

Around the Club



April 2020

Phone: (02) 6059 1552

facebook.com/wodongagolf

A newsletter for Wodonga Golf Club members

Coronavirus closes course until 13 April

The Wodonga Golf Course and associated services have been closed to players under guidelines from Golf Australia due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Golf Pro Gavin Vearing said he had hoped the club had put health measures and social distancing guidelines in place prior to the closure, but a direction from the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services had come out, leading to the course to be closed until at least April 13.

"The course will still be maintained over this time period, so that when we are open to play again, the course will be in good condition," he said.

"Hopefully we will be back playing on April 13, even if it means some changes as to how we go about things."

Gavin said the pro shop was closed, but if people need to get in touch with him, they can send an email to pro@wodongagolf.com.au

Gavin said staff wished all players and members a safe time while navigating through the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It's up to every single one of us to do the right thing, so we can reduce the spread of Coronavirus," he said.

"I would like to wish you all the best during these times.

"Stay safe, stay healthy and we are looking

forward to seeing you back at Wodonga Golf Club in the near future."

With the immediate closure of the club, club management has assured members that news of its reopening would be communicated to them as it comes to hand.

"During the closure, no activities are allowed on the course, except those authorised by pro Gavin Vearing and management," a spokesperson said.

"With isolation and proactive measures that the entire community is undertaking and the large scale of testing, we would be optimistic that the outcome of the virus could be contained in a few weeks.

"The Government's restrictions would then be able to be gradually removed and golf will resume.

"The course will be in its best possible conditions for all members to come back to play," the spokesperson said.

"All club events will be postponed and future schedules will be updated through TeamApp, Facebook, newsletter and emails.

"We hope all members, friends and family stay safe.

"We look forward to playing golf again soon."

The Clubhouse Bar and Bistro is also closed until further notice.

Gav's tips on keeping your game on point: P4

**The Wodonga Golf Course is temporarily closed until at least 13 April 2020 - no activity is allowed on the course during the closure.
The Clubhouse Bar and Bistro is closed until further notice.**

Veterans' news

We had 209 players taking part in the Bright NEDVGA tournament this year, which was a great result.

A special thanks to Kevin Tracy for organising the accommodation and meals for this great social event.

A Grade Men's: Winner Buster Krause, D Grade: Third Jack Pyers.

Ladies winner: Fran Meijer, Ladies Team winners: Penny Mullumby, Jane Boland, Jenny Richter, Roslyn Kerr.

Nearest Pin Ladies: Susan Woods, Di Bainbridge, Jan Moore.

Golfers had a great time at the Border Challenge Event held at Wodonga on March 2. There were 180 players from Wodonga, Albury and Thurgoona who played in the competition and then enjoyed a meal at the Clubhouse Bistro after the event.

Team scores were: First Wodonga 381/714, Second Albury 377/745, Thurgoona 347/660.

A Grade: First: Vince Pica 40 Wodonga. Second: Mark Vaughan 40 Wodonga.

B Grade: First: Michael Fenton 42 Wodonga. Second Noel Paech 39 Albury.

C Grade: First Roger Salter 49 Albury. Second Des Ford 41 Wodonga.

Members are looking forward to a Shotgun start event at Thurgoona on April 21.

The day kicks off at 8am for an 8.30am start. A Bistro

meal will follow the event. There will be a notice for expressions of interest up on the Pro Shop board soon.

The planning of the Cobram-Barooga Golf Trip is in full swing.

The Vets committee has reserved 26 places for the annual event held from May 17 to 19.

The cost of the event is \$330 and includes nine holes, 18 holes and then 18 holes and cart hire, two nights' accommodation, two breakfasts and two club vouchers.

Members who are interested please print your name on the player list in the Pro-Shop and place a \$50 deposit in the Green Vets Box direct deposit to or Hume Bank BSB 640 000 Account Number 111 230 812 by April 17 with your name as reference.

The final balance of \$280 is due on May 1.

There were 46 players who took to the course for the Veteran's Monthly Medal on March 16.

First Des Malone 41 points. Second Joe Gray 37.

Balls: Des Malone, Joe Gray, Phillip Missen, Neville Jarvis, Charles Overman, Andrew Harper, Denise Flavell, Peter Findlay, Mark Stacey, Gary Byrnes

Nearest Pins: 6th Andrew Harper 6.47 m, 8th David Crutch 2.64m, 11th Des Malone 1.13m, 16th Denise Flavell 2.9m.

Clubhouse Voucher Blind Draw of \$50 went to Graham Buchanan who was present.

Men's news

There has been plenty going on so far this year and it looks like the weather is on the turn to provide some near perfect conditions for golf, so unfortunately no excuses.

The February Monthly medal was well won by Buster Krause with a spectacular score of nett 62.

The March medal, which doubled as the first round of the Club Championships was won by Mattias Larson with a score of 70 on countback from Ken McQuilton.

The Monthly mug for February was won by Tony Smith with an excellent 41 points.

The best score of the last couple of months goes to Mark Dicketts with a mind-blowing 48 points.

Two of our best golfers, Daniel Gill and Ross Hillary won the Victorian Men's 2 Man Ambrose at Tocumwal with a whopping 20 under par over 36 holes, congratulations boys you've done yourselves and the club proud.

The Club held an MND Fundraiser on February 21 with 76 players turn-

ing out to support this very worthy cause.

Terry Daniher was on hand to make sure the day was a great success and kudos goes to Gavin, Jenny and the Pro-Shop team for their ability to organise and pull together another great day.

A big thanks must also go to John Anderson and his dedicated crew for continuing to prepare the course and keeping it in excellent condition.

The day saw some excellent golf with Adam Flagg, Lachlan Flagg, Wayne Flagg and Zach Burton-Brown taking home the major prize with a fantastic score of 50.75.

The Clubhouse Bar and Bistro Nine Hole Pairs Challenge is down to the pointy end with plenty of pairs in with a chance to win, it's going to be an exciting finish.

The February 14, Two Ball Best Ball event was won by Daniel and Matt Bradshaw with 25 points, well done boys and good luck to all in the final event.

Finally, we had some excellent golf

played by some of our lower markers with a number of scores matching or beating par off the stick including Josh Smith (twice) and Luke Porritt 72, James Walker, Ross Hillary and Justin Gamble 71, James Walker 70, and Travis Wiese 69.

This is probably selling short the golf that Gavin Vearing and Daniel Gill have played, needing to shoot 69 just to play to handicap and I've probably missed them because they weren't in the prizes.

Finally the Coronavirus pandemic is affecting us all and I understand Zach Murray has had to restrict his travel for the next couple of months.

I am presuming he'll be playing a bit, so it's a great opportunity for all of us to congratulate him on a great start to his year with excellent results in Abu Dhabi and Mexico if we see him around Wodonga.

All the best.

- Mark Evans
Club Captain

Ladies news

Well the big wet hit with a vengeance and we ended up receiving so much rain that we had to cancel the Howlong Wodonga Challenge.

Gavin Vearing will be setting a new date for the event and we will be notified soon.

The March Monthly Glass was won by Dawn Smith with a plus 3, followed by the March Monthly Medal, being won by Robyn Scholz with a 72.

Congratulations to both Dawn and Robyn on great performances.

The first two rounds of the SS&A Ladies Championships are currently being played, good luck ladies, play well.

We will have more news about this next month.

The first round of Monday Pennant was on March 16 with Division 2 suffering a loss to Thurgoona 2/3 and Division 4 winning against Tarrowingee 3/2.

The Sunday Pennant ladies won 4.5 to 0.5.

The second round of the Bra Cup is on March 28, members playing on that day will be automatically playing in the competition.

We have a new and exciting addition to the Team App.

Some members may have noticed in the Competitions tab, they can get results of games played, and even drill down further to see their total score card, hole by hole.

We have had great feedback about this as members think it is a fantastic way to look back over their whole game.

Jenny Garner has finally managed to get the results to show for the running scores of both the Saturday and Thursday Eclectic.

A huge thank you Jenny because we know the amount of time you put in to get this up and running.

The good news is that the hole by hole results for both days of the eclectic can be retrieved by the Pro Shop, and we will be putting those sheets up on the noticeboard every month for you to look at.

Jenn Younie will also be putting it on Team App in the News tab section.

We are only doing this monthly due to Jenny's workload, so we hope you can appreciate this and work with us.

A big welcome back to Anne Sirych, it's lovely to see you playing again.

To all our ladies who are unwell, we send you our wishes for a speedy recovery .

PLEASE NOTE:

All NEDGA events including Pennant and the Judy Guilfoyle event have been cancelled until further notice due to the Coronavirus restrictions being put into place by the Government.

- Di Bainbridge, Secretary.



Dawn Smith celebrates her Monthly Glass win.



Robyn Scholz receives her Monthly Medal.

Gav's tips

Keeping your game on point even when you can't play

Just because the course is closed, it doesn't mean your personal golf quest is.

Wodonga Pro Gavin Vearing urged members that rather than waste their time off and return to the course rusty to follow some of his golfing videos on YouTube.

"If you type in Gavin Vearing into YouTube you will see the videos that I posted many years ago, these will be helpful to members," he said.



Recommended Youtube videos

- Hank Haney: Clinic @1757
- Hank Haney: 100 swings a day
- Jim McLean: 8 step swing
- If you want some interesting entertainment type in Moe Norman



Challenge yourself to 100 swings a day

Players can follow the 21-day challenge with 100 swings a day.

"Watch the video on our Club Facebook page or type in Hank Haney 100 swings into YouTube," he said.

"To make this even more valuable - I recommend do-

ing the 100 swings in front of a mirror or reflection in the window, so you can see what you are doing.

"When I was part of the Victorian Institute of Sport many years ago we would make practice swings in front of a mirror and we had

frame by frame pictures of Greg Norman and Nick Faldo's swing taped to the top of the mirror.

"If you are a slicer, I would recommend watching my video on YouTube on how to fix your slice."

Spotlight on our sponsors



Joe and Kate Tracy love nothing more than giving back to the community.

The owners of the Bright Colonial Motel have been sponsoring the fourth tee at the Wodonga Golf Course for the past four years.

"My father-in-law Kevin is a member and plays golf at Wodonga and each year he organises a trip to Bright for the Wodonga Vet players to stay and play up here," she said.

"In the past year we had 20 rooms booked out for the golfers which was great.

"We always like to give back to the community and help out where we can.

"It is really important to look after the people that look after you."

The pair moved from Melbourne five years ago and purchased the motel.

"It was a bit of a tree-change, we were both working in totally different professions.

"We think Bright is awesome and this opportunity came up to be closer to grandparents and do something different."

In the five years, the pair has completely renovated the 22-room motel.

The motel has been revitalised with a contemporary and modern feel.

The vibrant clean rooms are decked out with quality linen, premium beds and have a fresh and vibrant feel.

There are a barbecue facilities and an entertainment pavilion on site.

