

# Redcliffe Golf Club Newsletter



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### Course Changes

Those members using the course regularly will have noticed some changes taking place. In the previous two years a number of our greens have been unsatisfactory during and following winter and the changes that can be seen are being undertaken to improve the quality of the greens during winter as well as throughout the rest of the year.

The Management Committee sought the advice and recommendation of well respected course architect, Mr David Burrup to help identify the causes and remedial solutions to enable action to be taken to improve the greens.

The conclusions provided were as follows:

1. Extended periods of shade will ultimately lead to an unthrifty turf surface. Turf plants need to photosynthesise in order to produce a healthy hard wearing surface. The USGA through extensive research has found that turf plants need a minimum of 8 hours of sunlight per day for growth. Less than this amount of sunlight will promote an open or weak stand of turf and in turn lead to the development of algae and unwanted weeds that tolerate less sunlight and as a result will out compete the preferred species.
2. The golfing demand for fast surfaces required very low heights of cut on golf greens. The cutting process places the turf plant under stress through the mechanical damage caused to the leaf during the mowing process. Turf species like Bermuda 328 have a fine leaf texture with a smaller area with which to capture sunlight. The problems are compounded through winter with shorter days and shorter periods of sunlight, coupled with the low height of cut and shade from surrounding trees.

3. Reduced airflow or poor circulations around the putting surface and surrounds will adversely affect the growth of turf as it will remain wet for extended periods during winter. During summer the area will remain hot and humid. The stagnant air around these greens provides an ideal area for the development of fungal organisms and ultimately the loss of turf.

The above problems are the result of large trees being in close proximity to greens. A number of possible solutions can be considered including the following:

- Rebuild the affected green: a very costly solution and ultimately would have the same problems
- Relocate the green away from the trees : not always practical due to lack of space on most golf courses, and also expensive
- Apply additional preventative chemicals like fungicides and algaecides to reduce the outbreak of disease and algae: again costly and not always effective and not always sound environmental practice.
- Raise the cut of the turf on the putting surface: this would reduce the stress on the turf plant and provide an opportunity of healthy growth in shaded areas. It would not be acceptable to the majority of golfers who demand fast and smooth greens.
- Remove the trees and replace with appropriate species that will not shade the green or cause competition through root encroachment.

The recommendation was that the last option would provide the best long term solution. The cultural management of the environment particularly making changes to promote the growth of turf will be far more successful than the ongoing use of chemicals or the cost of rebuilding greens.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

David Burrup made recommendations in respect to removal of trees on specific holes, the majority of which has been completed in recent weeks.

His concluding remarks in the report read as follows: "In conclusion, a diligent approach needs to be adopted at Redcliffe Golf Club in the selection and placement of trees in the future. The selection of inappropriate species and/or the incorrect placement of trees over past years have impacted severely on the golf course with detrimental effects on the quality of the turf surfaces and in particular the putting greens.

Apart from the removal of trees, the strategies outlined in this report to reduce the shade related issues caused by large trees planted too close to greens are expensive and are merely band aid measures in most cases. The strategies will not provide long term solutions or provide good quality healthy turf or an acceptable putting surface.

While this is a very emotive decision, the removal of trees that were inappropriately planted is the only option that will provide the long term solution for the growth of good healthy wear resistant greens that produce an acceptable surface for putting. "

The recommendations of David Burrup were adopted and as a result a number of trees have been removed. Prior to commencing any action, we also engaged the services of Ms Lyndal Plant, a botanist with Brisbane City Council to provide recommendations for alternative plantings to replace those trees that were to be removed. Ms Plant is a golfer and has a sympathetic approach to golf course vegetation. Members will also notice that a number of young trees have been planted, which have followed her recommendations and we believe that these will be more suitable in the long term. The replanting program will continue.

The ongoing responsibility of the management committee is to address problems, provide solutions and effect continual improvement to the course and other areas of the Club.

It would be irresponsible to allow the problems with the greens to continue without remedial action, if we want to see our golf course continue to improve and be rated favourably in comparison with other courses in South East Queensland.

It has been therefore very disturbing to have a small number of members react to the tree removal in an unacceptable manner. A member of the management committee has been subjected to verbal abuse and on one occasion physical abuse. As mentioned by David Burrup, removal of trees is a very emotional decision, however the issue of tree removal was discussed in depth at the last AGM, and a motion to prevent the removal of trees was defeated.

That should have allowed the improvements to be effected without further interruption however it seems a small number of members aren't willing to accept the decision of the majority and resort to personal insults and worse.

This is not to say that members have no right to criticise because they do. However as mentioned, the issue was addressed at the AGM and settled. The Club obtained professional advice and acted upon that advice in the best long term interests of the Club. The members of the Management Committee devote a lot of unpaid time in developing strategies for improving all aspects of the Club, only to have the "bar committee" continually criticise the actions taken. The committee is elected to run the Club each year. Please allow them to do the jobs that are required without personal abuse or insult.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Redcliffe Golf Club**

Later this year Redcliffe Golf Club will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This is a significant milestone in the Clubs history and one that we hope to celebrate in style with the involvement of as many members as possible. A sub committee has been formed with Chairman Dave Ridgway to plan a suitable series of events to mark the occasion. Please see Dave's article later in this newsletter.

### ***50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations***

***Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October to  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2010***

***Geoff Miller  
President***

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The Club's financial performance for the last seven months (October 09 – April 10) reveals a net trading profit of \$118,193 (last year \$118,275) and provided for depreciation of \$91,264.

Poker machine net income to date has exceeded last years figure by some \$18,000 and hopefully this trend continues. However, income for the next five months will be affected by reduced day light, pennant fixtures and Club championships thereby reducing profits for this period.

Expenditure in the next five months will also include two major items – tree lopping and stump grinding \$16,000+ and exterior painting of the Clubhouse \$20,000 approximately including repairs to the Pelican logos. These are both R&M expenses and will result in reduced profits for the year.

Stage 1 of the course staff amenities has been completed at a cost of approx \$100,000 and paid for from cash flow. We have now accepted a quote for stage 2 – the multi function centre (wash down area) including special bins for sand etc. The cost will be around \$300,000 and will be financed by cash flow and partial redraw of our bank loan. This work will commence later this year.

To assist your Club contain any interest expenditure associated with bank borrowings, I ask that you make every effort to pay the half yearly fees in full by the due date.

**Below are some comparative figures to the same period last year:**

<b>Major Income Areas</b>	<b>30/4/09</b>	<b>30/4/10</b>
Bar Sales	\$292,553	\$310,649
Cost of Goods Sold	\$130,079	\$133,395
Bar Gross Profit	\$162,474	\$177,254
Gross Margin	55.5%	57.1%
Competition Fee income	\$115,753	\$115,284
Green Fees Social Players	\$139,797	\$141,866
Social Clubs	\$ 68,581	\$ 65,564
Other Match Income	\$ 18,620	\$ 16,787
Subscriptions	\$336,112	\$336,945
Nomination Fees	\$ 15,176	\$ 22,957
Other Admin Income	\$ 17,949	\$ 8,127
Poker Mach Net Revenue	\$ 86,637	\$106,120
Nett Profit (Loss) Bistro	\$ (2,370)	\$ (2,949)
Nett Fund raising (Loss)	\$ 1,366	\$ (3,474)

<b>Major Expense Areas</b>		
Bar & House Expenses	\$189,386	\$196,686
Match Expenses	\$ 72,440	\$ 77,473
Course Expenses	\$364,800	\$385,775
Administration Expenses	\$198,091	\$188,739
Poker Machine expenses	\$ 44,822	\$ 45,815

Capital Expenditure to date includes:

Spray Tank	\$ 6,650
Corer	\$37,300
Building project	\$65,000
Net pumps	\$11,800
Kitchen equipment	\$ 7,300
Sandwich Fridge	\$ 1,090
Poker Machines	<u>\$23,700</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$152,840</b>

*Kingsley Misso – Treasurer*

## ASSOCIATES REPORT

Our calendar year is at the halfway point and with only a couple of events having been cancelled because of wet weather; we have seen some tightly contested events.

Our Silver and Junior Pennant Seasons are now completed. The junior season was severely hampered by inclement weather with matches being rescheduled. Our girls played well but did not rate in the finals. Silver Div 1 came up against some tough opposition and finished third on the table and Div II competing up in this division this year can be proud of their fifth place. We have nominated two Bronze teams for this year and anyone interested in competing in this competition on Mondays in August/September should contact a Committee person.

Our course is scheduled to be "rated" in mid June as the next step towards the introduction of the "Slope System". We have requested that a "yellow" course be included for the Ladies so this will enable us to have non-honour board events from an official block and a slightly shorter course.

The new handicap system is well underway now and nearly all our ladies' handicaps have been altered, some quite considerably. The Committee has been discussing the possibility of extending our A Grade out to 20 and B Grade from 21-29 and C Grade the same 30-45. We have asked that all lady members talk about this and return any feedback before any decisions are made. If this idea does go ahead, there will be three divisions not grades in the future.

*Robyn Pordage – Ladies Captain*

## CAPTAIN'S REPORT

### **PENNANT NEWS FLASH**

Following the last pennant match played against Indooroopilly at Indooroopilly, Redcliffe Golf Club has created history by successfully defending and retaining Division 1 status for a record third successive year. Division 1 pennants is certainly the business end of amateur golf, my sincere congratulations to all the players, caddies and managers who have freely given their time to represent their Club with pride and distinction.

By courtesy of the hard work and never ending encouragement by Glenn Cogill along with our junior committee we have an excess of talented juniors. In response to an SOS from Nudgee Golf Club who were in the unfortunate position of being unable to field a Division 3 Junior Pennant squad just prior to the start of the season, I would like to congratulate Ben Knight and Austin Bautista not only for their willingness to step forward as ambassadors of Redcliffe but also a very successful season in Division 3 pennants. Through the process of helping others, you have both gained valuable experience, well done.

### **MATCH**

#### **TEE TIMES**

All members are reminded that it is their responsibility and a condition of play that they report to the starter at least 15 minutes prior to and to be ready to commence play at the scheduled tee time. Late arrivals are no longer acceptable; please ensure that you do not jeopardize your round by arriving late.

#### **ON THE COURSE**

Your committee freely give their valuable time on a weekly basis to assist in the smooth running of the Club to the benefit of all. If you receive a direction from a committee member, compliance is your obligation. Should in the rare event you consider any direction improper, the process of appeal is always open. It is no longer acceptable to respond in either a rude or abusive manner.

It is a continuing disappointment that despite having such a magnificent course which is easily played in under 4 hours, we still have the need for a course ranger to address the pace of play. We are now all well aware that during a round, your position in relation to the field is directly behind the group in front at all times. It is the responsibility of the group to maintain their position, as it will be the group who will be penalized if they are deemed to be out of position.

#### **RETURN OF SCORE CARDS.**

Golf Australia have recently identified that there are small numbers of players who regularly fail to return scorecards. Under the new handicapping system, it is essential that all players return their card otherwise the calculated handicap will NOT be an accurate reflection of their play. Please be aware that procedures and penalties which also include disqualification are now in place. Additionally, Golf Australia has proposed to amend regulations such that Golf Link will automatically withdraw the handicap of any player who exceeds a 15% "no score" result of their last 20 rounds. I would urge all members to be mindful of these new requirements.

#### **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS.**

With the VILLAGE MOTORS sponsored Club championships fast approaching, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank **Alan and Marlene Newcombe** for their continued support and wish all players the best of luck.

A mere thank you seems almost inadequate when people repeatedly perform over and above the call of duty. To John, Kerry, Peter, Mark, Gary, Elise, Claire and all our staff, my sincere thanks on behalf of all members for your strong ethic and high performance delivery.

#### **DRESS STANDARDS**

We are all well aware of the dress standards within the Clubhouse and on the course, please ensure that you comply at all times. Camouflage and board shorts are not acceptable.

*Happy golfing*  
**Colin Gower – Captain**

## FROM THE MANAGERS DESK

The enclosed subscriptions notice and membership card, mark a change in the way the Club administers trophy vouchers, competition registration and accepts membership payments. Contained under the below headings is a description of some imminent changes.

### Membership Cards

The issuing of paper winner and runner-up vouchers will be discontinued, for most Club run events from 1<sup>st</sup> August, in favour of allocating a dollar amount to your trophy account. Bar purchases from your account, using the membership card will allow more flexibility and choice when spending your winnings. By using the member card you will be able to buy a round of drinks or purchase food without having to spend the total voucher amount, which is currently the case. Trophy account purchases from the proshop will be similar to the current account system though a form will be signed for tracking purposes. The membership card also contains your golflink details and will have the capacity to have an e-wallet account which members can load their own money onto, for bar purchases only. This may appeal to those who prefer not to carry much cash. Trophy and e-wallet accounts cannot be used for any of the following:

- Competition fees
- Green fees
- Membership fees
- Buggy storage fees
- ½ way purchases

### Computerised Time Sheets / Internet Access

*Competition time sheets will go computerised in August.* All standard time sheets will be accessible through the touch screens within the Clubhouse and via the Club's website. Internet access to time sheets and restricted access to your individual account details can be gained by using your 4 digit membership number and the pin located on your subscription notice. While these changes will be implemented over the coming months access to your personal details and some dummy competitions will be made available asap for familiarity and training purposes.

The member login will be accessible via the Clubs web site [www.redcliffegolf.com](http://www.redcliffegolf.com) on the top of the Home page. Additionally a new feature containing a live leaderboard will be available on the website (same location as competition results), play in the morning and check how the scores are going throughout the afternoon in live time.

As timesheets go computerised and internet access is incorporated the time sheets will be released for booking at the Club prior to internet bookings being accepted. (Time sheets will be released at the same times as present)

The suggested internet access times are from:

#### **Saturday competitions:**

1pm 7 days prior to the day of play

#### **Sunday competitions:**

1pm 7 days prior to the day of play

#### **Wednesday competitions:**

1pm 14 days prior to the day of play

### Membership Payments

It is important to the cash flow of the Club that membership subscriptions are paid on time. With major expenditure on the Course Maintenance Facility over the coming months prompt payments will assist to reduce the Clubs exposure to borrowing costs. To assist with prompt payment the Clubs bank account details have been provided on the subscriptions notice for direct deposit. If you use this option please ensure you fill in the reference field with your 4 digit membership number followed by your Surname.

For the minority who often delay payment, playing rights will be withdrawn from 1<sup>st</sup> August for those members who have subscription fees outstanding and have not made the necessary arrangements with the Club. In addition those with any outstanding balance on the 1<sup>st</sup> October will be charged a \$25 administration fee. We do recognise that some flexible payments may be necessary; please contact the office for a copy of acceptable payment options. (3284 5485 or [info@redcliffegolf.com](mailto:info@redcliffegolf.com))

### Members Guest Rate

Members will now be able to bring guests to play with them, for reduced rates (midweek only). The current midweek fee is \$32 per player, with the member's guest rate to be initially set at \$19 per player.

**John McDonald – General Manager**

*Please advise the office if you have  
an email address  
or if your email has changed  
Send your address to:  
[info@redcliffegolf.com](mailto:info@redcliffegolf.com)*

## **50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS WITH CHAIRMAN DAVE RIDGWAY**

All members should now know that this year our Club celebrates its 50th birthday.

I have the privilege of being the Chair of the sub-committee, who have been elected to organise a suitable plan of events, for this nostalgic occasion.

This nine day carnival starts on Saturday 30th October and on that evening we will be staging the Club's Golden Anniversary Celebration. The sub-committee have great plans for that night and it is expected that we will host a lot of guests, who were members in our early days.

Meantime the Redcliffe Herald is publishing a weekly article about the Club's past history.

Then, in September this year the Herald will publish a large supplement to compliment our 50th birthday.

We have already had expressions of interest from would be advertisers and we are certainly on the look out for more. If any member would like to assist they can contact John, Kerry or Claire in the Club's office.

Also if anyone needs more information about celebrations they can contact me on 38801310 or 0403704134.

It is my hope that this years celebration will be as well attended and interesting as were the Annual Dinners in the 60's and 70's.

With the style of function that we are planning, we estimate that we can accommodate a comfortable attendance of 140. Bookings for the celebration will open in early September and with great interest from past members, bookings should fill quickly.

The history of our Club is a remarkable one! We have grown from a social Club (with no golf course) to now owning one of the best layouts in South East Queensland.

The sub-committee would expect a capacity roll up on 30<sup>th</sup> October to help celebrate 50 years of remarkable achievement. We also hope for a great response for the eight days of golf, following our celebration night.

*Dave Ridgway*

## **DOLPHINS REPORT**

The Dolphins continue to enjoy good weekly rollups with attendances averaging approximately 36 players.

Our members would like to pass on their appreciation and support of Peter and his ground staff. It is our belief, and we are sure all members of Redcliffe Golf Club that we have the best prepared course in South East Queensland.

The annual day trip has been organised and our members will be off to Beerwah while the first round of the Club Championships for both A & C grade gets under way and best of luck to all those playing.

Congratulations to Doug Derbyshire this year's winner of the Past Players Memorial Trophy.

The September week end away scheduled for the 4th and 5th has been booked. We will be playing the Saturday round at Ocean Shores which should prove both enjoyable and challenging. The Sunday round will be played at the Murwillumbah Golf course.

All of our members wish to pass on to John Brockie and his family our best wishes as he recovers in the Prince Charles Hospital. John is a founding member of the Dolphins Social Golf Club and represents the very heart and soul of our Club.

The Dolphins are great supporters of the Club as a whole, including all of the facilities offered by the Club and we look forward to continuing our support long into the future.

*Happy Golfing to all members*  
**Mark Barnett - Dolphin Social Golf Club Secretary**

## Friday Club

Thank you to all the Members who regularly support the Friday Club

Our next ham day will be held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010

## VETERANS REPORT

The Redcliffe Veteran Golfers Club exists to encourage veteran golf in our own Club and in the District as set out in our constitution.

To this end we are always seeking new sponsorships and to give ongoing sponsors as much support as possible. This is why we are seeking permission from the Redcliffe Golf Club (RGC) for a "shotgun" start occasionally, so that major sponsors have the largest audience present to award their trophies to the successful golfers.

Our membership has grown to almost 130 and the fields on Monday average about 70 players.

The golf programme usually includes 4 or 5 "away" games per year and costs are usually subsidised to give members games at highly recognised courses for a reduced playing fee. Members also have a midyear lunch and Christmas lunch which is fully subsidised.

Our unique handicap system ensures a reasonable distribution of trophies during the year. Events played through the year include single stroke and stableford, 4 balls, Ambrose (2 & 4) and this year a 4 player accumulator.

In the longer term we would like to see the Redcliffe Veteran Golfers become an important facet of the RGC, providing an opportunity for competitive golf with reasonable trophies, and camaraderie for the older Club members.

The Veterans already sponsor a midweek event on the RGC calendar and would wish to conduct at least once per year an Open Veterans Golf Day promoted and advertised throughout south east Queensland. If we are successful in our efforts the RGC will also benefit in various ways, not least financially.

***Geoff McGrath - President***

## TAB

Following persistent member inquiry, the Club has made another approach to UNiTAB, which resulted in an assessment of the Club, its operations and finances. The result of this assessment was disappointing as the Redcliffe Peninsula seems to have an oversupply of TAB venues, albeit none in this general area.

In light of this the negative response the committee has had no decision to make. As with most decisions there are grounds for appeal, though the Club will not be proceeding with any such action unless there is significant member support. Members are asked to register their support or otherwise to Bill Sargent

via email [bill@heraldicnames.com.au](mailto:bill@heraldicnames.com.au) or on **0412974678**. Some facts about the TAB are listed below to help you decide if you would support further time being invested by the Club.

- An up front investment of around \$30,000 is required for infrastructure. This would include a duplication of the poker machine room, thus reducing the seating space in the members bar. Some additional expenditure may be necessary for changes to the counter of the Club bar.
- A weekly turnover of at least \$15,000 is desirable through the Club TAB.
- Likely benefits would include increased usage of the Clubhouse, bar and potential revenue increases due to TAB operation.

# CAN YOU HELP?

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary sub-committee is looking for Club memorabilia that could be used during the birthday celebrations

If you can help in any way, we would be most appreciative. Please contact; John, Kerry or myself if you have anything that we can use.

The organisers will look after all items, which will be returned to the owners at the end of the carnival.

**Dave Ridgway**

## ***50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events*** ***Saturday 30.10.10 – Sunday 7.11.10***

<b>SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	<b>LANGOLD REALTY SINGLE STROKE</b> SPONSORED BY: LANGOLD MARKETING - ERIC OXFORD <b><i>Golden Anniversary Celebration</i></b>
<b>SUNDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER</b>	<b>OPEN MEDLEY 4BBB STABLEFORD</b> SPONSORED BY: LANGOLD REALTY - ERIC OXFORD
<b>MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	<b>OPEN SENIORS DAY - MEDLEY SINGLE STABLEFORD</b> SPONSORED BY: ZELOWS TRAVEL GOODS – KEVIN ZELOW
<b>TUESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	<b>MELBOURNE CUP DAY</b> <b>OPEN MEDLEY 4BALL STABLEFORD TEAMS EVENT</b> <b>SHOTGUN START 8.30am</b> SPONSORED BY: NORTHSTAR MOTOR GROUP – BOB ALDONS
<b>WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	<b>OPEN 4BBB STABLEFORD</b> SPONSORED BY LIFE MEMBERS PAUL BARBER, DENIS BROSNAN, ERIC OXFORD, DAVE RIDGWAY
<b>THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	<b>LADIES ANNIVERSARY PLATE - SINGLE STROKE</b> SPONSORED BY: BROSNAN GOLF - DENIS BROSNAN
<b>FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	<b>OPEN MEDLEY SINGLE STABLEFORD</b> SPONSORED BY: TRILBY MISSO LAWYERS – HILTON MISSO
<b>SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	<b>ANNIVERSARY PLATE - SINGLE STROKE ABC GRADES</b> SPONSORED BY: ZELOWS TRAVEL GOODS – KEVIN ZELOW
<b>SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	<b>OPEN MEDLEY 4BBB STABLEFORD</b> SPONSORED BY: COGILLS GOLF SHOP - GLENN & SHARON COGILL <b><i>TIME CAPSULE OPENING</i></b>