



Milnerton Golf Club

Newsletter

October 2014

REF 5/14

TO ALL MEMBERS

Firstly let me apologise for the delay with this Newsletter I am a month behind, as I had an unexpected trip overseas.

As you can see from the number of rounds being played the winter months are behind us and the reduced income that comes with it. We have lost a number of days from the wet conditions, which has had a knock on effect to all our other income streams, the good news is that we are still within budgets as our Treasurer and Manager anticipated these conditions and planned accordingly.

Golf Rounds Statistics	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Incr/ (Decr)	% Incr/ (Decr)	Visitors	Members	Visitors %
JAN	4 938	4 688	5 056	4 619	5 110	491	9,71%	2 490	2 620	49%
FEB	4 721	4 560	4 898	4 669	4 783	114	2,33%	2 620	2 163	55%
MAR	3 698	4 576	4 467	4 292	4 400	108	2,42%	2 314	2 086	53%
APR	3 672	3 449	3 274	3 303	4 048	745	22,76%	1 980	2 068	49%
MAY	2 986	3 440	3 227	2 949	2 783	(166)	-5,14%	913	1 870	33%
JUN	2 983	2 946	2 975	2 667	2 583	(84)	-2,82%	871	1 712	34%
JUL	3 137	3 692	2 938	2 960	2 699	(261)	-8,88%	926	1 773	34%
AUG	2 840	3 046	2 812	2 305	3 247	942	33,50%	1 347	1 900	41%
SEP	3 380	3 337	3 741	3 330	3 260	(70)	-1,87%	1 407	1 853	43%
OCT	3 948	3 723	2 991	3 286						
NOV	3 789	4 107	3 908	3 652						
DEC	4 562	4 956	4 733	4 446						
Total	44 654	46 520	45 020	42 478	32 913	1 819		14 868	18 045	

The income statistics below will give you an understanding of the financial breakdown of a round of golf at our club.

	Rounds	Bar	Proshop	Halfway House	Golf Carts
	No	Rand	Rand	Rand	Rand
Jan	5 110	39,12	21,10	34,46	21,74
Feb	4 783	42,39	18,52	35,72	25,72
Mar	4 400	54,61	16,38	37,35	23,76
Apr	4 048	45,72	17,88	47,42	17,44
May	2 783	56,28	18,07	42,41	16,37
Jun	2 583	52,16	14,07	41,56	13,43
Jul	2 699	52,74	9,64	41,69	15,79
Aug	3 247	54,34	11,74	46,87	14,80
Sep	3 260	54,37	13,44	45,69	20,57
Oct	-				
Nov	-				
Dec	-				

On a general note the committee have received a number of complaints regarding the poor behaviour of certain member's, the incidents vary and range from excessive use of bad language, poor dress code and general disorderly conduct. Please remember this is our club and poor behaviour will not be tolerated. Also remember that the season for our tourist players is upon us and we need to encourage them to make use of the club and feel welcome.

The Christmas in July Party was a great success and thank you to Niall Keller for organising, this will hopefully become an annual event.

The Captain's gallery has now been hung in the lounge and over the next few months we will be adding an achievements section of members who have represented the club at the highest levels.

MGC donated the green fees to Goodwood Rotary Club for their annual golf day on the 3rd October and as a result made a joint donation to Muscular Dystrophy SA of R11,500.



The Milnerton Golf Club Festival Week taking place from the 22nd to 25th October.

Members this is our one opportunity to raise funds for special projects in and around the club. In the past few years the funds raised have paid for the balcony and shading and last year's funds added to this year will be used to re-vamp the bar area. It must be noted that these projects which keep the club up to date and competitive and are not budgeted for in the annual costing exercise.

It must also be noted that significant funds are donated to charity and this year be no exception, our chosen charity for this year will be The Friends Day Centre.

The Draw Tickets have been distributed and amongst you all and are now due back please, it is very important that we receive the stubs and money back by the 15th October. If you do not yet have a ticket or a book to sell please contact Tommy or Mark at the club.

Please also remember that the Links classic on Friday 25th is open to all members and business at a cost of R2000 per four ball including great prizes and function.

For those sponsors already committed to the Festival, we thank you.

As always if you have any suggestions or questions please e-mail me on MarkDawson101@gmail.com

Captain's report

As Mark mentioned earlier, winter has come and gone and rounds are once again on an upward trend. I must congratulate management for their prudent savings in all departments, year to date our financials are in order and I would like to thank this year's committee for all their hard work.

We are in the process of purchasing our first fleet of ten golf carts as soon as our lease agreement expires at the end of October. A financial study was done by myself, the treasurer and manager and it was agreed that this would be a viable proposition and would create another income stream to the club. We will reassess in a year's time and will look into purchasing a further fifteen carts once that lease agreement comes to an end.

Please be reminded to take advantage of our R100 golf cart special available to members Monday to Friday outside of competition.

A quick overview of all income streams at the end of August versus budget

Halfway house 35% up

Bar 61% up

Pro shop 22% up

Lounge hire 123% up

Membership fees 3% down

Green fees 4% down (will improve during the upcoming months)

Other income 15 % up

An overview on the expenditure.

Administration costs down by 11%

Clubhouse expenses down by 5%

Course expenses down by 14%

Golf expenses down by 32%

So! all looking good for MGC during these trying times.

Goals for the Year.

1. To finalise and enter into another 5 year lease with Maestros. (to be signed shortly)
2. To acquire the rights to the bowling greens and generate income from the old bowlers club house. (In progress and we have already created more golf cart storage for the members golf carts. If anybody is interested in storing their carts on the premises please apply at the manager's office) thanks to Rolf for putting this together.
3. To increase the income generated from the Sunset lounge. (We are approaching event planners to put our venue on their books for marketing, year to date we are 123% above budget.)
4. To make internal improvements to our club house and lounges. (in progress)
5. To grow our junior membership.(Tim and his subcommittee are working on a few ideas to grow this category of our membership)
6. To improve our rounds of golf to 45000 for the year. (we are well on target in achieving this goal)
7. To improve our driving range facilities and to turn it into a viable cost centre. (in progress)
8. To continue cutting our costs on and off the course. (we continue to cut costs in all departments)
9. To get more corporate golf days at MGC. (If any member out there working in the corporate environment is able to assist please make contact with the manager. A 10% commission of green fees is available to any member)

All the best to you for the rest of the year.

Regards

Mike Gomes

Proud Captain

From the Manager's Desk

Latest Course News -

The course is looking fine at present with a bit of dryness creeping onto the fairways and rough as the winter grass starts dying from the lack of water due to problems recently experienced at the effluent plant. The rest of the course has not really been affected. The tee renovation at 11th hole is progressing well but slowly due to staff commitments on the rest of the course. It must be remembered that these types of tasks will take much longer to complete than in the past because there is less staff and each has a specific task to complete each day before these extras can be tackled.

The greens were looking quite fluffy but this was understandable due to the hollow-tining, Graden,

seeding and topdressing having taken place and no mowing having occurred to allow for the seed to germinate. This will continue till Wednesday 8th October when the first mowing at a raised cutting height will take place. The hollow-tine holes closed up very quickly however the Graden lines are closing a bit slower. It's these types of disruptive activities that allow us to keep the greens in such good consistent condition. It does affect the putting surface twice a year for around 3 to 4 weeks for which we apologise, but it allows for 10 months of great putting surfaces which I suppose we would all agree is well worth the sacrifice.

Going forward we will strive to keep the greens in the top consistent condition they have been in for the last few years. Enhancements to the course will include the continuing planting of shrubs in the no play areas to improve the definition of the affected holes.

With toughening economic conditions our policy to efficiently manage and trim the budget where possible remains a priority. To date we have managed to maintain the course in a superb condition despite the challenges.

Proshop

The following specials are still currently available while stocks last:

- ***Puma Zip Tops: Was R799.00, now R450.00***
- ***Undergarments: Was R699.00, now R350.00***
- ***Rhode Island Jerseys: Was R499.00, now R399.00***
- ***Ping Shirts: Was R599.00, now R280.00 (A must buy)***
- ***Callaway Supersoft: R20.00 / ball***
- ***Taylormade Tour Preferred: R132.00 / sleeve of 3***
- ***Rhode Island Shirts was R350.00 now only R250.00***
- ***Come and have a look at what's on offer on our less 25% wall***
- ***Srixon twin pack all weather gloves R170.00***
- ***Pinnacle exception golf balls now only R12.50 each (top value)***
- ***Srixon AD333 Golf Balls 2 sleeves (6balls) R100.00 – Great value***

We urge you to please compare our prices before purchasing from the big discounters; your support will be most valued.

Until the next newsletter keep it on the fairway and good golfing

Yours in golf,

Mark Schacht

Lady Captains Report

From Sonja's desk

A warm greeting to all my fellow Lady Golfers. Please note we are officially on the Milnerton Golf web site. You can browse under

http://www.milnertongolf.co.za/site/ladies_news.php

Committee

This time of the year is a busy time for Golfers. Not only are we in the 3rd trimester of the year but many of the Clubs having their open Days and Mixed competitions and Trophy days scheduled before the end of November. Our Committee is also concentrating on a few forthcoming highlights, such as the Dot Gurney "super sevens" and Corinne Stephenson Day. See more under "fixtures".

TOURNAMENTS/ COMPETITIONS

The Boland Mid Amateur and Seniors Tournament was held at Stellenbosch in July. Of the 4 Milnerton members who participated in the Tournament, Vanessa Smit was the winner of the Best Gross in the A-Division while Marijke Rietveld came 3rd in the Copper Division.



Sanlam Cancer Challenge Parow.

The Regional Finals were held at the beautiful Kuilsriver Golf Club. Three of our lady members participated, Ros Howard (Silver) Sonja Weakley (Bronze) and Lesley MacFarlane (Copper). Unfortunately, none of the above advanced to the National finals.

Four of our Committee members were invited to play at Langebaan in their LCE Experience. We were spoiled with a breakfast, golf snacks and prizes.



Cara Gorlei continues making headlines in the Golfing world. At present she is one of three South Africans participating in the World Amateur Team Championship in Japan.



WGWP has announced their Teams for the Women Golf SA Pick & Pay Inter-Provincial Tournament to be held at Royal Cape Golf Club from 6-10 October 2014. We are very privilege to have two of our top golfers in the A-team. Cara Gorlei (Captain) and Amy Henning. We wish them the very best.

With the last minute cancellation of the WP Senior competition at Durbanville, the Milnerton Ladies who were due to play, decided to make the best of the day by having lunch at Pistachio Restaurant near the Durbanville Golf Course. A good time was had by all.



FIXTURES

OCTOBER

07 Medal and Putting

09 WP Seniors Clovelly

14 Corinne Stephenson Day 4BBBS – choose partners

16 Parow Ladies Open

21 4BBBS

28 WEDNESDAY Captain's Spring Trophy – Single Stableford. Early start and Lunch

NOVEMBER

01 Daysh Cup in Hermanus

04 Aug Medal and Putting

06 WP Seniors at Parow

11 Victory Cup - Single Bogey

18 Von Beest 36 holes Foursomes Aug

25 4 Ball Alliance – choose partners

A very warm welcome to our new Lady Members; Jill Biccari , Cherry Moulder(our own Professional) and Glenda Ferguson who has joined the Ladies on a Tuesday.

Charity.

The Committee are in the process of arranging a “Market Day”, where we will give back to our Charity a percentage of the takings.

Jenny Maliepaard is also trying to arrange a Bingo Morning with tea and cake at the Club for the Aged of Huis Ysterplaat.

Condolences to Dawn Blackshaw whose father passed away at the Club on Saturday, 27 September.

Until next time,

Happy Golfing!

Senior's Section

The Monday Seniors is going from strength to strength!

Firstly we would just like to wish Liz Allis one of our regular members well with her new appointment in the pro shop. Liz we will miss you!

We wish Alex Frowde, all the very best with his treatment. We are thinking of you, and hope to see you back soon with us on a Monday.

Ray Darby and Brian Blackshaw will be sadly missed.

Our new members who have joined us, we wish them many happy years of golfing with the seniors.

The newcomers are M. Johnstone D. Herz S. Ginsburg B. Wynton M. Bedford J. Vorster D. Cook P. Tayler B.Silks H. Bakker G. Holme H. Wellman B. Begg G. Minnie and C. Theys.

We have been averaging about 30 players on a Monday. We also look forward to our Monday swallows returning!

We have had several birthdays, and therefore many tasty treats.

Regards,

Rolf

