

PUKEKO PAGES – JUNE 2016

The official Newsletter of the Waikanae Golf Club Inc.

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FROM THE CHAIR

AGM: 61 members attended the recent AGM at which a Board remit was passed to increase the number of Elected Members to a minimum of four and a maximum of six. The office-holders (and their roles) for the 2016-17 year are:

President: Jim Lynch	Club Captain: Cliff Martin	Vice Club Captain: Phil Carthew
Chairman: Ed Isaac	Treasurer: Richard Cooke	Greens Convenor: Graeme Wallis
HSW & Facilities: Tony Parrett	Promotion: Cheryl Hughes	Member Services: Michael Anderson

Patron: Bill Bruce **Honorary Auditor:** Alan Whitton **Honorary Solicitor:** Kapiti Law

Looking Forward: 2016-17 looks to be very interesting and critical to the future directions of the Club.

- There will be a strong focus on recruitment – the Club **needs** to bolster membership to well above 600 (currently 550) if it is to adequately pay its way and maintain its assets. It has to do better than that to make any off-the-course improvements.
- The reports from 6 sub-committees are due for receipt at the end of July and these will be analysed and the resulting recommendations put to the Board. Following its study of these recommendations, the Board will engage with the membership to outline possible options for the Club's future. Should it be required, a SGM will be called to empower the Board to pursue the favoured option.

Philosophy – who wants to be where they're not welcome? If you want your golf to be enjoyable and affordable, the Club needs increased membership and green fee takings. Accordingly, it needs to retain any new members and get return custom from a majority of green fee players – remember all of these people have choices of where they will play. Pricing and course condition are key elements, but even more so is whether new members or visitors are made to feel welcome.

When people feel they are welcome, they will want to belong and participate. Those who are made to feel unwelcome will simply leave. Please do your bit to help the Club to be really **welcoming**.

Good golfing to all.

Ed Isaac - Chairman

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

The days are getting longer, apparently, but it seems like we still have an awful lot of winter golf to play yet before shorts and tee shirts is the preferred dress code.

Placing on your own fairway will stay till after the Club Champs at least, and probably till after the Shootout Final. The reason being is not so we can perch our ball up on a convenient tuft (tho' that is handy), our fairways are good enough not to need that additional assistance. Nope, it's to give you the opportunity to clean any mud from your ball, what you do in your 6" after that is up to you. The deluges of rain we have had lately has created some quite muddy areas that are not getting chance to dry out.

The Interclub season has wrapped up now and the finishing positions are as follows-

Ladies – Tuakana - 3 rd out of 5 teams	Men's – 1 st Team – 5 th out of 8 teams
Pennants - 3 rd out of 7 teams	2 nd Team – 4 th out of 6 teams
9 Hole - 11 th out of 12 teams	3 rd Team – Winners out of 6 Teams
	9 Hole – 2 nd out of 4 teams

It is encouraging to see that we have so many teams of players who are keen to travel and represent our club around the Wellington Region. It also gives us the opportunity to showcase our course to a wider audience.

You will see above that we now have 9 Hole representation for Ladies and Men and the Board has agreed to a request that all 9 holers will be able to enter and play 18 holes in our 'All Members' events i.e. Opening/Closing Day, Waitangi Day, ANZAC Day and Melbourne Cup Day.

Our course is described by some visitors as a 'Hidden Gem', which is very nice to hear but we on the Board are mindful that keeping such secrets to ourselves won't help the Green Fee coffers to finance and maintain our lovely course and surrounds. Over the coming months the new Board will be actively putting into place a range of initiatives to promote the Golf Club to bring in the necessary dosh to maintain and improve our facilities.

Ron. O. and Jeanine, our Party Perfect Caterer, have agreed that when the bar is not being staffed and Jeanine is on site, she will keep a supply of bottled beer and wine for purchase by members. Hopefully, this will be popular and fill a gap in the market.

I'd like to thank Ian Christison for taking the time to organise an excellent Winter Solstice dinner for members recently. I am told it was a great success with the food supplied by Party Perfect being of a wonderfully high standard. On top, Ian had invited one of the most exciting young golfers in New Zealand, Daniel Hillier to attend and receive a donation to help with his development. I'm sure that Party Perfect would be delighted to be able to help anyone else with a celebration at the Club or elsewhere.

Larry Balloch is trialing a small target device on the 13th flagstick to assist those golfers who use a rangefinder to precisely locate the flag (personally, the way I play, I prefer a compass!) Any feedback to him would be welcome as he will produce another 17 if it proves successful. Thanks for your help Larry.

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT – Continued

Just to finish, did you see Dustin Johnson's recent victory at the US Open, to continue playing and win with that level of uncertainty in your head puts the pressure of our 'Dollar, Dollar, Dollar' haggles into context somewhat. Can you imagine how the All Blacks would take it if the ref said to them, "We're not entirely sure whether that last try counts, so carry on playing and we'll let you know one way or the other, when we've sorted it out". While on the global stage it continues to be great to see Lydia keep picking up the silverware.

Topical Rule Tip- Casual Water. You don't have to identify or retrieve your ball if it's lost in casual water. As long as you are virtually certain it's in the flooded area, somewhere, you get a free drop, one club length from where it last crossed the edge of the abnormal ground condition, no nearer the hole.

However, if you can positively identify your ball in the 'lake' you should play one club length from the nearest point of relief from where your ball is lying, no nearer the hole and again you don't have to retrieve your ball- though it's damn annoying if you can't! **Cliff Martin - Club Captain.**

MID WEEK MEN

On Thursday 2 June the Evergreens team played Kapiti at a very soggy Trentham course. Even with our inspirational captain returning we could not pull off a win. However the close loss of 8 - 7 still maintained our lead in the competition. Another good score later in June will see us through to the semi - finals played later in the year. Singles winners on the day were Bernie Shiell, Jim Lynch, Denys Wright and Peter Cresswell with Kevin Win square. The pairs winners were Bernie Shiell and Graeme Wallis, Denys Wright and Peter Cresswell and Jim Lynch and Tony Parrett, and our best Stableford score was Jim Lynch on 39.

A very nice sunny winter's day on 2 June saw 54 players enter a par competition - also the second round of the Winter Challenge. Gary Donaghy with +4 came out on top from John McKechnie on +3. John managed to sneak in on a countback from Kevin Woodley and Doug Stevens also on +3.

Otaki visited us on Thursday 9 June. An overall field of 47 played a stableford competition. The winner was Peter Doyle from Otaki on 44 points. Aubrey Mulligan upheld the Waikanae honour with a score of 41 followed closely by Paul Ronberg on 39. This was a big day for Paul as it was his 80th birthday! Congratulations and well done, Paul! Waikanae won the overall average stableford score competition with 33.14 compared to Otaki's 31.27. Our visit to Otaki in two weeks will see who wins the competition overall.

Another fine day on Monday 13 June saw a field of 52 for the Kapiti Vets at Waikanae. The overall winner, drawn by lot, was Doug Hooper Smith from the Cape Turnagain Golf Club with 39 points. Also on 39 points was Rob Ashby from Mornington. Roy South maintained a bit of Waikanae dignity by scoring 36 points. There was only one 2 for the day scored by Andy Provan. However, as he did not enter the Shop Two's competition, the 14 golf balls up for grabs were shared by seven of the players that did enter the Shop competition.

A fine but windy day greeted a field of 52 in a net competition which was also the third round of the Winter Challenge. Tony Parrett had a blinder with a net 65!! Second on countback on 70 was Hone Kaiwai with Peter Knight also carding a net 70. A net competition sorts out the men from the boys with 8 players failing to complete their round without a pickup.

MID WEEK MEN – continued

On 21 June (Winter Solstice) 52 members entered a stableford competition which was also the fourth round of the Winter Challenge. The winner on countback was Harold Smith on 39 points. Mel Fairbairn also scored 39 points - well done the "Swampies"!!

The weather was not looking too good at the start of a 4 Ball Better Ball Stableford competition on 28 June. However, 34 hardy souls all got round without getting wet. At one stage the sun shone and heavy jackets etc. were discarded. The winners on the day were Larry Balloch and Kevin Woodley with a score of 46. Gordon Hall and Kevin Win followed with 43. Kevin Win also cleaned up the Shop 2 Competition winning 10 golf balls.

On a wet and windy course at Ohariu Valley on Thursday 30 June, the Evergreens team drew 7.5/7.5 with Manor Park. Individual winners were Kevin Win, Jim Lynch, Allan Chisholm, Denys Wright and Roy Leitch. Pair's winners were Allan Chisholm and Denys Wright, Kevin Win and Roy Leitch with Wayne Patrick and Jim Lynch squaring their match. That leaves Waikanae leading the competition on 50.5 points with Manor Park second on 40.5. There is a break of a couple of months before the final round at Waikanae in late September. Unless the second or third teams have a very one sided win, Waikanae should be able to maintain first place. We will see in September! **Kevin Woodley - Mid Week Men.**

WOMEN'S GOLF

On behalf of the Women members, I would like to thank the Board for all the work they have done this past year to both administer and govern the golf club on our behalf. All Board members have worked extremely hard but none more so than our Chairman, Ed Isaac and Treasurer, Richard Cooke, a big thank you to you all. It is my pleasure to congratulate Cheryl Hughes on her election to the Board - I am sure that Cheryl will make an enormous contribution to the club with her business experience, not to mention her energy and enthusiasm.

Our golf programme has been adversely affected by the weather again this month with the course being more suitable for ducks than golfers over the past few weeks. Despite the conditions, we have managed to complete most of the scheduled events - the full results are on the website but the winners during the month have been Cheryl Hughes, Helen Booth, Maureen Creasy and Irene Dick. The President's Trophy was won by Cheryl Hughes who had a convincing 5/3 win over Kip Marshall in the final.

Our Saturday Tuakana Interclub team have finally completed their season and finished a respectable 3rd in their division behind the runaway winners Kapiti, and a big thank you to everyone who represented the club, and special thanks to Angela Lee who managed the team - not always an easy task.

Last week, the women held a very successful movie fundraiser at the Shoreline Cinema where we raised \$520 through the movie and the raffle held in conjunction. Thanks to all who attended the film and bought raffle tickets. Most sections of the club were represented among the raffle winners, who were: Paula Densem, Julia Tait, Chris Holland, Ian McKegg, Denis Cheyne, Jane Hill and Margaret Walton. Ann Hanlon and Olive Mitchell did a wonderful job organising this event and deserve our thanks and congratulations.

The women's section is holding their Annual Dinner on Thursday August 4th with an Olympic themed evening. We didn't hold this event last year due to the lack of a suitable caterer but with Partee Perfect performing as they do, we decided to re-instate the evening and are hoping for a strong show of support from both the 9 and 18 Hole ladies. **Rae Henderson - Women's Captain**

9 HOLE MEN

Well, winter has finally arrived, and only five of us braved the cold on Friday. Doug Hipkins and Graham Heslop were among the regular Wednesday winners and Ed Isaac joined us on the 22nd and took the top spot. Joy Berry and Tim Abbott won the mixed Russian Stapleford on the 29th. The scoring rounds of our mini Interclub has finished with Kapiti on top with 10.5 and Waikanae second with 10. Hopefully we might get more clubs involved next year. **Jim Dagarin - 9 Hole Men.**

9 HOLE WOMEN'S REPORT

Attendance on club days continues to be steady with good numbers showing up on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. We have recently had the pleasure of welcoming 2 former 18 Hole ladies to our group who have decided that they were ready to give 9 Hole golf a shot! They seem to be enjoying the shorter game! We also have 2 players (one of whom is totally new to golf) who have joined us within the last few months and they are making great progress with their handicaps. And we have 2 or 3 new players who may be joining us later in the year. This is all good news as we always seem to lose 1 or 2 members each year for various reasons.

Our Interclub team played against Manor Park at Martinborough on a very dry course. The team played valiantly, and all games were close, being lost on the last couple of holes. The season is drawing to a close with our last game at the end of June. The team has played well and gained invaluable experience. The players have enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to a field day at Royal Wellington on the 14th July.

We have had a great run with the weather and to date haven't lost any club days to rain! Consequently, we are well through our competitions.

Lastly, the 9 Holers will be pleased to hear that our handicaps will be based on the best 10 out of 20 - 9 Hole cards instead of 20 out of 40 as is the current position. I have been told that this process will be implemented before the end of the winter. We are all looking forward to having handicaps that once again are a true reflection of the way we are playing! **Joy Berry - 9 Hole Women**

JUNIOR GOLF

Hello golfers. The junior programme has continued through this semester, with between 15 and 20 players coached after school on Monday each week. When wet weather sent us indoors, the tables were moved and the boys set up ingenious par 3,4, and 5 putting courses with dog legs, obstacles etc. to compete with each other. Then using soft rubber balls there was a chipping contest from rubber mats to hula hoops and open umbrellas. Add to this was a contest to see who could use a wedge and bounce the rubber ball using one hand, counting the number of bounces before the ball fell to the floor. A great hand eye co-ordination test!

For the record Harry Ward was the outstanding winner with over 100 bounces. to continue with Harry - He had a Stella time at the Lydia Ko Junior golf championship held at Gulf Harbour. He was runner up in the under 14 years age group winning a 60 degree wedge, and was in 4th place overall with two rounds of 83 gross. Well done Harry. Handicapping news just to hand - for 9 hole golfers Golf New Zealand have reduced the cards required from 20 to 10 and the handicap is taken from the best 5 cards. Front nine and back nine holes need to be included. **Ken Kissling - Junior Golf**

WINTER SOLSTICE DINNER

Ian Christison arranged a Winter Solstice Dinner on 25th June 2016, which was held in the clubrooms for the group of golfers he regularly plays with. Ian arranged this for two reasons - giving the opportunity for the golfers and their partners to meet and mix, and to support the wonderful Janine, our club caterer. Jeanine did a great job of catering for this event and everyone enjoyed the menu she had provided. Between Jeanine and Diane Christison the tables looked very attractive. Diane also installed some Christmas decorations and a floral arrangement which transformed the clubrooms. If you are arranging an event in the future we would highly recommend Jeanine.



Daniel Hillier with Ian Christison



Happy guests at the Winter Solstice Dinner



Ian arranged a surprise guest – Daniel Hillier the current NZ amateur champion – a most pleasant young man who told us a little about himself and answered questions from the floor. Each attendee made a donation towards Daniel’s expenses (he is playing in the 2016 Australian Open) and Ian received the following note from Daniel –

“I just wanted to take a moment to say another big thank you for allowing me to attend at last night’s dinner. I had an awesome time interacting with everyone and it was great to be able to meet so many new faces. It was definitely a night that I will remember for a very long time.

I am also incredibly grateful for the gift that was presented to me during the occasion. It is hard to describe how appreciative I am of the support that yourself and everyone else involved has given me. This generosity is what has allowed me to continue to do what I love and I cannot thank you all enough for your support.

I wish you all the best for the future and hopefully we will have the opportunity to catch up at some point in the near future.”

Thank you again for all your support. **Ann Hanlon**

The Birthday Boy! Thanks from everyone for the bubbles.



Cart Drivers – Be aware of fellow golfers and follow at a safe distance.



There were two incidents in June.

1. On the bridge near the 10th green, a golf cart ran over a fellow golfer who had stopped to look for golf balls.

ALL - When driving golf carts we should maintain a safe distance and slow down – especially on bridges.

2. Under the covered walkway outside the offices, a golfer tripped when the trundler got caught in the drain.

ALL - When making scorecards please park trundlers in an orderly fashion along this narrow place of access.

Tony Parrett - Health & Safety

FROM THE PAR TEE CAFÉ

You will notice some new signs around the course advertising coffee and snacks available from the Par Tee Café, and in particular at the 9th Tee. Dial **021 036 1636** and text your order and you can pick it up before you tee off on the 10th – put it in your mobile now!

Catering Services

The Winter Solstice Dinner (Page 7) was a roaring success and was catered for by Jeanine and her team. The meal was most reasonably priced and drinks were available from the bar. If you or your friends are considering a function then I suggest you contact Jeanine at jeaninevk@icloud.com

Tony Parrett - Editor

WEBSITE VACANCY

The following vacancy is advertised for any member with the appropriate skills who wishes to apply.

WAIKANAE GOLF CLUB – WEBSITE ASSISTANT

Use your tech skills to assist the Club moving forward.

We use WordPress for our website and maintain a Facebook page.

If you know and use these, or have managed web content - great!

However the most important thing is that you are very comfortable on a PC (e.g. file/image management, hyperlinking, email) and enjoy learning new skills.

It is envisioned that the role would take approximately 5 hours per week.

Full training will be given.

For more information contact Ian Trim, Website Manager.

iw.trim@gmail.com

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