

ON
THE

GRAPEVINE

July 2018



Email: info@vinesgolfclub.com.au

Web: www.vinesofreynella.com.au

In this edition...

- **BRUM PLATE**...*read all about it*
- **FROM COURSE SUB COMMITTEE**...*you must read this*
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- **Juniors**...*another win*

From the President & Manager...*Rob Dowling & Matt Chesterman*

Well done to all of our pennant teams over the recently completed season. With numerous teams making finals and our Division 2 Juniors bringing home the flag, the season as a whole can be considered a successful one.

We are excited to announce some **staff appointments in the Pro Shop**. Many would have read on the website the appointment of **Dylan Thomas** as our Club Professional. Dylan's role will include teaching, junior & high performance development and giving general golf advice to members, in addition to covering the shop at times. **Cathy Hayward** has also accepted a role on a part time basis and in addition to providing the quality service that you all are accustomed to, will be taking on some extra responsibility with the management of our golf systems. The new face in the shop that you may have met is **Peter Cooke**, also known as Cookie. Cookie turned professional in 2007 and has toured on the Australian & Asian tours as well as spending some time in Europe. Cookie is still actively playing and we look forward to having him around the Club while he is back home practising.

140 people recently attended the **Club's Quiz Night** and a great time was had by all! This, coupled with a few 'off-season' weddings has kept our hospitality staff very busy and shows that the renovations are having a positive impact on bookings. Don't forget that the Club is now serving breakfast on weekends from 8am and if the Managers waist line is anything to go by, the 'Eggs Benedict' is well worth getting out of bed for!

A special to **Wayne Corbett** who has retired from the voluntary position of Junior Coordinator. Wayne has fulfilled the role at the Club for near on 20 years and has helped nurture many a junior, some of which are now full Category A members. Well done Wayne and thank you for your efforts.

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REYNELLA MAZDA

(From the President & Manager...continued)

The next major task for the Committee of Management is the **implementation of the new Constitution.**

COM is currently working with version 15 and will be hosting events in the coming weeks to help develop the document ready for approval by the Members.

Keep an eye on the website for the proposed document and details of the events. The COM thanks the Constitution Review Group of Grant Harrison, Joan Coles & Greg Kemp for their work in developing the document thus far.

BRUM PLATE

The April Grapevine included information regarding 'Brum Plate'.

The Brum plate group is a group of male golfers that use the Club Advantage card to play at the courses they have access to 3 times a year, and once a year they travel to Barossa Valley clubs.

They play events on Mondays (usually the 3rd of the month) and hit-off times are usually 8.30 am or 9.00 am, some of them Shotgun starts and sometimes not, depending on the Club.

All of the events are stableford format, and there is representation from most of the Club Advantage clubs, although this is limited for Flagstaff Hill, The Vines and Blackwood. The group started at Tea Tree Golf Club so they are the Club with the most members.

At the April event, the only Vines member of Brum Plate was Geoff Norton. Since then Brian Quist, Brian Dey, Ed Oniszk and Roy Trotman have all joined.

Annual membership fee is just \$5.00 and competition fee is also \$5.00 which is spent on prizes. Since April we have played Tanunda Pines, West Lakes (Ed won the day) and Mount Osmond (Brian Dey came third).

Next month will be at The Vines on Monday 20th August. The game will also be a shotgun start from tees on the back nine. Hit off will be at 9.00 am.

Players usually number between 40 and 60.

Allan Wiltshire and John Gamlen (both TTGGC) organise things. If you are interested in joining, including playing at The Vines Monday 20 August, just email your details plus Golf Link Number to Allan awiltshr@bigpond.net.au

It would be good to have as many Vines members as possible 20th August so we can show it off to other Club Advantage members.

The Brum Plate members are a 'good bunch' and they are looking to increase their numbers as much as they can.

A WORD FROM THE GIRLS...from Jan Shaw (VP Women's Golf)

Congratulations to everyone who represented The Vines Golf Club in the three teams that we fielded this year (A4, Cleek and Hickory). Thank you also to the team managers who willingly got up early on the cold mornings to support the teams. Also a big thank you to the caddies who supported the players with their wisdom and advice.

The A4 team played Kooyonga in the final at West Lakes. Despite some close matches Kooyonga won. Well done to Kathy Michaelsen, Ros Brunton, Lyn Cummings, Kath Hender, Jan Threadgold and Caroline Salisbury on a great season. Thanks to all the supporters who went to West Lakes to support the team.

This year the **Cleek Team** was playing in Division 1 for the first time after winning Division 2 last year. The team comprising Lena Battensby, Deb Dudson, Leonie Lindsay, Pam Deacon, Judith Hill, Linda Pearce and Cate Browell had several wins towards the end of the season and cemented their place in Division 1. The **Hickory Team** also did well with some early wins however they missed out on playing in the finals. Congratulations to Debbie Gill, Mignon Hogan, Bev Cross, Anne Binnie, Alison Emmett, Jan Shaw, and Marianne Daniel.

The **Nomads Team** season has just commenced and the Southern Shield starts this week on Monday 16th July. It is great to see the number of new players who have indicated they are willing to be involved.

A **Fashion Parade** featuring clothes from Snazzi Boutique in Blackwood will be held at the Clubhouse at **1.00pm on Monday 17th September**. These events are a great fundraiser for the Club so please invite your friends to what should be a fun day.



A4 Team "The Players" ...L to R: Kath Hender, Jan Threadgold, Lyn Cummings, Ros Brunton, Kathy Michaelsen, Joan Coles (manager).



A4 Team "The Caddies" ...L to R: Deb Dudson, Greg Gill, Alan Pearce, Rob Dowling, Mary, O'Hagan.

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

Information Night was held at the Club on Tuesday 1st May 2018 and Members were invited to give their opinions, suggestion or criticism on all matters. Below are those put forward relating to the Course. I would like to thank those members that attended and gave their feedback.

- **Reduce the number of trees on course**
The course does have far too many trees. This is a comment we hear regularly from visiting professionals and others. The amount of water all those big gum trees consume would be enormous. We do need to strategically reduce their number over time – easier said than done, as the cost per tree can be significant. Any large-scale reduction is not a viable option.
- **Allocate Holes to volunteers to look after a designated area**
This idea has been tried again and again with only minimal success. We currently have a large number of volunteers who assist with many tasks on the golf course and their contribution is significant.
- **Reduce the number of Yummy Bushes (Poa Labillardieri) – remove them all (but specifically)**
6th hole remove last row to fairway approach – *this will be investigated at some stage to assist those older members who are challenged to hit over the bushes.*
3rd hole remove last row on approach to green – **possible** *reduction in the number of bushes in the last row will be investigated.*
7th remove RHS of green – *will not be removed as they protect irrigation infrastructure in this location.*
- **10th hole – trim overhanging limbs RHS & LHS of fairway** – *will be looked at when next a cherry picker is used to trim trees course wide. Not scheduled at present.*
- **Make greens bigger** – *It is true we do have some small greens, but available space limited their dimensions when the course was established. We could achieve a suitable result by increasing the green surrounds but the costs involved may not achieve a great deal. Any work on this is not currently in the strategic plan with the exception of the 5th where work on the rear of the green is set down for 2020.*
- **Pin holes on Greens have raised edges – volcano effect** – *when holes are installed in each green a plate is used to damp down around each hole by the green keeper to ensure a flat surface. The "volcano effect" is caused by players feet as they lean over to retrieve their ball from the cup. Solution – all golfers must try as much as possible not to tread near the hole.*
- **Ensure all groups fill all divots** – *All players are required under the Etiquette of Golf to fill in all divots and repair pitch marks on greens. It is impossible to enforce this, we can only encourage all players to comply and to encourage others to do the same. It's your golf course, please do what you can.*

- **Strategic Plan – ensure it is followed and that all items are included** – *We regularly review and update the Course Strategic Plan. This document is also used to assist with preparation of each year's budget. As you can imagine there are many outside influences that impact on its implementation. The current Course Strategic Plan runs to 2020 and we are already looking at items to include in the next 5-year plan.*

Air2G2 Machine – Our machine was recently used to aerate the greens at the Sturt Bowling Club generating \$600 in income for our Club. In attendance were a number of representatives of other bowling clubs so further opportunities may develop from this. Also, in September we have been engaged by a metropolitan golf club to work on their 18 greens – this will generate income of \$2,600.

Moss on Greens - Some of the greens have been sprayed for moss and the results have been very promising. The resulting blackened areas look similar to a recent algae attack but these will grow out over time.

Our last working bee (2) – were a great success. The volunteers together with ground staff worked particularly hard and we managed to complete most of the 11th fairway. The tree stumps have since been removed and some of the wood has been split for use in the clubhouse fire. Work between the 5th/15th was completed and work between the 2nd/17th has commenced. Many thanks to all the volunteers and ground staff.

Practice Fairway - Course staff have been doing some work on the practice fairway to speed up ball collecting on a regular basis. The goal posts have been removed, the dam wall has been shaved down and we have repaired the ball collector which can be used with our Workman vehicles. We have been collecting balls from the fairway to aid the Pro Shop transition process until other arrangements are made. This is a great example of the "One Club Policy" since the club took over the operations of the pro shop. Staff can easily be moved around to assist when and where required.

Feedback Following Pro Am and Globe Greenkeeper's Day - It was very pleasing to hear the feedback we received about the course after the Pro Am and the Globe greenkeeper's golf day, both in the same week. In particular the greens were a point of discussion, with a great deal of positive comment, but we also received positive comments about the tidy roughs with fewer low limbs.

Dam Levels – Our pumps at the Catch Drain and Ernest Crescent are ready to collect anything that comes their way, but as you are aware rainfall is well below average so far this year. It's premature to think about rationing at this point of time. The use of mains water does not form part of our irrigation strategy.



Introducing Peter Shaw – VP Course

I have been a member of The Vines for about 15 years and have been on the Course – Sub Committee for 3 years. The past 2 years as VP Course.

I retired 3 years ago having worked for the Adelaide Bank and Bendigo Bank for 8 years. My last position being Retail Lending Manager looking after 19 SA Branches and 5 in the NT. My role was to support and advise the lenders of those Branches and also interact with numerous local Community Bank Boards.

Previously I ran my own courier business for 12 years and prior to that worked for the National Bank and Commercial Banking Co of Sydney for 20 Years.

I have been involved with the Reynella Cricket Club for nearly 35 years as a player, Committee Member for 3 years, Secretary for 5 years and Treasurer for 2 years. I was appointed a Life Member of the Cricket Club in 2000, and served as Chairman of the Club's Life Member Board for 5 years.

My wife, Jan is currently VP Women's Committee and we have lived in South Brighton for 10 years. Prior to that we lived in Old Reynella for 25 years, and Melbourne for 7 years. We have 2 sons, 3 grandsons and 1 granddaughter, all living locally.

While working I held a 7-day golf membership, but since retirement have cut back to 5 as weekends are usually taken up with watching the grandkids play sport.

As elected by you to be a member of the Committee of Management I have enjoyed the challenge of improving the Golf Course and the Golf Club. I have always and will always act in your best interest, and that of the Club, and will not shy away from hard decisions when they need to be made.



FINANCE...*from Greg Kemp (Vice President, Finance)*

FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN.

Each of the functional committees reporting to the Committee of Management work to a five year strategic plan to ensure the Club's focus is on the appropriate development of the Club. The recent renovations of the kitchen and club rooms flowed from these plans, as did the improvements to the 18th and 13th holes.

Finance Committee has now developed a five year financial plan to support these strategic plans and it becomes obvious that the planned future of the club is not possible without an increase in funding.

Short term need for funds include equipment replacement and long service leave provisions, both of which have been funded on an ad hoc basis to date. Over the longer term issues are growing literally beneath our feet. While the air2G2 and other equipment, together with the skills of our greenstaff, are prolonging the life of the greens, eventually they will need to be replaced at a cost of around \$50,000 per green, or \$1 million overall. Similarly the underground pipe work is ageing infrastructure and will at some time require replacement, another \$1 million.

Additional to these requirements is the progressive development of the course; improved paving, extending grassed areas, further water security, paving of the carpark, upgrading greenstaff shedding and many other proposals.

To start to address these goals, Finance Committee has proposed, and Committee of Management accepted, a Finance Strategic Plan for the club that includes the growth of all income lines by 5% per annum, over top of CPI. While not resolving all financial concerns, it will be a great start.

With such a plan into the future we can be assured that the wonderful condition of the course will continue to grow, enabling The Vines of Reynella to provide the best offering in Adelaide outside the sand belt. Without a doubt, the best increase in income comes from additional members, encouraged by the wonderful playing conditions.

CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION.

As advised in the May Grapevine, a number of issues have reduced our income or increased our expenses against budget. Fortunately however **a number of areas have been performing better than expected** over the last few months. This included sponsorship, Bar and Catering, and Membership with Flexi members topping up their points. This improvement will reduce the demand on our overdraft. Finance Committee will continue to monitor the budget and will provide a more detailed report to Members after the nine month figures are finalised.



From the Captain...*Dean Nobbs*

Curtin Tops the List

Alex Curtin has been voted in at number one in the 2018 Simpson Cup Pennant Team of the year. Alex only lost one game all year playing at number 1 for The Vines, chalking up victory after victory against the state's best amateur golfers. Congratulations on a great year Alex.

The pennant season has finished for another year. The **Simpson Cup** team were in last place heading into the final round against Tea Tree Gully, needing a 4.5 to 2.5 win to avoid relegation. The team managed a 4.5 to 2.5 win and ended up finishing in 6th place. Thanks to Paul Gregory and Craig Rivett for stepping into the Simpson Cup team to get the win. After some confusion and recounting, Tea Tree Gully were relegated from Simpson Cup on a countback with Southern. It was a day to forget for Tea Tree Gully, as they were also relegated from Bonnar Cup.

The **Bonnar Cup** team played Grange in the final at Flagstaff Hill on the 15th July. Special thanks to all The Vines members that came out to cheer on the Bonnar Cup and Juniors Division 2 teams. We have a great membership at The Vines and it was great to see so many people cheering on the team. It was a tight contest against Grange, however the Grange team had a little too much fire power winning 4.5 to 2.5.

Congratulations to the Junior Division 2 team on their nail biting win over Tea Tree Gully. Lachy Sharp held his nerve for the second time in two years to get the win on the first playoff hole.

Congratulations to the **Sharp Cup** team on making the semi-finals.

Special thanks to Nigel Coles (Simpson Cup Manager), Tony Nobbs (Simpson Cup Captain), Alan Fulton and Steven Leitch (Bonnar Cup Managers) and Rex Williamson (Bonnar Cup Captain) for their contributions in a long Pennant season.

Corbett Hangs up the Boots



Wayne Corbett has decided to retire from the Junior Co-ordinator role. **Wayne has been the Junior Co-ordinator for almost 20 years** and has been helping and encouraging the juniors to play for many more. It is great to see so many juniors out on the course on a Saturday and Wayne has been the driving force, encouraging the juniors to get out and play. We hope the strength of our junior program continues to grow in Wayne's absence. The Match Committee will miss your input Wayne and **we thank you and wish you all the best** in your travels around the globe.

Our new **Club Professional Dylan Thomas** has been doing a great job with the juniors and will be looking to bring the next wave of juniors through to the Junior Division 2 and Sharp Cup teams.



RULE of the month...*explanation*

...from John Ward

"I CAN'T FIND MY BALL"

Lew & Dowski were playing the 7th hole. Dowski had teed off first and as usual had pumped his ball straight down the middle of the fairway, but poor old Lew shot his ball off to the right, hit the trunk of the big pine tree and it ricocheted at great speed towards the 6th green.

"Where did my ball go?" he asked Dowski.

"It went into the drain pipe next to the path and that metal sign" said Dowski.

"Are you sure?"

"Yes I am certain. I saw it disappear down the pipe."

As **the drainpipe is an immovable obstruction** and Dowski was sure the ball had entered the pipe and even though he could not see his ball nor retrieve it **Lew was able to invoke Rule 24-3b** which meant the ball was deemed to lie at the spot where it last crossed the outermost limits of the drainpipe so Lew substituted another ball, without penalty and took relief as prescribed in Rule 24-2b(i).

He dropped the substituted ball within one club length of and not nearer the hole than the nearest point of relief from that spot without penalty.

Although he grumbled, as is his usual way, Lew played his next shot towards the 7th Green. Another example of Lew's exceedingly bad luck that he experiences on the golf course each round he plays

From John Ford...



"Not bad. But next time slow down your backswing, loosen your grip and take the cover off the head of your driver."

Juniors...from Wayne Corbett

Division 1 (Sharp Cup) is played "off the stick".

Division 2 is handicap match play.

The talented Juniors in **our two Sharp Cup teams** put on a magnificent display of disciplined golf and shot making **at the Willunga golf course** on **Sunday 24th June**.

Our **Sharp Cup team** played the Grange Green team with play getting under away from the 10th tee on time. The team was Ryan Francis, Charlie Nobbs (Captain), Louis Pretty, Boston Price and Alex Manton.

Ryan posted a solid and well deserved 5/3 win only to be closely followed by Boston, who won 3/2. Charlie despite fighting back to be 1 up after 13th and then square after the 16th was unlucky to miss a couple of crucial putts to finish square. Louis was unfortunate in losing 2/1 and Alex Manton battled on gamely and got back to 1 up after his 16th hole and held that advantage to the 18th for a great 1 up win.

This gave the Sharp Cup team **a great 3½ to 1½ win** and their first win of this year's competition. It was also the first game they played this season with a full team.

The **Division 2 team** played the West Lakes team and started from the 1st tee.

Ollie Nobbs, after some great golf, posted a resounding 9/8 win. Oscar McDonnell who continued his wonderful form to post a comprehensive 7/5 win. Zoe Manton, also posted a solid 3/1 win. Unfortunately, Samuel Carpenter lost his match 8/6. Team Captain Lachlan Sharp, despite some errant drives, held his nerve and holed a magnificent downhill putt on the 18th to finish 1 up advantage and give the team **a great 4/1 win**.

This result leaves our Division 2 team undefeated at this stage of the competition.

The next round for both teams was played **at Glenelg** on **Sunday 1st July**.

Sharp Cup was played against The Grange Gold team who won 3½ matches to 1½.

Division 2 matches were against Mt Osmond GC. The Vines won 3 matches to 2.

Throughout this year's competition our **Sharp Cup team** has played impressive golf and been extremely competitive each week, despite playing most weekly games one player short. For this team to make the semi-finals has been a fantastic achievement and is testament to their individual skill, determination and talent.

On **Sunday 8th July** this team **played the very strong team from Kooyonga at The Grange** course with the winner going on to play in the Final at Flagstaff Hill on Sunday 15th.

Representing our Club were Ryan Francis, Charlie Nobbs (Capt.), Alex Manton, Louis Pretty and Lachlan Sharp and, for the first time in this competition, the team started with a full squad of players.

Ryan Francis won his exciting match 1 up whilst Louis Pretty also had a very exciting and close match to unfortunately lose 1 down. Charlie Nobbs kept his opponent honest with good golf despite losing 3/1 whilst Alex Manton and Lachlan Sharp lost 4/3 and 5/4 respectively.

The **final result was a 4/1 loss** but this does not truly reflect the skill and ability displayed by our players.

Our talented **Division 2 team went to the Tea Tree Gully course to play the Combined Country team** with the knowledge that a win would mean that they had played the entire competition (7 rounds) undefeated.

Unfortunately, this week our team was one player short but the players were determined to achieve the required win. Our players were Samuel Carpenter, Zoe Manton, Oscar McDonnell and Ollie Nobbs.

Over his first few holes, Oscar's match was fairly close but he soon settled into the rhythm we are familiar with to post a solid 5/3 win. Both Ollie and Samuel were having close and exciting matches with scores changing on a regular basis. Ollie posted a solid 1 up win on the 18th and Samuel, who was 1 down after his 17th hole, told me that he would halve his match, and he did.

The final outcome was a magnificent 3 ½ to 1 ½ win, despite starting one player short. **This result also meant that this team had played the entire competition (7 rounds) UNDEFEATED and was sitting comfortably on top of the table.**

Another important and notable highlight for this season was created by the extremely talented Oscar McDonnell. He played in every round and was also undefeated.

Sunday 15th July saw our talented **Division 2 players journey to the Flagstaff Hill course to do battle with the team from Tea Tree Gully for the right to hold the Division 2 Plate and Banner for the 2018 season.**

From the outset, the Tea Tree Gully team was very intense and appeared determined to end our unbeaten record and take the title from our players. Playing in this final were Ollie Nobbs, Samuel Carpenter, Zoe Manton, Oscar McDonnell and Lachlan Sharp, our team Captain.

As the game progressed, it was clearly evident that each match was going to be very tight and a real battle. Tea Tree Gully was holding the ascendancy throughout the first nine holes of play with our team behind in 3 of the 5 matches and our prospects not looking at all favourable. Ollie was 1 down, Samuel 2 down, Zoe 1 up, Oscar 1 down and not playing to his usual standard and Lachlan 3 up.

Further into the final nine holes of play, the pressure and excitement began to increase ten-fold but, unbeknown to the many supporters from our Club following play, more drama was yet to unfold.

Samuel shortly posted a 4/3 loss and was soon followed by Ollie, who lost 3/1. Zoe gave the team a faint glimmer of hope by posting a very determined 2/1 win. This left Oscar who, most unusually, was struggling with his game and Lachlan, both endeavouring to achieve the wins required to win the game and the Division 2 Plate. Oscar was square after the 16th whilst Lachlan was 1 up. Oscar then hit his straps, found some rhythm and held on to post a wonderful and hard fought 1 up win. This meant that both teams had two wins each with Lachlan's final match to be played out to determine a clear winning result.

Lachlan, despite playing the 16th very well, lost that hole to drop back to square and remained square after completing the 18th. As a clear result was required, he and his opponent had to play the 19th and possibly further to get a clear result for victory. What a drama filled hole this turned out to be. Both hit reasonable drives with Lachlan well inside the tree line whilst his opponent was in good position, on the edge of the fairway.

Standard play continued from there until both players hit their respective approaches well over the green. With duffed chip shots a-plenty, it was patently obvious that these two players were feeling the intense pressure and close scrutiny of the large gallery following play. With the knowledge that two putts would win the Plate for the team, Lachlan rolled his first putt to within a foot or so whilst his opponent narrowly missed his very long first attempt for the half. Lachlan then calmly made his next putt to achieve the required third win and an overall 3/2 win for the team.

This 3/2 win meant that our team won the Division 2 Plate and Banner for the second year in a row and had played the 2018 Sharp Cup competition undefeated.

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