

Sandgate Golf Club Newsletter

22 October 2016

Competition scores – The Committee noted at its meeting earlier this week, a number of player's scores over the last month or two that appear to be outside of the normal "average" score you would generally expect a group of players to have. I have also heard some reports (third hand) of players openly breaking the rules or doing 'unusual things' whilst on the course that should have been picked up by the other players in their group. The Committee noted that some of these scores have occurred during the current Club Championships. Whilst it may be coincidental, the Committee thought it is a great time to write to all members of the Club to remind them of their duties as a marker of a card in a competition.

The duties of a marker is not just to write down the score given to you by the player whose card you are scoring, but it is to ensure the player whose card you are marking has played their round of golf in accordance with the Rules of Golf and the local rules of the Club as notified on the white board situated on the western wall of the downstairs "Pro Shop" facing the 9th green. This means that you need to ensure the player whose card you are marking does (for example);

- not take more than a card length when they take a preferred lie (local rule),
- not take a drop from a bare patch when they are not on the fairway they are playing (local rule),
- take a drop in the correct place after they have entered a water hazard,
- go back to where they last hit their ball if it goes out of bounds or is "deemed to be lost",
- not touch anything if they are playing a ball inside the red markers defining a hazard,
- not ground their club in a bunker before they play their shot, and
- at the end of the hole they have counted all of their shots and penalties incurred on that hole.

It sounds like an onerous job, but that is the responsibilities of a marker at a Golf Club. It is also requested that all players in the group keep an eye on the other players in the group to ensure that they are following the rules and challenge them if they think they may have miscounted their score on the hole. A good practice to get into is for the player to announce how many strokes they have had when they are picking up their ball from the hole. At that time the player's marker or another player in the group can discuss and help the player count their shots and ensure the correct score is entered onto the scorecard. Thanks for your assistance with this matter and in helping to ensure everybody playing at our Club is playing by the same rules, making it a fair competition for all.



Awards Night and Dinner – This year we have decided to have our Annual Awards night on **Friday 2nd December** so please keep this date free. On this night we will have a sit down meal with a drink or two in the upstairs Club House with partners and family members welcome to attend. All Honour Board winners from the 2016 year will receive their prizes and awards on this night. Starting time will be around 7pm. We hope to see you all there. Look out for a poster at the Club in the near future which will give you further details as we draw closer to the night.

Annual General Meeting – A reminder that the AGM will be held on Sunday 11th December from **9am**. Please keep this date free and turn up to show your support to the Committee that runs the Club on your behalf.

Men – 4th Round of Club Championships – Like we did last year for the fourth round of the Club Championships, the top 4 players in each grade after the completion of Round 3, will be “seeded” and will play in the same group next Saturday morning from approximately 10:20am in the 4th Round. Brett will work out the order of rank on Saturday evening and will contact the 12 or so players (4 in each grade) on Sunday afternoon to confirm your tee time. Please plan ahead now if you have a chance of making into the top four **GROSS** scores and prepare for your Round to start from around 10:20am next week. Good luck to all players involved!

Saturday Members Competition / Ladies Competition – At its September Committee meeting, the Committee made a decision that where the Club is playing a “Partnered event” (4 BBB, 2 Ball Ambrose, 2 Ball Aggregate etc) on a Saturday, and a lady plays with a man as a partnership, that couple will be entered into the ‘Member’s Competition’ for that day. The ‘Member’s Competition’ is the one open to all Member’s and Visitors of the Club, where as the Ladies Competition is just for the Ladies. This decision was made to formalise the situation we have used a couple of times this year. So in the future if you are down to play with a male in a partnered or group event, your score will be included in the Member’s Competition. This arrangement will not change the situation for the ladies who choose to play with other ladies in a partnered event - they will still play in the Ladies Competition.

Naturally any Nearest the Pins and Second Shots to the Pins remain as the ‘Men’s Pins’ and the ‘Ladies Pins’, regardless of whether the player is playing in the Member’s competition or the Ladies competition. The Pins are to be seen as being gender based – it is only fair way for this to be done.

Thanks for the great year - As this is likely to be the last Newsletter of the year, Vicki, myself and the Committee would like to thank you all for the great year we have had at the Sandgate Golf Club. Congratulations to the Honour Board and other Event winners throughout the year. We hope to see you all at the Awards Night / Dinner and the Annual General Meeting.



Brett Forrest
Mens Captain
(On behalf of the Management Committee)

Vicki Gannon
Ladies Captain