

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to Spring Golf! The course has come through the Winter remarkably well, and, having played a number of other courses lately, I'm always reminded of how good we have it here at the Manawatu Golf Club!

Congratulations to our MGC Handicap Pennants team — bringing home the Pennant in Feilding over the weekend. This caps off a tremendous Pennants season, not just by results, but also by the culture created. Thanks to all involved — players, convenors, managers, and Bos.

It was a pleasure to attend the Volunteers Appreciation Dinner this month. This is a lovely opportunity to thank the people who give so much to the club. The atmosphere of the evening was awesome, and the sense of pride in our club from the people who make it great was neat to be a part of.



This month we have finalised the FY24 Budget. This is an aspirational and realistic budget for the year ahead. The Course Plan and Operations Plan are developed in parallel with the budget; these are being finalised now, and I can assure the membership that there are a lot of exciting plans ahead. The possible big items, such as the Irrigation Project or any development of the Driving Range, will be communicated widely to the membership before decisions are made.

The Course Committee have been responsible for leading a number of trials of ideas that will make our course safer or better or both. Change is not always popular, but I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for making the decisions that secure our course for the next generation of golfers. I am pleased to see the tees return to their original position on Hole #7 — I was sick of hooking my tee shot into the trees on the left and now I can look forward to returning to slicing it out of bounds on the right!

September at the golf club gives us lots to look forward to — the opening of the New Cart Shed, the Wine Match Dinner, the return of the Devil's Own Golf Tournament (hosted by MGC since 1932), and the early rounds of the Club Championships will take centre stage — with so much on at the MGC I hope I still have time to watch the Warriors win the NRL and the All Blacks start the RWC in France with a bang.

Thanks to all the members who make our club great, thanks to the MGC staff who really do go above and beyond, and thanks to the various committees who are providing the strategic leadership to ensure we can enjoy our superb club and course for another 125 years.

**Brent Cawthray - President**

# MESSAGE FROM THE CLUB CAPTAIN

August brought more rain and difficult conditions for all players and again meant that we have had several days being disrupted due to the normal winter weather. Congratulations to all members who slogged their way around the course through the wind and rain. To be fair, the course has held up well this winter, so a big thanks to the greenkeepers who toiled each day just to allow us golfers to get around the course. We still have "Placing through the general area" until conditions improve.

September will again be a busy month, with the men's club championship rounds finally getting underway. Also, please remember the course is closed to members from September 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> for the Devils Own tournament, so plan ahead.

## Men's Club Championships 2023

Luckily, the weather gods looked after the men trying to qualify and both days went ahead without a morning frost or a course closure. So, qualifying was achieved on schedule and the draws for all divisions are in the card room.

It is important to remember that as per the entry condition, you must make sure you arrange matches early as there will be **No Extensions** other than a course closure. The last play date afternoon is the default day if players cannot agree to play, so keep those dates free. For more info, please refer to the 2023 Programme Booklet. It's all there.



The Top Qualifiers and gross scores were:

Senior: Mitchell Proctor 72

Intermediate: Steve Aburn 81

Junior: Dave Boswell 84

C Grade: Tony Rule 90

## McLennan Cup Men's Pairs Competition Final

Congratulations to the father & son team of Mike & Kaleb Fagan who won the MacLennan fourball competition 3 and 2 over James Lovegrove and Greg Codyre. It seems it was a match between Kaleb & Greg, with 6 birdies and an eagle scored between the 2 of them.

This Men's Pairs Cup is one of the most sort after club trophies, having been competed for since 1912. So well done in winning such a prestigious club trophy!





# MESSAGE FROM THE CLUB CAPTAIN

## Craigs Investment Partners Tankard 5<sup>th</sup> August

Big congratulations to Andrew Daubney who won the Craigs Investment Partners Tankard for August. A fantastic 42 stableford points easily beat off multiple players who scored 37 points, including Darryl Chalmers, Leigh Thomas, and Peter Steer.



## Men's Handicap Pennant 2023 Winners.

### 20<sup>th</sup> August Semi-Final

This was played at Manawatu Golf Club in moderate wind and with grey skies above. Waimarino came to play, and the games were played with great team sportsmanship and skill. All matches were close but, in the end, Manawatu came through with a great win 6&3, to carry on our run of form and remain undefeated so far this season. Semi-final results were:

Trevor Shailer 5&4 win, Brian Spencer 2 up win, Steve Aburn 1 up win, Bevan Clarke 5&4 lost, Grayson Joines 2 up win, and Gus Fowler 2 up win.

### 27<sup>th</sup> August The Final

Our Men's Handicap Pennant Team had a great victory beating Marton 5.5 to 2.5 at Feilding in the MWGA District Final. Points came from wins from Trevor Shailer 5&4, Jack Clarke 3&1, and Kaleb

Fagan 2up. Brian Spencer halved. The Four ball matches were 2 wins and a loss.

Others in the team were Gus Fowler, Ryan Block (reserve) and manager Bevan Clarke, who did a great job with his fine selections in a tough competition. Thanks also to Sam Turner, Grayson Joines, and Barry Griffin who also played through the series. Congratulations to the team who were undefeated through the whole competition series.



# MESSAGE FROM THE CLUB CAPTAIN

## 23rd Sept Saturday Men's Bus trip to Pahiatua

The above course closure means we have a bus trip to this fantastic course. The cost is \$50 each, which includes the cost of the bus, golf fees, snack, and blind stableford partners. It is a great day, and we will be home early, so just register on the sheet in the card room or see me.

## Carts on the Course

Red lines have been painted on all holes to indicate where a golf cart can drive up to. Golfers and golf trundlers are welcome to go past the lines, but under no circumstances can Golf Carts pass the red lines.

## Returning Of Scorecards – A Friendly Reminder

As the Club Captain of the Manawatu Golf Club, one of my jobs is to monitor the entry of golf cards by club members after playing a round of golf.

This is very important for the integrity of the scoring system as well as the fairness of golfers when playing competitions or matches. There seems to have been some confusion in regard to matchplay cards, with some members believing they aren't required to enter cards for handicapping. This is incorrect. The handicapping system requires that scores from all forms of competition, including matchplay, must be entered for handicapping purposes.

A quick summary of the NZ Golf Club Rules is that "when playing with a partner and have played 12 holes or more, you Must enter a scorecard."

Please note the full Match committee Playing Rules are on the noticeboard in the Cardroom. It is very important that you familiarise yourself with them for your future reference.

## Golf Handy Hints:

### Entry of score cards

Refer to programme book for procedure. The Golf Club's policy is that the marker enters the player's

score into the Dot Golf touchscreen. Cards must be entered immediately after the round is completed. In Gross & Net Stroke competitions, the Pickup option must be selected on holes where the ball has been picked up (not putted out). If after entering a card this issue is realised, please contact the Golf Shop in the first instance to arrange for proper entry of card score.

## Handicap Committee

The Handicap Committee is made up of the Men's and Women's Club Captain and one other member from the Match Committee. The Handicap Committee's main functions are to ensure that all members of the Manawatu Golf Club comply with the USGA Handicap System. The Handicap Committee shall reduce or withdraw the handicap index of players who do not return all acceptable scores, or otherwise do not observe the spirit of the USGA Handicap System. Players who have their Handicap Index withdrawn become ineligible for competitive play. The Committee may make the penalty and score adjustments without directly notifying the player.

## Up and Coming Events:

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September:** Imlay Saunders Final and Consolation Finals Day.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September:** Men's Devils Own Cup Day. Men's Club Champs 1<sup>st</sup> round to be completed. McLennan Consolation final to be completed.

**22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> September:** NZ Lawyers Devils Own Tournament – Course is closed.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September:** Men's bus trip to Pahiatua GC

Good golfing to you all.

**Alan Savell**

**Club Captain**





## Some Rules Of Golf

Here are a few rules from the **Golf NZ website**.



## 5 Playing the Round

### 5.1 Meaning of Round

A “round” is 18 or fewer holes played in the order set by the Committee. When a round ends in a tie and play will go on until there is a winner:

- Tied Match Extended One Hole at a Time. This is the continuation of the same round, not a new round.
- Play-off in Stroke Play. This is a new round.

A player is playing their round from when it starts until it ends (see [Rule 5.3](#)), **except** while play is stopped under [Rule 5.7a](#). When a Rule refers to actions taken “during a round,” that does not include while play is stopped under [Rule 5.7a](#) unless the Rule says otherwise.

### 5.2 Practising on Course Before or Between Rounds

For purposes of this Rule:

- “Practising on the course” means playing a ball, or testing the surface of the putting green of any hole by rolling a ball or rubbing the surface, and
- The limitations on practise on the course before or between rounds apply only to the player, not to the player’s caddie.

#### 5.2a Match Play

A player may practise on the course before a round or between rounds of a match-play competition.

#### 5.2b Stroke Play

On the day of a stroke-play competition:

- A player must not practise on the course before a round, **except** that the player may:

- Practise putting or chipping on or near their first teeing area.
- Practise on any practice area.
- Practise on or near the putting green of the hole just completed even if they will play that hole again on the same day (see [Rule 5.5b](#)).

- A player may practise on the course after completing play of their final round for that day.

If a player makes a stroke in breach of this Rule, they get the **general penalty** applied to their first hole. If they make an additional stroke in breach of this Rule, they are **disqualified**. See **Committee Procedures, Section 8: Model Local Rule I-1** (in either form of play, the Committee may adopt a Local Rule prohibiting, restricting or allowing practice on the course before or between rounds).



# WOMEN'S GOLF – MESSAGE FROM THE WOMEN'S CLUB CAPTAIN

Last month, due to playing conditions, we didn't play our interclub with Palmerston North. The idea was to try and find an alternative date, but unfortunately, this hasn't been possible. This then gives us plenty of time to get ourselves up to speed for the 2024 interclub!

We have managed to get through August without too many frosts and are getting the hang of the "course status" notification on the Club website. When the course is closed, your tee time, if it is before the time of the course possibly opening, will be cancelled by the Golf Shop. You can, of course, cancel your own tee time yourself and rebook later. Kiel will have posted the review time, but be aware this is just a review time, not necessarily the opening time. Kiel will give the Golf Shop 30mins notification of the opening time. Note that the course will not open sooner than 30mins after the Green Staff notify the Golf Shop. I hope this helps a little in managing your golf times.

The new path alongside the 4<sup>th</sup> green is a great place to park your trundlers to then walk onto the green. This avoids making a mess of the areas around the green. Then, when you leave the green you can walk down the path to the white and orange tees. With any luck, this path may be continued a little further on in the future.

Thursday Club has been affected a little by weather conditions, so adjustments have been made for 14 rounds to be in the programme, of which your best 5

rounds count towards qualifying for the Shootout on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October. Two more rounds are left on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> September. Make the most of them.

Of course, some of you are also playing your Club Championship matches and I'm sure you have all contacted your opposition and sorted out a playing date. Do not leave it to the last day as there are no extensions given.

September will be over before we know it, and this means we get into the pointy end of our golf for 2023 so look out for the Manawatu Women's Open Day poster coming out shortly. This will be held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October and is open to all 18-hole affiliated women golfers.

Also in October, we hold our annual Spring Fling for all women golfers to enjoy a get-together of fun golf and sunshine!!!

We then get into our Club Champs final on 4<sup>th</sup> November followed by Closing days on 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November, then the women's annual dinner on 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Lots of golf to be played because next stop is Christmas!!

**Deb Archer**  
**Women's Club Captain**

## JUNIOR GOLF



Some of the youngest members from the MGC Junior Programme got into the swing of the FIFA Women's World Cup earlier in the month by taking part in the Harcourts Manawatu Photo Competition.

Their photo took out 2nd place and won \$300 for the MGC junior programme!

Thanks to Stephanie Hyatt for organising, Sam Zhang for his photography skills, and the juniors and their parents for their enthusiasm.



Winter has definitely been here this month (as scores show). We are very lucky to have great greenkeepers keeping our course in good condition.

As our Tri-Series was not played at our own course (due to inclement weather), not once but twice, the next one is at Feilding with no one having points to carry over. We lose our home course advantage, but we have rallied the troops, and we have 26 entries for Feilding, which is brilliant — thanks team. May you all play well and enjoy.

We had a great Appreciation Day fun game with Barbara Smith and Tony Trass ending up as the winners. Great day and dinner — thank you to James & the rest of the organisers.

Our Club Champs qualifying rounds have been played and the draw is now being done. Good golfing to all those playing Club Champ matches.

Let's hope for better weather next month for some of our returning travellers and ourselves. Good golfing.

## 9 Hole Club Captain

**Colleen Fraser**



The Committee would like to confirm the acceptance to the Club of the following new and returning members who applied in **July 2023**.

- 7 Day:** Simon Barry, Jeff Clayton
- Under 30:** Tima Faingaanuku, Slade McDowell, Beaudain Waaka
- Under 25:** Kyle Brown, TK Howden, Taine Mitchell, Callum Soutar, Drew Wild
- Tertiary:** Keegan Christian-Goss, Jemma Lahood, Te Rangatira Waitokia, Johan Momsen
- 5 Day:** Melissa Murray
- 9 Hole:** Bruce Hughes, Richard Lander, Hiromi Macpherson, Wayne Macpherson, Lochlainn McTamney
- R. Junior:** Taein Kim, Isaac Murray, Johnny Pratt, Aria Rare, Kauri Rare, Dillon Webster
- Social:** Anaru Rare, Calvin Tian

During this same period, 13 members resigned, bringing our total membership number to 1128 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.

# THE GREAT NEW ZEALAND TEE OFF

Manawatu Golf Club has joined 180 golf clubs across New Zealand to help raise funds for three great charities - The CatWalk Spinal Cord Injury Trust, Hope Without Fear & Movember.

The club has donated two tee times (to see tee times visit [www.greatnzteeoff.co.nz](http://www.greatnzteeoff.co.nz)). Members, general public, and corporates will be able to bid for each of the tee times via the online fundraising platform GalaBid with all money raised going to the three charities. The auction begins on September 1 & runs till 8pm 27th September.

To register your interest or learn more about The Great New Zealand Tee Off, visit [www.greatnzteeoff.co.nz](http://www.greatnzteeoff.co.nz) or follow on instagram @thegreatnzteeoff.

THE GREAT  
NEW ZEALAND  
TEE OFF



2023

**24 NOVEMBER 2023**

*Calling all golfers!*

**THE GREAT NEW ZEALAND TEE OFF!**

1200+ golfers  
300+ tee times  
150+ golf clubs  
Three great causes  
One great day

Bid on your 4 ball tee  
time from 1st Sept  
[greatnzteeoff.co.nz](http://greatnzteeoff.co.nz)  
[@thegreatnzteeoff](https://www.instagram.com/thegreatnzteeoff)



# GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

August and September provide a great opportunity to review the last year – both the financial performance and the operational plan – and use these reviews to plan for FY24\*. This information, plus the MGC Survey responses, combined with the clear direction from the MGC Mission/Visions, and guidance from the FCC, help shape the FY24 Operation's Plan.

FY23's result will be relatively positive when the final report is presented at the end of the Financial Year. It is important/responsible to take into consideration the effect on bottom line that realising the income of the Spark Tower Lease in FY23, has had. As planned, this amount significantly offsets the cost of the New Cart Shed build. This has made the Cart Shed build possible without borrowing or dipping heavily into reserves.

FY24's budget was approved at last night's FCC meeting. It plans for significant investment in CapEx, allows for major R&M work (Club house exterior paint) and results in a small surplus. There has been a comprehensive process in preparing and presenting the budget to FAR. We are indebted to Alva for his preparation, data presentation, knowledge and expertise. I am very grateful to Alva. We (Braden and I) have worked closely with all team leaders to ensure they are actively involved and engaged in the Budget prep process.

The Full 7 Day Membership for 2024 is set at \$1580 which reflects a 6% increase on the 2023 Full Membership. All other memberships are set as a percentage of the Full Membership. The FAR and FCC wanted to ensure that any cost increase to subscription was in line with CPI. An email to all members detailing Membership Categories and Subscriptions will be sent next week.

- Our MGC runs from Oct 1–Sept 30.

The New Cart Shed will open this month. We have been very impressed by Champion Building Solutions and all of our sub-contractor partners in the build process. Sincere thanks to staff at Higgins and PAK Design for their great contribution to the project team that has seen this delivered on time, on budget. The finishing touches to entry systems, Fire safety and access options are being completed over the next 2 weeks and the shed will open in September with 22/30 spaces taken. MGC will continue to

develop this area of the course, with long-term plans to make the entrance to the Greenkeepers shed face the 13th fairway, allowing additional car parks to be created by closing off the carpark-side entrance to the sheds.

HR and staffing is a continually moving beast.

Tim (in the kitchen) has signalled his resignation from the Chef role, and he will be missed as a very popular, reliable, and long serving member of staff (11 years). Tim has signalled an interest in working in a front facing customer service role at a business like Mitre 10 or Bunnings; such is the loyalty Tim has always shown, and the quality person he is, I am keen to assist him finding a great job - he will be an asset to any team he joins.

We have appointed Xinxin Li (known as Twinkle) as a new Chef in the kitchen and she has had an immediate and positive start. Is it safe to presume she is the first 'Twinkle' to be employed at MGC? We have also hired an additional chef to join the team, which will help manage workload and keep hours for all staff in the kitchen to a reasonable level. He will start mid-September.

We are advertising for a Trainee Pro for the Golf Shop (one of 20 similar positions advertised nationwide at present). In the short term, we are lucky to have Chrissy covering Monday afternoons, and Alan has plans in place to ensure smooth service, until we can recruit a new Trainee Pro.

We are continuing to look for a qualified Greenkeeper - or someone who wants to get qualified. With Billsy also away (due to caring for Doris) the Greens team are effectively 1.5 FTE down at the moment. We are so fortunate to have our enthusiastic group of Tuesday Volunteers to help cover essential roles when we are stretched. Thanks to a number of these Volunteers who seem to pop up wherever and whenever they are needed – you know who you are!

Devil's Own

We look forward to welcoming the Devil's Own Tournament back to the club Sept 21–24. The DO has been held at MGC since 1932. This tournament

# GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

makes a significant contribution to the club's finances and the club extends a warm welcome to Lawyers, Solicitors and Judges from around NZ. We also appreciate the support from Members who make alternative plans for golf during the DO tournament. This year the club will financially support both the Men's and Ladies' bus trips around the Devil's Own tourney to show our appreciation to our members for sharing the course.

## Total rounds played at MGC

You may be interested to know that so far this year there have been 25608 rounds played at the Manawatu Golf Club (21983 by members and 3625 by Green Fee visitors). This is similar to last year's numbers for Members and approximately 5% up for Green Fee players. This number only counts the number of cards printed and/or scores entered online. Therefore, we estimate there is probably another 20% of rounds played (hopefully only by members!) where they have played but not printed a

card or entered a score. July was particularly busy on the course with 20% more rounds by members compared to 2022, possibly due to the mild winter. Conversely, with several frost and wet day closures in August, we were about 3% down on last year. In 2023 we expect to exceed 40000 rounds played in total for the first time.

There is lots to process in this month's newsletter. One of my key roles as GM is to communicate decisions made by the various committees to keep members abreast of what is happening at their club. In October's newsletter the Ops Plan for FY24 will be communicated, which gives members an idea of the priorities we are focusing on for the next 12 months.

Thanks for your support and please let me know if we are doing well, or if we can do better, in any area.

**Ngā Mihi**

**James**



Catching up with Warren Collett at the 2023 GMA NZ Summit held at Boulcott's Heritage Farm Golf Club last week.



# MEMBERSHIP CHANGES FOR 2024

The Membership Committee have convened over the last 3 months to review Membership Categories. The following changes have been approved by the FCC and will be in place for 2024.

## Membership Category Reviews

The Membership Committee recommended the following changes to Membership Categories for 2024. An email will be sent to all affected members next week, with changes coming in on Jan 1st 2024. Any changes will only affect members on their renewal date.

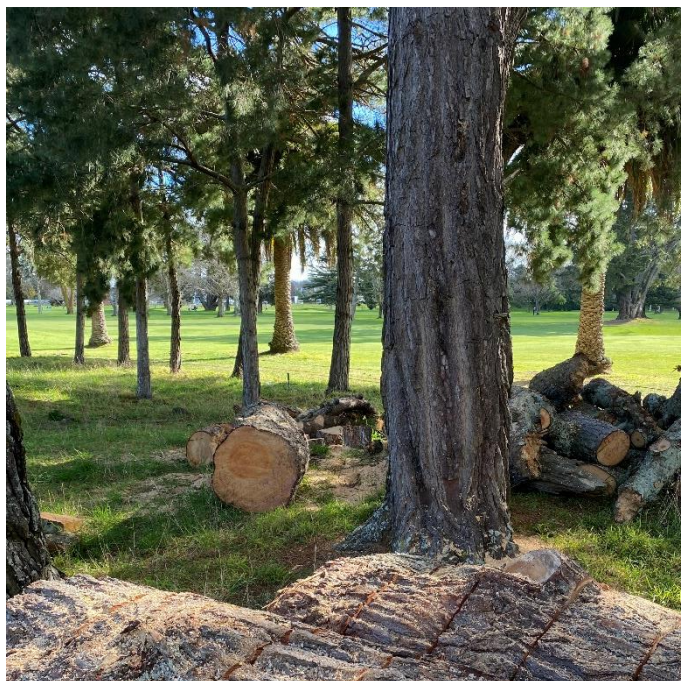
The following changes were approved at the FCC this week:

1. Increased recognition of Members who have accumulated 50 Years Membership
2. Suspend the Country Membership Category from 2024. It was felt the benefits offered in this category outweighed the cost of membership. MGC are not currently in a position where we are actively trying to attract members who pay a discounted price for almost full playing rights.
3. Suspend the Tertiary Membership Category from 2024. It was felt the benefits offered in this category were covered by the U25 and U30 Membership Categories. MGC are not currently in a position where we are actively trying to attract members who pay a discounted price for full playing rights. It was interesting to note that a significant number of Tertiary members (more than 40%) were older than 30. The Membership Committee felt that this age bracket was not the target of this incentivised category.
4. Retain and promote the U25 (50%\* of Full Membership) and U30 (75%\* of Full Membership) for 2024 and set the cost of these as a ratio of a Full Membership.

\*This will be actioned gradually over next 3 years as the amount of increase would exceed that annual cap in increases of 10%.

5. The 5 Day Membership Option will be removed for 2024. The Membership Committee felt that access to weekend Golf at the MGC was at a premium and that it was no longer suitable to offer a heavily discounted membership that allows access on a Weekend (Sunday).
6. The FCC has prioritised a focus on the growth of female membership at MGC to ensure:
  - growth of total female's membership by 20% in 2024 including the below
  - growth of female Restricted Junior/Full Junior Membership to 25 (currently 15)
  - growth of female U25 Membership to 10 (from 1)
  - growth of female U30 Membership to 10 (from 2)

The Membership Committee considered strongly, but eventually put on hold, the idea that a 'New Member Joining Fee' should be added to all new members joining in 2024. This will be revisited by the 2024 Membership Committee after the effect of the recommended changes for 2024 have been considered.





EST. 1895

MANAWATU

GOLF SHOP

MANAWATU GOLF CLUB

## GOLF SHOP NEWS

Hi everyone,

I'm glad that August is behind us as it was not the best of golfing months weather-wise. Bring on Spring and daylight savings — and golf after work!

We have a new addition to our team in the shop. Penny is helping out on Saturday afternoons while we search for a full-time replacement now that Daniel has left. Please make her feel very welcome if you see her in the shop on a Saturday arvo.

We have a Ping Fitting Day on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September. Make sure you book in as we have limited spots available.



**Above:** Another toaster malfunction in the Golf Shop resulted in a visit from the local fire brigade. We will be receiving a new smoke detector in the shop to make sure this doesn't happen again. Fingers crossed!

### Ryder Cup Picks:

This is always one of the most talked about points in golf — who gets picked and who misses out. Here is our crack! Listed below is what we think Zack Johnson will do. (Because Europe are yet to have their 6 automatic qualifications picked, we will just focus on Team USA). No doubt, once this newsletter is sent out the picks will have been made, so we can all see who in the shop was closest and most in-tune to captain Zack. (There's a small wager on this one as well!!!)

Already qualified for Team USA: Scottie Scheffler, Wyndham Clark, Brian Harman, Patrick Cantlay, Max Homa, and Xander Schauffele.

**Alan Picking Team USA:** Collin Morikawa, Jordan Spieth, Justin Thomas, Brooks Koepka, Rickie Fowler, Keegan Bradley

**Tim Picking Team USA:** Collin Morikawa, Jordan Spieth, Lucas Glover, Rickie Fowler, Justin Thomas, Bryson DeChambeau.

**Brydie Picking Team USA:** Justin Thomas, Collin Morikawa, Jordan Spieth, Brooks Koepka, Rickie Fowler, Cameron Young.

**Guy Picking Team USA:** Collin Morikawa, Jordan Spieth, Justin Thomas, Brooks Koepka, Lucas Glover, Cameron Young.

Just remember, if you have any questions regarding your game, please don't hesitate to ask us. We are here to help!

**Your Golf Shop Team**

**Alan, André, Tim, Brydie, Guy & Penny**



# **G430™**

## **FITTING DAY**



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## **MANAWATU GOLF CLUB**

THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER - 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

PLEASE MAKE BOOKING WITH [PROSHOP@MANAWATUGOLFCLUB.COM](mailto:PROSHOP@MANAWATUGOLFCLUB.COM)

As we head into spring, we hope for some longer & drier days. The course is still holding up considering the consistent rainfall and not many drying days. Spring starts next week, hopefully it brings some sunny and more settled weather. In the past month on the golf course, we have been busy doing winter jobs, decluttering the shed, firewood, tree trimming, and also having a team bonding afternoon. The team went out and attempted to escape from a room at Escape Room and then went go-karting. The whole team enjoyed our time, especially being able to enjoy each other's company outside from work.

In the month ahead we will be spraying weeds on surfaces throughout the course; solid tinning the greens; renovating the tees, surrounds, and fairways; continuing with bunker maintenance, as well as the usual weekly work. Path work will continue as Larry and Robbie have been doing a great job — tidying up the edges of the paths and adding new edging tidies up the course.

Please continue to repair your pitch marks, replace your divots, adhere to cart rules, and watch where you walk. With recovery being very slow, things take a long time to get back to normal. To follow on from the weekly update, please remember the following when using the practice putting and chipping greens:

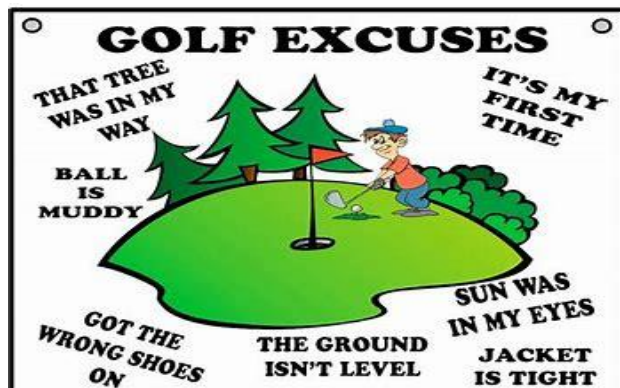
**Practice Putting Green** – Please remember that this is only for putting. There is to be no chipping at all on and around the practice putting green. The only exception is if one of the Golf Professionals are holding a lesson.

**Chipping Green by the road** – This is only for chipping around the surrounding area of the green. There is not to be any short shots to any other green from the surrounds, for instance, do not hit from the surrounds to the far chipping green or the practice putting green. This is creating a lot of divots & there is no recovery.

**Far Chipping Green (with the 2 bunkers)** – There is to be no chipping or hitting from the surrounds to any other area, for instance, the area past the 13<sup>th</sup> Tee or to the other chipping green as this is damaging the area! There is now artificial grass positioned for your approach shots, and if you want longer shots you can go to the driving range. Something that you

need to consider when using this area is that when you hit several balls into the green, you are creating pitch marks. Please, when you go to pick your balls up, take your pitch mark repair tool and fix as many pitch marks as you can. Think of the wear and tear - if this doesn't change it won't be a green for much longer.

When chipping in general, if you leave divots all over the green surface, please clear these off.



The greenkeeping team wish all members and visitors well in the up-coming month of golf. All those playing in any competition or tournament, play well. Bring on the Rugby World Cup — and spring.

Enjoy your month ahead.

**Kiel Stechman - Course Superintendent**





# UPDATE ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> TEE

The Course and Match Committees met this week to review the trial Tee placement on the 7<sup>th</sup> Hole. The reasons for this trial were summarised in the August Newsletter.

The Committee(s) have received a number of responses and those with suggestions were greatly appreciated. There were responses both for and against retaining the low tee. The lower scoring average over the trial period reflects the shorter hole but also big hitters drawing tee shots, some of which went up the 6<sup>th</sup>.

**The decision has been made to revert to the original tee area. This will come into effect on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.**

Appropriate signage requesting players to not *deliberately* play up the 6<sup>th</sup> will be erected on the tee. However, for this to be successful, we rely on members to take responsibility for their own actions and those of their playing partners (self-policing).

The club reserves the right to review the membership of any player repeatedly and deliberately playing down the 6<sup>th</sup> fairway from the 7<sup>th</sup> tee.

Other points to note:

- The course architect has made recommendations for a tree planting programme, and this will commence asap between the mounds and the 7<sup>th</sup> green. In time, this will deter an easy approach via the 6<sup>th</sup>; however, this will take time.
- Other tree planting is also being considered.
- No other action, such as penalty areas or internal OB, will occur at this time.
- The hole and incidences will continue to be monitored and the option of penalty areas is still available.
- The driving range club/time limitations will continue. After many hits and near misses that led to the change, particularly on 18, the introduction of limited club/time use has, by and large, resolved this problem.

In the feedback received, other areas of concern were highlighted. Examples of these include tee shots over the trees from #1 to #13 fairway, thus opening up the green, and the tee shot off #14 down #15 fairway, with players shooting over the trees to the green. The committee understand that we are not all perfect golfers who can always control the direction of their ball, however, deliberate shots to these areas are to be actively discouraged.

Good golfing (especially down #7).

**Course Committee and Match Committee**



**Course Closed  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
September from  
12.30 pm  
for a Fundraising  
Tournament.**



# Wine Match Dinner

AT THE MANAWATU GOLF CLUB

**MAISON NOIRE**

**6.30pm Saturday 9th September**

**\$120 per person**

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with five tasting wines presented by  
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