

ON  
THE

# GRAPEVINE

March 2020



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## ***From the Manager***.....*Peter Kennedy*

### **Age Brackets memberships**

Following the recent change to the club's constitution there are some new membership opportunities now available, with age discounts available for 7 day members. These are now for under 18 years, under 22 years, under 26 years, under 30, under 35 and under 40 years of age. If any current members qualify for these age discounts, they will be available at the next renewal. The club is also making available the new "Experience the Vines" category for new members (only) which includes golf, a shirt, a hat, 2 lessons, 2 buckets of balls, a bistro voucher and more. Full details of all the memberships are available at

<https://www.vinesofreynella.com.au/membership>

### **Letterbox Droppers**

The club recently put together a merry band of letterbox droppers, to promote the club and it's hospitality to the area surrounding, which has been very successful. As a result the club is looking to grow the numbers of the happy helpers so that a regular program of promotion by letterbox drops can be done. If you can assist with some time to help out in the area surrounding the club, please let the office know and we can pop you on the list.

### **Recent bridge wire theft**

Members and guests would have noticed the temporary repairs done to the bridge around the 2<sup>nd</sup> tee area, where some thieves stole the stainless steel wire. This matter is not a cheap exercise to replace and the club is perusing the matter through insurance so hopefully this will be fixed soon.

# Head Chef – Clayton Spall

As the “new” Head chef (as everyone asks when he does the BBQ’s), Clayton Spall has been working at the Vines Golf Club for 7 years now, and he is hoping given another 3 years, he will not be the new chef anymore.

It has been a privilege to see this golf club go from strength to strength, the kitchen started from scratch 7 years ago with Matthew Chesterman and now with new Manager Peter Kennedy.

The basics, I was born back in the mother country, old blighty England in a town called Fareham around the corner from Portsmouth, so there's plenty of family history with the Royal Navy.

My first job was on a building site at a tender age of 16, then at 17 an apprenticeship as trainee chef came my way, mind you this was way back in 1989 when you worked 60 hour weeks, then went to college during the day and for this earned a massive 29 pounds a week. (It was amazing, not!)

Since then I’ve worked in all sorts of places from restaurants, 5-star hotels, pubs taverns, golf clubs, private school cafes for the past 30 plus years, and heck that's a long time being a chef. Any way I won't write down all of them as you will be bored silly and probably nod off after your glass of port or that awful beer we have here. (My sort of beer was Stella Artois.)

I moved down under in 1999 on the 5th of July and my first job was in Portland Victoria, in a restaurant, which was for 2 years.

Long story short I was over here for holidays, and we stayed in Portland on a road trip. This day the whole town was shut as it was a Sunday, but there was one place open and that was the Edwards Waterfront Restaurant. So, we went in for dinner thinking nice place and a nice waitress.

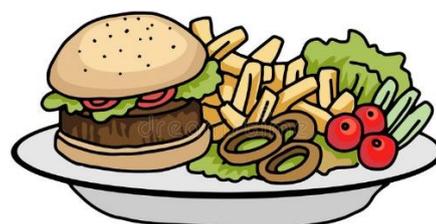
Got to talking to them, as you do, and my brother mentioned in the conversation that I was a chef, and before I knew it the owner of the Henty group started talking to me and suddenly, I had a job. So, I went back to sunny England and got my visa sorted out and the rest is history.

I moved to the Lobster Pot Restaurant for another 2 years after that and had an absolute blast there, meeting some great people and if I may say it was all slightly blurry half the time.

There's one thing I did not realise when I emigrated to this amazing country that you Aussies you don't speak the Queen's English, you call things different to those of us civilized chaps from England. But time passes and lessons are learned.

I became an Aussie over 15 years ago and never looked back since. I now have a beautiful wife and baby boy called Robbie; my family is my world.

This country Australia is bloody fantastic. You can't beat it, BUT, shame about the beer though, I really do miss the warm beer (no, I don't).



## ***Golf's integrity depends on the honesty of its players.***

(Article (part of) from Golf Monthly UK)

Honesty is golf's cornerstone and, perhaps more than any other sport, golf depends on self-regulation.

### ***Firstly a distinction should be made between accidental and deliberate cheating.***

In the vast majority of (if not all) club competitions the rules will be infringed. Someone will misunderstand how a drop should be taken; another may clip a branch from a tree while practice swinging before an awkward shot. These individuals will not knowingly have broken the rules and it's not correct to say they've cheated.

However, it's every competitive golfer's duty to have as good an understanding of the rules as possible and, with a pocket-sized "Rules of Golf" produced by the R&A, that easily slips into any golf bag, there should be no excuse.

Deliberate cheating is when a golfer knowingly and willfully breaks the rules in order to lower his or her score: A ball thrown down in the rough or kicked from under a tree, a five claimed when six shots have been taken. This is the type of behaviour that is so wholly unacceptable in golf.

Many who witness an infringement of the rules will choose to ignore it. They tell themselves it doesn't matter: "he's only cheating himself."

This isn't true. If someone breaks the rules, knowingly or otherwise, it can affect everyone in the event.

"It can also escalate," says Martin Yates, a former member of the R&A's Rules Committee. "If an individual thinks he's gotten away with breaking the rules deliberately, he'll be encouraged to do it again."

Challenging someone who has deliberately cheated is undoubtedly difficult, particularly if you're the only person to have witnessed the infringement.

In some instances, informing the Manager or Captain of a suspected infringement may be the most appropriate action.

Sometimes it may be a fairer course of action to give an individual a chance to modify their behaviour than to destroy their reputation permanently.

One way that certain types of cheating can be prevented is through vigilance.

Too frequently we hear the question, 'what did you have there?'

Golf is, of course, an individual game but it is every player's responsibility to pay attention to what your playing partner is doing when you're marking their card.

### **Know the Rules**

Instances of accidental rule breaking will always occur, but every competitive golfer should make it a priority to gain as comprehensive an understanding of the rules as they can. Always carry a rulebook as backup.

### **What should you do?**

If you witness accidental cheating (i.e. a misunderstanding of the rules,) it should be easy to point out the mistake and the individual concerned ought to be thankful for the correction.

If you witness a deliberate cheat in competition you owe it to the field to take action: Either to confront the individual at the time, to refuse to sign his card (and to explain why) or to make the Manager or Captain aware of the incident.

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

**The Weather** – Last month we talked about weather extremes, but since then there have been milder temperatures with a couple of showers to help out on the course. We have used 8 megalitres fewer than the average requirement during that period and therefore we will have more than enough water to reach the end of the irrigation season if rains arrive at the normal time. With this in mind we have switched off the old bore to allow for replenishment. We have so far used 89 megalitres for the season and the aggregate from the two bores is 37 megalitres. The requirement until the end of the irrigation season is now down to 23 megalitres. The estimated amount in storage is just above 30 megalitres.

**11<sup>th</sup> Hole Carry** - The planned improvement of the 11<sup>th</sup> carry will commence in the next few weeks. Work will include the laying a top coat of bitumate to the existing path, laying a small area of new turf at the entry to the fairway, irrigation to assist with drainage and earthworks to smooth out the bumps and hollows that have formed throughout this area. Some seeding of turf will also occur. Compulsory Drop GURs will be in place in some areas until they are fully established. From time to time the tee block may be moved to the fairway to protect ground staff.

**Mishap on the 4<sup>th</sup> Fairway** - Unfortunately we had a hydraulic line failure on one of our fairway mowers. Each mower has seven cutting heads and it was a rear head that failed, but not seen by the operator until he turned to do another run. Damage to the turf is about 100 metres long and will take about a few months to recover. While the mower was well maintained, this type of accident can occur, without warning, on older machines. Replacement of this machine will be included in next years budget submission.

**Pin Position Indicator Flags** - To assist golfers determine the approximate location of the pin we use a Red flag if the pin position is in the front half of a green and Yellow flag if the position is in the back half of the green. They are in place for two holes on the course - the 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> greens. Match Committee have requested that a further two holes also have this facility - the 1<sup>st</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> greens. The new flags will be in place as soon as the poles can be sourced.

**4<sup>th</sup> Hole Dam** will be emptied over the next few weeks to allow Golf Operations to recover the many practice range balls that have been hit into the dam. To those golfers who are hitting balls into the dam – please stop.

**The Inlet valve at 7<sup>th</sup> Tee tank** recently stuck open overnight and the tank overflowed causing some path damage. Pump Technology Services replaced the float switch that actuates the valve as this was the cause of the failure. Some water was lost but this mostly watered the 6<sup>th</sup> fairway.

**Scarifying** on selected fairways, using the Terrarake, will take place over the next month. This will occur on non-competition days. This process may cause some inconvenience, which we will try to keep to a minimum, but is necessary to improve the health of the turf.

**Bunkers** – Following feedback from members that are finding it difficult to enter/exit some of our bunkers, we will trial installation of steps to be placed in the LHS bunker on the 17<sup>th</sup> hole. If the steps interfere with your shot, relief can be taken. **We would be interested in your feedback, positive or negative** to [feedback@vinesgolfclub.com.au](mailto:feedback@vinesgolfclub.com.au).



Following the rule change allowing flagsticks to be left in while putting, cup holes are being damaged by golfers. This happens when you reach into the cup to retrieve a ball with the flag still in. **The Edge - Saver** - as seen in the picture opposite, is a device that is attached to each pin to assist golfers retrieve their ball from the hole without causing any damage to the hole edge. Their fitting is allowed under the Rules of Golf. They consist of a plastic disk that sits on the bevel of the pin. **The Edge-saver** is designed to freely move up and down the flagstick, and minimise any damage when removing or replacing in the cup.

We would be interested in your feedback to...  
[feedback@vinesgolfclub.com.au](mailto:feedback@vinesgolfclub.com.au)

**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](mailto:feedback@vinesgolfclub.com.au). Any correspondence will be treated confidentially.

## **A WORD FROM THE GIRLS**...from VP-Women's Committee...Lyn Cummings

**Opening Day** was held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March with over 70 players taking to the course on a cool and windy "Summer's" day which was then followed by our Opening Day meeting with Club Manager Peter Kennedy being our invited guest speaker.

Captain, Kathryn Hender highlighted the 2020 season and declared the season open. The raffle was a freebie after the efforts of our ladies with their donations over December and January.

New **Give Golf a Go Clinics** commenced on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February with a good number of very keen girls attending. Thanks to Jan Shaw and Leonie Lindsay for their assistance.

Our **Gala Day** is to be held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April with ***Happy Valley Foodland*** once again sponsoring our day. The cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members which includes golf and a 2 course meal. A trading table will be held on the day so we look forward to any contributions whether it be plants, cooked items etc. you can donate.

Our **Winter competitions** have commenced with our Monthly Medals being won by Kathy Michaelson A Grade nett 73, Marianne Hall B Grade nett 72, Bev Cross C Grade nett 69, Lee Scovell 9 hole medal.

Many of our ladies have taken advantage of playing at other courses in their Open Days recently including Echunga, Thaxted Park, Flagstaff Hill and Links Lady Bay.

# ***From the Captain.....Mick Gibbie***

## **Slow Play Improvements**

Over the last few weeks, the match committee and our golf ops team have been introducing initiatives to improve the speed of play.

We have seen a slight improvement in the average time it takes to play a round, and it is good to see the majority of people are attempting to comply with these measures.

However, we must maintain our vigilance to continue our improvement.

Now that we have the ability to track every group's playing time, we have been able to identify that just one group can have a devastating effect on the following groups' times.

Remember:

- Avoiding slow play is **everyone's** responsibility.
- **KEEP UP** .... WITH THE GROUP IN FRONT OF YOU. IF YOU CAN'T SEE THEM, YOU ARE BEHIND.
- **CATCH UP** .... IF YOU GET BEHIND (AND WE ALL GET BEHIND SOMETIMES)
- **PLAY READY GOLF ALWAYS**

## **Tenth Tee**

One of our initiatives that people have not been complying with, is calling up on the tenth tee.

This has been introduced to ensure that groups are able to tee off at their allotted time.

- Please call up on the tenth tee when there are players on or near the eleventh tee (when safe to do so)
- Please go to the rally point underneath the gum tree on the left-hand side of the green for your safety

## **Sponsor on Board**

We are proud to announce the signing of **Longford Cleaning**, as our sponsor for our pennant teams for 2020.

If you are in need of any commercial cleaning, **please contact Jeff Harrip on 0422 644 217**, who will be happy to discuss your requirements.

## **Washaways**

Just a reminder that under our local rules, you only receive relief from washaways in bunkers, not anywhere else. If during winter, this becomes a problem, the match committee will create a temporary local rule.

## **Indexing**

With 5 years of data on indexing, changes will soon be made and a start date will be communicated.

## **Upcoming events**

Father Son / Family Pairs / Spouses Cup - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April

And remember SMILE! This is a game.

All the Best, Mick Gibbie



*"hands down the shaft on a driver"*

**HOLE IN ONE on 6<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday 14th March**

Congratulations to

**Brian Rowe**



## **RULE of the month...*explanation***

*...from John Ward*

### **2020 MEN'S MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS**

(Qualifying began on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2020)

All players, I am sure will be familiar with the rule relating to Match Play;-

#### **Rule 3.2 Match Play**

##### **Purpose of rule:**

Match Play has specific Rules (particularly about concessions and giving information about the number of strokes taken) because the player and opponent:

- Compete solely against each other on every hole,
- Can see each other's play, and
- Can protect their own interests

##### **3.2a Result of Hole and Match**

In *match play* the result of the hole or match is decided as follows:

- \* You win a hole when you complete the hole in fewer strokes than your *opponent*, your *opponent* concedes the hole, or your *opponent* gets the *general penalty* (loss of hole).
- \* You tie a hole (also known as "halved") when you and your *opponent* complete the hole in the same number of strokes.
- \* You win a match when you lead your *opponent* by more holes than remain to be played, your *opponent* concedes the match, or your *opponent* is disqualified.
- \* If your match is tied after the final hole and you need to establish a winner, the match is extended one hole at a time until there is a winner.

##### **3.2b Concessions**

You may concede your *opponent's* next stroke, a hole or the match, but a concession is only made when it is clearly communicated.

A concession is final- you cannot withdraw it once made and your *opponent* cannot decline the concession.

**See Full Rules for more information on concessions, including how they are made.**

## ***Golf AUS 2020 Tier 3 High Performance Squad***

It is with great excitement that we can inform you that The Vines own **Caitlin Pierce and Jordan Percey** have been selected in the 2020 Golf Australia High Performance Squad.

The high performance pathway in Golf Australia is comprised of 3 tiers. This three Tier program is a pathway approach which allows young golfer to work through the tiers to ultimately become Touring Professionals. Based on performance in the program will determine funding levels and Australian Team selection.

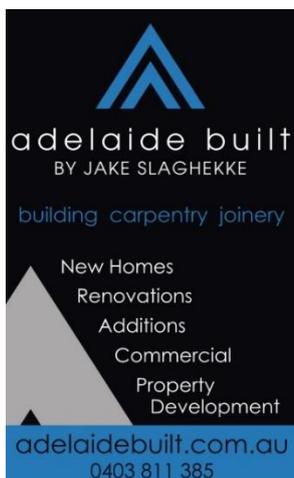
Caitlin and Jordan have taken a big step in pursuing what many never have the chance to achieve. We wish you the best in this year's training and hope to catch up to say well done when we see you at The Vines next.

*Brayden Wauchope*

# Club Sponsors.....

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