



RED CLIFFS GOLF CLUB Inc.

PO Box 449 Red Cliffs Vic. 3496

Tel: (03) 50241531; Fax: (03) 50241449

THE RED CLIFFS 'WHACKER'

ISSUE #8 – FEBRUARY 2004

The President's Message

Hello and welcome to issue #8 of the Red Cliffs Golf Club's Members Newsletter, the first one for this year. So away we go for another term. Firstly may I thank all of the members for having the faith to re-elect the others of the committee and myself for another 12 months. On behalf of the committee, and myself, we will do our utmost to keep going in the similar positive mode that we achieved during the previous 12 months, and hopefully achieve similar, if not better, result.

We are off to a good start with an extremely successful Australia Day Ambrose. With 136 players in the field, one of the largest fields we've experienced in a long time. It was a pleasure to see so many visitors enjoying our magnificent course. With the positive spin off from them and the television advertising campaign, I am sure we will see many more players on our course this year.

You will be pleased to know that we have re-established a working relationship with Shane Doherty and his company Sunraysia Golf Tours. For the immediate future we will be purchasing all of our golfing needs from Sunraysia Golf Tours and in return, Shane has offered a generous sponsorship along with promotion and inclusion in the Tri-State Masters for the Tuesday event. As well as other little tid-bits along the way. So I am happy to recommend to those of you who wish to purchase any new golfing equipment to see Shane at Sunraysia Golf Factory.

Our small but significant turn around last year was achieved mainly because of the many volunteers who gave of their time to help get all of the necessary jobs around the Golf Club done. Some of those people have worn themselves to a frazzle and we need more of your support to give them a hand, if you can spare some time to work behind the bar or stack a fridge or help out with Dad's army you would be very appreciated by all concerned. The more help we get the less there is to do by the individual. Mao's Rule To save Power "Many hand make light work!" Ahso! So much for my try at comedy! Anyway, I'm sure that if we all have a look at what we do around the Club, we will realise that we can do a bit more. Remember, it is your Club.

Memberships have been retained at last year's amounts and we would greatly appreciate all members paying their fees as soon as is possible and not waiting until the death knock. This will help the Club immeasurably.

Good golfing over the coming season. Rod Atkins. -
President.

Obituary

All members of the Red Cliffs Golf Club were saddened to hear of the recent death of long time member Dave Tapscott. We pass on our condolences to his wife Nellie and family.

Member News

The thoughts and best wishes of all members of the Red Cliffs Golf Club are with the Jack Tyrrell and his family following the serious injury to his brother Ted in northern New South Wales around Christmas time. The news of Ted's injuries has been of particular concern to me [The Editor] as I was a workmate of Ted's for many years at Sunraysia TAFE College. We are all hopeful that he will make a full and speedy recovery.

Items from the General Committee

* Playing in two competitions in the one day. This has become an issue since the establishment of the Sunday morning competition. A note attached to Rule 7 of the Rules of Golf allows for the designation of all or part of the course for practice. The committee passed a motion permitting the use of the nine holes being used for the Sunday morning competition as a practice area. The only proviso is that anyone playing in the nine-hole morning competition must play the full 18 holes in the afternoon. This decision will allow people to play in the Sunday morning competition as well as the afternoon comp if they wish.

* Sponsorship arrangements with Sunraysia Golf Tours. President Rod has provided some details of the outcome in his President's Message, but it is important that the members are aware that the Committee spent quite a lot of time going through the proposal and then gathering information to enter into negotiations with Shane Doherty. A special meeting of the General Committee was called to ratify the arrangements negotiated with Sunraysia Golf Tours. The Committee is pleased with the outcome, as there are some considerable benefits for the Red Cliffs Golf Club in the deal.

* The Green's Chairman reported that the next area for redevelopment on the course will be the area around the 6th and 13th tees. All will agree that this area could do with some sprucing up, but these things can only occur when finances permit.

* Bob Mutton was appointed General Committee Secretary for 2004. The club may need to look at an elected position of Honorary Secretary in the future.

This is the Captain Speaking!

As we draw to the end of the summer season it is pleasing to see that field sizes are starting to improve. Last Saturday we had over 70 in the field, which followed up on the 136 players in the Australia Day Ambrose. It is to be hoped that we can continue this trend into the winter season. The Summer pennant will start in late February and we are looking for starters to represent Red Cliffs. If you are interested in playing see me and I will record your name. All members should be aware that we have changed the date of the Red Cliffs Open from September to May and this year the event will include both men and women. We are still looking for trophy donors for the winter season to help take the pressure off the finances of the club. Donating a trophy is a good way of becoming involved in the club, so why not become a 'donor'. Another reminder to all players to look after our marvelous course by repairing your divots in the fairways and your plug marks in the greens and don't forget to pick up any broken tees as these can cause considerable damage to valuable course equipment.

Club Shorts!

* All members should be aware that Coomealla Golf Club have advised us that they no longer offer mid-week and Sunday competition reciprocal rights. We have advised Coomealla that as a result of their decision we have withdrawn similar rights to Coomealla members.

* The General Committee has appointed several working parties to look at a number of issues of importance to the club. The group looking at the under used club assets is Rod Atkins, Andrew Wood, Denise Rohde, Mick Hogan, Bob Mutton & Ray Patterson. Life membership presentation group is Julie Warne, Ray Patterson, Sue Poole and Peter Hickey. Bob Mutton has been asked to look at the club's rules with the view to making changes to modernize them. If you have any thoughts on any of these issues, talk to any one of the members named above.

* Steve Naylor has agreed to take over the junior program with the assistance of Nathan Riordan. If you are interested in helping out in any way, speak to Steve.

* The recent 'Fund Raising' meeting was quite well attended. A number of suggestions were made by the group, which will now be looked at in more detail with the view to developing a program of fund raising activities for the year.

* The House Committee has reported that there is growing interest in using the club's facilities for private functions. All members are asked to keep the club in mind if a social function is being planned. We have very good facilities in the clubhouse as well as the BBQ area.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBS?

Don't delay – pay up early to help our cash flow!!!!

Sunday Morning Competition

All members are advised that the regular Sunday morning nine hole competition starts in February and everyone is invited to participate. Following the decision of the General Committee to designate the Sunday morning competition as practice, members can now play in the morning and stay on for the 18 hole competition in the afternoon. The order of play each month on the Sunday morning is as follows:

1st Sunday – Stroke; 2nd Sunday – Stableford; 3rd Sunday – Par; 4th Sunday – Team event; 5th Sunday – Ambrose. Starting time is between 8.00am and 9.30am and experienced golfers are encouraged to come along and assist new golfers starting off with scoring and the rules of the game. Quite a number of new members have joined the club as a result of the Sunday morning competition and we need the support of existing members to keep this trend going.

Committee Member Profile

The Committee member profile this time is on one of the hardest working members in the club, Mick Hogan. Mick does a tremendous amount of work through his involvement in the House Committee and although him and Adrian Pike beat 'Whispering' Jack and I in a four-ball knock out a year or so ago, he isn't a bad bloke. I asked Mick to tell us a bit about himself:

Mick has been a member of Red Cliffs Golf Club for six years and he is Chairman of the House Committee and member of the Social Committee. He is married to Gill and has three children, Shelley, Danielle & Rebecca. Mick is a teacher at St Joseph's Primary School in Red Cliffs and loves playing golf with interesting and friendly people on the BEST course in the district. His best golfing achievement was taking a dollar off Justin McPhee and Anthony O'Brien in a four ball recently. By the way! – he mentioned that 'Hoss' was a great help too!. His favourite hole on the course is the 14th as he enjoys the view from the tee and the thought of hitting it over the hill, which he usually does in three or four shots. Well done Mick! Keep up the good work for the club your efforts are appreciated.

From the Editor

I have got some ideas for the 'Whacker' for this year, but I need the support of members to give me articles. I would like to start a series on the 'Characters at Red Cliffs' as I bet there have been some beauties over the years. Some of the older members must surely be able to help out in that regard. I don't care how you get the information to me, just do it! I would also like some regular news from the ladies who are such a big part of the club and do a lot of work keeping the place going. The 'Whacker' should be about people wherever possible, although it is important to convey important messages to the members. I look forward to your support of the 'Whacker' during 2004.