



BARMERA GOLF CLUB NEWSLETTER October 2017

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President's Report by Neville McPherson

There's Plenty Being Done

It has been a big job but we have now almost completed the installation of the new tee block signs.

Your committee has a large to do list and a key guideline is that anything we do we are going to do well. The tee block signs come under the heading of one percenters which are often neglected or done poorly.

Paul Keane undertook the task of coming up with a design and installation of Course Signage. He began with the club entrance (pleasing to see that the Country Club has joined in) and has progressed to the rest of the course. He has had many



helpers including **Dave Babbage, Markos Stavrou, Luke Hampshire, Denis Hogdson, Kevin Magain, Phil Ashton, Kevin Martin and Bob Mudge.**

It must be acknowledged that **Alistair Nixon Smith** made a very significant financial donation which made this project viable.

Well done Paul and thank you to all who have helped. While we can be pleased with the condition of our course we always need to be looking for areas needing improvement. It is generally accepted that our greens are of high quality but our fairways need to be improved. Last year we began this project by

- ✓ Implementing a thorough fertilizing program
- ✓ Carrying out a pruning of the roots encroaching on the fairways by the bordering trees

We have now begun the next big step: the scarifying of the fairways. This is a huge job as it involves the carrying

away of tons of scarifyings. Our new machine needs to operate at 2 km/hr and picks up the cuttings. These need to be loaded onto a trailer and taken away. **Twisty Martin** (with some help from **Brian Finn** and **Kevin Magain**) has undertaken this task and in week one would have unloaded 100 trailers! By week two we were able to borrow a three ton tip trailer from **Richard Chabrel**. This made the removal of scarifyings an easier task. Thank you Twisty and Richard.

We have also increased the level of fairway fertilizing thanks to help from **David Agg, Wayne Whateley, Mark Whateley** and **Rob Chabrel**. Rob also reshaped and planted scarifyings on the new mounds on the 13th and 14th fairways.

Our next project is the replacement of the tenth green. Sometimes people question why we replace greens when superficially they appear OK. Greens only have a lifespan of 20-25 years and our original greens were planted in 1975. They gradually become riddled with native couch. This cannot be sprayed out and for much of the year makes a very poor putting surface. Our most effected greens are 10, 12, 7 and 4. All need to be replaced and as they are done will include a protective fesque boundary and general hole make-over in line with our principle of doing things well when we do them.

The tenth will be out of play for two months and we will play the old seventeenth as a temporary. While this is not a great green it is far superior to any temporary we could provide near the current tenth.

Coming Events

We have once again been favoured with the opportunity to run the Country pennant competition. This involves eight regional teams of five men and three women playing three rounds of match play on **Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th of October**. While it does infringe on our member playing opportunities it is very beneficial to us both **financially** and as a way or **promoting Barmera Golf Club**.

The Spring Classic is also on the horizon and I am pleased to welcome aboard **LASER Electrical and Plumbing** as a naming right sponsor. We have also retained strong support from the Barmera country club, Dave Bown from **Aussie Party Hire**, Carlton United brewery and former members **Tony Ellis, Dale McPherson, Sam Fisher** and **Brenton Pettingill**. We

intend to make this event bigger and better and need your support in a number of ways;

1. We need you **to play**
2. We need **you to attend the dinner** (entertainment by the great man, Mick Kelly)
3. We need you **to invite friends** from out of town. I have often mentioned this as a great opportunity to spent time with old friends and I must admit have been disappointed by **the lack lustre response.**

Let us make the Spring Classic the best Open Event it can be. It has the potential to be a great fun Only **YOU** can make it happen.



Club Captain's Report by Garry Eitrich

G'day all,

Spring has sprung, and it was kicked off with a monthly medal round which was sponsored by 23rd Street Distillery.

A massive thanks to them and hopefully they'll put up more trophies in the future.

A Grade winner-Twisty Martin with a net 73, N. McPherson 75, A. Selfe 76, C. Neilson 77.

B Grade winner-Craig Clarke with a net 71 on a count back from I. Girdler 71, D. Babbage 72, T. Graetz 74, M. Ubhey 75, C. McLoughlin 75.

So, the privilege cup went to Craig Clarke. All of these players won a prize from **23rd Street Distillery** but I haven't caught up with everyone yet, so give us a oi when you see me next if you haven't received yours yet.

The next Saturday comp was the **Andrew Ivanovic** trophy and once again, a big thankyou to Andrew for his generosity, especially seeing as I won.

G. Eitrich 38 pts, D. Halupka 37, M. Rumball 36, T. Hansen 36, K. Martin 35, R. Wickstein 35, G. Millard 34, E.V. Hensbergen 34, K. Tonkin 34.

A very big thankyou to the **Barmera Monash FC** who put up next Saturdays trophy in a stableford comp. This was won by Joffa Rosbergen with a 41 pt win. Then came last month's legend P. Ashton 40, C. McLoughlin 39, D. Hastwell, 37, L. Krollig 36, M. Ubhey 34.

A small field for the next Saturday, probably because the Berri open was on, and the small field played for a Captains Mystery prize which was won by Eddie V Hensbergen with 36 pts, K. Magain 34, C. Clarke 33, M. Starkey 33, welcome back G. Denton 33, K. Moore 33. There's one more Saturday comp after this report was written, so I'll put up the results next month for the wine trophy. My apologies to Kingston Estate for their trophy, I

forgot to email them and organise a prize, but, I do have some nice reds here up for grabs.

Congratulations to Phil Ashton for winning the Legend of the Month last month. There's still a Saturday comp to go this month for someone to do something outstanding to become a Barmera GC Legend, thanks to **Riverland Skips** for the voucher they put up for grabs.

The much-anticipated Presidents trophy from last month goes to the August legend, Phil Ashton for his net 145 on the Saturday and Sunday club championship qualifying weekend. As Macca mentioned in his report, the rebuilding of the 10th green is underway and we have to use the old 17th in it's place. The down side for the next couple of months is we haven't made provision on the score card for playing a par 3 instead of a par 4. The up side is our handicaps should slightly improve because of it, and the biggy, the way I see it, we've got five holes now that we can win a hole in one on, which is by the way, over \$900. In the month of October in your program, you'll see the John Kniter trophy on Sat 14th, change it to Saturday 28th in place of the mystery trophy.

New Twilight Competition

Along with our regular summer comps, starting on the 20th October, will be a Friday twilight comp every second week until March. It's a nine-hole comp with a twist. Each fortnight a different nine will be played, the list will be up shortly. It will also be advertised in the local paper for all comers. Tee off is between 3.30 pm to 6 pm. Cost is at this stage \$5 entry with \$3 going back to the club and the pool of \$2 from each player going to the winner of the day. There will a sausage sizzle at the end of the days play. At the end of the program in March, there will be a top ten shoot out for the top ten scorers over the twilight season. A minimum 4 rounds must be played to qualify. You earn points each round if you finish in the top ten on the day and your best scores in 4 games will be added together for your final score at the end of the season. Play as many times as you like over the season. They are all individual rounds, except the first round is a two-man ambrose where you both can earn up to 10 points for a win. The scoring is stableford off your handicap.. Dougie Johns and **Tyre Power** in Renmark are promoting and supporting this event for us and putting up a small prize at the end.

I've noticed recently that some of you haven't been putting your golfink number on your cards, and a couple of times the name is missing as well. This makes it extremely difficult for the handicapper. Our Spring Classic is coming up in November and the entry forms are printed. Write your name on the list and if you have friends from elsewhere, please send them an entry form and get in early. **Laser Electrical** have come on board as a sponsor as well, so our prizes will be improved from the open and previous classics.