



# RED CLIFFS GOLF CLUB Inc.

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## THE RED CLIFFS 'WHACKER'

ISSUE # 13 – JUNE 2004

### The President's Message

Hello and welcome to issue #13 of the Red Cliffs Golf Club's Members Newsletter. There is not a lot to report to you this month other than to let you know that work on the Grass Growers project is on schedule with the irrigation being installed on Toms return from holidays next week. The field for the Monday of the long weekend was very disappointing, so much so that our Sponsor H&R Block has declined to sponsor for next year and who could blame them. It was particularly disappointing that even our own members stayed away in droves. The next project to get done is the Fairway 2000 draw, tickets are not selling very well, there are quite a lot of books that have not been allocated to anyone to sell as yet, I realise that they cost \$20.00 but please tell me what can you buy for \$20.00 these days, two rounds of drinks!! As I remarked last Saturday, it is your club and it is vital that we get the support we need to make the club viable, so I implore you all to take a book and sell it for the good of your club. The committee and volunteers are working very hard to keep the club afloat, but we can't do it without your support.

I'll get off your back now and report that Ken Johnston has kindly donated one of his magnificent paintings for a raffle prize, we have had it framed and tickets for it will go on sale as soon as the golf clubs have been drawn and won. Thank you very much Ken!! It is good to have your support!

The 6<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> Tee area is now completed and doesn't it look great? Well-done Tom and all who helped with it. Work on the 12<sup>th</sup> green will commence as soon as Tom is back from holidays, a temporary green is being established and a temporary tee will be put in for Golf Week and the Club Championships.

Congratulations are in order for one of our past juniors and club champion. Gayle Cocking has won the Club Championship against a tough field at her new course of Yarra Yarra in Melbourne. Well Done Gayle.

Also a welcome back to our 2002 men's Champion and Vice-Captain Justin McPhee, Justin has been away in Europe for the last five months and even managed a game on the "Old Course" at The Royal & Ancient Golf Course of St Andrews. There will be many who are envious of that. Well-done Justin While I'm at it I should thank John Gray for stepping in and helping with the Vice Captaincy while Justin was away. Thank you John. Good golfing to you all! Thank You.

Rod Atkins. - President

### Major Raffle

Please return books and money before July 31<sup>st</sup> for the set of golf clubs major raffle. Thanks for your support.

### URGENT! URGENT! URGENT!

We are in need of more volunteer bar staff to keep the clubhouse going. If you can help see Lois and register your name and we will organize the dates for the training course.

### Social Notes & Upcoming Events

The recent cabaret was a great success with 85 members and guests having a great night despite the cold weather. Alistair Rayner's band "RMAX" did a great job entertaining those in attendance. If you have a function coming up and need a good versatile band you can't go past "RMAX". Thanks to the efforts of the hard working social committee and others who have added another \$600.00 to their already impressive fund raising total for the year.

The 'Fairway 2000' draw is coming up on July 16<sup>th</sup>. This is a major fundraiser for the club and we desperately need all tickets sold. If you have a book, get the tickets sold and returned with the money ASAP.

We are planning a 'Quiz Night' on August 16<sup>th</sup>, so put that date in your diary.

The 'Trash & Treasure' market will be held in October and we are looking for ideas. We are considering a 'car Boot sale' format this year, so if you have any ideas for a stall see Chris Healey or Mick Hogan.

### Guru Bob Says!

A sand trap is a deep depression filled with sand filled with golfers in a deep depression.

Woods are a type of club used to hit a golf ball a long distance, or the place where the ball lands after being hit a long distance.

### This is the Captain Speaking!

Red Cliffs Golf Club did pretty well in the recent "Holden Scramble" held at Coomealla. Neville Wood, Julie Ann Wood and A. Whitehouse, a Mildura member won the event with S. Tiller, K. Tiller and D. Lia, all Red Cliffs members runners up. The course is in great condition following the recent rains but there are a number of players not repairing divots and plug on the greens. If you see a player on the course without a sand bucket, remind them that it is their responsibility to repair the damage they do. Don't forget to pick up those broken tees and put them in the rubbish bins. They cause an awful lot of damage to the mower blades, which cost money to repair. Saturday fields have been holding well and Wednesday fields are continuing to improve, which means more people are starting to enjoy the facilities of our course. Good golfing to you all!

### **Recent Big Events**

#### The 'Tri-State Masters' & Red Cliffs Open

Both of these events held in the one week did wonders for our cash flow, contributing an extra \$5000.00 to our cash receipts and approximately \$2500.00 to our profit and raffle sales. Both events also enhanced the reputation of our course, with many of the Tri-State participants rating it to be the best course in the district. It is important to recognize the efforts of Tom, Neville, James and 'Dad's Army' for their untiring work.

#### Sunraysia Vets and Riverland Vets

This was another big day for the club with profits exceeding \$1000.00. This was made up of \$450.00 for meals [well done to the catering ladies], \$250.00 in green fees and \$450.00 from the bar [a big thank you to the volunteer bar staff]. The icing on the cake was the \$170.00 worth of raffle tickets sold. It was a big day for our volunteers starting before 9.00am and still cleaning up after 5.00pm. The whole club thanks you for your efforts, which are much appreciated.

### **A potential sponsorship opportunity!!!**

Chris Healey is working on a potential sponsorship opportunity and would welcome comments from members !!!

#### Advertising in the car park

There is the potential to make up to \$20,000.00 per year through the selling of advertising in the car park. The idea is to sell 54 spaces in the middle of the car park and 26 spaces facing the 9<sup>th</sup> fairway. The signs would be 1300mm X 300mm in size and supported by pine posts at windscreen level. Hopefully the signs would blend into the surroundings and not be too obtrusive. If you have any comment to make about this proposal speak to Chris Healey or any other member of the General Committee. Based on the feed back from members the General Committee will be making a decision about the proposal at the next meeting.

**Your comments are needed, so have your say!**

### **Notes from the General Committee**

The last meeting of the general Committee was held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June. Some of the key issues were:

- Treasurer Chris Healey reported a mixed outcome for the previous month with profit down on the same time as last year. Liquidity is much better than last year and club debt continues to be decreased.
- The captain reported that we are struggling to get pennant players to meet our commitment to the SDGA.
- The House Committee needs more volunteers to man the bar and is planning another training course. All members are asked to support this initiative.
- The club has agreed to participate in a Murray Valley Tourism Board initiative in conjunction with all other golf clubs in the district.
- Greens Committee very happy with the development that is going on around the course. It is important that all members are aware that course development ONLY proceeds when funds are available, or through donations from members or others.

### **Reciprocal Rights Agreements**

All members are advised that the club has entered into reciprocal rights agreements with Robinvale and Ouyen golf clubs. The opportunity is now there for all members to enjoy a round of golf at these courses without the additional cost of green fees. You are urged to make use of these new agreements.

### **The 'Birdie Jug' Prize**

The General Committee dealt with an item of correspondence from a member concerning the 'Birdie Jug' prize and how it is allocated. The 'Birdie Jug' prize at red Cliffs has been a long standing tradition and one which the General Committee is keen to see continue. However with the changing drinking habits of members it was felt that it was important to clarify the arrangements. All members who have paid their competition fee for a designated club event are entitled to access the 'Birdie Jug' prize regardless of the sized of the group they are playing in. The total value of the 'Birdie Jug' prize is \$10.00 and NOT a round of drinks for the group. If the winner of the 'Birdie Jug' prize orders drinks to the value of more than \$10.00 then they are required to pay the difference between the \$10.00 and the value of the drinks ordered. If you are playing in a group of two and you are eligible for a 'Birdie Jug' prize you are asked to take the entire value in one round to take the pressure off our volunteer bar staff to remember that you are still eligible for the remainder of the prize. That's not too much to ask! Is it?

### **General Committee member profile**

This time around we will put the captain, Neville Birch under the microscope.

Neville has been a member of red Cliffs Golf Club for 12 years and he really likes the friendly people. Neville works on the course assisting Tom Crawford helping to keep the course in magnificent condition. Neville has been club Captain now for nearly two years, but I remember the trouble we had talking him into taking up the job. I am sure most members will agree that Neville has been one of the best Captains the club has had for several years. His dry sense of humour and classic 'one-liners' at trophy presentations will be long remembered. His greatest golfing achievement has been scoring two hole in one's on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. It is clear to see why Neville rates these two holes his favourites on the course. Neville is certainly committed to Red Cliffs Golf Club.

### **Guru Bob – Again!**

Guru Bob says that advice on the golf course is the only thing in a game of golf worth exactly as much as you paid for it! Think about that !!!!!!!

### **Some final reminders!!!**

- Put your name down for the bar course. We need more helpers.
- See Graham Bamford for a book of tickets in the 'Fairway 2000'. We need to have them all sold.
- Major raffle tickets and money by the 31<sup>st</sup> July.