



Newsletter

Autumn 2019

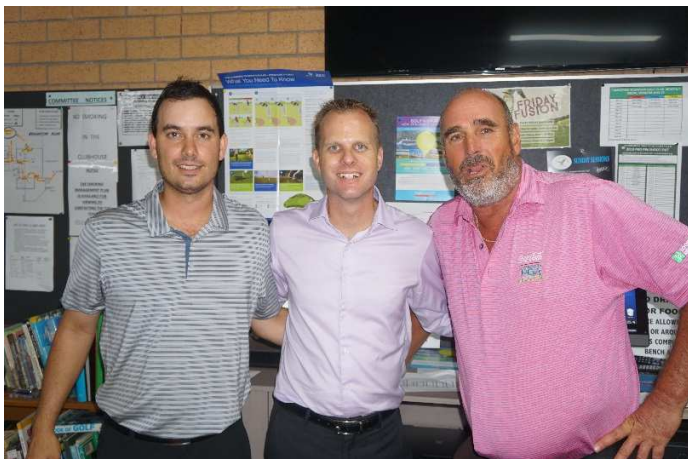
It's autumn time again and the days are getting cooler. At last!

How are you all handling the new rules of golf?

TRAINEE PRO-AM

Those of us who played in Nev's pro-am a few weeks ago had a great time. The weather was kind on the day and there was excellent golf played as approximately 40 of Nev's trainee compatriots shared rounds with our members.

Here are Nev, Broc Greenhalgh of the PGA and Fred Lang, the MC, in a huddle after the presentation.



To promote golf in the Scenic Rim, the Scenic Rim Regional Council, Golf Queensland and the region's five local Golf Clubs have developed a mid-week golfing initiative with tailored stay and play packages to attract more golfing groups into the area.

A team travelled between the five clubs preparing a promotional video to highlight the clubs and that video will be available shortly.



Right to left are: Ben Southall (Best Life Adventures Video), Mike Orloff (Golf Australia – Club and Facility Support Consultant), Andrew Revie, Richard Backwell (PGA of Australia Tour Professional), Karis Davidson (ALPG Tour

Professional), and Sarah Marshall (Jiriki Photography).

FYI – THE NEW PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE IN THE CLUBHOUSE

Sponsors who paid for the printing are Andrew and Tina, our wonderful Pro shop team, Grahame Kent of Helloworld Travel, Darcy and Jess Taylor of Subway Upper Coomera and Southport, and Rod Stehr of Ray White Rural (who is also our major sponsor for the Open event).

NEW MEMBERS

We definitely have had a spate of new members joining our little club recently and it is fantastic to see so many choosing to join TMGC and enjoy the game of golf on our top-quality course. Doesn't it stay green when other courses suffer from dry times?

Here is a list of new members who joined recently:

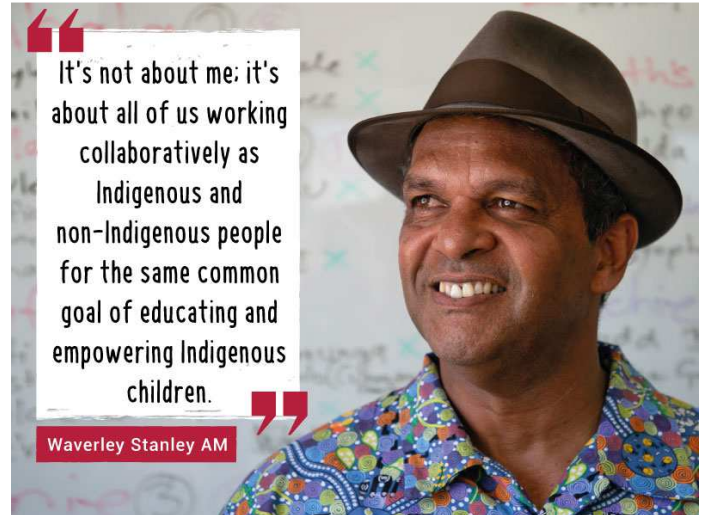
Jeremy Cragg, Scott Francis, Ian Goldby, Merv Kiley, Peter Arneson, Matthew Gollan, Brendan Anthony, Sue and Doug Heidke, Austin Anthony, Stephen Sauer, Gary Cragg, Laurence Pettinari, Marjorie Hamilton, Andy Marshalsey, Dave Roberts (returning!), Kerry Duffy, Jacinta Toohey, Matthew Shay, Bella Stoneham, John Beninger, Aaron (Azza) Dyer, Greg Kearney, Kerry Duffy, Steve Roy, Will Bligh, Thomas Cyprion, Yuki Kubota, Jarryd Gist, Jonathan Kim, Jackie Kim, Jason Howard and Mike Kelly.

A very warm welcome to you all and I do hope that you enjoy your time with us here at TMGC.

HOW GOOD IS THIS?

INDIGENOUS EDUCATOR, WAVERLEY STANLEY WAS RECOGNISED IN THE AUSTRALIA DAY 2019 HONOURS LIST.

Waverley has been appointed as a Member (AM) of the Order of Australia (General Division) within the Australian honours system. He received this honour for "significant service to the Indigenous community through support for education".



This acknowledgement stems from Waverley's years of commitment to indigenous education including the establishment of Yalari, a not-for-profit organisation promoting the education and empowerment of Indigenous children.

Waverley, an indigenous man from Murgon in remote Queensland, attributes his success to his Grade 7 primary school teacher, Mrs Rosemary Bishop who recognised his potential and helped him secure a boarding school scholarship at Toowoomba Grammar School. He quickly realised the power of education and made it his life's work to help Indigenous children achieve their best through a quality education.

"It takes all of us working together to make a difference in this country and I'm just so grateful and honoured to be recognised in this way."

Congratulations Waverley from your fellow members of TMGC. A job well done!

OTHER NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS

Our everywhere-volunteer Kev Arnold was nominated for volunteer of the year under the Golf industry awards and reached the final round but unfortunately did not get the gong. Thanks to Kev for your contributions.

NEW LOCAL RULES BOARD

Captain Todd Blocksidge has replaced the local rules board to highlight rules that apply specifically to TMGC. Please make sure you check them out.

ALTERNATIVE TO STROKE AND DISTANCE

One new local rule that needs explaining is the alternative to the existing stroke and distance rule. This rule provides for an alternative solution to an out-of-bounds ball or a lost ball on the course proper. The preferred option for a possible out-of-bounds ball is to play a provisional ball until you conclude if the first ball was indeed out of bounds or not. If you have not played a provisional ball, you have the option when you discover the ball is actually out of bounds, instead of walking all the way back to the tee (or from where the previous stroke was made), or that the ball is lost on the course, of dropping a replacement ball on the edge of the fairway from knee height for a two-stroke penalty. Note **this does not** occur in penalty areas as distinct from out of bounds.

DO I GET A DROP FROM UNDER THIS TREE?

One relatively new local rule that is causing some confusion is the relief drop from the bases of trees. This should clarify the situation.

Large green keeper's gatherings of leaves, pine needles, pine cones, sticks and grass clippings thrown by the rough's mower around the bases of trees are considered abnormal course conditions and the player may take relief under Rule 16.1b.

The committee has decided that this rule will also apply to the following situations resulting from activities for course maintenance.

1. piles of grass clippings emptied from greens mowers catchers, and,
2. piles of sticks collected together and obviously intended for later removal.

Note that this rule does not apply to the naturally fallen leaves, particularly under the two magnolia trees to the right of the sixth green, nor to bare areas under trees, even if roots are exposed. No free drop is allowed under these circumstances.

RECENT CHANGES IN THE CLUBHOUSE

How good is the new ceiling over the BBQ area and the ochre rubber mats? What a difference that work has made. Many thanks to Kevin, Jimmy and Andrew in particular and to the other volunteers who painted and installed the panels. The frame work was put in place by Roger Way's company using money from a grant the club had received.

The gutter above had to be modified to prevent overflow water from entering the new LED lights.

Kev, Jimmy and Andrew finished off the remaining small section on the outer edge to complete the overhaul. Many thanks to you all.

The furniture in the BBQ area was bought from Andrew.

RECENT CHANGES ON THE COURSE

Jason Smith and Nik Routledge have cut down three trees in the clump in front of the 9th tee, a large pine tree overhanging the club's rental house near the machinery shed, and last but certainly not least, trimmed the much-offending lower branches on the camphor laurel on the 4th fairway. That no doubt has caused much discussion among members! Some members would like more branches removed, or even the whole tree taken out I hear. But that tree defines the hole.

New concrete paths from the 5th green to the 6th tee behind the shed and in front of the practice nets will be installed next week using grant money of \$11,000 from the Scenic Rim Regional Council. We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of Council to facilitate this important work. These sections have now virtually completed the pathways needed on the course.

Dirt has been obtained to fill in small depressions in the fairways and this work will take place soon.

NEWS FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

From May, a car park space in front of the clubhouse will be allocated to the lucky Monthly Medal winner who will be drawn by lot from all the medal winners for the previous month. Who will be the lucky first?

We would like to thank Ross Barnes, Mark Browning and Garry Ronco who have spent many, many hours on the roughs mower keeping the grass at a manageable height so you can easily and quickly find your errant balls. Please thank them when you see them.

We note that our Professional Andrew continues his lengthy recuperation and we wish him a continued speedy recovery. Then back to playing golf again and how good will that be?

FINANCIALS UPDATE

For those members who would like a snapshot of how the club is sitting financially, the NAB bank balance rests at approx. \$60,000 but there are expected expenses of over \$25,000 over the next few weeks, being affiliation fees to GA and GQ, grant expenditure

on new concrete paths and some additional equipment purchases.

The balance would have been higher if it had not been for over \$6,000 spent on necessary repairs to the club's rental house, unexpected repairs to several mowers, tree lopping, water treatment equipment, completing the last section of the BBQ ceiling and the purchase of the outdoor furniture.

The SRRRC has given us a grant of \$2,500 to buy a First Aid Kit for the clubhouse, a new hole cutter for the greens and a new air conditioner for the office. Again, we thank the SRRRC for its generosity.

Hopefully in a few months we will hear if we have been given a grant for installing more solar panels on roofs to further reduce the burden of the cost of electricity on the club's coffers. Watch this space.

NEWS FROM THE PRO SHOP

As most of you took part in our recent trainee pro-am I'm sure you all had a great day. Congratulations to Nev for organising a great event and it was a testament to the course to see that +1 was the winning score for the trainees. This shows that our course holds up against any other that they play. We also recently hosted a 9-hole junior event of which we had close to 50 juniors take part and included in that was around six juniors from our club.

Trainee news

Nev recently had a win at Pacific Harbour shooting -2. Any of you who have played there knows that it is a tough course. Nev had 2 eagles and 4 birdies so his result could have easily been better.

Clubhouse news

A big thank you to everyone who regularly support Friday Fusion. It continues to be a great night and congratulations to Robbie Teasdale for winning the members draw 2 weeks in a row!! Yes, that's right, two weeks in a row. Your shout Robbie. Also, a reminder that Sunday Sessions are continuing from 1.30 to 4.30 on the last Sunday of every month. Our performer is Les Hutton from Indigo Dusk. He received great reviews last month and is a fine performer.

Regards

From Andrew and Team

NEW RULES

Since January 1 the new rules have been in operation. How have you found them?

Players are both allowed and encouraged to play out of turn in a safe and responsible way, i.e "ready golf" rather than waiting for the player farthest from the green to play first. But please do so safely as we don't want any law suits upon our heads.

Remember that under the new rules there is a greater emphasis on honesty now as some of the rules have been relaxed and the integrity, or lack thereof, will become obvious.

Please take no more than 40 seconds per shot and prepare for your shot while others around you are hitting.

The new rules of golf summarised

1. Drop from knee height (NOT shoulder height)
2. Time to search – 3 minutes (NOT 5 minutes)
3. If you accidentally move your ball when searching for it, replace it without penalty
4. No penalty for a double hit
5. No penalty if your ball hits you or your equipment accidentally after a stroke
6. No penalty if your ball strikes the flagstick when you have chosen to leave it in the hole
7. Spike marks and other shoe damage on the putting green can be repaired
8. Ball accidentally moved on putting green – no penalty and replace it
9. Ball marked, lifted and replaced on putting green is moved by wind to another position – replace ball on the original spot
10. Penalty areas replace water hazards, and you can move loose impediments, ground your club and take practice swings in penalty areas without penalty, just as you can on the fairway or in the rough
11. You can't take relief from a penalty area unless you are at least 95% certain your ball is in the penalty area
12. In bunkers you can move loose impediments but you cannot touch the sand with your club in the area right in front of or right behind your ball, during your backswing or in taking practice swings
13. Free relief is allowed if your ball is embedded on the fairway or in the rough ("embedded" means that part of your ball is below the level of the ground caused by the ball's impact)
14. Unplayable ball in bunker – extra option to drop outside the bunker for 2 penalty strokes

More golf courses are to close

The North Lakes Resort Golf Club near Brisbane and the Paradise Palms GC at Cairns are about to close.

More than 290 hectares of open space in metropolitan Melbourne is set to be replaced with houses, offices and shops, as developers make good on multi-billion dollar plans to replace golf courses they have snapped up in recent years.

In the most recent deal, Queensland property investor Neville Pask has announced plans to replace part of Rowville's 67-hectare Kingston Links course with an 800-lot housing estate.

It follows the \$125 million purchase in 2014 of Dingley's 53.4-hectare Kingswood Golf Club by ISPT and the speculated \$40 million spend by ex-Carlton footballer Fraser Brown, for the 48-hectare Amstel Golf Club in Cranbourne.

One of the biggest golf course sales occurred in 2011 when Mirvac agreed to pay \$100 million for Doncaster's 47-hectare Eastern Golf Club which is now being marketed as the Tullamore housing estate.

Golf courses are popular with developers as they are often located in established residential areas with infrastructure. Other courses on the radar for developers are in Croydon and Glen Waverley.

In Melbourne's south east Intrapac, backed by wealthy local families the Scanlons and Smorgons, are negotiating to buy the 76-hectare Keysborough Golf Club, if it can be rezoned for housing.

This mirrors the action of Frasers Property Group (formerly known as Australand) which years ago built a new Sunshine Golf Course on industrial zoned land near the former club, which has since been replaced with a townhouse-based village.

Not all recently vacated golf courses have wound up in the hands of developers, though.

In 2014 Crown Resorts paid billionaire Lloyd William \$67.6 million for the prestigious Capitol Golf Club, which the casino business offers for its guests to use.

In Elsternwick a council-controlled course has been mooted to make way for wetlands and a wildlife habitat.

Golf Australia indicates that there has been a 4.6% (approx. 60 courses) decline in the number of golf

course in Australia over the past decade and in 2017 there were 1335 golf courses remaining in Australia.

In the USA, golf participation has declined from 30 million golfers in 2001 to fewer than 24 million golfers currently. Not a healthy situation for our chosen sport.

But fortunately, our little club remains on a stable footing with enough members and sound management to keep it afloat.

See you on the course one day.

Leon Radunz

President

TMGC

Under the regulations of the Office of Fair Trading the management committee is required to inform the membership that the club has a public liability insurance cover of \$10 million.