

NEWSLETTER

October 2023



Tasmania
Golf Club

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Hi all,

Welcome to the October 2023 Newsletter! This month's edition is a little shorter than usual, mainly due to the upcoming AGM on Tuesday 24th October. A reminder that the AGM will be in the clubhouse and commences at 6:00pm.

Everything is picking up as we come into the warmer weather: golf, weddings, restaurant bookings, you name it. You will see Gerard has discussed our new menus, which have been very exciting to work on. They are available to view on our website. We have received some fantastic feedback already, and are looking forward to sharing our new dishes with you all.

Ben mentions the upcoming Club Championships; forms will be out very soon, so keep an eye out for them.

A reminder that we are open on Melbourne Cup Day on Tuesday 7th November, with a 3-course menu and a great afternoon planned. Bookings are encouraged.

Please note that we have a wedding each Saturday in November, so the restaurant will be closed for dinner each Saturday night.

It has been fantastic hearing the wonderful words members and guests have about our course, so a huge thank you to Ben Stacey and the course staff for all your hard work. Special mention to the Ground Hogs as well, your hard work is so appreciated.

The year is quickly coming to an end, and I look forward to a busy couple of months!

Julia Narracott, Editor

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

A little less activity regarding representative golf since the last report – but one event of note was the RHL Roberts Memorial Trophy. This was held in August/September across Llanherne Golf Club and Claremont Golf Club. Tasmania GC won this event last year when represented by Eli Monaghan and Hunter Gillard. This year, both of these individuals were away and as such selection was a little trickier.

Paul Read was asked to lead the charge, to which he thankfully accepted. Paul then suggested the selection of one of our younger members to participate – which was Koby Wegman. They started slowly, resulting in a tough knock-out draw. The pair then defeated Llanherne at Llanherne in the quarter final and then defeated Claremont at Claremont in the grand final – very impressive knocking off two fancied teams on their own deck. Congrats to both.



For those not aware, Eli Monaghan has been on a family holiday in Europe – in which he decided to sneak some golf in. Using borrowed clubs and minimal prep, Eli was successful in qualifying for the Junior European Open! Eli is eligible to participate in it this year or defer to 2024. Watch this space about potential fundraising plans to assist Eli in getting back to Europe to compete.

This has been said a lot – but huge thanks to Dan Gilligan for his work at TGC over many decades, and congratulations on retirement. Dan is still helping out a few days a week until his official retirement on July 1 2024. Ben Stacey has been very busy with his crew and the groundhogs putting his own spin on the course, to which I'm sure we can all agree has made some outstanding visual changes. Welcome Ben to Tasmania GC.

A reminder that the AGM and Members Forum with Ben Davey is being held this Tuesday, 24th October. There will be updates given on course updates plus the SETS project.

Finally – The Club Championships are upon us, with the Men commencing the last weekend in November and finishing on December 9/10, with the Women a week earlier. There has been a note put out regarding dates and alternates – with entry forms out shortly. I encourage all the enter and enjoy the nature of competitive golf – even if you think you have no chance – nothing better than testing yourself and targeting a specific ranking. There are still great prizes or Nett winners in each division.

I will try to include some quirky rules and definitions in future newsletters – Julia was just on my back time to get something out!! (Sorry Julia 😊).

Ben Hayes, Club Captain

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Hello Tasmania Golf Club Members,

Thank you for your support and feedback in my first months as Course Superintendent, everyone has been very welcoming. A special thank you to Dan Gilligan our outgoing Superintendent, who has been great during the transition period. His knowledge of the course and irrigation system is invaluable and his willingness to share information with me has been very much appreciated.

The ground staff and volunteers have been busy these past 2 months with various projects taking place, which included Greens renovations. We were greeted with perfect conditions for the process, Greens were double scarified, solid tined at around 200mm deep with $\frac{3}{4}$ inch tines, top dressed and fertilized. We then scarified greens again 2 weeks later. Thank you for your patience during this time.



Surrounds were also double scarified in late September and cutting heights have gradually dropped from 15mm- 12mm – 10mm and are now being cut at 8mm. This should increase the playability around the greens and allow players to utilize the slopes more effectively. It should also distinguish from the fairways and start around 5-10m from the front edge of the green.

Members might have also noticed a few projects we have undertaken around the course in regard to pathways, revegetation, clearing of overgrown vegetation and some new “course furniture”.

The pathways have traditionally been constructed using FCR which makes a great base, however it tends to wash away with heavy rainfalls in steeper areas. We are currently trialing 14mm ‘Tassie Gold’ on top of the existing FCR base. The thought process is that it should be compact enough for the use of players and carts but be permeable enough to let water through without washing away. It also looks much better visually.



Our volunteers and staff have also been busy clearing overgrown vegetation at the rear and left-hand side of 12, right of 6, and between 11 and 14. Native hop bush and wattle trees were becoming an issue in those areas, creating a monoculture, and suffocating more desirable trees and grasses. It also has opened views to the ocean and adjacent holes. We will look to clear more on the 3rd and 6th holes in the coming weeks to open more views and to increase the airflow. Currently there is very little air movement around the 3rd, 5th & 6th greens which creates a perfect environment for disease, it also means that generally these greens will play differently to those more exposed to the wind. Being much denser in grass coverage than greens like 15 & 18.

Thank you to Albie for making the new rubbish bins you will see on 2,9,10,11. Using recycled timber supplied by David King, Albie constructed these bins in his own time, and they look great.



We look ahead now to Show Day and Club Championships, projects will slow down, and focus will turn more to the maintenance of playing surfaces and bunkers. Players should expect good conditions on all playing surfaces with a focus on firm and true greens.

Thanks again for your support, we appreciate your feedback and encourage any members who would like to get involved to join our volunteer groups.

Kind regards,

Ben Stacey, Superintendent

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Clubhouse and Surrounds

Members are reminded that parking spots adjacent to the front door of the clubhouse are reserved for senior (>70 years) hospitality customers' usage whilst they are in the restaurant. Members who do not satisfy the above criteria are advised NOT to park in these spots when playing golf.

Phil Heaton, our new part-time Maintenance Officer, is making a significant difference with clubhouse presentation and ensuring our utilities are operating properly.

Dan Gilligan will be managing/organising a major clean-up and rubbish collection involving, the clubhouse, the house and rubbish piles/collections adjacent to the entry road.

The camera security system is to be upgraded shortly to provide greater coverage including 1st and 10th tees. The fire detection/monitoring system will also be improved with the addition of smoke detectors.

Many of the clubhouse lights are old fluoro tubes that are expensive to replace and "run" versus LED lights. The halogen spotlights are also expensive to "run". Work is underway to transition to 100% LED.

A project is currently underway to consider and cost of the installation of a course entry gate and security fences to better protect our assets. The project will include the removal of the existing damaged entry walls.

Annual General Meeting

The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 24th October 2023 at 6pm. Reports from the Board will be tabled including important updates on the state of our finances, the South East Traffic Solution/highway project and the Course Master Plan.

Andrew Todd, Secretary

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

Junior golf at Tasmania Golf Club has been thriving over the past month as we head into a big summer. Adam Holden has been pivotal in the continuing successes of the junior holiday clinics proudly supported by Powercom Solar. The term 3 school holidays saw sixteen up-and-coming junior golfers involved in the clinic, which was a great success, and it was great to see a wide range of participants, some who have parents or grandparents involved, and many who are engaging in golf for the very first time. We look forward to the term 4-holiday clinic later this year.

The AGF junior girls' scholarship has been going from strength to strength under Adam Holden's tutelage, with several participants receiving their official golf Australia handicap allowing them to play in local junior tournaments it has been great to see the older more experienced girls support the younger group throughout the year.

Finally, a congratulations to Salamanca Inn Junior Scholarship recipient Koby Wegman on his great round of 40 points, an even par in Sunday 15th October Stableford competition. Great work Koby!!

Liam Tollard-Williams, Junior Development

MEMBERS SURVEY

We have another members' survey available at this link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/6pGRDCYSwM>

Responses are due back by Wednesday 1st November.

Tom Barwick

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE

I will be stepping down from representing the Women on the Board. The last 2 years in that role have been really worthwhile and informative in terms of understanding the structure, management and running of the Board supported by the valuable contributions of the various subcommittees of which there are 7 sub-committees.

I will remain on the House Subcommittee in making a contribution to improve the facilities in and around the clubhouse in terms of presentation.

I would encourage all members to nominate and or express interest if they wish to undertake a role either on the Board or one of the subcommittees especially if they have a particular skill set to share which will benefit the decision-making at the Board level.

The 7 sub-committees responsible for making recommendations to the Board for consideration and possible implementation if approval is met in case members are unaware include:

Women's Sub-committee

Match and Greens Sub-committee

Finance Sub-committee

Participation Sub-committee

House Sub-committee

Information Communication Technology Sub-committee

Strategic Plan Sub-committee

Lynne Page, Women's Representative

PRO SHOP NEWS

Juniors

The Saturday Junior Competition has commenced. The competition is a 6-hole short course that aims to give juniors the chance to apply what they have learnt in our clinics on the course. Participants are asked to arrive at 2.30pm for a 3.00pm start. Cost is \$5. We always welcome any members who would like to come along and help the juniors learn the ropes in regard to course etiquette.

Clinics

Did you know we have 4 adult clinics a week? Our professionals are regularly booked out for last-minute lessons, but we always have the option for available to everyone to come to one of our clinics to have a quick checkup. It may be only a grip change, stance adjustment or posture improvement that is needed to get you on your way again. Or, just come along and have one of our professionals monitor your swing to keep it in check. The cost is \$25

Mondays	1.00pm
Wednesdays	1.30pm
Saturdays	9.00am
Sundays	10.00am

Tasmania Pro Shop

WOMEN'S CLUB CAPTAIN REPORT

Over the last few months, we have had The Barclay Shield which was held at Northwest Bay. This year the women representing our Club were Margaret Leary and Lily Foong, Helen Street and Lisa Burnett (one of our new women Members). The winners of the competition were from Northwest Bay.

This month the state final of the Silver Spoon is to be held at Huon Valley Golf club on the 23rd of October. Good luck to Sue Hobday who is representing our club.

The Bronze Stableford is to be held this year at Claremont golf Club on the 14th of November. Helen Healy and Sue Duffy are representing our club. The last Monthly Medal was held on the 10th of October with the Gold Medal and Master Putter to be held on the 17th of October. Congratulations to all the finalist and good luck.

Our AGM is to be held on the 31st of October and I would like to thank Jenny Geappen, President, Lynne Page, Women's board representative, Felicity Gifford, Secretary, Mary Kent, and Patrica Fairbairn for their time on the Women's committee. As our Club is working its way toward Golf Australia 2025 Vision, we are working towards a working women's group with more women to join the Board. Helen Street is taking over as the Women's representative.

We have the Melbourne Cup Day next month on Tuesday 7th November, with this year's game being a Canadian foursome, and then in for a meal and to watch the race. Please get in contact with me nicolachapman77@hotmail.com or Helen Healy helenhealy353@gmail.com if you would like to participate in the day.

The women of the committee and players would like to welcome the new superintendent Ben Stacey to our club. We thank him, the groundskeepers, and the men in the Ground Hogs. You're doing an amazing job. It's great to see the changes & we are looking forward to the months ahead to see what the course is going to look like.

With the Club Championships not far away this year, we will have the selection of Sunday and Tuesday and Thursday rounds, with the final being on Tuesday 5th of December. I'm hoping we have more women to enter this year.

Well done to two of our women, Rosie Corney and Helen Shearer who had holes in one on hole 2 over this last month. Unfortunately, they were not in any competition.

Our Women's Christmas party is to be held on 12th of December with all the winners to receive their trophy's and celebrate this year's golfing season.

Happy Golfing!

Nicola Chapman, Women's Club Captain

CLUBHOUSE NEWS

It was surprising recently to realise that I had reached my 5-year anniversary of employment at TGC, as it doesn't feel that long ago that I was given the opportunity to take on the role of Operations Manager at this great club.

Working in clubs for over 20 years, I can honestly say that this has been the most rewarding venue I have been part of and I truly believe that TGC has something special about it. I encourage everyone to embrace it and continue to make this one of the premiere golf clubs in Tasmania.

I have been extremely blessed to work with some truly dedicated people who eat, sleep and breathe TGC. These people continue to motivate me, and I look forward to seeing where we can take the business moving forward.

Thank you to those who gave me the initial opportunity and to all the members, who were all very welcoming right from day one.

Food and Beverage

There has been so much going on with the food and beverage side of the business and it has been great to continue to receive support in this area and hear the positive feedback from members and guests.

September 3rd was Father's Day which saw us cater for just over 140 people for lunch. Certainly a challenge for all staff involved but they were able to come through and prove what a great team we have, that is more than capable to provide quality service and food to large groups of people.



We have had a couple of tapas and live music nights which were well supported, and we will continue to look at similar nights moving forward and fine-tune a few things based on some of the feedback we received.

Brunch has been recently introduced to services offered at TGC and will be available on Saturdays and Sundays from 9am to 12 noon. Early signs suggest that this will be a successful addition and thank you to our head chef, Andrew, for coming up with a great menu and some very tasty looking dishes.

We have also created a new bar menu. It includes some old favourites like bangers and mash, rissoles, lasagne, curried scallops, along with plenty more great dishes. Have a look next time you are in, be sure to grab one of the tasty new options.

The restaurant is looking extremely busy leading up to Christmas so if you are looking to catch up in our dining room I suggest you make a booking as soon as possible.



Show Day

It has been great to see such an amazing response to this day with entries filling up pretty much straight after advertising of the event.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have offered to help on the day, in particular Noel Dalwood and Tony Bailey who will once again be manning the betting hole on the 17th hole (old 8th hole). Noel and Tony have consistently offered their services on Show Day which has seen them raise some valuable \$\$ whilst ensuring people had some fun on the day.

Also, a big thank you to the members who have generously donated prizes for the day. This kind of support truly assists with making these sorts of days a success.

We are always looking for feedback, so please email operations@tasmaniagolfclub.com.au

Gerard Hanks, Operations Manager