

CAPTAIN'S REPORT 2020

Who could have foreseen such a turbulent year as we have just experienced? Starting with the terrifying fires that kept us all on edge during January, to the heavy rains that ended the fires, but brought so much flooding and to top it off, a pandemic, the likes of which had not been seen in 100 years.

We were well served in the early months of the year by the previous Board, headed by **Rob Russell** and supported by **Marilyn Schott, Alan Davies, Rob Willdig, Geoff Collins, Greg Montgomery, Connie Parrish** and **Ian Asbury**, who all worked diligently, to ensure that our golf course was available for our members. The effort that went into keeping the course open and adhering to the daily changing rules that the government was imposing due to COVID-19, cannot be overstated. I congratulate them all on the work that they did. I would also like to acknowledge the tremendous effort that our professional, **Greg Collins** and his wife **Jo** did in keeping us informed of Golf NSW requirements and the huge effort from **Peta Griffin** and **Brett Lawson**, enabling us all to play the game that we love.

Who will forget the days of groups of 2! All carts with only 1 person! Noodles in the hole! Marking your own card and no rakes in the bunkers.

Yes, it was trying and there was little social interaction, as we all went straight home after the game. With great co-operation from our members, we managed to get through the difficult time and again with careful planning opened the course to visitors and the public. Fields in competitions throughout the year have been on the increase and number playing on the course are at a record level.

The down side was that many of the usual interclub events including B Pennants, the White Horse Cup and the Shoalhaven Shield had to be cancelled or abandoned in 2020. One of the few events that did take place was The Illawarra Pennants. Our club was asked to host the Finals and we were proud to have presented our course in such great condition.

As the year wore on, we had the opportunity to complete some of our championship events. Congratulations to the winners:

A Grade Champion	Ian Asbury
B Grade Champion	Sean Young
C Grade Champion	Jamie Davidson
2BBB Match Play	Brett Lawson & Gary Miles
Singles Match Play	Jamie Davidson
A Grade Medal of Medals	Warrick Merchant
B Grade Medal of Medals	Robert French
C Grade Medal of Medals	David Goyette

We also had an astounding 14 holes in one during the year.

Our Superintendent, Keenan Hobbs and his team did an astonishing job of not only maintaining the course, but of introducing a few alterations, that have enhanced the course, even though they were without the assistance of the usual volunteers and had the additional duties associated with the COVID-19 obligations.

In my monthly letter to members, I have tried to provide another layer of communication with our members and a means of broadening our knowledge of the rules of golf. I hope I have been somewhat successful.

Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to be the Captain of such a great golf club.

Phillip Behan

Club Captain