



RED CLIFFS GOLF CLUB Inc.

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MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #1 – MAY 2003

The President's Message

Welcome to the first issue of the Red Cliffs Golf Club's 'Members Newsletter'. The General Committee has decided to reintroduce a regular newsletter in an attempt to improve communication within the club. The "Members Newsletter" will be produced on a monthly basis, immediately following the general Committee meeting. It is important to point out that this is **YOUR** newsletter and we welcome your input. If you have something of interest that you want your fellow members to know, contact Bob Mutton who will include it in the next available issue. We hope that you find it interesting and informative.

Rod Atkins – President.

Upcoming Events & Activities

- Club Trivia Night – Friday 30th May. Make up a group and come along for a fun night.
- Irish Christmas – Late June, date to be advised.
- Games night – August, date to be advised.
- Fairway 2000 tickets are selling well, so please keep up the good work.
- Major raffle arrangements are well in hand so keep tuned for more details on how you can help this major effort.

Special Notice

Club boundary clean up.

A number of members have put their names on a list on the club notice board to help clean up the roadsides around the club boundaries. The date set for this activity will be:

Saturday 31st May @ 9.00am

The job shouldn't take much longer than an hour to complete provided all those that indicated they would help turn up. We need a ute to cart the rubbish away in and helpers are asked to bring a bag and gloves. If you didn't put your name down, but would like to help out, speak to Doreen Hamence. The more volunteers we get, the easier the job will be!

Competition! Competition! Competition

We need a 'catchy' name for the 'Members Newsletter'. There will be a prize for the winner, so have a go. Entry forms and posting box can be found on the small table in the foyer of the clubhouse. The competition will remain open for a couple of weeks to allow as many people as possible to put in an entry.

We are looking for something catchy, so get your thinking caps on!!!!!!

Feature Article

We would welcome member input to this section in future editions. This item is written by the editor

An article in the latest issue of 'Golf Management News' entitled 'Club tradition fading fast' makes very interesting reading in light of the current issues facing our golf club. I would recommend all members have a look at the article, which is now on the club notice board.

Some of the key quotes from the article include:

"The lifestyles of Australians today are far less set up for schedule and predictable social patterns."

"The whole social framework is moving further away from a commitment to schedule"

"The pressure against predictable and regimented leisure time is growing not shrinking."

These are facts of modern life and cannot be ignored. If organized clubs are to survive in this new social climate they must adapt or go under. This is the message that the current General Committee is listening to and is the major rationale behind some of the major decisions that have been taken in recent times.

The articles author goes on to state:

"All clubs must seek new validations for people being members and frequenting their clubs."

"Clubs must appeal to more than just their members. They should also appeal to their member's families and their member's circle of influence including work colleagues, friends and so forth."

It is an unfortunate fact that some clubs will not survive, due to a variety of reasons.

"However most clubs can remain viable if they get aggressive about strategic planning now."

In his closing paragraph the article's author encouraged clubs to get behind their board or committee "to foster an environment that generates progressive attitudes and takes the long term view."

There are certainly some very topical points raised in this article. In his address to the Special General Meeting held in late April our president urged all members to ask themselves "Am I thinking of the best interests of the club, or am I thinking purely of myself."

This is the Captain speaking!

The numbers in the men's field of a Saturday are improving, which is a good sign that we are enjoying our golf and our magnificent course.

District pennant kicks off in June with the first round at Red Cliffs on Sunday 1st June. This will mean that the course will be closed until all pennant players have hit off, so please observe the signs. We need players to fill our pennant teams, so please see me if you want to represent Red Cliffs Golf Club.

What about the recent efforts of one of our new members Jacob Hartshorn? Jacob is a 'B' grade player, but the way he is going he won't be for much longer. On Saturday 17th May he had a 67 net to win 'B' grade and then doubled up the following day to score 40 points in the Stableford round to win again. Well done Jacob!

At the last meeting of the General Committee the issue of men playing on Wednesday was discussed. It is important that all male members appreciate the fact that Wednesday is ladies day and as such the ladies field has precedence. There is no problem with male members hitting off prior to the ladies field or waiting until after 12.00pm to hit off. All male members are asked to please comply with the arrangements.

General Committee News

The last meeting of the General Committee took place on Monday 19th May. Some of the key issues from the meeting are:

- Moves are under way to rectify a serious transport problem on the course and for off-course work. Rod Atkins is currently investigating several options.
- The House Committee reported that the roster system is working well and that six members have registered to do the next Responsible Serving of Alcohol course.
- The committee reviewed a report from Tyco Irrigation on the state of the irrigation system on the course. The system is fast approaching the end of its useable life and the club will have to deal with this matter in the future.
- The Course Marshalling system is working well and all members participating are to be congratulated. Andrew Wood is still looking for volunteers to join the program.
- The feedback on the recent Special General Meeting was positive with a number of members indicating that they now had a better understanding of the situation the club is in. There was some concerns raised at the relatively poor attendance at the meeting, but this was offset by the enthusiasm shown by those in attendance to accept change for the good of the club.
- Project 100 is off to a good start with 26 new members accepted into the club since the Special General Meeting.
- All members who have made loans to the club will be treated equally with regard to benefits received.

Project 100

This initiative, one of the decisions taken at the Special General Meeting in April, is designed to increase the membership of the Red Cliffs Golf Club by 100 members in the remainder of the year. A 'member barometer' has been produced and will be prominently displayed in the clubhouse. All members are urged to get behind this initiative and bring along prospective members so that they too can enjoy the facilities of the club.

The new members since the Special General Meeting include:

Jacob Hartshorn	Adam Freer
Bob McDonald	Annie Stone
Anthony Shaw	Graham Tiller
Julie Mansell	Kevin Tiller
Shannon Tiller	David Lia
Tony Lewis	Brett Atkins
Joshua Francis	Joe Violi
James Baker	Wayne Moule
Colin Christensen	Mary Thompson
James Kirkpatrick	Ray Thompson
Gary Sugars	Howard Holmes
Robert Burton	Brendan Shaw
Dante Pica	Jamie Parker

Please make these new members feel welcome by inviting them to join you in a round when you have the opportunity. We are often referred to as the 'Friendly Club'; with this number of new members we now have the opportunity to prove this is true.

A BIG BIG thank you!

It is important to acknowledge the support shown by a number of members who have given their time to support THEIR golf club. It is not appropriate to mention them all by name as I might leave someone out. You know who you are and the club is the better for your support. Groups such as 'Dad's Army' who do a terrific job helping Tom keep the course in such marvelous condition. Where would we be without the people that work behind the bar? They give up their social time to ensure that the rest of us can enjoy ours. Our volunteer caterers do a magnificent job preparing food for a variety of functions or for that quick snack at the half way mark of a round. On behalf of the Red Cliffs Golf Club members, please accept our thanks for your efforts, they are certainly appreciated.

Editor's Note

What do you want this newsletter to be? If you have suggestions please let me know. Bear in mind that in the interests of keeping the cost down it will only be a single, double-sided page. Some of the ideas I have for the newsletter is to include a section for our lady members, direct input from members, comments from the Course Superintendent, and the list goes on.

Please let me know what you think!