

Sandgate Golf Club Newsletter

13 August 2016

Welcome to new members – Welcome to all new members of the Club over the last few months. We hope you all enjoy your experience at Sandgate and hope you find many new friends amongst us. A special welcome back to the Club to Junior member Zac Caldwell. Zac turned up to buy some balls to use for a bit of a social hit on a Sunday morning a few weeks ago, and then the next week he was a part of our Junior Pennant's Team playing at Jindalee! And of course last week he won the Pro Pin with the closest shot on the first hole!

Competition cards – A reminder to all players that your card for the round must be handed in at the completion of your round and put through the computer (where relevant), as soon as possible after you have finished to assist with the closing of the competition and awarding of the winner/s. Cards must not be taken away from the course at any time and if you do so, you will be disqualified from the competition. If for some reason you can't enter the card yourself on a Saturday, please hand it to somebody behind the bar (eg Anita), and I will make sure it gets entered for you. On a couple of occasions over the last month or so we have had players complete their rounds but their scores were not entered through the computer, but their cards ended up in the box. This caused a lengthy delay at the end of the day when I tried to tally up the number of players who played against the number of scores entered.

Checking scores entered into computer - Just another request on this, please double check the entry of your score into the computer system before you hit the "Save Your Score" button. Almost every Saturday there is at least one, sometimes a couple of cards that have a different score entered on the computer to what appears on the card. This also takes a fair bit of time to find the card, double check the scores entered before the competition can be closed off. Remember you always need to enter the number of shots you had on an individual hole, not the Stableford score you had on the hole into the computer. The computer will calculate the score for you and hopefully it will match the score you have on the card. If it doesn't the computer is generally correct and most likely you will need to amend your scorecard to show the correct score. Thanks for your assistance with this, it will save me some time at the end of the Saturday afternoon when I try to close off the competition.

Pro Pin – Just another reminder that the proceeds of the "Pro Pin" in the Saturday competitions actually go to assisting the Pennant's Team who are representing the Club at the moment on Sunday mornings. For just \$1 you have the chance to win 6 Titleist Golf Balls if you finish up closest to the Pin on the nominated hole of the day. This is open to both men and ladies.

Monthly Medal Barbeque – Whilst we talk about Fundraising, a huge thank you to Gavan and Trent Knapp, Bruce Andrews and the other helpers from time to time who help out by hosting the Sausage Sizzle on Monthly Medal days. This money goes straight to the Club and of course is used to help improve the quality of facilities provided at the Club and on the Course. Thanks to Gavan for a great idea!

Website – Remember to check out our website www.sandgategc.com.au and visit the "Results Page" which contains a listing of all the previous competitions held over the last 2 years or so. New results will be posted online before 7pm on Saturday evenings following the competition and as soon as I can get them uploaded during the week. This newsletter is also displayed on the website, click on the "Home" page and then "2016 Newsletters".

Competitions and Member's Guests - Saturday's Competition is for members and their guests only. Guests must be accompanied by the member who has asked them to play with them. Visitors must have a current AGU Handicap to play. Also please remember we have a 'Medley' (both men and ladies) Stableford competition at the Club every

Wednesday which is open to all members and their guests. On the first Thursday of the Month we also have a "Club Day" where we hold a Stroke / Stableford competition run on alternative months. The next competition will be a Stableford competition on Thursday 1st September. All of you are welcome to play in either of these competitions!

Golf etiquette – Over the last month I have received a couple of reports of players hitting up on the group in front of them, and of players playing on the wrong fairway preceding to hit in front of a group coming up the correct fairway. Hopefully everyone is aware that the players playing on the correct fairway have 'right of way' to players who need to enter a different fairway to play their next shot. Sometimes you may be offered to take the shot by the group on the correct fairway as they are waiting for the group in front of them, but please don't expect this and remember that they have the 'right of way' after all.

Course maintenance – Please, please, please do not drive on the new turf when it is placed around the course. A couple of members were observed to be driving their motorised buggies across the recently laid turf on the Men's 15th tee about 2 months ago, about 3 days after it was laid. Whilst we don't have the resources or time to place stakes and rope around this new work every time we place new turf on the course, we are hoping members would have had enough common sense to stay off the new work. Having said this, the area where this new turf was placed is a "teeing ground" and it is a place where motorized buggies and carts need to be kept at least 5 metres away from anyway. It is only common sense to do these things to keep the course in as good condition as we can. When we start to place new turf on the fairways in the coming growing season, this area will likely be kept wet to assist the growing of the new turf, we ask that everyone stays off this new work with their buggies. We appreciate your assistance with this! The Committee would like to remind all players that it is their responsibility at all times to keep motorized carts at least 10 metres from all tees and greens (except where a designated path exists). Single person buggies should never be ridden on a green, or the fringe of a green – please go around. Action will be taken when people are seen to be not following these rules from now on.

Change to the Out of Bounds Area 1st Tee & 9th / 18th Green – The Greens Director, Steve Jeffery would like all members to be aware that there has been a change to the 'Out of Bounds' area bounded by the 1st fairway, the storage shed compound near the practice green and the bitumen path running towards the ladies 1st / 10th tees. Please have a look at the new markers which have been moved from near the practice driving net behind the 9th / 18th Green, to the back of the practice green along the fence where the storage compound is. The main change for this is that the area surrounding the practice driving net is no longer 'out of bounds' from the Men's first tee, and players finding themselves in this area will be able to play out from the area without having to rehit from the 1st tee (with a penalty). Also balls travelling through the 9th / 18th green will no longer be 'out of bounds' if they end up on the cart path / practice green. If you have any questions about this, please ask a member of the Committee.

Please call the Clubhouse if you see non-members behaving irresponsibly on the course – About six weeks or so ago we had an incident on the course during the week where some social players acted irresponsibly and damaged some of the Club's equipment, costing us quite a sum of money in repairs. At the time there were quite a few members of the Club on the course so it is likely that somebody would have seen these individuals up to no good. Whilst we do not expect member's of the Club to approach these individuals when they are acting irresponsibly, we would appreciate it if member's who witness this stupid behaviour, could call the Office on their phone and notify us of what is going on out on the course. One of our gentlemen on staff at the time will then attend and take the appropriate action like asking the individuals to leave the course immediately. Thanks for your support with this!

Fence repairs – The Committee has approved a quote to get some repairs done to the perimeter fence around the course. This is to fix some parts of the fences that have been damaged by machinery, falling limbs from trees and vandalism for people trying to enter the course. One part of the fence that is going to be repaired that might

inconvenience some of us, is the part that links the car park to the buggy sheds near the first tee. We are going to repair this part of the fence to stop social players from arriving at the car park, climbing under the fence and making their way around the course without coming into the office to pay their green fees. We also have reason to believe the people involved with the incident mentioned above exited the course through the hole in the fence, so we are taking steps to stop this from happening again. We understand this may inconvenience some members, so we are asking for your understanding in respect of this. The cost of repairing the fences is not cheap, so please respect the Committee's decision and don't willfully damage this entry point again.

Please always see the office before hitting off for a round of social golf / practice – A requirement of your membership at this Club, as it is at almost every Golf Club is to pop your head in the door of the Office and notify the person on duty that you are here to play a social round, even if it is only for a couple of holes. The Club has a Health and Safety obligation to everybody who is on the course, so that in case of an incident we know who is on the course / premises at all times. So I take this opportunity to remind everybody of their responsibility to pop in and at least say a friendly and courteous hello to whoever is behind the counter at the time.



Facebook – A Sandgate Golf Club page has existed on Facebook for some time, but only late last year was it "taken over" by the Committee and it is now under our control. This means that we can use this page to advertise our course a bit better, both on Facebook and of course to the local community. We also plan to recognise major competition winners to the Club's members and to their Facebook friends. So if you or your partner/spouse is "on" Facebook, please "like" the Club's page and you will receive a notification when we post something on the site. A great way to keep in touch with what is happening at YOUR Club!

Increases to fees for next year – At its meeting earlier this week, the Committee made a decision to increase the fees payable for rejoining members for the next financial year (payable by 30/09/2016) by only 2% to 2.5%. Obviously the costs to run the Club are still increasing but we are conscious of the economic climate at present and want to limit the increase in fees to members by as little as possible. The final figures are being calculated and will be circulated to member's by the Treasurer/Secretary/Manager (he must be a busy man) by the end of August / very early September.

I hope you enjoy the rest of your golfing year at Sandgate!

Brett Forrest

Mens Captain

(On behalf of the Management Committee)



