

THE AVIATOR

News from Aviation Country Club of N Z (Inc)

HOOKS AND PULLS

In last month's, The Aviator, we reported a rumor re Aviation and The Grange merging. Rumors have continued but this merger has never been on our agenda. However, apparently there have been meetings between the Airport Company (AIAL) and The Grange.

Here is what Board President, Bruce Yeoman, reported to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) following a meeting he had with AIAL on the same day as the AGM –

“The Board prior to the AGM, was advised that Bruce Yeoman (President) was called to a meeting with AIAL earlier in the day to discuss Aviation Country Club and possible changes in the future. The Board decided that the President should advise the Annual General Meeting of the outcome of this meeting.

AIAL and The Grange Golf Club have been discussing the possibility of The Grange club leasing the farm land in Puhinui Road at the eastern end of the main runway to build a 27 hole golf course, driving range and a junior academy.

AIAL have acknowledged our lease (letter of comfort) which is due to expire March 2014.

B Yeoman asked AIAL if this meant that if The Grange is up and running when our lease is due in 2014, “would our lease be renewed?” The response was “no”.

This raised a lot debate and shock from our members.

The approach is Grange driven and is not a foregone conclusion.”

Since this meeting The Chairman of The Grange and our President, B Yeoman have met about how the above information was being handled.

The Grange members had not been advised of this by their club but several of them were approached by our members after our AGM asking what was happening and this caused quite an upheaval as you can imagine. Following this latter meeting The Grange have now emailed all their members with a background paper on what has been going on with regard to what AIAL revealed to us. This paper (yes the Editor has a copy) is 3½ pages long and will not be reproduced here.

The pertinent points are –

1. Golf memberships are declining worldwide and The Grange is feeling this as well
2. They have debt to service and also some considerable expenditure on trees around the course as well as significant repairs to their club house which would require extra borrowing.
3. The Grange has signed a Heads of Agreement with Fletchers to undertake a feasibility study of their land with a view to what it is worth (same deal as another club close to us is looking at).

4. The Grange have signed a Heads of Agreement with AIAL to explore whether they could build a new course, 27 holes, club house etc. on AIAL land. This land is as detailed in B Yeoman's report to the AGM (not Aviation Country Club land).
5. They believe this new club will be a 'members club' with reduced green fee players, less corporate days and no debt and money in the Bank.
6. Their stated options are ;
 - a. Staying put.
 - b. Amalgamation with another club at The Grange
 - c. Amalgamation with another club at their facility
 - d. Buying Formosa and relocating there
 - e. Discussing options with Royal Auckland GC
 - f. Relocating to a new property
 - g. Closure

Your Board is committed to looking after our membership and the future of our course. Like most clubs we are also experiencing a declining membership. From our point of view it is "business as usual" for Aviation as what is detailed above may never happen.

We will be keeping in regular contact with AIAL and The Grange, if necessary, to ensure the interest of our members is always to the forefront. Further communications will be made as new information comes to hand.

COURSE UPDATE

18TH HOLE COMPLETION

We are pushing hard to get this up and running as soon as we possibly can.

11TH HOLE

Adams have now completed the repair to the fairway and they have arranged for some irrigation to be put in and for the final seeding.

The concrete path we have been promised back from the old blue tee to the new blue tee area will be laid in the week beginning 14 March 2011. There have been some hold ups beyond our control and the only thing stopping this being completed will be adverse weather conditions. This new path will join with the 6th path with the damage caused to the 6th path also being repaired.

10th HOLE

Work on the fairway in front of the tee is almost finished and this will be finalized with seeding next week.

A concrete path from the back of the 9th green crossing immediately in front of the 10th tee will also be completed next week.

CHIPS AND SHANKS

Arthur is 90 years old. He's played golf every day since his retirement 30 years ago.

One day he arrives home looking downcast.

'That's it,' he tells his wife, 'I'm giving up golf. My eyesight is so bad ... Once I hit the ball, I can't see where it went.'

His wife sympathizes, and as they sit down, she says, 'Why don't you take my brother with you, and give it one more try.'

'That's no good,' sighs Arthur... 'Your brother is ninety five. He can't help.'

'He may be ninety five', says the wife, 'but his eyesight is perfect.'

So the next day, Arthur heads off to the golf course with his brother-in-law.. He tees up, takes a mighty swing, and squints down the fairway. He turns to the brother-in-law.

'Did you see the ball?'

'Of course I did!' says the brother-in-law. 'I have perfect eyesight.'

'Where did it go?' asks Arthur.

'I can't remember.'

"QUOTABLE QUOTE"

If profanity had any influence on the flight of the ball, the game of golf would be played far better than it is (Horace Hutchinson)

HOLE IN ONE – ACCOLADES

The first one for the New Year

2 March 2011 - Tasi LAUESE - 12

Congratulations Tasi.

GOLF COMMITTEE

Everyone is well into the Pennant season with some mixed results to date. They are representing the club with merit.

Trophy Winners

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Hugh Beatty | Winner Runner up | Lotu I'IGA Brian TURNBULL |
| Lefties Trophy | Winner Runner Up | Afa MAIAVA Brian TURNBULL |
| Veterans Trophy | Winner Runner up | Rob Glengarry Joe O'Malley |

"QUOTABLE QUOTE" -

Golf is harder than baseball. In Golf, you have to play your foul balls.

PARS and BOGEYS

THINK TANK - Club Fundraiser

"RAFFLE"

"RAFFLE"

"RAFFLE"

WIN A CAMPERVAN FOR 7 DAYS

TICKETS AT \$5-00 EACH ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE PROSHOP AND WE ASK ALL MEMBERS TO PLEASE SUPPORT THIS CLUB RAFFLE.

MID WINTER TOURNAMENT

WITH

MID-WINTER DINNER

TOURNAMENT

- Play 8 weeks out of 11 between 4 April 2011 and 18 June 2011
- Cost \$5.00 per week to enter
- Go into the draw to win
 - First Prize - Full Playing Club Membership 2011-12
 - Second Prize - Dinner, Bed and Breakfast at Sudima Hotel
 - Third Prize - Certificate for 5 Golf Lessons from Scott Lowery
 - Fourth Prize - Pak'nSave Voucher for \$100.00

MID-WINTER DINNER – Saturday 25 June 2011

- Tournament participants that complete minimum of 8 weeks \$10.00 entry
- None Participants in tournament – partners etc - \$25.00 per person
- SPOT PRIZES – on the night – available to all in attendance

MEMBER GET MEMBER PROMOTION CONTINUES

1. Introduce a new member and if that new member rejoins 2011/2012 get \$50.00 off 2011/2012 subscription (to qualify the member must sign the application form for the new member as the proposer).
2. 50% off green fees for three visitors plus the use of 2 carts FREE ** (not available Saturdays, Sundays or Public Holidays). Use by 31 October 2011.
3. 10% off Aviation logo Gear sold in the shop—until 31 October 2011.
** Subject to availability of carts which should be booked when tee booked
During seasonal weather conditions there will be times when carts may be unavailable

IF YOU CHANGE ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBERS, NAME, EMAIL ADDRESS OR ANY OTHER PERSONAL INFORMATION THAT WE REQUIRE COULD YOU PLEASE UPDATE THIS AT THE OFFICE, BY EMAIL TO aviation@golf.co.nz, PHONE 275-6265 extension-1 OR IN PERSON. Thank you

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Members are reminded and asked to please support all the clubs sponsors whenever they can.

This publication, "The Aviator", is prepared with the intention of keeping members of Aviation Country Club informed. Much of the content is not necessarily the views or opinions of any club committee or Board of Management. Therefore this newsletter is not an official publication of Aviation Country Club of NZ Inc.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS EMAIL.