



THE LOYAL ROYAL NEWSLETTER



Marrickville Golf, Sporting and Community Club
Wharf Street, Marrickville
Clubhouse 02 9558 1876 Pro Shop 9558 6862

MARRICKVILLE GOLF CLUB'S NEWSLETTER



LEASE

We previously announced that the Council had offered a 21 Lease to the Club.

Since then, the finer details of the lease have been finalised, with both parties finally signing off on the document that is now in the hands of the Minister.

As noted the Lease being presented to the Minister is part of a process to ensure local councils do not operate outside of State planning. As this is not a change to the use of the land, the Council do not expect anything but a sign off.

The Lease is all but complete and both the Council and Club are already working on future plans together.

OPEN HOURS

Clubhouse Opening Hours:

- Monday 11 am - 8.30 pm**
- Tuesdays 8 am - 8.30 pm**
- Wednesday 10.00 am - 9 pm**
- Thursdays 8.00 am to 10 pm**
- Friday 10 am to 10 pm**
- Saturdays 7.30 am to 10 pm**
- Sundays 7.30 am to 6 pm**

Times may vary to accommodate trade in the evenings

DAI ROMANI RESTAURANT BOOKINGS ARE BACK

Thank you to those members and guests who supported the Restaurant throughout the covid lockdown.

We continued to trade as take away for both the restaurant and the bar. Now that we are back, the restaurant are taking bookings and on some nights we have been close to full. Please think about booking if you are coming for dinner or lunch during December as we do have Christmas events & bookings coming in.

FROM THE CLUBHOUSE

CLUB UPDATE

Clubhouse Works

As members have come back from COVID lockdown they will have noted a number of things have been done within the Clubhouse for both improvements and some for serious repair. We have listed a number of the items below as some repairs are not cosmetic and are essentially unseen.

- The ladies locker room required some serious repairs that under our Crown lease we are obligated to do. The large tree at the back of clubhouse was imposing upon both the wall and the floor fittings, as well as the back wall having such extensive historical termite damage to it, that it literally could have fallen over in the wind.
- Similarly the cladding around the clubhouse was replaced, exposing serious damage to the retaining wall at the front of the clubhouse. During construction this damage was most evident when one of the walls required bolstering up, and serious damage/collapse could have occurred in the future if repairs were not addressed.
- During electrical cabling for the new poker machine area, serious wear and tear on the pillars supporting the dancefloor was observed that could have resulted in potential collapse, with terrible consequences. These were fixed, with some additional repairs to some floor boards, and new carpet. We are still awaiting finalisation of the vinyl flooring.
- With an old cooling tempright that required constant repairs, we have upgraded to a new system and brand new bar taps allowing the tradition of the best tasting beer in Marrickville to continue! It also allowed us to put on a few more beers... mainly the local Grifter Beer. With the addition of Young Henry, Batch, Sydney Brewery, Yullis and Hawkes in cans - all local greats and we also have local spirits and a new wine list.
- Members would have been aware that the clubhouse roof was in dire repair, having major damage occur to the ceilings, which also prompted repairing the flooring. This resulted in a repaint of the clubhouse which once again was in dire need of doing.
- A new CCTV system has been installed and already proven to invaluable in some circumstances.
- Our wonderful caterers Dai Romani joined us in 2020 and the positive impact they have made upon the club has been obvious and an upgrade to their kitchen equipment was required with new storage also necessary as their turnover has increased.
- With the additional electrical usage in the clubhouse it was obvious that an upgrade to the electrics was a necessity, and this extended to repairing the cart shed and the greens shed electrics and installing power to the practice bays. Now with additional security in the practice nets we can store the carts back in there.
- The replacement of the computer system in the club came through a grant received which included the new kiosk and scanner and the golf management system which has proved to be a popular addition bringing Marrickville in line with other golf clubs in terms of golfing IT. We will continue to build on this system.

FROM THE CLUBHOUSE

CLUB UPDATE

Clubhouse Works cont...

- Coming out of COVID the Keno system had almost every part of its electrical system crash, leading us to the point where Keno will be replacing the entire system, so hopefully this will be back up and running soon.
- We were recently successful in receiving another grant, this one being for installing solar on the roof, greatly reducing our energy costs and carbon footprint. Work should occur in the new year around this project.
- The club has also received a grant for upgrading of the lighting in the clubhouse, bringing a more efficient style of lighting and again reducing ongoing costs. We hope work will commence soon.

Dispelling a Gossip Myth

Members will have seen vague and unparticularised allegations against the Board printed in the nomination material written by some members who are nominating for board positions in the upcoming elections, to the effect that the Board has ignored harassment against staff and members and has failed to take complaints seriously.

Those allegations could not be further from the truth. The Board has this year conducted several disciplinary hearings regarding inappropriate conduct by members. Where appropriate, the Board has referred conduct to external authorities and has actively co-operated with those authorities in any investigations.

Naturally, due to privacy reasons, the Board cannot release details of any disciplinary matters or investigations.

Members can be assured however that the Board takes all complaints of improper conduct by members seriously and that the allegations which have been made against the Board are absolutely without foundation.

FROM THE COURSE FOR THE GOLFERS

From the Superintendent

Dear Members

I write to you today to inform you of the condition of the greens and provide absolute facts to the membership and dispel any and all rumours that are floating around currently.

The greens are suffering from fungal disease coming on the back of the extreme hot weather that we had in late October when the club did not have adequate water pressure due to running on town water supply. The reason for the insufficient water pressure came as a result of delays to the Inner West councils restoration works to the Dibble Avenue Waterhole which the club uses as its main water supply. The project completion which was due in late June was not completed until mid September putting the project 10 weeks behind. On completion of this project, the council engineers and civil contractors were meant to notify the golf club that works were completed and assist the club with checking for issues with the pumping pipeline, as this was removed for access of vehicles and modified during the works, as had been agreed prior to the commencement of works. This did not happen and after many attempts to raise the council for authorisation to commence testing of the pipework we finally had success in late September, at which time the contractors had long moved on and were working on another job, and by this time temperatures were rising.

Once we tested the pipe we discovered that there was a leak located between the pond and the pumping station, of which nothing was obvious to the eye. We had to check and rule out that the leak existed underneath the road on Riverside Crescent. Through numerous attempts and strategies to find the leak we found that the hot weather had arrived sooner than the resolution of our issue and at which time irrigating the golf greens with insufficient pressure was taking many man hours of the staff and by the time we could water all of the greens they were starting to dry out again. We have now found and repaired the leak and installed a brand new pump so hopefully water issues are behind us. On the back of high turf stress in the hot weather, it weakens the turf grass which then can allow fungal pathogens to infect grass that would otherwise be able to withstand the disease pressure.

I have had disease samples taken from three of the most badly affected greens and the results have shown presence of Leptosphaerulina and Curvuleria leaf blight diseases.

To treat these diseases we will be treating with a fungicide spray this Friday along with a fertiliser/ bio stimulant to improve the turf defense systems against further infection. We will then continue with our annual fertiliser and pesticide program, that will see further fungicide applications at weekly intervals as previously scheduled, through until the end of the growing season. In the coming weeks I hope to also mini aerate and topdress the greens to aid the recovery from the current disease damage. Please note that the aeration will not be removing cores, so greens will not be out of play for play during this process.

On a further note, with club elections upon us I do not appreciate some of our members using my name to leverage club politics either for or against candidates running for positions on the board. I have heard from a number of reliable sources that my name has come up in playing politics to sway favour for the elections. For some who think that defaming my good name by spreading rumours in the lead up to club elections is not only insulting but downright disrespectful. My stance as a staff member is and always will remain, loyal to the elected board of the club and to serve the entire membership of Marrickville Golf, Sporting and Community Club, not selected factions of the membership.

Thank you, Kind Regards

Nathan Lindsay

Golf Course Superintendent Marrickville Golf, Sporting & Community Club