

The Goose Valley Golf Committee Grapevine – March 2017



Opposite Goose Valley



Viewed from En Ricos earlier

These are scenes of yet another devastating fire that gobbled up the beautiful green mountainside in Plettenberg Bay (mountain opposite Goose Valley, near Old Nicks) on 28th Feb. Goose Valley went onto high alert as a precautionary measure and saturated the grounds nearest the N2 as best they could, constantly monitoring the situation; fortunately the wind changed and so the fire retreated in its path towards us, but there was much devastation caused to areas in its rampant path. Now it's a sad looking mountain and one can only imagine the effect on the animals and birds, not to mention some abodes.



The course is looking great, once again compliments to the greenkeeper and Pro Shop for holding it all together in these very busy times. The course has seen some very busy times, is holding up well despite the much needed rain.

Maybe you and I can do our bit in helping the staff by filling those divots in, fixing up marks on the greens as you see them (*I sound like an old record, I know, but help us to keep the course great!*)

Valentine's Day:

Loving couples celebrated Valentine's Eve supper at the clubhouse, very deliciously put together by the new owners, Andy and Emma.

This couple are putting lots of effort into putting a positive spin on the restaurant, why not pay them a visit and sample some of their delicious specials. They are inviting suggestions and feedback in an effort to make your experience at the clubhouse a great one.



Gladys, Iris and Gladys made sure that the diners were looked after in a friendly and professional manner.

North vs South:

The South pulled out all the stops last Saturday and were victorious in winning the cup this year, coming in with a grand score of 608 versus 579 – it was a great competition, lots of camaraderie and good fun, it also gave many people the opportunity to mix with people they wouldn't normally play with, and everyone joined in the good conversation and banter after the game. It was a well organised event with some really great prizes, sponsored by Chaz Everitt – thanks very much to Bobby & Di Rogers who represented Chaz Everitt on the day, handing out prizes up to 8th place, as well as lucky draws and NTPs – **big thanks Chaz Everitt**, much appreciated by all!! Winners were:

1st: David Hyde; 2nd: Angela Collins; 3rd: Russ Parkinson; 4th: Debbie Brown; 5th: John Barclay;
6th: Ann Riemer; 7th: Ruth Barclay; 8th: Peter Baxter. NTPs: Angela Collins and David Hyde.
NTP for 2: Allen Bradley. These are just a few pics, unfortunately not all the photos came out:



Di Rogers & Angela Collins



Di & Debbie Brown



Di & Ruth Barclay



Di & Jackie Barclay

Events and reminders:

- ✚ **Individual Knock-out Comps:** The men have started their games and the progress can be seen on the notice board. The Ladies will be starting up soon!
- ✚ **SCSW Golf (Ladies Seniors):** the first game for 2017 will be held at Plettenberg Bay on 20th March, it promises to be a good event. Please contact Ruth B for any queries relating to Ladies Seniors.
- ✚ **PEFAGOSI:** another first – this one will be held at Pezula on Monday 8th March – good luck to the Goose Valley team!
- ✚ **The Sanlam Cancer Challenge & Club Champs** will be happening on 25th and 26th March.
- ✚ **Monday Goose Golfers:** please let Robert Wiggett (0824448480) know if you want to take part in these games as its run on a Whatsapp group basis.
- ✚ **Goosy Golf Birds:** we are setting up a ladies Whatsapp group, so contact Ruth B (0823735795) if you would like to be added, we are hoping to get it going soon.
- ✚ Don't forget the very popular **9-hole Meat** competitions on Fridays, always a wonderful vibe.
- ✚ **Inter-Estate Challenge:** 2017 brings a new format to this popular challenge. It has been agreed to do "double-ups" on certain games for practical reasons, and the point system too has been changed. The format is a Betterball Stableford and prizes go to the overall club's combined Betterball score and best Betterball score of the day. The new points system for order of merit is: 1st = 7 points; 2nd = 6 points; 3rd = 5 points; 4th = 4 points; 5th = 3 points; 6th = 2 points; 7th = 1 point.

So the confirmed dates for 2017 are:

- Sunday 7th May @ St Francis Links
- Sunday 25th June @ Pezula & Monday 26th June @ Simola (double-up)
- Sunday 30th July @ Pinnacle Point & Monday 31st July @ Oubaai (double-up)
- Sunday 27th August @ Goose Valley
- Sunday 22nd October @ Mossel Bay

The cost is R400 pp (greenfees, cart if possible and lunch)

Golf knowledge:

Touching growing grass in a hazard: Remember that there are two types of hazard on a golf course, bunkers and water hazards (which include lateral water hazards) and that strokes (where there must be intent to strike at and move the ball) are different from practice swings. Most golfers know that if their ball lies in a hazard they must not touch the growth in that hazard, or the water if it is a water hazard, with their hand or club. Most golfers also realise that they must not touch or move any loose impediment (e.g. stones, branches and dead leaves) lying in or touching the same hazard, unless it is with the forward movement of their club as they make their stroke.

However, many players do not realise that there is no penalty for touching anything that is growing with a practice swing, their backswing, or the forward movement of their club before it strikes the ball, even when their ball is lying in a hazard. The note to Rule 13-4 clarifies: *At any time, including at address or in the backward movement for the stroke, the player may touch, with a club or otherwise, any obstruction, any construction declared by the Committee to be an integral part of the course or any grass, bush tree or other growing thing.*

Of course, the player must not do anything to improve their lie, area of intended stance or swing, or line of play by moving, bending or breaking anything growing, because this would be a breach of Rule 13-2. So take care during those practice swings!!

Exploding a Myth: A ball may not be putted into the hole if there is another ball already at rest in the hole.



Fact: A ball is holed when it is at rest within the circumference of the hole and all of it is below the level of the lip of the hole. It does not matter if it is at rest on another object.

Golf Etiquette – Turn off the Cell Phone: Nothing worse than hearing a cell phone when it rings in your backswing. Ideally, cell phones should be turned off at all times on the course, but most clubs have given in to the fact that people are going to use them. Take care to whatever you have to do to keep your phone discreet and quiet. And if you absolutely have to make a call, move away from the other players, and keep the call so brief that they don't even know you made it.

In closing, we have attached an annual planner which may assist you in planning some of your golf. Please remember that it is a document that will change from time to time, so it is definitely not cast in concrete. Please feel free to contact committee members on golf-related issues, we would love to hear from you. If anyone does not wish to receive these newsletters, please just send Ruth B an “unsubscribe email” at ruthbarclay37430@gmail.com.



Committee contact details:

Robert Wiggett - Robert@mooihoek.co.za

Tony McGuinness – info@abml.co.uk

Ruth Hein - Ruthiehein@gmail.com

Ruth Barclay – Ruthbarclay37430@gmail.com

Yours in golf, Ruth B.

Quote: “Golf is the infallible test. The man who can go into a patch of rough alone, with the knowledge that only God is watching him, and play his ball where it lies, is the man who will serve you faithfully and well” – PG Wodehouse.