1 of the RULE BOOK.

"ETIQUETTE; BEHAVIOUR ON THE COURSE"

This section of the RULE BOOK can be easily overlooked and seem, for some players, to be unimportant, however, it is essential that all players be not only aware of their golf etiquette responsibilities but be aware that if they don't conform to the etiquette of the game the Committee has the power, under the rules, to impose penalties and take disciplinary action to protect the interests of the majority of golfers who wish to play the game in accordance with the guidelines in the manner in which the game of golf should be played.

During the next few months The Grapevine will publish a few of the guidelines, and if they are followed, this will allow all players to gain maximum enjoyment from the game.

The first etiquette guideline we will look at relates to:

CARE OF THE COURSE

Preventing Unnecessary Damage

- *Players should avoid causing damage to the course by removing divots when taking practice swings or by hitting the head of a club into the ground, whether in anger or for any other reason.*
- *Players should ensure that no damage is done to the putting green when putting down bags or the flagstick.*
- *In order to avoid damaging the hole, players and caddies should not stand too close to the hole and should take care during the handling of the flagstick and the removal of a ball from the hole.*
- **THE HEAD OF A CLUB SHOULD NOT BE USED TO REMOVE A BALL FROM THE HOLE.**
- *Players should not lean on their clubs when on the putting green, particularly when removing a ball from the hole.*
- *The flagstick should be properly replaced in the hole before the players leave the putting green.*
- *Local notices regulating the movement of golf carts should be strictly observed.*

Some of the other items relating to etiquette such as:-

SAFETY, CONSIDERATION FOR OTHER PLAYERS, PACE OF PLAY, and THE SPIRIT OF THE GAME.

Will be addressed over the next few months

FROM COURSE SUB COMMITTEE...from Peter Shaw (Vice President, Course)

Volunteers are urgently required for a special project to reduce the instance of **Parramatta Grass** from the golf courses.

Parramatta Grass is an obnoxious weed which has taken hold on our golf course and has seeds that can germinate over a 10 year period. In the past we had volunteers that were controlling this problem, but the current growing conditions has increased its number and requires further action now.

Geoff Downey has agreed to head a small team of volunteers to tackle the problem. We are looking for volunteers (male or female) to each look after say 2 or 3 fairways each, including rough, so we can short circuit seed drop and reduce the plant's cycle. Volunteers will be required regularly to patrol their allocated areas, remove and bag all seed head stems and remove smaller plants if possible without causing damage to the course. Larger weed plants will need to be destroyed by follow-up spaying. This would require a commitment of a couple of hours a week, and we expect the frequency of the patrols should reduce in time with the successful reduction in weed numbers.

If you are able to assist please email info@vinesgolfclub.com.au and express your interest. Geoff will then contact you for allocation of area to be patrolled, training and equipment required.

3rd Front Tee Block Renovation As you can see this project is progressing well and the new grass has established itself. This section of the tee block has now opened for "red" and "yellow" markers. Over the next few weeks "white" markers will be added with timing of this depending on the level of root growth.

The last piece of the improvement to this hole and adjacent practice chipping area, will be trimming of gum trees along the right hand side path to the third green, set down at this stage in the Course Strategic Plan for 2018.

The look of the 3rd Hole Precinct has changed dramatically over the past 12 months, and is something we can all feel proud of.

The Course Sub-Committee is looking for your feedback on any issue any time that relates to the Course. Have a question, a suggestion or criticism, please write to feedback@vinesgolfclub.com.au. Any correspondence will be treated confidentially.

A WORD FROM THE GIRLS...from Jan Shaw (Vice President, Women's Golf)

Our summer competition has been attracting large numbers and it is great to see some new players who have joined the club as flexi members through the **Give Golf A Go Clinics**.

New Give Golf a Go Clinics will run throughout March on either a Friday at 10.00am or Saturday at 1.00pm. The Thursday sessions will be run by Steve with support from the Women's Committee. The Saturday sessions are particularly targeting business women who want to get into golf. The Saturday group will be run by Steve Krause and Tamie Durdin. *If you have friends who are considering whether they want to play golf please get them to give Steve a ring in the Pro Shop.*

March 7th is our official Opening Day. There will be a 9 hole shotgun Stableford competition commencing at 8.30am. This will be followed by a short meeting at 11.00am where Karen Parsons our Lady Captain will declare the season open, explain some changes to

competitions that are a result of feedback last year and answer any questions. Opening Day is the last day to lodge your Entry Forms for our Special Competitions. If you need a copy of the Entry Form please speak to a committee member.

Another date for the diary is our **Gala Day on the 23rd March**. Please put your thinking caps on for the Trading Table. This is always a great fundraising day for our club.

Good luck to volunteers from the club who will be attending the **ISPS Handa Women's Australian Open**, which is being held at the Royal Adelaide Golf Club from Wednesday 16th – 19th Feb. Congratulations to the Women members who were lucky enough to win a day and season passes to the event. What a great opportunity to see some world class golfers. Also a reminder that the club will be running a bus departing The Vines at 9am heading to Royal Adelaide on Friday the 17th returning to The Vines at approx 6pm. Cost for the day is \$30 plus entry to the event. To secure your spot on the bus please book and pay the office. Tickets can be purchased through Ticketek.

The **Women's Locker Rooms** have now been repainted and lockers reallocated to members. It has been an opportunity to sort out many years of accumulated golf memorabilia and unwanted items. The Library has been updated with new books that are available to members to borrow at no cost. We are also encouraging members to bring new novels to share with other members.

A bonus from the cleaning out of lockers and cupboards has been *finding photos, scrapbooks and other memorabilia from many years ago*. **Rhonda Marshall, Gwen Jacobs and Margaret Dunk**, (L to R below) three of our more senior members, were found reminiscing about players who are no longer at the club and how golf has changed at The Vines over the years. Gwen has recently turned 90 and along with Rhonda and Margaret they are still playing 18 holes of golf most weeks. They love mixing with different players each week and according to Gwen 'she still has a lot to learn'. What an inspiration for us all.



Junior Golf Sponsor...



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Juniors...from Wayne Corbett

2017 McMillan Shield Competition

Unfortunately *the first round which was to be played at Tea Tree Gully on Sunday 29th January was cancelled due to the extreme heat forecast.*

2nd round...

Our young McMillan Shield team therefore commenced the defence of their 2016 title by *playing the team from Kooyonga on their home course on Sunday 5th February.*

Our team (in playing order) for this game at Kooyonga was **Ryan Francis (Captain), Louis Pretty, Boston Price, Alex Manton, Ryan Scovell, Charlie Nobbs, Zoe Manton and Lachlan Sharpe was our reserve.**

Each player hit extremely well from the first tee despite the close scrutiny from the large spectator group and the many supporters for our home Club.

After the first few holes, each individual match was tight and being closely played with no quarters asked or given. On completion of the first 9 holes of play most matches were still being evenly contested although Alex Manton held a lead of 3 up whilst Charlie Nobbs who was playing wonderful golf, held a very comfortable advantage of 7 up.

As play moved deeper into the back 9 holes of play, Louis Pretty posted a loss of 6 and 5 and Boston Price came in 5 and 4 down, followed by Ryan Scovell with a 3 and 2 loss.

This left the overall game result delicately poised with 3 matches down and the remaining 4 still in the balance.

Ryan Francis got his game and driving back on track to post a 3 and 2 win to go with Charlie Nobbs' convincing 8 and 7 win to leave the final outcome in the young yet competent hands of both Alex and Zoe Manton. Despite being kept unaware that the overall outcome of the team result depended on them, both continued to play fantastic golf under the watchful eyes of all of their team-mates and spectators as well as many of the Kooyonga opposition players.

Zoe eventually posted a very composed 3 and 1 win whilst Alex continued to the 18th which he halved to record a 1 up win. **This gave the team a 4 and 3 win** and a great start to the 2017 season.

The shot highlight of the day was the 2nd shot played by Charlie Nobbs on the 4th hole. He followed his accurate drive, which had split the centre of the fairway to finish on the top of the

hill, with an immaculately struck fairway wood towards the green. Unfortunately, despite striking his second shot ever so sweetly, *his ball collected a corella in mid-flight, dropping both the bird and the ball. Displaying the touch of a "Steve Irwin", his father (Tony Nobbs) picked up the winded corella with a towel and placed it under a small tree to recover, which it eventually did after about 10 minutes and flew off to join the rest of the flock.*

3^d round...

Sunday 12th February saw our talented junior golfers journey to the Glenelg golf course to play the team from The Grange (2).

Despite the blustery wind conditions our team all started well from the 10th tee block and after completing the first 4 holes of play Ryan Francis was square, Louis Pretty and Boston Price each were one up, Alex Manton steady at square whilst Ryan Scovell and Zoe Manton were playing great golf to be 4 up and 3 up respectively. Charlie Nobbs was having a very tough battle with his very steady opponent, who had a distinct handicap advantage, was still in touch at 2 down. Our Reserve player Lachlan Sharpe who was playing a practice round held a 1 up advantage.

After the first 9 holes of play had been completed, Ryan Francis had dropped back to 2 down, Louis Pretty, Alex Manton and Boston Price were each steady at 2 up, Charlie Nobbs was 5 down with Ryan Scovell sitting comfortably at 9 up. Also, Zoe Manton, despite nursing a very sore calf muscle, was holding an advantage of 7 up. At this stage the team result was looking extremely comfortable.

As play progressed deeper into the back 9 holes of play, the individual match results began to change dramatically although Ryan Scovell came in with a huge smile and a wonderful win of 10 and 9 only to be closely followed by Zoe Manton who posted a fantastic 9 and 7 win. Charlie Nobbs eventually succumbed to his very steady opponent to record a loss of 7 and 5. Lachlan also posted an extremely well-played 5 and 4 win.

This left the final game result in the balance at 2 wins against 1 loss with Ryan Francis, Louis Pretty, Boston Price and Alex Manton still playing tightly contested matches which would decide the final result for the team.

Boston then posted a great 3 and 2 win. He was closely followed by Louis, who lost on his 17th hole to go down 2 and 1. This left Ryan Francis and Alex Manton playing for a win for the team. Ryan was 3 holes down with 4 to play whilst Alex was 2 down with 2 to play. A very tight and tense situation for the team and the many spectator who were following each match closely.

Ryan rallied superbly and played brilliantly to win his next 4 holes of play and post a 1 up win on the 18th whilst Alex remained very steady and focussed to halve his 17th to post a 2 and 1 win.

These two winning matches gave the team **a final winning result of 5 matches to 2.**

A fantastic outcome for the team and, despite being quite nerve racking and exciting, it was fantastic to see the many family members supporters from our Club following the final few holes of play and providing support and encouragement for our team.

Next game is on 26th February when we play West Lakes at The Vines.

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