



Captains Corner

Dear Members,

As we head into autumn, we are starting to feel the need for a pull over on the back 9. We are seeing the trees changing colour and some even shedding leaves. It is a time of change, a time where trees and vines go to rest, this however, will not be the case with us. We are soldiering on, with a few extras.

As you know, we have just hosted The SA Senior Open. Although we had the times booked out, the confirmation only came through a few weeks before the event. We had planned some work on the course and had to step up to get things done in double time.

We can assure you, we will not allow things slip now, this was not just done for the tournament – it was already part of our plans.

1. SA Senior Open

- a. The Senior Open brought major compliments to our course.
- b. Many of the items in our planning were noticed and we received many compliments regarding the Course, the Club and the Team.
- c. Well done to Greg, David Porrill and staff team for bringing pride to Plett.

Dear Cliff

Firstly may I congratulate Plettenberg Bay golf course for a stunning course, everything was perfect, best nic I have seen it in.... Just a pity it treats me so harsh, but absolutely world class.

Secondly, I need to comment on the staff in the Proshop. Never in all my travels have I come across a more friendly, on the ball bunch. What a pleasure and that attitude, people will remember, because they make everyone feel special and treated the same happy way.

Thanks to everyone at the club, always a pleasure coming down.
Hats off to the green keeper, top class.

Have a great weekend. Take care.
Kind Regards
Andre Cruse

2. Diary

- a. Take note of the following for MAY:

• Plettenberg Open, Order of Merit tournament	Sunday 2 nd May
• Windhoek Lager International Pairs	Saturday 8 th May
• Woman's League	Monday 10 th May
• Plett Junior Open	Sunday 16 th May
• Men's League	Saturday 22 nd May
• Par 3	Friday 28 th May
• Monthly Medal	Saturday 29 th May
• Mixed Golf	Sunday 30 th May

3. Tees

- a. We are starting our Tee Project on Monday 19th April.
 - We believe we have enough growth time left to get the job done.
- b. First up will be 2, 6, and 7.
 - Tees will be hollow-tined and then watered and levelled.
 - After levelling, top dressing will be done with further levelling.

- c. We are grateful to Tyrone Yates for his involvement on various projects. Tyrone brings his vast experience and knowledge in golf course design, development, and maintenance.
- d. All tees will be playable immediately, but normal cutting will only commence after 10-14 days.

4. Small Trees

- a. We notice new shoots on almost every young tree that received some TLC – good job to all involved.
- b. We strive to get BLUE STAKES to all the bowled trees, but they do seem to turn into baboon toys.
- c. We have a few more to go and should get to them over the next few weeks.
- d. We continue to trust that the growth will outweigh the baboon activity.
- e. All bowls around small trees will be recognized as RELIEF AREAS.
- f. Bowls will be kept clean of other growth as time allows.

5. Oak Trees

- a. The OAKs have received 3 treatments and await the trimming.
- b. The mulch bowls are performing wonders, you will notice new growth happening around the main stem.
- c. The plan was for the tree to be strengthened from the roots up, the immune system stabilized, and effected areas worked on.
- d. I quote the previous Captains Corner:

"Charles Reitz gave us a proposed possibility on which the Committee decided to give the Oak trees a chance:

- *It is said that the immune system of the tree needs to be strengthened.*
 - *Feeding areas for the trees have been prepared.*
 - *Feeding has started, and soaking of the feed.*
 - *This week, being week of 13 March, the effected areas will receive their first application of a fungicide to the effected areas.*
 - *Trees will receive a second application after 3 weeks.*
 - *Trees will be trimmed from dead branches."*
- e. We are going to get some clean-up work done on the feeding areas – Thanks to the PCA for their commitment. We still feel it is a sensitive area, so for now we will continue with that as a relief area. Relief nearest point, no nearer the hole.

6. Bunkers

- a. Most of the overhanging bunker edges have been trimmed.
- b. Our SANDPRO is back in action and has doing the rounds, loosening sand in bunkers to 5cm.
- c. We are monitoring these and will keep an eye on it.
- d. Please remember as a Covid protocol no rakes are allowed as yet, please make an attempt to smooth out your foot marks, should you not have a spotter or a rake.
- e. Landing in a footprint or divot is allowed relief, nearest point, no closer to the hole, by placing the ball.

7. Baboon Proof Bins

- a. Our "not so" baboon proof bins have been removed.
- b. The bins will be getting necessary service in weeks to come.

8. Tee Sheets
 - a. After the positive comments on the 90-day Advanced Booking window, the Committee agreed to open this 90-day Advance Booking window until the end of November 2021.

9. Ball Washers and Signs
 - a. Our Ball Washers are being repaired.

10. Prize giving
 - a. We have resumed prize giving on Wednesday's, Thursday's (attendance), and Saturday's.
 - b. Thanks to the Pro shop for doing the admin.
 - c. Thanks to vice-Captain Paul Jacobs for always assisting.

We trust your continued enjoyment at our great club.

See you out there.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nico', written in a cursive style.

Nico Westraat