

FAIRWAY NEWS



OCTOBER
2022



AGM 16 November

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held at 7:30pm, Wednesday 16th November, at Black Rock Sports Club, 2 Fern St, Black Rock.

A Booking Sheet will be set up in OneGolf to record likely attendees for catering purposes.

At the AGM the current office bearers will report on the Club's activities for the previous year and a new Committee will be elected.

Please participate in the AGM and give a thought to becoming a Committee member.

This Issue includes

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- 4BBB and MiScore (29 October competition)

Happy 85th SGC!

The Sandringham Golf Club was founded on 9 September 1937 and that makes the club 85 years old this year.

Contrary to what some of you might think none of our current members have been around all that time however it's a great tribute to those who have been members, office bearers and committee members that the club has survived and is now thriving.

The traditional thing when you write about anniversaries is to look up what they signify (think diamond wedding anniversaries etc.).

It turns out that the traditional gift for an 85th anniversary is ... wine! Given that, if this was a marriage, both partners would likely to be over 100yrs old it seems an odd choice. A tipsy time for one last time maybe!

However when next you are in a position to do so raise a glass to toast the Club's 85th year!

Upcoming events

22 October	Stableford
29 October	4BBB Pairs Stableford
5 November	Stroke
12 November	Stableford
16 November	AGM
19 November	Par

Recent Results

- Scoring was tough on 13/8. Jay Ramsden won the overall with 38pts on a countback from Peter Russell who won B Grade. Lynda Douch won the Women's section with 35pts, Steven Brook (C Grade) 37pts and James Lefebvre (34pts) won A Grade on a countback from Roger Van Hilst.
- On 20/8 the JJ Meade Memorial Pairs Aggregate was won by the Robs - Reid and Williams whose total of 73pts got them home by 2pts over Colin Hunter and Paul McGarry.
- Olivia Odonahoo's 40pts was the best score on 27/8 and she won the overall. Michael Kent (A Grade) 38pts held off James Lefebvre on a countback. Other winners were Mark Johnson (B Grade) 36pts and Tony Morgan(C Grade) 35pts on a countback from Steve Bywater.
- It was a tight contest for the September VGL Medal with 7 players within a shot of the leader and 10 within 2 shots. Paul McGarry got home on a countback from Colin Hockley after both scored net 65s. Colin winning B Grade as some compensation. Christopher Beattie (A Grade) net 66, Rob Harris (C Grade) net 66 and Fiona Reynolds (Women) net 70 were the other winners.
- Scores ticked up a notch in the Stableford round of 10/9. Scott Reed's 42pts won the overall. Gary Gibb (B Grade) and Ross Gordon (C Grade) both scored 40pts. In A Grade Charlie Lim's 37pts won on a countback from Terry McAleenan.
- Ross Gordon continued his good form and was a comfortable winner in the Club Medal on 17/9 with a +4. Next best was Paul Ferguson (B Grade) with a +2. Scott Reed was again in the frame winning C Grade with a +1 which was also the score with which Neil Singh won A Grade on a countback from Geoff Thornton.

THE PRESIDENT'S BLOG

Rob's column will not appear this issue. He is enjoying some well-deserved time up north.



Bunker and short game Lessons for Members

The Club has engaged Yarra Yarra Golf Club to provide bunker and short game lessons to Sandringham members. Their facilities are a good match for the style of bunkers you will see at Sandringham.

Details will follow shortly, but the highlights are

- 1 hour lessons in groups of 4
- bookings will be made direct to a Yarra Yarra web page
- members are required to manage their bookings online
- the program will run from November to January
- timeslot availability will be posted on the booking page
- the lessons are free, 1 lesson per member

We hope everyone is able to make use of this offer.



**YARRA YARRA
GOLF CLUB**

Recent Results (cont.)

- Club Vice Captain Michael Kent won the overall on 24/9 with 40pts. Other winners were Christine Nicholson (Women) 37pts, Matthew Smyth (A Grade) 36pts, Larry Stewart (B Grade) 38pts and (making it three weeks in a row for a podium finish) Ross Gordon (C Grade) 35pts.
- Adrian Thomas' 41pts won the overall on 1/10. Clayton Ford (B Grade) and Dale Gilkes (Women) both won with 40pts. Roger Van Hilst(A Grade) 37pts and Andrew Steggall (C Grade) 34pts were the other winners. Interesting side note: despite perfect conditions and 7 scores of 36pts or higher the course was rated as +1 when the scores were processed – one shot harder than the expected result.
- October's Stroke round was won overall by Julius Chan on a countback from Ruth Branagh after both scored a hot net 61. Ruth won the Women's Division. Next best was Bruce Baldey who won B Grade with a net 62. Terry McAleenan net 63 (A Grade) and Dan Harrison net 65 (C Grade) were the other winners.
- Wet weather saw Sandy become an attractive proposition for visitors from waterlogged courses on 15/10. Andrew Steggall continued his good form and upheld the Club's honour to win the overall with 40pts on 15/10. Ruth Branagh(37pts) backed up for her 2nd women's Division in a row. Joel Smith (A Grade) and Rod Burke (C Grade) both scored 38pts for their win. In B Grade Danny Morgan (37pts) won on a countback from Bruce Baldey and Ricky Plummer.
- 40pts was usually good enough to win the mid week comp in this period except for one week where Pat Maginness scored 45pts and Peter Hameister scored an unlucky 43pts.

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

The offer for the Club to pay for entry fees to VGL events has not proved to be successful. The last two VGL events has resulted in a total of 8 Sandringham entries.



What are the other 400 plus members doing? There has been a similar response to the Trivia night. I realise this was short notice but !!!!

The Committee is planning other activities for members in the near future to encourage greater participation and socialisation.

Michael Kent has done an outstanding job implementing MiScore and OneGolf. The benefits in terms of saving administrative time has exceeded expectations, and we are exploring other features of MiClub to make further improvements to competitions processing and reporting, and flexibility of the fixture.

It is pleasing to see an increase in the number of women entering competitions and this augurs well towards fielding a pennant team next year. The mid-week competitions are also growing, and we now have more entries mid-week than on Saturdays.

I hope to see many of you at the AGM in November.

Best wishes

Geoff Thornton

News and Notes

3rd Hole

The 3rd hole is playing as a Par 4 again during the week after the installation of a temporary safety fence. The back tee remains in play over the weekend.

Club Apparel

Members can purchase Club apparel.

- Polo shirt \$35. Women's polos now also available.
- Cap \$10

Email: captain@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au or text 0413 438 048

Member Notes

Best wishes to Cris Payne as he endures the holiday from hell in the UK including likely surgery in London.

Farewell to Jan

One of the Club's longest continuing members (3rd longest) Jan Cormack has decided to not renew her membership this year. Jan joined the Club in 1991 and for many years she was one of only two women members of the Club (see below). Jan won many competitions over the time including the Singles Match Play title. Jan is a member at Southern Golf Club but hopefully we may see her at Sandy on occasion. It was great to see the other long time woman member Christine Harding at the course for a coffee on a recent Saturday.

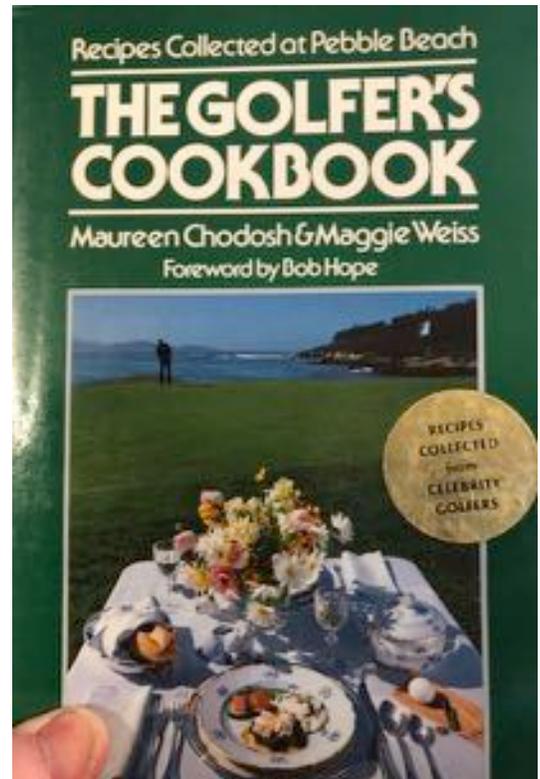


... and to Anthony Cape

Best wishes to two time and reigning Club Champion Anthony Cape and family who have moved to New Zealand to live in Christchurch (his wife's home town.)

A day out for Harold Sta Maria

Former member Harold Sta Maria who is now living in Perth had a day out at his new golf club - Marangaroo Seniors Golf Club. In late August Harold won the monthly medal, the nearest the pin and longest drive all in the one round. Stay west young man!



We know what you are thinking. Golfers can cook? We thought it was all motels/hotels, restaurants and a personal chef if you were at the top of the tree.

Then we looked a bit closer – “Recipes collected at Pebble Beach” and “Recipes Collected from Celebrity Golfers”. Ah!

But huh?? We thought if you were a celebrity it was all motels/hotels, restaurants etc.

Who knew! Anyway we like the photo shoot – the golf ball on the table is a nice touch.

The Pebble Beach Pro Am has been played in one form or another since 1937 (at Pebble Beach since 1947) and was founded by the singer/actor Bing Crosby. The forward in this book is by Crosby's friend and (on screen rival) Bob Hope who also hosted his own golf tournament.

Major Competition News

Onto the finals for our match play events.

John Pittard Singles Match Play

Both Michael Kent and Don Tasevski had easy wins in the semi finals and went into the final full of confidence. In the final on 16 October Michael continued his good form and defeated Don 6 and 5. Congratulations to Michael on his win and to Don on his runner up finish.

The results were:

Semi Finals

Michael Kent def Leigh Busby (6 and 5)

Don Tasevski vs Nick Hague (5 and 4)

Final

Michael Kent def Don Tasevski (6 and 5)

Ian Fraser Pairs Match Play

The semi final results were:

Michael Kent/Michael Sneyd def Mike Roker/Bruce Baldey (6 and 5)

Colin Hockley/Rob Harris def Andrew Rumbelow/Nick Hague (2 up)

Both pairs will be seeking their first title. Plenty of intrigue on this one as Colin and Rob were runners up a few years ago losing a 35 hole epic in the final and Michael Kent will be seeking to do the match play double.

LG McDonald Memorial Trophy

Francis Armstrong came out on top in the last round of the LG McDonald. His 69 was too much for an ailing Archie Hendry (74). Congratulations to Francis.

Captain's Trophy

The Captain's Trophy is decided by the best aggregate score over three designated stableford rounds. Danny Morgan took out this year's edition with 104pts. Congratulations to Danny.

Star Medallist and Lady Medallist

Phil Ramsden's is the Club's Star Medallist for 2022. Phil shot a net 66 to win in October's battle of this year's medallists.

Ruth Branagh's excellent net 61 gave her the Lady Medallist title.

Vale David Fuszard

The Club expresses its condolences to the family and friends of member David Fuszard who passed away in October after battling illness for some time.

David loved his golf, playing at Sandy and regretted his inability to play in the latter stages of his illness.

Best wishes to his wife Di and family.

Hole In One – Anna Puchalski (and Colin Hunter)

In wild weather conditions on 17 September, Anna Puchalski scored a hole-in-one on the 7th hole.

Congratulations Anna!

Looks pretty cold!

In late breaking news Colin Hunter scored a hole-in-one on the 16th on 15 October. More details next issue.



Some interesting facts about holes-in-one:

- 16% of holes-in-one are made by women, average age is 55, average years of playing is 15, average hole length is 101 meters.
- The odds of making a hole-in-one are 12,500 to 1. For professional golfers, the odds of making a hole-in-one drops to 2,500 to 1.
- Tiger Woods has hit a hole-in-one 20 times in the course of his lifetime, his first at the age of six.
- The clubs that give you the best chance of a hole-in-one are 7, 8 or 9 irons.
- 14% of golfers who achieve a hole-in-one go on to make another

Thanks to Liz Tanzimat for these stats also on our website.

Played the wrong ball recently?

It's easy to do even if you play an unusual ball as some of our members found out recently. John McCarthy hooked tee shot from the 10th tee into the area between the 10th and the 5th. Happy to find the ball John played his second shot only to find a player coming up the 5th who asked had we seen a ball. "What type?" "A Kirkland (the Costco brand)." "What number?" "4". OH! Amazingly we were playing the same brand and number of Kirkland.

This would happen more frequently with more common brands of ball. The lesson is to mark your ball so that it can be clearly identified as your ball. OR...

The penalty for playing a wrong ball is two strokes, and the correction must be made before the player tees off on the next hole. If it is not corrected and the player starts play of the next hole, he/she is disqualified.

The World of Golf October 2022

The Battle for OWGR

The war between the rebel LIV Tour and the golf establishment is being fought on a number of fronts. A key battle is for the coveted OWGR – Official World Golf Ranking. The OWGR determines in part which golfers can get into which tournaments particularly the majors. LIV Golf tournaments do not currently meet the criteria for players to earn OWGR points hence LIV golfers are plummeting down the OWGR charts. The OWGR is jointly managed by all the major tours. Some LIV players can still currently play the Majors because of exemptions they have received e.g. Cameron Smith for his British Open win.



Some OWGR criteria that LIV has trouble meeting:

OWGR	72 holes	A cut after 36 holes	A qualifying process	Field size >75
LIV	54 holes	No cut	None	48 players

LIV is trying a number of things to get its players access to OWGR points (apart from court cases in the US):

- They have formally applied to the OWGR to be recognised. OWGR management have indicated the process might take up to a year.
- LIV has partnered with the Asian Tour to run 10 events as part of an “International series”.
- And in a sneak attack LIV has partnered with the little known (and recently dormant – since Covid) MENA Tour that already has OWGR approval. MENA is the Middle East and North African Tour and has a problematic history of its own. The OWGR has refused to recognise the first two of these LIV/MENA events (played in October) saying there was too little notice.

Big home summer for Australian Golf.

Australian golf is continuing its experiment with different formats with this year's Australian Open to be played over two courses – Kingston Heath and Victoria from 1st to 4th December and to include both the men and women's Open as well as the Australian All Abilities Championship.

The big names lined up to play include Adam Scott, Hannah Green, Lucas Herbert, Geoff Ogilvy, British Women's Open Champion Ashleigh Buhai, Cam Davis and Matt Jones.

Sibling rivalry will be on display when Women's World No. 3 MinJee Lee will play in the same tournament with her rising star brother MinWoo Lee.

Karrie Webb will also tee it up having played some tournaments in the US this year.

Probably the biggest name competing at the tournament will be Cameron Smith not just because he was No. 2 in the world but also because he will be crossing the divide between LIV and the established PGA tours.

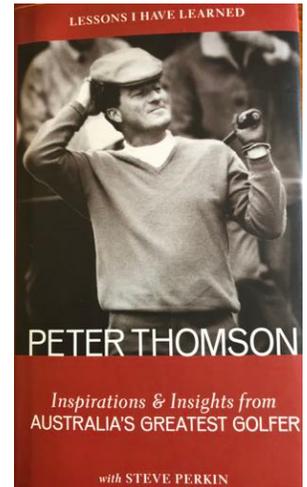
All four days will be played at Victoria Golf Club, with the first two days to also be split across Victoria and Kingston Heath.

Prize money for the men's and women's Opens is equal at \$1.7 million for each event.

Due to the Covid pandemic this will be the first Australian Open since 2020.

More thoughts from Peter Thomson

As mentioned last issue Peter Thomson (5 time British Open Champion) wrote extensively on golf – usually short pieces for newspapers. He held definite views on how the game should be played and didn't hold back. A few more excerpts from the book shown.



Hoping for the unexpected

"I think people watching golf want to see the unexpected, but we, too, often get the opposite ... blast from the tee, the ball doesn't bounce more than a few metres after it lands and the next one sticks in the green like a dart in a dartboard. That's boring not like getting a bad lie and watching them get out of the predicament they themselves got into. That gives people joy."

On marking and cleaning the ball

"Greens should be an adventure. The game should not end when the ball is safely on the green."

On Augusta

"I was a never held in awe by Augusta...It was built on what I always thought was a very poor piece of land... what we in Australia would call a billy-goat track."

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

Sandy PGA Pro Shop

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

Are you licensed to play golf?

Sometimes we take for granted how we play golf in Australia but golfing cultures differ markedly around the world. In some places in Europe playing golf requires a licence!

In Germany all golfers wishing to play require a golfing licence (Platzreife), which is proof of handicap. (Note: Foreign golfers who have proof of handicap do not need the licence.)

The licence examination comes in two parts:

- The practical test: tests driving, putting and chipping skills. Golfers must complete an 18-hole round in 108 strokes or fewer with a certified golf pro
- The written examination: tests knowledge of the rules of golf and golfing etiquette. A minimum of 24 out of 30 correct answers is required to pass. The test is in German

There is a fee for training and taking the Platzreife but its cheaper if you get it in Austria, Italy, Switzerland or Spain. Apparently some golf course developers have tried to get rid of the Platzreife in order to make golf more accessible.

In France it sounds a little easier. A green card (*Carte Verte*) system establishes the handicap of unclassified or new players. After some initial training which is signed off by a pro, the player takes a final test of nine-holes which have to be completed in a limited amount of time; a pro verifies the play. A player who successfully passes the test receives the *Carte Verte*.

The French Golf Federation organises an annual event around Easter to introduce new players to the game of golf. Virtually all golf clubs participate in this and it gives all comers the chance to try out the game under the eye of a teaching professional and with all equipment provided. The event is known as **Tous au Golf** and is advertised by posters and in local newspapers.

A licence and a handicap certificate is formally/notionally required to play golf **in Spain**. Rather than a test of skill/knowledge it appears to be more a payment, which provides some insurance cover as well as revenue to the national and regional golf federations. Having valid insurance is a requirement in Spain. The licence is valid for one year and the costs approximately 80€. Not dissimilar to our Club arrangement here really.

In the **Netherlands** a GVB (Golfvaardigheidsbewijs or golf ability license is a standardised test and licensing process which is needed to be allowed to play on many golf courses in Belgium or the Netherlands. (As far as I know it is not compulsory to play an orange ball in the Netherlands!) The test comprises a written portion and a practical portion. The written portion is twenty questions; five about etiquette, the other fifteen about the rules. The practical portion consists of playing four holes. The player's best three holes are counted; the player must score below 21 to pass the test.

I guess the time-honoured curse "Did you get your licence from the back of cereal packet?" must ring out on the golf courses of Europe.

Caveat: This information is not from experience but from that great source of accurate info – the World Wide Web. Things may have changed since the source articles were posted or the on the ground experience might be different. Or it might look like this!

Signs at a License Bureau in Europe

Marriage

Driving

Fishing

Golf

Poetic



Members have had to deal with all sorts of conditions this spring. The course has held up remarkably well for Saturday rounds considering the large amount of rain that has fallen during the week in October. And then there was this...



No play – fog!

Not something we get to say often but on 27 August play was delayed for 90 minutes when the fog was too thick to allow safe play.

Craig's question was "Can you see the right bunker from the first tee?" Despite a lot of squinting and wishful thinking from the early starters play did not commence til around 8.30am.

