



ASHGROVE GOLF COMMUNICATOR

MARCH 2015

INTRODUCTION.

This edition of The Communicator completes the third year since its introduction. The Communicator evolved from a critical Special General Meeting in February 2012 where many members were made aware of the dire financial situation the club found itself in and members asked for the introduction of a communication method which could make them aware of what was happening, to and around the club, its future and items of interest about the club and golf in general.

The initial proposal was for a 3 monthly publication, later revised, to each second month, however its popularity has lead to this being the 31st edition since its inception in April 2012.

Has it achieved its objectives? What percentage of members regularly read it and more importantly what percentage cannot be bothered? What sort of information do you feel needs to be covered that is not included?

These are issues only you can tell and are needed to provide the content the Communicator is intended to convey. We have received some very complimentary responses in the past and these are very much appreciated, but for the future we possibly need a change of direction and we look to you as to what these changes should include.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to another informative edition of the Communicator, this month I would like to highlight the Clubs major membership drive and the reasons behind the campaign. The number of golfing members at Ashgrove (and the golf industry as a whole) has been in steady decline for a number of years now and has reached a critical point. A major recruitment campaign is required to bring membership numbers back to an acceptable level and I am calling on each and every member to promote Ashgrove Golf Club and the benefits of membership.

The campaign offers any new member who joins as either a full, 5 day, 6 day or intermediate a chance to win a brand new car valued at \$19,900. Existing members (full, 5 day, 6 day or intermediate) are able to enter the draw by nominating a new member (one nominator per new member eligible for the draw). The campaign runs until the 31st of May and more information can be found on the Club website or www.joinagolfclubandwin.com.au.

RETIRE AUSTRALIA PROGRESS.

Planning for the proposed joint venture project between the club and Retire Australia is progressing well. The project team are continuing to work towards submitting an application for the project to Council by mid-year. More information will be made available to club members over the coming months as the project progresses.

THE FUTURE OF THE EIGHTEENTH HOLE

As most will be aware, due to a legal precedent established in a court decision in relation to McLeod Golf Course, the club can be held responsible for damage or injury cause by golf balls hit beyond the boundary of the course property.

With the redevelopment of the properties on Waterworks Road extending to the golf course boundary the current par four layout makes us highly vulnerable to claims for damage or injury to persons or structures on or in these properties, hence the decision to play the hole as a par three until a suitable solution and cost can be found.

In the interim, the Board employed Richard Chamberlain Golf Design, to investigate alternative solutions and submit the most appropriate for the Board's consideration.

The plan, considered the most appropriate approach to the problem, has been drawn up and currently on display within the club house for members to view and submit any ideas for their adoption or modification.

Although it is the desire, of the Board to return the eighteenth hole to a par four configuration as early as possible, the finance committee has reviewed the costs in relation to our current income and expenditure budget and is concerned at our ability to service the debt in the short term and any action will be deferred until a review of our financial position is carried out in August 2015.

JUNIOR GOLF COMPETITION.

With the aim of capitalising on the 'golf for juniors' program being, conducted by the club and the members of the Pro Shop, a Junior Golf Competition will commence on Sunday 15th March between 8-30AM and 10-00AM. Entry is free and no membership is required.

Juniors participating in this program will play in a limited hole competition with each group under the supervision of a senior club member, with most holes shortened to allow them play, within their capacity and avoid unnecessary delays

Parents are invited to enjoy the day as spectators and an enthusiastic gallery and be the guests of the club for tee or coffee in the club house at 10 o'clock.

PLAYERS' PROGRAM AND DIARY 2015.

Members can now collect their copy of the Players Program and Diary for 2015 from the Pro Shop.

MAJOR COMPETITION FOR MARCH.

Saturday, 21st March **GLENDUN GROUP – St Patrick's day Cup.**

The event, for this ever popular competition will be an Open Medley Single Stroke with trophies donated by Glendun Group – Martin Digby.

Saturday, 28th March **MARK WINSTON MEMORIAL**

This event is a Handicap Vs Par, Honour Board Event, with the trophies presented at the Presentation Night and sponsored by Steven James Accountants – (Steve Ascough)

Full List of Events for March and April

07/03/2015	Ladies Monthly Medal	Ladies	Ashgrove Ladies
7/03/2015	Monthly Medal	Mens	Iceworks
8/03/2015	Open Medley Single Stableford	Medley	Coca Cola
10/03/2015	Ladies Open Single Stableford	Ladies	Ashgrove Ladies
12/03/2015	Open Medley Back Marker Challenge	Medley	Stratco
14/03/2015	Ladies Open 4BBB Stableford	Ladies	Alex Gow Funerals
14/03/2015	Open 4BBB Stableford	Mens	G Carey
15/03/2015	Open Medley Single Stableford	Medley	Coca Cola
17/03/2015	Ladies Open Irish Fourball	Ladies	P Weatherstone
19/03/2015	Open Medley Irish Fourball	Medley	Ryan Civil Contracting
21/03/2015	Open Medley St Patricks Day Cup	Medley	Glendun Group
22/03/2015	Open Medley Texan Fourball	Medley	Coca Cola
24/03/2015	Ladies Open Canadian Foursomes	Ladies	Nutrimetics (L Pereira)
26/03/2015	Open Medley 4BBB Stableford	Medley	Steven James Accountants
28/03/2015	Ladies Open Handicap V Par	Ladies	Ashgrove Ladies

28/03/2015	Mark Winstone Memorial - Single Stroke V Par	Mens	Steven James Accountants
29/03/2015	Open Medley 4BBB Stableford	Medley	Steven James Accountants
31/03/2015	Ladies Open Single Stableford	Ladies	Ashgrove Ladies
2/04/2015	Open Medley Single Stableford	Medley	N Kendal
04/04/2015	Ladies Monthly Medal	Ladies	Ashgrove Ladies
4/04/2015	Monthly Medal	Mens	Iceworks
5/04/2015	Open Medley Single Stableford	Medley	Coca Cola
6/04/2015	Open Medley Single Stableford	Medley	Coca Cola
07/04/2015	Ladies Monthly Medal	Ladies	Ashgrove Ladies
9/04/2015	Open Medley Chapmans Foursomes	Medley	G Carey
11/04/2015	Lady Captain's Trophy - Open Single Stableford	Ladies	A Hardie
11/04/2015	Open 4BBB Stableford	Mens	N Crouch, S Kroeger, R Eldridge, D Carroll
12/04/2015	Open Medley Single Stableford	Medley	K Dudgeon
14/04/2015	Ladies Ashgrove Jug qualifer - 4BBB Stroke	Ladies	Ashgrove Ladies
16/04/2015	Open Medley Back Marker Challenge	Medley	Stratco
18/04/2015	Ashgrove Cup - Single Stroke	Mens	On Course National Golf Shop
18/04/2015	Ladies Open Best 3 of 4 Team Stableford	Ladies	Ashgrove Ladies
19/04/2015	Open Medley 4BBB Stableford	Medley	Margaret Lucas
21/04/2015	Ladies Open Handicap V Par with bisque	Ladies	Friday Ladies
23/04/2015	Open Medley 4 Person Ambrose	Medley	Coca Cola
25/04/2015	Ladies Open Single Stableford	Ladies	Ashgrove Ladies
25/04/2015	Open Single Stableford	Mens	Ryan Civil Contracting
26/04/2015	Open Medley Single Stableford	Medley	Coca Cola
28/04/2015	Ladies Open Canadian Foursomes	Ladies	Ashgrove Ladies
30/04/2015	Open Medley Single Stableford	Medley	T Grant

TRIAL CHANGES TO SUNDAY COMPETITION.

With the exception of special events days, i.e. days with shot gun starts, from Sunday 8th March 2015, 7 and 6 day members, as well as visitors from other clubs, will be able to book in vacant time slots from 6:35 AM to 12:32 M for the Sunday competitions. (There will be no block competition time slots.)

The objective is to attract members of other clubs and friends as well as social players to experience the benefits the club can offer.

The Sunday competition programme will continue as normal, with participants using the red and blue tees as usual, but social players will be required to hit from the white markers.

Members and visitors from other clubs can have social members play with them however, the social member (one who does not have a Golf Australia Handicap Number) will not be eligible to participate

in the competition and in the case of a single event one other member of the group must have a (GAH) and two others in the case of a 4 Ball event.

This format is to be trialled over three months and changes made, where necessary, after this time

If you have further questions or concerns, over this plan to increase course utilisation and revenue please, discuss them with the Captain, Vice Captain or member of the match sub-committee.

YOU NEVER KNOW WHO IS WATCHING.

A and B were seen playing adjacent fairways in the opposite direction. Both drive their ball to the right hand side of the rough of A's fairway. B is the first to arrive where the balls have finished and finds, what he believes is his ball and rolls it under his foot to a better position, than where it came to rest. As he is about to address the ball for his second shot, A arrives and recognises the ball as his and is aware it has been moved

As A's ball has been moved by an outside agent (B), A must replace the ball, where it was moved from before playing his second shot, without penalty.

B, having been responsible for the movement of A's ball incurs a penalty of 1 shot (Rule 18/10) and must now find his own ball and play it from where he finds it. If he were to play the ball from where he rolled A's ball to or where A played from, he would incur a further 2 shot penalty for playing the wrong ball. (Rule 15-3) In either case if B was unable to find his original ball he would incur a further 1 shot penalty and must return to where he played his initial shot.

If the committee was aware of the incident B would in all probability be disqualified.

ZEGATOS.

Have you tried the 'after the game special snack' of Zegatos?

THE GOLFERS' PLATTER, consisting of:

- 4 Meatballs
- 4 Springrolls
- 4 Samosas
- 4 Dimsums
- Served with chips and sauce

FOR ONLY \$20.00.

Beginning March.

AT THE BAR

Sandwiches will be available seven days a week. Payment to be made to the Bar staff.

IN THE RESTRUANT

Lasagna, salad and chips for \$19.00 as a special for the month of March

The chicken schnitzel will stay for March at \$15.00.

FROZEN TAKE-AWAY

Choose from Lasagna, Vegetable Cannelloni and Ravioli for \$10.00 and with salad \$12.50.

(These should be ordered two days in advance so they can be prepared to your specific requirements.)

CREEK RESTORATION PROGRAM.

Towards 300 mm of rain in 4 day in the second half of February provided a good test for the effectiveness of the restoration of the creek banks during the later part of 2014 and the program prove a success with the creek rising to the level of our main bridges, with the exception of the loss of some of our tree guards, very little erosion or damage to the creek banks or the surrounding areas of the golf course was experienced.

GOLF COURSE HAZARDS.

There are more hazards around a golf course than those containing sand or water as Peter Mansini discovered towards the end of February, when he was struck in the mouth by a well hit, but misdirected golf ball, off the tee, while he was setting up the boxing for the resurfacing of the path along the side of the eight fairway.

Although it could have been much worse, Peter was sporting a very thick split lip that needed stitching (7) and immediate medical attention and certainly slowed him up as he was forced, for a time, to drink his beer through a straw.

Speedy recovery Pete, bet you'll be watching those social golfers more carefully in the future.

WORKING BEES.

Good rains during the month has kept the mowing and brush cutting crews busy around all sections of the course, fairways, rough, tees and green surrounds, dams and creeks. In addition new turf has been laid in bare patches on the 5th. 8th. 9th. and 10th. fairways. The back level of the 7th tee, has been levelled and replanted with new turf, all of which will benefit from the rain at the end of the month.

The majority of the cost of the jobs has been funded from the proceeds of the course development raffles, as has the reshaping of the landing area of the 3rd fairway..

Work on the path on the 8th fairway and concrete paths previously completed between the 1st and 2nd, the 3rd and 4th, and on the 15th, fairway having been funded mainly from the cart path levies.

Rosemary Philips and her crew of ladies have been busy cleaning out and replanting gardens around the course and club house and the trees and hedges around the front and along Waterworks road have been trimmed and re-shaped.

Maurie Hand has compiled the following statistical information on the services contributed by the volunteers and working bee members for the period of the 6 months from 01/09/2014 to end of February.

40 people have been to at least one working bee in this half year period.

429 total number of attendances – equates to approx. 1100 people hours in that period.

These figures are from the Volunteer Sign on Book and include weed spraying and the odd extra time given outside of working bee hours.

There are, 7 qualified volunteer mower operators attending to mowing of fairways, rough and tee blocks who collectively average 45 hours a week to ensure most of these areas are mown on a twice a week basis. They also operate the tractor blower system to clear leaves on the fairways before the weekend competition.

In addition to our on course volunteers, we have our bar staff volunteers, who provide 15 hours a week, to enable us to provide economic bar and club house service during the quieter trading periods .

RUSTY'S ROAD TO PROFESSIONALISM.

The last few months before the end, of the year were quite busy for me, between playing Monday trainee games and doing an assignment every two weeks there were also end of year exams thrown into the mix that needed study time.

The last event for the year was a long drive out to Warwick for a 36 hole event. The course was in good condition and I felt like it played very similar to Ashgrove except with a bit more country feel to it. I played quite well and shot 6 over for the 36 holes and picked up just over \$100. It was a good finish to my playing year however I did not do enough during the year and failed my playing side, being just outside that average that I needed to pass.

On the other side of things all of my assignments went really well with my worst score being 75%, combined with the end of year exams over the 4 subject criteria. I received a distinction for the coaching and a credit for game development, small business and management. This means overall, I will be moving on to my 2nd year academics and repeating my first playing year.

At the end of the next training school I will be fully qualified to start coaching and I look forward to the opportunity to work with you on your golf game and help you improve and play to the best of your ability. I have had the chance to work with a few selected members already and the results have been quite good, so I look forward to working with a lot more in the future.

I would like to thank everyone for there support of both myself and the Pro Shop over the first year of my traineeship, nothing makes you feel better then when it feels the whole golf club is behind. I take great pride in working in the Ashgrove Pro Shop and I love the environment around the club it isn't something that you get at other clubs.

See you on the course,

Rusty

SPONSORS.

Many thanks to our following sponsors for the continued support and welcome to Coca Cola who have joined us with their kind support.

