



Newsletter, June 2019

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Winter golf brings its own challenges, with heavier air, little run and lengthening shadows making putting challenging. Treasurer Peter Andrew sinks a tricky eight-footer on the 18th.

President's Report

With the financial year-end reports soon to be prepared and presented, it is timely to remind you that we will again make a call for Members to take up a variety of positions that will become vacant. Last month I made particular mention of the “friendly vibe, welcoming spirit and camaraderie that typifies our Club” and our healthy culture of “volunteerism”. Studies affirm that clubs that have created such a culture year on year are much more likely to be successful, achieve their goals, be more fun and enjoyable to be a part of, have more social benefits and above all have members who have a strong sense of belonging.

To maintain a prosperous and healthy club, it is important that strategies are employed to avoid burn-out of volunteers and to actively encourage initiatives to promote recruitment of volunteers. Making jobs easier by appointing assistants to committee positions, and scheduling meetings and events at family friendly times are just two such strategies. The Club is keen to encourage younger Members to join the various committees and become part of the successful “baton passing” tradition that has served us so well. We are currently considering ways in which we can devolve some of the functions currently undertaken by the Treasurer and this will create an opportunity for more Members to contribute to Club operations. There is a deep pool of administrative skill sets that exist within the Club membership and if you think you may be able to make a contribution to any area of the Club operations please consider this call.

Continuing with the “volunteers” theme, it would be remiss of me to not record our thanks to all those who have been involved with the soon-to-be-completed Golfing Pathways project. Co-leaders Rick Manley and Rod Connelly have demonstrated a keen commitment to co-ordinating the project – our thanks to both and to all those who have been in the construction team. A wonderful effort!

On the competitions front, we have had a busy calendar and Members have continued to strongly support the various events. The Ladies Club Championships have produced a new champion – Joy Kennedy! Congratulations to Joy and also to Di Wenzlau (Div 2), Muriel Pitts (Div 3) and Helen Lindrea (Vets). Paul Blakely [67 Nett] was our latest men’s Monthly Medallist, whilst Hayden Nielsen and Stuart McGibbon added another Men’s Canadian Foursome title to an already impressive record – well done to all.

And in closing – with the colder and wetter months now well and truly upon us, I urge all Members to take extra care when negotiating the wetter and softer areas of our course.

Best wishes to all.

Andrew Watson [President]

And for this month – “He took a swing like a man with a wasp under his shirt and his pants on fire, trying to impale a butterfly on the end of a scythe”. Paul Gallico 1942.



New turning circles and cart parking areas are included in the design of new paths currently under construction. A lot of work will be done to connect the paths on 17, 18 and 10, shown here.

Lady President's report

A busy month of golf with Pennant then Club Championships followed by Federation Bowl.

With the Pennant, even though we did not win the grand final it was very close with a 2-3 loss to Neangar Park. A big thank you to all our ladies for participating – we had four teams – two in Div 1 and two in Div 2. This was the biggest representation of all the district clubs – well done.

Congratulations to Joy Kennedy who is our new Club Champion. Joy played three excellent rounds and it went down to the wire between Joy and Ruth Iser. We celebrated with a shared lunch and it was lovely to have quite a few visitors come and join us including Judy Johnson and Eunice Maxwell.

Our Federation Bowl was played on Friday 8 June and was won by Bendigo. We had six visiting clubs with a few apologies. Thank you to our ladies for the lovely lunch and the presentation of the clubhouse was awesome.

Axedale Golf Club have received a \$3000 grant to assist in getting women active in sport and playing golf. Thank you to Dean Dixon, formerly of Golf Australia and now Neangar Park pro, who assisted us with this application. The funds will go towards the purchase of equipment to assist Trish Shanahan continue her clinics for newbies. Thanks to Trish we have signed 23 new ladies in the past three years.

Rug up ladies as we head into winter golf but look forward to the lovely hot soup and cosy clubhouse when we finish.

- Helen Martin



ABOVE: Champions all. Ladies champions from left to right: Di Wenzlau (B Grade), Joy Kennedy (Club Champion), Helen Lindrea (Veterans) and Muriel Pitts (C Grade). Joy took out the gross/nett double, a great achievement.

BELOW: Lesley Poker was our Monthly Medallist for June.



Presenting more winners



ABOVE: Foursomes specialists Stuart 'Disco' McGibbon and Hayden Nielsen took out another Canadian Foursomes 27-hole championship - their seventh? or eighth? No one seemed sure, but crikey they're hard to beat. Captain Rod Threlfall and President Andrew Watson did the presentation honors.

BELOW LEFT: President Andrew presents Geoff Arundell with the 2019 Charlie Cugley Cup. Geoff clung on for a narrow one-shot win over fastfinishing Brian Edwards, whose 42-pointer on day two almost saw him come from the clouds.

BELOW RIGHT: 59's are so rare in world golf that to have one recorded by a favorite son Kris Mueck was doubly special. President Andrew was delighted to present Kris with this memento of what can only be described as a freakishly great round, played at our Pro-Am in January. Kris came back to earth with a thud earlier on presentation day this month, though, when he could only scrape together a 69 off the stick. Mere mortals could be heard quietly weeping as he lamented some missed putts.



From the Skippers

MEN'S CAPTAIN: Rod Threlfall

Recent changes to the competition entry have streamlined the process and allowed the volunteers who work in the Captain's office to be better prepared for their roles. In turn, send-off has been a little smoother. The change has also ensured that any playing requests made by Members are met.

The arrival time by some Members still needs attention, however I think this will be a process that we must continue to manage and in time I hope all those intending to play will arrive and be registered

by 11.30am for Saturday golf.

Black and blue markers have been a topic of discussion in recent weeks. Some Members have inadvertently hit from the incorrect markers and have incurred penalties. In order to alleviate confusion, I have asked the course staff to only have the correct markers out for the respective event. That is, if it is a black tee event the blue markers are removed and vice versa. This however creates an extra issue when for example the black markers are not replaced with blue then green fee players are playing from the back of the tees and damaging the teeing ground. The Match Committee will continue to discuss this issue and try to come up with a solution. One thought is that we could ask the final Member group on each hole on Saturday to return the black markers to the storage spot and place the blue markers on the teeing ground. I am happy to receive feedback on what is the best way to work through this issue.

Monthly Medal winner in May was David Baillie with a score of 83 / 17 / 66. Congratulations to David.

Mid-week qualifier winner in May is Phil Harris with 47 Stableford points, an excellent score!

Finalist in the Singles Knock out has been decided with Steven Lee and Peter Stringer winning their way into the 22 June decider. Good luck to both Steven and Peter in this Gold Letter event.

Playing numbers remain strong with more than 60 men playing on Thursdays and more than 80 men playing regularly in Saturday competition. This is a great sign for our Club where Members are voting with their attendance to enjoy our great course.

Our course is going through a significant change with the cart path construction and asphaltting. Members are reminded that I have added a local rule regarding the areas of construction to the chalk board. All construction areas are to be treated as GUR.

Lastly I would like to thank all of the volunteers who continue to work tirelessly in the office. I would also like to congratulate the staff who prepare the course for us to enjoy each week.

LADIES' CAPTAIN: Jan Walklate

What a month – Pennant final, Club Championships and the Federation Bowl have all taken place in the past four weeks.

Congratulations to all the winners, Joy Kennedy the new women's club champion, Di Wenzlau Div 2, Muriel Pitts Div 3 and Helen Lindrea the winner of the veterans.

Bendigo were the winners of the Federation Bowl.

Well done to Axedale 2 (Wombats) for making the Division 1 Pennant final, losing 2-3 it went to the wire with all matches going to at least the 16th.

May Monthly Medalist – Joy Kennedy

June Monthly Medalist – Lesley Poker

June Saturday Medal Qualifier – Ruth Iser

Thanks to Glen and Chris the course has been presented in excellent condition for all our events. Think we all looking forward to some relaxing time on the course over the next few weeks with a few stableford rounds after all the stroke played lately.

Last week we had a social evening at Intagolf with the women from Belvoir Park to announce the winner of the 2018 Beldale Classic.



ABOVE: So near and yet so far - our Division 1 'Wombats' narrowly lost the Division 1 Pennant final to Neangar Park. From left, Pam Davies, Joy Kennedy, skipper Sue O'Connor, Loretta Prowse and Ros Briggs. Raye Fleay was also a team member but was overseas when this was taken.

'Drop the envelope in the green fee ... er, vault'



Now THIS is serious security! Following a couple of instances where thieves attacked the old green fee box, Club Members Wayne 'Woofers' Mildren and Rob Scott welded themselves to the task of beefing up our defences. Solid enough job, we reckon.

AND IT'S A WARM AXEDALE WELCOME TO ...

Welcome to new Members:

James Trotter

Greg Robertson

Peter Ramsay

Colin Smith

Upcoming events

NATURAL HAZARDS

Sunday 23 June, two-person Ambrose.

LADIES PINK DAY

Charity three-ball event, Christmas-in-July & Friends day. Invite your guests along.

COUNTRY TOURNAMENTS

The Winter country tournament season is now underway. Please check the notice boards in the clubrooms for details.

BELDALE CUP

Sunday 4 August, at Axedale. Please put this one in your diary so we are strongly represented.



For all your party needs. Many thanks to Paul Pyke for his continued support of the Club.
Please try to support Paul and our other sponsors.

