

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.

### President's Pitch

Another month has rolled on and we have announced the date for our first big event for the year, the Cairns Hardware Classic. This year the event will be held on the last weekend of April, the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. As this is the only two day open event prior to us hosting the FNQ open, we are hoping and planning for a big field. The flyer is on our Facebook and we are trying to get the word out far and wide. Encourage your mates from other clubs to come and participate in what is shaping to be a great event.

On a related note, now that the 'Open Season' is getting underway, I encourage our members to get out, participate and support golf in our region, particularly the other small, hardworking clubs like ourselves. If you are willing and able, I encourage you to wear your Gordonvale GC shirts and get the word out with your playing partners and others about our club and what were up to at the moment. It was great to see that of the 77 in the field at the second round of the Drummond Cup held at Mareeba last week, 13 were Gordonvale members. It would be great to see the return patronage from the members of the clubs we visit coming and playing at Royal Gordy.

I would also like to take this opportunity to pass on my thanks and congratulations to our tireless team.

As many of you would now know, I nominated Bel for the Employee of the year award at the upcoming Golf Queensland awards and that she was selected as a finalist for the award. On behalf of our members and committee I congratulate you on making the list as a finalist and for everything you do for our club, it is greatly appreciated.

I also want to thank Kym for her ongoing contributions to our club. When we had our first working bee a couple of weeks ago, the turnout was not quite what I had hoped for with only seven people turning up (as well as Dave working the club house all day, unpaid, so that Bel could attend an event, plus Chook and the McDougall's working with the juniors; thank you to you as well). One of those seven was Kym, who came in on her day off to volunteer her time. While this may seem a

small act, I did not expect any of our paid employees to be a part of this day and it just goes to show Kym's commitment to the club. Thank you again Kym.

Our boys out on the course continue to work towards the overall improvement of our course with what can be at some times, only slightly more than the bare essentials to do so. It is great to see what they can achieve with the attitude they have and the high standard they try to achieve. Thanks again boys.

Remember I am always happy to hear from you and will always do my best to address your concerns where I can. My best contact remains by email, just by the nature of my employment away from the club but if you can catch me while I'm at the club, I am always happy to have a chat.

Also, the committee has now completed the updated 'Corporate and Sponsorship opportunities' flyer for use in attracting sponsors and advertisers to the club. Hard copies are held at the club house for distribution or can be emailed in PDF format for electronic distribution. The committee will always make it a priority to drive this, but if our members can assist in this process it will only be of benefit to us all in improving our competition prizes and improving our overall bottom line.

So until next month, happy golfing!

Fleety

Anthony VAN FLEET, President

[president@gordonvalegolfclub.com.au](mailto:president@gordonvalegolfclub.com.au)



**CAIRNS HARDWARE** **CONSIDER IT DONE**

**28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

**CAIRNS HARDWARE CLASSIC**

**GORDONVALE GOLF CLUB**  
FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND

As hosts of this year's FNQ Championships and Champion of Champions in July, this is your best and only opportunity to participate in a two-day event at the course beforehand!

**FNQ GOLF**

To book tee times and buggies, call or email the club.

2 Day \$2500 event
36 Hole Stroke event
Men's: A, B & C Grades
Ladies: Div 1 and Div 2 (determined on entries)
Daily net and overall gross prizes, plus daily and NTP prizes.
Entry fee \$50 for 36-hole event
\$30 for single day entry
Tee times:
7:00am-8:00am
and
10:30am-12:00 midday
each day

GORDONVALE GOLF CLUB  
GEORGE STREET, GORDONVALE  
PH 4056 3999  
EMAIL:  
INFO@GORDONVALEGOLFCLUB.COM.AU

*Next Working Bee:*

*Sunday 25/03/18*

*7am – 9am*

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

### Captain's corner

Hello all,

Welcome to March. Our previous month of golf has been good. We have been getting good numbers to our comps. The ladies have started their Wednesday comp season now.

If you haven't seen or heard our new software has been installed and bear with us all while we learn and get used to using this software. It's going to be good for golf as we can run more and different style of comps giving ourselves a lot more variety to the normal stableford and stroke. There will also be a trophy/prize account. This is still being finalised but as it is I will give out more information on this.

The sponsorship flyer is complete so please if we know anyone that would be interested in sponsoring our comps get in contact with myself or any of the committee members.

I have organised and received the shirts for last year's monthly cup winners. So if you won a monthly cup last year I will be in contact with you to give you your shirt in the coming weeks.

There are a few new members signing up to Royal Gordy, let's make them all welcome and show them around our great course and show them our good country feel hospitality. As we all started out wanting to play comps but not sure where to put our names down let these members feel welcome and join in on groups.

With the wet season finally upon us, let's all take good care of our course. Repair all pitch marks on greens and filling divots on tee offs and course with sand. Riggells has been working hard and he has a lot more ahead of him cleaning up the greens and getting them back to A1 conditions for our big events coming up this year, so if we can help him by doing our part it will benefit us all.

The rain is finally here but hopefully we can get out for some golf this month. Happy golfing, see you on the fairways.

Captain Lloyd.

[captain@gordonvalegolfclub.com.au](mailto:captain@gordonvalegolfclub.com.au)

### From the office of the Minister for Finance

As many of you would be aware, the Optus tower in Gordonvale was damaged by the electrical storms recently, meaning we could not process payments on our EFTPOS system. We learnt that the tower had been struck by lightning and while your mobile phone might work because it could reach the Alooomba or Green Hill towers, the EFTPOS devices were not as powerful. After a call to the bank, they switched the sim card to Telstra and we are up and running again.

Of note, the same storm almost got our Cash Register PC. Thankfully the UPS devices surge protector kicked in and prevented damage. Unfortunately we did lose our security cameras recording system due to the electrical storms and a new recorder had to be ordered.

NBN and WIFI - some of you may have detected that Wi-Fi is available at the clubhouse. It does reach as far as the 10th tee. We are still conducting a few experiments with it, but we hope to offer free WIFI to members in the clubhouse soon. This is in conjunction with our NBN connection being fully operational.

The new Golf Software has arrived. We have not been able to fully roll it out as we have been delayed by holidays.... In CHINA of all places! The membership cards, while sourced by a Queensland provider, the plastic cards themselves come from China and the factory shut down to celebrate Chinese New Year - for 10 days! On a related note, the new Golf Software works better with a Chrome Browser. So if you use Firefox, explorer, edge, opera or whatever we encourage you to change to Chrome.

As you would also be aware, the week before the new software arrived Micropower (our previous golf software provider) did an update to their website which caused the issues with our log on system. By mere coincidence, Google itself also made some changes which made the security adjustments at about the same time. That's why we encourage you to log onto <https://www.gordonvalegolfclub.com.au> and not just [www.gordonvalegolfclub.com.au](http://www.gordonvalegolfclub.com.au)

From a financial point of view, with 400mm of rain more than the same October - Feb period than last year, the social and competition numbers have been down. The first week of March has also been great weather for ducks not golfers, so I'd encourage you to get out and play as soon as it fines up. Bring your mates along too. Bit annoying that we had two weeks in that period that it was too hot to play! As Andy from Slice Software said when he was watching the lightening hit the Pyramid - "You guys are all mad"

As many of you would have seen, Tom Bryce dug into the archives and converted two VHS videos into a DVD which we have put on Facebook which has been well received by a lot of people, increasing the traffic through our Facebook which can only be a good thing. There is another one to be published shortly.

Dave MULLINS, Treasurer

[accounts@gordonvalegolfclub.com.au](mailto:accounts@gordonvalegolfclub.com.au)

## Tales from the Red Tees

I haven't any news from the ladies as such, we were to officially have our opening day last Wednesday but the weather decided otherwise. A few of us have been playing sweepstakes which brought in a little money for the club and maybe paid for fuel to mow a fairway or two. This Sunday is the start of match play and on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March the interclub gets underway. Hoping for more news next month.

Until then,

Edna ATKINSON, Ladies Vice-Captain

## 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 to be provided to potential sponsors in now available

## News from the Greens Keeper's shed

Wet, wet, wet! OMG wet! We've had over 600 millimetres since Tuesday (as of Friday 09/03). As a result of that and the previous rain, there understandably has been lots of mowing required just to keep up as per every wet season.

Spraying of fertiliser has continued along with herbicide for the star grass that has gotten into the greens again, 'Associate' to kill the buffalo grass that is growing alongside the star grass and fungicide to control general fungus were all applied before the onset of the rain. We hope that they had enough time to be absorbed prior to the rains to have the desired effect.

We have ordered some biology for the greens to give them a kick along after the rain which is the same product we applied when we cored which gets into the soil and is a slow release product.

Also a big shout out to all the volunteers who came out to give a hand whether it be chopping up fallen trees or cleaning gutters or sanding tables. It all helps.

The 13th bunker will be GUR until it can be renovated and a drop zone will be put in place in the meantime.

As always, we encourage and appreciate members who avail themselves to us to assist in improving and maintaining the

course and we encourage you all to get involved, particularly with the upcoming Cairns Hardware Classic fast approaching.

Rob and Howard, Head greens keeper and Greens Director

## Working bees and volunteering

Last month we had seven members attend our first working bee for the year. We managed to attend to some fallen and overgrown trees on the course, cleared some guttering around the clubhouse, began the process of sanding back and coating the outside tables and also set up the new drinks fridge in the renovated area of the club house.

Remember, the working bees will be held the last Sunday of EVERY month between 7am and approximately 9am.

This month we would ask members who will be attending to bring their whippersnapper with them as we will be attacking some of the more overgrown areas (like around the bridges) where the mowers generally cannot get to.



"I'VE NEVER SEEN A COURSE MARSHALL SO STRICT ABOUT BRINGING YOUR BAG ON THE GREEN."

## New Member Referrals

Remember, any member who finds and refers a new full member to the club will receive a \$50 bonus into their prize account. Each member will be entitled to this bonus for referring up to three new members per calendar year. This referral system is effective immediately and any referrals made prior to the new software coming in will be honoured once implemented as that is how the prize accounts will be operated.

So if any member knows of anyone that is considering becoming a member of a golf club, what better motivation than a \$50 bonus and helping grow your club at the same time?!

## RULE OF THE MONTH

Now that we are well into the wet season, Section 25 is well in play.

**25-1 Abnormal Ground Conditions states:** Interference by an abnormal ground condition (An "abnormal ground condition" is any casual water, ground under repair or hole, cast or runway on the course made by a burrowing animal, a reptile or a bird) occurs when a ball lies in or touches the condition or when the condition interferes with the player's stance or the area of their intended swing. If the player's ball lies on the putting green, interference also occurs if an abnormal ground condition on the putting green intervenes on their line of putt. Otherwise, intervention on the line of play is not, of itself, interference under this Rule.

Relief from abnormal ground conditions applies to the area known as "Through the green" (the whole area of the course except: a. The teeing ground and putting green of the hole being played; and b. all hazards on the course) and is taken by dropping within one club length of the nearest point of relief not nearer the hole. If the ball is in a bunker, you must drop inside the bunker. If you are on the teeing area (of your hole) you may lift and drop as per 'through the green'. If dropped in accordance with this rule, there is no stroke penalty. On the putting green, you may lift and place at the nearest point of relief, again without penalty (the nearest point of relief may be off the green and is still a place, not drop).

For a Ball in Abnormal Ground Condition Not Found it must be known or virtually certain that the ball is in the abnormal ground condition to proceed as such. If this applies, you may proceed as above with a substituted ball without penalty, but ONLY if it is known or virtually certain that the ball is in the abnormal ground condition. Just being lost when hit in that general direction is not good enough; so if the ball is lost in this circumstance it MUST be treated as a lost ball and penalised as such.

**25-2 Embedded Ball** states: If a player's ball is embedded in any closely-mown area through the green, it may be lifted, cleaned and dropped, without penalty, as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green.

**Note 1:** A ball is "embedded" when it is in its own pitch-mark and part of the ball is below the level of the ground. A ball does not necessarily have to touch the soil to be embedded (e.g. grass, loose impediments and the like may intervene between the ball and the soil).

**Note 2:** "Closely-mown area" means any area of the course, including paths through the rough, cut to fairway height or less.

So what this means is that the 'lift, clean and place' local rule does not need to be enacted to play as above, this rule applies at all times. 'Lift, clean and place' may be enacted by the golf committee and is a local rule only and only applies to closely mown areas.

Also of note in section 25 is 25-3 Wrong Putting Green which applies when your ball is on the green of any other hole other than the one you are currently playing. In this case you must take relief, by lifting and dropping within one club length of the nearest point of relief, not on the green or in a hazard.



## Casual club house positions

The committee is continuing to seek expressions of interest from members or anyone else that a member may know, who would be suitable for the purposes of being trained for casual club house work. We are looking to train at least two or three people in basic clubhouse operations for general coverage for our two hardworking girls, Bel and Kym. Both the girls have some leave planned for the near future, but we also need to give ourselves flexibility in staffing going forwards.

Basic requirements to be considered would be a current RSA certification and any references or an accompanying resume would be of assistance. Any inquiries can be directed to [info@gordonvalegolfclub.com.au](mailto:info@gordonvalegolfclub.com.au) or directly to the president or treasurer.

