



Brighton  
Golf Club

Issue #85  
August 2018

# BGC News

## August Edition



### Why Would You???



### Toss the Goss!



### Trav-ersing the BPGC



### Captain's Report

# What's inside this edition...



## Feature Story

### Why Would You???

The BGC is one of many similar golf clubs in the area so "why would you" continue to be a BGC member? Many say it is because it "is close to home" and the people (members) are fun to be with. But is that all??

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## Why Would You???

The BGC is one of many similar golf clubs in the area so "why would you" continue to be a BGC member?

Many say it is because it "is close to home" and the people (members) are fun to be with. But is that all??

Let's look at what you get at the BGC and how that compares to elsewhere.

The Sandbelt (our backyard) is renowned for great courses like Royal Melbourne, Victoria, Metropolitan, Yarra Yarra, Commonwealth and others all of which have well-earned reputations. But if you are contemplating membership there you will need: - Friends with deep pockets who are already members to nominate you, be prepared to go onto a waiting list (which could be years long), be prepared to comply with strict standards which apply to all members and pay large joining fees (in the thousands of dollars) up front just to apply for membership. Clearly the ongoing incidental costs, whilst up to you, could also be expected to be considerable, year after year.

If we look for a more affordable experience we might consider clubs like Spring Valley where your 7-day membership, joining fee plus additional fees will set you back circa \$5,300+.

*"The only reason I played golf was so that I could afford to go hunting and fishing".*

**Sam Snead**  
**Professional golfer**

With the recent closure of Elsternwick looking at courses like Sandringham and Cheltenham, to keep us "close to home" we find that you are either paying at least \$2,132 or \$1,960 respectively. The latter requiring you to play the same 9 holes twice to complete an 18 hole round. This might be OK once, but every week????

Now let's look at what you get at our club, the Brighton Golf Club Inc. where you only Pay When You Play.

We play on a public course just like Sandringham or Cheltenham, however, our course has just had \$3 million spent upgrading it. Sure it will take a little time to reap the full benefit but the basics are there already and it is improving every week. A far cry from what it was.

Our annual subscription of circa \$400 includes VGL affiliation fees, insurance, comp fees, house account, very comfortable clubrooms, a well-stocked and staffed bar, competitive prices and our own commercial-grade kitchen which is available for functions. All these facilities are available for Charity Days, Grand Final Day, Red Cross fundraising day, club functions and meetings to mention only a few. They are also available to members for private functions and hiring out where we, the members, get the benefit. We have our own bitumen surfaced car park area next to the clubrooms which we share with no one else.

So what about green fees? Standard Green fees on a "walk up" basis have just increased to \$35 per 18 hole round on a Saturday. If you bought a Platinum membership for \$1399 you get unlimited golf all year. That would reduce your once a week 18 hole round to circa \$29 or a saving of almost \$6 per round.

If you played 48 times per year (ie. once a week for 48 NOT 52 weeks of the year) at \$35 per round that would be \$1680 + \$400 annual subscription total \$2,080. If you bought a Platinum membership that \$2,080 would come down to \$1,399 + \$400 total \$1,799 a saving of \$281 per year.

You still have all the benefits of your club membership PLUS the saving on green fees. It's a NO Brainer, isn't it??

You will soon be offered the opportunity to renew your subscription. On the basis of cost alone "Why Wouldn't You?" then you get all the other benefits as part of the deal.

## How's This for Irony??

On Saturday, August 11th Brighton Public Golf Course (BPGC) received so much rain that the daily comp had to be cancelled due to the course being temporarily unplayable.

At the same time, the state just to our north (NSW) was declared 100% drought-stricken!! Sometimes, Mother Nature acts indiscriminately!!

## Trau-ersing the Brighton Public Golf Course (BPGC)

### Brighton Update:

- With the sun rising earlier in the morning there are more spots becoming available for the early golfers so no one will miss their preferred tee time. The transition of the Elsternwick members to Brighton has been as smooth as we could have hoped for with everyone giving a little to gain a lot long term. It's been great to see a few of the members from both clubs enjoying a round together which will hopefully become a more common occurrence in the future.
- The transition of Bluefit buying out LMS is still progressing, the council is just in the process of signing off the reassignment of leases. Bluefit has been setting the groundwork for the transition of business structures which should lead to an even smoother running golf course. The transaction should be finalized by mid-September.
- There have still been construction issues with the SWHP so the system is not completely operational yet. It can be turned on manually to harvest water but the automation of the system is still having teething problems. From speaking to council they believe it to be an issue with faulty parts in the construction stage, Entracon is troubleshooting and will hopefully have the problems sorted soon. The golf course is pushing hard for this to happen as a full irrigation system audit is planned for when the system is operational. We want to ensure that when we have access to the extra water the system can handle and deliver it to all areas of the course.

## We Got it Wrong

In last month's edition of BGC News we incorrectly advised that James Wilks had been a member for almost 4 years. In fact, it was almost 13 years. We apologize for the error!

- Keep an eye out in the coming months for a special event "Greens Keepers Revenge"! This will happen as soon as daylight saving is back and will be held on a Friday afternoon. The event will be a fun 9 hole event where the greens keepers will set the course up as hard as possible with numerous extra challenges. All proceeds from the event will go towards hiring a machine which will allow us to prune tree roots to some of our most effected fairways! Tree roots are the biggest factor in the deterioration of fairways in summer and with the access to more water we want to ensure our fairways are green rather than the gum trees.
- Hopefully, we get a little bit more rain before the end of winter to fill the dams and then a warm spring to encourage grass growth for summer. Enjoy your golf and if you're not then you know where to come for a lesson!!

Happy golfing



**Travis Harrison**  
Managing Professional

## Toss The Goss!

**Saturday, August 11th well before dawn broke** saw continuous rainfall over many suburbs including Brighton. As players began arriving before daybreak it looked increasing like play might not be possible. Some club members had been up since 5 a.m. driving to our club from Warragul, Packenham and other "not exactly around the corner" places.

By circa 7.20 .a.m, with just enough light to see and well after the first group of players should have teed off, an intrepid staffer from the Pro Shop ventured out onto the course in a cart to make an assessment and report back ASAP.

Although many players felt they knew what the answer would be before it was announced, officially the result was that the greens were unplayable, bunkers were either full of water or carrying large puddles and many lower parts of the fairways were also under water. "Course closed" temporarily, no play possible was the official word.

A list of players who could not wait the necessary several hours to see if conditions would improve took the opportunity to receive a credit and postpone their round until another day.

The club comp was also called off as the weather forecast for the rest of the day was for more rain potentially turning into hail. There were two (2) bright lights to this unfortunate occurrence: - The ducks loved it and the course needed the water.

As a result, the Winter Classic Competition Finals which were due to start that day were put back a week.

The Closure of the course due to poor weather is a very rare event. I can only remember it happening 2 or 3 times in my 24 years at the club. I guess it proves that despite the power of "our beautiful game" the real power lies elsewhere!

### New Member on our Management Committee

At the August Committee of Management (CoM) meeting Malcolm Turner was appointed to the committee for the balance of the current club year. As you know all committee positions that are for a period of twelve (12) months or are appointed during that year are declared vacant at each AGM. Those positions are then subject to election by the members at that AGM. Our next AGM is listed in our Club Syllabus to be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, November 20th, 2018.



**Rumour has it** that changes to the BGC News may occur in the near future – Watch This Space!!

*"Give me golf clubs, fresh air,  
and a beautiful partner and  
you can keep my golf clubs  
and the fresh air".*

**Jack Benny**  
**Comedian**

Each year our club seeks the knowledge and experience of members to assist in the management of our club. This coming year 2018/2019 is no different so all members will soon be offered the opportunity to participate in the decisions made by the CoM which over the years have resulted in the successful club we enjoy today.

As a Committee member of the BGC Inc., you are able to utilize your experience to make a contribution toward improving our club. No specific experience is required other than being a keen golfer and interested in being part of a positive and constructive group of member volunteers dedicated to seeing our club grow and develop.

Why not express your interest in making your contribution by talking to President Jim McAlpine, Secretary Sue Williams or any other member of our Club CoM?

Remember if you have an article, pic or both of something that would be of interest to your fellow members send it to [bgolf@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bgolf@bigpond.net.au) addressed to the BGC News Editor.

**EOFY CLEARANCE SALE**

**DON'T PUT UP WITH YOUR OLD PHOTOCOPIER FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR**

**SPECIAL PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

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## Highlights of CoM Meeting - 14 August 2018

**At the 14/8/2018 BGC Committee of Management (CoM) Meeting the following two motions were passed:**

### Motion:

To inform the BGC Newsletter Editor, to replace the Committee Highlights with a permanent BGC Newsletter fixture, which would be a paragraph of information for the BGC Members, informing them that the BGC Rules of Association allow for the full Committee of Management Minutes to be available for all Members to view at any time. If required, to see the Honorary Secretary.

### Motion:

To change the BGC Newsletter publication from monthly to bi-monthly.

### An information notice to be submitted for EACH edition:

"The BGC Rules of Association allow for the full Committee of Management Minutes to be available for all Members to view at any time. If required, to see the Honorary Secretary".

All members are invited to provide their thoughts on what they would like to see in the newsletter.

*"Competitive golf is played on a five-and-a-half-inch course, the space between your ears".*

**Bobby Jones**  
**Professional golfer**



**Cec Dixon**  
*August Birdie Winner*

# Captain's Report



## Highlights.

The highlight for this month was a Hole in One on the 11th by Bill Rigby, having achieved the same feat just last April on the 13th. Bill took out his driver to clear the new dam and the ball just kept going onto the green and into the hole. I do not know whether Bill was joking or not but when he spoke to me afterward, he asked if there was a limit to the number of Hole in Ones that a player could claim. I like your confidence Bill.

## Ladies Only.

Hole 11. All Ladies playing the 11th hole must tee off from the WHITE MARKERS on this hole only.

This has been brought about because of the difficulty of playing this hole over the new dam from the blue tees.

The blue markers must be used on all the other holes as usual, unless notified otherwise.

## Change in Playing Conditions.

Hole 5. When playing the 5th fairway, any ball that finishes under the pine trees on the left-hand side must now be played as it lies.

This area had previously been classed as GUR due to the loose condition of the soil that had been placed there during the construction works.

The wood chipped area on the side of the hill is still GUR, and a ball finishing on the wood chips must be moved to the nearest point of relief but no closer to the hole. This could be at the bottom of the hill on the grass between the hill and the trees or at the top of the hill, whichever is closer to where the ball finished.

## Drop Zones.

Hole 10. The drop zone near the 10th green is to be used where a ball may end up in the Water Garden next to the green, one-shot penalty, or on the path in the same area, no penalty.

Hole 11. There is a roped off GUR area on the green side of the new dam and the drop zone is located to the left-hand side of the fairway, no penalty.

No other drop zones are to be used unless the ground staff has defined new GUR areas and drop zones are freshly painted. Any old faded drop zones are not to be used.

## New Dam 11th Hole.

Any ball finishing within the limits of the Water Hazard in front of the 11th tee must be played as per the Rules of Golf for any Water Hazard. At present, the player must not attempt to retrieve the ball and has two choices for playing their third shot following a penalty for going into the hazard. They can either play from the tee again or on the tee side of the Water Hazard back as far as they like, in line with where the ball crossed the water hazard markers and the hole.

## Saturday Time Sheet Changes.

Saturday players are reminded to please check the time sheet each week as your tee times will vary a little. With the sun rising earlier now some of the groups that have been playing after the Elsternwick group will be moved to times before this group.

John McCreery – Club Captain



**2-FOR-1 OFFER ON FULL MEMBERSHIPS**



**APPLY TO RECEIVE A 50% DISCOUNT**

**APPLICANTS CAN JOIN FOR \$247.50**

The Brighton Golf Club is delighted to announce that until further notice Membership applicants may join the Club via our 2-4-1 Membership category.

Two applicants may now join for only \$247.50 each including the Joining Fee which is half the Full Playing Membership Fee but with all the benefits.

NOTE: This category of Membership is conditional on 2 people joining at the same time and is available for the first year of Membership only.

**Contact John McCreery on 0415 504 066 for more details**

Visit [www.brightongolfclub.com.au](http://www.brightongolfclub.com.au) for more info

# Ladies Activities



Attendances have been down for the month of July and into August which seems to be the norm at this time of year. A combination of weather, travel, injury, and illness.

The August monthly medal was won by Sue Bamberry and the Foursomes Gross won by Lyn Sutcliffe and Sue Bamberry. The Net was won by Sally and Pam Jones.

Some lady members are off to Southern Golf Club to represent Brighton at the Foursomes event. Mon 27th August. Let's hope they have an enjoyable day and perhaps come home with a trophy.

Our own Match Play competition is going well with the next round to be completed by the middle - end of Sept and, with only a few rounds to go, we are filled with anticipation of the final result.

As we know, our Charity Day held earlier in the month raised over \$7000.00 for SMA Australia. Their CEO Julie Cini (pictured) came to accept the cheque last week and Maureen's family were kind enough to come along to meet us too. Little William was the reason the Charity Day was such a success.

The money raised goes to assist families like Maureen's to get some quality time out and relief from the extensive care required for these children. We were only too pleased to support their efforts.

Cheers Sue



Happy family with William front and centre



Maureen and her family



CEO Julie Cini accepts Charity Day cheque



Monthly Medal Winner Sue Bamberry

# BGC Member Profiles



**DAVID HARTIGAN**

Dave Hartigan has three adult children and lives a diverse and most interesting life.

With tertiary qualifications in the property industry, he worked with a large Australian bank then joined one of the world's largest US banks in the finance and property areas before retiring from a senior executive role with one of Australia's largest companies.

He first joined our club in 2006 with Barry Goring. Together they won the 2007 Pairs Matchplay Championship. Dave has also won the prestigious VGL Medal of Medalist trophy and various club events. Left for a period of four years then rejoined in 2016.

Apart from knowing Barry Goring and Beau Roberts the nearness to home, competitive nature of many of our members and the general camaraderie are the things that interest Dave most.

He is also a great contributor as a pennant caddie, player and club volunteer. He just loves matchplay.



**GLENN THOMAS**

Joining the club to improve his game and enjoy the camaraderie of his fellow players has been a deciding factor in being a BGC member.

Very successful in creative fields, Glenn has donated to our club and exhibited his artworks to great acclaim.

His interest in creating excellent works of art is a hobby more than a profession and just indicates the level of talent and skill within our members. Without our Member Profiles, these talents and skills would go unnoticed.

A 12-year BGC member Glenn has enjoyed significant success often collecting awards at our Annual Presentation Nights.

Along with golf and art, Glenn is an avid traveler and has visited many parts of the world. He is keen to accept any golfing challenge, so he has played a wide variety of courses. With a handicap of circa 11, he is a welcome inclusion in any team.



**RAY DESMOND**

Ray Desmond is a 20-year BGC member, has been our handicapper for 11yrs. and was "C Grade" Club Champ in 2014. Add to this two Holes in One, a Medal of Medalists Trophy and been recognized for his Dedicated and Loyal Service to our club. Not a bad record?

With two sons and a daughter, Ray is a grandfather to 9 grandchildren. He and partner Margaret enjoy being involved in club life and the BGC members. Ray is also the Handicapper for the Victorian Veterans Golf Association.

Before joining BGC Ray was a city councilor of Charlton (Vic country town) where he won the "C Grade" title, was a joint curator of their 16 lawn tennis courts and worked for Telstra for 44yrs prior to semi-retirement.

Introduced to BGC by member Peter Walton Ray enjoys the friendships he has made and making a contribution to club life.

## ⛳ Our valued Brighton Golf Club partners

