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## **Golf Course**

The course is looking magnificent and comments from the Annual Tournament golfers reinforced that. Visitors were especially complimentary and appreciated the 'dry' ground. Courses in the south are very damp with some closing the whole course. We do ask people in carts to be aware of the usual 'damp' areas and drive around them or to the light rough. Further rain predicted this week so please respect the fairways by not driving carts over the damp areas leaving wheel marks. Thank you!!

### **Annual General Meeting**

It may be a couple of months away but it is important to start thinking about our AGM re vacancies/challenges and whether you would like to join the present committee to guide our club to a prosperous future. Each year half of the committee [6 positions] finish their 2-year elected position of which they are able to re-nominate or resign. Positions up this November are:

Peter Barling [House], Carolyn Morcom [Women's President], Wendy Hewitt [Women's Captain], Shirley Liersch [Catering], Shirley Liersch [Bowls], Dennis Murphy [Independent].

The best way to have your influence on the club is to become part of the administration. We love receiving ideas but having people driving & implementing them is even better. The committee members have responsibilities to make our club the best it can be.

### Wimmera Primary Schools Tournament

On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September, our course hosted 60 of the Wimmera Primary Schools students who are keen on their golf & have an annual tournament at our club.

Professional golfer, Tony Collier has a strong connection & influence through the schools & he is passionate about giving all children a chance to experience the fun of golf. It was a beautiful morning for golf & the juniors appreciated the chance to participate.

Junior Coordinator at our club, Carolyn Morcom, is glad the MyGolf program will be available again this year but will rely on members, parents and children working together to make it successful. Parents are asked to keep their eyes open for further details later in September. I believe details are out now & the cost is \$10 not \$25 as first shown.

Tony visits our club occasionally to do some coaching to the benefit of our members. If interested please contact Carolyn re his next visit. Many thanks to Ash Purdue for accompanying a group of keen golfers. Important to note – you don't need to be on Committee to assist with Juniors. Contact Carolyn and she will be very pleased to have you on board.

#### Strategic Plan

Golf Australia reps., Jayne Young and Chris Crabbe some of the committee after the Junior Tournament and is the second meeting in establishing a Strategic Plan for our club and revisit our constitution. The reasoning is a strategic plan gives direction to a club for the future, not just year to year or the term of the present executive & committee. We will be having our third meeting with Jayne & Chris on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm in the clubhouse. A light tea will be provided and it would be excellent to have 15 or more golf & bowls members come along to provide input from our members.

If you have an interest or strength in this area & willing to assist in a positive manner, please come along or contact President Ted.

#### We have Twins!!

After searching for over 12 months our Grounds
Chairperson, Fred George, has found a fairway mower to accompany the one we have. They are very similar and we now will be able to





halve the workload on our present mower, provide safety & comfort for our volunteers & mow the whole course in a half of a day. The machine will be an asset for our future. Well done, Fred!!

#### **Catering Assistance**

It is fantastic to see functions at the club again after the two years of COVID halting one of our best aspects of the club shut down. Shirley has a number of events coming up & it will be appreciated if you can assist in any way. This Thursday, tomorrow, there is a luncheon with speakers on cancer & its impact with around 70+ people already booked in. Please contact Shirley or drop in early to see if you can assist. Thank you!

#### **Upcoming events**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September:** Bentley's Wimmera-Mallee Golf

Day 4BBB Aggregate Stableford

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October:** Kosy Memorial Social Day includes

bowls & golf.

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October:** Women's Rocktober Day **Women:** Wendy Hewitt 0427 332 193 **Men:** David Kranz 0447 647 480



# O'CONNORS CASE IH WARRACKNABEAL ANNUAL TOURNAMENT!

A revamp of the O'Connors CASE IH Golf Tournament events has proved to be a success with over two hundred entries taken during the four-day tournament. The tournament was played in excellent conditions each day while the course was in tip-top shape with many golfers commenting on the excellent work done by the grounds staff. Golfers were treated each day to a lovely afternoon tea from the catering group while the bar staff served nice cold drinks. There were many prizes awarded over the four days including winners of daily raffles, spinning wheels, novelty activities including longest drive, straightest drive and Nearest the Pin on three holes. Golfers had many chances to take a prize home but best of all is that all golfers enjoyed their day/s of golf. It was great to have two caravans in for the weekend events all the way from Portland & it was nice to catch up after 3

One of the most satisfying aspects of the O'Connors CASE IH annual tournament was the excellent number of visitors from other clubs, 15-18 each day. The visitors were mainly from the Wimmera Mallee area but those further away included Portland, Ballarat, Rosebud, Midlands Ballarat, Mildura, Teasdale, Bannockburn and even a couple of overseas travellers in Josh Gunn & Michael Bayles. Two other notable club visitors were the



return of Jacko Smith, Anglesea Golf Club [pictured], who has been coming to the tournament for near 40 years

while ex-President, Peter Vogel & his lovely wife Norma from Port Arlington caught up with friends. Great to have golfers return to catch up with family.

The tournament highlights this magic little bush course of ours with its birds, kangaroos and even a large reptile spotted on the first day, Thursday. Locals are encouraged to come & try a game of golf or bowls on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at the Kosy Memorial Social Fun Day which includes golf & bowls. Novices are most welcome and those who just want a lovely afternoon out socialising are welcome too. There is the Bentley Wimmera-Mallee 4 ball Aggregate on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September which non handicappers are most welcome to come and try their skills. Flyers will be out or go onto the Warracknabeal Golf Club' website for further details.

The tournament committee created a four-day tournament with the Men's Royal Mail Hotel/Emmett's Golden Putter being held on Saturday as an 18-hole



event instead of 36 holes. Fifty-two men played while thirteen women played a Stableford event.



The popular Green Taylor Day was selected to start the tournament on Thursday with a 4BBB Stableford event for both Men & Women with sixty-eight players playing.



Friday was the ever-popular Nola Clarke Memorial Golden Putter 4BBB v Par event with 23 pairs.

Sunday remained the Drummonds Ballarat Mixed Pinehurst & Stableford event with Robert Smith & son sponsoring the new event, a Men's Pinehurst with a total of forty-one players over the three events. The Captains, Wendy Hewitt & David Kranz, along with their match committees are to be congratulated on the tournaments success as plenty of work went into its planning & implementation. The club appreciates all members who

generously gave their time & food for afternoon tea to make it a pleasant experience for our visitors.

Our sponsors will be pleased with the response the changes brought and feel proud to be associated with the Warracknabeal Golf Club.



# O'CONNORS CASE IH WARRACKNABEAL ANNUAL TOURNAMENT!



The most prestigious events at the Warracknabeal Golf Club's Annual Tournament are the men's and women's Golden Putter events.

The women's Nola Clarke Memorial Golden Putter event was held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and we were fortunate that the sun came out for a fine day. Players came from 17 clubs in the Wimmera, Mallee and beyond, from Hopetoun to Port Arlington, Serviceton to Birchip. Nola Clarke was highly regarded golfer both in our club and throughout the state. A single figure handicap player, Nola was club champion on many occasions and was a successful and popular Pennant golf and Wimmera Country Week player. Nola's husband, Brian, has been sponsoring this event since Nola's passing in 2013, and the club is very grateful for his support.

The twenty-three pairs competed in a 4BBB Versus Par competition. The objective of this game is to have an end score with the most pluses. Every hole played produces a result of a plus, half or minus in relation to a player's handicap. The partner with the best score on each hole's is recorded for that pair.

Winners of the event were two Horsham players, Annabelle Plowright (17) and Robyn Watts (21) who finished with a score of +6. They were presented with the highly sought gold putters. The Runner up combination of Warracknabeal player, Kaye Picken (25) and Sheep Hills champion, Casey Phelan (14), also produced a score of +6, but losing to the winners on a countback. During presentations they thanked local member Maree Heenan, who generously sponsors second place prizes. Close behind on +5, were two partnerships. Coming in third place, on a countback, was the combination of Amanda Brownsea (24) from Jeparit and Lyn McKenzie (25) from Rainbow. Fourth place went to Carolyn Purvis ((15) from Horsham and Warracknabeal's Wendy Hewitt (13). Two stalwarts of Wimmera golf, ex-Warracknabeal member, Dawn Scott and Joyce Mills travelled to

Warracknabeal especially for the presentations, such was their respect for Nola Clarke. Multiple times
Warracknabeal club champion, and now



Horsham member, 92-year-old Dawn Scott spoke of her very fond memories of Nola Clarke. Dawn recalls Nola winning the D grade championship when on a handicap of 36 when Nola first took up golf, many years ago. Nola quickly soared up the ranks over the years to become one of the club's best ever players.

Warrack Hot Bread was the generous sponsor of the Nearest to the Pins competitions, providing great prizes for the lucky winners. Carolyn Morcom had the best drive onto the green on the 5<sup>th</sup> hole to take the prize. In fact, Carolyn was the only player, man or woman, over the four-day tournament to reach the green on the 5<sup>th</sup>! Well done, Carolyn. NTP on the 7<sup>th</sup> hole was the Golden Putter winner, Robyn Watts and the NTP on the 13<sup>th</sup> was won by Chloe Mulraney from Kaniva. The Second Shot on the 9<sup>th</sup> was claimed by Warracknabeal player Leonie Atkin, the straightest drive was equaled by Tania Dignan from Stawell and Shirley Starbuck of Hopetoun, and the teams' event prizes went to Carolyn Purvis, Wendy Hewitt,

Amanda
Brownsea and Lyn
McKenzie with a
combined score of
+10.
After the day's

After the day's play, the club house was full of players; the atmosphere was



fantastic, full of laughs, stories and players enjoying the fabulous afternoon tea that we are known for. In the day's presentations Lady President Carolyn Morcom and Captain Wendy Hewitt both thanked the many club members who helped with catering, administration roles, raffles, working bees, preparation of the course, bringing visiting players, staffing the bar, and preparing the clubhouse for this special and very successful day. Wendy Hewitt

## **Annual Tournament Raffle Winners**

It is much appreciated to those who assisted in selling tickets and/or buying tickets in our major raffle. A special thanks to the Werrigar Roadhouse for their sponsorship of first prize of vouchers to the value of \$300 while Penny Bulk Haulage provided a town voucher to the value of \$250 for the lucky winner. They have both supported our club for a number of years.

Werrigar Roadhouse winner: Jessica Roberts Horsham Penny Bulk Haulage winner: Cadell Walton Sydney

## **Tournament Results**

Thursday September 1st:

## Green Taylor Partners Women 4BBB Stableford –

Winners Di Rogers & Tania Butcher Portland 39pts c/b. Runners-up – Julie McLennan & Beth Thompson Wycheproof 39pts.





Men 4BBB Stableford
Winners – Gary
McKay Ballarat & Greg
Pearson 42pts c/b.
Runners-up – Ian Hair
& Wayne McDonald
42pts

**NTP:** 5<sup>th</sup> hole – nil; 7<sup>th</sup> hole – Ryan McKenzie,

Wendy Hewitt nil; 13<sup>th</sup> hole – Glenn Hewitt, Tania Butcher. **Straightest Drive** – Nathan McLean, Debby Barling. **Longest Drive Div. 1** – Ian Hair, Wendy Hewitt.

## Royal Mail Hotel/Emmett's W'beal

**Women Stableford** – Winner Shirley Liersch, 34pts. Runner-up Charmaine Wilson 31pts.

**Longest Drive Div. 2** – Chris Phelan, Jessica Hodder.



## Men 4BBB v Par Golden Putter

Winners – Lindsay Brain & Wayne Gove +7 won in a sudden death playoff on the 2<sup>nd</sup> hole.

Runners-up – Ryan Smith & Nathan McLean +7

NTP: 5<sup>th</sup> hole – nil; 7<sup>th</sup> hole – Mick Marchment, nil; 13<sup>th</sup>

hole – Greg Pearson, Heather Hogan Birchip.

Straightest Drive Anthony Jones, Heather Hogan.

Longest Drive Div. 1
Josh Gunn

**Longest Drive Div. 2**Bill McGinnisken



Saturday September 3<sup>rd</sup>:

## **Drummonds Ballarat** Sunday September 4th:



#### Mixed Pinehurst -

Winners Beth Preston & Wayne Gove nett 71& 5/8.

Runners-up – Debbie Lowe & Michael Miller 74 & 5/8.

Open Stableford – Winner – Bill McGinnisken 28pts

Portland. Runner-up – Darrell McKay 23pts.

#### **Robert Smith & Co**

#### **Men's Pinehurst**

Winners John Butcher & Dave Nitschke nett 72& 2/8.

Runners-up – Ryan Smith & David Baxter 73 & 1/8.

NTP: 5<sup>th</sup> hole – nil; 7<sup>th</sup> hole – Ryan Mckenzie, Debbie Lowe; 13<sup>th</sup> hole – Chris Pascall, Beth Preston.

Straightest Drive – Tom Bibby, Pauline Healy.

Longest Drive Div. 1 – Ryan McKenzie, Pauline Healy

Longest Drive Div. 2 – Michael Miller, Kerrin Smith

