



## The Year Ahead - Membership & Volunteering

**It's time** that I share with you, my fellow club members, some thoughts and feelings on two key areas that make our club tick. There are many others but without Membership and Volunteers the Brighton Golf Club would not exist as we now know it today.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Our Club offers a variety of membership categories with the Full Playing Membership the key. There are others but full playing members, through their annual subscription, heavily subsidise the day to day running costs of the club.

The BGC is in the very fortunate, some would say enviable, position of having no debts, money in the bank and as far as we know it a generally happy membership. But our membership base is and has been declining for some years.

A common theme in many sporting magazines is the difficulty that sporting organisations are having with declining memberships, particularly golf, which as we know is a time consuming sport. And this is a struggle for the age group of men and women golfers who are time poor.

At almost every committee of management meeting there is discussion on the subject of membership. Many ideas have and are being tried, some have been successful, some haven't and some are ongoing.

Based on a recent review of BGC Membership Applications the key areas of success are the BGC Website and 'word of mouth'.

Recently, an 'A Frame' membership poster was produced and will be located outside the pro shop on a

permanent basis and we thank Kingsley Ferguson and LMS for their kind generosity in supporting this initiative.

There are more ideas coming up in future such as a new 'Member friendly' home page for the website.

This is all well and good but the cheapest, effective and most labour saving method of acquiring new members is by **WORD OF MOUTH**.

By 30 Sept this year it looks like we will miss our target of replacing last year's lost members by 20. This represents a loss of revenue of approx. \$3500.00 plus added benefits, and is not sustainable.

So Members, please assist your committee of management to grow the club by talking to your family, friends and work mates about what our club can offer the serious or semi serious golfer.

### **VOLUNTEERING:**

For some years now a small group of dedicated club members front up at the clubrooms rain, hail or shine to chip in and do their bit for the club on a voluntary basis each and every Tuesday - Volunteers Tuesday we call it. This represents an immeasurable benefit to the club and, whilst not often mentioned, is highly appreciated by us all.

That's the 'hard yakka', the cleaning and the DIY handyman stuff, but there is a growing problem with the 'soft yakka'. **Please step forward anyone** who can spare a few hours a week and is proficient at bookkeeping to take over the **Honorary Treasurers position**.

Keith Beggs, President



# Brighton Golf Club

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# Highlights of CoM Meeting - July 14 2015

**Financial Report:** Ryan Radford would be overseeing the accounts in preparation for the auditor later this year.

**Secretary:** With no new members in July our total for the current golfing year is unchanged at 25 whereas our goal to retain our current member numbers after Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 remains at 45. We are becoming very reliant upon a high member renewal rate to retain our current member numbers.

The concept was raised of annual subs being paid by instalments. Any change would need to be agreed to by the membership at an AGM, and that our club needs to meet significant outgoings in Dec & Jan each year.

Further ideas were expressed as to how an instalment program would need to operate but the finer points are yet to be worked out.

**Captain's Report:** [Page 4](#)

**Ladies Sub Committee Report:** June Medal Day raised \$96, Charity Day raised \$5,887.55. It was successfully moved that the club contribute \$150 toward the day each year. This amount is included in the above amount for 2015.

## **House Sub Committee:**

- Claim for insurance to be looked into regarding the failure of the Temprite cooler replacement unit.
- Pool table and clubroom table tops are being painted in the same colour.
- Bayside Hockey Club will use our clubrooms for various functions in July, August and September by arrangement.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

### **Additions to Immediate plans for Aug, Sept & Oct:**

- Bayside Challenge on Sunday Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> at BGC.
- Mon Sept 21<sup>st</sup> Vic Vets vs BGC at BGC and
- Thurs Oct 8<sup>th</sup> VGL Vets/Seniors Champs at BGC.

**AGM Nominations Whiteboard:** This whiteboard, prepared with all the relevant documents, will appear in the clubrooms for the months of September & October 2015. Additional signage will be prepared as to where completed nominations should be lodged.

**"A" frame membership promotion:** The posters are completed and will be fitted into the wire frame supplied gratis by Colin McDonald.

Ideas were discussed as to where it might now best be placed. JMcC to approach member Barry Goring and Kingsley Ferguson to request to have the sign displayed each day at the Pro Shop.

**Van Pelt Builders Cup:** Moved successfully that member Ron Van Pelt donate \$500 for a trophy played for on a Wednesday over 8 months of Stroke rounds.

**Welfare:** Best Wishes for a speedy recovery sent via card and flowers to Andrea Whitney who is now back at home after surgery.

**BGC Winter Classic Comp:** ASADA & Daybreakers teams are equal on 7 wins and 3 losses each and are 6 points ahead of the field.

**Presentation Night 2015:** Same format as last year's arrangements to be finalised.

**President's and Captain's Day:** Catering arrangements to be confirmed.

**Clubrooms TV:** Much discussion took place resulting in a successful motion that a new 60" TV be obtained for a value of up to \$3000 to replace the existing faulty unit that has provided good service for many years but has reached its 'use by date'.

**Wed Comp Trophy Values:** Following a Member comment this will be reviewed at the end of this golfing year when all costs are available.

**Veteran Trophy Day:** Only Veteran and Non Veteran trophies to be considered.

**Brighton Public Golf Course condition Sub-Committee:** A detailed update was provided resulting in no further progress at this time. LMS and BGC are working together to obtain a mutually agreed outcome. This will progress further in August 2015.

**BGC Website upgrade:** Undergoing due diligence.

**Melbourne Cup Raffle:** There will be one only race day raffle for 2015 - for the Melbourne Cup. Moved successfully that the funds raised for the raffle will be distributed 60% to the winners and 40% to BGC.

**Continued Page 3**

## ***Highlights of CoM Minutes continued from page 2***

**Pennant Update:** A sub-committee consisting of KB, BR, JMcC & Chris Meehan had been constituted. Team managers to contact potential players. Mark Oglethorpe has begun work on the Handicap team and whilst it remains a work in progress players have been confirmed and emergencies nominated.

At the next sub-committee meeting in July the Scratch team under Chris Meehan will be discussed. Several potential low marker players have been identified however they are not current members of the BGC.

It was agreed that the BGC would offer to reduce the annual m/ship fee by the Joining Fee (\$165) as an inducement for the potential Scratch team members to join the club. No New Member Kit would be provided to these players.

KB to discuss with Travis Harrison availability of the practice fairway for the Scratch team.

**Personnel absences:** KB advised that he will be away from August 30<sup>th</sup> to September 14<sup>th</sup>.



**Karon (Chooky) Fowler**  
JULY Birdie Comp Winner

## ***End of CoM Minutes Highlights***

## **ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY WITHIN THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

- Club 5-year Forward Planning: Need realistic numbers, alternative is to cut costs.
- New Member brochure: Progress being made.
- Review of Rule 55 Expenditure, Review of Club Executive.
- Review and update CoM Job Position Descriptions in Procedure Manual.
- Treasurer replacement, no candidate found as yet.
- Research and source suitable New Bar Fridge.
- Clubhouse ideas/communication, exterior sketches to be redisplayed soon.
- New volunteer assistance behind the bar: Training about to commence .
- Quote to build fence to fix large BGC sign inside golf course awaiting quotation.
- Marketing strategy to attract new members.
- Suspected water leak: Monitoring continuing waiting on next water bill to make comparison
- IT cabling upgrade: Awaiting quote.
- Clubroom gas heater: To be replaced at a cost of up to \$1500.
- Research of Grade 2 Food Handling Licence: Retain Grade 3 at circa cost \$171 per year. Additional work and cost required for Grade 2 was considered not viable.
- Pennant discussions: In progress.

## **Annual Subs!....Up Front or by Instalment!**

**The question of paying annual subs by instalment has again been raised.**

Whilst for some members the \$400 odd per year may not be an imposition, there remains the possibility that for others the option of paying by instalment would be attractive.

I'd like to test this with a simple survey. All you need to do is [CLICK HERE](#) to download and print a simple PDF form which can be filled in and placed in the Suggestion Box in the clubrooms or mailed or emailed to the Secretary at [bgolf@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bgolf@bigpond.net.au)

Instalments would be bi-annually, first instalment (50%) by 31<sup>st</sup> October and the balance by end of March.

Any change to the existing method of payment of subs would necessitate amending the club Rules of Association - Rule 18 d. This can be done at the forthcoming AGM in November or sooner by EGM if thought necessary by the CoM. It's now up to you the members to voice your opinion.

*Keith Beggs Hon. Treasurer*

*You cannot hang out with negative people and expect to live a positive life.*



## Captain's Report - July 2015

Throughout June and so far in July we have had good numbers playing on Saturdays and Wednesdays despite the indifferent weather conditions. While the scores haven't been anything to write home about, probably due to the soft ground and windy weather, it is good to see members enjoying their game of golf.

### Crossing of the Practice Fairway

Members are to be congratulated in respect to crossing the practice fairway in the correct manner while the Golf Professionals are giving lessons. Keep up the good work and keep yourself safe from being hit by a golf ball.

New Members please be aware, that if there are golf lessons taking place on the practice fairway, you must walk around behind the 200m sign. If there are Juniors having lessons at the southern end then you must walk around behind them. This must be adhered to when going in both directions, either from the Club House or returning to it.

### DNF (Did Not Finish) in Stroke Competition

Players who play out the 18 holes but for whatever reason decide to take a DNF on an early hole or any hole for that matter should continue to have their score recorded on the other holes. With the GA Handicap System using the Stableford format your card can still be entered for handicap purposes, however, it would not be valid for the day's Stroke competition. If you DNF during a Stroke round, or any competition for that matter, do not scan your card, but leave it in the tray under the touch screen and the Handicapper will enter it later.

### Men's Stroke Foursomes Pairs

The winning team of the Men's Foursomes competition on July 25<sup>th</sup> will represent Brighton in the VGL Open Foursomes to be held on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. So, organise your partner early as the Handicapper would like to pre print score cards for this event.

### Summer Shield Qualifying Round

A reminder to the Men that the Par 4BBB to be played on August 22<sup>nd</sup> is the first qualifying round for the Pairs Match Play Championship. Pairs must play together and nominate by writing a "Q" at the top of their card to qualify. The second qualifying round will be on August 29<sup>th</sup>. You do not have to play in both rounds as your best score will be used, provided it has a "Q" on it.

### Bayside Shield Challenge

The annual Bayside Golf Challenge between the Golf Clubs at the 3 bayside public golf courses of Sandringham, Elsternwick and ourselves will be played at the Brighton Golf Course on Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>. A list will be put up on the notice board in due course for Members who would like to play in this event.

*John McCreery - Club Captain*

## Golf Rules...Continued

### How did you go?

Did you read about the ball lodging in the agapanthus as advised in the June newsletter?

I just received a newsletter from R & A rules which outlined an event which required a similar ruling.

It stated that it is for the player to prove that the ball is actually in a playable position. It used the example that if a ball lies in the roots of a tree and a rabbit hole interferes with his stance. The player should be denied relief as it is clearly not practicable to make a stroke due to the tree roots.

The rabbit scrape cannot be used as an excuse to avoid a penalty for an unplayable ball. The player must also prove that the stroke they intend playing is not unnecessarily abnormal.

So when the ball lodges in the agapanthus, if there is no reasonable shot possible, relief from the fence is not given. In the picture (page 5), Ray would be given relief because he would have a stroke if the fence did not interfere.

If the ball was buried where Ray is standing amongst the plants (page 5), he would not be able to demonstrate a reasonable stroke and so the fence is not considered to have made the ball unplayable. Relief would be taken with a penalty for an unplayable lie and the options to consider would be:

- (i) Drop within 2 club lengths, no nearer the hole.
- (ii) Go back to where the last stroke was played from. Take care not to have an 'airy' as it will then be the position of the last stroke.
- (iii) Take the line from the pin to the ball and go back as far as you like in this extended line.

**Golf Rules Continued on page 4**

## Golf Rules from page 3



The dreaded BPGC 11<sup>th</sup> Tee agapanthus.

Next month let's review how we take relief.

Where would you go from the GUR on hole 7 if you were seeking relief from the right hand side near the bush?

And recently I have been asked!!!!!!

Q. Do you get relief from the sign on the 10<sup>th</sup> near the green?

A. The sign is an 'Immovable Object' and as explained in the April Newsletter for the 'Hoops', relief can be taken if your stance or swing is affected.

The hoops **must not** be moved as they are deemed immovable. Relief can be taken using Rule 24-2(b) which allows you to take a drop within a club length from the position of relief from the Obstruction if the Obstruction interferes with your stance or swing. Relief is not given based on the line of play as explained in Rule 24-2(a).

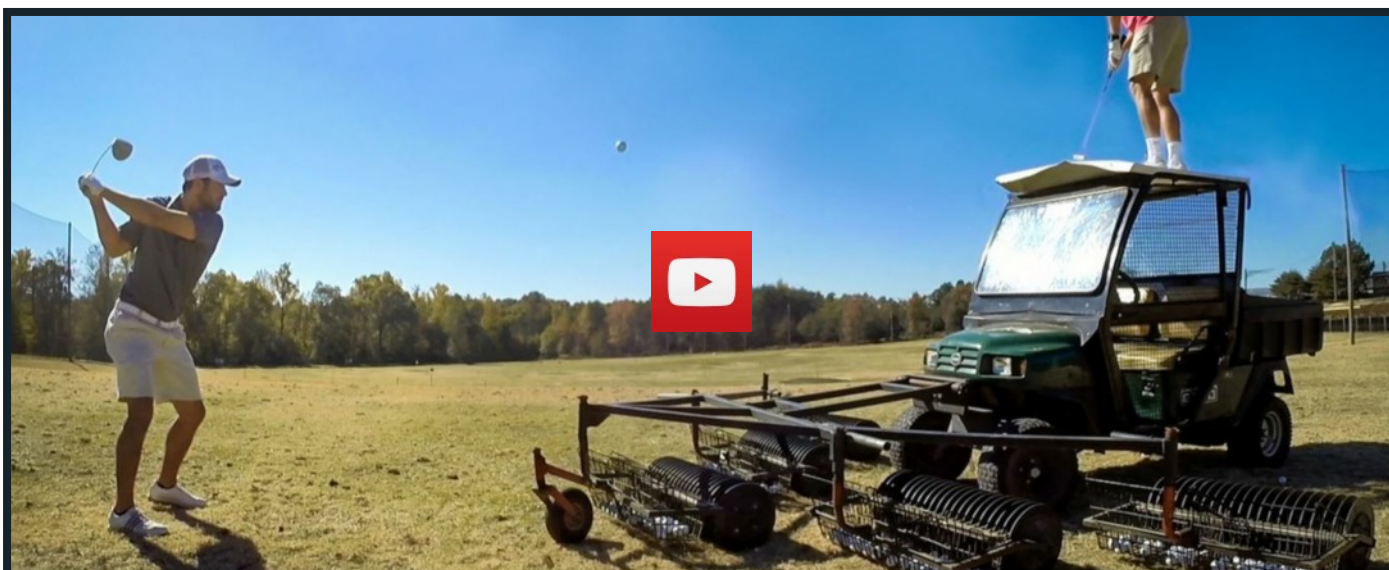
## BGC Partners



The House of Golf.



Capital Investment Concepts  
Logical Property Portfolios





## What's Going On?!?!



Here are three (3) pics of our Club Car Park. The first is on a day other than Tuesday, Wednesday or Saturday, the second a typical Wednesday or Saturday the third a typical Tuesday.

Now as you know our club only operates on a Wednesday and a Saturday. So who are all these people at our club on a Tuesday???

As members of the Brighton Golf Club we pride ourselves on the many services we enjoy.

We've all come to expect that on any Wednesday or Saturday our club will be open, clean, tidy and the bar will be well stocked and managed. This enables us, as members, to enjoy all that our club has to offer. It also allows us to confidently invite and introduce friends and guests to our club.

These "Tuesday" people are regular club members, just like you and I, but who also provide their time and effort to ensure that all members enjoy a high level of amenity.

So, what do these "Tuesday" people do?

1. *Count and bank funds coming into our club each week so our club continues to be financially viable.*
2. *Vacuum and mop the clubrooms and toilets to ensure they are clean and tidy.*
3. *Put out the rubbish for collection. Then bring the empty bins back in again.*
4. *Maintain the car park so it is clear of branches, leaves and other rubbish.*

5. *Mow the lawns, trim the edges and maintain the gardens.*
6. *Ensure that the parking bays are clearly marked so members know where to park.*
7. *Maintain the clubroom building so that members do not have to contend with things that are dangerous or don't work.*
8. *Order, collect and appropriately store food and beverages.*
9. *Arrange and accept special deliveries of whatever these voluntary members cannot collect themselves e.g. Beer & gas deliveries.*
10. *Arrange/supervise work carried out by specialists e.g. Plumber, electrician, IT expert.*
11. *Rebuild club infrastructure e.g. Beer delivery decking.*

These are just some of the continual maintenance requirements of our club that many of us hardly even notice. But we would notice if they were not done!!

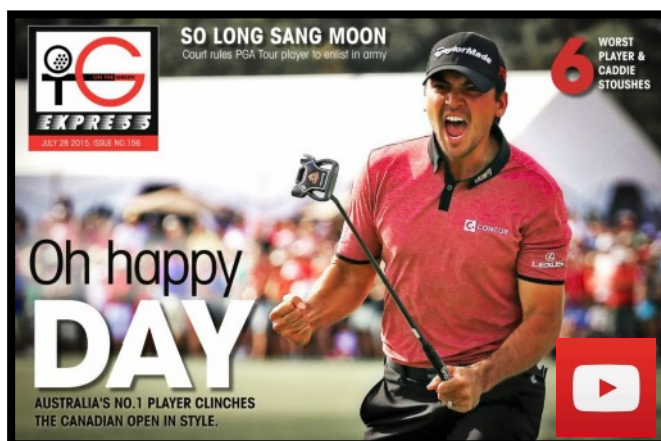
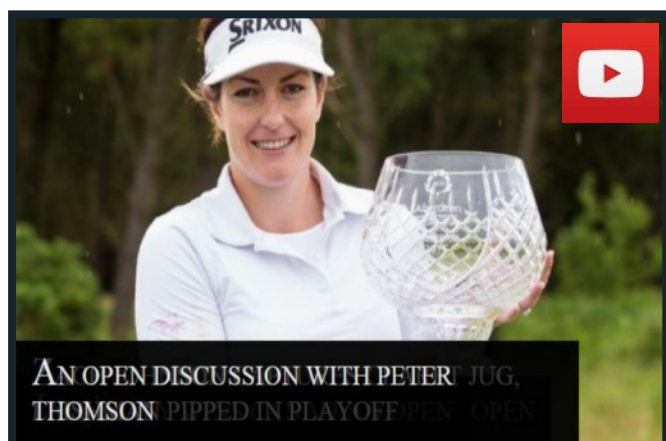
You too can join this happy and productive band of club volunteers. With just a couple of hours on a Tuesday, perhaps only now and again, your contribution could make a tangible difference for all members.

Talk to Beau Roberts or Karl Lindberg. Their contact details are in your Club Syllabus or on our club website.

There is always something to do and I know they would be delighted to hear from you.

Geoff Hergt

Honorary Secretary/Public Officer BGC Inc



## **Don't feel like playing golf?.....think about it!**

There are some days when the desire to play golf just doesn't seem like a good idea i.e. your wedding anniversary, your spouse's birthday, days over 45 deg C, days under 10 deg C, when you've had the flu for two weeks, the day after the night before - I could go on and on. But you need to remember that simply deciding not to play golf for whatever reason should not be your only conscious thought.

When you've booked and paid for your round at the pro shop that spot has been reserved for you. Please make sure to call them if you can't make it.

## **Melbourne Cup Raffle 2015**

A Melbourne Cup Raffle run along the lines of last year's successful Caulfield Cup raffle will soon be organised.

Tickets are being designed and printed which will show that the price this year will be the same as for the Caulfield Cup raffle of \$5.00. Winning punters will take home 60% of the pot with the club retaining the balance of 40%.

Good luck to all.

## **Pennant 2016 - Team Building Update**

The BGC Pennant sub-committee has had several meetings since the end of the 2015 pennant season discussing various ideas and setting out plans to build a new scratch and handicap pennant team with the express desire to bring home the premiership flags next year.

As a result of the meetings I can report.....

### **Seniors**

I expect that Club Captain John McCreery will again lead his team of excellent players onto the field and replicate next year the wonderful success achieved this year when they brought home the VGL Norman von Nida Division 1 Senior Pennant Flag.

### **Handicap**

Mark Oglethorpe has taken on the responsibility of handicap team player/manager and early indications are that he is very enthusiastic.

He has done his research and contacted many suitable candidates for the team and has put together an impressive list of players that are ready and raring to go.

### **Scratch**

Chris Meehan the manager of that team has been chasing up a few new candidates and we're expecting to see a first class group to go at it for

BGC this year, we'll hear more about that as we progress.

Hopefully we'll have two new club members arising out of this team build up. These are friends of team members and hold handicaps of 2 & 3. They have been attracted to join the BGC and the pennant team by offering memberships which do not include a joining fee.

I'm sure the general membership will understand that as a sporting club that is endeavouring to reach the pinnacle of our chosen sport we need first class players. These are very hard to come by and we thank the team members for stepping forward to help.

Team managers will also be seeking caddies for each and every player. If you would like to be involved in supporting the Senior, Scratch and Handicap teams as caddies next year please contact Mark or Chris.

A further initiative that is being looked into is a meet and greet day involving all pennant players and interested members for a get together in September.

Watch this space.

Keith Beggs - President

### **BGC NEWS Editorial Volunteers:**

- **Editor:** Keith Beggs (0417226544)
- **Proof Readers:** Geoff Hergt, Paul and Jan Kirsch
- **BGC Member Interviews & Photos:** Karl Lindberg

*All contributions are most welcome.*

*Please send articles or copy to [bgolf@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bgolf@bigpond.net.au)*