



Plettenberg Bay Country Club

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News brief 18th November 2020

Firstly, my thanks to all the members for the get well wishes and offers of support after my hip replacement op. Everything went really well, and I am already up and about without any aftereffects.

The main reason for this letter is regarding the alarming rate of Covid infections happening in the Garden Route and especially in the Bitou area. The Garden Route is now considered a hotspot with a 260% increase in positive cases for past 7 days compared to the previous 7-day period. These figures should be a real wake-up call for all of us.

We still receive quite a few moans and groans about our Covid protocols and the entrance/exit strategy that we are using. However, based on the surge of cases we might have to increase our response and possibly even revert to the level 3 protocols we had such as no prize giving's, grab and go at the half way and locker-rooms closed.

Although the club has up to now dodged the Covid bullet, it has finally caught up to us in that we have 4 of the greens staff currently in isolation after being tested positive, and 3 others in forced isolation due to extended contact with 1 or 2 of the positive cases because of close seating proximity in the staff bus. Added to this I have now been informed that our head barman Johnny Heers was tested on Monday 16th and has been found to be positive as well.

I have received a few negative comments about the lack of bar service on the veranda but it is for this very reason that we are operating this way in order to minimize contact between the staff in case of infection and also to prevent outside contamination between customers and staff.

Although we strive to be as compliant as possible, it is impossible to maintain this compliance unless we have the full support of our members and visitors. Of a huge concern to me now is the first story I heard upon my return from hospital, is that during my absence (not necessarily the reason) a member who had tested positive on Friday 6th was seen to be playing golf on Monday the 9th November. I am investigating this further and truly hope that it is just "fake news" but please understand if such a situation ever occurred, the guilty party will be dealt with immediately and could face permanent suspension from the club.

Once again, please help us to keep our members and staff safe and in doing so ensure the survival of the Plett Country Club as a going concern

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General Manager

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