



July Monthly Newsletter

General Manager

Dear Members,

The changes you've seen around the clubhouse and course over the last month will continue in the near future as we go through a period of repair and maintenance. A little bit of rain recently has helped repair the course but unfortunately affected player numbers.

Thank you to all those Members who have paid their fees by now. Please be aware if you are un-financial you will be unable to access the booking system on-line, or get a staff member to book you a game. The range of payment options for subscriptions have been expanded. If you are unsure about a payment method, please contact us at the office and we'll guide you through it. Office staff have been busy answering queries re the Member Category changes but the good news is we are ahead of the same time last year with Member subscription payments.

Director of Golf

After a very successful 'State of Origin Golf Day' in June we are primed to host more corporate days over the coming months. Watch the Gailes website for news on upcoming events. The Presidents Cup was recently finalised and congratulations go to the Cornhill brothers who won on the 19th hole after a great battle.

The Bill Stanley Memorial was held recently at the club. Check out this photo of the 'Caddy Shed' from the 1920's. Back row: Bill Stanley 3rd from left 'Doggie Wolfe', 2nd from right 'Bill Stanley'.



Club Motorised Carts

To ensure best practice and be covered by insurance, each time a Member or Visitor hires a Club owned Motorised Cart they are required to sign for the cart and are subsequently liable for any damage. Visitors will be required to provide a copy of valid ID and credit card details before hiring. Please help the staff to make this happen.

Practice on the Course

Just a reminder that Members and Visitors must check in at the Pro Shop before playing on the course. If we don't know you are there we cannot accurately track course usage and you may not be covered by the GA insurance so, please take the time to check in when you arrive.

Captain's Update

The 1st of July has now passed and hopefully, all our members are renewing their memberships for another year. We welcome those Associates who have taken up 7 day memberships as full members. Nothing really changes in terms of competitions excepting that full members can now play at any time.

Pennants - the Senior Mid-Week Men's Team won through to the Final against Virginia after winning against Indooroopilly over the last 2 weeks' home and away. Weekend Men's Pennants - commenced on 17 July with an away game at Ashgrove. Royal Queensland and Virginia are the other 2 teams in the division. Best wishes for the season.

Prizes for Wednesdays and Saturdays Club

Competitions - We have made a slight alteration in the prize awards on these days and now include a third prize. We've adjusted 1st and 2nd prizes accordingly to reflect a fairer outcome. NTP prizes remain the same as before.

Timesheets - It has come to our attention that some members who book tee times and find that they are unable to play are not advising the Pro Shop asap or are simply not cancelling at all. This is depriving other members the chance to play and is not in the spirit of the game.

Bunker Rakes - It has been the policy of this Committee that all rakes are to be replaced in the provided tubes in the edge of the Bunkers after use. A small percentage of players persist in dropping the rake wherever rather than walking a few paces to do the correct thing. Would you like to play your next shot in the bunker on a downward lie just inside the bunker? I certainly do not. Once again please assist your fellow players in the spirit of the game.

Saturday Events - Are you happy with the type of events run on our main competition day? Do you want different types of events? Do you want more Ambrose or Four ball events? Please let us know before we start the process of compiling next year's schedule.

Golf Course News – Course Superintendent

Another month of glorious Queensland winter, cool nights, beautiful clear days and some occasional rain make for perfect golfing weather and conditions. The cooler weather also allows us on the course to get a few tasks done that we are generally too busy to attempt during the growing season. The downside is that the cooler weather also brings its challenges with wear and tear on the course slower to recover than warmer times of the year.

The greens are recovering slowly from the issues we had earlier this year and the majority are in pretty good shape, the heavy rain we have had over the past month or so has helped to alleviate the issues we have had with salts and other toxins. Winter is traditionally hard on our greens with the large number of trees we have blocking essential sunlight, warmth and airflow. Most of you would have noticed that the Poinsettia above the BBQ area has been cut back, this is a process we carry out every few years to allow sunlight through to the putting green, if left, this tree shades out the western side of the green from about 11.30am throughout the day.

One of the biggest issues we face at this time of the year is wear from motorised carts, and in many of the places we have the worst wear, it can be easily avoided. If you approach an area like this, imply going around the main damaged area will help by not spreading this wear even further.



Over the next month or so we will be carrying out all of our usual winter tasks such as tree pruning, dead tree removal, cart path repair and irrigation maintenance. As the course, and the trees age, pruning gets a little more difficult each year, it wasn't that long ago the lower limbs of trees were our big issue, now it's the higher branches affecting full shots. We will endeavour to work through the whole course removing branches that are both dangerous and an issue for play, but it can be a slow process constantly moving the cherry picker.

One of the more common pieces of feedback I get from golfers is about bunkers having no sand in the middle and too much around the edges, in some cases this is correct, but in most cases it is a direct cause of not being raked correctly by golfers. This is not an issue limited to Gailles, it is a common thread amongst golfers worldwide, here is a link to a very good video showing the correct method and why to do it from a golf course in the U.K.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8PECxk_Mjcg

For those of you that don't do internet, it is very difficult to give a detailed description on how to correctly rake a bunker in a newsletter, but in simplistic terms:

- Rake towards the target, not towards yourself.
- Use two hands, it's easier & gives a better result.
- If dry, use the back of the rake to smooth the sand.
- Leave it how you would like to find it.

I don't think your fellow golfers will mind if you spend between 30 seconds and a minute to rake a

bunker correctly rather than 15 seconds to smear over some footmarks.

Pro Shop News

Winter opening hours May to end of August:

- **Opening 6:30am**
- **Closes: 5:30pm**

Although the staff will be around the shop before and after these times, please be aware they need time to set up before they open and wash down carts etc. after they close.

Professional - You may have seen the notice re: our Head Professional, Luke Prosser's resignation. We've had a number of quality enquiries already and will be keeping you updated as we get closer to an appointment.

Equipment News

- New Nike Caps and Visors have just arrived instore
- Greg Norman & Spote' Leisure embroidered vests, polos and wind vests are also now in stock



- Don't forget your Practice Range Balls
 - sml bucket \$5,
 - lge bucket \$7

Meet the Staff

This month we highlight Trainee, Briony Webb...

"Originally from Portland, Victoria I moved to Queensland at 15 to pursue my dream of becoming a professional golfer. Whilst completing my schooling and playing off a handicap of 1, I was fortunate enough to gain selection to represent Australia at the Jakarta World Junior and the Optimus World Junior. After graduating Hills College, I began my traineeship at Hills Golf Course and later moved to McLeod Country Golf Club to further my understanding of how different golf clubs are managed. I am thoroughly enjoying my time at Gales Golf Club. The transition has

been made easy thanks to the support all of the wonderful staff and members.

In May I was invited to attend the Schweppes Queensland Golf Day. It was a fantastic opportunity to catch up with some industry contacts I hadn't seen in quite a few years and to network with new contacts. I was paired with Cameron Harvey the GM from Pacific Golf Club, Mark Whiting the GM from Ballina Golf Club and Ben from Southport Golf Club. We had a great day playing the Glades Golf Course, a course which was new to me. Whilst unfortunately not winning any of the team prizes, I managed to bring home the Nearest the Pin on the 3rd and the overall Longest Drive.



Playing events such as this gives me an opportunity to not only promote the great work that we do at Gales, but to better understand and develop future strategies for the Club and Proshop.

Fortunately, our great partners Schweppes not only come on board as sponsors for the State of Origin Day but also for the 2016 Tony Hollands Funerals Gales Trainee Pro-Am."

