



The Heads

SHOALHAVEN HEADS GOLF CLUB LTD



Club Captain's Newsletter October 2024

Dear Members,

Welcome to the October Newsletter. Quite a bit to get through, so here we go.....

Medal Winners October 2024:

A Grade: M. Shirlaw (68 Net)

B Grade: R. Margerison (67 Net)

C Grade: I Griffin (63 Net)



Family day out in Monthly Medal

The October monthly medal sponsored by First National Real Estate was very much a family affair.

In A grade it was Peta Griffin who had her best round in some time recording a net 68 to edge out her brother Matt Shirlaw on a count back. Whilst Peta won the day Matt will receive the Mens Monthly Medal for October.

In C grade a fine score of 63 from the Medal specialist Ian (Snapper) Griffin was enough to snare the Medal by 3 shots to Ian Kerr.

B grade Bob Margerison recorded a 67 to get the job done by a shot to Nick Wilson.

Playing numbers for September 2024 were:

Members Comp (including reciprocal clubs) 1,573

Visitors Comp	106
Social	1,635
TOTAL:	3,314

Play as it lies planned to recommence as of November Medal Round.

Men's Matchplay Knockout:

Has commenced and we are up to the Quarter Finals.

Updated news from Chris Russell for the Ladies:

Congratulations to Gail Pottenger for winning the Medal of Medals 2024!

Current Greens Update:

Here is an update on the current conditions of the Greens from Will Ockenden. If anyone has further questions, please send them directly to me at clubcaptain@shoalhavenheadsgolfclub.com.au.

As you will be aware I have started on the Poa Annuua (winter grass) eradication.

During this winter the Poa population multiplied at a rapid rate more than normal due to the weather conditions. During May, June and July we received just under 1000mm (1metre) of rainfall. These wet conditions are perfect for Poa to grow and to out compete the bent grass, which it has succeeded in doing.

Poa eradication is a slow process of approximately 3-4 months. It doesn't happen overnight, but it does enable the bent grass to take cover over where the Poa was.

I chose to spray the 4th, 7th, 13th, putter and half of the 11th with Poa Cure (METHIOZOLIN). These were the most infested with Poa due to their proximity to the bushland and limited sunlight through the cooler months. These greens

would hardly see more than 2 hrs. of direct sunlight some areas on the greens would not see any.

As I said it is a slow recovery. These greens are receiving extra fertiliser to get the bent grass moving quicker to cover where the Poa was. As the temperature rises the growth of the bent also increases which will help the recovery.

If you take a close look at the greens, we currently have about 50% bent grass to Poa ratio in all of the greens sprayed with Poa Cure (METHIOZOLIN), except for the putter. The putter had approximately 80% Poa and has struggled to recover due to the size and the amount of wear it receives with practicing.

All the other greens have been sprayed with two suppressants, Paclobutrazol which is also a growth regulator and Ethofumesate which is a suppressant for Poa.

These two will control and slow the growth of the Poa which will enable the bent to cover over. These products have been used on the remaining greens and you can clearly see that the Poa is sitting down and the bent is growing over. These greens have a ration of 75% bent to Poa 25% and that is why these two were used.

Just remember that this is a slow process and that the end result is what we are chasing.

It is going to be a little painful on those greens sprayed with Poa Cure for a few months, but the end result will be worth it.

Trust the process!

Reminders:

We will have the new 9th green back in play for the December Medal Round.

Commencement of the 2nd renovations to start early January. That gives the Green's staff time to work on repairs to the 9th temporary green.

When the 2nd green is out of play the 9th temp will be used again and we will have a 155M (Men's) and 135M (Ladies) to the new 9th green.

We envisage the 2nd to be ready for play in April 2025.

Practice/Chipping Green Area:

Our Practice putting/chipping area has been defined with yellow markers with a black top. Playing competitors are advised that before playing that practice must be confined within the designated area set out by these pegs. Any practicing on day of competition (other than Matchplay) outside the designated area would result in an instant disqualification.

Renovation of 2nd hole:



Above is a sketch of the new green and additional tee box.

When completed we will benefit from the following:

- Total renovation of 2nd Green.
- Create New tee box 2nd hole.
- Turf new tee box 9th hole
- The new Green will have 3 slight tiers.
- 2 bunkers (front) protecting the green.
- Extra cart path joining up with existing path near the green creating a full length path from tee to green.
- Increase the pin placement to from 15% to 75% usage.
- Reduce wear and tear on 2nd green because of increased pin placements options.
- Creates more variety from 2nd and 9th tees.
- Deletes NPZ between 9th and 2nd holes (hopefully)
- Safety issues reduced from 9th tees.
- Reuse 2nd green turf for 9th and 2nd new tee boxes.

Longest Day Cancer Council:

The Longest Day where players play up to 4 rounds of golf and raise money for The Cancer Council will be held on Monday December 9th. **The good news is that if you sign up there is no obligation to play 4 rounds.** Why not sign up, raise some \$\$\$ for an important cause and enjoy playing golf for free and maybe get a feed on us too. Anyone interested or want more information can contact Colin Brown at colin@worksafeapparel.com.au or see Col at the Club over the next few weeks.

Updates:

New Flags, Pins and Cups have been purchased. Our supplier does not produce Blue Flags so we will be changing from Blue to Red for forward Pins.

Thanks to the VETS for contributing \$1,500 towards the cost.

Apologies to any members who had trouble or could not get an afternoon tee booking for this Saturday October 19th due to an overbooking of 2 visiting

groups that were accepted at the same time. We have put a system in place to avoid this occurring again.

Thanks for reading and happy Birdie hunting!

Phil Lyons