

Pelican Brief

The Newsletter of the Redcliffe Golf Club Inc.

“The strength of our Club is derived from the active co-operation of our Members and the pleasures and success accrued is the result of our own labours”

Volume 30

June 2007

TREASURER'S REPORT

Contained within the table below are comparative figures, as at 30th April, for the last 3 years. While the bottom line is ultimately the most important, there are a number of areas that note mention. Positively, expenditure has fallen over the past two years, which goes against the trend of inflation and the annual award increases. The major income areas are mostly steady, with the poker machine revenue suffering after the total smoking ban implemented in July last year. The losses suffered in this area are consistent with other venues across the state. The green fees and social club income is positive, which is most likely a reflection of the quality of the course and very few days lost to rain!

Major Income Areas

	30/4/05	30/4/06	30/4/07
Bar Sales	\$273,686	\$283,187	\$284,835
Cost of Goods Sold	\$117,274	\$112,667	\$115,130
Bar Gross Profit	\$156,412	\$170,520	\$169,705
Gross Margin	57.15%	60.21%	59.58%
Competition Fee	\$122,798*	\$129,723**	\$114,386
Social Players	\$111,284	\$107,648	\$118,764
Social Clubs	\$ 51,154	\$ 55,251	\$ 65,816
Other Match Income	\$ 33,103	\$ 23,629	\$ 41,539
Subscriptions	\$282,647	\$289,069	\$297,848
Nomination Fees	\$ 15,159	\$ 21,132	\$ 22,090

Other Admin Income	\$ 12,724	\$ 19,144	\$ 18,428
Poker Machine			
Net Revenue	\$ 90,184	\$ 95,756	\$ 80,969
Nett Profit (Loss) Bistro	\$ 1,000	\$ (774)	\$(2,133)
Nett Fund raising	\$ (583)	\$ (1,427)	\$(992)

* includes \$11,000 reimbursement

** includes \$19,000 fidelity insurance payment

Major Expense Areas

	30/4/05	30/4/06	30/4/07
Bar & House Expenses	\$195,546	\$174,700	\$188,976
Match Expenses	\$ 63,264	\$ 69,414	\$ 77,787
Course Expenses	\$348,570	\$347,765	\$332,396
Administration Exp	\$261,352	\$226,533	\$207,409
Poker Machine Exp	\$ 25,660	\$ 39,482	\$ 35,994

Operating profit

for period (\$18,510) \$ 58,896 \$ 87,973

The winter months bring reduced daylight and subsequently fewer players on the course and in the bar, reducing the Clubs income streams. This reduction in income and increased expenditure with course works and some R&M issues to deal with in the house will result in a possible erosion of the year to date profit. After taking this expenditure into account, the funds accumulated over the first seven months trade should still see budgets being achieved and a reasonable profit resulting at years end.

Doug Smith - Treasurer

COURSE REPORT

It is my pleasure to report that the presentation of the course has been a credit to the staff over the past few months. The greens responded well to the renovation in early March, recovering to provide a good putting surface within weeks. Needless to say our course has handled the lack of rain better than most. All is looking good for upcoming championships.

Over the winter months a number of minor projects will be undertaken. The first of which will be the sealing of the path from the 11th tee to the parking area between the 11th and 12th fairways. At the same time some repairs to the existing path near the 9th tee will be completed. A concrete path will be constructed leading to, and exiting, the parking area near the 13th green. This investment in pathways is part of the ongoing additions to the cart path network.

Additionally, the 11th tee, the middle tee on the 7th hole and the back part of the 10th tee will be levelled and returfed. Little disruption to member play is expected from these projects.

The long serving fuel storage facility was recently replaced with a self bunded tank. This was necessary as the old facility failed to meet minimum standards for the storage of flammable liquids. The Club is also investigating the addition of a machinery wash-down facility that conforms to increasingly strict environmental laws. The course staff has also ceased the practice of using oil to mark hazard lines; members would have noticed hazard stakes appearing on holes 15, 16 & 17. We are trialling the use of a herbicide to mark a line around other hazards.

George Borrett – Greens Director

MANAGER'S REPORT

As we are all constantly aware, the current drought has impacted many of our household activities, not to mention golf clubs ability to irrigate their courses. Redcliffe Golf Club is indeed fortunate that committees of the past had the foresight to secure the use of recycled water with the cooperation of the Redcliffe City Council. Many courses around Brisbane have insufficient water supplies, and subsequently have not watered fairways for some months. Redcliffe remains one of the few courses in the region that has maintained their course presentation and playability standards, in fact the course has been in excellent condition. The rate of membership enquiries has risen over the past month, as members of other clubs contemplate a move to Redcliffe.

Water is a constant topic of conversation and a number of questions have been posed over the past months concerning water and future supply to Redcliffe Golf Club. The most pertinent of those questions is; "Could we lose the use of the recycled water?" Unfortunately, yes we could, as supply is not guaranteed by the Council. There is also the possibility the Water Grid may at some stage extend to the Clontarf Treatment Plant, seeing the water previously used to irrigate the course flow to the North Pine Dam.

A meeting with the CEO of the Redcliffe City Council, was held a few months ago, prior to the proposed referendum, which eventually did not take place. The outcome of the referendum was perceived as being in favour of recycled water being used in drinking supplies, and the Council indicated at that time, that the Redcliffe recycled water would most likely be absorbed into the State Water Grid.

It has recently been indicated to us, from informal but reliable sources, that the expense of building a pipeline to transport the Redcliffe recycled water to North Pine Dam, may be prohibitive, given the relatively small amount of water that it would provide. Initially at least it would seem that it would be more economical to access water from suburbs closer to the dam.

It is therefore possible that Redcliffe's recycled water, may not be required for the State Water Grid, and that a separate water grid may be developed on the Peninsula instead, to use water for local purposes. If that eventuates, the golf club, may still have access to recycled water, but obviously at a significant cost.

This is not new. When the existing water supply agreement was being negotiated, the Council representatives pointed out that the quality of the water was improving to a point that the club would have to pay a commercial rate for supply at some time in the future. The drought has brought that forward to some degree.

Irrespective, however, as the demand for quality recycled water grows there is the probability that the cost of accessing the effluent will significantly increase.

Technology Developments

www.redcliffegolf.com went live to a world wide audience on Friday 1st June. Members are encouraged to frequently visit the site to obtain competition results, the latest club news, club history information, links to reciprocal clubs and details on club sponsors. The site will have some minor additions over the coming months, it has the ability to incorporate a member secure area for competition bookings some time in the future. The site is also an essential tool that will expose Redcliffe Golf Club to a broad range of interested parties, potential members, social players, function clients to name a few.

The website will be a valuable communication tool, allowing regular communication with members. To complement this communication we are updating members email addresses, as this will allow us to mail direct to your PC any important club information, including future editions of the Pelican Brief. To assist this process please forward your current email address to john@redcliffegolf.com

I would like to thank Paul Barber for the many hours of research and significant contribution to the content of the website. Without his assistance the site would have remained in the development stages for months to come. Paul has also developed a site for the sub-junior club www.redcliffejuniorgolf.com. The site reflects the age and interests of the sub-juniors and complements the clubs main site.

In the near future members will be asked to swipe their Golfink card when registering for a competition round in the pro shop. This will trigger a card to be printed while registering the member in the competition of the day. Trials on smaller competition fields will be conducted before Wednesday and Saturday competition fields are registered under this manner. Members are requested to have their Golfink cards ready when registering for competition rounds.

House: The trivia night to be held on the 15th June is again expected to be a good night, enjoyed by members and their guests. The questions will no doubt provide a challenge to even the most well organised team. The next evening event will be a dinner to be held on Friday 20th July. The dinner held in May was a sell-out! We will be looking to restrict numbers closer to 80 for future dinners, so book early.

Staffing:

2007 sees a number of staff members reach significant milestones of employment at the Redcliffe Golf Club. Superintendent Ray Nicholson and his assistant Peter James reach 25 years service, while Gary McKenzie will have been serving members beverages for 20 years. I take this opportunity to thank them for their contributions to the Redcliffe Golf over many years.

John McDonald – General Manager

LADIES COMMITTEE REPORT

It's a bit late to welcome everyone to another year of golf but never the less we hope you are all enjoying our magnificent course. It is second to none in the Brisbane area at the moment and we commend our ground staff for the excellent job they are doing. Never has the benefit of effluent water been more obvious.

Our Silver Pennant season is now over. The Division I team finished 6th and Division III finished 3rd. Well done to everyone who played and a special thanks to all the caddies who gave up their time so willingly.

Some of our major events have already been finalised for the year.

May Thomson – Annette Brown & Chris Wright
Runners Up – Ruth Brown & Pauline Coyne

Autumn Trophy

A Grade – Alison Greenhatch & Claire Jackson
Runners Up – Helen Chapman & Annette Brown
B Grade – Sally West & Chris Sharpe
Runners Up – Marlene Newcombe & Bobbie Woodward
C Grade – Jill Hanley & Joanna Hoogwaerts
Runners Up – Jo Phillips & Debbie Willocks

Seniors Trophy

Gross – Jean Thomas
Nett – Marj Barnett

We have also had two inter club challenges. The first was at Wynnum where we unfortunately had a very small representation of players and had to leave that trophy behind. The second was our Bribie Island challenge at Redcliffe where we saw 52 ladies venture down to Redcliffe for a shotgun start of 132 players. We did manage to win this trophy back.

With an eye to the future we can look forward to our Foursomes Championship on the 19th June and the first round of the Club Championships on the 10th July. Also the State Championships will be held at the Brisbane Golf Club from the 20th July. This is not just for the elite players as there are Bronze and Vets divisions.

Glenn Cogill is continuing to run ladies Beginner Clinics on a Thursday morning. At a cost of \$40 for 4 weeks, it is great value. As an ongoing support the ladies from the committee have made themselves available on a Thursday to take the beginners onto the course for more playing and basic course etiquette. We are continually looking to grow our membership and if there are any members out there who have wives or partners who would like to try golf this is a great opportunity to learn and to meet some new people.

Good luck and good golfing for the up and coming events.

Captain – Claire Jackson

2007 BDGA PENNANT

Congratulations to all involved with the Redcliffe Men's Pennant Team. The team which this year combined the cumulative results from the Open, Junior and Masters teams won promotion to division 2 for the 2008 season.

The junior team was also successful winning their individual flag. Read more on www.redcliffegolf.com or visit www.bdga.org.au for final table and individual match results.

MICHAEL DUNSTAN MEMORIAL CHARITY GOLF DAY "All proceeds to the Cancer Foundation"

On Friday 18th May, Paul and Wendy Dunstan held a Charity Golf Day in memory of their father and husband "Michael" who sadly passed away with Cancer two years ago. The major sponsor for the day was Laing O'Rourke which is the Company Michael worked for, for many years.

Approximately 140 golfers teed off at 12.00 Noon playing a 4 ball ambrose and then proceeded into the Clubhouse for dinner, presentations, raffles and an auction of Memorabilia.

The MC for the night was Neil Woolmer who introduced Mark "Muppet" Murray as the guest speaker for the evening. Graeme Lowe from Harcourts Redcliffe did a tremendous job as the auctioneer. The day was a huge success with \$14,700.00 raised for the Cancer Foundation which is double the amount raised last year.

The winning team on the day was the same team as last year! *Jim Paterson, Peter Bunney, Dean Dunleavy and Peter Clark*. Peter Bunney was quoted as saying "it is like winning the British Open to him".