

R P A G C NEWS

JULY
2017



Windsor's Royal Ace

Congratulations to Windsor Bagley who at the age of 87 aced the 8th hole. But believe it or not, he's not the oldest golfer to have done so! On the 22nd of December 2014, this was achieved by a 104-year-old Gus Andreone a PGA professional for many years.. Keep trying, but nevertheless, mega congratulations from everyone at RPAGC.



THE CLUB AND GOLFING

We thought that "our winter of discontent was upon us", but some Government busybodies have sprung a surprise again bearing bad news; what is new? The institutions that have a say in our affairs are really busy. They add "value" like you cannot believe! If you do not believe us, please see below.

However, good rains at last, long may they continue, hopefully without the cold.

THE LIQUOR ACT

At present, in terms of Liquor Act rules, we may sell alcohol to members over the age of 18 and they may serve to their under-aged friends or children, which may be consumed on our premises. No one under the age of 18 may buy alcohol at the bar. The same rule apply indoors and outdoors. Now, this is about to change. No outdoor course consumption and no consumption of alcohol by anyone under the age of 18 in any public area will be allowed. Sorry, but what can we do. We have to abide by the law even when these fellows pass laws requiring others to implement, where no value is added by their actions.

MAINTENANCE AND MORE

CARTS AND CART PATHS

Desmond Mjimla and his team have sorted out the pathway to Happy Valley's green and will be tasked with repairing others that have deteriorated. The 15th bypass will be started shortly.

GREENS

Some rain thank goodness! We do hopefully have supplies in our dams to tide us over the present drought. The greens and tee boxes will continue to be watered and the thin, rough area on Shelly Beach, thanks to our borehole, will also be watered. Once the grass grows, it will be left long and the Lateral Hazard will fall away. Back to the old rules of golf.

Certain projects have been put on hold pending rain, but work is being carried out by our staff for things requiring attention, but not water. The stones and rocks in our free soil dumps will be removed and used to line the dam walls. Go for it guys!

OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE

There have been the odd recurring maintenance problems, which hopefully have been sorted. Our driveway is of concern and on-going pothole-filling is taking place. A complete revamp is the prize, but let us wait and see. What an improvement if something really could be done. Additions to protect our valuable course equipment are shortly to be carried out, which will also allow us to store combustibles and application poisons more safely.

THE PRACTICE RANGE

Ongoing - we will report on this in the next newsletter. Ken, get to grips with the project planning so that when more rains come we are ready to go.

FINANCES

Funds from members at year end exceeded R1 675 000. The taxman of course will want his share, but thanks to our members who have paid up and to all those who to date have purchased more than 150 Mad Hatter raffle tickets at R300 a shot. This amounts to more than R45 000. Fantastic!

Our financial year-end has come and gone, with our auditors having visited us to verify our fixed assets and moveable assets in Bar, Pro Shop and Tills. We understand our club is still solvent, but a caveat. As yet Ndlambe Municipality has not yet formally granted us the 2016/2017 rates rebate. The 2017/2018 rebate application has also been submitted, with only 12% of these yearly fee rates being paid.

DIARISE OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will be held on Thursday the 19th of October, as Friday the 20th is our monthly draw evening. Watch out for more information and requests for committee member nominations etc. Some new, young blood would be most welcome.

OUR LADIES

They are like Toyotas, they keep on going well.

Look out for The Bunnies who are being encouraged to join and play golf. Thanks for your input, the female touch is welcomed.

LADIES COMPETITION RESULTS

- June 6 3-Ball Alliance won by Linda Dobson, Jane Bladen and Dee Jones-Phillipson
- June 13 Sanlam Cancer Challenge Individual Stableford won by Ronel Hough.
- June 20 Viv Jordan Lady Graham Cup Individual Stableford won by Kirsten Dales.
- July 4 Pick n Pay Individual Medal won by Wendy Counihan
- July 11 President's Prize - Individual Stableford won by the Lady President Sandy Fryer who kindly handed the prize to runner-up Ingrid Griffiths

GIRL POWER!



"Nice going, Amy! My ball would be on the green if you hadn't gotten in the way!"



"Would you mind stepping behind me? The glare off your outfit is blinding me!"

MAJOR FACTS

In golf, true greatness is judged on a golfer's record of the four majors. The oldest, The Open - being played this very week - was first played at Prestwick in 1860. Then in 1895 the first US Open was played as a 36-hole championship at the Newport Country Club. The third of the majors teed off at the Siwanoy Country Club in New York in 1916. The Masters is the youngest of the majors. It was first played in 1934 and was won by Horton Smith.

All four of these great championships have interesting histories and great traditions. Each of them is very different and much of that is due to the fact that they are all arranged by different organisations, and not the main professional Tours.

The Open is managed by the R&A, the US Open by the USGA; the US PGA Championship is organised by the PGA of America and the Masters is organised by the Augusta National Golf Club.

Thought-Provoking Course Ideas

We recently came across a document titled "For the Love of the Links" by David Mills going back to 2000, that proposed alterations to our course. On reading his submissions, several of his ideas have obviously been accepted.

For example some of the generally round greens have been lengthened and reshaped and tee boxes have been enlarged and reshaped. These reshaped tee boxes have allowed different directions of play to fairways to be made. And right now our committee is dealing with our bunker problem, which he described as too plain and shallow.

Of interest to one of your editors is that he recommended removing the right-hand green bunker at the 16th and also the one on the 6th, which would be replaced by two new ones, one adjacent to the 7th tee and a shallower one close to the approach area, having a less steeped awkward lip. He advocated turning the 3rd into a par 3, the 4th into a par 5 and changing the 14th to a par 4. This would remove the uninteresting, five existing par fours in a row and the fact that with two loops of nine, the entire present par fives are on one nine.

He also questioned why the 9th and 18th could not both end up close to the clubhouse giving us two proper loops of nine. This would have involved new par threes and other changes, but we will leave it there.

GOLFING WINNERS

Details are contained in the website, easily found by accessing www.rpagc.co.za.

Winners of the various cups, vases will be listed as usual in the annual Report of the Committee.

Here are recent weekly winners:-

07/06/2017 – BUCO

20/06/2017 – Pick n Pay

23/06/2017 – Inso Aluminum

27/06/2017 – Sibuya & Arabella Wines

01/07/2017 – Viv Jordan Golf Day

05/07/2017 – BUCO

08/07/2017 – John Burnett Brokers

12/07/2017 – BUCO/ Pennypinchers

15/07/2017 - Auto Smart Body Shop

Individual Medal

Four Ball Alliance

Better Ball Medal

Individual Stableford

Two Ball Alliance

Individual Medal

Better Ball Stableford

Better Ball Medal

Better Ball Stableford

Norman Smith

Ockie Pieterse, Rick van Zyl,

Charlie Poulton and Viv Jordan

Margie Siegers and Ingrid Griffiths

Dudley Kieser

Butch Lee and Grant Acton

Charlie Poulton

Wayne Benkenstein and G Nel

Marius Wolmarans and Marius Lombard

Andries Smal and Arjan Sap

OTHER REGULAR COMPETITIONS

The Royals were held between the 23rd to the 25th June this year - which we won once again. Groan, groan and perhaps changes in the scoring rules. Why? Our visiting captains have been convinced that the weather at the end of July is better than the June period was this year, which saw many veterans not attending. Let's see if we are correct.

Next year the event takes place, not at month end, but from Thursday 20th to Sunday 23rd July. Perhaps our newly

invigorated Tournaments Committee will see that numbers improve and that OUR members come to the party. In future every Royal Club worldwide will be invited and we are sure that The Royal and Ancient will have at least 24 players next year!

The AHHA Club (After Hours Home Avoidance) annual competition was held on the 15th July and was a resounding success and very enjoyable.

The Fallow Deer Tournament (Remember Santa's buck?), sponsored by the EP Golf Union took place on Sunday, 16th July - winner was Andile Adam with score of 73 + 70 = 143 -

with many more players participating than was first thought possible. Great golf, something we should all come out and watch.

The Kelly Foursomes results will be published in our next information newsletter.



GREAT SUPPORT FOR OUR STEAK NIGHTS

The 16th of June was exceptional with great attendance - being the day of a charity golf competition - and a great vibe. It was the last for 2016/17 and as from this month's draw on 21st July, you all need to have bought a year's ticket subscription of R240 to participate in future draws.

The draw in June was remarkable in that it took ages to draw Attendances.

However, on the first draw, Joan Buckley scooped the R4 4000 prize. Well done, see you next draw.

Our attendance prizes of R250 went to Ian Hattingh and H Bofinger and the R150 was won by Sandy Fryer,

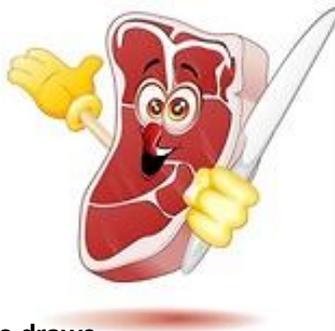
The wine prizes for being present were won by "Short Shot" Bob Shaw and J Beer.

Following The Royals, Keith Simpson and his brothers and others from Port Elizabeth arrived on a personally organised tour and were present at the last draw evening.

Rich Vaughlin, one of this group was very complimentary of the evening, and said he thought the atmosphere and the steak dinner provided by Thymes 2 Catering was terrific. Thanks Penny and those that make all this work.

SPONSORS

As always please support and appreciate them. Without such generous benefactors our club wouldn't be so much fun. Play well - it is nice to have prizes.



GOOD FOR A GIGGLE

A hacker was playing so badly that his caddie was getting increasingly exasperated.

On the 11th, his ball lay about 160 yards from the green and as he eyed up the shot, he asked his caddie, "Do you think I can get there with a 4-iron?"

"Eventually," replied the caddie, wearily.

A golfer sliced a ball into a field of chickens, striking one of the hens and killing it instantly. He was understandably upset, and sought out the farmer.

"I'm sorry," he said, "my terrible tee-shot hit one of your hens and killed it. Can I replace the hen?"

"I don't know about that," replied the farmer, mulling it over. "How many eggs a day do you lay?"