



# Newsletter

Autumn 2020

This Newsletter is shorter than usual because I have been away for an extended period.

## **Covid-19**

The pandemic rolls on, and what a time we are going through. You have seen enough of the details in the media, so you do not need any more from me. Suffice it to say that the news changes often and for the moment the club remains open. We are more fortunate than golfers in Victoria and in New Zealand where green keepers are not allowed back on the courses for a month. They have naturally appealed, stating the obvious detrimental effect on the quality of their courses.

A recent email to all members explained how the committee is taking actions to minimise expenditures to keep TMGC operational in these trying times.

On the bright side, some members have commented to me that playing in pairs leads to a fast round. One benefit at least!

## **The new bore**

The new bore which cost about \$21,000 all up is running extremely well and is considered an investment in the club's long-term future. Plenty of water now.

## **Comparing scoring for men and women**

Vice-captain Scotty asked me to insert this explanation for those who are interested in this matter.

### **“Scoring of stroke competitions**

You will have most likely noticed that any stroke/nett competition is now scored as a Pro Nett Score. This means your final score is shown as how well you played according to your handicap. This is necessary because the par for males and females is different at our course. Examples for a male and female player are shown below.

### **Scenario 1**

	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Handicap</b>	<b>Nett</b>	<b>Pro Nett Score</b>
Male	90	20	70	E
Female	92	20	72	E

## **Scenario 2**

	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Handicap</b>	<b>Nett</b>	<b>Pro Nett Score</b>
Male	95	20	75	+5
Female	97	20	77	+5

### **Honour board winners**

Captain's v President's Teams Matchplay - resulted in a win to the Captain's team. (But watch out John as the Presidents men will be back next year!)

King of The Mountain is Mitch Revie

Queen of The Mountain is Paulette Legge

Tamborine Mountain Cup winner is Graeme Andrews

Elton Staffsmith Matchplay winner is Ryan Milner

Congratulations to these winners. Well done!

For the foreseeable future, monthly medals will be played the first Saturday of the month and then competitions will alternate between stroke and stableford for the rest of the month. The exception to this is ANZAC day where we will play a two-person Ambrose."

## **News from the pro shop**

From Andrew

"Thank you and hopefully we are still operating while you are reading this!

This month's message will be short based on the obvious, but we would like to pass on a BIG thanks to everyone who has and continues to show us support throughout this tricky time. Some of you have taken advantage of this time to have golf lessons. We hope the advice is working out for you.

The good news for us and the club is that it looks like we are eligible for the JobKeeper subsidy which will enable us to keep Nicole and Nev on staff for the foreseeable future.

As stipulated by the authorities, for our club to continue as we are, it is crucial that we all abide

by the regulations such as a maximum of two players per group, maintain social distancing no alcohol permitted onto the golf course and so on."

## **Improvements to the course**

The fourth tee area has been remodeled and some azaleas and garden removed to open the area – a great improvement. Many thanks to the volunteers who contributed the effort. Also, you would have noticed the new bright and shiny markers on the tees replacing the older brick surfaces which would not retain the applied coloured paint.

Several offending trees have been cut down for various reasons.

## **Dead patches on the greens**

This was caused by localised dry patch (LDP) a condition under which sections of the sand/soil mixture under the green becomes water repellent. It is not due to any disease.

Basidiomycete fungi (commonly found in Fairy Rings) inhabit the thatch layer below the surface and as they grow, they secrete organic hydrophobins that coat individual sand particles.

For water to remain present in the soil it must adhere to individual soil particles within the micro pore space. But the hydrophobic coating repels the water molecules which remain free in the space between the particles and are pulled out of the rootzone by gravity. The soil is left dry, even after heavy irrigation, and the grass quickly dies from lack of water.

This condition is made worse in summer because heat adversely affects the roots of bent grass, greatly shortening them.

The timely application of soil wetting agents (which closely mimic the chemistry of soaps and detergents) can lessen the effect by wetting the soil particles allowing the water to loosely adhere, long enough for the roots to absorb it.

## **And then came the lawn grubs**

Haven't they made a mess of certain areas, particularly in the rough adjacent to the fairways? They move like an army outwards devouring all in their path. But look at the bright side, at least the grass does not need to be mown for a time!

You would have noticed all the moths flying around at night too.

## **Volunteers**

I want to thank the volunteers who are stepping up to maintain the clubhouse and work on the course.

## **Your expectations of the course**

The standard of presentation of the course will not be as high as you have become accustomed to as we wind back the inputs to reduce costs. Note though, that with the cooler and shorter days looming, there will be less work needed on the course.

I need to lower your expectations as some areas will not be mown as often as before. Bear with us for the near future and we will not take long to bring the course back up to the usually high standard when this period passes.

The committee has decided to continue with the planned greens renovations from the 20<sup>th</sup> April as this is seen as crucial to keeping the greens up to spec. Please note the course will be closed on those the days, Monday to Wednesday.

## **District events for 2020**

Gold Cost pennants and interclub events in 2020 have been cancelled, as have all District meetings.

That's all for the moment. If you want to know about anything in a future newsletter, please let me know.

See you on the course one day.

Leon Radunz

President

TMGC

April 2020

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.