



July 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER AND PRESIDENT

We can't thank you enough, the members and friends, for the way you have supported the Golf Club since the return under Alert 2 and then down to Alert 1. The Café is producing impressive results during this time along with strong membership numbers and all due to the support from you, the members. Thank you all and may it continue, as we never are quite sure where this Covid-19 will take us.

We say farewell this week to Georgia who has been with us for some time. Georgia is heading off to Wellington so we wish her well. The process to replace Georgia is underway and is proving to be challenging.

We have some exciting events coming up and we kick off with the Trivia Night under the direction of Paul Otway and Rachel. I am sure all those in attendance will thoroughly enjoy themselves and test their IQ levels at the same time. There are only a couple of spaces left so get in now and don't be disappointed. Volunteers Day is on the 19th July, a way for us to say thank you to them and then there is the annual Wine Match Dinner.

The biggy for the Club is the Jubilee 125 celebrations and with new dates, a new revised programme. Bookings are coming in think and fast. The full programme is displayed on the website and on the next page, but if there is any further information you need then please contact the office. It will be a fun couple of days so book in quick.

Now that we are facing more wintery conditions, please remember to be careful where you walk and avoid steep banks. We had an incident last week where a member stumbled on a pine cone and did himself some damage. Stick to paths and steps wherever possible. Now is the perfect time to see the Pro Shop and check that your footwear is up to scratch for playing in these conditions. They can inspect your spikes and shoes at no cost and offer options if you need to upgrade either.

There is not much to relay to you on the Wallace Development and the river land sale. What we have learnt is to be patient and these things take time. The current information we have is that WDCL are very close to applying for their titles. If this is the case we should be in a position for settlement by the end of July for the cellphone tower and the balance of the 12th hole. Likewise the river land sale is getting closer to completion, but this has been well and truly drawn out. The advice we have received is that July/August should be settlement. We will keep you informed next month as to how these have progressed.

Good Golfing,

Brent Cawthray & Warren Collett

JUBILEE EVENTS

NEW PROGRAMME and NEW DATES

Friday 18th September

- **GOLF**

Tee sheet open for 9 or 18 holes to be booked at your leisure. No green fees for visitors attending Jubilee functions. Casual golf

- **EVENING**

Friday night dining will be available.

Please book your table with the cafe by calling 06 3578793 or ask the team next time you are at the café.

Saturday 19th September

- **MORNING TEA**

Official morning tea and jubilee cake cutting. Themed as a high tea event with fine bone china and wonderful food. A lovely relaxed morning. \$20 per person. 10:00am start with official cake cutting at 10:45am.

- **GOLF**

9 or 18 hole options

9 Hole shotgun start at 8:30am. 18 Hole shotgun start at 11:30am.

\$10 per person for 9 Holes. \$15 per person for 18 Holes

- **EVENING FUNCTION**

Fantastic dinner function with multiple themed food stations and a great live band. A fun casual party event, like never before seen at the MGC. Bubbles on arrival plus some additional drinks provided. Come along with friends for a entertaining evening of great food and music. \$75 per person

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Book online manawatugolfclub.com

Pro Shop

Hi Everyone,

June has been extremely busy for us in the shop which is fantastic. I can't remember a June so busy in terms of people on the course playing, as well as those using the practice facilities. It is absolutely awesome to see you all out here supporting your club.

Manawatu Golf Club's PGA Tour Member Tim Wilkinson Update: Tim had his first appearance on the main tour last week since the tour got back up in running. Because of the extremely strong fields for the first few weeks Tim was on the alternates list even though he is a full PGA Tour card holder. "It is a hard gig out there at times just to get a start". For the first two weeks Tim played the second rank tour (Korn Ferry Tour) where he had two strong weeks. This last week he missed out on the weekend by just 1 shot. His game is in really good shape coming off a long break so hopefully we can see him in the thick of it in his next few events.



Tip of the month: Winter Golf, key things to do.

#1: Hybrids & Fairway woods: The ground is very wet at the moment and so it is very easy for the club to dig in before the ball. We call these the dreaded "fat shots". Hybrids and fairway woods have a bigger sole on them so they don't dig into the ground like irons do. Due to this, these clubs can be your best friend in these conditions. If you haven't already, think about investing in some hybrids and/or fairway woods. Not only are they a big plus in the winter but are also much easier to hit than your dreaded longer irons.

#2: Warm up: This one can make a massive difference. Set aside an extra 20 minutes before you play to hit some balls on the range. That is all it takes. Your body will be starting the round nice and warm and ready to go. It is something very simple but has a big impact on the first few holes of your round, especially in these current cold conditions.

#3: Rain gloves: This tip is my favourite! I always carry at least one or sometimes two rain gloves for both hands. The wetter they get, the grippier they get! You can also get ones that are warmer as well!

#4: When mud is on the ball: Everyone's favourite - the mudball! If the mud is on the left side of the ball, the ball will move to the right in the air. If the mud is on the right side of the ball, the ball will move to the left in the air. If you have mud on the back of the ball, be sure to take an extra club as the mud will get in-between the club face and ball, softening the strike and decreasing the overall distance.

Just remember if you have any questions regarding your game please don't hesitate to ask us, we are here to help!

Your Proshop team - Alan, André, Lisa, Tim & Brydie.



A message from the Club Captain

Club Captain Report

Congratulations to Brendan Hapeta who won the June Craigs Investment partners Tankard with 41 points (photo left). 2nd equal were Brent Dickins and Matt Pickering with 39 points.

We missed Memorial Day during Covid-19 lock down, so this was carried out Saturday 13th June where Keith Wedlock had the best Stableford score of 40 points and gets his name on the John "Chopper" Christie Memorial trophy (middle photo).

Congratulations to Bert Chang who won the Nolan Rose bowl for the Men's Summer singles competition. Bert bet Steve Aburn on the 18th (photo right).



Last year Ian Anderson ran training sessions series on Golf Rules. The participants were presented with their certificates recently. Big thanks to Ian for running these and providing the Rules Corner in the monthly Newsletters. More details later in this newsletter



We have received some feedback on having Placing through the general area (commonly referred to as Placing through the Green (PTG)) and whether this should be operating presently. In the last 4 years we have had PTG in place at various times from June to August. The decision to have placing or placing through the green is made by the head greenskeeper. As you would understand conditions can change radically with just one day of heavy rain. The Greens staff are on the course much more than the Club captains and therefore have a much closer and day-to-day view of the course. Both Kiel and myself have regular discussions about the course and issues like placing. Currently the view is that there is no need for PTG. The Greens staff can mow all the rough on at least a weekly basis and so far, rain has been followed by drying winds on a regular basis. With many MacLennan matches being played at the moment, a player making fairways could feel aggrieved if his opponent can take advantage of cleaning & placing his ball in the rough especially if conditions are as good as they are at the moment. I hope I haven't just put the commentators curse on the weather!!

A message from the Club Captain Continued...

Men's Club Championship Qualifying and Rounds

Due to the introduction of the World Handicap System, there are some changes to the handicap indices published in the 2020 Programme book for the four divisions for Club Champs. As per the tradition, Seniors qualify and play matches off Black tees. All other divisions qualify and play matches off Blue tees. The course handicap and index range for the divisions are as follows:

Seniors Black tee handicap range +7 to 9 (Index up to 8.6)

Intermediate: Blue tee handicap range 8 to 15 (Index 8.7 to 15.8)

Juniors: Blue tee handicap range 16 to 20 (Index range 15.9 to 20.4)

C grade: Blue tee handicap range 21 to 40 (Index range 20.5 to 38.9)

Qualifying rounds are Saturday 8th and 15th August. These are stroke rounds so there are no gimmies, i.e. The rules of golf must be observed please. You will qualify based on your best gross round over these two Saturdays. **To be fair to both the morning & afternoon qualifiers, for 2020 both morning and afternoon fields will be by club draw for both rounds.** To register for the club draws you must fill in an entry on the website: Members access > Event registration. If you do not want to enter Club Champs mark the appropriate box and you will be drawn with others not wanting to qualify. Requests for playing partners or start tee will not be honoured if you are qualifying! Please don't be offended when requests are denied. We will try to alternate start tees over the 2 rounds, e.g. seniors off 1st tee in round 1 and 10th tee in round 2.

When getting your card, you must press the "Qualifying" button on the touch screen.

The top 16 in each grade qualify for the Main draw (matches played off the stick), and the next 16 qualify for the Handicap draw (shots given based on handicap). First round losers in the Main draws enter Flights (left hand side of draw sheets in Card room), these are played off the stick.

The 2 big messages that we repeat every year are (1) Organise to play your matches EARLY! (2) If you are away for an extended period or for the finals day then please do not enter this year. Club Champs finals day for 2020 will be on SATURDAY 31st October, not the traditional Sunday.

Richard Shaw - Club Captain

Manawatu-Wanganui Order-of-Merit 2020

This restarts with the Feilding Open on July 26th over 36 holes. Entry fee \$60 which includes lunch. Enter at <http://www.mwga.co.nz/Feildingopen>

A promotional poster for the Feilding Open 2020. The background is a photograph of a golfer on a green. The text is overlaid on the image. At the top left, 'NEW DATE' is written in orange. The main title 'Feilding Open' is in large yellow letters. Below it, '36 Hole Strokeplay' is in white. The date and location 'Sunday 26 July Feilding Golf Club' are in white. At the bottom, there is a dark blue banner with white text: 'Open to Men & Women | NZ Golf OOM | Manawatu Wanganui OOM', 'Field restricted to 72 players as at closing date for entries of Tuesday 21 July', 'Entry fee \$60 (includes lunch) | Siren Start 7.45am', and 'Draw published on Feilding Golf Club and Manawatu Wanganui Golf websites on Thursday 23 July'.

NEW DATE
Feilding Open
36 Hole Strokeplay
Sunday 26 July
Feilding Golf Club

Open to Men & Women | NZ Golf OOM | Manawatu Wanganui OOM
Field restricted to 72 players as at closing date for entries of Tuesday 21 July
Entry fee \$60 (includes lunch) | Siren Start 7.45am
Draw published on Feilding Golf Club and Manawatu Wanganui Golf websites on Thursday 23 July

WOMEN'S GOLF

Club Captain's Report

As you know, the number of weeks away from golf because of the lockdown has meant that some events had to be cancelled. Ladies' pennants and the interclub competitions between Feilding and Palmerston North were casualties.

One event we have to look forward to is District Day which is to be held at our own club on Friday July 10th. This year it has been decided to forego the team fee to encourage players to spend their money on Raffles instead. Any profit from the day will be used by the Manawatu-Wanganui Committee for Junior Golf, Rep Teams and to promote Women's Golf. The best team of 3 will win the Heather Williams Shield.

In the light of getting out of lockdown and starting to play golf again, the Ladies' committee decided we should celebrate with "Break the Bubble". Ladies were encouraged to dress up and everyone was given a balloon. The balloons were popped and the player who found a tab saying 'Winner' was the lucky recipient of a Manawatu gift voucher. We combined this with a fund raiser for the Salvation Army food bank. Ladies were encouraged to bring items from their pantries and/or donate cash to the give to the many needy Kiwis who are short of food.

Club Championships

The third and final qualifying round will be held on July 23rd.

Thursday Club will be on July 9th and 23rd. The last two Thursday Club raffles have been won by Margie Bodell and Deb Archer.

Happy and Safe Golfing

Jill Clifton
Women's Club Captain

Saturday Ladies

Although the weather hasn't been very kind to us, qualifying for Club champs is well under way, and matches are being played for the Clarke, Werner and Watson Bros cups, as well as for the Dawn Matthews Fourball.

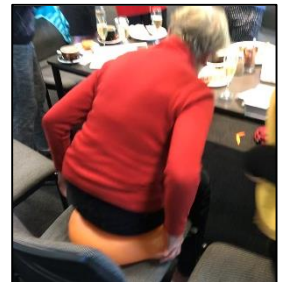
Some of our ladies are also enjoying playing on Thursdays and have entered the Thursday Club shootout competition.

The shortest day is behind us, lighter mornings are on the way, there is placing is every day, so it's time to look forward to our scores to start improving!

Helen Wilkinson



"Winners are Grinner's" – Kate Courtney finding winning ticket



An interesting balloon popping technique by Alicia!



NINE HOLE NEWS

How great it is to be back in full swing! I think most people missed the comradeship as well as their golf. Thank you to those players that kept in touch with others during the lockdown especially those living alone.

A big thank you to our Greenkeepers in getting our course back to great condition.

Since we have returned our fields have been amazing over 50 players each Wednesday and full fields on Saturdays. Welcome to the new members who have come to join us and appear to have fitted in well. We are keeping our program running, some events are a bit delayed but we have managed to sort it.

Our Walker/Georgel Cup competitions 1st round are mostly completed. Congratulations to those winners. It is great to have so many entries even if we had to twist some arms. Well done.

Fielding had their Open Day with Margaret Birchall Women's winner and Murray Crawford closest to the pin. The rest of the players went to make up the numbers. Next Monday is Foxtons Open Day perhaps the rest will have better luck there.

We have re-scheduled our Tri-Series as the first round was meant to be during the lockdown so we will make it happen.

Here's hoping the weather stays reasonable as we are now past the shortest day.

Good golfing,

Colleen Fraser, Wayne Revell - Convenors

NEW MEMBERS –

The Committee would like to confirm the acceptance to the Club of the following new members who applied in May 2020

7 Day Member - Bevan Clarke, Mark Clough, Evan Roberts

Under 30 - Keegan Harnett

5 Day Member - Greg Lochhead, Simon Mori, Michael Rusher

9 Hole - Patrick Chung, Brigid Higgins, Min Sun Kim, Ben Read

Restricted Junior - Jack Clarke

Social - Brett Harris

During this same period, 17 members resigned bringing our total membership number to 976 members. We wish our resigned members all the best and welcome our new members, we are sure you will enjoy your time at the Club.



COURSE REPORT

Now that we have passed the shortest day of the year, things can only get brighter. Accomplishing your golfing goals as well as the days getting longer. With the warmer winter temperatures of recent, it has been great to see everyone out and about.

Greens are rolling true and consistent, with the winter months they are a little slower than the summer months. Greens are due to be Verti-drained for aeration & infiltration, will be fertilised and sanded as per maintenance program. Tees will be sliced throughout the winter months, fertilised also. Surrounds are due to have fertiliser applied with gypsum to help with drainage and recovery. Fairways have recently been sliced and will continue to be sliced throughout the winter. The condition of the course is excellent for the time of the year. Will apply worm control when the profile becomes saturated to allow the worm control to work.

We have been placing drains throughout the course to help with drainage, some are existing drains that have silted up. We will be working on bunkers, trees and paths throughout the winter. I hope that all members and visitors are enjoying the conditions at present. Good luck to those who have matches. Please remember to replace your divots and repair your pitch marks. When driving your carts, be aware of where you are driving.

Instead of a bit of humour, below is a few thoughts about the greens. Green speeds – is it important? The below article is from the USGA membership page.

Kiel Stechman - Course Superintendent

The most important thing to know about green speed is faster does not mean better. (USGA/John Mummert)

The appropriate green speed for a course depends on putting green design, grass type, golfer ability and other factors. (USGA/Kirk H. Owens)

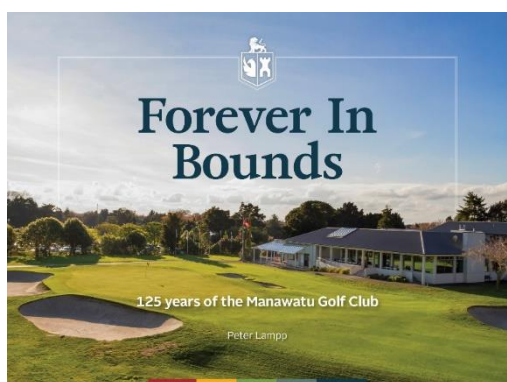
Green speed is one of the most sensitive and misunderstood topics in golf. Golfers see lightning-fast greens on television or hear claims about green speeds at a course they admire and think that's an ideal that other courses should aspire to. What they may not realize is that those conditions require significant resources to deliver, may last for only a short period of time, and are not appropriate for the vast majority of golf courses or golfers. There is also a lot of misinformation about green speeds, so golfers shouldn't believe everything they hear from their playing partners or television broadcasters. Here are five things every golfer should know about green speed: **Faster Does Not Mean Better**; The appropriate green speed for a particular course depends on the putting green contours, grass type, maintenance budget and skill level of the golfers playing – along with numerous other considerations. Trying to make greens faster than they should be leads to higher maintenance costs, turf damage, lost hole locations, and rounds of golf that are slower and less enjoyable. Sacrificing other aspects of putting green quality in the pursuit of speed just doesn't make sense. **Green Speeds Fluctuate**; Putting greens are comprised of living plants that change and perform differently from season to season and even day to day. Temperatures, humidity, rainfall and routine maintenance practices all influence daily green speed. Maintaining the same green speed throughout the year is impossible and letting a target number dictate management practices is a recipe for damaged greens and undesirable playing conditions.

COURSE REPORT Continued...

Green Speeds Don't Travel; One of the most important things to know about green speed measurements is that they should not be used to compare one golf course with another. A green speed that is perfect for one course could be way too fast for a course down the road that has steeper green contours or golfers with different skill levels. There are simply too many variables involved to make reasonable comparisons. **Speed Costs Money;** While golfers hear a lot of discussion about courses with fast greens, they don't hear as much about all that goes into providing those conditions. Lower mowing heights, regular topdressing, verticutting and hand watering are just some of the practices involved in maintaining faster greens. In addition, courses that maintain faster greens typically invest heavily in improving putting green growing environments by removing trees and enhancing drainage. The investments required on a daily and yearly basis to deliver faster green speeds are substantial, and beyond the budget of most golf courses. **Speed Can Kill;** Periods of high heat, humidity and other environmental stresses can push putting green health close to the edge. Trying to maintain a particular green speed during difficult weather carries a serious risk of causing lasting damage that could negatively impact smoothness and speed for weeks to come. To protect putting green turf, golf course superintendents may raise mowing heights or reduce the frequency of mowing and rolling during stressful weather. These adjustments mean temporarily slower green speeds, but they will help preserve good playing conditions for the weeks and months ahead.

It's easy to understand how golfers can place too much emphasis on green speed. Numbers invite comparisons and faster can easily be mistaken for better. However, if we can keep the big picture in mind and remember that speed is just one of the many factors in putting green quality, we'll save ourselves and superintendents a lot of headaches.

George Waters is the manager of Green Section education for the USGA. Email him at gwaters@usga.org.



Now available!

125th Jubilee Book "Forever In Bounds" written by Peter Lampp is now available for purchase from the office.

A beautiful book - \$45 each

Car Park

We are aware that the carpark is reaching capacity but we ask that everyone to please follow all signage:

Do not park on No-Parking areas
Follow the directional arrows and do not drive into the "no entry" entrance

Rules Corner

New Zealand Golf and the R&A regularly provide resource materials for golfers interested in advancing their understanding and application of the Rules of Golf. They also provide preparation guides for players interested in gaining qualifications appropriate to their level of involvement in the Rules. Courses run by local association referees and/ or NZ Golf are held regularly for those interested in becoming more involved in golf rules and refereeing at district and national events, to progress through the three stages available.

The Level 1 course provides basic instruction and demonstrations on the Rules that is suitable for those wanting to improve their understanding of the Rule as applied in general club play. To complete this Level 1 course attendees are encouraged to sit the 1 hour open book (Players Guide or Rules of Golf books) exam.

The Level 2 course is more detailed and puts considerable emphasis on thorough understanding and familiarisation with the Rules of Golf book and interpretations of the Rules. To complete this Level, attendees must sit the 2 hour exam with a significant section taken without access to support material (Rule Books).

Level 3 courses are aimed at those with significant knowledge of the Rules (those that have completed Level 2) and are interested in refereeing at major national events. Courses at this level for New Zealanders are always run by NZ Golf and or Australian Golf. Referees at major international events (The Open, Masters etc) are required to sit and pass this Level 3 exam at least every 4 years to maintain their accreditation.

The R&A stress that passing exams at any of the 3 levels above does not confer "R&A accreditation" and successful candidates are not automatically "R&A qualified referees". The decision on who to engage as referees at major national events in NZ is always made by NZ Golf.

In 2019, nine members of the Manawatu Golf Club completed a course on the Rules of Golf run by local Manawatu/Wanganui golf referees. Ant Gear was the sole candidate that sat and passed with Merit, Level 2. The eight members that sat and passed the national Level 1 exam (D indicates with distinction) were Tim Berry (D), Darryl Chalmers (D), Gordon Reynolds (D), Hayden Robinson (D), Christine Rose (D), Ray Barnett, Lew Hirini, and Jerome Robinson. In addition, two MGC members, (David Pick and Ian Anderson) completed an on-line course and sat and passed the Level 3 R&A exam. In August, three of our members (Grayson Joines, Ant Gear and Ian Anderson) will be attending a further Level 3 Tournament Administrators and Referees course run by NZ Golf at the Remuera GC.

On Saturday June 27, the course convenor Ian Anderson presented Certificates to the candidates able to attend (see photo) congratulating them on their efforts and achievements. It is hoped that future courses on the Rules will attract even



more members to participate and consider getting involved in refereeing. We are indeed fortunate to have a core of qualified referees at our club and it is encouraging to see more members intending to become more involved in the Rules of Golf.

What's on in July...

Please note changes below

Please note this programme is subject to change. Please remember to always check and book via the tee sheets on the Club website or at the card room kiosk for available tee times.

EVENT

MIXED

WOMEN

MEN

MONDAY		6	13	20	27
TUESDAY		7 18 Hole: Par 9 Hole: Par	14 18 Hole: Stableford 9 Hole: LGU & Putting	21 18 Hole: LGU 3rd Qualifying Round Club Champs 9 Hole: Stableford	28 18 Hole: Stableford 9 Hole: Stableford
WEDNESDAY	1 Wade Cup Stableford 9 Hole: Stableford	8 Wade Cup Stableford 9 Hole: Par	15 Wade Cup Stableford 9 Hole: Stroke, LGU, Semi-Final Lavender/ Gillespie Cups to be completed	22 Wade Cup Stableford 9 Hole: Stableford Alternate Tees	29 Wade Cup Stableford 9 Hole: Stableford
THURSDAY	2	9 Thursday Club	16 Yorb Business House	23 Thursday Club	30
FRIDAY	3	10 Women's District Golf Day	17	24	31
SATURDAY	4 Craigs Investment Tankard Draw 9 Hole: Stableford 18 Hole: Par	11 Stableford, MacLennan, Round 2 to be completed 9 Hole: Par Stableford	18 Par 9 Hole: Stroke, LGU 18 Hole: LGU 3rd Qualifying Round Club Championships	25 Par 9 Hole: Stableford Alternate Tees 18 Hole: Stableford	
SUNDAY	5 B&A Cup semi-final to be completed	12 Imlay Saunders Round 2 and Consolation 1st Round to be completed Watson cup round 3 to be completed	19 Watson cup semi- final to be completed MacLennan, Round 3 to be completed MacLennan, Round 1 Consolation to be completed B&A Cup Final	26 Watson cup final to be completed MacLennan, Round 4 to be completed	

July



SPONSOR OF THE MONTH



PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS AS THEY ARE SUPPORTING YOUR CLUB - Major Sponsors Below

