

President's Pitch

Welcome back to everyone and happy new year to all!

I'd like to start by saying thank you to our outgoing committee members, whether by way of completion of their tenure or the unfortunate departure by way of medical or family reasons. The club and its members appreciate your efforts during your time on the committee and we wish you all the best, hopefully still seeing all of you around the club for a long time to come.

I'd also like to thank and congratulate our new committee members for their nominations and elections. The new committee is as below:

President: Anthony VAN FLEET

Vice president: Aaron THOMAS

Vice President: Ben GROVES

Captain: Jay LLOYD

Vice-Captain: Mick CARROLL

Ladies Vice Captain: Edna ATKINSON

Greens Director: Howard HARWICK

Treasurer: Dave MULLINS

Junior Co-ordinator: Lance MCDOUGALL

Vacant: House director and Club co-ordinator

We have had our first committee meeting and have begun to plan for 2018 and other longer term planning. While most of us are new to our roles, we are committed to the future success of the club. We are in no way re-inventing the wheel and on the same hand through these actions and decisions we make, are in no way being critical of committees of the past. We are volunteers as have been all of our previous committees, with families and work commitments away from the club all the same. We appreciate the efforts previously made and if any of you have advice or assistance you could give us from your own experiences during your tenures, we'd love to hear from you.

I have attempted to speak with as many members as possible since the AGM to get a feel for where our members are in relation to the club and how we can improve, along with letting you all know the committee's initial plans for the future. I hope that we as a committee can continue to keep as open a dialogue as possible where members feel they can provide ideas and constructive feedback that we can consider, and where possible, action in a positive fashion.

The plan is for the club news to be distributed each month to keep everyone as up to date as possible. There will be hard copies at the club house along with being available electronically via Facebook and the club's website.

The only general issue I wish to raise with some urgency is the vacant committee member positions, in particular the House Director position. The role is generally as per the position title, where by you would be working in support of the employed staff in the club house, helping with its general organisation and day to day running. It would be ideally suited to one of our

members living in proximity of the club, possibly a retired or semi-retired member who would like to help the club without the workload of some of the somewhat more time-commitment-heavy Committee positions. Anyone who wishes to nominate or discuss further please do not hesitate to speak with any of us.

So until next month, happy golfing!

Fleety

Anthony VAN FLEET, President

president@gordonvalegolfclub.com.au

Sponsorship Opportunities



The club has multiple sponsorship and advertising opportunities available, ranging from event sponsorship to oncourse or roadway visible advertising. Details and costings available at the club or can be discussed with members of the committee or staff at any time. If members know of any sponsorship opportunities, a flyer that can be taken and given to prospective sponsors is currently being developed.

Captain's corner

Hello all, I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy new year. I'm Jay Lloyd the new club captain. I've been a member of Gordonvale golf club for just over two years. This year we have already started our season off with a monthly medal and Captains trophy in December. All our major event dates have been locked in and waiting to be confirmed with FNQ golf.

We have started our drive to find sponsorship for our Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday comps and also major events. If anyone has someone interested in sponsoring please get in contact with myself or someone from the committee, the more sponsorship we have the better we can run these events.

We have new golf software on its way in February. This month we have both the Ladies only scramble on Sunday the 21st and the week after we have mixed scramble on Australia Day Friday the 26th. Get a team organised and get your nomination form in to the club.

I plan to include in my section of the newsletter a quick rundown of the happenings of the month preceding and what is happening competition wise the following month. In particular, I will highlight the 'special' event of the following month i.e. red tee day, two ball events, etc. We plan to run one a month to break up the somewhat monotony of just stroke and stableford events. We hope that all of you will get on board with these events, and issues of the past such as difficulty in still handicapping the events (except of course shared ball/Ambrose events) will be more easily counteracted by the new software. Stay tuned for further details as each event is scheduled.

I would also like to encourage anyone who hasn't met me to please stop me and say hello and introduce yourself. If there are any queries about what is happening with golf, events or anything in general please don't hesitate to have a chat with me or contact me on captain@gordonvalegolfclub.com.au

Happy golfing at Royal Gordonvale.

Jay Lloyd, Captain



Tales from the Red Tees

In the world of our ladies' golfers, we are still on our annual Christmas / New Year's break. Some of our ladies have continued playing not only on our regular Wednesday, but as part of the Thursday and Saturday competitions. We are hoping to get back into the swing of things in February.

We do have ourselves a special opportunity in the very near future though, that we hope everyone is already well aware of; that being a 'ladies only' Holden Scramble on Sunday the 21st of January. It is a very rare opportunity to have a 'ladies only' event with the winner going straight through to the state final without the normal requirement to qualify via a regional final. Further information is available at the clubhouse or via the clubs Facebook page.

Due to the time of year there is not much else on the radar at this stage, other than we are always chasing more players to join us on a Wednesday and are open to any sponsorship offers for any of our events.

Until next month,

Edna ATKINSON, Ladies Vice-Captain

Gordonvale golf club is on Facebook!



Like, share and check in! Help the club increase its social media presence. Let's show everyone what we have to offer.

News from the Greens Keeper's Shed

At the time of writing we FINALLY had some rain starting to fall. As we're sure you've all seen of late, we have been doing our best to keep things growing by watering as heavily as we can while we waited for the rains to hit. Hopefully by the time you read this, things are a little greener and the rain greens things up while not raining so much it stops us all getting out for a hit. While we have done our best to complete this away from our planned competitions, occasionally to ensure the health of the greens watering has had to be done between the fields because at the end of the day this is better than the greens dying off as we're sure you'd all agree.

The watering has also been done alongside some additional treatments to combat a small amount of 'dry patch' that we are attempting to stay on top of as well.

Weather aside, we are well into the swing of maintaining and improving the course as much as we can. We have a weekly fertilising routine on top of a monthly planned use of the 'verti-drain' aeration to assisting the health of the greens.

Our green renovations (coring) was a great success and is planned to be an annual occurrence as should always have been the case. In a perfect world, some slightly earlier rain would have speed up the grow back and visual repair of the greens after coring, but the great scoring of late is a good indication of good rolling and holding greens. The visual repair will only be helped by the rain.

The club would also like to very much thank Shep for his assistance over the recent couple of weeks while Rob was on some well-earned leave, working on the course with Mick and our volunteers.

As per the later advice, we will be running regular working bees through the year so it would be of assistance to know ahead of time who is coming so we can plan the days in advance.

Other than that, we have plans to replace many or most of the tee signage around the course as many are becoming a bit tired and run down. You may have seen we already have most of these at the green keepers shed ready to go.

We also have plans, as was mentioned at the AGM, to try and attack some of the bunkers this year. While they are receiving more attention already due to the new bunker rake, a full over-hall of each bunker is the grand plan. Obviously this is primarily a cost based issue, if we are going to do it, we want to do it right and only once. We will advise how this progresses.

We also have some of our no longer used equipment up for sale:

- Ford tractor and slasher
- Ex-greens mower
- Ex-bunker rake

If any member is interested or knows of anyone, please forward the interested party to the clubhouse. Obviously selling unused items such as these frees up money that can be put back into the club and course.

Rob and Howard, Head Greenkeeper and Greens Director



"I thought the idea of playing was to relieve all your office stress."

Working bees and volunteering

As a small club we always have and will continue to rely on members to assist the club with their time as volunteers. While volunteers have always been able to attend the club at any time and offer their assistance (we encourage members, particularly shift and FIFO workers to speak with Rob or the club house girls at any time to help where you can) general working bees have been not as well attended in the past for multiple reasons. The club will now be running monthly working bees. They will be the last Sunday of EVERY month between 7am and approximately 9am.

This has been planned with the assistance of Rob, with the intention being that by being done on the last Sunday of the month, it is the week immediately preceding the next Monthly Cup and will align with his work on the course in preparation for the Monthly Cup.

One of the major causes of working bees having less than ideal numbers at all sporting clubs and organisations is the date not being easily remembered by irregular planning. By maintaining the date as always being the last Sunday of the month, it can't be forgotten.

While we do not expect members to attend each and every one of these, we hope that our members could attend where possible to help with the growth and continuing development of their own club and course.

Our intent is to alleviate as many of the 'day to day' tasks as well as course development and beautification from Rob and our paid ground staff, along with work around the club house that Bel and Kim cannot be expected to do on a daily basis. By doing so, Rob and the ground staff can continue to develop the greens, tees and other technical areas of the course and the girls can focus on attending to the needs of members, guests and the day to day running of the club house, hopefully growing our membership and bottom line.

To encourage participation, we are planning to have a free chook-run-style inside the track 9-hole comp and a BBQ after each working bee. The below reminder will be included in each newsletter to confirm the date for the following month. As below our first will be in February.

Next Working Bee:

Sunday 25/02/17

7am – 9am

*9-hole competition and BBQ
included for all volunteers upon
completion*

New life Members

The club would like to congratulate Carmel BRYCE and Grace DONNELLY who were inducted as life members at the 2017 AGM.

Carmel first joined the club in 1967 and served on the Ladies committee from 1998 to 2012 when the new constitution was introduced. She served as the Ladies Captain in 2011 and Ladies Vice-Captain in 2012. She also served on the FNQ Ladies Golf committee during this time as the Gordonvale delegate. She also served as treasurer for six months in 2007 after the passing of the late Bob LOCK. Carmel, along with her sister Jeanette have also checked and recorded the cards for the club championships for the past 10 years.

Grace has been a continuous member of the club since 1987, with 17 of those years spent as a member of the Ladies Committee. She served as an Associate Committee member in 1989, 1998-2000; Associate Treasurer 1990-1994 and 2005; Associate Captain 2001 and 2002; and Associate President 1995-1997, 2003 and 2004.

Thank you again to both of you for your service to the club in the past and your ongoing commitment to the club in the futures.

Congratulations!



From the office of the Minister For Finance

The club regularly applies for grants for many applications as they arise.

As part of the tender process for a recent 'Female Facilities Grant', our ladies members were asked to fill in a survey giving their thoughts on the female facilities. The Grant was dedicated solely to upgrade female facilities (toilets) at clubs.

The overwhelming response from our ladies' members were that the ladies' facilities were inadequate.

The ultimate result was we did not qualify for the tender process. The main failure was we could not show a consistent Strategic plan (Our strategic Plan expired at the end of 2017). A New Strategic Plan is High on the current Committee Agenda.

The other member survey result is being consolidated and will be available in an upcoming newsletter.

For those of you have Paid your membership the club thanks you. The early payment of the membership has allowed the club to proceed with the downstairs upgrade and the new software purchase.

The grant we received did not cover all the costs associated as there are always unexpected hiccups and expenses.

As the club now has rolling membership, with membership expiring based on 12 months from when you joined (or when you last paid for those few who get behind), You will receive a letter in the mail approximately one month before it is due.

If your contact details have changed over the past 3 years then I advise you contact the girls and make sure that it is up to date.

Members who do not pay on time are deemed unfinancial, and lose playing rights.

Dave MULLINS, Treasurer

accounts@gordonvalegolfclub.com.au

RULE OF THE MONTH

Tee Shot (Rule 11) Play your tee shot from between, and not in front of, the tee-markers. You may play your tee shot from up to two club-lengths behind the front line of the tee-markers. If you play your tee shot from outside this area, in match play there is no penalty, but your opponent may require you to replay your stroke; in stroke play you incur a two-stroke penalty and must correct the error by playing from within the correct area.

So remember when you are playing some of our holes that may have alternate teeing options, such as holes two or seven for example, where you can be more or less aggressive depending on what line you wish to take, use all of the tee box. And remember when you do so, the two club lengths only applies to your ball, not your stance, so use this rule to your advantage!