

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

PRESENTATION NIGHT (17th MARCH) CANCELLED

Due to very few people writing their name on one of the flyers, it has been decided to cancel the Presentation Night that was scheduled to take place on 17th March. A minimum of 80 people were required to indicate they would be attending the night to make it viable but only 50 had signed on to attend. *Last year there was a last minute rush of people indicating they would attend but twenty of those people didn't turn up, and the club had to pay for their meals.* It was with great reluctance that the committee decided to cancel the event and will not be planning one for 2019 to celebrate the great 2018 performances unless the members strongly demonstrate they will attend.

So the winners have the opportunity to be publicly presented with their trophies, it has been decided to make the event on Saturday 24th March a Shotgun start (7:15 and noon hit offs) so the winners can receive their trophy in front of a good sized group of members at 11:30.

EAST GEELONG GOLF CLUB'S HEAT POLICY MODIFIED

Legally, the Golf Club has a responsibility to ensure the safety of all players on the course and this is why we, like most other golf clubs, have a Heat Policy. At the moment, a player can commence a round and not be able to complete it because the temperature reaches 37° while they are on the course. The new Heat Policy that will operate for Saturday and Tuesday's competitions is that if the temperature forecast for Geelong on the previous night's Channel 7 6 o'clock News is 37 or greater, the competition will be cancelled. This decision has been made to give members more notice about a competition being cancelled and plan alternative activities.

This updated policy does not apply to the Ladies Wednesday competition because the Ladies do not have a morning and afternoon tee off time and already take into consideration the forecasted temperature before deciding whether to hold the event or reduce it to a 9 hole competition so they are off the course before it gets too hot.

SUNDAY COMPETITIONS

At present the club is trialling conducting a Sunday competition that is open to anyone with a Golf Australia Handicap. Provided they play with someone who can mark their card, players may enter an 18 or 9 hole competition. All you need to do is enter your name on the sheet (situated on the bench where the timesheets are), place the entry fee in the chute (as the men do every Tuesday), play the designated number of holes and put your completed, signed card in the chute. The prizes will be balls and the number given out will depend upon the number of entries. It is a trial that will last until late March and the number of participants will determine if it becomes a weekly event.

NEW LOCAL RULES

Hoses are immovable objects

Beside all the greens is a rolled up hose that is used to hand water the greens. These hoses have now been deemed as immovable objects because there have been instances where players have moved the hoses and left them in an untidy manner that has impacted on other golfers. From now on, players are to take a free drop if the hose has an impact on their stance or swing, or the ball is in the coils of the hose.

What do you do if your ball is in a garden bed beside the 6th green?

Currently, if your ball finishes in one of the garden beds alongside the 6th green, you are entitled to a free drop that is out of the garden bed and no closer to the hole. In the near future, your option will be

to get a free drop that is close to, but not in front of, a drop zone stake that is situated on the outer edges of the fairway near the front of the green. *The same rules that apply to dropping a ball when you get relief from the protective fences when playing the 5th hole.* At present, this option will apply to both sides of the green but the short term plan is to take out the garden bed on the left hand side of the green so only the right hand side has a 'drop zone'.

BAR PRICES HAVE INCREASED

As with many other licenced venues the prices of alcoholic drinks have been increased by a small amount to cover the increased costs to the club because of the CPI and Government excise increases.

JUNIOR PENNANT

For the first time since 2014, there has been enough junior players (five are required to run an event) to conduct a Junior Championship event. The same five players - Bailey Cooper, Hugh Menzies, Luke Menzies, Miller O'Donnell, Nick Sinkinson - recently participated in the District's Junior Pennant competition. While the number of successes was minimal, they learnt a lot and were great ambassadors for the club. Special thanks go to Alex Nivarovich who has been the driving force behind getting the juniors involved in the District and Club competitions. Thanks also go to the members who supported and/or caddied for the players during the four week season and to DeGrandi Cycle and Sport for heavily discounting the price of the tops the boys wore.

RAKES IN BUNKERS

Not everyone looks forward to playing a bunker shot. Some members are making it harder for others because they are raking the bunker incorrectly or not leaving the rake in the middle of the bunker. This means are they are forced to play a difficult bunker shot from an old divot or footmark or from the outer edges of the bunker where there is usually less sand because the ball has not been able to roll towards the 'middle' sections of the bunker where the deepest sand is.

DOES THE CLUB HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Despite the repeated requests, there are still over 100 members (out of 350) that don't have an email listed for them. If you don't have an email address, we need to know this so we do not think it is another member that we have to find an address for. We would appreciate everyone who reads this newsletter to ask their friends if they received it. If their answer is "No", please ask them to write their email address on some paper and give it to Russell so it can be added to the distribution list. This will ensure they will receive all communications from the club.

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE NEEDING TO HIRE A VENUE FOR A FUNCTION?

Functions provide a valuable source of income for the club so we are always looking for individuals or organisations to book our clubrooms. To increase the patronage of the club's facilities, the club is offering a 50% discount on the cost of hiring the clubrooms during March on the condition that those who attend are requested to check into East Geelong Golf Club through Facebook. If you or someone you know is organising an event in the near future, please speak to Russell

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE AN EAST GEELONG GOLF CLUB TIE?

As there are no longer any ties available for members to purchase, it was decided that members would offered the opportunity to indicate if they would like to purchase an EGGC navy blue tie with gold stripes and crossed golf clubs woven into it at the cost of \$30. Interested members are to write their name on the sheet at the bar, which also has a photo of the tie on it. As the minimum order is 50 ties, there will have to be sufficient demand for the club to place the order.

FREE WIFI FOR MEMBERS IN THE CLUBROOMS

A reminder that members are able to access the club's wifi network at no charge. The current log on and password are on display in the clubrooms.