



The Tee Times

MONA VALE GOLF CLUB NEWSLETTER

Summer



Volume 1

February/March
2010

What's on in February/March

Final of Members' Fourball Knockout	Sat Feb 27
FREE Live Entertainment From 4:00pm "The Ball Brothers"	Sun Feb 28
4BBB STABLEFORD Medley Qualifying Round for Mixed Fourball Knockout	Sun Mar 7
4BBB STABLEFORD Qualifying Round NSW Mens' Fourball Championship	Sat Mar 20
FREE Live Entertainment From 4:00pm "Acoustic Shoes"	Sun Mar 28

Message from the President

Pennant Season

February marks the start of the 2010 Major Metropolitan Pennant competition.

After a highly successful performance by our team last year, we are aiming to go one better this time and take out the prized Pennant. We have a very strong team, with much the same line up as last year. Two young, highly talented players from the country have become members of Mona Vale Golf Club in the past couple of months and have been added to the squad.

We face some stiff competition this year in a restructured format where the top sixteen performing teams from the 2009 season comprise Divisions 1 and 2. We are drawn against The Australian, Bonnie Doon and Liverpool in Division 1 of the Pennant. It will be a real test of our talent and character to move beyond the sectional series to the playoffs, but our boys are well and truly up to it.

It is always a real boost for the team to have our members at the games to lend their support, so I urge you to get along to the

matches.

Below is a photo of some members of the team. (L-R Justin Hurst, Stefan Albinski, Alex Peade, Kyle Grant, Andy Hugill, Michael Raseta)



tional events available in our usual competitions, this new competition provides members with a greatly expanded opportunity to bring their visitors to play at our beautiful golf course.

Birthday Dinners

I do hope that members are taking advantage of the monthly birthday dinners. If you happened to have missed taking up your two-for-one dinner offer last year, I suggest you don't let another year pass without sampling the great fare from our award-

winning caterers.

New Handicapping System

On 9 April, the first stage of the new handicapping system comes into play. On our website are all the documents we receive from Golf Australia explaining the way the new system will operate.

Since it represents quite a departure from the present system, I recommend that members visit the site and make themselves aware of the changes.

Jim O'Ryan

Thursday Competition

I would like to remind members of the new competition available to members, including House B members, and visitors from other clubs holding an AGU handicap. The competition commences at 1.00pm every Thursday.

During the daylight saving period, the competition will be held over 18 holes. If the competition is well enough supported it is likely that a 10 hole event will be conducted in non-daylight saving times.

With the limited number of invita-

Introducing Mona Vale Golf Club's Thursday Afternoon Open Competition

Commencing Thursday 14th January through to the end of daylight saving, Mona Vale Golf Club will be holding an Open Competition each Thursday afternoon. The competition will be open to all golfers with an AGU or WGA handicap as well as golfers with no current handicap. Golfers with no handicaps cannot play in the competition, however they still may play with friends, family or colleagues in the same timeslot. Members can accompany one non-handicapped guest only.

The competition will be 18 holes and handicapping will apply. Competition fees will be \$12 for members, \$20 for House B members and \$34 for visitors if playing competition, \$22 if not eligible. Trophies will be allocated for 1st to 3rd overall as well as a ball rundown.

Tee times will be available from 1:00 till 2:30pm. Bookings can be made via the Pro Shop from 7:00am 7 days prior to the date. For members, bookings can only be made through the club's website www.mvgc.com.au and non-members can book through the Pro Shop on 9999-3605 or 9999-4266 Ext 2.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact the Office or Pro Shop.

Captains Report

Major Pennants

Jim's report mentioned that the new Major Pennant series is under way and it is my pleasure to report that we scored a hard fought 4/3 win over Liverpool at Mona Vale in our first game. This year we have an 11 man squad of very talented players, they are:- Stefan Albinski, Dale Brandt-Richards, Bruce Edwards, Kyle Grant (C), Andy Huggill, Justin Hurst, Kris Mayan, Mark McInnes, Alex Peade, Michael Raseta and Greg Stanford. The team managers are David Nixon and Russell Hunter.

Dale, 19, comes to us from South West Rocks, he played well in our Apperly team late last year and his game is on the improve as a result of some dedicated work with a former member and touring professional Paul Murray.

Justin, a bit older, moved to the area from Bathurst and joined the club around 3 years ago. He is a very steady 3 marker and goes well around Mona Vale.

Kris, also 19, hails from Nelson Bay and is the current NSW Country Junior Champion, he won his first match for us two weeks ago after being 3 down after about 4 holes, a great fight back.

Andy is our Course Superintendent and is a former pennant

captain for St Michaels GC. Andy hates losing!!

The remainder of the squad are those who competed so very well last year when we were Runners Up in the Major Pennant. We have the talent and desire to go one spot better this year.

The Caddies and supporters (could be more of you) are doing a great job for our team. Arrangements are being made to display the Pennant Draw on the Website.

NSW State Squad

Following a year of consistently good and sometimes great performances, Kyle Grant and Michael Raseta were again selected in the NSWGA State Squad. Congratulations to you both for your sustained high level of play.

Mixed Pennants

The Mixed Pennant series is drawing to a close and the success that the team strived for at the start has, sadly eluded them. With an away match against Gordon and a home game against Northbridge, a couple of wins will end the series with a sweeter taste. Team members are:- Julie Alcock, Ros & Peter Black, Ruth Blake, Brian Cheetham, Sue & Derek Cole, Robyn & Gary Hare, Nigel Hilton, Sylvia & Mark Luciano, Lucy

Minehan, Mike Radford, David Rose, Julia Thomas and Manager, Nigel Westgarth. The team is a happy group and I thank them for their enthusiasm during the pennant.

Rules Accreditation Course

Following my recent enquiry, the NSWGA has announced that a Rules Accreditation Course will be conducted at Mona Vale on Tuesday 1 June 2010 with the Exam being held on Tuesday 15 June 2010. Session times will be 1.30 and 7.00 p.m. on both days. Further information is expected soon.

Club Championships

Last year the Club Championships were moved to April/May and from a golf course aspect, the move was a success. Concerns, however, were expressed about the appropriateness of shotgun starts being used for this event. The board has recognised those concerns and the qualifying rounds this year will be played in a format that has been used by the Club in the recent past with some modifications.

It is the Board's intention that ANYONE WHO WISHES TO PLAY IN OUR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS WILL BE ABLE TO GET A TIME IN THE QUALIFYING ROUNDS. Accordingly, the 2010 qualifying

rounds will be played over 4 Saturdays with B and C Grades playing on 17 April and 1 May. The Club and A Reserve Grade rounds will be on 24 April and 8 May. A consequence of this is that the Monthly Medals for May 2010 will be decided over 2 weeks with B and C Grades being contested on 1 May and A Grade on 8 May. Anyone involved in a PLAYOFF FOR AN EARLIER MONTHLY MEDAL IN MAY SHOULD CONTACT THE CAPTAIN FOR GUIDANCE.

The timesheets for each of the qualifying days will be released 2 or more weeks ahead (not the customary 1 week) with bookings restricted to the grades being played for that date. About 1 week prior to the date, the players in grades NOT INVOLVED IN QUALIFYING FOR THAT DAY will have access to the remainder of the sheet to play in a Stableford or Par event. It is envisaged that the sheets for B and C Grades will be heavily booked, so the A Graders might want to make alternative plans for 17 April and 1 May.

Slow Play

For those of you who have forgotten how to avoid slow play, WE'VE MOVED THE RELEVANT PAGES FROM THE MIDDLE OF THE FIXTURE BOOK TO THE FRONT.

Have a great golfing year in 2010

Brian Cheetham

House

House Improvements

You may have noticed the 'new look' front entrance with the hardwood timber slating and bench installed. This goes a long way to blocking off the not so pleasant views of plant equipment that was visible as you approached the front door. Along with the new Club Information sign at reception, painting has commenced across the front façade to provide a much needed update to this area of the clubhouse. With the native gardens planted last year outside the kitchen area now steadily maturing, the next project will be to finish off the

smaller gardens to finalise the aesthetics that provide for the important 'first impression' of the Club.

Hall of Fame

Internally, work to build a "Hall of Fame" is under progress. The pictures and details of Members' great golfing achievements, both at MVGC and in amateur golf, will be taken from the Members bar, digitally scanned and then mounted onto a uniform plaque-style frame.

The plaques and Pennants won over the years will be displayed in an area outside the Bunker Bar (where the player access kiosk currently is) which will become the Wall of Fame. It will

be great to have all the golfing recognitions located in the one area and where all Members and visitor pass through!

Free Live Entertainment

This activity on the last Sunday of each month continues to be well supported and provides for a fantastic afternoon of social revelry. Every month delivers a diverse genre of music so get your family and friends together to enjoy what your Club provides!! Details of upcoming performers are posted on the website.

Pennants

Come on down and support your team on March 7 in

what is sure to be a thrilling contest of quality golf!! Having the crowds cheering for Mona Vale certainly gives our players a huge lift for what may be one of this years' most crucial matches.

Breakfast in the Bunker Bar

The Bunker Bar is open for full breakfast and fresh coffee every Sunday from 7:00am - which is the scheduled time for the first Pennants match.

The last preliminary match is scheduled for Sunday, March 14-7:30am vs The Australian at The Australian.

Tim Parker, General Manager

Green's Report

Weather

We had been having a good run. This all changed with 77mm of rain on Saturday night 6 February. The greens staff did a terrific job over the entire course in the days following including the repairing of washouts in bunkers and on the Wednesday there was little evidence of the rain deluge only a few days earlier. The course on Friday was in top condition ready for weekend play. All that changed when we received



87mm on the Friday night including 73mm in the space of one hour! Early the following morning the course looked more like a huge aquatic reserve with one expanse of water extending from the 17th fairway to the 5th fairway. The new path at the men's 4th tee was 200mm under water as was the entire ladies tee. About 20% of the 3rd green was also under water as evidenced by the 'high tide' mark left by the receding water. A further 8mm of rain on both Saturday and Sunday night provided a top up.

As if the rain and stormwater flow onto the course was not

enough, water from a burst main in the Cook Terrace area of Warrivewood headland also drained through the course.

A small group of volunteers worked all Saturday afternoon after the bulk of the water had drained away raking and clearing away the debris and transporting it to the tip, including a tree stump from the middle of the 1st fairway! As the ground was already saturated from the week before small areas of water are likely to remain for a short period.

The catchment area for stormwater which drains through the course is in the order of 142 hectares!

Cart Paths

In late March/early April the path at the 6th tee will be constructed. In conjunction, the existing path at the 10th tee will be extended. Drainage work will be carried out in these areas prior to the construction of the paths.

The long path from the 11th green to forward of the 12th tee is programmed for June. The path at the 16th tee will be undertaken in September/October.

Minor shaping, drainage and turfing remains to be completed to the front of the 4th tee.

Drainage

Localised drainage of areas previously identified are

being worked through.

Fairways and Rough

A further insecticide application to counter the billbug was carried out in February.

The poisoning of paspalum by the volunteers continues and the surrounding turf to these areas is starting to grow back into the areas poisoned earlier.

The fairways were in great condition before the recent deluges and will hopefully be back to their best in a short period of time.

Greens and Collars

The back half of the 8th green has had a severe attack by the Argentinean Weevil and after the course renovations in early March part of the green will need to be returfed or plugged. This is the third year and worst of these attacks and unfortunately preventative spray applications have not been successful.

The 2nd, 4th, 8th and 12th greens have been hollow tined to assist in aeration and drying out to prevent disease and algae. The tining of the 8th will also assist in the control of the weevil.

The bare areas in the couch collars to the front right hand side of the 1st and 11th greens have been returfed and a few smaller areas on the left hand side remain to be returfed.

The turf on the front edge of the 15th and 18th collars where it abuts the greens apron has been replaced.

The non-repairing or bad repairing of pitch marks on the greens continues. The increased public use of the course over the holiday period would have contributed. If every member makes a concentrated effort to correctly repair pitch marks it will greatly assist the quality of the putting surface.

Programmed Works

The cleaning up and remedial work required after flooding of the course is time lost and this coupled with the non-stop mowing needed during the peak growing season and ongoing maintenance works unfortunately means only limited time is available to attend to non-essential works.

- Course renovations on the 8th and 9th March when the course is closed.
- Installation of additional drainage controls to assist in the lowering of dam water levels.
- Returfing of the bare areas in the surround on the right hand side of the 7th green.
- Drainage at the 6th tee.
- Drainage of localised trouble spots.

Alan Thompson

Finance

Trading for the 5 months ended December 2009 resulted in a profit before charges of \$268,890. This was some \$30,000 better than this time last year, and slightly above budget.

Income and Expenditure

The major areas of income continued to perform well versus budget, with Bar Sales being 6% better, Course Income 2% better, and Poker Machines up by 8%. While these are good numbers, we might have expected a bit better except for rainfall at our busiest period at the end of December which

threw out our best prognostications.

Course Expenses Year-to-Date, while much better than last year, are above target, with chemicals, extra drainage work and annual leave provisions being the major causes. We are now in our most critical time of the year, and course work involving preparation for upcoming major events etc, will mean that continuing close attention to costs is necessary.

Bring Your Friends

As you will all know, we have spent a fair amount of

money and effort in further developing the course and clubhouse for the improved enjoyment of you and your friends.



Investment in the following :

- Redeveloped Bunker Bar
- Upgraded front entrance and foyer
- On-going construction of cart paths

Thursday Afternoon Open Event (Daylight Saving) have all been carried out with the objective of increasing enjoyment of the facilities, therefore increasing patronage. But YOU need to take advantage of this by inviting your friends along for a game, for lunch, for coffee or a social refreshment.

(The Members Lounge area is open for lunch virtually every day ... check with the office and bring your friends along for victuals with a view!)

Tony Sedgwick

News for the Ladies ...

Kathryn Baldwin, Women's President

On behalf of the Ladies Committee I would like to welcome you to our 2010 Golfing Year and wish you all enjoyable golfing and a successful year on our wonderful course.

Opening Day and Lunch

The shotgun start and new format on 18th February was a great day for the start of our season. 166 players sat down to lunch and I would like to thank Steve for a most enjoyable meal.

Trudy Vander Reyden, Women's Captain

Welcome to the New Golfing Year.

Summertime Stableford Competition

This competition covers the 3 best rounds of 5. Congratulations to the winners

- Div 1 Robyn Hare - 107 pts
 - Div 11 Jill Milliken 110 pts
 - Div 111 Robyn Harding 99 pts
- Well done girls!

Barrenjoey Week

Our ladies had some great results and our winners were:

- Ros Black Div 1 Net Winner at Cromer; 36 hole R/UP and also Longest Drive at Long Reef
- Rosey Smith Div 11 Scratch R/Up at Wakehurst



Gerry's Golf

New Products

As Gerard is holidaying in Thailand at the moment, we would like to let you know of the new products coming to the pro shop.

To all you ladies out there, upon request we now have the ladies' Club Hart clothing range in store for your leisure. There are some really great styles for you to enjoy.

As you all know it is the time of year where each company brings out new product ranges and up-

Barrenjoey Week of Golf

There were 660 competitors in this year's Barrenjoey Week of Golf and I am pleased to report that we had a few winners from amongst our 80+ competitors.

To those ladies representing us on the Barrenjoey Committee whose time and effort help to make this golf week such a great success – Shirley Shepherd, Trish Rott and Sue Dutfield – from all of us, Thank You.



- Rosey Smith and Pam Plunkett Foursomes Scratch R/UP at Bay-view
- Janice Mason and Di Fraser and 2 Ladies from Pymble won the 4BBB at Long Reef with a great score of Plus 15
- Barbara Richardson had NTP at Monash

Congratulations! It was great to be able to applaud our girls at the Manly Golf Club Presentation.

Opening Day

On Thursday, 18th February we played a team event Foursomes Stableford in 6's with 2 best scores to count.

Winners or the day

dates the golf ball range.

Coming to the pro shop are new TaylorMade, Callaway, Srixon and Cleveland products including new and improved golf balls from Titleist and Callaway.

Free Lesson

We now have 4 professionals teaching from the pro shop and all offer the great package of 'buy 4 lessons and get the 5th lesson complementary'. We are all ready to help you change and improve your golf today!

Bus Trip

Mona Vale will be closed on Monday 8th March for course renovation, so we have arranged a golf day at Glenmore Heritage Park, Mulgoa. The cost is \$80 which includes 18 holes with cart, lunch and bus trip.

If you would like to come along for a great day out, please see Kris Bolton – thanks Kris for organising this day.

All the best to everyone for 2010

Now over to Captain Trudy

Kathryn

- Robin Cattanach, Bev Logan, Chris Duff, Kris Bolton, Sue Hughes and Kathy Dolman with a score of 81

Play went very quickly, and made for a great day followed by a very enjoyable lunch.

4BBB Knockout

This event will be played on Thursday 25th February followed by 3 rounds of Match Play, with the Finals on 25th March. **Ladies please remember, if you put a Q on your card you must be available for all matches.**

Good Luck to everyone!

That's all for now

Trudy Vander Reyden

March Sale

To make it short and sweet, be sure to keep an eye on the pro shop as a month-long sale in March is coming to Mona Vale.

Pro Tip

Be careful with club selection in these wet and heavy conditions; try picking a club extra and swinging it easy.

Good Golfing

Mona Vale Pro Shop Staff

Flare's News

Thursday Night Dine In

Experience our specially designed, mouth watering A La Carte Menu!

Book now at Reception for one of our upcoming dates:

25th February

18th March

22nd April

2 Courses (Main & Dessert Only) \$36 per person

3 Courses \$42 per person



Celebrating Something?



Speak to our function manager about holding your special events in one of our three Function Areas.

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PH: 9999 4266 Extension 3
steve@flarecatering.com.au

Flare Catering

Mona Vale Golf Club, PH: 9999 4266 FAX: 9997 5791 Web: www.flarecatering.com.au Email: tracey@flarecatering.com.au

Mona Vale Golf Club, Golf Avenue, MONA VALE NSW 2103 PH: 02 9999 4266 FAX: 02 9997 5791 Web: www.mvvc.com.au