

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2009-2010

(Incorporating Greens Report)

Couch Program

Following replacement of the Tees throughout the Course, we concentrated on couching the front landing areas to the Greens. At this stage we have completed the 7th, 10th, 15th and 18th and we are satisfied with this result given the water constraints that were in place.

We will this summer begin a major effort to couch the Fairways. The 18th, 1st, 9th and 4th, will all be cultivated and sprigged. Irrigation pipes and sprinklers have already been placed here, and with our water storages full, this should be a great success. There will be an approximate 6 week period whilst the Couch is being cultivated, that the 18th will be made into a Par 3 and Drop Zones will be in place on other Holes.

The result will be a great look from the entrance to the Club and give us a large nursery for future works.

Equipment & Machinery

Paul Robinson has done a fantastic job in maintaining our current mowers and machinery. However, the Rough Cutter is now at the stage where replacement is necessary after 10 years of service.

The Fairway Mower is still in good condition, and Hire Purchase payments end on this machine in August 2011.

This enables us to finance a new Rough Cutter with no increase to our monthly costs.

Coliban Water – Recycled Water Scheme

Most members will be aware that Coliban Water was successful in obtaining a Federal Government Grant for recycled water use and storage both in Town areas (i.e. Botanical Gardens and town sporting ovals) and also with our Kyneton Golf Club.

This has been a slow process of negotiations but we are making progress. The original plan for the Golf Course was that our Upper off Course Dams be donated as our share of costing the program and a new 115 meg dam be built there for the sole use of the Golf Club. This also meant that the existing Water Right on these dams be returned to the environment.

After consultation with the Committee, we have proposed that an alternative 115 megalitre dam be built between the 6th and 7th Fairways on the Course. The top dams will be filled in and decommissioned, retaining a 1 megalitre rural dam to enable the property to be sold on.

There are obvious savings for Coliban Water whereby the distance is reduced and avoiding possible objections from property owners. Thus we have suggested that the Club retain some of the proceeds of the sale of this land.

At present, an Irrigation Design is being prepared, and Soil Testing is underway. After this has been completed, we will be able to determine the costings for the Total Scheme and whether this falls in line with the Federal Grant. Discussions are ongoing.

Trees and Pathways

Following the long drought years, there are many trees that are dead or in a potentially dangerous state around the Golf Course. It is my view that dead trees should be removed if they are in areas of high traffic such as Pathways, around Greens, Tees or close to Fairways. The Golf Club has a Duty of Care to workers, members and the public under Occupational Health and Safety, Workcover and Public Liability. In other areas they should remain for native habitats.

The Pathways are in need of work throughout the Course. Many act as a waterway in wet weather and are becoming hazardous especially for motorised carts.

I feel that both of these issues need to be discussed with all the members to gauge the feelings and suggestions.

Paul Robinson has done an outstanding job in the presentation and maintenance of the Course. I congratulate him on his efforts and work ethic and hope you as members show him your appreciation.

We have many volunteers who help Paul. Bill Dodd in particular who donates 2 days every week and others on a regular basis include Trevor Glanfield, Col Cooney, Neil Ford, Andrew Cameron, Glen Ford, Ed Kennedy, Ken Greenway, Ian Wright and others. A great thanks to those people, your efforts make a massive difference.

Adrian Hanks, Chairman of Greens along with Grace Parkinson and Nick Williamson are doing a great job. Well Done.

Financial Performance Summary

The Financial Year to 30th June 2010 is reported in detail in the attached reports.

The overview is very positive. We are delighted to report an operating Profit of \$ 5,322.00 for 2008/2009, a substantial improvement on the previous year result of a \$ 21,115.00 loss.

The Committee of Management are to be congratulated; some strong decisions were made in order to achieve both an increase in Income and a reduction in Expenditure. The current Mortgage debt as at 30/6/09 was \$132,000, and has reduced since, due to monthly repayments.

The Kyneton Golf Club is a Business. The money we spend (with the exception of replacement and maintenance costs) is to make more income whilst limiting expenditure.

Early in the year we made the decision to sever our 12-year-old relationship with the Professional, Paul Powell. This has enabled us to take all revenue from the bar, apparel, food etc. which otherwise we would not have had.

We also decided that the Club would operate its own Golf Carts. The purchase of 4 Golf Carts, at a cost of \$ 16,000.00 was offset by offering 16 Three Year Memberships. This was a calculated investment, which seems to have paid off. As at November, approximately \$ 9,000.00 income has been received from these carts and anticipated increased use over the summer period should see them paid off within 18 months. We anticipate a minimum of \$ 12,000.00 per annum profit from June onward.

In the absence of Paul Powell, the Club has found it necessary to supply staff to collect Green Fees and bar. John Dawson has taken on the role of Clubhouse Manager, and his skill in organization and many hours of mostly unpaid work has been a great effort. I would like to personally thank him and the members should let him know that his effort is very much appreciated.

There is still work to do. We are facing the situation that Membership numbers are not growing. We sign up 30 new members a year, only to lose 30 when renewals come around. While we have increased Green Fee Players, we need to strengthen our membership. Listed below is my outlook report and wish list as income increases.

Outlook

- Increase Membership. The notice of Motion is designed to allow the committee to reduce the kilometres for country membership to take in Gisborne, Trentham, Castlemaine, Lancefield to aggressively market in the areas to allow for fuel costs
- Increase Green Fee Groups. Barbeque deals – social groups and green fee players.
- Create Golf Shop. Turn the spike bar into a Golf Shop with apparel etc, we already have a double-sided bar.
- Improve the Golf Course by couching and hopefully irrigation. No.1 Priority.
- Improve Bunkers. Our bunkers are aged and blocked. More sand is a short-term fix. It is a very expensive proposition.
- Paint & Refurbish Clubhouse. New refit of Men's Toilets/Change room. Paint internal/external clubhouse.
- Kitchen. Re-floor vinyl and paint.

Wish List

1. Apprentice for Paul Robinson – VFL Apprenticeship \$ 12,000 p.a.
2. Utility Vehicle – Paul Robinson – Second Hand \$ 10,000
3. Tractor Replacement – Paul Robinson – Split Bucket \$ 15,000

Ladies Golf

The Ladies Golf Club has had a very successful year with a 50% increase in income and introducing many visitors to our Club. The special event days have been well supported and their ambassador role in visiting other clubs and promoting ours is fantastic.

The Ladies also maintain the garden beds around the Clubhouse greatly enhancing the presentation and appearance of our club. Thank you all.

Kyneton Golf Bowling Club

The Bowlers have had another successful year on the Green. This very strong club with few members has close camaraderie. The presentation of the Bowling Green is a credit to the members. The Bowling Club, through separate sponsorship, bar and fundraising activities is almost self-sufficient in maintaining and improving their area whilst contributing well to our income. Well Done.

Bar & Clubhouse

Under the management skills of John Dawson, the Bar is running well with organised procedures, staffing and re-ordering being put place. The many hours involved are proving have paid off with increased revenue and promoting our club. The effort of John and Ed Hocter has been outstanding.

The Bar is staffed on Saturday and Sunday mornings at a modest cost, and volunteers staffing the afternoons. Great thanks go to David Stark, John Pierce, John Butselaar, Ed and Ellie Kennedy, Trevor Glanfield, Bill Pyne, and Ed Hocter.

As our busy period in summer and autumn approaches, we still need more volunteers for afternoon shifts. If there are members who can donate an afternoon shift of 1 every two months, please let us know.

Our ageing Clubhouse has required some maintenance work this year with the replacement of the Bar Chill room refrigeration motor, repairs to the roof above the men's toilets and new toilet bowls in the ladies change room. There will be a need for future works as income becomes available, to the men's toilet area, the kitchen floor, painting of the kitchen, and painting the clubhouse inside and out.

We are ordering more Logo Pole Shirts and Hats for summer stock. Members will be able to buy or redeem points for their apparel at a reduced shelf price of around 10% (i.e. polo shirts marked \$ 45 will be available to members for \$ 40 and so on). Winter apparel will be ordered in autumn.

A special thanks to the Wednesday Barbeque Team, Graham Hackett, Noel Aldiss, Jack Willmott and Colin O'Sullivan for their efforts and contribution to our Club.

Office Bearers and Committee

Greens Committee under the leadership of Vice President, Adrian Hanks and assisted by Grace Parkinson and Nick Williamson are to be commended for supplying a long-term plan of improvements within our budget restraints.

Our Captain, Ed Kennedy and Vice Captain, Ross Martin have worked diligently for many hours running Competitions. The introduction of Points Redemption has been successful, and Ed with Adrian as handicappers have done well.

Ross Martin will be standing down as Vice Captain. I wish to thank Ross for his contribution.

The Finance Committee with myself, Ed Hooctor, John Butselaar and John Dawson have set out the budget figures with regular meetings.

Ed Hooctor as Treasurer and Club Services Director has excelled with a large workload. Great effort and much appreciated.

Our Secretary, Arthur Pope, with his meticulous organization skills, ensures smooth running of the Committee and Club. Your long service has been of huge benefit and thank you.

Mike Hamer, our Junior Golf Development Officer has been running Junior Golf Clinics for the past 6 weeks and has done a tremendous job in promoting golf and our Club. We will be continuing to promote this worthwhile program.

Our other Committee Members, Trevor Glanfield, David Stark also make vital impact to the Club.

I thank the Committee Members on their work throughout the year, all of which has contributed to a good result. I look forward to working with you again next year.