



# **JULY NEWSLETTER**

## **2018**

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### **In this edition:**

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- **Members Draw now \$600**
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- **Casino Night Again – 17 November**
- **2019 Club Championships dates**

### **COMING EVENTS:**

Sundays each week – 9 hole Stableford comp for \$5  
Friday, 13 July – Adrian Whyte, guitarist 6.15-8.15pm  
Saturday, 21 July – Sage & Muntries Menu Night  
Sunday, 29 July – Winter Bridal Spectacular 10am-3pm  
Sunday, 12 August – 1<sup>st</sup> round Attamura Masters  
Tuesday, 25 September – Ladies Open Day  
Monday, 1 October (long weekend) – Gentsomes  
Competition – more info later  
Thursday, 4 October – PRO AM  
Saturday, 17 November – Casino Night  
Thursday, 22 November-Sunday, 25 November – 2018  
Spring Tournament

### **WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS**

The Club's drive to increase membership numbers has been very successful with 50 new members joining our club. If you see a new face about the place, please make them feel welcome and ask them to join in for a game of golf or meals on Friday nights. Our new members will be invited to a "meet and greet"

and information session with the Match Committee as well as receive a Welcome Package in the next few weeks.

Congratulations to Russell Gartner who won a year's membership as part of the competition run in conjunction with the Facebook new drive for members.

### **CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS!!**

#### **Men's Pennant Final:**

The A grade team consisting of Daryl Morgan, Darren Bilney, Darren Coxon, John Gosling, and Joe Clements won their final 3/2 against the Blue Lake Golf Club team at Millicent last month. With matches even at 2 all, a tense time ensued with John Gosling still to complete his match. Finishing square after 18 holes, his calm demeanour kept him on track and became the hero of the day with a win on the 21<sup>st</sup> hole. Congratulations team!!

### Ladies SE Champions of Champions:



After winning the Club's Foursomes Champions event in May, sisters Faye Mainwaring and Helen Gregory travelled to Kingston on June 25 to represent our club in the SE Champions of Champions

Foursomes event. With a top score of 88 off the stick, our girls came home with 2 salvers each for the Foursomes Champions on the day as well as Champions of Champions. A fantastic effort. Faye and Helen are also competing in the annual SA Country Week's events at South Lakes later this month. Good luck!!

### Mitchell Selected for 15 & Under National Championship

After competing in the 2018 Secondary Sport SA 15 and under event at the North Adelaide course last week, Mitchell Handford won the Country Boys division with 171 for 36 holes. With this top win, Mitchell has been selected as a member of the SA team to play in the national championships in NSW from 20-24 November. Congratulations Mitchell for flying the flag for Mount Gambier, the only country representative and we wish you all the best.

### ADRIAN WHYTE RETURNS



Over the last couple of years, Adrian Whyte has performed at the club on a Friday night. He is a guitarist and is popular with our

members and visitors and if you wish to catch him again this Friday night for a meal, bookings are essential. Phone the club on 87257739 or book on line through the club's website.

### THE ATTAMURRA MASTERS

The first round of the Attamurra Masters is due to commence on Sunday, 12 August. Information has been distributed earlier and payment for entry is required before the first round is played.

There are substantial prizes for the overall placegetters from 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> with 12 months membership or equivalent house account voucher for the first 3 prizes followed by house account vouchers of varying value for prizes 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>.

It is based on the aggregate of the best 3 stableford rounds played out of 4 over a series of months. There will be 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes for each daily round - \$100, \$75, \$50 house account vouchers respectively.

### Dates planned for this Masters are as follows:

Sunday, 12 August

Sunday, 18 November

Sunday, 17 February, 2019

Sunday, 5 May 2019 which will include presentations.

**Cost of Entry:** \$200 which includes lunch after each round. **Entry Fee payable at Membership Renewal to confirm numbers.**

Anyone wanting more information can speak to Camilla in the office.

### MEMBERS DRAW

The draw is attracting interest as it increases to \$600 this Friday night but to claim the money, you will need to be at the club to receive it. This is a great chance to have a fun night with music as entertainment.

### 2018 SPRING TOURNAMENT

**Thursday, 22 November**

4 ball better ball against Par for men and ladies

**Friday, 23 November**

9 hole Stableford with Friday night meals, draw to follow

**Saturday, 24 November**

18 holes SE Men's Open Championship Stroke for A and B grades

18 holes Men's Stableford for C & D grades

18 holes Ladies Stableford

**Sunday, 25 November**

2 person MG Ambrose Championship

As you will see, reasons for not having the Tournament on the long weekend in October are:

- Membership numbers declining
- Player participation declining
  - 2015 - 49 competitors, 36 holes
  - 2016 - 124 competitors MG Open 18 holes (not on long weekend)
  - 2017 - 50 competitors over 36 holes.
- Sponsorship not attractive to sponsors with small fields.
- Players won't travel to play golf anymore
- Hole in 1 incentive over 2 years failed to attract more players
- Feedback received not interested in playing 36 holes in one day.
- Families with visitors for the long weekend, some members still travelling north
- Members are time poor
- School Holidays commence at the end of September
- Students in sports teams – regional and interstate, families travel to support children
- Tournament is still in the spring season, not clashing with other events in the district
- Pro Am scheduled for 4 October, seeking sponsorship - demanding for 2 top events
- Wedding reception will be held in the clubhouse on Saturday of the long weekend
- Clash with AFL football final – players have social functions, BBQs, etc on that day
- Demographics are much different to years ago, main category of members in 60+.

With these changes in dates, it is hoped that the Spring Tournament will be more suitable for players to participate in and we look forward to November when the course will be in excellent condition to showcase our course.

#### Match Committee

#### COURSE ENHANCEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Golf course architect, Neil Crafter was at the club last week to finalise planning for the Course Enhancement Plan. The planning is now complete and we are awaiting Neil to put it all together and deliver it to the club. We expect this to be in the next 3 - 4 weeks. Whilst here, Neil met with the CEP working party and toured the course to clarify and check all the final details and offer advice. We are sure the wait will be worth it and look forward to the members having the opportunity to finally see it.

See Craig Gillin's report on fairways at end of this newsletter.

#### SAGE & MUNTRIES NIGHTS

These have been popular with Graeme Armstrong presenting his menus from his former restaurant, Sage and Muntries. Graeme, who is employed by the club has increased income considerably with his catering, both inside and outside the club. All revenue received from these bookings goes directly to the club and we are very fortunate to have him on our staff. The next Sage & Muntries night is Saturday, 21 July but **bookings are essential**.

#### ANOTHER CASINO NIGHT IN NOVEMBER

After very positive feedback from the last Casino Night in April, the Blackjack Knights are going to return on **17 November**. We have increased the tables to 2 black jack tables, the wheel, Texas Poker, and Roulette. If you missed out last time, book this date on your calendar. If your workplace is planning a Christmas Show, perhaps for something different, a night of fun and a chance to win a great prize could be just the thing.

Cost will be \$60 per head, with supper provided.



Tickets must be paid for prior to the night, upon arrival you will be issued with your 2 tickets and \$2000 worth of chips will be given to you at your first table. Extra chips can be purchased from the bar for \$10. There will be more information as the time nears. Information can be obtained from Camilla in the office.

#### 2018 PRO AM – OCTOBER 4

This year's Pro Am is scheduled for Thursday, 4 October. The reason being a mid week event is it will be a warm up event to a Victorian Pro Am to be held in Horsham on the following weekend. This should attract a high quality field and once again, a great spectacle. A dinner will follow the day's event.

Last year, members were a great support to help run this event and if you are able to assist with sponsorship or behind the scenes work, please contact Craig Davis in the Pro Shop – he would love to hear from you.

## 2019 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS DATES

The Match Committee have set the dates for next year's Club Championships:

### Men:

Saturday, 16 and 23 March – qualifying rounds

Saturday, 30 March – quarter finals

Saturday, 6 April – semi finals

Sunday, 7 April – finals played in all grades

### Ladies:

Wednesday, 20 and 27 March – qualifying rounds

Wednesday, 3 April – semi finals

Sunday, 7 April – finals played in all grades

The same format as this year will follow for trophy presentations and dinner in the clubhouse following completion of matches.



## COURSE REPORT – IRRIGATION WATER

The course is well and truly in the depths of winter now. So far, the dormant couch fairways are holding up well. This year we had a better coverage going into the winter so the playability is at a better standard than other years. The newly sprigged areas are going to take some time to mature and this season ahead should see them flourish.

I have recently had some testing done on our irrigation water and it returned with some interesting information. As with most bore water in this area, it has a high bicarbonate level. High amounts of bicarbonates to your soil are toxic to the roots and reduce shoot growth. They reduce the effectiveness of fungicides and insecticides. It can also reduce the uptake of phosphorous and many other micronutrients that grasses need. Bicarbonates act like a glove around the soil nutrients and they also do not let the plant uptake calcium. Calcium is an important building block in the plant just like our body. If we break a bone, it is slow to repair. In turf, if the plant is damaged with climate or when we mow, it needs to recover. A locked up soil has trouble replenishing the calcium it needs to get to the plant to repair itself.

I have been running a greens maintenance program which incorporates the amendments that are required to balance out the issues with our water. This has had tremendous results. I am now looking to extend this to our fairways to give them some vigour and growth during the summer growing period. The growing profile of our couch has struggled for a while with nutrients locked up in the soil. The theory of the more water you put on, the more it will grow is actually working in reverse. Finding the balance of the right amounts of amendments to fertiliser to water is what we will be working on this year. I will be striving to have a quality playing surface by the end of the summer.

**Craig Gillin, Greenkeeper**