

PUKEKO PAGES – MAY 2016

The official Newsletter of the Waikanae Golf Club Inc.

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FROM THE CHAIR

AGM: The 2016 AGM will be held at the Club rooms at **7.00 pm on Thursday 23 June 2016**. Two Board members (Graeme Wallis and myself) are in mid-term of tenure. However, all other positions are open for election (President, Club Captain and two Board members) and the relevant Nomination Forms are available from the Office Manager (Marg). The following closing dates are applicable:

- Completed Nomination Forms for the positions of President, Club Captain and two Board members must be with the Office Manager by **5.00 pm, Thursday, 16 June 2016**
- Remits (in writing) must be in the hands of the Office Manager by **5.00 pm, Thursday, 9 June 2016**.

Board Remit to AGM: Notwithstanding the above, the Board will move that the current composition of the Board be increased by up to two Elected Members, effective from the 2016 AGM. Please check out the full remit and rationale for it once it is posted on the Club's Notice Board.

Health & Safety at Work – New Act:

- **Engagement.** In accordance with the requirements of the new law, the Club has engaged with its employees, contractors, volunteers and you (our members) to outline relevant safety requirements and responsibilities. Engagement is a two-way street – if you see any practice or omission that could lead to harm, or witness an accident or incident, please inform Marg so that it can be recorded and also so that the Board can investigate what (if anything) can be done. Your cooperation in this will help us keep everyone as safe as is “reasonably practicable”.
- **Great news.** The Club is advised by Worksafe NZ that, while the Club carries accountability and may be heavily penalised for a lack of due diligence, individual Board members (being unpaid volunteers) are not

personally liable. However, that personal exemption does not apply to our paid staff or contractors – please comply with any safety-related instructions they may give (they will have Board backing in any health & safety-related matter).

- **Whoopsy!!!** After rain, heavy dew or frost, many surfaces around the course may be slippery. We have had a couple of slips lately, with minor injuries ensuing, but it is just not reasonably practicable to cover every possible place with non-slip material, or to place signage all over the property. You will note that we have covered most of the exposed wooded walkway outside the shop and near the putting practice green – many thanks to Roger who laid it and the donor, Bill Ricketts. **HOWEVER, please be alert, always watch where you go and tread carefully!**

Trees and Bridges: By the time this goes out, the course should have a new look in some places with some serious tree removal having occurred and maybe (?) the (long-promised) new bridge in place over the Black Stream between 3 and 12. These works complete (actually exceed) all budgeted expenditure on course improvements for the financial year 2016-17. Any other improvements or upgrades will only arise from 'other' funding sources (but watch this space!). I'm sure you will agree that the course has never looked or played better. Well done to the Greens Staff, the Greens Committee and our many volunteers.

Future 2 Feasibility Study: A coordination meeting, where each sub-committee chairman will give an update on thinking and progress, will be held in the Clubhouse at **7.00 pm on Thursday 09 June 2016**. Interested spectators will be welcome.

Membership Recruitment Initiative: Our appointed sales representative (Fraser Richards) whose job it is to bolster our membership and to sell sponsorships and other promotional offerings will commence work on 1 August 2016 - Good golfing to all....**Ed Isaac, Chairman**

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

I would first of all like to offer my condolences to Margie Wattam and her family after the sad loss of Mick, her husband, a previous Club Captain of Waikanae Golf Club and great bloke, who passed away recently.

My first, but hopefully not my last year as Club Captain is rapidly drawing to a close. As mentioned previously, the AGM is on Thursday 23rd June, and if you are able to get along to the meeting that would be great. It's not long and drawn out and you will get a flavour for how the Club hopes to develop in the years to come.

The course has had several inches of rain lately and coupled with the very high tides there are some areas that are pretty soft and others that are under water but have you noticed how quickly the course drains. The other Saturday we hosted the semi- finals of the Duncan Cup, Wellington's premier golf competition, the day after about two inches of very intense rain fell, the greens were true and quick for the players and aside from the odd damp patch the course was in A1 condition. It was so pleasing to hear from members of all four teams how impressed they were with our course and how much better it was than theirs. Now, when you add in the quality of our caterers, Party Perfect, these days, we really have some facilities to be proud of. However, as with many clubs we still have some way to go in other areas around the place but the Board is focused on getting things right.

If any of you have a spare couple of million making the place untidy, give me a call!

On the Men's interclub front, the third team with the elegant John Murphy at its helm has won the division with a round to spare, while the second team needs a good result next time out against Mahunga to secure top spot. The first team has finished comfortably in mid table.

It was great to be able to spend a short time with the Ladies section recently, going over a few of their rules queries that crop up while playing and to explain how some situations that occur on our course, in particular, can be resolved, to everyone's satisfaction.

Now, onto the Greens Committee - over 80 pines, Norfolks and willows were felled in the last month, about 70 pines of which were for 2 Degrees alongside the 17th fairway so they could provide a better signal from the Waikanae Beach area. They have left us the timber to split and sell and I would personally like to thank Alan Power and his merry men for their great efforts in supplying and selling firewood for members and residents of the area. If you need any firewood see Marg in the office. The other trees were felled to improve safety and the playing of golf and were paid for by the generosity of the sections of the club. I'd also like to thank the members for their patience while this work was being undertaken.

Hopefully, by the time you read this, the long awaited bridge near the 3rd tee will be up and running again. I don't think building the Bridge on the River Kwai had as many problems as our version, culminating just as piling was about to begin, a wasp nest was discovered exactly where the first pile was going so yet another, albeit shortish delay.

Finally and on a personal note, I am proud to be able to write this article as the newest Kiwi in Waikanae as Caren and I became NZ citizens at the latest ceremony at the Civic Centre in Paraparaumu.

"See you soon, bro'."**Cliff Martin, Club Captain**

MID WEEK MEN

On the last Thursday in April the Evergreens team played Te Marua at Manor Park. Without our inspirational Aussie captain (Bernie Shiell) we had our first loss 8.5-6.5. Overall however, we still lead the competition by 7 points. Individual winners on the day were Denys Wright, Peter Cresswell and Allan Chisholm. Roy Leitch halved his match. Foursomes winners were Roy South and John Plimmer, Kevin Woodley and Peter Cresswell and Allan Chisholm and Bill Ricketts. Kevin Woodley was top stableford player from Waikanae with 39 points (still lost his singles match!) followed by Allan Chisholm on 36.

Following a rained out day on 3 May, 49 starters turned up for a stableford plus hidden hole bonus competition. There were a number of defections due to the Kapiti Classic being held during the week. The winner on an adjusted score of 48 was Peter McIntosh. Second on countback, based on the actual stableford points scored before adding the bonus points, was Bryan Futter on 46 points. John McKechnie had to settle for third with the same overall score.

49 starters appeared for a net competition on 17 May. There was a cold southerly but it stayed dry. The scores matched the temperature - not good! As it turned out only one golfer - Malcolm Catterall with a net of 68, achieved a sub-par round. Second on 71 was Jim Lynch. The prize list went down as far as a net 80!! Paul Ronberg cleaned up with 12 golf balls having the only 2 in the Shop competition.

On 24 May there were 41 starters in the first round of the Winter Challenge. Numbers were down due to inclement weather and also the funeral of one of our members, Mick Wattam. Our condolences go to Mick's

family. The winner, drawn by lot, on a stableford score of 38 was John McKechnie. The unfortunate player also on 38 was Peter Knight. However, he consoled himself by winning a raffle, getting a 2 and also picking up 2 other novelty prizes!!

41 starters for a par competition on Tuesday 31 May. As carts were not permitted on the course, it was decided that the next round of the Winter Challenge would be postponed until the following week. It was a cold day and the course was very wet in places. Bernie Shiell proved too strong with a par score of +5. Malcolm Catterall followed with a +3. Oliver Son cleaned up the Shop 2 competition and claimed 14 balls.

Hole in One: Ed Isaac holed out at the par 3 - 14th hole at Otaki during the 4-Day Kapiti Coast Classic earlier this month, and it was only the second hole-in-one in eleven years of the tournaments history – well done Ed....**Kevin Woodley for Mid Week Men.**

9 HOLE MEN – Welcome to a new contributor

I think the Golden Summer is over – it's been great while it lasted. It has been a busy autumn for 9 hole men these last 2 months. April saw the completion of the Bill Mclean Match Play Trophy with George Hemphill and Tony Tait in the final, George being victorious

Thanks to the efforts of Wynn Ingram an initial 9 hole men's interclub has been started with Waikanae, Kapiti, Otaki and Levin taking part. The first matches were held in Waikanae the 26th of April and the second on the 21st of May. The standings so far are Kapiti on 7 1/2, Waikanae on 7, Otaki on 6 and Levin on 3 1/2 points.

Our monthly competition with the women had to be abandoned this month due to bad weather.

We will be trialing a points accumulating match play competition over the next month or two to see if the format works. I would like to remind 18 hole members that you are welcome to join us on Monday, Wednesday or Friday especially if you are thinking of dropping down to 9 holes in the future.... **Jim Dagarin for 9 Hole Men.**

WOMEN'S GOLF

The Women's golfing calendar has been badly affected by the weather over the past few weeks with no Wednesday golf having been played since early May. The Waimeha Trophy was finalised between the showers with Kip Marshall defeating Steph Drinnan 4/3 in the final, and winning this event for the second successive year. Congratulations Kip.

Our Division 2 Pennant team finished third in their section three points behind the winners Karori. We hosted the final round on May 2 when, unfortunately, results did not go our way. The Tuakana team won their match against Miramar 8.5 to 3.5 but with only one round to play are out of contention for the finals, with Kapiti having an unassailable lead in this section. Thanks to the Convenors of both teams, Marg Cooke, Kip Marshall and Angela Lee for organising these teams this season.

The Thommo Trophy event, a friendly fixture with Manawatu Golf Club, has been cancelled after almost twenty years of competition. Both clubs were struggling to field teams each year and a mutual decision was made that the event had run its race. Our thanks go to Di Andrews who was instrumental in setting up this event so many years ago.

The women are holding a fund-raising movie afternoon at Shoreline Cinema on Thursday, June 30 and all members of the club are most welcome to attend. The film we have chosen is 'Me before You' which has been very well reviewed. As in previous years, we will have drinks and nibbles prior to the movie, and a raffle will be run in conjunction. Bookings sheets are available at the club.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that Cheryl Hughes, our very capable Secretary, has been nominated for the Board of the Club. I hope as many Club members as possible attend the AGM on July 23 and show their interest in the future of the Club....**Rae Henderson, Women's Captain.**

9 HOLE WOMEN'S REPORT

"How about we play the 14th nine times between downpours?"A very good suggestion made by the 4 intrepid 9 hole men who turned up to play with us this week on our regular last - Wednesday of – the - month date. Horizontal rain however put paid to that suggestion. The end of the golden weather has arrived, but the course remains beautiful, the greens fast and true and the torrential rain drains off amazingly quickly. Our Matchplay Champion has been decided in a close-fought game when Yvonne Fraser managed a (lady-like as stipulated in the last report!) win over Judith Jackson. Well done to both of you and especially of course to Yvonne.

A couple of us attended the defibrillator training session with the Wellington Free Ambulance. It was very well presented and gave us information, hands-on practice (although disappointingly the dummies had smooth chests so we weren't able to try out the razor!!) and confidence with CPR and the use of the defibrillator equipment.

Interclub news this month has been mixed, with about equal wins and losses over the last 3 games. We have a reasonable number of willing participants to choose a team from (but always looking for more...the more the merrier) and it is always an enjoyable day with a great group of women and a good variety of courses to play.

So winter is upon us, but hey! We have a fast-draining course, superb ground staff with seriously good coffee and hot food. We can cope!....**Judy Stevenson for 9 hole Women.**

HEALTH & SAFETY

It's all go with the new H&S Act and the associated bureaucracy however, it is for everyone's benefit so hang in there, and as Ed mentions in his From the Chair article your cooperation is really appreciated.

Accident Register: There were two incidents recorded in May, both involving lady members slipping on wet timber. The incidents were investigated and remedies put in place – new carpeting outside the Pro Shop and the removal of timber planks from the side of the 3rd Tee. The ladies are fine apart from bruised dignities.

Safety Meeting: A Tool Box meeting was held with the woodcutting team on 30th May at the Greenkeepers shed. Topics discussed were: Appropriate safety gear and reviewing safe woodcutting procedures, Alan and Andy are working together on this and thanks to his hard working team for attending**Safe woodcutting.**

Defibrillator Training: A repeat training session was hosted by Wellington Free Ambulance on Thursday 19th May with 19 Members and partners attending the session (40 previously), some of those who re-attended said that it was a much better presentation than previous.

Work Safe Meeting: Work Safe NZ gave a presentation to Board members, Contractors and Staff regarding the new HSWA in May, and there were several questions raised with clear explanations given by Aiden Gilhooly of Work Safe. He also met with our Course Superintendent, Andy Rutter, and was satisfied that H&S was a key focus of the Greens Staff.

An important piece of advice for WGC members is: “**ALWAYS** be aware of others and conditions on the course”....**Tony Parrett, for Health & Safety**

COACHING CORNER Short Game: Lob or Bump and Run?

Introduction:

This month I'm going to look at when you might play a bump and run and when you might prefer to play a lob shot. However this is also based on what your strengths are and you are more confident of doing?

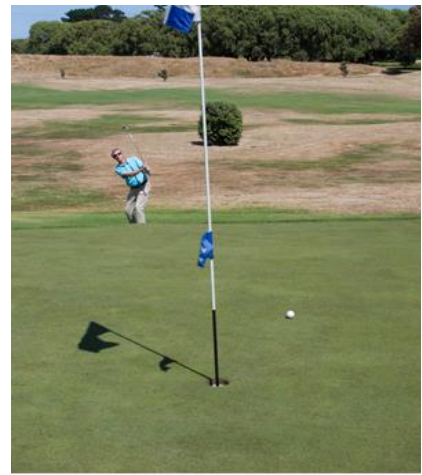
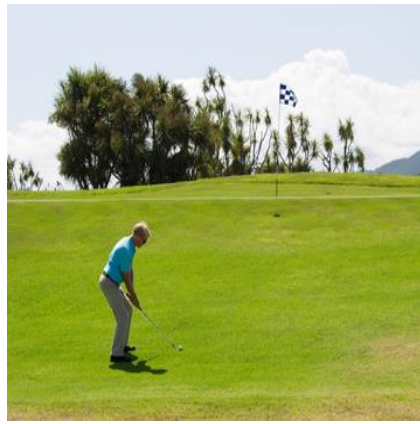


Pic 1 to 4 - Bump and Run

In pic 1 you can see how the ball sits in the rough and below the green. However what you may not see is that my ball is also sitting down into the grass with the green sloping away from me, i.e. downhill.

Given these two conditions even though it appears that there is a good amount of green to work with, I have elected not to lob the ball up high as I believe that the ball will feed down the slope leaving myself a long par saving putt and is a high risk shot. But instead have elected to use an 8 iron with landing ball into the slope of the bank just short of the green (as indicated by my disk) with the ball then bouncing a couple of times to take a little bit of speed off it before gently rolling down the green towards the hole.

Note that to ensure you play a positive shot and leave yourself a more makeable uphill putt, visualise the ball finishing just passed the hole as shown in pic 4.



Pic 5 to 9 - Lob the Ball High

This situation is very different with the ball sitting up nicely with a much steeper bank in front of me than the shown in the previous shot, making it a lot riskier to bump the ball into the bank in front. However this time the slope of the green is now in my favour with being slightly up hill to the hole thus helping to slow the ball down once it's on the green.

So here I've elected to take my 58 degree lob wedge with making a much slower but fuller swing getting the ball to pop up nice and high before landing softly onto the green once again finishing close and below the hole, for another short par saving putt.

One thing we know about golf, and that is, it is not a game of perfection, so hitting every green in regulation very rarely happens.

So this is why you need to practice all of the different shots around the green identifying not only what we need to 'work on' but also what works for us individually.

Remembering that when we are out on the course that we should play to our strengths as much as often as possible for stress free golf.

Have fun experimenting with different shots from different lies....**Kevin Smith, Coaching Professional.**

Congratulations Kevin, on being named the Kapiti Coach of the Year.

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. Just use your mobile phone and text your order and you can pick it up before you tee off on the 10th – no other golf club has this service.

Another first from the Waikanae Golf Club and well done to Jeanine and her team....**Editor**

WEBSITE VACANCY

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

WAIKANAЕ 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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