

From the President

Welcome to a new golfing year. I hope everyone is well rested following the Christmas break and are ready for the challenges 2023 will bring.

The year began with the passing of our Patron Nevis Jones. Nevis was the finest example of what a patron should be: highly respected, passionate about the game and our club, articulate and with a sense of humour. Many of us were fortunate to attend the wonderful celebration of his life recently, a life that was both rich and long. We extend to Margaret and Family our thoughts and best wishes at this time. Thank you for sharing Nevis with us all at the Timaru Golf Club.

The Committee met for the first time this week and we are identifying priorities for the next year. The top of our list for this year is the development of the Number 15 Hole and the two deck areas around the clubhouse. Our Vice-president Pat Collins will lead the decking project. These projects will require some fundraising so we will be looking for member and funding agency support in the coming months. We expect to have our 2023-25 plan finalized by our February meeting and it will then be circulated to all members.

We have co-opted Natasha Brown onto our committee to manage the promotion and marketing side of our club. Tash bring many skills and fresh ideas to our committee which will ensure that our interactions with current and prospective members is relevant and effective.

Following discussion with Margaret and Peter Hayes we have negotiated a change of hours for the Pro-shop to better reflect demand and club needs. These are shown later in this newsletter.

With the coring of greens scheduled for the second half of March, I am trying to arrange an inter-club with Waimate for the Waimaru Trophy which was postponed from last year. It would be great to have a large team of men and women to take on our neighbours.



Nevis at the unveiling of our club Heron last year.

The level of green fees at courses is a regular topic for discussion. We as a committee want to ensure that we do not devalue our course by offering large discounts at different times or days. We have however identified an opportunity to support members inviting friends or family members to play with them. (\$25 irrespective of whether they are affiliated members or not.) This is an opportunity to introduce friends to the game of golf and our club. The cost of visitors playing in our weekly competitions remains at \$20 plus the match fee.

We are strongly encouraging our members to purchase and wear our club polo shirt when representing our club during inter-club and pennant events. These may be purchased at the Pro-shop. We are in the process of ordering some larger sizes. It is impossible to cater for everyone's tastes regarding colour and style when choosing club uniforms. We are relying on the goodwill of members to ensure that we look the part when representing our club.

Mike Hogan

Welcome to Levels

A very warm welcome to our club.

Full: Cameron Moor & Samuel Sugrue

9-hole: Norm Scott & Chris Allen

Sixes: Gina Simpson, Karen Watt, Jules Keen, Julie Calder, Deb Crawford, Nicole Fitzgerald, Gabby Johnson & Megan Eade.

Social: Joan Matehe



Despite the warm and dry conditions, particularly over the holiday period, the course is holding up well. The irrigation system is working well and the rate of application has been stepped up to meet the current conditions.

We were down a few of our longtime regular volunteers over the last month. Despite that, others gratefully have stepped up and taken on extra roles so the course is still well presented.

Our Grounds Sub-committee, including Ken, have been looking at every hole on the course to see where incremental improvements can be made. Some of the changes are widening the fairway approaches out to the bunkers, where applicable. Also the reclamation of some of the areas on greens that have diminished over time. The changes will be subtle but should improve the playing and aesthetics of the course.

Our fiberglass pins are deteriorating causing splinters and will be replaced soon.

We have purchased a set of verti-cutters for the greens and expect delivery next month. These will help us to regularly de-thatch the greens and lightly sand. We will be coring in the second half of March so there will be some disruption to play during this period.

Tony Moir – Grounds Convenor

CALENDAR

JANUARY

28th Men's Opening Day

29th ZONTA Tournament

COURSE CLOSED 10AM – 2.30PM

31st Women's Opening Day

FEBRUARY

MARCH

12th Purple Tee Tournament – Levels

(Great cash prizes up for grabs. More details to follow)

The Men's & Women's 2023 Calendar is available on the Club Website:

www.timarugolfclub.co.nz



From Our Professional

New Pro-Shop Hours

(Effective Tuesday 7th February)

Mondays & Tuesdays – CLOSED

Wednesdays : 9am – 5pm

Thursdays: 9am – 1pm & 3pm – 5:30pm

Fridays: 1pm – 5pm

Saturdays: 9am – 5pm

Sundays: 9am – 5pm

Times will be reviewed for the winter months.

We are holding a significant amount of credit from member winnings. We understand that some are 'saving up' for a pair of shoes or club etc but ask that members look at using their credit as soon as possible please.

Peter