

THE AVIATOR

News from Aviation Country Club of N Z (Inc)

FOLLOWING THE AGM ON WEDNESDAY 25 February 2009 we can now confirm the new Board for 2009/2010, as follows:

**President
Board**

**Louise TANA (unopposed)
Rob GLENGARRY
Carl GOULD
Mark LOWE
Bruce YEOMAN**

**Men's Captain
Women's Captain**

**Afa'ese FARANE
Helen TREVARTON (unopposed)**

**Men's Vice Captain
Women's Vice Captain**

**Joe O'MALLEY (unopposed)
Barbara GORDON**

COURSE UPDATE

5th Bunkers

These have just been reshaped and some of the height taken out of them because the greens staff have been unable to mow and maintain the banks. This work was started during coring and has taken a little longer to complete than expected. The greens staff wishes to thank all the members for their patience whilst this work has been going on.

Coring

This is now behind us and the greens are starting to recover and once again our Superintendent has struck the jackpot with rain falling at the right time. The mower heights on the greens mowers have been elevated a little to aid in this recovery and these will be reduced and the greens starting to be rolled again soon. The member's patience is appreciated and will be rewarded with better greens.

Rakes

To assist the greens staff who can only get to work on the bunkers about once a week it would be fantastic to see more members raking the bunkers after they have been in them. Just do not rake the area where you are standing but please also rake your footprints in and out of the bunker. The rakes themselves should be returned to the bunkers and laid on the sand – half in and half out is not an option nor is just dropping them on the grass verge around the bunker. Our golfers would also appreciate this.

Working Bees

On the initiative of previous Men's Club Captain and new Board member, Carl Gould, we are looking to have some working bees around the course to take care of some of the "housekeeping" that the greens staff is unable to give any time to. As "The Aviator" is being written the first of these will have taken place, weather permitting. Generally these are to be held on a Saturday morning from 7:30ish until 10:30ish. All volunteers will be welcomed with open arms. A greens staff member or the Course Superintendent will be on hand to supervise this work. Safety is absolutely imperative.

If anyone is interested in helping out they can leave their details with the office or they could contact Carl direct on phone, Home 250-1106 or Mobile (021)735-915.

Pitch marks on Greens

The efforts being made by our members has been pleasing in looking after pitch marks on the greens but has slipped a little lately and very noticeable following coring of the greens.

With the greens being a lot softer following the coring we would appreciate all members making sure they repair their pitch marks. One thing is absolutely certain is that if you land on the green on your approach from the fairway you will create a pitch mark.

We need to help the greens staff achieve better greens so a concerted effort from everyone repairing pitch marks will ensure we see an improvement. Thank you.

Course Superintendents Update (Peter Foskin)

Bentgrass Conversion

The Club has recently cored the greens and continued the introduction of Creeping Bentgrass into the putting greens.

Previously the greens were predominantly Poa Annuua which requires a high level of maintenance to produce a high quality putting surface.

Once established the Bentgrass will significantly improve the quality of the putting surface. Poa Annuua does not carry the same tolerances as Bentgrass - in relation to extreme heat, cold, humidity and disease resistances.

This is breed into the Bentgrass cultivar and reduces the level of chemical input for environmental benefits This type of grass is better suited for the climate zone of the course.

While the Bentgrass is establishing there will be an acceptable amount of disruption of the playing surface.

Course Superintendent

SPECIAL ACCOLADES

Anyone seen Larissa?

Well she's been playing Betty Faesan and A pennants for us. She's missed a couple of games though – but managed to come up with a reasonable excuse. Week 1 March in Australia playing in a women's tournament in Riversdale. Then on to Canberra for the Trans Tasman clash - the only Kiwi not to drop a game! The team lost but she didn't. 3rd week March Australian Amateur stroke play where she has to finish in the top 32 to be able to play in the Australian Amateur match play which starts 28th March in Queensland. Larissa will be on NZ duties in the Queen Sirikit team to play in Indonesia. This has got to be the pinnacle of Larissa's achievements to date – Awesome! The Ruth Middleton is the last tournament Larissa will play in NZ before she heads over to US in July. Her July diary looks like this - Qualifying for US Women's Amateur in San Diego, 2nd week July Callaway Junior Worlds at Torrey Pines, San Diego where she has exemption earned by finishing 5th in last years tournament. From here Larissa and Dad will head to Arizona State University where she will

take up residence on campus as a freshman – studying towards a degree in psychology. Her golf team (the real reason she's there) is a team of 7 – the other girls from Spain, Columbia, Italy, Mexico and the top American junior. A mother's touch is needed and Maureen will join Larissa and Aaron to make sure she is settled in to her new digs to take on the next exciting stage of her life. We are all interested in Larissa's progress and expect that she will keep us updated – she's not good at this – doesn't like to blow her own trumpet.

Well done Larissa. The club's best wishes go with you for the future and you fly the Aviation Country Club flag with distinction.

"QUOTABLE QUOTE" –

If you are afraid a full shot might reach the green while the foursome ahead of you is still putting out, you have two options: you can immediately shank a lay-up or you can wait until the green is clear and top the ball halfway there.

CHIPS AND SHANKS

Shot Glasses

We have been receiving many complaints as to why we do not have more of these – THE REASON – about 5/6 months ago we had 36 available and we now have 2 left and we are only aware of four breakages. Simple mathematics says where are the other 28? We have our thoughts!!!!

Parking Spots (reserved)

The amount of agro that we get over these from members is causing us concern. This is mainly from the Saturday & Sunday golfers. The car parks that are labeled – 3 on the chip seal and 5 on the asphalt – are only to be used by those authorized to do so and hold the positions detailed on the sign. The 5 car parks opposite the ladies restrooms on the chip seal are also reserved for staff and committee members only. We would appreciate all members who are not permitted to do so to refrain from using these. Please do not put us in a position where we will have to have members vehicles towed or wheel clamped. Thank you for your co-operation.

Language

The amount of foul language being used around the clubhouse and the volume at which it is being delivered needs to be improved. Once again this has come about by complaints from members and we ask all members to please address this issue personally and if in the company of someone using this language ask them to stop. The main offenders seem to be a very small proportion of our members and the complaints are from club days. A little – cliché "remember if you point your finger, three of them point back at you." Thank you for your co-operation.

Cheating/Burglars

The Match Committee recently had to be called together to deal with 2 members one who had recorded an incorrect score on his score card and the other knowingly signing the incorrect card, in our Anniversary day open.

The decision reached, by this committee, was that the two offenders have been allowed to continue their membership but they cannot partake in any of the clubs open days, haggie events or trophy events until after the financial year end being 31 October 2009.

Hopefully they will not have to meet again soon. Honest golfers have nothing to fear.

HOLE IN ONE - ACCOLADES

At Aviation

28 February 2009 - Afa'ese FARANE - 12

Congratulations Afa'ese.

We also had a Titirangi Pennants player during a practice round have a hole-in-one recently but she could not repeat the feat in her match the following Monday.

"DON'T MISS OUT – BE PREPARED – NEVER BE CAUGHT SHORT"

2009 IS FAST GALLOPING ALONG AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT IT WILL BE SUBS TIME AGAIN AND ARE WE READY TO PAY AS A LUMP SUM – SOME WILL BE SOME WILL NOT.

So, WHY NOT TAKE STEPS NOW TO PAY YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IN ADVANCE BY INSTALMENTS. WHAT A CLEVER IDEA!!!!!!!

SET UP AN AUTOMATIC PAYMENT FROM YOUR BANK ACCOUNT DIRECT INTO THE CLUB'S ACCOUNT AND WE WILL HOLD THIS FOR YOU AGAINST YOUR NAME UNTIL YOU RENEW. IF FOR SOME REASON YOU LATER DO NOT WISH TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND HAVE SET UP A REGULAR PAYMENT THIS WE WILL REFUNDED TO YOU IN FULL. LET'S GET PREPARED.

THERE IS 31 WEEKS LEFT UNTIL YOUR 2009/2010 SUBS ARE DUE –

Paid weekly

Pay \$20.00 a week you will have saved \$620.00 towards your subs.

Pay \$25.00 a week you will have saved \$775.00 towards your subs.

Pay \$30.00 a week you will have saved \$930.00 towards your subs.

Paid Fortnightly

Pay \$40.00 a fortnight and you will have saved \$600.00 towards your subs.

Pay \$50.00 a fortnight and you will have saved \$750.00 towards your subs.

Pay \$60.00 a fortnight and you will have saved \$900.00 towards your subs.

Paid Monthly

Pay \$50.00 a month and you will have saved \$350.00 towards your subs.

Pay \$100.00 a month and you will have saved \$700.00 towards your subs.

Pay \$120.00 a month and you will have saved \$980.00 towards your subs.

The above figures are indicative only and the point of the exercise is that by taking action now you will not have a \$900.00+ subscription to find in one amount in October.

What you should do now is go to your bank ask for an Automatic Payment to be set up for the amount of your choosing to go to the club's bank account 02 0124 0006359 00 (BNZ AIRPORT) and ensure your name and membership number (four digits) is include in the reference fields.

If you require assistance contact one of the office staff who may be able to help you. You should obtain an Automatic Payment form from your bank first.

HOOKS AND PULLS

Electric Carts and Motorised Transport (not electric trundlers)

We ask all members to please abide by the rules of use of our carts. Just recently with the rain we have experienced you see unsightly skid marks where people have tried to take the carts and end up sliding etc.

A request – please use the paths where provided and this includes the 10th tee area. The carts should be driven to the end of the path and then onto the course next to the tree at the end. These are also not to be driven on the edges of the green or on the sides of the bunkers.

PLEASE KEEP THESE AT LEAST 5 METRES FROM THE GREEN AND TWO METRES FROM BUNKER BANKS.

Web Site

On the 3 March 2009 we launched our website with the help of one of our members, Gordon Barnes (if you want to set up a website see Gordon) whose help has been fantastic. The site is www.aviationgolf.co.nz and we encourage all members to have a look at it and are happy to receive constructive comments. We welcome feedback on this.

We have included what we considered members and the public would like to see but if there is something any member thinks should be included please let the office know. We will always be looking to improve what we have started.

At this early stage our thoughts are that "The Aviator" will be available to members to read it from this site, rather than send by email as we are now doing. An email will still be sent advising the latest version is available on line. Members' feedback on this would be welcome – if you prefer to still receive it by email please let the office know or send us an email aviation@golf.co.nz.

Club Programme/Diary

This year we had the same number of books produced by the publishers as in previous years but for some reason with fewer members (about 75) we have very few books left. Previous years we have at this time of the year 2 boxes at least available for our new members.

Our assumption is that some members this year have taken more than one book each and this will leave us short for our new members.

It would be appreciated if members who have more than one book could please return them without fear of repercussion so we can have some available for new members even though some of the information is out of date. Your co-operation is appreciated.

FADES AND DRAWS

On line tee booking

DotGolf have made significant changes to the Online Tee booking system and this has happened so rapidly we have been unable to provide our members with a 'heads up' on this in advance. Hopefully not many of you have been stressed by the changes. We also hope that you are now pretty familiar with the new system.

This came about because clubs were asking DotGolf to improve the online system so anyone one, affiliated or non affiliated members, could book online and pay in advance by credit card online.

The advantages to the club are that at the time of booking the appropriate green fee is reserved against their credit card and charged on their credit card the day they actually play golf or if they fail to appear for their tee time. This also applies to members who book guests in that they pay or can pass this option on to their guest online via an email which they have the option of accepting. The email is an invitation to play from our member.

This means that people who book tee spots and just do not front up pay as this will block a spot for another possible green fee paying person. If they cancel out before the day or cancel on the day with a good reason a charge will not eventuate.

Yep, technology is here to stay and ever improving.

If anyone has any concerns about this improvement/change please feel free to give the office a ring to discuss these with you.

GOLF COMMITTEE

The season is well under way with members enjoying the summer with the exception perhaps a couple of recent Saturdays where the rain has spoiled their days. The rain was welcome relief and the course has changed its colour from brown to green and with the coring helping the course play a little better and also harder for some of us toiling golfers. The new Golf Committee with the new Men's and Women's Captains and Vice Captains will have their first meeting later this month. Big things are expected so watch this space.

The pennants season is also underway with mixed results to date. The clubs eclectic events in all sections have now started and it is interesting to see some new names at the top, but for how long.

Trophy Winners

Women's Section

Summer Cup Winner Seepa SEMAU

Men's Section

Summer Foursomes Winners Erik JORGENSEN (Snr)
Erik JORGENSEN (Jnr)

Hugh Beattie Winner Ari GEORGAROS

Veterans' Trophy Runner Up Peter FEASEY
Winner Milo PATUMAKA

Junior Section

Noel Dyer Winner Timothy GAGE
Runner Up Kieran KERNOT

"THE LAWS OF GOLF" – (not according to R & A Rules Limited)

Law 11: Golf carts always run out of juice at the furthest point from the clubhouse.

NEW ZEALAND GOLF INITIATIVE

MEMBER GET MEMBER

Be in to WIN the Ultimate Drive!

The golf experience money can't buy- for two.

How would you like to play a round of golf at The Hills in Arrowtown with Sir Bob Charles?

As a full playing member, all you need to do is sign up a friend to join our golf club before 27 April 2009 and you'll both go in the draw to win this amazing golfing getaway.

The winners will fly down to Queenstown, and then travel to the exclusive Matakauri Lodge overlooking Lake Wakatipu before heading off to The Hills Golf Club in Arrowtown to play a round with Sir Bob Charles! Not only that, you'll also have the use of a premier 4WD and each get a brand new set of Srixon golf clubs and a Srixon golf bag.

Plus, if you're among the first 500 accepted applications you'll both receive a golf pack worth over \$100.

Sign up your friend today and you could both be experiencing the Ultimate Drive. For more information and Terms and Conditions, please pick up a "flyer from the club" or visit www.ultimatedrive.co.nz. Good luck!

"ONCE THIS COMPETITION HAS FINISHED THE CLUB WILL CONTINUE ITS INCENTIVE OF \$50.00 OFF THE NEXT YEARS MEMBERSHIP TO ANY CURRENT MEMBER INTRODUCING ANOTHER FULL PLAYING MEMBER TO THE CLUB."

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 OR IN PERSON. Thank you

CLUB SPONSORS

Regency Duty Free

Members are reminded that they can register to buy online from Regency Duty free and as a result of buying online can receive a 15% discount on items not already under special offer. To get this discount members will need to register on line -

- Go to www.regency.co.nz
- Click on 'Join' (top middle of screen)
- Complete the screen fully
- When you get to the question – What best describes you? I am - click on drop down arrow and select 'Regency Corporate Card member'
- Then add the following in card number box - CC491101

You are now ready to go. Happy buying and happy holidaying.

GOLD

**Sylvia Park, Pak'nSave
Regency Duty Free**

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Korean Air
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Stars Travel – Newmarket
Thai Cargo
The Car Cleaning Company
Yamaha/Eagles Distributors Ltd
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BRONZE (Programme/Diary)

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Onehunga Car Clinic
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Plumbcorp Services Ltd
Plymouth Consulting & Publishing
Pool, Patio \$ Heating
Regency Duty Free
Rentokil – Pest Control
R & H Engineering
The Airport Doctors
The Specimen Tree Company Ltd
The Florist – Airport retail Centre
The Toby Jug Inn
Trophies Plus
Village Butchery
Watchdog Security Alarms Ltd
Winners Group
Wiri Automotive Electrical Ltd

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

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March 2009