



RED CLIFFS GOLF CLUB Inc.

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THE RED CLIFFS 'WHACKER'

ISSUE #17 – OCTOBER 2004

President's Message

Hello and welcome to issue #17 of the Red Cliffs Golf Club's Members Newsletter. The magnificent weather continues and the course is looking great, work on the 12th green is finished and all we need now is for the grass to grow, Tom has done a great job with the design, when it is ready for use it will be undoubtable that it will become one of the best par threes' in the district. Congratulations Tom on a job well done! Summer membership numbers are on the increase and that is a good sign, I ask you all once again, if you have a friend, neighbour or relative that shows the slightest sign of wanting to play golf then there is no better club for them to join.

There has still been no response to the caretaker's position; It is becoming some what of a concern, Bernie has told me that he will stay on until we find a replacement so if anyone knows of anybody who's of good character and reliable who might be interested, please let me know.

The Women's Golf Victoria Championships were an outstanding success; we received some fine accolades for the way we presented our selves and the course. Many thanks to all who assisted on the days it was great to see the enthusiasm shown by the members. Thank You!

The numbers for the Cup Eve Variety Night are looking like it might be a sell-out. It promises to be a good night, if you haven't booked already you need to do so now, so get in touch with Mick Hogan and book your seat. The decision has been made to have it inside the clubhouse, which puts our limit at about 120 people, so get a wriggle on!

The year is drawing to a close and the AGM is just around the corner, for those of you that are considering nominating for committee, you need to do so, nomination forms are available from Lois or Marion and they must be posted on the notice board.

The turf farm is coming along fine, as you all can see the grass is growing at an astonishing rate, hopefully we will meet the early prediction of harvesting our first crop in January.

Good golfing to you all! Thank You.

Rod Atkins. - President.

Guru Bob says!

A dying putt is a putt that did not go in but came to rest right at the hole, as opposed to the putt that ran way by and still has a long and challenging life ahead of it full of many hard knocks and ups and downs!

Think about that!!!

This is the Captain Speaking!

The new Twelfth green is well on the way and what a great asset it will be to the course in the months and years ahead. Thanks to all the 'Dad's Army' helpers for getting the new green smoothed out, planted and watered, your untiring assistance is very much appreciated. I would also like to thank all the Red Cliffs Veterans for assisting during the Veterans Australia week and to those members who loaned their buggies to the visiting golfers. I am sure that the club has done well financially as a result of this major event and I am sure that the reputation of the Red Cliffs course will be spread even further. The course is in excellent condition at the moment and I would remind all players to continue to repair those divots on the fairways and pitch marks on the greens.

News from the General Committee

Some important decisions were taken at the last meeting of the General Committee held on Monday 18th October.

- The General Committee is continuing to work on modernizing the club's constitution. It is planned to put some changes to this year's AGM with further changes to be made in 2005.
- Tom Crawford has established a nursery adjacent to the machinery shed, which should prove to be a valuable asset for the club in the years ahead.
- Tom Crawford reported on the progress of the 12th green and indicated that there might be a need to source extra water to get us through the summer months.
- Membership fees for all categories of members were set for 2005. The fees are as follows:
Ordinary: \$320; Country: \$195
Students: \$165; Juniors: \$85
Social Playing: \$220; First Time Junior: \$55
First time Senior -\$250

The new fees incorporate a personal insurance cover for all members. More details of the insurance cover can be found elsewhere in this issue.

- The 2004 AGM will be held on Thursday December 9th and all members are asked to put this date in their calendar and be sure to attend. This will be the final year for our Honorary Auditor Barry McMillan. Our new Auditor will be Brian Cettinich. All notices of motion must be in writing and lodged with the secretary Bob Mutton 21 days prior to the meeting.
- There was some discussion about retiring half the General Committee each year in an attempt to retain some experienced committee members.

Upcoming events.

A final reminder for any early readers about the 'Cup Eve Variety Night' on Monday 1st November. Organization is well in hand and a great night is expected. If you are not going, well bad luck because you will miss a great night.

Red Cliffs Golf Club Market Day – Sunday 21st November

The second of our November events is the Market Day, which is being held on the first fairway on November 21st.

As well as opening up to other stallholders outside the club, we have a number of stalls we are running and need help with. Below are the stalls we are running and beside them the person in charge. Every stall needs assistance so put your name on the list on the notice board please.

Gate keepers - Col Richardson; Parking – Peter Hickey; Major and Minor Raffles – Julie Warne; Money Management – Chris Healy; Plants – Tom Crawford; Floor coverings & car mats – Graeme Duffy; Produce – [looking for a convenor] Morning Tea - Beryl Chappell; BBQ – Andrew Wood & Mick Hogan; Bar - Rod Atkins; Hole in 1- Neville Birch; Bric a Brac - Gill Hogan & Rita Chase; Book stall - Sue Poole China Smash – [looking for a convenor]

Tom Crawford and Duff are also responsible for advertising by way of signs etc and Rod Atkins advertising in other ways. The more we advertise the better off we are! For example you may know where we could put a sign, or have access to other forms of advertising – every little bit helps.

We have an \$8000 loan repayment due in December and we would really like to cover it with this day.

Any donations that could help any of the stalls above would also be greatly appreciated. Books, bric a brac fruit, vegies, second hand goods Anything you think we could sell. If you have another bright idea that could help improve the day in any way, please let us know. If you can help out in any way, speak to Mick Hogan or Chris Healey as soon as possible.

Membership

It is obvious that the only way that the Red Cliffs Golf Club can prosper into the future is to continue to grow its membership. Whilst this process is more easily said than done, the General Committee has tried a number of initiatives over the last couple of years, with varying degrees of success.

At the end of the day the responsibility to recruit new members to the club lies with the existing members themselves. But trying to 'reproduce' yourself may not be the best way to go. We have to appreciate that times have changed and whilst there will always be a group of people that are keen to get involved in golf in the competitive sense, there is growing number who are simply looking for some healthy exercise and an enjoyable social outing. As a club trying to survive financially, we ignore this trend at our peril.

The last issue of 'Golf Victoria' had two interesting articles that explored this situation in more detail. "Golf for Me" and "Access is Good for Golf" are well worth a read. The question we all need to ask ourselves is: 'What am I as a member of the Red Cliffs Golf Club going to do about it? If we want the club to survive, the answer is obvious!

"Giving a Golfer the PIP"

Apologies to the 'Golf Victoria' magazine for pinching a punch line from the article on personal insurance for golf club members that appeared in the last issue of the 'Golf Victoria' magazine. However I thought that it was a good way to get your attention about the very important issue of insurance cover for golfers. This issue was addressed by the General Committee at its last meeting and the new membership fees for 2005 reflect the inclusion of the insurance premium that all members will pay as part of their annual subscription. Some members may feel that they do not require personal insurance cover and may object to paying it as part of their membership fee. If you are one that doesn't feel they need insurance cover to play golf then I would recommend that you read the article in the last issue of 'Golf Victoria' entitled "A very Risky Business". After reading the article I am sure that you will change your mind. Others might object to paying the insurance premium as part of their membership fee. Well! This decision was taken to save you money. Under the deal arranged by the Australian Golf Union Red Cliffs Golf Club members can obtain significant insurance cover for approximately \$15.00 provided all members of the club participate in the scheme. To buy the same insurance cover as an individual would cost \$185.00. You can see why the General Committee made the decision to incorporate the premium in the membership fee – simply to save us all money!

What insurance cover does the premium buy?

Your Golf Club Members Personal Insurance Plan from Golf Australia Insurance protects you against major financial loss following: Loss or damage to property, third party injury or personal injury. Anytime you're on a golf course, in the Club House or the car park, you, as a golfer, face three major risks: you may be injured; you may injure someone else or Your equipment may be stolen

The first two of these risks are particularly important because they can involve legal action and large sums of money. If the injury, (either to yourself or to someone else) is serious, then factors such as loss of income, pain and suffering and compensation for permanent disability can become crucial. Such cases can take years to resolve through the courts.

Summary of Protection Provided

For full details on the AGU PIP Insurance Plan look on the 'Freeman-McMurrick' website at:

www.freeman-mcmurrick.com.au

Section 1

Golf Equipment: Sum Insured: \$3,500

Excess;

- Theft in the open air or from any vehicle: \$550
- Other burglary/theft: \$350
- All other losses: \$100

Section 2 Personal Liability

Limit: \$20,000,000; Excess: NIL

The General Committee is confident that all members will see the sense in taking out this insurance cover and the most sensible way to do it is through an all-member levy through the membership fees.