

# PUKEKO PAGES – JULY 2016

The official Newsletter of the Waikanae Golf Club Inc.

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**FROM THE CHAIR: Membership Recruitment Initiative:** The previously forecasted appointment of a sales representative to bolster our membership and to sell sponsorships and other promotional offerings (which was to commence 01 August) has fallen through and the Board will not pursue this option further at this time. Instead, the Board is considering a raft of initiatives being formulated and promoted by new Club Promotions member, Cheryl Hughes. Cheryl is accessing existing electronic and social media portals and is using her up-to-date commercial experience to bring fresh thinking and energy to this most critically needed aspect of Club survival and sustainability. Meantime, the Club has had good success in using the 'Grab One' website to sell winter green fees to bolster cash flow during the quiet months.



**Volunteers:** Where would our Club be without the huge amount of voluntary work put in by a great number of our members? Some of this work is organized within informal groups, but also there are many individuals who quietly and without seeking attention, see things that need doing and get on and do them. Be it repairs and maintenance around the clubhouse and surrounds, gardening and grooming around the course, wood-splitting and firewood sales, or all the committee work that keep our golf program running smoothly; every contribution helps – and, taken altogether, this involvement makes the Club a better organization both materially and socially. These efforts also help the Club to keep costs to a minimum and help it to save on expenses. To specifically identify any would inevitably be to overlook many. We are all grateful for every voluntary effort to help out. THANK YOU ALL.

**Clubhouse Comfort:** The member survey of 2014 indicated that there is member dissatisfaction with the heating/cooling of the clubhouse. Sometimes it is too hot inside for comfort while at this time of year it

certainly can get very cold in the lounge. The Board member responsible for the clubhouse thoroughly investigated the problem and looked for possible options for addressing the situation. While it is clear that fitting very expensive insulation and double-glazing would help, the best immediate solution from all perspectives (effective heating and cooling, energy efficiency, cleanliness, operational affordability, and adaptability to any future building developments) is to install heat pumps. The best price from the quotations received was \$16,000.00 for four units – this is the recommended optimum installation for our room volume. However, since this is currently an unbudgeted item and the Board has been unsuccessful in attracting grant monies to cover this expense, the member sought Board endorsement to seek financial support from the principal user groups to make a financial contribution to the project. The approaches were made and have met with polite, but universal rejection – and this at the coldest time of year! The only inference that can be taken from this is that creature comfort within our Clubhouse is not as important as was indicated from the survey. Accordingly, it is logical that this item should take a low priority in the formulation of future budgets. Good golfing to all....**Ed Isaac, Chairman**

**CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT:** Last Sunday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of July, the winds on the course reached 150 kph, re-enforced with heavy, squally showers, trees were being up rooted, branches were being scattered across the course and the creek burst its banks.... but 'golf must go on' as they say, and go on it did! My admiration for those hardy (or crazy?) souls is immense and it shows what a fearless bunch we have amongst us. How they kept their balls still on the greens amazes me!



Moving on, I'd like to congratulate Kevin Aanensen on becoming Convenor of the Men's Interclub set up. He is already making plans for next season and Kev will be canvassing members in due course. And we now have a new, youngish captain of the top team too, in the form of Ryan Kinealy - well done Ryan for putting your hand up.

The Shootout season is almost upon us and qualifying rounds begin very soon, for the men three nett par rounds over the 13 rounds will more or less guarantee your spot on the tee on 4<sup>th</sup> Dec (sounds pretty straightforward when you say it quickly!). The ladies have a slightly different challenge but the outcome is similar in that the qualifiers have the chance to play in what is one of the most popular competitions around. Our thanks go to our sponsors for this event, Brian Geddes, Builders for the men and Ryman's for the ladies.

Also starting next month is qualifying for the Club Champs, the premier event of the calendar. The ladies have an additional incentive this year in as much as the Wellington Golf Ladies Champion of Champions event is being played on our course on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December, home advantage and all that.

Cheryl Hughes from the Board and her newly formed committee are organising a number of, depending on popularity, Introduction to Golf courses, hopefully starting in September for those who want to get into golf but are still novices. I know Cheryl will be publicising this around the place (see article below). Coach of the Year, Kevin Smith, will take the courses and the idea is that afterwards, experienced members will help mentor the new players until they feel comfortable on the course. This may be a time to encourage a friend or family member to 'Get into Golf'. See you round the place....**Cliff Martin, Club Captain.**

## PROMOTIONS: EXCITING NEWS - we are introducing a new programme to the Club, an Introductory Golf



Programme called 'Get into Golf'. We have set up a committee of these wonderful volunteers Margaret, Jim, Caren, Joy, Jim and Cheryl who are helping to get the programme up and running.

### What we will be offering:

- 5 weekly coaching sessions with Kevin Smith in small groups of 8 people. Kevin will cover the fundamentals, progressing from putting, chipping, pitching, the full swing and playing lessons to cover the simple rules of golf and etiquette.
- Introductory 9 hole membership of Waikanae Golf Club, which includes access to all club facilities, bar, café, practice areas and the course, until the end of February 2017.
- Golf Clubs free for use (if required) for coaching and practice for a minimal deposit/bond.
- Once Kevin has finished his coaching we will pair you with a Buddy/ Mentor Club member to support, encourage and play golf with you, including fun club events.
- Dates – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016 & Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

**A flyer will be sent to every club member next week, with a joining form so keep your friends, family members and neighbours informed as spaces will be limited....Cheryl Hughes, Promotion and Communication.**



**MID WEEK MEN:** On Tuesday 5 July, a lovely fine winter's day, 50 golfers competed in a Par competition that also doubled as another round in the Winter Challenge. Michael Anderson cleared out from the field with a score of +6. Second on countback on +3 was Bill Ricketts. The others on +3 were Roy Leitch, John Plimmer, George Forbes and Kevin Woodley.

Another stunning winter's day on Tuesday 12 July saw 47 competitors play a net competition. This was also the sixth round of the Winter Challenge. The winner with a net score of 66 was Roy South. Second on countback was Peter Knight on 67. Tony Parrett also scored a 67.

On a bleak winter's day on 19 July a field of 45 played a stableford competition which was also round 7 of the Winter Challenge. The round started off in dry weather but the field got very wet over the last 4-5 holes. The winner on 42 points was Malcolm Catterall with Andy Provan following closely on 41.

What a difference a week makes!! On a beautiful winter's day a field of 43 played a par round on 26 July. The numbers were a bit down due to carts not being allowed on the course because of the recent wet conditions. Kaye Mitchell won the day with a score of +3. John Plimmer (on countback) followed at +2. Others on +2 were Tony Parrett, Graeme Wallis, and John McKechnie....**Kevin Woodley, for Mid Week Men**

## 9 HOLE MEN

The regular Wednesday winners this month were Doug Hipkins, Richard Berry and John Burns. The Ambrose Competition with the ladies on the 27<sup>th</sup> had two teams winning on 32.4 and the winners were Steve Scott, Margaret Walton, Ivan Shotter & Valerie Sissons and also Dale Maclaren, Tim Abbott and Richard Berry

Who would be interested in a Sunday Morning 9 Hole Mixed Stapleford Competition? If enough people show interest we think it could be arranged. It would be great for those of you who are busy through the week, it's always nice to win a golf ball every now and again, so let me know.



Because Levin had not hosted an Interclub match they had a mixed open day on the 19<sup>th</sup> which was mostly spoiled by the weather with many people not finishing. However it did provide the opportunity to present Kapiti with the new trophy. Many thanks to Doug Hipkins for organizing the trophy “Old Hickory”.... **Jim Dagarin for 9 Hole Men**

**WOMEN’S GOLF:** July was yet another when the weather gods failed to come to the party as far as Women’s golf was concerned and we again lost competition days, while only attracting smallish fields on the days when play was possible, and congratulations to the winners for the month, Cheryl Hughes, Angela Lee and Irene Dick.



We did manage to complete the 36 Hole Stroke Championship and Winter Plate which commenced in June. Maureen Creasy won the Winter Plate (Net event) on a countback, while Rae Henderson won the Stroke Championship (Gross event).

Waikanae has entered four teams in next year’s WGI Interclub competition. As well as the teams that played this year (Division 2 weekday, Tuakana Saturday and 9 Hole weekday) teams, we have entered a combined Waikanae / Paraparaumu team in the midweek Division 1 competition. Like us, Paraparaumu have a shortage of Division 1 players and were happy to join up with Waikanae so that both clubs could be represented.

With the Club Championship season approaching, we would like to thank Brian Geddes for agreeing to sponsor the Ladies event for each of the next three seasons. This is in addition to his sponsorship of the Men’s Shootout and is a very generous contribution to Women’s golf at Waikanae. Ryman Healthcare is also sponsoring the Women’s Shootout again this year and we thank them for their continuing support.

Finally I can report that our President, Olive Mitchell, is recovering well from the insertion of a Pacemaker and thanks everyone who has contacted her and wished her well since her ‘collapse’ at the end of June....**Rae Henderson, Women’s Captain**

## 9 HOLE WOMEN

How nice it is to be home! My overseas gallivanting finished this week and I returned to wonderful welcomes, good coffee (don't we miss that!), a beautiful golf course despite the winter weather horrors and golfers keen to take it all on one more time. In fact numbers have been very good and players have been pleased to get the most from any good spells of weather that come along.

Unfortunately, the 9 Hole men's field day at Levin (that we were very pleased to be invited to join) did not coincide with a good weather spell and players were drenched. Better luck next time! And another casualty of the weather was the interclub field day at Royal Wellington which had to be postponed, however the default date for this is 4<sup>th</sup> August so we are hoping for good weather for our chance to play the course and make some comparisons (all fair and unbiased of course).

Already we are planning our programme for next year and our next Round Robin hosting day at the beginning of September is approaching at speed. This is a day when the 5 local clubs get together and take it in turns to host...always fun and good to play each other's courses.

Only one more month of winter to come, love that shoe cleaning compressor....it's working overtime!....**Judy Stevenson for 9 Hole Women.**

**JUNIOR GOLF:** The mid-winter semester has begun with eleven hardy and keen players, and a welcome back to Jack Everet-Brown, who has not been with us during the previous semesters.



Our junior programme is the only one of the Kapiti clubs running throughout the year and during the school holidays the McDonalds interclub competition was held at Paraparaumu Beach Golf club. The weather was fine with dry conditions and the host club ran the nine hole competition, and all who played were well rewarded for their efforts with every player winning one or more prizes. The WGC Juniors were Sam Smith, Blair Smith and Regan Moffat. Again we would like to thank those who have given golfing clubs, trundlers and balls (We are over supplied with practice balls now thanks) Also a big thank you to the parents who make their children's attendance possible, pay the club membership and \$30 per semester coaching fee.



Pictured above, Sam Smith on the left and Blair Smith on the right and both played well at PBGC.

Another thing we are grateful for is our professional golf coach Kevin Smith, who won the top coach of the year against all coaches in the Wellington region. He had a one and a half day coaching programme during the school holidays, attended by 18 juniors. These are the keen juniors who are sure to make significant progress over the rest of the year....**Ken Kissling, for Junior Golf**

**HEALTH & SAFETY: Great News** - there were no H&S incidents reported this month so well done to all, however, that doesn't mean we can ignore the need for a safety conscious attitude, and the Board is currently conducting safety audits throughout the course, the buildings and grounds to minimize the potential for accidents to happen. If you feel there are areas where we can improve the safety at our Club then please let me know and we will investigate the issue....**Tony Parrett, for Health & Safety**



## COACHING CORNER: "Feels Aren't Real" Part 1



### Introduction

"Feels aren't real" is something a golf coach needs to ensure their clients understand fully...no matter what level the golfer is at! And also that just because it feels 'comfortable' that doesn't mean that it's correct!

It's said that even the great Bobby Jones suggested that it wasn't him (or what he thought he looked like) when seeing his golf swing on screen for the first time. What he felt like he was doing and what he was actually doing obviously didn't match up!  
We need to understand that what we feel like we do ..and what we actually do can be poles apart.

However, even though our 'feels' can lie to us. It's also important to appreciate that what we feel is real to us. But, the key here is to understand or take note of what it feels like when we are doing what we really want to be doing! Thus matching our feels with our new set up and or swing keys.

So with all this in mind over the next few months I am going to cover some realities that I have found some of my golfers have needed to face in order for them to achieve their golfing goals.

### Pic's 1 - 6: The Grip - Club face

The position of our hands is an extremely important key fundamental to get right during the set up.

As it IS our only link between us and the club. And of course has a direct influence over a number of factors during the golf swing, especially how the clubface returns back to the ball through impact.

Below I have demonstrated some of what i see on an almost daily basis.

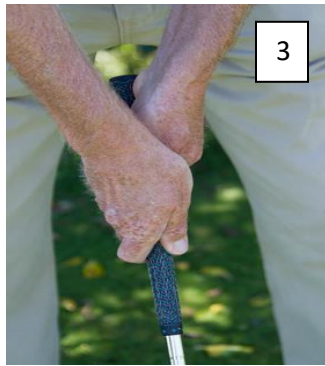
**Pic 1 and 2:** Here in pic 1 is a very wrong position for the hands to be! With the potential for the club face to return back closed (as shown in pic 2), leading to the golfer hooking the ball whenever the golfer allows their hands to release naturally through impact.



**Pic 3 & 4:** Below in pic 3 the hands are in a position where the club is likely to return back to the ball with an open club face resulting in slicing the ball.

Please note that the golfer using either one of these two grips will need to make some form of compensation(s) in order to square the club face off at impact to hit the ball somewhere straight.

Making golf a whole lot more complicated!



**Pic's 5 & 6:** In pic 5 the hands are in a much more correct position making it a whole lot easier for the golfer to return the club back square to the ball through impact.

And even though this may feel uncomfortable or different at first it is well worth persevering with as not only will it make it easier to return the club back squarely but it will also mean you won't have to make your usual compensations and potentially add club head speed and thus distance to your shots.

I suggest coming and seeing me to help you to make this transformation a whole lot easier.



### **Pic 7: Grip Right Training Club**

Here's a pic of a training aid I sometimes use which has a moulded grip to allow the golfer to find and replicate the correct hand position.

Placing their hands on it ....then off...then on...then off...etc. with repeating this exercise until they are able see and feel what the new more correct position is like....loading the correct 'muscle memory'.

And as suggested...in time this new position will feel both comfortable and natural. And of course provide much better results!



.....Kevin Smith, Professional Coach

**FROM THE PAR TEE CAFÉ:** Thirsty or hungry on the course? Call the Par Tee Café from the 9<sup>th</sup> Tee and order a coffee, tea or a sandwich by dialling **021 036 1636** and text your order, you can pick it up before you tee off on the 10<sup>th</sup> – put the number in your mobile now!



### Catering Services

The Winter Solstice Dinner (see June Issue) 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](mailto:jeaninevk@icloud.com)....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](mailto:iw.trim@gmail.com)

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