

August 2017

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On Sunday I attended the Volunteers Day which involved a 9 hole Ambrose hit-out and a dinner in the evening. Volunteers play a huge part in our Club and cover many different aspects of our operation. The contribution individuals make in this area is truly appreciated by the Club Management and again I would personally like to thank all those members who willingly give up their time to assist the Club.

With regard to the NZPGA the Committee has decided not to accept the invitation to host next year's NZPGA. Hosting such an event requires a huge commitment financially and manpower-wise and it was felt that we were better positioned to host a smaller event as we have done in the past. Obviously some decisions need to be made on this rather quickly and we will keep you informed.

In the last couple of weeks submissions on the proposed Wallace Development Centennial Park have been released by the City Council. The next stage is all submitters can respond to any of these which we will do. This is being worked on right now and will need to be submitted by 4<sup>th</sup> August. The sub-committee working on this project also intend to meet with the Wallace Development team for a general discussion on the development.

As many of you are probably aware, our Course Superintendent Malcolm Wells has resigned after 11 years in the role. Malcolm and his team have done an outstanding job preparing and maintaining our course. Malcolm leaves on very good terms to pursue his own business ventures and will also be involved on a part-time basis with the Feilding Golf Club. I am sure that all members will join with me in wishing Malcolm all the very best for his future. Malcolm will finish late August. The role has been advertised with applications closing on 4<sup>th</sup> August.

Competition wise we are down to the quarter final round of the McLennan competition and as always interest is very high when it gets to this point in the competition. The Women's Club Champs qualifying rounds have been completed and the Men's qualifying rounds are not too far away either.

Enjoy your golf.

Peter McRedmond - Club President



#### **GENERAL MANAGER**

The July Committee meeting saw a robust discussion regarding the club's finances. It is pleasing to see with two months of the financial year to go, the café/bar continues to trade exceptionally well. The Golf Shop is showing good trading results and outside of something going wrong will be on or close to budget. An excellent result for the first year of trading with the Committee and Management more than satisfied with the way the whole club collectively is tracking in this financial year. The Committee also signed off on a strategic plan for the Golf Shop which will become a working document for management and staff.

The Club has a number of events and promotions booked in which is fantastic. With this we have increased number of visitors to the Club which is great! The more people we can expose to our phenomenal Club the better! Whether that be through the café or a function, or visiting golfers, we collectively need to make all visitors feel welcome and I know many of you do as they may be future members of our Club.

A visitor that has a great experience at the Club is also going to be a great advocate or salesperson for the Manawatu Golf Club. This puts pressure on facilities such as car parks and clubhouse usage. We do try to manage these impacts as best we can but the reality is we need visitors to the Club and it is not going to slow down.

Having been in the role now for 4 months, I have noticed visitors don't realise the 9th hole has a driveway through it and some will fail to stop when leaving. Two pillars are currently being constructed and will have the appropriate signage cautioning visitors leaving to take extreme care.

Sponsorship is ongoing at the club and with that in mind we have had the 10th tee signage become available. The tee is in a very conspicuous place, seen both from the course and the road. If you would like your business name on here then please contact me for more details.

While we are on sponsorship, the Manawatu 36 Hole Open Tournament requires a sponsor in October. Once again if this is of interest to you please contact me

Good golfing everyone and please enjoy your club.

Regards
Warren Collett-General Manager





# Wine Match Dinner

AT THE MANAWATU GOLF CLUB

6.30pm, Saturday 5th August

\$85 per person

Exquisite four course meal expertly paired with five tasting wines presented by winemaker John Kavanagh from Te Kairanga, Martinborough.

SUPPORTED BY THE VILLAGE WINE TRADER



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**FUNCTIONS & EVENTS** 



#### **Pro Shop**

Hi Everyone, what a wet July it has been. I hope August brings some sunshine with it!!!!!!!

WOW what a Open Championship that was and how good was it to go home after work during the week and watch live major golf on the telly. It was also great to have two kiwis playing in the field as well (Ryan Fox & Mike Hendry, who is a big fan of our club). Unfortunately for them, they both missed the halfway cut, especially Ryan who missed it by a single shot.

Golf tip for August: What can we learn from the Open Championship this Year:

There were two players at different stages of the tournament that found themselves in all sorts of strife and the tournament looked over for both of them at that time. The first was Rory McIlroy. After 6holes in the first round he found himself 5 over par. You could say that's the tournament over for him after he has barely started. The second player was Jordan Spieth we all saw how he was struggling for the first 13 holes of the final round. Both of these players could have easily thrown in the towel!

This is what each of their cadies said to them during this time:

JP Fitzgerald (Rory's Caddy) "You're Rory McIlroy, what the f\*\*\* are you doing?".

Michael Greller (Jordan's Caddy) "Do you remember that group you were with in Cabo last week?" referring to the time he spent with Michael Jordan and Michael Phelps. "You belong in that group. You're that calibre of an athlete. But I need you to believe that right now, because you're in a great position in this tournament. This is a new tournament. We're starting over here."

Rory ended the tournament at 5 under in T4th. Jordan, we all know how that ended. So what can we learn and how can we relate it to our own games.

#1: Never give up on your round at any stage whether it's a rough start or struggling to finish the round. #2: We don't have great caddies to give us a pep talk so we need to do it ourselves to change our negative mindset into a positive mindset to kick start our rounds. #3: Focus on the now. One way that can work quite well is focus on 3 holes at a time and have goals for each of the 3 holes. It is a round within a round.

Just remember if you have any questions regarding your game please don't hesitate to ask us.

Your Proshop team

Alan, Andre, Ben and Maraea

#### MEN'S GOLF

#### Club Captain's Report

The first Saturday of the month saw a great round by Creagh Eising, who took out the Craigs Investments Partners Tankard, kindly sponsored by Ewan Westergaard.

Creagh, who won the top division on the previous Wednesday with 40 pts, cleaned up with 41 pts.

He won the Pros comp, best gross -76 (9 h/cap), a nearest to the pin and had a two. Outstanding golf.

Saturday 15th was meant to be the annual interclub with Palmerston North. This was canned on the Friday, with both courses just way too wet. A real shame for both clubs. The women had 48 players booked, one of the larger interclub fields for them.

This fixture is an important one, and we have managed to find another date. Saturday October 21.

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July saw another rain disrupted day, but the course was kept open. A few hardy souls braved the very wet conditions, well done to you.

Due to the lousy weather, we have "placing through the green" until further notice. This means you have 15cm clean and place anywhere on the course. The usual rules of golf apply in relation to casual water.

Good golfing everybody

BC



Creagh Eising – Winner of the Craigs Investment Partners Tankard

#### MEN'S GOLF

#### Vodafone Men's Club Champs 2017

The two rounds of qualifying for the Vodafone Men's Club Champs are Saturday 12th and Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August. These are stroke rounds (so there are **no gimmes**).

You will qualify based on your best gross round over the two Saturdays. Morning players can enter as per the normal start sheet, however if play is cancelled due to frosts, it is bad luck and you will not be able to enter a score on that day.

There are club draws for those who wish to play in the afternoons, entry as per "Event Registration" page on the Manawatu Golf Club's webpage under the Member Access drop down

When getting your card you must press the "Qualifying" button on the touch screen.

Seniors (up to 8.5 handicap index) play off the Black tees, all other grades play off Blue tees.

For the club draws we will do our best to match players of similar handicap index. We will not honour any requests for playing partners or tee preference.

We will try to alternate start tees over the 2 rounds, e.g. seniors off 1st tee in round 1 and off 1oth tee in round 2.

If you are planning that long overdue holiday in September/October then please don't enter as no dispensations will be given during the rounds. The same applies to finals day on 5th November. If you are not going to be here, then please do not enter.

The top 16 in each grade qualify for the Main draw (matches played of the stick), and the next 16 qualify for the Handicap draw (shots given based on handicap). First round losers in the Main draws enter Flights (left hand side of draw sheets in Card room).

We suggest you organise and try and play your matches early. Hopefully we do not have the issues of last year to content with. Qualifying scores for the top 16 in 2017 were Seniors <89 (this is correct!), Intermediate <87, Juniors <95 and C-grade <106.

Round 1 matches to be played by 16 September, round 2 and round 1 of flights by 14 October. Semi-finals and semi-final flights to be played by 28 October. All finals to be played on Sunday 5th November at times provided by the match committee. Overall winners are invited to play in the Manawatu-Wanganui District Men's Champion of Champions and Chamberlain Shield at Marton on November 19th.

This year major finals (Senior (<9 handicap), Intermediate (9 to 15 handicap), Junior (16 to 20 handicap) and C-grade finals (21 to 40 handicap) are all to be played over 36 holes with the other matches played over 18 holes.

Best of luck!

#### WOMEN'S GOLF

#### Club Captain's Report

Our Qualifying Rounds for the Club Championships are over and I have put the Draws up in the Card Room downstairs and the draw has also been sent to everyone in an email. The numbers are a little down on last year but this is due mainly to so many "Golfing Tourists". It was also very sad that the 3 Saturday rounds were so wet. But well done to those who persevered and played in last Saturday's torrential rain, including Janine Healey who had her best round in ages. Do look at your dates and get in contact with your opponent and try and find a fine day to play as soon as possible. September includes the Devils Own when the course is closed and many of us are going up to see Lydia Ko so it would be good to have a few dates put aside for these matches if you can. Check your programme book. Good luck and good golfing to all those who entered.

As you know the course was closed the weekend of the 15-16th July because of rain and we had the Interclub with Palmerston North programmed for that day. We had a very good field willing to play that day and I do hope we get the same number for the next date for this event which is now going to be held on Saturday the 21st October. This is the day before the Manawatu Open Championship so the course will be at its best.

Congratulations to the Championship Pennant Team for winning the Pennant. The details are all covered in Tania's overview on the next page. The Weekend Pennant Team wasn't that far behind either so thanks to those who gave up their weekends to represent the club.

Our Silver and District Teams still have a few rounds to play as they only play every 3 weeks and a few rounds have been washed out.

The Silver Team of; M Bodell, J. Clifton, S. Fletcher and S. Burmeister had a good win over Eketahuna on Monday 24th July at Marton. The District Team just missed out on a win against Palmerston North. Many thanks to our driver Christine Rose, who organised the van and trailer. I must say the jockey wheel is a great help.

Among our many golfing tourists our very own Claire Davis and her husband Alistair, travelled to Bermuda to support Team NZ and even got to hold the Old Mug. They met all the team members and had a very exciting time.

Angela Pivac - Women's Club Captain



Claire and Alistair Davis w Grant Dalton from Team NZ. Showing off the well deserved silverware!

# Women's Championship Pennants Report

Hi everyone, Tania here. I thought I'd give everyone a short run down on our woman's championship pennants team's winning year.

So Rebecca and I started the season off at Taihape with a great win which set the tone for the next few rounds. We had a great time and really worked well together playing good fun golf which got the team to a great position on the table. Halfway through the season Deb bought in the talents of our great young golf up and comers Mudra and Lily. They both took up the challenge and carried on the great form of the team.

The last few rounds I played alongside Mudra to get us to the final weekend where the team sat on top 3.5 points up on Levin A. The final round was held at Rangitikei golf club. I picked up Mudra in the wee small hours and off we went pretty excited and ready to go. When we arrived we were informed that Levin's opponents for the day had defaulted and they would be given the full 5 points. Mudra and I looked at each other knowing what had to be done. I hit the first ball of the day and we never looked back! The 6-5 win in the morning foursomes had us in great spirits but with still work to do as we were now only 0.5 points behind needing just one win to take the pennant. In the afternoon singles I won 9-7 and Mudra 5-4 not long



Tania Hook and Mudra Lakhani

after. It was a great finish to the season and we were both pumped to take all 5 points and bring it home for the whole team and the Manawatu Golf club. It was a happy car ride home.



Mudra Lakhani, Lily Griffin, Tania Hook and Rebecca Hopper. With the winning shield and Pennant flag Absent: Charlotte Bedford

Firstly I'd like to thank Deb for all the time and great work you put into our team and all women's golf. Your support and fun loving attitude always brings the best out in everyone. Thank you to all the Ladies, Rebecca, Mudra, Lily and Charlotte. It's a privilege to represent the club and play alongside you all whether its pennants or even on a Saturday. It's always great fun and really brings out the best golf in us all.

Great work this season ladies and looking forward to the defence next year!

#### Tania Hook

#### WOMEN'S GOLF

#### Saturday Convener Report

Sadly the wet weather in July has resulted in very little Saturday golf being played. Our annual interclub fixture with Palmerston North was cancelled due to the course being closed; this has been re-scheduled for later in the year - Saturday the 21st October. Also weather-affected has been the qualifying rounds for our club champs. Some hardy souls persevered though and were rewarded with respectable scores.

A big shout-out to our Saturday convenor Ann-Marie Jackson who selflessly accompanied Janine Healy and Lily Griffin around in atrocious conditions as they achieving qualifying cards on the last available day. It was a soggy but happy group (pictured) that made it back in for a well-deserved hot lunch. We look forward to some much improved golfing conditions for the champs matches. Go the Saturday contenders!

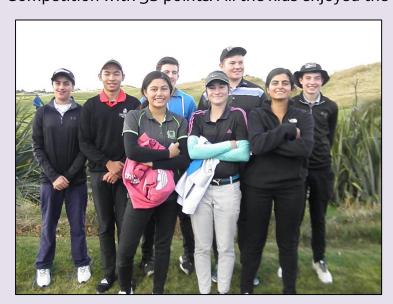


Janine Healy, Lily Griffin and Ann-Marie Jackson.
The ladies happy to be drying off!

#### Linda Hill – Saturday Convener

# Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club Junior Open

A group of club and wider district juniors made the annual trip down to play the Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club Junior Open. The weather was stunning and the greens fast. As per last year the local girls took away plenty of prizes and the boys none! Well done to Lily Griffin who took out 2nd best Stableford with 37 points. Wanganui's Tara Raj won the girls competition with a gross of 72. Her sister Sera came first in the Stableford Competition with 38 points. All the kids enjoyed the day away!











### MIXED 9 HOLE

The finalists have been found for the Gillespie and Lavender Cups. Finals to be completed by 16<sup>th</sup> August.

Last week we went to Wairakei taking up the special deal to play this lovely course. The wild life was amazing!

The Winners were:

- Men's 9 Holers Doug Muir
- Ladie's 9 Holers Julie Meiring
- Men's 18 Holers Brent Cawthray

We had a group of 21 who thoroughly enjoyed this trip. The success of these "Roadies" is the wonderful participation from our 9 Hole members and the regular 18 hole attendees. Thanks to the "Crawfords" for their organisation and Ken & Ken for their entertainment

Look out for the next "Roadie" opportunity wherever it may be - Everyone is welcome!

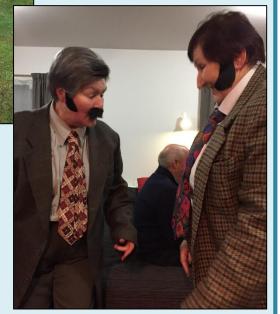
Good golfing

Colleen Fraser

Barbara Smith feeding a deer on the course at Wairakei Golf and Sanctuary



The "Roadie" group relaxing



Ken and Ken

#### **COURSE REPORT**

As we come to the end of a wet and wild July, we all are looking forward to some dryer months ahead. The last month has been slow with course work, usual maintenance program as well as a lot of draining of some course areas.

Certain areas have also been treated for worms. The 3rd blue Tee has been turfed and re-laid, just the surrounding area is yet to be shaped. This will be in play in August.

Please continue to repair pitch marks and replace divots.

As everyone is aware Malcolm Wells has handed his notice in at the club. Malcolm's last day of work is the 25th of August. The greenkeeping team will be sad to see him go, we wish him well in his future endeavour and starting up his business. On a personal note it has been a pleasure working for Malcolm & I have gained a lot of knowledge from him.

The greenkeepers wish you all well in the coming month

Kiel Stechman – Greenkeeper



"I can now relate to what you're going through. I had to carry my clubs for all 18 holes today."

# 2017 AUSTRALIAN FINE TURF CONFERENCE/FTMI PROGRAM

Out of 70 applicants, I was lucky enough to be chosen as 1 of 20 people to join the FTMI (Future Turf Managers Initiative). I was also 1 of only 5 New Zealand candidates selected. The program ran for two and a half days with the fine turf conference running the first half of the week. It was an amazing feeling being chosen for the program.

During the conference, I attended workshops as well as talks from people to help us all in areas throughout the industry from General Manager, Superintendent to greenkeepers and volunteers.

Workshops of interest were:

Understanding the effects of shade in high maintenance turf-grass systems. This talk was about shade or specifically, a lack of it, is a grass killer. Three speakers went on to explain how many hours of light, that a certain turf-grass species need, to maintain adequate photosynthesis and growth. Lack of light combined with the Continues on next page....

preparation for play (machinery and going traffic), deterioration of surface will occur. Ultimately this effects the presentation and playability of surfaces. "It's not what you do to get them through. It's what you don't do". They use an app called "Sunseeker", this is a long process where you go out and take photos throughout the day at set intervals (usually hourly). Sunseeker app measures the solar path in hour intervals, Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR). Measure of Light (MOL) is the measurement of hours of sunlight. By using charts, they show Turf Quality vs MOL, with less light quality of turf decreases. In Australia, they are talking about Bio Banking, this is to do with cross crediting trees to remove trees of problem. An example of this would be, waste areas with plenty of trees and putting a covenant on them so in turn being able to remove trees shading turf-grass areas all using a point system.

Understanding herbicide resistance was the second workshop I chose to attend. The workshop discussed how herbicides work, why herbicide resistance occurs and the relationship between the changes in plant biology and herbicide resistance. Some control methods they discussed were, rotating herbicides, by spraying younger plants has better control.

Other talks included; Making the most of your opportunities (networking, volunteering), Safety – think it, talk it, walk it a – get your staff/team involved in the journey, Lee Strutt (Royal Automobile Club) – he talked about his time at the Ryder Cup as a volunteer, how the process of setting up the course pre-tournament, throughout morning and night and the cleaning up, Risky Business – This talk was about the legal side of things in the work place to do with Termination of employment of both yourself and terminating and employee, Building a team – talked about a generation change in employees, showing a leadership style in order to retain the best staff. Where will the future recruitment come from, how to create succession planning and employee incentive to stay engaged within your team.

Wednesday afternoon was when the candidates for the FTMI program gathered. We were welcomed by JACOBSEN (the main sponsor of the program), the AGCSA (Australian Golf Course Superintendent Association) along with four Mentors. We then went on to team building activities which included, memory games, archery and a night vision walk. BBQ tea was served as we all stood up and introduced ourselves and background.

The two days included, Budgeting, CV building/Interview techniques and working to succeed. Budgeting covered everything from, how to read a budget to find out how well or not things are going, there was an example of clubs merging to survive and how it succeeded, this maybe times to come with the trend of smaller clubs struggling. Building budgets from scratch by using spreadsheets, this tool can use formulas in Excel to help. We were then shown how to sell a Budget and how to deal with cutbacks.

"Working to succeed not survive", Importance of career planning, the trends in the Australian job market concerning Superintendent and other golf course positions.

\*CVs and Covering letters, what to include and what to leave out.

\*Effective Communication Strategies – teaching us to use skills and techniques including gestures, stance and voice that can be used to get your point across. Mentors gave each student a question with no notice to see how we would react and the outcome, my question was, what do I feel is one of my greatest achievements to date? My answer: my greatest achievement was the birth of my son Carter Stechman.

\*Interview Techniques – following Communication Strategies we were then shown mock interviews, following these we conducted interviews within our groups. Mentors demonstrated a board meeting, the Superintendent bringing forward a motion to purchase a new Greens Roller. This was very realistic.

The FTMI program then finished up with farewells along with Certificates for completing the Program.

During the week, I also attended the Presidents Dinner and a Farewell bash. President Dinner was formal dress, restaurant meal, then they had a Magician as the entertainment at the end of the night. I was lucky enough to get pulled up on stage. During the dinner, they had their awards for the Australian Greenkeepers. Farewell bash was the last night, this was a chance to mingle and extensively sample the finger food that was served through the night.

The experience of going along to the conference was well worth it. Networking, meeting new colleagues as well as discussing certain ideas to help with your course was great. The workshops and talks/discussions were valuable and filled with information. The FTMI program is great and it encourages up and coming Greenkeepers to strive to achieve. It was a great pleasure to wear my name badge with Manawatu Golf Course on it. I would encourage future Greenkeepers to apply for the FTMI program and attend future conferences. Thank you to the Manawatu Golf Club for helping me fulfil this opportunity.

# Assistant Greenkeeper

#### Kiel Stechman







#### **RULES CORNER**

Most of our members will have seen the incredible finish to the recent Open Championship at Royal Birkdale and how Jordan Spieth, after a very wayward drive on hole 13, used his knowledge of his options under Rule 28 (Ball Unplayable) to provide an opportunity for him to recover from a seemingly impossible position. As this situation commonly arises on our course, it is timely to look at Rule 28 and consider the options available when confronted with an unplayable ball.



The first point to consider is that the player may deem his/her ball to be unplayable at any place on the course except when the ball is in a water hazard. The player is the sole judge as to whether his/her ball is unplayable.

If the player deems his/her ball to be unplayable the player must under a penalty of 1 stroke select and proceed under one of the following 3 options.

- a) Proceed under the stroke and distance provision of Rule 27-1 by playing a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played: or
- b) Drop a ball behind where the ball lay, keeping that point directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped with no limit as to how far behind that point the ball may be dropped: or
- c) Drop a ball within 2 club-lengths of the spot where the ball lay but not nearer the hole.

If the unplayable ball is in a bunker, the player may proceed under Clause a, b, or c. If the player elects to proceed under clause b or c, a ball must be dropped in the bunker.

In Jordan Spieth's case, he was able to use option b after clarification that the practice area was in bounds and he could go back as far as he wished, to provide the lie and distance he was seeking for his next stroke – in doing so he encountered other issues (immovable obstructions) which were on this line and quite rightly was given appropriate relief from these before playing his third stroke. Note for play of hole 9 on our course, the Local Rule precludes a player from declaring a ball unplayable in the trees on the left of the fairway and proceeding under option b of Rule 28 (for hole 9, the practice fairway is a non- playing area) However when playing hole 18, a player could declare a ball unplayable and if necessary or advantageous, proceed as Jordan Spieth did and drop a ball on the correct line on the practice fairway.

In many cases, taking option b will not be possible or desirable (the line behind the ball may be OB or a densely wooded or heavily grassed area). Similarly, there may be no relief using option c. There simply may be no relief within 2 club-lengths of where the ball lays.

If options b and c are not available or practical, the player must proceed under option a, and under stroke and distance penalty play a ball from where the original ball was last played.



News from the Hokowhitu Café and Bar.....



Special Pre-packed Sandwiches available from the PROSHOP. Grab one when you get your card before you head out on the course

Available: Wednesdays & Saturdays

\$4 each

Available at the PROSHOP



The 2017 Cancer Society Daffodil Day Launch is to be held at the Manawatu Golf Club

<mark>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August - Midday till 2:00pm</mark>

\$40 per person including a buffet lunch

Guest speaker: Dr Louise Reiche

Contact the Manawatu Cancer Society on o6 356 4011 before Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August to book your tickets (limited tickets available)



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#### **NEW MEMBERS –**

The Committee would like to confirm the acceptance to the Club of the following new members who applied in June 2017

7 Day Member - Tim Belcher, Steve Lange

5 Day Member – Stephen Blackmoore, Mark Piper

Under 25 Member - Oscar Stewart

9 Hole Member – Brian Cotter, Jenny Kim

Full Playing Junior - Cody Simpson

During this same period, 16 members resigned bringing our total membership number to 946 members. We wish our resigned members all the best and welcome our new members, we are sure you will enjoy your time at the Club.

# What's on in August...





# Courtesy Ford



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