



ARE YOU READY FOR OUR CGT?



In an exclusive report we reveal that The Board, taking its lead from our Working Group-obsessed government, is currently considering a proposal to introduce a CGT (Collective Golf Tax) which, purportedly, will apply to all members. Far from being fiscally neutral, this new tax directly targets increased income from our members as we seek to raise funds for various important items and facilities that we will require in the near future.

Shedding his genial Warren Gatland-lookalike persona, new Finance Director Owen Noonan outlines the proposal: "This came to us anonymously and immediately piqued our interest as it addresses issues that will benefit all members, even if it will potentially cost them an arm and a leg. Basically, all members will be required to fill in a form that details their golfing assets, then we will apply a fiendishly clever algorithm to identify their vulnerability to a rapacious money grab.

"The first 14 clubs owned by a member will be exempt from the CGT, as will one bag, two shoes (a pair), 3 tees and a glove that must be in usable condition. Also, 1 dozen balls per player will be exempt. Thereafter, members will be required to pay a 15%p.a. levy on all clubs, bags, shoes, tees, gloves and balls, based on a series of valuation formulae that we have a Working Group currently having a go at.

"Once we receive that form and have taken DNA swabs from relevant people we will issue CGT notices demanding payment within 3 weeks. That will give us time to subdue any inspections on the Board (we have a couple of Board members who somewhat simplistically subscribe to principles of "fairness") and to consider a proposed Golf Cart exclusion from

assets. (Personally, I am against this as anyone wealthy enough to own, or part-own, a golf cart is obviously loaded and ripe for the taking, but, of course, I am open to persuasion by interested parties.)"

Independent Director Bill Mabey from the New Populist faction is taking the side of the down-trodden and is promising to introduce a Gold Cardholder cash rebate for the needy. "I did look at suggesting a reduction for each year of a person's age but the reality is that we need to fleece them as fast as we can, before time runs out for them. However, I believe my revolutionary putter exemption will go through as we all accept that the putter is the most useless club in the bag and is generally just carried for appearance sake rather than serving any useful purpose."

President Tony Vale, a well-known maverick, welcomed the opportunity to take the temperature for change within our funding platform and to accumulate a low-pressure barometric forecast of member wealth that may precipitate a wind of change that sweeps all before it in a high tide moment of cloud-free blue sky vision. Several other Board members we approached for comment preferred not to be approached.

In a telling summary of the proposal, a past President (who requested that his/her name be withheld for reasons he/she couldn't explain) stated: "Look, it's only money and some of us have far too much of it tied up in golfing equipment for our own good. By taxing this excessive waste we can quickly and relatively painfully raise vital funds to pour into projects that we have a few Working Groups working on, all in groups. Such inspirational ideas arise only from profound thinking and I commend the Bar Leaner Brigade for their sterling work alongside the 9-Hole Nanas to ignite the spark behind this inflammatory and all-consuming proposal."

Sources tell us that the final CGT draft will be tabled at this week's Board meeting. In what is expected to be a volatile debate, with many raised voices and even more raised glasses, we are led to believe that a binding decision will be reached and ratified at a time that's convenient for some and inconvenient for the rest of us. In the interests of consultation and democratic free speech, members have the next 3 hours to submit their views on the new CGT. A large green bin outside the Golf Shop will be open all hours to receive these.

(This is the first in a series of thought-provoking articles that will examine various plans to progress our club to financial security and consolidate our current and future assets. Your contributions are invited but probably won't be published.)

THE TRADITION OF SUB RENEWAL

While newer members pay their annual subs on the anniversary of their joining date, we still have a good number of members whose subs come due at the end of February. If this is you, remember that you need to make your sub payment by 28 February to qualify for your Loyalty discount. If you're not sure, contact Brad in the Office asap.

TWILIGHT TRASHED BY DELIGHTFUL DOWNPOURS

Much as we hate to see our Friday Twilight field decimated by bad weather, it was rewarding to watch the skies open and the course get a good drenching last Friday. From 109 players the previous week to just 29 last Friday is a dramatic drop – but the equally dramatic raindrops were a wonderful consolation. While we didn't get the deluge some were predicting we got that nice, soft rain that the course so easily soaks up. Already there's a definite greening across The General Area (*see how comfortable we're becoming with the new definitions!*) and with a bit of warmth in the air this week we should see an ongoing transformation of the course. Hopefully there's more rain on the horizon – but not so much that we suffer an early end to what has been a wonderful summer for holidaymakers.

THE PENNANTS PENDULUM SWINGS

They say it's tough at the top, and our Nobilo team is certainly finding that out. But despite a narrow loss, their first of the season, they're clinging to top spot and are really making a positive impression in the North Harbour Championship Pennants competition. From our roving reporter who was on the spot, we bring you this update:

This week's match against reigning Nobilo champions Muriwai was always going to be a tough assignment. We fielded close to the best team that we could, but come up just short of halving the rubber, the final result being 5.5 to 3.5 to Muriwai. (It must be said that most of our team had not played the demanding Wainui course previously and that probably made the difference.)

Our top order was solid with wins going to Tyler Wood, Scott Wightman and Richard Squire. Unfortunately the rest of the team could not match the experience of a solid Muriwai outfit with a solitary half to Gene Wintle being their lot. The good news is we remain atop a bunc'ed leader board with 20 points (after 4 rounds) closely pursued by Waitemata, Muriwai and North Shore. With next weeks round at Mangawhai being a bye for the home team we expect to drop down the rankings which means the final 2 rounds will be all-important in determining the Finals seedings. The Reserves were short manned this week and were fortunate to be able to call on Handicap pennant stalwarts Greg Furnell and Jeff Smith to make up the numbers. Greg continued his recent good form to win his match 5/4 and share the player of the day award with Doug Moores who responded to being dropped to reserves by winning his match by the same margin as Greg. The team result in Reserves was a 7-2 loss to a strong Muriwai team. The boys have 3 weeks to regroup before the next round at North Shore against Waitemata as the run-in to the finals begins in earnest.

And from yet another roving cadet reporter (how do we afford such resources?), news of a titanic battle between our club's two 36-Hole Men's Pennants teams at Northland last weekend:

The morning Foursomes with 2-1 in favour of Mangawhai 1, Chris & Shayne overcoming Jim and young Aaron, with Baz and Robbie getting over John Slater and Jason Archibald, while Lazza and Lance gave a Foursomes lesson to Shel and Lindsay. The afternoon Singles saw two evenly-matched teams paring nothing in their pursuit of bragging rights. Lindsay, giving 4 shots) claimed a half with Lance, despite a quite spectacular airshot off the tee with his driver adding to the drama. At last report, he was recovering well, if somewhat slowly, from the experience. Lazza claimed Shel's scalp and Robbie got the job done over Jason, impressive as he was conceding 6 shots. Baz got over the line in a tight match with new member John Slater. The respective Numbers 1 and 2 battled hard and Aaron beat Shayne with 2 to play, carding a very impressive 65 through 16 holes. Then, the match of the day ... Jim was 3 up with 5 to play over Chris when suddenly Chris rediscovered his mojo and powered back to win 1 up. Thats no easy task, knowing what a stayer Jim is.

And so Mangawhai claim bragging rights 5.5 to 3.5. Afterwards, a somewhat subdued Lazza, as Captain of Team 2, presented the \$60 winnings to Baz who promptly commenced to liquidate the funds in appropriate fashion. Yet another compelling tale of determination and internecine warfare between two fine Mangawhai teams!

EXPERIENCE TWILIGHT – WHAT A WAY TO WIN!

As our Twilight series continues, so does your opportunity to win the sensational Golf Travel prize very generously donated by Bill and Jono Mabey of Experience Golf. It works this way; every 5 rounds of 9-hole Friday twilight you play before the end of June will earn you an entry in the grand draw. It doesn't matter what your scores are like, as long as your score is recorded you're in with a chance to win.

Winners of many awards for their skills at arranging every fine detail of golfing tours to all parts of the world Bill and Jono, as Mangawhai members, are great and generous supporters of our club. In their own words:

"You can now make your way around the World, playing highlight courses from each region. Experience Golf works closely with hotel, golf and transport partners to provide market competitive pricing. You arrive at the airport and we will do everything else."

As you probably know, we get quite exceptional fields, often over 100 players, in our weekly Twilight competition. It's a great event and more and more of our members are enjoying Karl and Anita's outstanding catering to complete an outstanding afternoon and evening. The clubhouse really hums with atmosphere and there's always the added bonus of the chance to win our weekly Member's Draw - remember, you have to be in the clubhouse when this is drawn if you want to take home the dollars.



Friday 9 **Twilight**

SPONSORED THIS MONTH BY



JACKSON BROWN
AUTOMOTIVE + MARINE

Tee Times Midday – 4.30pm
Members' Clubhouse Draw
\$800
Be in the Clubhouse to win!

PRO-AM PROGRESS

It's now just over 2 weeks until we host our Partners Life Mangawhai Pro-Am and there's a lot of work going on behind the scenes. Thanks to all those who responded to our request for volunteer help – we're currently drawing up a roster and we'll be in touch with you soon.

We have one single playing place left in the field – one only – so if you'd like to be part of this very enjoyable day, contact Nick asap. It's \$160 for your playing place, you'll be teamed with two other members plus one of New Zealand's leading professionals as you compete for amateur prizes to the value of \$10,000.

BUSINESS HOUSE PICKS UP THE PACE

Four weeks gone, only two to go as our Business House teams battle it out for series honours. Sponsor Rob Cook of Mangawhai ITM is providing great support and Thursday evenings in the clubhouse are proving a real success as teams enjoy the competition and camaraderie – and Karl and Anita's catering. Think about getting a team together for our next series – members, families, friends, business mates – all are welcome.