



Newsletter of the Lane Cove Golf Club
For the information of members and their guests

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(Edited by Ralph Sadler - email; ralphsadler@icloud.com)

FROM THE BOARD



Welcome back to our Club in 2021, a year that will see your Board continue to fight for the retention of the golf course in its current footprint.

Council is yet to have a meeting for 2021 so we have no further updates. In the last issue of Links, we advised that Council was now floating a third option for the course being parklands, walking tracks, ponds and barbeque areas. Apparently, Council intend to have more community consultation on the options for the course space. It is clear that the future of the course is a long way off being resolved.

So, in the meantime please continue to play lots of golf. Remember that all golfing members can play in any of the competitions. Over Summer a number of men and juniors played in the ladies' comp on a Sunday ensuring our block booking times are being used.

Over the Christmas / New Year period we had to comply with new NSW Health requirements in relation to Covid. A big thank you to all staff and patrons for your assistance in ensuring our Covid plan was being followed. Currently we are still under the 4 square metre rule which makes it difficult to attract functions to the Club, but hopefully this will change within the coming months.

The Club is no longer eligible for Job Keeper as our income has exceeded the threshold. Thanks to more members and public coming in and enjoying a drink on the deck after golf. A special thanks to Dave Martin whose food continues to draw patrons to the Club who also spend at the bar.

Please feel free to contact any Board member if you have questions or suggestions either speak to us directly or address an email to info@lanecovegolfclub.com.au.

Friday Night Chicken Run ITS BACK!
Looking for a fun way to start your weekend? Join us for the Friday Night Chicken Run!

- * Tee off any time after 4.30, no need to book
- * 9 holes of social golf. Members, non-members, beginners, pros, all welcome
- * Runs over daylight saving months
- * Presentation on deck, with winner receiving the much-sought after frozen chicken



CAPTAIN'S CORNER



I'm sure by now we have all settled into the new year and can't wait to get back into our regular schedule of events for 2021. Luckily COVID has not affected us too much on the course and while we still have to be mindful of the few restrictions in place, we are very lucky to still be able to play our favourite sport.

By now everyone should have received their 2021 Information and Fixtures booklet for 2021, but if you haven't, please ask any Committee member to get you a copy. The booklet lists

all the events for 2021 so you can plan your assault on your favourite event.

First up is the Singles Knockout, with Round 1 being played on Saturday 13th February. The draw is now on the noticeboard so please check and remember it is your responsibility to contact your opponent to arrange the match. If you are unable to get to the Club to find out who you are playing, please e-mail me on wbelgre@bigpond.net.au and I will let you know who you have drawn.

Please note, we cannot allow postponements as it would cause too much disruptions to later rounds, so it is up to each member to arrange his match.

One final thing about the match play is that just because you are playing a match, does not mean you can take as long as you want to play it.

Slow play will not be tolerated in matches and please remember once your match is finished you must leave the course and not play out the remaining holes, "just for practice".

Another major event coming up is the Gold Medal. Played in conjunction with the February Medal, the Gold Medal is a playoff for anyone who won a Medal in 2020. To see if you are eligible, again please check the noticeboard for the names of members playing off for the Gold Medal.

One last thing is I would like to mention is a safety issue. There are several spots on the course where it is not possible to see the group in front of you. For example, hitting to the 3rd green from the tee, hitting to the gully on the 5th, hitting around the corner on the 7th and when hitting to the 9th fairway from the 8th tee.

In all these instances, both the group playing the hole and the group just about to tee off have responsibilities. For the group playing any of the holes mentioned, why not leave a bag in an area when the group behind can see it. Thus they realise your group is still in range. For the group about to tee off, maybe walk a little forward to ensure the group in front are out of danger.

This by the way is not an invitation to slow down, but merely a common sense approach to ensure everyone is safe on the course.

Good luck to everyone in the upcoming events.

WAYNE BELGRE



BITS & PIECES from the Editor

* It may be possible to get free tickets for all four days of the NSW Open Championship at Concord GC, 25-28 March. Go to eventbrite.com.au, put in the Championship name and in the message the following should appear; **For a limited time only, secure your FREE Season Pass, valued at \$60.00.** Still current as at 1 February.

* In the LC Council monthly newsletter, *In Focus*, under Infrastructure projects, the Golf Precinct project has disappeared from the list of all stages of projects, ordered from currently under way to completed. It was there last month! Where are we at?

* Best wishes to Life Member Ron Jeffrey and former Director, Ian Butters, who have both undergone some serious medical treatment lately. I believe the latter was ordered by his doctor to get back to the golf course!

WOMEN'S GOLF



Well done ladies - Post-golf togetherness, all observing Covid-19 spacing requirements.

It has been very pleasing to see many Sunday players enjoying their holiday breaks by playing with the mid-week ladies on Tuesdays and Thursdays and boosting the numbers on those days. A few men and visiting players have also joined the Sunday women giving us fields of 20 and more players.

Certainly, the summer season has been one of extremes. Early during the holiday period, it was hot and dry, so hot in fact that some events were cancelled or postponed, including the Christmas fun day for the Sunday ladies and the ladies' comp on Australia Day. However, the 40+ degree heat did not deter some hardy souls who played socially anyway.

In the past week there has been a wonderful lot of rain and the course should be in excellent condition for the beginning of 2021 competition.

The new year brings some important changes for the Lane Cove women. Our former Captain, Robyn Glover, has stepped back after five years in the role. It is fair to say that Robyn has been universally respected and admired for her grasp of the complexities of the game, the administration of it at Lane Cove, and her almost full-time commitment to the job. Personally, I would like to thank Robyn for her help in providing the necessary information for my role as pennant coordinator and for the preparation of this column during 2020.

We welcome our new Captain, Marianne Mitchell and Vice-Captain Yvie Nikellys who have bravely volunteered to take over these important positions. Joan Weine who knows just about everything there is to know about golf at Lane Cove continues in her role as President and will provide valuable guidance as usual.

The new golfing year will be marked by our Opening Dinner on Thursday 11 February and 'rules and lunch' days on Sunday 7 and Thursday 11 February. The Summer Cup winners will be announced at the Dinner.

It is a year since we first heard about the Coronavirus and although it is still with us, we can be very grateful that our golf has continued relatively unscathed. Let's remember to keep our distance and keep safe. Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2021.

SUSAN RIDD

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF YELLING "FORE"?

If you step foot on any golf course, odds are you'll hear someone yelling "fore" at some point during your round of play. It might even come from your own playing group from one of the guys yelling "fore" after their tee shot.

What is the meaning of the word "fore", why golfers use it as well and how you should react when you hear someone yelling "fore" on the golf course.

Usage of the golf term "fore" can be traced back to 1878 and is short for the term "before". The dictionary has "fore" as a synonym to the word ahead and can be understood to mean "look out ahead." In the event a golfer hits a bad shot and it's headed in the direction of people, it's golf decency as well as a matter of safety to alert those people to look out by yelling the term "fore."

Continued over



WHAT IS THE MEANING OF YELLING “FORE”? *continued*



It is expected that you make sure to yell the word “fore” loudly and clearly so that golfers ahead have no confusion about what they just heard. This will give them time to quickly react and take cover if the ball is headed in their direction.

Alternatively, if you hear it being yelled from groups nearby, you should also take caution of a flying golf ball in your direction. Getting hit will not be fun!

After yelling fore, continue to watch your golf ball’s flight so you can see approximately where it lands. If the ball lands close to people, a few things can happen next.

The worse outcome is not yelling “fore” and alerting people you hit at them. This is usually what can trigger a group of people to get upset with you when you reach your ball. Prevent it by clearly and loudly yelling “fore” and things should go smoothly!

When you get up to your golf ball, try apologizing if you feel it can make the situation less awkward. The people who were up ahead that had the ball come flying at them may not be in great spirits and have some choice words to say to you.

But hopefully they remain calm and respectful on the golf course and understand that it’s part of the game. So don’t be fearful if you do end up in a situation where you had to yell fore after hitting the ball towards people ahead.

Website – Golf Practice Guides

HOW GOLF CAN MAKE FOOLS OF US ALL

Many a true swing made in jest and all that, Mark Hubbard claimed he employed his remarkable putting action over a four-footer during last Friday’s second round of the American Express Championship simply because he was not qualifying for the final two rounds regardless.

Well. “Homeless Hubbs” – so nicknamed because he used to sleep on friends’ floors as he fought through the mini Tours – has been known as a bit of a cad on the PGA Tour ever since he got down on one knee on the 18th green and proposed to his fiancé during the middle of a competition. (She said “yes”, and he missed the cut).

Here surely was just another of his latest madcap antics. Except, wait, because the 31-year-old later admitted that he had used this stroke in competition before and has full faith in the technique that Hubbs dubs “The Snail”. “I was surprised it didn’t drop”, he said. “They usually do with “The Snail”.



If you haven’t seen the clip yet, it might prove hard to miss after going viral on social media. (*Editor’s note; you will find the clip under Mark Hubbard – The Snail, on YouTube.*)

In the video, Hubbard sets up normally, and then with a theatrical swirl takes his right hand away, performs a shimmy while crouching over, before wrapping the little finger of his right hand around the shaft an inch or so above the putter’s head.

Hubbard resembles a street cleaner attempting to remove a piece of chewing gum from his brush and straight away that old golfing notion came to mind that if necessity be the mother of invention, then desperation be its bastard brother. The poor, poor thing. Only this sport can do that to a man.

This is obvious when you walk up and down the range at any professional tournament. Last week in Abu Dhabi, I came across a Tour winner who had jammed one plastic rod into his side, while putting another under his elbows as he hit soft wedges. Fellow players stopped to watch, before shaking their head and making the sign of the cross. “There but for the grace of God (is not Butch Harmon).”

This neurosis was famously parodied in *Tin Cup*, when Roy McAvoy – Kevin Costner’s failing pro – straps himself visor to toe in an assortment of ridiculous training aids. In truth, the reality can be even more pathetic and unsettling. I vividly remember one Ryder Cup player on the range standing bared feet on an inflatable sausage.

Continued over

HOW GOLF CAN MAKE FOOLS OF US ALL *continued*

“In my expert opinion you can deduce one thing about that golfer at the moment,” Pete Cowen, the great Yorkshire coach told me. “He’s completely and utterly f---d” It happens to the best of them.

Englishman Justin Rose is one of the most solid, structured professionals out there, but here in Dubai, he recounted how he also went all “inflated sausage”. “It was only at the end of 2019 and for some reason, on my downswing, I was bending right down so the club was just a few feet off the floor, parallel to the ground”, he said. “I was in the hotel that night and it popped up on TV and I thought, What the hell am I doing? I ain’t ever doing that again, even if I shoot 60 tomorrow. – I look like a prat.”

Naturally, if he had gone low, Rose would have repeated the drill over and over as would every other golfer worthy of his belittling obsession. “I know players who would stick their club up their trouser leg and do the birdie dance, if I said that was the secret of golf”, Cowen said. “It’s why golfers, amateurs and pros, keep coming back, no matter how badly they are playing. That is the ‘golf bug’ right there. It’s the game’s greatest asset.”

A survey release this week by GolfSupport.com asserted golf as the individual sport that participants stick to the longest. That is because it invades your psyche and assumes control, even during a pandemic or especially during a pandemic. How many of us worldwide are practising our short games indoors while we await the courses to reopen. And go on, how many of us have tried “The Snail”? Whisper it, but I think it might actually work.

James Corrigan, SMH and The Telegraph London, January 28, 2021.

KNOW THE RULES?

With the assistance of Club Legend, 91 year old Doug (“Dougie”) Cameron, a demonstration of correct procedure for taking relief from an immovable obstruction.



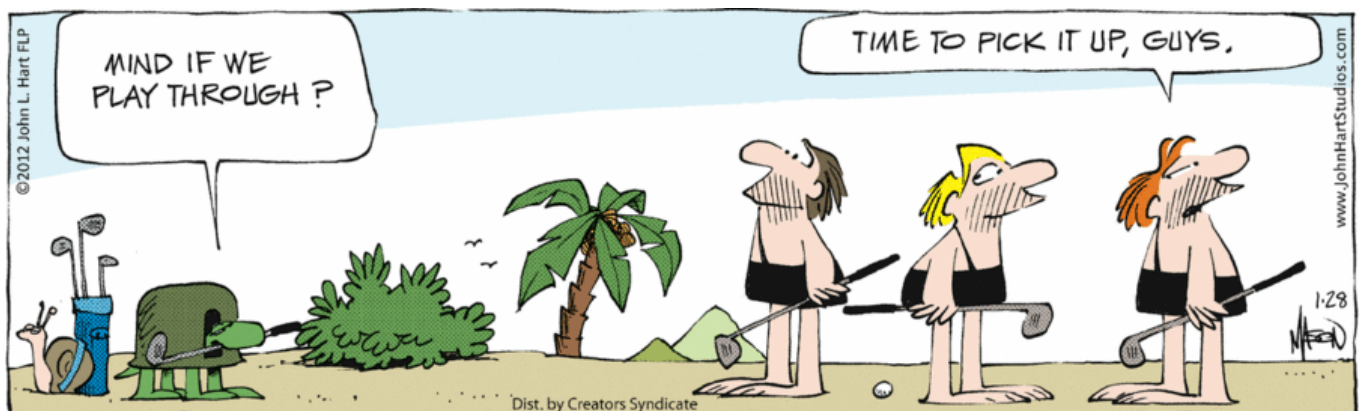
Most surprisingly, as Doug is invariably straight off the tee, his tee shot from the Men’s 2nd managed to find its way into the garbage bin on the Ladies tee.

Rule 16.1b. If your ball is in the general area and there is interference by an abnormal course condition (including immovable obstructions) on the course, you take free relief by dropping the original ball or another ball... the nearest point of complete relief should be identified.

Having identified the ball, with the solicitous assistance of Graham Webster and Peter Kennedy, Doug is preparing to take relief in

dropping the ball on the Ladies 2nd tee.

Congratulations gentlemen - exemplary behaviour all round in applying the Rules of Golf.





Tee 4 Two BBQ Café

MENU

ALL DAY BREAKFAST

1	Bacon & Egg Roll	\$ 6.00
2	Ham, Cheese & Tomato Toastie	\$ 6.00
3	Pancakes w/o Maple Syrup	\$ 8.50
4	Egg, Bacon & Tomato on Toast	\$10.00
5	Big Breakky	\$13.50

BURGERS – with chips add \$3.00

10	Choice of Beef, Chicken, Veggie or New Yorker Burger	\$10.00
11	Cheeseburger	\$10.50
12	Schnitzel Burger	\$11.00

CLASSICS

13	Sausage & Onion Roll	\$ 5.50
14	BLT	\$ 7.00
15	Fish & Chips (w/o Salad)	\$14.00
16	Schnitzel & Chips (w/o Salad)	\$14.00
17	Pie & Chips	\$10.00
	Coffee	\$ 4.00
	Bowl of Chips	\$ 5.00

Opening Hours: Thursday & Friday (12.00pm to 3.00pm) and Saturday & Sunday (10.00am – 4.00pm)



180 River Road Northwood NSW 2066



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(Prices current as at 31 January 2021)

