

FAIRWAY NEWS



JUNE
2021



Lockdown 4—the one where..?

What can we say about four lockdowns? Par 4s are the commonest holes in golf and we most commonly play in 4s. Does that mean anything? A good omen right? Who knows?

The number four has a range of connotations throughout history; the four elements of earth, air, fire, and water; the four seasons; the four points of the compass; the four phases of the moon. Four was also apparently central to the world view of the Sioux, with four groups of gods, four types of animal (creeping, flying, four-legged, and two-legged), and four ages of humans.

But then in China four is considered unlucky because of the similar sound of the character to the one for death.

Inside this Issue

Lockdown 4
Some well known 4s
Upcoming Events
Recent Results
The President's Blog
News and Notes
Captain's Corner
Pink Day Wrap
Match Play Competitions Update
Member News Part 1 and 2
Pennant Season Wrap
Club Age Profile
Vale Chris Lynch
Golf Distances revisited
Inside the bunker

Some well-known fours

- No medals for fourth place in the Olympics
- Four majors and four grand slams (tennis)
- Rocky IV was the highest grossing sports movie for 24 years - the one where he fights the Russian
- Petit fours are little French cakes
- Four Corners gets the ABC in trouble with the federal government
- We yell Fore when we think we might hit someone.
- Four suits in cards
- Four is the most premierships won in a row in the VFL/AFL
- Four dimensions in modern physics
- The Gang of Four
- Roosevelt's Four Freedoms
- the Four Noble Truths of Buddhism
- Four bases in baseball

Enough already!

Upcoming events

Please check website for updates

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 12 June | Social Round |
| 19 June | Stableford Captain's Trophy R1 |
| 26 June | 4BBB (Pairs Match Play Qualifier), Stableford |
| 3 July | Stroke, VGL Medal, LG McDonald RD 3 |
| 10 July | Stableford |
| 17 July | Stableford |

Recent Results

- The VGL Medal on 10 April was won by Peter Karvelis whose net 62 was 3 shots clear and also won B Grade for the week. Countbacks were needed in A and C Grades with Anthony Cape (net 65) beating Andrew Charlton (A) and Laurie Spence (net 67) beating Doug Gandy (C). Christine Nicholson won the Women comp with a net 65.
- Pairs aggregate was the comp of the day on 17 April. Bruce Baldey and Tim Green score 70pts to win by three shots over Danny and Tony Morgan (67pts)
- Steve Malcolm's 41pts was the overall winner on 24 April and also win B Grade. Terry McAleenan 38pts (A Grade), Danny Morgan 37pts (C Grade) and Cathy Dixon 34pts (Women) were the other winners on the day.
- May Day's VGL Medal was won by woodworker extraordinaire Mike Roker on a countback from Marian Nguyen after both scored net 64s. Mike and Marian also took out their respective grades (B Grade and Ladies). David Mallen net 67 (A Grade) and Richard Grace net 68 (C Grade) were the other winners.
- The Pink Day charity 2 person Ambrose competition was conducted on 8 May. Two teams separated themselves from the field. Mark Brooks and Dan Murphy winning with a 58.25 just ahead of Andrew Rumbelow and Nick Hague (58.50). There was a gap of 2.5 strokes to the next best team. See later for more detail of the big day.
- A countback were needed on 15 May as 3 players scored 36pts. Danny Morgan getting the nod (and C Grade) over Andrew Lejcak (A Grade) and Marian Nguyen (B Grade).
- The Club Medal on 22 May was won by Andrew Rumbelow on a countback from Michael Wang and Stuart Low after all returned a +1. Michael and Stuart won B and C Grades respectively. Matt Scott's -2 was enough to win A Grade. Helen Ansems (-1) won the Women's comp on countback from Glenda McDade.

THE PRESIDENT'S BLOG

Well, here we are again, Locked Down and locked out of Golf.

Hopefully by the time you read this latest Newsletter we have all been given a reprieve from our latest confinement and are planning our next 18-hole adventure. Personally, I am busily finishing off jigsaws and packing them away in anticipation of a re-opening of golf...fingers crossed for a re-start on 12th June.

What a great success was the Pink Day that we recently held on 8th May. A big thank-you to all those that participated or donated to what we all recognise as a very important charity. The success of the day showed it was a day that we can put onto the golfing calendar every yeara pat on the back to the Sandringham golfing community for the \$1,645 that was raised. This sets the bar for an even bigger outcome in 2021

On the golf front, plenty of good scores were seen over the period up until the recent shutdown, but overall the course seems to still be in front...however I suspect that the golfers are starting to bridge the gap as there have been some exceptional scoring achievements over the last 6 weeks.

Last but not least and not to be forgotten (admit it, you all look forward to it);

"You'll find it a lot easier to hit the fairway when teeing off if you're not too picky about which fairway"

Regards
Rob Harris

Recent Results (cont.)

- Once again some extraordinary mid week scores. Brett Clarke scored 44 and 40pts in consecutive weeks in April but these scores were put in the shade by Terry Quigley's 47pts in early May.

News and Notes

Apps to track your Handic' app!

It's an "app" world and golf is no exception. If you are looking to keep track of your handicap and a way of calculating your daily handicap on different courses there are a number of apps available. Here are a couple of possibilities. Starting with Golf Australia's official app.



An alternative is the Clubhouse app. It taps into your GA information and has similar functions.



Within both apps you can create groups so that all your playing partner's handicaps are easy to access.

Australian Golf Strategy Survey

Golf Australia is also asking players to complete the Australian Golf Strategy Survey about the future direction of golf in Australia. There is a link on Golf Australia's home webpage.

Sandy Golf Links on YouTube

Sandy Golf Links continues to have a presence on YouTube with testimonials from public and elite junior golfers and discussion of the new course with Geoff Ogilvy. There is also now a 15min clip of drone footage of every hole. You may want to watch at 1.5 speed as the new age music has the effect of having you ask "Huh? How did I get to Hole 10?"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BIQ6Zpk26kw>

CAPTAIN'S CORNER



For the benefit of new members (mainly, I hope), a reminder about competition entry processes:

- Please write Name, Date and Entry No. on card.
- Card must be signed by BOTH player and marker. Otherwise DQ.
- Daily Handicap must be written on card. Otherwise DQ.
- Name must be written on Comp Sheet BEFORE teeing off. Otherwise DQ.
- Only visitors need to write Golf Link number on card.
- If card not returned Golf Link will assign your worst score of last 20 rounds
- If Daily Hcap shown on card is higher than actual, you are DQ from comp.
- If Daily Hcap shown on card is lower than actual, score based on lower handicap applies.
- STROKE rounds: as well as Gross strokes, also show Stableford Points on card. Points are used to update handicap.
- PAR rounds: do NOT show Stableford points. Golf Link does the calculation for handicap purposes.

The pennant season has concluded, with mixed results. The Seniors team did well to make the final, not so the Scratch and Handicap teams. We are hoping that some talent will emerge in 2022 from the new members that joined recently. Special thank-you to John McCarthy and Andrew Rumbelow for managing their pennant teams.

I am pleased to announce and congratulate the 2021 Pennant Players of the Year:

Seniors: Colin Burge (5 wins incl final, no losses)

Handicap: Jay Ramsden (3 wins, 2 losses)

Scratch: Joe Margheriti (3 wins, 1 loss)

The Fixture has been amended slightly due to the current lockdown. Check the website for the latest.

Keep safe.

Geoff Thornton

Breast Cancer Trials - Pink Day 8 May 2021

This year's Pink Day charity to raise money for breast cancer trials was a great success. The weather was beautiful, members really got into the swing of the occasion and the two ball ambrose was a lot of fun. The Club has made a donation of \$1,645 as a result of the day. Well done all. For more photos see the Club's website in the Photos Over the Years section.



Club Captain Geoff Thornton (l) and Club Secretary Colin Hockley (r)



Tim Green (l) and Craig Brenner (r)



From l to r. Stuart Low, Paul Mahon, Geoff Thornton, Rob Harris



Philip Drew (l) and Jenni Clarke (r)



From l to r. Roly Ansems, Helen Ansems, Christine Nicholson, Paul Nicholson



From l to r. Andrew Rumbelow, Nick Hague, James Lefebvre, Michael Wang

2020 Match Play Competitions

The 2020 John Pittard Singles and Ian Fraser Pairs Match Play events are nearly complete.

Ian Fraser Pairs Match Play

James Honner and Cris Payne won the Ian Fraser Pairs Match Play title by defeating Martin Dusek and David Waters 3 and 1 in the final.

Congratulations to James and Cris and commiserations to Martin and David (or DW and MD as they like to be known!).

John Pittard Singles Match Play

James is on a match play roll as he has also made the singles match play final. James will meet Jan Cormack in the final. Jan (a former winner of this event) defeated Bruce Baldey 3 and 1 in one semi final. In the other semi final James triumphed 1 up over Gary Boschen in an epic match that took 27 holes to decide. All square after 18 James and Gary decided to come back and play a further 9 holes to determine the winner. That round went all the way to the last as well.

2021 Singles Match Play Competition

This year's John Pittard Trophy is already underway with some first round matches being completed. The draw with completed results to date is:

Jay Ramsden	vs	Jenni Clarke
John Bris	def	Trevor Schultz
Jason Maynard	vs	Terry McAleenan
Steve Malcolm	def	Colin Burge 1 up
David Mallen	def	Paul Rich 3 and 2
Rob Harris	vs	Richard Grace
Neil Evans	def	Michael Wang 5 & 4
Stuart Low	def	Pat Kealy

Feedback, comments or suggestions on the newsletter can be sent to newsletter@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au

Member News. (Part 1)

Farewell Ron McKinnon

Long time member Ron McKinnon has departed for more northern climes – moving to Canberra to be closer to family.

Ron has been an unsung hero of the Club assisting with the provision of Club apparel and famously supporting the Club's Pennant teams over a number of years by coming out in a cart with snacks, up to date scores and a bit of opposition intimidation!

Best of luck in Canberra Ron.



Here's Ron in "Le Carte" supporting a Pennant team and making sure the opposition know they are playing a successful team with the Pennant Flags on the back! Accompanied by Issy daughter of former Club President Oliver Cunliffe.

One final but overall disappointing seasons for Sandy Pennant Teams

This year's Pennant season was highlighted by the Seniors Pennant Team making the final for the first time since 2016 but with mixed results for the other teams.

Pennant is a great experience, a team environment, playing different courses and generally in a great spirit of friendly competition. Members should consider expressing interest when 2022 rolls around.

Seniors

Lead by unbeaten seasons from Colin Burge (two in a row now), Tim Green and Mark Heynemann the team won 3 and drew 1 of its six matches to finish in second place. Unfortunately Centenary Park proved too strong and experienced in the wind at Mornington Golf Course and won the final. Congratulations and thanks to all who played during the season – John McCarthy (Manager), Neil Evans, Geoff Thornton, Colin Burge, Tim Green, Mark Heynemann, Rob Harris, Bruce Baldey, George Andreetta, Stuart Low, Harold Sta Maria and Tony Pearce.

Handicap

The Handicap team had a season to forget. The team opened the season with a win but struggled after that losing the remaining 5 matches. Unfortunately after a stellar run over the last decade the team will be relegated to Division 3 for 2022. Thanks to all who played during the season – Geoff Thornton (Manager), Geoff Maynard, Jason Maynard, John McCarthy, Jay Ramsden, Gary Gibb, Sudesh Mudaliar, Brendan Murphy, Harold Sta Maria, Michael Wang, George Andreetta. Centenary Park defeated Camberwell in the final.

Scratch

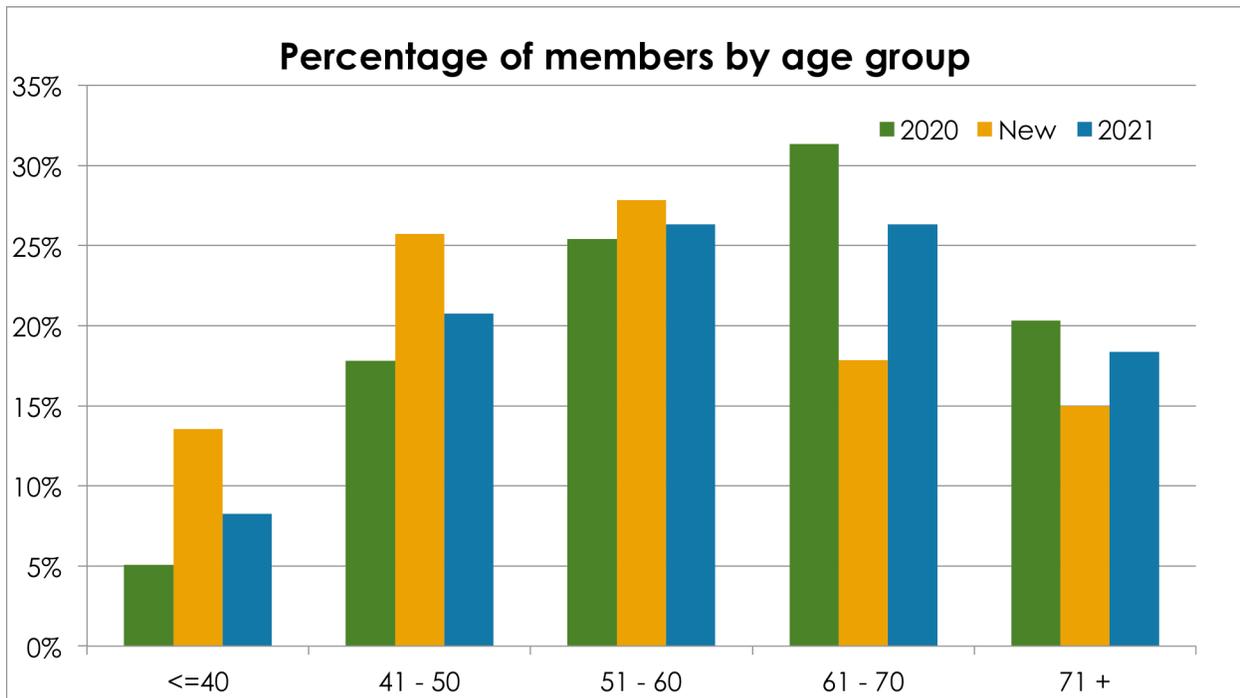
The Scratch team produced a very competitive season with 1 win, 2 draws and 2 losses (one match was a wash out. Like last year a number of players with handicaps outside the usual range for scratch teams represented the club and performed well.

Thanks to all who played during the season – Andrew Rumbelow (Manager), Joe Margheriti, James Lefebvre, Brendan Murphy, Gary Boschen, Nick Hague, Michael Kent, Marcus Coleman, Adrian Thomas and Matt Scott. The Scratch Pennant finals were postponed because of our latest lockdown.

	Scratch (Div 2)	Handicap (Div 2)	Seniors
Rd 1	Craigieburn Wilmott (A) (W 5 to 3)	Lakeside (H) (W 5 to 3)	Centenary Park (A) (L 2.5 to 5.5)
Rd 2	Altona Lakes (H) (L 2 to 6)	Centenary Park (A) (L 0.5 to 7.5)	Dorset (H) (W 6 to 2)
Rd 3	Ringwood(A) (D - washout)	Camberwell (A) (L 1.5 to 6.5)	East Malvern (A) (Drew 4 to 4)
Rd 4	Craigieburn Wilmott (H) (D 3w, 2 h each)	Lakeside (A) (L 2 to 6)	Centenary Park (H) (W 4.5 to 3.5)
Rd 5	Altona Lakes (A) (L 0.5 to 7.5)	Centenary Park (H) (L 3 to 5)	Dorset (A) (L - 2w, 2h 4 l)
Rd 6	Ringwood(H) (D 4 to 4)	Camberwell (H) (L 2 to 6)	East Malvern (H) (W 8 to 0)

Membership age profile

Club Captain Geoff Thornton has been compiling the stats (once again!) and has crunched the numbers on the age profile of the Club for 2020 and 2021. At the start of 2021 a number of new members were admitted to the Club – many had been on a waiting list due to the course reconstruction. The end result is that the age profile has got significantly younger. Compare the green and blue columns in the chart below. The orange columns represent the age profile of the new members admitted in 2021.



In fact the percentage of members over 60 has dropped from more than half (52%) in 2020 to 45% in 2021 whilst the percentage under 50 has risen from 23% in 2020 to 29% in 2021.

This is a great sign for the health of the Club not to mention I feel younger already!

Do you want your course looking like this??

Fill your divot! Even on the tees!



Vale Chris Lynch

The Club was saddened to learn of the passing of former member Chris Lynch after a long illness.

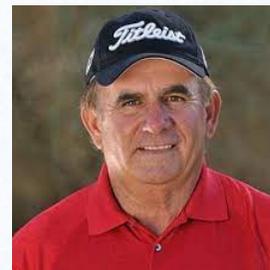
Chris was a fine golfer and won a number of Club trophies including two consecutive Les Stainsby Over 60s comps in the mid 2000s. He was a well liked and respected member for many years.

The Club expresses its condolences to Chris' family and friends.

Another way to look at the distance issue.

There has been a lot of discussion about how far the professional golfer can hit the ball and what that means for the fate of existing courses and the design of new ones. Up till now the response has been to make holes and courses longer (very difficult for many fabled courses that might be landlocked) and endless discussions about restricting technology in the ball and clubs. See February 2021 Fairway News for a further snippet on this.

So it was interesting to read the views of Peter Kostis on how we reached this quandary. Peter Kostis is most well known for being a long time golf analyst and on course reporter for CBS. He is also a golf instructor who includes Paul Casey and Bernhard Langer as some of his pupils. He has a reputation as being outspoken – his non-contract renewal with CBS in 2019 and the Patrick Reed controversy are two such cases. However he has plenty of credibility to comment on the game. Writing in Golfweek in February this year Kostis basically argues that the distance argument is back to front.



Kostis places a lot of blame for longer courses on the desire of course architects and owners of courses to be ranked highly in golf course rankings that began to be published in the 1960s. There was a false equivalence created between course and hole length, difficulty of course and prestige. Developers also wanted bigger because they created more room for houses. He goes on to specifically point the finger at the rise of “player architects.” In previous eras “designers made courses to challenge amateur players like themselves and members of local clubs. When big-name players and former pros started designing courses, they typically prefer to build things that challenge the world's best players. In their minds, that means the course has to be stretched to championship length.” He believes, as courses got longer, players started to emphasize length more than shot shaping and accuracy and they learned to do it very well.

Kostis view is that technology doesn't explain the increase in distances. It is one factor amongst others such as fitness and nutrition, better coaching, custom fitting. He asks: “Are the USGA and R&A planning to govern those things too?”

Here's a link to the full article.

<https://golfweek.usatoday.com/2021/02/22/peter-kostis-a-big-argument-for-reducing-distance-is-entirely-backward/>

Member News. (Part 2)

Farewell Harold Sta Maria

After many Covid induced delays Harold and wife Jan have finally made the move to WA – driving across to Perth and playing some golf on the way (and apparently being mistaken for an undercover cop in Ceduna!)

As those who have played with Harold know he is a golf addict and we have enlisted him as an unofficial Fairway News WA correspondent. Golf reports have already come in from Cocklebiddy (on the Nullarbor – one hole was played), Esperance and Joondalup.



so



Before his departure Harold caught up with Member Services officer Tom Hunter who is recovering from a hip operation on Pink Day



Inside the Fairway News Bunker

Our scene: The late afternoon sun sends a hazy light into the editorial offices of Fairway News to reveal a figure - head bent over his desk snoring softly, yesterdays' lunch plate balanced on pile of unruly folders; numerous cups filled to different levels with what might once have been coffee. A phone rings. Our story begins...

A hand fumbles for the phone. "What?" A loud fast paced voice echoes from the phone. "What?" The figure holds the phone away from his ear. More histrionics from the phone. "You're kidding me. Another lockdown? The figure sighs as he slowly replaces the phone. He shuffles through some papers and pulls out a stained sheet of lined paper with a list on it. He licks a pencil and starts ticking off items on the list. He sighs again and puts the list down and slowly leaves the room. He appears to be muttering "Thank god for Pink Day." The camera pans over the list and we see it has a smudged title. "Items for Fairway News in Lockdown"

- Golf YouTube ✓ Golf movies ✓ Golf games ✓ Play at home golf rules ✓
- Fairway News the Musical ✓ Golf Travel Posters ✓, Alternative forms of golf ✓ ???????

To see what happened next – look at Page 1!

Where to redeem your vouchers if you are lucky enough or good enough to win one!

- House of Golf
- Some Drummond Stores
- Sandringham Café for food or drink
- Grape and Grain Liquor Cellars, Station St Moorabbin
- Royal Melbourne Golf Club Pro Shop