



RED CLIFFS GOLF CLUB Inc.

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THE RED CLIFFS 'WHACKER'

ISSUE # 15 – AUGUST 2004

President's Message

Hello and welcome to issue #15 of the Red Cliffs Golf Club's Members Newsletter. The Club championships are over for another year and congratulations to must go to our new club champion Justin McPhee, Congratulations to all of the other grade and handicap winners who are mentioned later in this newsletter, a marvellous effort from all. Thank you to all of those involved in the running of the championships, a great effort from the women who sent the fields out and who recorded all of the results and those ever faithful volunteers who work behind the bar; well done to all.

Robert Dean has won the first of the major raffles for the set of golf clubs, bag & buggy and Chopper gets a free membership for next year. Tickets will go on sale for the next raffle of the Ken Johnstone painting valued at \$1200 next week and it will be displayed in the Clubhouse for all to see, once you have seen it I'm sure you'll all agree that it is a beautiful painting by a very talented member, Thank you Ken.

The reconstruction of the 12th green has now been commenced and we will hopefully be playing on the new one very soon, in the meantime Tom and the boys have prepared what looks like a very good temporary green so you shouldn't be inconvenienced for too long.

The irrigation system has been fully installed to the turf farm and is now in operation, we are now waiting for the weeds to pop up so that we can spray them out and commence with the planting, We are a few weeks behind due to the rain making things too boggy to work in but we needed the rain so we can't complain. I am still waiting on submissions for a logo for the Grass Growers of Red Cliffs so that we can get the promotional material ready, so all of you would be graphic artists get your submissions in, we want to start with the promotion program in September.

The Club in general is running along fairly well for this time of the year and I am sure that it is mainly due to the positive response from all of you the members. Justin McPhee made the comment to me the other day the he noticed a huge difference in the attitude of the members in the 6 months that he was away. Congratulations to you all and keep up with the good work.

Anyone interested in coming on to the general committee next year should let Andrew Wood know ASAP. We have had a good team for the last two years and we need good energetic people to take over and take the club on to bigger and better things. Good golfing to you all!

Rod Atkins. - President.

This is the Captain Speaking!

The 2004 Club Championships have been run and won under the new format and there was general agreement that the system worked well. The course, as always, was in excellent condition and the weather was kind to us. The 12th 'green' held up well despite being somewhat of a challenge to putt on. The 2004 Red Cliffs Golf Club champions and runners up are as follows:

A Grade Scratch winner – Justin McPhee 314
A Grade Scratch runner up – Anthony O'Brien 319
B Grade Scratch winner – Shannon Tiller 355
B Grade Scratch runner up – Mick Hogan 356
C Grade Scratch winner – Bruce Summerfield 371
C Grade Scratch runner up – Geoff Smith 395 [count back]
A Grade Handicap winner – Paul Dominelli 291
A Grade Handicap runner up – Justin McPhee 298
B Grade Handicap winner – Col McDonald 287 [count back]
B Grade handicap runner up – Shannon Tiller 287 [c / back]
C Grade Handicap winner – Nathan Summerfield 270
C Grade Handicap runner up – Bruce Summerfield 279

Veterans Handicap winner – Col McDonald 287
Congratulations to all the winners and runners up and to all the members who played in the championships. The club would also like to thank the sponsors during the event and Sunraysia Golf factory for providing the prizes for the championships.

The Sunraysia District Junior Championships were held recently and Red Cliffs Juniors almost scooped the pool. Anthony O'Brien won the District Junior Championship, Baden Stone won the Under 15 Scratch event; Kane Stone won the Under 18 handicap and Tim walker won the Under 15 Handicap event. Well done to all those players and Red Cliffs Golf Club can be justly proud of all our junior players.

Just a final point! The refurbishment of the 12th green will now take place and a temporary green will be in play. The turf area to the left of the 18th fairway has been declared GUR, so remember to take a drop if your ball is in that area.

A Few Notes

- Leigh Bowring and Ian Ditchburn have completed their 'Responsible Serving of Alcohol' course and will join the bar volunteers. More helpers are needed so why not become part of the team. November 2004 will mark two years of service from our bar volunteers. Without the efforts of this group the club would be in serious trouble.
- We are looking for new General Committee members for next year. What about putting your name forward to serve on the committee and help your golf club???????

A Finance Update

Although the club did incur a loss for July 2004, when compared with the same time last year we are quite a lot better off financially. This doesn't mean that the club is 'out of the woods' financially, but we are on the right track. Over recent times we have had some good fund raising efforts with the 'Fairway 2000', Golf Week and the major raffle. During Golf Week for example catering grossed \$650.00, the bar profit was \$1000.00 and the stall raised \$390.00. This highlights the importance of these major events and the efforts of our hard working volunteers to keep the club going. Some of the key issues in financial terms for the 9 months from November 2003 include:

- Membership, catering and sundry income and expenses are down.
- Golf activities, raffles, bar trading, course activities and fundraising are all up
- Overall debt has been reduced \$19,000.00

As a result the club is \$4000.00 better off than it was in November 2003. We still have a long way to go so it is important that we watch the finances very carefully.

Notes from the General Committee

- Decision taken to enter into a reciprocal rights agreement with 'Sunset Cove Resort', formerly Wirrina in Sth Australia. Under the deal members get a 50% reduction at both courses.
- Decision taken to support the Red Cliffs Kindergarten Fete through the donation of two rounds of golf for two people including the use of a golf cart.
- Wineries that sponsor the club have raised concerns about the poor sales of their products at the club. The General Committee is looking at ways to improve wine sales to keep sponsors on side.
- Concerns raised at the daily competition fee charged to players that were not in the Club Championships. The general Committee agreed that there appeared to be an anomaly and would investigate the matter for future years.
- Rod Atkins and Brian Furey attended an information evening on liquor licences and advised that there are a few alterations that the club could introduce to make the system easier.
- The general Committee had a discussion on next year's committee and is urging all members to consider putting their names forward to join the General committee in 2005.

Bernie Woodall indicates he is likely to move on!

After a number of years as live in caretaker at the club Bernie Woodall has indicated that he is keen to move on. No date has been set yet, but the General Committee is keen to find a replacement live in caretaker. If you know of someone who would be interested in something similar to the current arrangement then speak to Rod Atkins as soon as possible. The General Committee would like to thank Bernie for his

Upcoming Events

- Trash & Treasure Sale – Sunday 21st November. Why don't you organise a stall to sell those things taking up space at your place. Bake a cake, pot up a plant or donate some goods. All help is greatly appreciated. Speak to Mick Hogan, Graeme Duffy or Tom Crawford.
- Finals Footy Tipping: \$5.00 will get you into the competition. Big night on Friday September 3rd for a pasta meal and count down of the last four weeks and winner of the 2004 Footy Tipping Competition will be announced. Get organized and get there!
- Ladies Golf Clinic on the 4th Thursday of every month at 4.00pm conducted by Mike Swann. See Bobbie Ramsay for details.
- Junior golf clinics every Wednesday at 4.15pm conducted by Steve Naylor, cost \$2.00. We have seen the results our current crop of juniors are getting so we need to keep up the momentum and bring the new ones along. If you know a young person who is keen on golf, tell them about the clinic.
- Ladies Chicken & Champagne Day Wednesday 1st September with a 'shot gun' start at 9.30am, drinks and nibbles around the course served to you by our professional waiters. Finish off with a magnificent lunch. Cost \$22.00

Ladies Golf

There are some big events coming up for the ladies in the next couple of months so you are all asked to note the following in your calendar.

- Mildura President's & Visitors day Tuesday 14th Sept.
- Coomealla President's & Visitors day Wednesday 22nd Sept.
- Red Cliffs President's & Visitors day Wednesday 29th Sept.
- WGV Country Tournament Tuesday 5th & Wednesday 6th October. Red Cliffs course is on stand-by for this event.
- NWWG Wind up day at Robinvale Tuesday 12th Oct.

Fundraising

We have had some great fundraising results lately, which have certainly given the club's finances a boost. The latest effort was the major raffle, which was drawn on Sunday 22nd August. It was particularly pleasing to see that all tickets in the raffle were sold.

The winner of the golf clubs was **Rob Dean** and the winner of the free membership was **Bob 'Chopper' Chase**. Congratulations to both winners and it was great to see both prizes stay in the club. All tickets for the raffle were sold, which will give us a profit of approximately \$2000.00. A big thank you to everyone who sold tickets plus an extra big thank you to Judy Dean, Julie Warne and Lois Briggs for their work behind the scenes. It is a terrific feeling when you put the work in and get a result. The next major raffle will be for a magnificent painting by Ken Johnstone so look out for