



Muree Golf Club Newsletter

MUREE NEWS

The 2018 AGM has seen a couple of changes to the Board of Directors. Leigh Clark has stood down after many, many years of service to the Club and Jason Witt, our Captain was unsuccessful in his bid to retain the Club Captaincy. I thank Jason for the work he did and that he stood up when Craig Waanders was unable to continue as Captain three years ago. It is a thankless job and one that attracts criticism from all quarters. To Leigh, who still assists the Club in the administration of gaming, I thank you for the unambiguous and forthright counsel you have offered me over the past few years. I would also like to welcome two new board members, they are Peter Royal and Adam Baxter, I'm sure they will be good contributors to the Board and the Club.

The two changes identified in the last newsletter, the increase in green fees and the Monthly Medal run as a Stableford competition, has seen increased fields on the first weekend in the month. Players are still incorrectly completing their scorecards for the Monthly Medal, it is a Stableford event, please complete your card as a Stableford event. Players wishing to compete for the Monthly Medal must enter a score for every hole, as if they were playing stroke. Once a player picks up or fails to complete a hole, they are no longer eligible for the Monthly Medal. Also some criticism has been received as there was no longer a scratch winner in each grade and the prize money had decreased. The Board will look at these issues and determine whether some fine tuning is necessary. There is a new email address for the Match Committee. It is match@mureegolfclub.com.au; members wishing to raise issues with the Match Committee should now use this email address as the old gmail account will be closed.

On the development front, the Club held an information evening that was very well attended. Lincoln Place gave a presentation on the development and took questions from the attendees. From my point of view, it was a very successful evening with the members I spoke with offering very positive feedback. I can say that since then, the Club has signed a Term Sheet which outlines the contents of any contractual arrangement that the Muree may decide to enter into. Legal advice was sought and received on the Term Sheet and the same will apply to any contract the Club enters into. We are now awaiting the development of a feasibility Study that will outline the costs and returns and will assist in decision making. Rest assured, the Club is making every effort to ensure a good outcome. I will keep you posted.

There are changes afoot to the visual displays in the TAB area. This is due to the failure of some old (very old) televisions that have long since passed their use-by date and some new technology now available to us. This will greatly improve the visual appearance of the TAB area and provide a better service to our punters that use this area.

After many years of struggling to operate the Bistro as a profitable section of our business, the Board made a decision to outsource the kitchen to a contractor. A tender on White Now, the



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on-line club advertising was lodged and ten submissions were received, three of which were interviewed. I am pleased to advise that DAC Catering have been selected and commenced 05 November. Since then, there has been a number of functions that they have catered and very positive feedback has been received.

The Rules of Golf are changing, and some quite significant changes will occur from 01 January 2019. The Rules Modernisation has come about as a consequence persistent requests to speed up the game and make it more simple. I have attached a link to the R&A website that has a range of videos that you can view to see what the changes are, how they effect the game and how to implement them. However, it must be stressed that these changes do not come into play until 01 January 2019. New rule books are available for members, just ask at the admin office or Pro Shop. <https://www.rules.golf/>

There is still a 9 hole competition every Saturday and Sunday and is open to all members, even those that have already played in the morning groups. This is a promotion started by Golf Australia and while it hasn't been that successful to date, it will remain available to all members throughout the year. I'm sure that time poor parents that have children who play morning sport could take advantage of this comp as well as those that would prefer to play nine holes on the very hot days of summer. You would now be getting information directly from the newly formed Course Committee. There will be regular bulletins to advise members of the things occurring on the course and other useful information regarding the golf and competitions.

It is now nearing the end of the year and the Club has stepped up the Friday raffles with a number of Xmas hams. There is also a toy raffle that will be drawn on Sunday 25 November. These raffles are well supported by the social members of the Club, and I would like to see greater patronage from our golfing members.

Earlier this week the Club was host to the first round of the Port Stephens Australian Vets competition. A four ball event was held with around 160 players in two sessions (morning and afternoon with a shotgun start). Around 25 Muree members acted as volunteers for the day and these dedicated volunteers made the event run with clockwork timing. I cannot say enough about the work our volunteers do for Muree. On this day they made the Club shine and the feedback from the Australian Vets players was extremely complimentary. At this point I must call out Pam Pirini who has been involved with the organisation of this event for the past four years, also Wendel Musson was called on to act as the hospitality manager for the event, thank you ladies for all the work you have put into making this event such a success.

RWP

