



CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

January/February 2010

1. Development / The Course.

Planting of all playing surfacing is now complete on the remaining 7 holes and this recent weather has certainly helped with the growing in of these holes. Expect plenty of activity over the next few months with the new Pro Shop, Car Park and Clubhouse Refurbishment works due to be commenced. The first of these items will be some external works to the Clubhouse with the sealing and spraying of the roof, new guttering and painting.

The Buggy Shed has seen its first occupants move in over the last couple of days, spaces remain available for rent to any interested members please contact the office for details.

Problems with the Cart paths have been noted by the Board and investigations are currently underway as to the best methods to employ in order to improve course access for buggies in wet weather, we are also looking at some improvements that can be made to help make the walk around the course a more pleasant experience.

Hand watering and the very hot weather during the Christmas break has taken its toll on the present second green (old 6th) resulting in the front half of the green only being useful for pin placements.

The strategy of verticutting and dusting the new 11 greens has been successful in producing a much improved putting surface. The present lies on the fairway are indicative of how good this velvetene grass can be.

The next renovation of greens is early March.

2. Calendar of Events 2010.

The golf program for this year boasts a number of "new" sponsored days. A lot of continuing sponsorships are simply a "thank-you" for the support from club members. I suppose that putting the business name forward for that weekend also reminds members that they have done their part of the deal.

"Newies" include Savco, Ipswich Pet and Aquarium, Crawford Crash Repairs, Herbert / Bullock, and Dr Peter Moran.

Our heartfelt "thank you" goes out to all event sponsors for 2010.

Club Championships are programmed for May 8, May 15 and the weekend of May 22/23.....all over in 3 weeks weather permitting!

3. Website.

If you use the IGC website you will be aware of certain limitations it has regarding publishing daily golf results. This will all change in the near future with the "re-vamping" of this site to also include "on-line timesheet bookings" and a whole new improved look. At the time of adoption, guided "lessons" will be given to members not familiar with computer usage.

4. The Slope Handicapping System.

I know you will not be surprised to know that Feb. will **not** be the starting date for rolling out the first part of this new system. Any further news of the delay will be published in ensuing newsletters. Early indications pointed to a start in a few months time.

5. Hazard Rules.

Confusion still exists with many players regarding “RED” and “YELLOW” hazard areas. Disqualification can result if the rules are not adhered to. Here are some essential basics again.

If you decide to play the ball from the hazard, it is not permissible to remove any obstacles near the ball or even ground your club during practice swings in that area.

A yellow hazard in most cases has a “dropping zone” which solves the point of entry dilemma. The other option refers to deciding on where the ball last crossed the hazard line and then keeping that point and the flag in line and going back as far as you desire for the drop.

A red hazard (lateral) is usually beside the fairway so going back in line is not an option. Instead, the player needs to decide the last point where the hazard line was crossed and then drop within 2 club-lengths.

There are other issues that could be discussed here - the most important being the player’s other option being to drop a ball (or tee up on a tee shot) as close as possible to the original spot.

Hitting into a hazard (both types) is a 1 shot penalty keeping in mind the original shot has to be counted as well. However, playing from the hazard requires no extra penalty.

6. Quick-fire Info.

- a. The bunker on the RHS of the present 4th green (old 7th) is no longer GUR and is back in play. Repairs are still in progress with the bunker in the back of the present 16th green- a ditch drain is required to take away water from the slope leading into that bunker.
- b. The dead tree dumped on the RHS of the present 14th hole is to be cut up and removed in the next week.
- c. “Swingers” will no longer operate in team matches of 2 or more players and a single competition will be held instead to ensure the “odd one out” gets a game.
- d. Junior Clinics for beginners are back operating on Wednesday afternoons. A late Saturday afternoon competition is also planned to sustain interest. Parent supervisors are still required. Please contact the pro-shop staff for enrolments or supervision support.
- e. Start of the year special for Sub-Junior Membership. Membership Fees have been reduced from \$52 to **only \$15 a whopping 70% off**. The sub-junior category is for any child 13 years or younger.
- f. A review of monies allocated to daily trophies/ rundown is currently underway and players should see benefits in this area as the year progresses.

GOOD GOLFING!

Wayne Ziebell (Captain)