



October Newsletter

From the President - Jennie Hehir

According to the weather forecast, the rain will continue for the next few months. It goes without saying that this tampers the enjoyment of bowls and golf. Here's hoping we can all squeeze in some typical spring sunny days amongst the storms. Ben and the team are challenged with these conditions, however they have managed to commence the bunker drainage program which I'm sure you are all impressed with.

Staffing shortages are still taxing and I trust you may continue to remain patient

when existing and new staff members cannot assist you in a prompt timeframe.

The Board and I look forward to presenting the 2022 financial figures to you at the upcoming AGM to be hold on Tuesday, October 25.

Tom Wilton and Bruce McCallum decided not to re-stand for the board. I thank them for their input over what has been a very difficult time.

We look forward to seeing them around the club and on the golf course.

We welcome Mat McLeod to the board and the return of Peter Taylor and Bernie Clements.

There will be an election shortly for the Club golf Captain and the supporting golf committee. I encourage you to cast your vote.

In closing I thank Paul and his team of staff for their conscientious efforts towards our fabulous Club.



CEO Report - Paul Gemmill

I want to start by saying thankyou to those that have supported the Club throughout the winter months, as we welcome back our Members who travelled away and hope you had a wonderful holiday.

We have had a couple of very wet and cooler months in a row that did lead to some issues with our green's playability and appearance. Our course staff have been constantly monitoring them over the past months and maintenance

practices have had to be amended to assist the greens through this period.

As I write this they are already coming back, and we are now rolling regularly again but the rain has been relentless, so we thank you for your understanding.

However, anecdotally all our golf package visitors have unanimously praised our courses condition considering this current climate of wet and cold weather with many of our visitor's home courses closed for many weeks due to the incredibly wet conditions.

The closest regularly updated rain gauges in Cobram paint the picture of how wet is has been with 160mm of rain in August and September compared to the 88mm average for those months. In the same period last year, we had 83mm.

The potholes both on the cart paths and roadways became an issue to keep on top of especially with much of the labor force banging away at our bunker drainage program which has been a great success and timely considering the rain we have had.

Our Club recently signed an agreement with our great partner at Berrigan Shire to help us with the upkeep of our driveways and car parks so we will soon have a system in place to keep our roadways in a more consistently safer condition.

The clubhouse was rocking over the colder months, and not just with our wonderful Members, some of whom have returned from winter expeditions to the north. Holidaying golf groups, sponsored football/netball clubs and local social members were all here in great numbers.

Lastly, if you are like me and prefer golf in the warmer months, bring it on! It's golf season.

From the Pro Shop - Marty Walsh

What a jam-packed few months we have had in the pro shop and it is only looking to get busier as the warmer months approach.

We started in August with the Singles Knockout which was taken out by Rod Simms, who defeated Wayne Youlten in an excellent final. Later in August, we held one of our marquee events, the Tocumwal Open. A big thankyou to all those

who competed in the 2-day event, and also to the sponsor of the event, Tocumwal Golf Resort, your support is greatly appreciated.

September was busy too, with the Men's and Women's 27-hole Championships, the Betty Senior Classic and the Spring Tournament. Again, thank you to all those who make the effort to join these events. September also saw us host a Scramble event, which had 17 teams take part. The winners of the day then played in the regional final on the weekend just gone at Keysborough in Melbourne, losing on a countback. Our Junior Club Championships were also played over the weekend, and was won by Olivia Thompson, who played some great golf.

Finally, congratulations to Nev Finn and Bobette Wilkinson who took out this year's Men's and Women's Star Medals, this is a great effort and something to be proud of.

This week we have the pinnacle of Club events beginning, the Club Championships. I wish all players competing the very best of luck and can't wait to see who takes out the titles this year.

As we roll on into the warmer months, the course is going to be extremely busy, so I ask all of our Members to please call the pro shop or book online whenever you want to have a hit. We don't want anyone to miss out, and this is the best way to ensure that.

The Super's Summary - Ben Lucas

As we look back over the winter it is pleasing to see how much work has been accomplished on the golf course. All but one bunker on the Captains front has had subsurface drainage installed along with a herringbone system on the approach to the 6 Captains Green. This equates to over 1km of drainage in the ground and with the wet start to spring the benefits are noticeable when compared to the other 27 holes that haven't been started.

Works on the reshaping of the Presidents 10th tee are well under way, with turf laid on Tuesday 4th of October. A decision on whether the Tee will be opened for Club Championships will depend on how well the turf responds to being cut, transported, and laid. There will be a concrete track installed on this tee as well along with a new creek crossing all on the right-hand side so that cart traffic will

no longer be required near the road. The timeline on the completion of the track is dependent on when we can design a suitable bridge crossing. In the meantime, a temporary gravel track will be laid so that golf carts are not required to drive on the newly laid turf. Access across the creek will be via driving around the ladies tee and using the existing crossing as per the diagram below.



CONTROLLING
GOLF DESIGN

Tocumwal Golf Club, Conceptual Plan for 10th tees
Presidents Course September 2022

TOCUMWAL
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

The new 'Graham Thomas' bare rooted roses that have been planted along side 18 Captains are looking healthy after planting. The addition of new steel edging and mulch compost finalises work for the moment in this garden.

With these jobs nearing completion our focus on the course will be to attend to course maintenance and presentation.

Over the course of winter some areas of the greens thinned out which can be attributed to several factors. These range from the reduction of soil temperatures, reduced growth, shade affected greens, above average rainfall, herbicide applications for moss and pearlwort issues together with increased traffic via higher rounds of golf. To remedy this over the past 12 weeks numerous practices have been undertaken to assist the greens to recovery. Including but not limited to; raising the height of cut, eliminating growth regulators, reducing the amount of rolling, solid tyne aeration and applications of penetrating wetting agents to allow the movement of water through the soil profile. Along with the addition of foliar amino acids and potassium-based fertiliser the turf is on its way to recovery. Light frequent applications of sand dusting will encourage the sward of grass to fill in although this can only be achieved when weather conditions are favourable.

With over 40mm of rain forecast for this week I remind all members and guests to please be considerate of wet areas throughout the golf course. With the soil already at field capacity any additional rainfall greatly slows the infiltration rate of moisture through the soil profile. Some fairways have been roped off completely for course protection and an assessment will be made as conditions change. When possible, I would ask that we try to keep a maximum of 2 carts per group, as it will greatly reduce the traffic areas around the course through the coming weeks as we hopefully begin to dry out.

With the rainfall that we are receiving potholes are inevitable, with this in mind all tracks have been smudged and rolled last week so please try and keep carts to designated tracks around the course and always keep golf carts off the mown surrounds around the greens.

Thankyou and good luck to all participating in the upcoming Club Championships.

Bowls News - Judy Tonini

What a busy three months we've had on the greens!

The Thursday mixed pairs has come to an end now, but we welcomed players from other Clubs from around the District, who came back weekly to enjoy the game, friendship and camaraderie. The question on most of the players each week seemed to be "what's the soup of the day". Our kitchen staff did an amazing job of the 'soup and sandwich' lunch, with Linda as both sandwich-maker and soup-server! Great job!

With Thursday pairs out of the way, our 'Bowling Bobby' Bowman got stuck into organizing Barefoot Bowls on a Monday night, and from all accounts, everyone loves the competition. You don't have to be a Bowls Club member to play on a Monday night, but it's great to see that some people have enjoyed it so much, they have now taken advantage of the Introductory Offer to start them on their way of becoming a full Bowls Club Member! We love new Members!!

We opened the season on 3rd September and everyone was given their Syllabus and District information booklets. If you did happen to miss out, please ask Donna Carter or Trish Small to supply you with them. Special thanks to those two ladies for all their hard work in putting the Syllabus together.

The people who migrate north for the winter have returned to Tocumwal, in preparation for Pennant and Board Event season.

Ladies 100-Up competition was won by Leigh Hanson, who was challenged in the Grand Final by Cheryl Townsing. Congratulations Leigh.

Men's 100-Up was won by John Wilson, challenged by Rod Brown. Well done, John and welcome back to the Club, Rod.

Special thanks must go to the Match Committees for their efforts with the Board Events, which, of course, are ongoing.

Pennant practice is in full swing, and we must thank Chris Philpott for all the effort he puts in to training us for the competition. Chris is amazing, and only too willing to give private lessons if you have anything that needs tweaking, or help with any aspect of the game. I don't know what we would do without you, Chris! Please respect Chris, and the Selection Committees, and if you want to play Pennant and represent our Club, it's important to come to practice. Also, Sunday 9th October, Chris will be participating in a charity event for Tocumwal CanAssist. He is going to bowl for 12 hours, with 12 different partners, and all funds will go to the Tocumwal branch. Please do come along and support Chris's efforts. Phil and Sue Hodge will be 'shaking the tins' so you will be able to support an exceptionally worthy cause.

The highlight of the last quarter was our inaugural Queens of the Greens two-day tournament. We were so thrilled to have 72 ladies participating, and we are absolutely confident that next year we will have a lot more. Thanks to all members of the Ladies Match Committee for all their assistance, Judy Harvie, and special thanks to Bob Bowman and Ian Cameron for their efforts in regards to scoring etc. Bob worked tirelessly on this Tournament and it was a joy for me to work with him. Thanks must also go to Bloom Hearing for sponsoring our Gala Dinner, and Henselite for presenting each player with a water-bottle. It was good to hear that quite a few free hearing tests were given.

Shepparton Bowls Shop had a wonderful pop-up shop, and they were delighted with the results. Again – we promoted to other district clubs, so people came from all around to buy their clothes, bowls and equipment.

The Club did us proud during the tournament and we have had compliments galore from the ladies who joined us. The kitchen and wait staff did an absolutely amazing job, the nicely decorated closed-off area (near the big screen) made us feel very private. Three cheers for the staff, as there was another golfing dinner in

a private area, right beside us, and you would never have known.

When I passed on our thanks to Paul Gemmill, CEO, he told me he was very proud of everyone, because they were under-staffed, and everyone put their best foot forward and just go on with the job. Thanks Paul, Veronica, Jillien, Jacinta, Steve and Jacob, amongst others. Apologies if I haven't mentioned you personally, but please know that we organisers were very grateful for your help in making our event such a great success. That's what teamwork is all about.

Thanks must also go to our Greens committee. They did a mighty job in presenting the greens, so thank you to Ron, Peter, Mal, Kath and Col (these two did a very important job – removing the duck droppings). Chris Philpot de-frosted the greens on both days. I do hope I haven't missed anyone, because we are all so grateful for all the work you put in for us.

Midweek Pennant starts on 11th October (gosh – where has the year gone?) and Saturday Pennant starts on 15th October. Wishing every division great success for the coming season.

There is another thank-you I must make. Mal and Dianne Bartsch have very kindly painted all the light posts, giving the greens a nice new fresh look. Thanks to the two of you, because Dianne isn't even a Bowler! The things we do for love, hey Dianne??

On Wednesday, 5th and 12th October, our Club is hosting the Over 60's Ladies State Championships – a very prestigious event! Let's hope the rain stays away for both days. Good luck to all our ladies who are participating.

Welcome to a few new members, Gary Mott, Pam Gallagher, Dee Caughey, Geoff Mears, Spencer Rutherford and Introductory members, Trevor and Joanne Hibbert. We really hope you enjoy your time at the Club for a very long time.

More next time.....in the meantime, see you on the greens.

**From the Captain -
Ros Seymour**

September has a been a busy month at TGBC starting with the Betty Senior Ladies Classic. Entries were down on previous years with 56 players from many

Clubs. Congratulations to the winner Rebecca Thomas from Leongatha with our own Jill Loversidge taking out the C-grade 36-hole event.

Then came the Spring Tournament and thankfully three fine days for the event. A wonderful weekend was had by all.

With the rain we have had over the last month our course is quite wet so we ask all who drive golf carts to keep to the rough and not drive through the wet fairways.

I am looking for Ladies for the GMGA 4BBB Pennant which is due to start in mid October and run through November. If interested please give me a call or see me around the Club.

Twilight is due to start on Thursday, October 20. This is a team event with four players per team. Please register at the pro shop for this.

Supporting our Community

As part of the ClubGrants initiative, Tocumwal Golf and Bowls Club are proud to announce the major funding of both the Tocumwal Public School and Tocumwal Lions Hostel for upcoming projects.

Pictured is Tocumwal Public School Principal Darren White, and Tocumwal Lions Hostel Manager Jeff Hay with Club President Jennie Hehir. Throughout the year Tocumwal Golf and Bowls Club have proudly injected over \$27,000 back into supporting the community.



Upcoming Events

TGBC AGM

You are hereby notified that the Annual General Meeting of Tocumwal Golf & Bowls Club Limited will be held at the Tocumwal Golf & Bowls Club in the Clubhouse on
Tuesday 25 October 2022 at 6.00pm

General Golf AGM

You are hereby notified that the Annual General Meeting for the General Golf Committee of Tocumwal Golf & Bowls Club Limited will be held at the Tocumwal Golf & Bowls Club in the Clubhouse
on **Tuesday 25 October 2022**,
directly preceding the Club AGM, which is scheduled for a 6pm start.

IT'S TIME FOR
TOP 10
TUESDAY

10

10 PRIZES TO WIN
&
\$10 DINNER SPECIALS

Starting Tuesday, June 28 at 6.30pm

2022 Presentation Night & Gala Dinner

Tickets are now available to purchase for our 2022 Golf Presentation Night & Gala Dinner.

This is a fantastic night to celebrate the year that was at the golf club, as all of the winners of our major events are acknowledged.

The night includes a two-course meal as well as entertainment by Charlotte Gemmill.

The dress code is semi-formal with the cost of a ticket being \$60 per person.

To book your ticket for the night, contact our reception team either in person or by phone on 5874 9111.



Twilight Golf



TWILIGHT GOLF

Every Thursday from
20th October

\$5 Entry Fee 4.30pm for 5.00pm

2 for 1 dinner available afterwards separately

Teams of 4 - Enter at Pro Shop or Golfers Notice Board

If you wish to be an emergency, please give
your name & number to the Pro Shop

Pro Shop : 5874 9172 Website : www.clubtocumwal.com

