

2015 Women's Golf Murwillumbah (WGM) President's Report.

2015; has been a very successful year with great weather that allowed plenty of golf. Player numbers have been similar to 2014. However, to maintain our fields we need to address the problem of our aging membership and positive steps have been taken in this direction. Our wonderful sponsors continue to support us, and us them, by maintaining the practice of only issuing prize vouchers that can be spent either in their businesses or at our club.

WGM provided financial assistance to our junior girls to assist with golfing expenses. We are proud of how well our juniors have done particularly Maddie Trew and Ashlee Selwood. We applaud Graeme Trew's commitment to attracting juniors and new players to our club and recognise that it is imperative that we support his efforts at every opportunity. We have all followed the progress of our ex-junior Sheridan Gorton and wish her well as she prepares for her next challenge as a professional golfer.

The Mt. Warning Classic in August was a great success with 154 entries. We had a new sponsor this year in Bill Townsend from "COOL-A-BAH" Cooling Services. The same game format was used as last year and presentation was completed by 6.30pm. Sheridan Gorton easily took out the top prize. Special thanks to the hard working committee ladies, the many volunteers and workers who all contributed to the success of this popular event.

Our club champion for 2015 was Sheridan Gorton - Div 11 winner was Jenny O'Flanagan and Div 111 was Alma Pendergast. The Veteran trophy went to Dallas McCabe and Senior Veteran was Marlene Dorrough. Sheridan Gorton and Cathy Miller won the WGM Division 1 Foursomes, Betty Bryce and Marion Shields Div 11 and Denise MacGregor-Skinner and June Jorgensen Div 111. Congratulations to the winners and all who participated.

Our Club fielded teams in both Northern Rivers and Gold Coast Pennants. The players enjoyed the challenge of playing on a range of different courses. The Gold Coast trialled a new format this year and by all reports this worked well. Our thanks go to Janet East, Coral Dickenson and Margaret Hardcastle for managing the teams and all the players who participated.

Earlier in the year Roz Julien and Marie Morrin headed a Membership Drive to attract new golfers to our club. A plan was put in place in conjunction with Graeme Trew and several beginners took up the offer. As a result of that drive we now have some new members in our fields. The recruitment plan will be ongoing next year.

We welcomed a new Club Patron this year, Adrienne Amisano and we thank her for her guidance and support.

As always our Club likes to support others in need and throughout the year over \$4,000 was gifted to various groups. This amount included donations to foster our own young golfers.

Many people contribute to the success of WGM but we particularly appreciate the efforts of Gary Thatcher and his team who work with us in such a spirit of co-operation; Bar Manager Terry Sullivan and staff; Brian Cox and his cheerful greenkeepers; Joe Chilcott and the Golf Shop staff; Charlene and her team at the Hot Wok and Grill. Special thanks to those who aren't on committee but continue to assist wherever and whenever needed – our gardeners, floral arrangers, match helpers, district representatives etc. – thank you.

I would like to highlight the many years of service to our club by Sandra Pursey. Her work with beginners and her Golfing Gossip Column has become legendary. Thank you Sandra.

I now wish to acknowledge the selfless contribution of all members of the committee, June Baker and Match Committee for their tireless efforts; Vice President Roz Julien and House Committee; our hardworking Treasurer Gayle Greenall; our very organised Secretary Jan Brooks; trophy buyers Barb Blundon and Jenny Dobinson. The committee will greatly miss the following retiring committee members. June Baker, Cath Blissett, Jenny Dobinson, Marg Reynolds, and Jo Campbell. Thank you – we have appreciated all that you have done for the club.

Jan Walpole

In conclusion, I welcome the incoming committee and wish them well in their endeavours for the next twelve months. I encourage all members to be supportive and appreciative of the efforts of each person serving on committee.

Finally I wish to thank everyone for the support you have shown me over the past year. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve you as your President.

Marion Shields

President

Women's Golf Murwillumbah

19th November, 2015.