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R.I.P.

The club is saddened to have Peter Dean & Margaret Griffiths pass away recently. Peter was a quiet achiever around the grounds aiding Ken Henderson to do bins & top up sand bins as one of their tasks. He loved his golf with a bit of banter for fun. It was nice to be able to have the family & friends at the Golf Club last Monday to send Pete off.

Margaret Griffiths was a long-time member, 50+ years, before moving away to the Geelong area when husband John retired. Both were fantastic members and Marg contributed much to the Women's aspect of golf taking on various roles as well as the club in general.

Our condolences to both families.

Golf Course

The course is recovering from the very wet conditions of 2022 with Grounds chair, Wayne George, doing a great job chasing up tasks to be done on course maintenance while doing his own busy schedule. Grounds keeper, Nigel Zanker is pleased with his work with the greens along with the volunteer's assistance.

Irrigation system maintenance has been a busy area too with the Summer showing us the heat recently and little rain. Amazing how quickly the top of the ground dries & how the important our irrigation system becomes through the summer. We are watering!!

The third fairway has had maintenance done & seed sown on the larger area that is battling to gain a good summer grass coverage. We hope this will make inroads on the bare patch problem as time goes on.

All fairways will be dethatched by the end of January now we have volunteers becoming available after a late & long harvest. If you think you may have time to assist, please come out on Monday or Tuesday next week at 9:00am onwards. Contact Wayne, Nigel or myself for further information if needed.

Power Pole Replacement

This project will conclude at the end of January as the works will be assessed and given an A+ for the work that the team has done. Well done to those gentlemen. Peter Schilling assisted Graeme White levelling the area around the pole recently and Graeme is putting the final touches on as the box is reattached to the pole.

The grounds group will have a gathering early February to assess what hasn't been done from 2022, what has been achieved and what work is on the horizon for 2023.

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.

Take a risk! LIVE & LEARN

Responsible Serving of Alcohol [RSA]

Congratulations to those who over the past two months have made the effort to update their RSA certificates. Again, as active volunteers, you make our club what it is! Everyone enjoys the social aspect after the round of golf along with a cool drink. It is thanks to you we can do that instead of just going home without a debrief.

I am sure our partners at home appreciate not needing to listen about the putts missed, the fairways are too narrow and if only I!!! Let alone the good golf day that comes along four times a year – a blow by blow description after that round from the best golfer in the club is always welcomed, I'm sure!!

Memberships

Hopefully you have received notice that 2023 memberships are now due. If you haven't received any notification or there is a problem paying your membership fee, please contact the Presidents, Captains or DMA for assistance.

As you know we have kept the fees at the same cost for a number of years apart from the cart & buggy shed. We will always walk the thin line between black & the red but we also recognise our club is a volunteer club now and many people volunteer their time, skills and friendship to keep our club a great place to come & relax.

Many thanks to those who contribute donations along with their membership to various aspects of the club which obviously helps to keep the fees down.

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 seasons 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?

Our Jacaranda has been looking great lately.

Course Maintenance

As mentioned before, our maintenance program is late due to a number of factors but it is happening at present.

Over the next fortnight the grounds conditions may be a little rough & untidy with good results to come following the works being done. Greens continue to do well with the spray & fertilising program going well with the grooming of the greens too.



Danny Germano is doing a fantastic job mowing the tees & the tees will be soon receiving the same treatment as the fairways.

Our active volunteers, across the club, work to see & have our club as a great place to come. The reward of working with fabulous people, enjoying the social interaction, being physically active and being rewarded by members coming out having a ball participating in bowls & golf activities.



The fairways are receiving a scarify to open up the ground breaking up the poa thatch & allow the native couch to grow & run.

The third fairway has been partially sown and dethatched while the sixth has had some Santa anna thatching's spread & covered with sand, hoping some of it will take hold and assist with filling in those bare spots.

The bunker team continue to do their work without any fuss although the kangaroos have been active as do the mowing team re fairways & greens.



The pictures are worth a thousand words as our ground's volunteers & greenskeeper work for our benefit.

Bernie Naylor blows down the greens mower after giving the greens a shave while John Barbetti rides off east as he scarifies the 8th fairway. Just above Darrell McKay tidies up the north bunker on the sixth and Men's Captain, David Kranz, tries his hand on the rough cutter blowing the loose thatch to the edge of the fairway. Mick Marchment was on this machine the first day.

Greenskeeper, Nigel Zanker, & resident volunteer, Peter Schilling work on the sixth fairway sanding and settling in some Santa anna thatching.

Grounds chairman, Fred George, will be very happy to see the front nine fairways completed ready for an application of super to encourage the growth of the fairway grasses.



Once again, Happy New Year!! Come & join us to find self satisfaction, good friends and a fantastic positive environment to pass the time of day. Be an ACTIVE MEMBER!!