

## **PREFERRED LIES:**



**Harrington Waters Golf Club Inc.  
“NEWSLETTER”**

27<sup>th</sup> May, 2021

Hi members,

Since the last “Preferred Lies” we have experienced the worst wet weather conditions our area has had for many years causing extensive flooding to our golf course and to the lower levels of our club house.

This required the removal of carpet and many items from our golf shop and administration office, many fixtures and fittings were water damaged which had to be removed promptly before further damage would occur. As usual our trusty group of volunteers that always put their hand up to provide the necessary labour force were immediately into action, these members are to be congratulated on doing an outstanding job to carry out the works required to avoid as little disruption to our daily operations. We were closed for only a short period and when stormwater levels dropped our course staff did an outstanding job to get our playing surfaces in order to allow us to return to playing golf.

The main items damaged were covered by insurance with most now rectified although damaged cabinets and golf shop counter will be replaced in the coming weeks.

Main damaged items were:-

- Golf shop and office carpet.
- Golf shop counter and office cabinets
- Golf shop wall panelling.
- External and internal timber doors.
- Damage to roof area above board room.
- Club house lawn mower (replaced)



A huge THANK YOU to the core group of volunteers that unselfishly gave their time to carry out the works required and a special THANKS to Terry Galante for repairing damaged cabinets and shelving in the office so promptly.

A further thanks must go to Greg Brown from Oxley Insurance Brokers for handling all our claims, I can attest that Greg made this process proceed with minimal fuss and avoiding any unnecessary delays.

The board has approved the purchase of two new mowers for our green staff as these are in need of replacement.

Bunkers are of a major concern, the board are addressing this and hopefully in the near future we will be in a position to commence an improvement program towards improving our bunkers. We are applying for a state government grant to fund the proposed renovations. Mark Russell recommends our first step needs to be improved drainage.

All materials are now on site for the installation of the solar system which will be carried out next week, please be aware that the guys will be working on the roof of the clubhouse and to the area on the northern side between the club and the practice nets, the nets will be closed on several days and please use the other side of the club to avoid any problems. We have received a grant of \$15,000 towards the payment of the solar which is \$19,740 in total; we expect to gain significant savings in our future power costs.

The concrete path has now been completed from the bridge to the 10<sup>th</sup> tee, this will avoid the continuous weather erosion to this path that has been an ongoing problem and thank you must go to our men's vets for funding this project.

The extension of the gravel path from the 9<sup>th</sup> tee has now been completed, please use this path and avoid driving carts on the grass in this area, also the wear and tear on several areas of the course is raising concern particularly to the left side approaching the 9<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>, bunting has been placed to deter cart traffic from this area, take your carts up the steep embankment and all should use common sense during these wet periods and this time of year when grass growth is at a minimum.

It has been noticed that some members are driving their carts too close to our greens this is irresponsible and causes further wear and tear to our green surrounds, keep your carts at least 10 metres from the greens or stay on cart paths where possible, in the coming weeks blue lines will be painted on grass around greens, you must stay out of these areas.

Raking of bunkers is being overlooked by some members; you must rake all footprints and disturbed sand when leaving bunkers, think of your fellow members as none of us like to have to play from unraked footmarks.

Filling divots is also a problem, take pride in your course and fill all divots left by yourself and at times others.

Cigarette butts are still being thrown on the ground; this is irresponsible and unsightly, dispose of your butts by taking your own ash tray to avoid this continuing problem.



Slow play is a further problem we are experiencing, all members should know your correct place in the field is within your next shot of the groups in front, not in front of the group behind, small things like marking your card on the next tee while others are hitting off and not at the green where you have just completed the hole can make a huge difference.

Men's Vets club championships were completed on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April, the winners were:-

A Grade	-	Phil Parker
B Grade	-	Colin O'Toole
C Grade	-	Peter Braz
D Grade	-	Keith Wilman

The annual Autumn Aggregate was held over three consecutive Wednesdays in April, this event is generously sponsored by Bill Sheather each year and this year's winners were:-

Ladies	-	Colleen Moran
Mens	-	Geoff Hazel

Our National OBE over eighties Australian Championship was held in the last week of April, this annual event was yet another great success, thanks to the amazing efforts of Kim Woodhouse (our club administration secretary) and Harry Overton and their committee that have given many hours of their time to ensure that this event was yet enjoyed by all that attended.

Winners were:-

	<u>Scratch</u>	<u>Nett</u>
Men's over 80	- Frank Musgrave	James Patterson
Ladies over 80	- Judith McKenzie	Joan Fleming
Men's over 90	- James Patterson	

Men's club Championships were held during May this event held over three consecutive Saturdays and was well contested by our members, winners were:-

A Grade Scratch	-	Tim O'Rielly
B Grade Scratch	-	Gary Bennett
C Grade Scratch	-	Dave Harris
D Grade Scratch	-	Henry Campio
A Grade Nett	-	Tim Baxter
B Grade Nett	-	Rick Barlow
C Grade Nett	-	Scott Stevens
D Grade Nett	-	Geoff Hazell

Men's monthly medal winners in April were:-

A Grade	-	Phil Parker
B Grade	-	Jordan Lockhardt
C Grade	-	Terry Galante



Men's monthly medal winners in May were:-

A Grade	-	Peter Budden
B Grade	-	Malcolm Bradley
C Grade	-	Jamie Dick

Men's Masters Pennants have completed two rounds with a good result in the first round at Port Macquarie GC going down to the last year's winners Forster/Tuncurry by 3 ½ to 2 ½ matches and unfortunately we didn't finish to well last Sunday at Kew as Taree beat us 6 & 0, better luck in the coming weeks.

Ladies monthly medal winner in April:- Carol Maggs

Ladies monthly medal winner in May:- Dawn Moylan

Ladies Pennants have had mixed results with our Dolphin team squaring their match and the Pelican ladies just going down.

Ladies were pleased to receive the news that their vet's days are going back to Mondays after the trial period.

Ladies have the annual Pam Byrnes Memorial being held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

Ladies foursomes are coming up later in June.

Our first two Nine, Wine & Dine events have been an outstanding success, thanks to the efforts of Anne Partridge and her wonderful staff, these evenings have become very popular and are proving difficult at times to obtain tickets so please get in early to make your bookings to avoid disappointment. The next event will be held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June.

As Belinda and I are leaving early in June for our yearly pilgrimage to the warmer northern climate in Queensland during the winter months "Preferred Lies" will be on hold for the next three months until September unless someone has the time to take over this role until we return, should you be interested in filling in please contact me at your convenience.

Hoping you all stay warm and healthy over the coming winter months.

Until next newsletter

Happy Golfing and stay safe

*Bob Baxter*