

SAWTELL GOLF CLUB NEWSLETTER

- JANUARY 2015 -



Each month the Board will keep you up to date with the latest news and happenings at your club.

Members are invited to contribute articles, photos or words of wisdom – email to Kristy accounts@sawtellgolf.com.au or leave at the office by the 3rd Saturday of each month.

Regular newsletters are being delivered by email. If you are not receiving them, please give Kristy (office) your email address or have it checked as some email addresses are not responding.

AROUND THE OFFICE

We recently entered the club in all 3 sections of Kochie's "worst website" competition and didn't win any of them! Unbelievable. Thank you to those who voted for us. Glenys and Kerrie are now having "how to build a website" lessons so hopefully a classier website will be available soon.

We are always on the lookout for fundraising ideas so we decided to take up a suggestion from Judy Smith and signed the club up with Quickbeds, an online website for booking accommodation. There are no booking fees or credit card charges. Each time a booking is made and our code number (1432) is entered, the club receives a payment of between \$10 and \$50 depending on how much is spent. We would like you to share this with family and friends as you don't have to be a member of the club to book on this site – just use our code number.



REMEMBER: if you are booking accommodation for an upcoming holiday or trip away, book it through **Quickbeds**, and you will **help raise funds for our club**.

Copy and paste this link into your browser then add it to your favourites:

www.quickbeds.com/?grassrootscode=1432

FROM BEHIND THE BIG DESK

Thank you to Betty, Kristy & Ron for keeping everything running smoothly while Paul was overseas. He was very happy to return to good news. Firstly, membership continues to increase with 7 platinum, 5 gold, 1 junior, 1 Monday vet and 2 social players being accepted at our January meeting – an excellent start to 2015. Secondly, for the first time in many years, it appears we will show a small profit. Final figures are not yet available for 2014, but the auditors will return in a couple of weeks to finish their report. We are looking forward to a positive annual financial report and hopefully all good news at the AGM. The club is starting to reap the rewards of severe cost cutting measures and better accounting practices.

While Ron Leeds was in the chair, he negotiated a new deal for electricity with Origin Power at a reduced tariff that will save us 2K annually and also signed up with a new insurer saving us 12K annually. Having the DNA security installed also resulted in a reduced premium. Well done Ron.

Catering continues to be an issue. The House Committee is currently working on a solution to the problem and we are hopeful it will soon be resolved. In the meantime, volunteers have made it possible to continue providing this service. Their time and expertise is greatly appreciated.

The Board looks forward to further improvement in the club's financial position in 2015. We are not out of the woods yet but the light at the end of the tunnel is shining much brighter.

TREASURY

The Finance Committee is currently looking at annual membership fees for 2015-2016. Be prepared for an increase although we hope it's not too painful. It is necessary to set the fees now as we are working on a membership drive with flyers soon to be dropped to residences in the Sawtell/Coffs Harbour areas. Our income for December 2014 was 3% over projections mainly due to bar sales from the dinner theatre shows, Seaside Open and Jaco's charity golf day. Unfortunately income from golf was under projections. We wanted to start 2015 with a clean slate so we finalised payments for a couple of old debts which were being paid off by instalments and the last of the insurance work was paid for.



Cash flow will again be an issue over our traditionally poor trading months of March through to May. However, this year we are better prepared, much wiser and in a better financial position to weather the storm. With Kristy Bradley in the office keeping a close watch on every cent, we should be sitting comfortably by the end of June. In the months ahead, we look forward to consolidating the progress we have made over the last 12 months.

AROUND THE GREENS

There has been a healthy increase in the field for the Tuesday comp since it returned to its rightful place in the week. Some issues with MNC Vets have been raised and are being dealt with. These Tuesdays are our biggest fields for the month and we need to resolve these problems asap.

The men's championships have been moved to May near the ladies' championships to assist greens staff with course presentation.

The fixtures for 2015 are almost set. The calendar will be emailed to members, put on the website and a copy will be on the notice boards.

Renovation work has begun on the 1st tee.

There are drop zones at each end of the fence between the 5th green and the 10th tee. Clarification of the rule for drop zones:

HOT GOLF IN FEBRUARY

Wednesday, 4th – Ladies' Opening Day

Saturday, 7th – Qualifying round for Cock O' the Walk

Saturday, 21st – Qualifying round Hahn NSW 2BBB Championships



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE HOUSE

Just when we thought things were humming along nicely, our caterer, Annette Mavin, resigned, however we have negotiated with her to continue with functions. Since then, volunteers have catered for Wednesday & Saturday lunches as well as Friday nights. Members have expressed their appreciation for this. It is hoped the problem will be resolved soon but in the meantime, please be supportive and patient.

We are still running meat tray raffles on Friday nights and good \$15 meals are available (last Friday's roast and Asian chicken were superb). We will let you know what's on the menu each week.

Robin Hodgson has kindly offered to be our catering supervisor again. In fairness to Robin, we insist that all volunteers working with food MUST hold a food handling certificate and follow the rules. A copy of your certificate should be given to Kristy to file. There are many websites where you can do a food handling certificate online in 1 to 2 hours and for as little as \$24.95.

We are currently putting catering proceeds towards the cost of replacing the very worn carpet in the foyer, bar and poker machine areas. We have \$3000 saved so far. Last Friday night's dinner and Saturday lunch brought in another \$700. There is a wedding booked for mid March and we hope to have the new carpet laid for that function so funds are needed urgently to reach the target of \$6000. Please support Friday nights.

Happy Hour on beer and wine will return to Fridays 5:00pm to 6:00pm.

NEW-LOOK LADIES' COMMITTEE 2015



The Ladies' Committee for 2015 is busy preparing for their Opening Day on 4th February. The committee is Joy Lawrence (President), Gaye Hardcastle (Vice President), Jo Beaumont (Captain), Wendy Mason (Vice Captain), Maureen Ryan (Secretary), Judy Leiper (Minute Secretary), Chris Anderson (Handicapper), Robin Hodgson (Assistant Handicapper), Lee Stewart (Treasurer), Janet O'Dowd (Publicity).

The ladies are conducting a 9 hole (no handicapping) competition starting Saturday, 31st January with a 3:00pm start. Beginners are most welcome. Timesheets are in the Pro Shop.

MONDAY VETS

This group of friendly ladies and gents plays on Monday mornings with tee off times 11.30 - 1.00. The timesheet is in the Pro Shop and all who are 55+ are welcome.

We play the front 9 as a Medley Stroke Competition with a lady and gent's winner and balls over the field. Cost of play depends on your membership status - \$4(Platinum), \$9 (Gold & Vets) and \$16 visitors. Visitors are always welcome.

Our present executive is: Lyn Hollyman (President), Ron Spinks (Captain) and Pauline Barnes (Secretary/Treasurer).

Congratulations to Collin Cronin, Pat Law, Ron Spinks and Jean Beby who are our January winners.



SUNDAY COMPETITION

An 18 hole medley stableford competition is held each Sunday with start times from 10:00am. There are usually between 20 and 30 players and there is always room for more. An annual trophy for the most birdies made during the year is kindly donated by Wendy Mason and Phil Forrest. Other events programmed include the qualifying round for the Keno mixed 4BBB, club mixed foursomes championships (sponsored by Ian Jones), mixed 4BBB in the Spring Tournament and the Naggers' Cup (sponsored by Lyn Hollyman).

The ladies bring a plate on Sundays for after golf snacks making it a very sociable, friendly afternoon.

GET TO KNOW SGC EMPLOYEES

This month featuring Bob Werrell – Resident Pro

Bob has been a full member of the Professional Golfers Association of Australia for 38 years. During that time, Bob has held the position of Head Professional at Wentworth Golf Club in Orange for 12 years then for 6 years at Albury Golf Club. After helping to set up Newcastle Golf Schools in 2002, Bob became head coach of the Wayne Grady Golf Academy in 2003. In 2007, Bob was appointed Head Instructor with the Japanese Golf Academy, "Gold One Golf".

Bob coaches all levels from the beginner to tour players.

He is also accredited with coaching 1 NSW, 1 New Zealand and 2 Australian amateur champions.

So give Bob a call (66531006 ext 1) and let him assist you in attaining your full golfing potential.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Platinum: Darren Nell, Gregory McCourt, Dennis McCann, Eamoon Dempsey, Matthew Friel, Neil Thomas, Ramon Cridland

Gold: Geoffrey Couchman, John Madden, Dorothy Grimshaw, Kerry Wise, Gary Scott

Junior: Bailey Tees

Monday Vet: Collin Cronin

Social: Rod McIntyre, Suzanne Maree Ingram

SPONSORS FOR JANUARY

Sawtell Golf Club members thank the following sponsors:

Warren Hollyman (3rd), Glen & Phil McCarthy (10th), Coffs Cordials (17th), Mark & James Taylor (24th), The Hardcastle Boys, Joe Cavallaro, John Burke & Gaye Hardcastle (30th)

Please support businesses that sponsor us when you have the chance and make sure they know you are there because they are sponsors of our club – they appreciate feedback.

