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Golf Course

The course is recovering from the maintenance program which has been full on. Many thanks to all who have contributed to our course which is showing great signs of summer condition.

Congratulations!

A new octogenarian is amongst our midst as we congratulate Roy Liersch on reaching this milestone. Roy celebrated with family & he is looking forward to slowing the pace a little which I'm sure will include a little more camping & fishing.

Congratulations to our good member Keith Pearce, who comes over from Donald regularly, as he shot his age a couple of times over the past month, Gold tees 87. Keith is one of our octogenarians and played off a single handicap for decades. Like all of us, he has lost a little distance in his shots as years get. Keith is a very steady, consistent golfer and a pleasure to go around with.

Urgent!! 'House' position needs filling!!

It is a priority to find a volunteer who is willing to take on the position of 'House'. The clubhouse & bar are essential to our club staying viable, bringing in revenue through our bar committee & catering committee.

The House volunteer is responsible for coordinating our clubhouse maintenance when needed & bar rosters. This person communicates with the Bar Committee chair & Catering Committee chair making sure functions are well organised between the two.

Please consider taking on this position. We are all volunteers & very willing to support the incoming person.

Fixtures for 2023

Our Captains & their Match Committees are gathering information for our fixtures in 2023 so if you see any need to alter last season's fixtures now is the time to put forward your suggestions & how they would work. Were there any errors from last year's fixture book? Can you assist the group by joining the teams?

Course Maintenance

The back nine fairways have now been scarified and the whole course is recovering well. The course will have a dose of super to encourage it along and hopefully we will see a little warmer weather as well.

Next on the list is the scarifying & feeding of the tees. Any person available on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday may contact Nigel, Fred or the President.

Volunteers are always appreciated and we need offers re mowing assistance especially subbing in on occasions when others are not available. Contact Nigel or Ted if you may be able to assist.

Inaugural Gold Tees Competition

Saturday 28th January 2023 was the first official competition held as the men took on the challenge of the shorter course. All concerns were put aside as the day proved one thing – you still need to play well to play to your handicap!! The stroke round saw the best nett score was by who had

Congratulations to David Kranz who, with a couple of helpers, had the course rated officially for the white, maroon & gold tees. They researched, reviewed, set up and measured while listening to members comments & concerns re the Gold Tees Course. Warracknabeal Golf Club now officially has three courses which may be played.

Greg Pearson & John Jess had 77 off the stick to be the lowest scratch score. It is interesting to see 3 out of the thirty-one played to or better than their handicap [scratch rating 71]. There were three eagles, 2 on 8th hole [Kym Stepney, John Jess] & 1 on 11th hole [Richard Bett]. Handicaps were adjusted to the Gold slope of 106 which meant most players were cut around six strokes.

Overall, the contest & challenge is still the same – tee one end, hole the other end & you need to play well to play to your handicap.

Wimmera Seniors Golf

Monday 6th February had the Senior Ladies & the Men's Veterans play their competition day at Warracknabeal Golf Course. 19 women & 52 men enjoyed their day even though the fairways have just been scarified. It is the first time both Women & Men competitions have played together on the same day. This format maybe adopted in the future as it was a 'feel good' day.

Our catering group provided lunch as they finished around 1:30pm. It is always a pleasure & privilege to host our Senior players at our club.



Warracknabeal Captain, David Kranz, welcomes the Senior Wimmera golfers to the course & clubhouse.

Alex Ross Memorial date change

Please note that the fixtured date of Saturday 11th February for the Alex Ross Memorial has now been transferred to Saturday 18th March. This is always well supported by Alex's friends & his family connections.

Trade Triples begins

The Warracknabeal Golf Bowls Club have started their Trade Triples on Wednesday evenings with great success. Having fourteen teams of 3 registering, coordinator Mick Marchment, was very pleased with the first evening.



The evening was calm & mild, just perfect to have people interacting and testing their skills on the bowling rinks. Three people play in the team on the night with one being a bowler who may assist, encourage and clarify any query on what bowls is about. The newcomers & regular Trade Triples players are enthusiastic about the competition which will run for 5 weeks.



The Trade Triples is supported by Jonno & Johnno, Warrack Hot Bread and Rocky Holland Motors. Mick & his small band of helpers are rapt to give community members a chance each year to come & play in this fabulous sport of bowls. Like golf, it is a lifelong sport which keeps us socially, mentally and physically active.

Green Taylor Partners Golf Day

It is always great to have sponsors support a day for our club to showcase our course, provide an opportunity for a fantastic social day and allowing the club to raise essential funds for it to continue.

Green Taylor partners have been a long-term sponsor with locals Matt Richardson & Ross Laycock on the team offering advice & support through the financial business year. It is a 3person Ambrose event which is great fun & is to be held on **Sunday 19th March**. The start will be around midday and teams may be any combination including non-handicappers. There will be afternoon tea along with other food & drinks available throughout the day. Keep an eye out for the flyer for further details.

Strategic Plan

Our endeavour to set up a strategic plan continues as Chris Crabbe, Golf Australia, will assist the committee to set a date for the golf & bowls members to see where we are at and look for further input from its members. Chris is attending our February monthly meeting.

Sponsorship

Our club relies on sponsorship to keep the club afloat and provide a fabulous venue for our community members to come. Sponsorship will be attended to over the next three weeks as our fixture book is to be finalised. The following categories are available.

Major Sponsorship: Naming rights to an event ie Annual Tournament

Tournament Sponsorship:

This is for our Easter Golf Program & Annual Tournament.

Special Event Sponsorship:

This is events such as Green Taylor Partners Golf Day, Bentley's Wimmera Mallee Day, May Day, Rocktober.

Event Sponsorship:

This is an event such as Championships, Board Events

General Sponsorship:

For weekly events such as Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday & Public holidays.

Memorial Sponsorship:

This is for families who wish to have an event in memory of a loved one. Syd Gollop, Nola Clarke Golden Putter, Alex Ross Memorial, Kosy Family Social Day

Donations:

A number of people donate money to a variety of causes including our machinery account, irrigation account or to special projects.

People also donate items such as fertiliser, machinery use, trade skills or products ie sleepers

Any queries please contact President David Baxter.

Open to Ideas!!

The Warracknabeal Golf & Bowls Club are always open to ideas. Being presented with ideas on any aspect of the club & its facilities are accepted & looked at.

There are many great ideas BUT!! Factors such as finance, personnel, time are always factors that may not allow the committees/members to carry out those great ideas. Don't be discouraged if your idea is not implemented, find ways you think it can be followed through. Two great examples are the renovations to our oncourse toilets & the cart sheds. Fabulous achievements by those involved.

Tap & Go!!

The club is on the verge of having access to the use of plastic money [bank card] for the convenience of not carrying cash which many citizens now do. Hopefully by the end of March!!

Well wishes! Secretary Bernie – rest & recovery!!!