

NEWSLETTER September 2020

2020 Coming to an end. Plett is as busy as if it is year-end already. We welcome visitors, love the buzz around town, but to many of us this year can really end now.

It's a year making a name for itself for many wrong reasons.

Our thoughts with those who lost loved ones, jobs or came into some or other financial loss.

Let's open our hearts; let's share a warming thought with everyone we can. We have a great club, a great course, and strive to have fun, with every good, and not so good a shot.

Bowls

- *The oversized marbles are rolling again and it is great to see the car park filled a few times per week.*
- *Welcome back Bowlers – here's wishing you many happy hours at our great club!*
- *We have now started playing bowls for a month and graduated from singles and pairs to trips on Level 2. The greens have been maintained very well by the club and we have had some lovely afternoons playing in the winter sunshine. Quite a few of our older members have been wary about coming back and socializing but slowly and surely our numbers are increasing as the virus has decreased locally in Plett.*
- *Last Sunday we had our first social, our usual braai, with 30 members attending. Many thanks for cooking the meat goes to Roger Wright and Alistair Flood. Renee Isemonger and Danka Forsyth spoilt us with pumpkin fritters, lovely garlic bread and delicious sweets with coffee. It was great to get together again, obeying social distancing with tables of 4.*
- *Please note that coaching is available by request - just phone Diana Faragher-Thomas on 071297 3588. For further enquiries for visitors wishing to join us phone Jinks MacNair on 0824125053 to book for a game of bowls.*

Bridge

- *Plettenberg Bay Bridge Club.*
- *Despite having been locked down (and locked out of our club house) for the last few months our bridge club has been operating at close to full strength. In fact, our numbers were swelled by Knysna bridge players.*
- *We have been incredibly lucky to have an online platform (Bridgebase Online) where we have been able to continue playing this amazing game.*
- *Because we did not have a BBO hosting licence initially we were unable to play duplicate bridge. Instead we played teams competitions on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. John Gibson arranged the competitions. Entries and all the red tape that goes along with running competitions was done by Paula Grobbelaar and Vanessa Hickey. We now have a licence and hope to start playing pairs in October on Wednesday afternoons. Teams will still be played on both afternoons. The bridge committee has worked exceptionally hard to make a success of this. We have all had to learn to become technologically more savvy.*

Tennis News

- *Tennis is almost in full swing again with Junior Tennis especially active. We are happy to report that Tennis development is back to pre-Lockdown levels.*
- *Some of our ladies played in a 190 tournament this weekend. Teams of 4 with a combined age of 190 played against each other. Well done for taking part girls!!*



Golf & Teesheet News

- **A Note from our Chairman – Howard Garmany**

- Our chairman sent out a letter last week – please refer to the letter sent 18 September if you have not seen it as yet.
- *Although we are at LEVEL 1 of Lockdown and many things have been relaxed; we are still obliged to follow certain protocols.*
- *We cannot relax the check In procedure and unfortunately the procedures have to stay. Temperature screening remains the main protocol thus the “maze” as it has been called will remain for the foreseeable future, please bear with us*
- *Online Check in is going really well. The Clubmaster App is working well. Now that competitions are back, please ensure that you have some credit on your club account to accommodate the competition fees.*

- **AGM Time**

- **The AGM for Golf on Thursday 8th October.**

- **Tee Sheet**

- We are now in a position to make provision for normal tee times.
- We are excited to see more golfers as we now have **an 8 minute** gap between times.
- As this allows an extra 6 times, and 24 golfers, please take note of protocols in Halfway.
- We welcome golfers back to sit down and enjoy breakfast or lunch.

- Par 3's

- *We are starting our PAR 3 Friday afternoons again. Keep an eye and ear out for that.*
- *A few other Fun Friday Competitions (FFC) in the pipeline – lets support our great club*

Course News

- Water Water everywhere.
 - *It is said that Plett received the most rain in many years. At the Club we have had more than 250mm in the past month – we are very grateful but had to rethink our water management – or should that be flood management.*
 - *The Waterways have been cleaned out except the bit of the 18th.*
 - *The bunker on 8 doesn't drain well due to the drain sumps filling up with the excess groundwater – a more permanent solution is being looked at so that water can be removed more continuously.*
 - *We urge our members to be considerate on the course. The high water table makes for soft fairways and increased tyre tracks. Please avoid soft areas, as well as green surrounds.*
- From the Fairways
 - *The Clover and broadleaf is out in full force. This is an annual challenge around this time. The increased rain has not helped us much at all, but as the mowers are out in full force we should bring it under control by the first week in October.*
- Pathways.
 - *The Path between 11 and 12th tee will be treated with an environmentally fair spray – thanks Jose from The Clean Shop for the advice – if this is a lasting solution we will be able to maintain a less slippery path.*
- Tees.
 - *We are busy marking tees that need some attention.*
 - *You might notice some white marks on the right of the path way on 15. The Blue tee has always taken some strain as there is limited sun on it. In order to allow fair maintenance and negligible expense, we marked the “upper tees” for BLUE and RED. This will be done soonest and will be a welcome addition to the variety of our options.*
- Dam News
 - *The 11th Dam has a leak that will be dealt with soonest – this might be a challenge on our budget – so please bear with us in these times.*
 - *All dams are being monitored to ensure the over-flows stay clean and work efficiently.*

Ladies, Hackers and GimmeGolf

- *LADIES*
- *The Girls are out in numbers and it is great to see. Their Competitions are back too and going well. Colour, smiles and waves – Good to see you out there Ladies!!*
- *Please do not keep this a secret? Let's get more ladies out there!!*
- *Congratulations to our new Lady Captain, Charlotte Ford. Wishing you well Charlie!!*
- **Monday Hackers**
- *The Hackers are back, it is a lot of fun and the players mix well. We wish them well – thanks for the efforts of the organizers.*
- *Should you be interested in joining this “more experienced field”, please get in touch with the Pro Shop.*
- *GIMME GOLF*
- *Our Pro Shop is doing really well and answering to many needs and requirements.*
- *They are running great specials and are able to access anything you might require – feel free to have a chat with them – they are there for us.*
- *Our Pro had some great news during the Open de Portugal. His long time golf student, Garrick Higgo won shooting 65 in the final round. For those who have not met Garrick – he is a true gentleman and an asset to our game – Well done Garrick; and Well done Coach Cliff!!*

Members

- *We are going to miss:*
- *Pat Hart who passed away early September, and*
- *Armin Kessler passed away late September*
 - *May you rest in peace*

- *New Members*
 - *Mike Kritzing*
 - *Dirk and brother Johannes van Reenen*
 - *Peter Brotherton*
 - *Jon Steward*
 - *Christian Steward*
 - *Byron Shosbree*
 - *Aaron Pagel*
 - *Roy Perlman*
 - *Marienus snr, Marienus Jnr and Stefan Trouw*
- *Hope you going to enjoy it here with us as much as we do*

Nature and the Lighter side

- There are some new sounds around the course. The first Red Chested Cuckoo making himself heard with a Black Cuckoo calling again in the corner around the 13th green.
 - There are a few new babies on the 17th dam to the Moorhen family – so lovely to watch.
 - We are excited to Welcome Radical Raptors in a project where they will install some owl boxes around the course – most definitely out of play.
-
- Lighter side:
 - Bobby Jones is quoted in saying:
 - Golf is the closest thing to real life. You get bad breaks from good shots and good breaks from bad shots, but you have to play it as it lies”