

# Around the Club

A newsletter for Wodonga Golf Club members

## Zach makes most of downtime

Wodonga's Zach Murray has enjoyed the downtime the past few months have provided, allowing him to get back on the course that set him up for his flourishing career.

The golf professional moved back to the Border from his base in Melbourne during the height of the COVID 19 pandemic.

"I have been back up here for a few months now and I am really enjoying it," he said.

Since the golf course has reopened, he has taken advantage of spending time playing the course.

"It has been great to get back on the course and catch up with the members," he said.

Murray grew up in city



taking up golf at the age of 13.

He had great success as an amateur and was the second-youngest men's winner of the Victorian Amateur in 2013.

Murray won the Aaron Baddeley International Junior in China which gave him a step up into the 2014 Emirates Australian Open.

He won the 2015 Australian Master of the

Amateurs and then went on to win his first professional event in 2018, turning professional a few weeks later.

In 2019 he won the New Zealand Open, which gave him playing rights on the Asian Tour and PGA Tour of Australasia until the end of 2021.

Murray said the COVID 19 pandemic had left him unsure of when his next tournament would be.

"I was originally planning on flying to London this week but I will be hanging around for another few months until things cool down a little," he said.

"There are six events coming up on the European Tour in the UK, but I think I will give it a miss until

we can go back to playing normally.

"At the moment you have to quarantine for 14 days when you arrive and 14 days when you get back so that is a whole month that is wasted."

He said he was enjoying the downtime and playing at Wodonga Golf Course a couple of times a week.

"When you play at a high level for an extended period your skills don't really diminish a lot if you have some time off," he said.

"It is really down to a mental level too when you are playing at an elite level.

"So, playing a couple of times a week at the moment is great to get out and about and play and see the other members."

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## Veterans' news

The months are rolling around, it doesn't feel like that long ago we wrote the news for June.

We are a bit light on for news this month but it is great to be back on the course.

Below are the results for the past three weeks and we will post the results from the Howlong NEDVGA event next month.

There are 180 players listed to take the course for the day so it should be a great event.

We would like to put out an expression of interest to any men or woman that would be interested in standing for election onto the Veterans Committee.

A few of the current members are considering retirement at the upcoming Annual General Meeting in October after many years of service.

Please feel free to discuss with myself or

Kevin Tracy about becoming involved and make yourself available for the next election, it is a great committee to be involved with.

The Veterans Committee meeting that was due to be held on June 24 was cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions.

We will keep members advised of when the next meeting is scheduled.

Results: Stableford June 15- 30 players: 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Klotz 36 pts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Phillip Missen 36, 3<sup>rd</sup> Malcolm Driscoll 34 pts

Stableford June 22-34 players: 1<sup>st</sup> Brian Stevens 36 pts 2<sup>nd</sup> Russell Dower 36 pts 3<sup>rd</sup> Robert Eyles 34 pts

Howlong NEDVGA event results being held on June 29 will be posted in the next newsletter.

- Des Malone

## Ladies news

July already!! How can that be? It seems like some of the year just melted away into oblivion.

We have been back a few weeks now and slugging away out there on the course, (slugging being the operative word, ha,ha). It appears that a lot of us have lost our form and actually don't know where to find it. Oh dear! Covid 19 has a lot to answer to.

It has been wonderful to have the full fields that we have had. Our travelling ladies have unfortunately been confined to Wodonga instead of the salty air of their coastal getaways, but we have loved seeing you at this time of year.

Our June Monthly Glass was won by Kerry Beggs with a +1. Well done Kerry you had a big field of 38 to compete against.

We had a huge field of 47 ladies vying for the Monthly Medal for June and this was taken out by Dawn Smith with a convincing win of 76 nett. Congratulations Dawn and I believe it was your first Monthly Medal so well done.

Congratulations to Wilma Roberts on winning Round two of the Silver Spoon.

With regard to the Championships, the decision was made that there would only be the two



**Dawn Smith receiving her medal from vice captain Jenn Younie.**

rounds this year due to the circumstances, and the difficulty of bringing everyone together at the same time to play the final round.

So the winners were declared from the results after the second round.

Congratulations to all of our new champions.

Ladies Club Champion – Judy Langford, Ladies B Grade Champion – Robyn Scholz, Ladies C Grade Champion – Chris Heinrich.

Ladies A Grade Nett Winner- Jo-

anne Whitehead, Ladies B Grade Nett winner- Jane Boland, Ladies C Grade Nett Winner – Deirdre Tracy. Ladies Clarice Olsen Trophy – Jo-anne Whitehead.

To any of our ladies who are unwell, we wish you a speedy recovery.

Happy birthday to those who will be celebrating a July birthday.

See you round the greens.

- Di Bainbridge  
Secretary.

# Book highlights importance of impact

Bobby Clampett has written a fantastic book called *The Impact Zone* which I highly recommend, it is also available on DVD.

The entire book is dedicated to the importance of having the correct impact.

An interesting observation I have noted from the book is:

The bottom of the Swing Arc, or the deepest part of the divot with PGA touring pros is -4 inches (10cm) after the ball

0 – 9 Handicap is 1.5 inches (4cm) after the ball)

10 -19 Handicap is 2 inches (5cm) before the ball

20 – 32 Handicap is 4 inches (10cm) before the ball

## HOW TO HIT THE GOLF BALL

For consistent golf shots, the golf club hits the ball first, then the ground.

(You do not need to dig big holes but you must at least brush the ground just in front of the ball – except with the driver).

Many club golfers are scared of hitting the ground as it may jar the body and hurt the wrists and arms.

Yes it may hurt if you dig into the ground before you hit the ball but I have NEVER seen it hurt when the golfer hits the golf ball first then takes a divot after the ball.

**IMPORTANT** – The angle of attack for the golf club is approximately 5 degrees downward. One minute on a clock is 6 degrees so it is only a slight descending approach.

If the club is approaching the ball on the upswing you will create top spin on the ball and the ball will not get up in the air. In order to get the ball in the air you need to create backspin on the ball. Backspin comes from hitting the ball first then the ground.



The goal is to hit the ball between the nose and the teeth with a descending angle of attack.

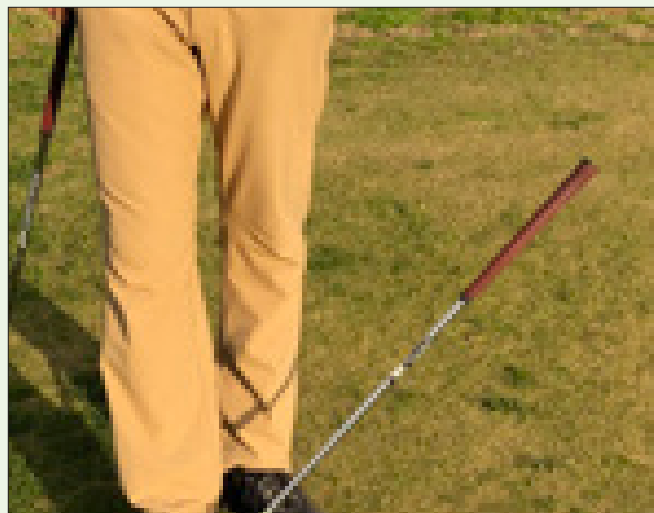
**NEVER, EVER, EVER, EVER TRY TO LIFT THE BALL IN THE AIR. THERE IS ENOUGH LOFT ON THE CLUB TO GET THE BALL IN THE AIR.**

- Gavin

**With Wodonga Golf Club pro Gavin Vearing**



**A strong impact position sees the hands slightly ahead of the club at impact. The left arm and club forearm a straight line. The back of the left wrist is flat, the right wrist still angled. The clubface is square to the target. Eighty per cent of weight on left leg. Right heel slightly off the ground, the hips between 20 to 40 degrees open.**



Loft of a sand iron.



Loft of a seven iron.