

**INGLEWOOD GOLF CLUB
PRESIDENTS REPORT
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 18/11/14**

It is with some measure of pride that I present my first President's Report to this Annual General Meeting. Pride in the fact that I still feel honoured to have been elected as President this time last year, pride to be your representative where required and pride in being a member of a club that clearly has a reputation for being friendly, welcoming and delivering a well presented golf course.

MEMBERSHIP

At the time of writing, the Club' membership stands at 393 made up of 287 men and 106 women.

We currently have within our 393 members, 37 Juniors and 31 Summer members. I believe this compares favourably with figures this time last year and we are on target to reach our goal of 400 members. Membership, and its resulting subscriptions, provides a large percentage of the Club's income so it is important to not only attract additional members, but to retain them. With a few exceptions, Club membership continues to be an issue throughout New Zealand. NZ Golf has released a number of initiatives to promote golf to the wider public during the last year, but it will still be up to individual Clubs to be innovative in the ways to make being a member an attractive option. This Club is well placed to offer all current and potential members a real "value for money" experience. Retaining members is not just about cheaper or discounted subscriptions; it is the whole golfing experience. We have great facilities, an excellent course, friendly and welcoming members, and we enjoy a fair measure of golfing success.

FINANCE

Craig Wisnewski, our Accountant from Duncan Dovico, will be presenting the Financial Statements, along with his report shortly, but I want to just touch on the highlights of our results for the last year. The reports will show that the Club made a net profit of \$68,669.00 (before depreciation and capital expenditure). This compares with the loss reported from the previous year of -\$16,805.00. Our net cash position after depreciation and capital expenditure is just over \$3,600.00 better off. Given the capital expenditure (see ACHIEVEMENTS below) this is an excellent result and sees the Club remain in a healthy financial position moving forward.

ACHIEVEMENTS

This year has seen a number of achievements both on and off the course. The Club was in a strong financial position at the beginning of this year and several opportunities arose that the Committee were able to take advantage of. These included:

- The purchase of the new Toro Rotary Mower costing around \$90,000.00 of which \$35,000.00 was funded by the Taranaki Electricity Trust (TET).
- The installation of the concrete cart paths.
- Purchase of the Sand Spreader at a cost of \$12,000.00
- The purchase of 2 second hand golf carts ex Wairakei Golf Club at \$3,000.00 each plus additional batteries for another \$1,500.00
- Creation of the Club's website
- The purchase of a second hand quad bike at a cost of \$4,000.00
- The upgrade of the men's toilet block at a cost of \$33,000.00 of which \$25,000.00 was funded by the NZ Community Trust.
- The purchase and installation of the new tee signs with much of the cost donated and/or sponsored

From a golfing perspective achievements have included:

- The Saturday Women's Pennant Team winning the Taranaki Women's Pennants Competition
- Kerry Otene - Taranaki Golf Tour Order of Merit gross winner with Ben Joseph 3rd in the gross
- Brad Cottam making the junior Booth Shield team
- Brad Cottam and Ben Joseph participating in the Under 19 Nationals
- Both Inglewood men's pennants teams topping their respective pools in round robin play, only to lose in the quarter finals
- Sue Dodunski being appointed as Assistant Manager to the Taranaki Women's Team
- Ben Joseph and Melanie Wilson being selected as Taranaki Senior Representatives for inter-district events

All in all it has been quite a successful year for the Club.

TOURNAMENTS

A large part of this Club's success goes to those who organise, promote and run our tournaments. On behalf of the Committee, and the Club at large, I would like to thank:

- Rodney Clough for the \$100.00 Club tournament
- Graeme Small for the Taranaki Pairs tournament – run over 2 days
- Merv Dew for the Wednesday Club
- Gordon Beckett and Harley Simpson for the Monthly tournaments
- Joan Burgess (and crew) for Twilight
- Chris Wilson (and crew) for Business House
- Shaun Gower for the various Open and Club competitions
- To all those that act as starter for our various week-end competitions

A number of these tournaments require a big time commitment in promotion, filling starters' sheets, managing/organising other help and prizes, running the tournaments and officiating at prize-giving. Without their endeavours most of us would just be playing for a beer or bragging rights.

I would like to thank those club members that turn out regularly to our Club events, and encourage others to make the most of the opportunities this Club provides. I am living proof that even an average golfer can win a trophy. On that front I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the trophy winners in both the men's and women's Club competitions. For the rest of us, we have to make do with the memory of playing amongst winners, and making those quiet promises to ourselves to do better next year.

SUB COMMITTEES and SECONDMENTS

As you will be aware, the Executive Committee appoints several Sub Committees and seconds others to various tasks where appropriate. I'd like to briefly cover their activities for the last year.

MATCH COMMITTEE – Aably chaired by our Club Captain, Shaun Gower. This committee is primarily responsible for organising all our week-end golfing activities, including the preparation of our Club Programme booklet. Our programme, this year, ran pretty much as planned with just the occasional hiccup caused by bad weather. I would like to thank all those members that have assisted Shaun this year, whether it be as a starter, raffle seller, computer operations or a "goffer".

GREENS COMMITTEE – Convened, once again, by Kelvin Jackson along with Marty (our paid Green-keeper) and a small, but dedicated, bunch of volunteers. I don't pretend to understand the science of green keeping but what I do know is that our Greens Committee

work damned hard to make our course as presentable as possible. Tasks of mowing, fertilising, verti-draining, sanding, spraying and other activities are delivered in a planned manner but, once again, are subject to weather, resources and man power. We have received many compliments about our course during the last year, but I am also aware that there has been some criticism from time to time. I would ask those that do have such comments to make to please make them known to the Greens Committee as just talking to mates and friends does not ensure that those who need to know actually get to hear your views.

HOUSE COMMITTEE – This committee, chaired by Harley Simpson, was charged with taking a more pro-active role with all matters dealing with the Club House. This also involved working more closely with the Women’s House Committee under the guidance of Joan Burgess. Between them they have dealt with many of the day to day, even mundane, tasks that result in a well-kept and presentable club house. Two major results have been:

- ❖ The Light Club project which is designed to make our Club more energy efficient and environment friendly. This has resulted in the installation of energy efficient light bulbs and the trialling of a rubbish collection system based more on recycling. The cost of this system is being covered by the NPDC for the first year and, for subsequent years, costs look as if they will be cheaper than for previous years. Harley has led this project and I thank him personally for his efforts.
- ❖ The replacement of the blinds in the Club House at a cost of around \$3,000.00. These blinds provide the shade we require from time to time, but still allow one to see outside. We are grateful to the Women’s Committee who fronted up with all the cost. They are a great improvement to the Club House.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE – This sub-committee was made up of Cam Murray, Paul Wadsworth and Neville Jans. They are responsible for administering all the membership data, for both new and existing members, accounting for subscriptions, maintenance of the various membership sections and the issuing of membership tags and club programmes. These are often thankless tasks, and not a lot of feedback comes their way, until something goes wrong. On behalf of the entire Club I would like to thank all three gentlemen for the work they have carried out this last year.

In particular, I would like to say a special “thank you” to Paul Wadsworth who has managed our subscriptions tirelessly for a number of years. This last year saw Paul take on the unenviable task of tidying up the level of subscriptions that had been paid in advance. This situation had grown quite large and represented a sizeable potential liability for the Club. I would like to thank all those members Paul has had to contact regarding this matter for the co-operation and understanding they have shown. The result has been the complete elimination of this potential liability and, hopefully, eases Paul’s work load just a little.

I would like to remind all Club members that under our rules there are options for those that cannot pay their subscriptions by the due date. These options are available upon request being made to the Membership Committee.

OTHERS

Cam Murray – Documenting the various Club policies. Upgrading the Club Rules and establishing a short and long term planning process.

John Christini – Establishing the Club’s website at no cost to the Club.

Brett Williams – Maintaining existing sponsors and introducing new ones. Two major sponsorships for the Club have been Augusta National – main sponsor for the Taranaki Pairs and The Devon Hotel – Eagles sponsorship. As always, the Committee would like to see our members support our sponsors whenever possible.

Chris Smith – Managing all the Club’s finances, administering our online banking activities, liaising with the Club’s accountants and monthly financial reporting.

Melanie Wilson – Maintaining the Dot Golf system for Club and other tournaments. Also involved with the new tee sign designs

Debbie Masters – The Club’s Secretary who has always ensured accurate recording of our monthly meetings, and timely distribution of minutes.

Chris Wilson – Junior convenor – As always we are extremely grateful for the time and effort Chris puts in to our Junior golf. There have been some good achievements from our juniors this year, despite their small numbers. We have the resources, and the personnel, to support more juniors so it would be good to see their numbers increase in the coming year.

Seniors, under the direction of Gordon Beckett and Harley Simpson, still field good numbers with an excess of 30 members. Their major competition, the Duckhook, sees this bunch of gentlemen being well travelled within Taranaki during the golfing year.

Members Welfare - Ron & Helen Thompson, and Joan Burgess who provide contact on behalf of our Club to members in times of need, or members families in times of bereavement. Whether it be the organising of flowers, or hospital visits I’m grateful that we have members who take the time to deliver our Club’s support for others.

CONCLUSION

I know this report is bit longer than normal, but I felt it important to recognise the work that many individuals have contributed to the Club this year. Yes, most of these people are your elected representatives and are doing what you probably expect of them. I think it is nice to know that they are delivering on those expectations.

The coming year will see new developments happening for our Club. The new cart shed project is already underway and the new committee will be looking at other opportunities for capital development. On a national perspective, there will be some new Health & Safety legislation introduced in April next year that will require our attention. Members will be fully informed of any policy decisions that result from the same.

When I accepted the role of President last year, it was on the understanding that I would be relying heavily on the new Committee, and the membership at large, to assist me with my presidency. I am very grateful for the support I have been shown over the last year by all I have come into contact with and trust that my tenure to date has met your expectations. In particular, I would like to thank the out-going committee for all their support in my first term as President, and for all their enthusiasm in carrying out respective tasks and activities. I have made myself available to serve as your President for the coming year, and look forward to working with the new committee as we continue to make Inglewood golf Club the best golf club in Taranaki.

John Masters
PRESIDENT