

Mangawhai Golf Shop

Newsletter

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A GAME FOR ALL SEASONS

We've had it all this Summer! Wind, rain, wind, cloud, wind, drizzle, wind ... and a rare dash of sunshine every now and then. The good bit is that the course is in exceptionally good condition, especially when compared to those dry summers past. Fairways are so well-grassed that, after a brief flirtation with Clean and Place to keep the holidays hordes on the move, we're now back to Play The Lie = real golf.

Our January tournaments were very successful, with numbers up on last year, and the course carried a huge amount of traffic through the month. For the statistically minded, we issued 2344 cards to members during January (of which 1901 were returned for score entry), plus 1,531 cards to green fees players. That's an average of around 125 players on the course every day of the month, including a couple of wet days when we didn't see many.

That's a lot of foot traffic, a lot of divots and pitchmarks, and it's a great credit to our greenstaff that the course is looking so good.

Interestingly, the speed of play (and this will shock some of our more entrenched members) was very good with most rounds not much over 4 hours. OK, there was the odd exception - but more significant was the quick return to 5 hour rounds once we went into tournament mode. Of course, none of us are slow players - but somewhere out there lurks someone who for some reason takes a bit long to play a tee shot, fill in a scorecard or walk quickly to his/her ball. Wonder who?

Now we're back into Club season. Please check the sandwich board outside the Golf Shop for upcoming events and make sure you get your name down for a start time for the various competitions.

SUMMER TWILIGHT is back in full swing and very good numbers are playing each Friday. Tee off times are between 1 and 5pm, with no exceptions. This, through Summer, is run by Steve and Christine Lee and handicaps for regulars are adjusted each week. Booking a tee time is essential for this popular event.

UPCOMING EVENTS

After three very successful tournaments in January (Sam Tipene Memorial), McDonald Vague St Johns Ambulance Fundraiser and TimberWorld Open) plus an excellent Project Promise fundraiser in early February we now look ahead to more regular club events. Next major tournament is the **Barfoot & Thompson Easter Mixed Open on Sunday 8th April**. A booking sheet for this event will soon be in the Golf Shop. It helps us immensely with event management if you pay when you enter - so please do your bit to help us along.

Then in **May**, the **First National Real Estate 36-Hole Men's Open** for the **Tom Bonnington Cup** event will be held. A special committee headed by Stewart Speed has been set up to organise this and all indications to date are that it will be an outstanding tournament catering for players of all levels. More details soon.

TITLEIST PROMOTION

Our winner this year of the annual Titleist Balls promotion is **Peter Adkins**. He wins the very impressive Titleist Tour Bag that we've had on display in the Golf Shop. The winner's name was drawn by that doyenne of honesty, George Gardiner, so any disgruntled non-winners can take it up with her. Unfortunately, our winner did not take out the bonus prize of a trip for 4 to Cape Kidnappers - but who needs to go and play a second-rate course when you've got Mangawhai as your home track? Thanks to all those who entered and made this a successful promotion for us.

LOGO SHIRTS

Our range of logo'd Mangawhai Golf shirts have proved very popular with members and visitors. Our second order has pretty well sold out and a new range will be here soon, possibly before you get to read this. The quality of the fabric, the range of styles and the exceptionally good prices have been very well accepted and we'll continue to carry these in stock along with a soon-to-be-ordered Winter range. We have a small selection of short- and long-sleeve wool sweaters with Mangawhai Golf embroidery, not heavy winter weight but very good for golfing as the days get a bit cooler. We also have Mangawhai Golf caps in a good range of styles and colours for \$25 each - selling fast so get yours soon.

No great golfing achievements to report since last issue - failing, of course, Murray "Mad Dog" Glen's recent ace on the 17th.

So, just a gripping reminder to finish this issue - with the ground getting softer it's time to check your spikes. We can fit new ones to most shoes - so don't wait till the grounds slip from under you - spike up now!

Nick, Milly, Scott

www.mangawhaigolf.co.nz