



## Chairman's Corner

Welcome to the Newsletter. 2022 has rolled around and the Board would like to wish all members a happy new year. Let's hope 2022 is better than the last two years.....

Young golf pro Lucas Higgins has had some great results in the past couple of months. Lucas only just missed out on a start in the recent Australian PGA Championships held at Royal Queensland. He is now placed 9th on the order of merit and we wish him all the best for his upcoming events.

Last month we lost one of our great life members. Mark Biltoft spent many hours in turning Murwillumbah Golf Club from a country golf course into one of Australia's top 100 course. Mark spent a great deal of time in trying to improve the drainage on the course. He worked very closely with Brian Cox and made many changes to some of the holes. Mark will be sorely missed and we pass our condolences to his family. The Ladies also lost a former president in Denise MacGreor-Skinner. Denise spent a number of years on the ladies committee and loved her golf, she will be greatly missed as well.

The Welcome Back Day for the lady golfers will be held on the 1st February. They have been granted a two tee start under the Special Event Rule. We wish them all the best for 2022 and hopefully they can play some of their special events this year.

The Board is looking at replacing the roadside advertising sign on Byangum Rd. Looking for an updated sign which will give improved information about what is happening at MGC.

The Board is well aware of the problems on the path from the 8th green to the 9th tee through the rainforest area. Brian is working with some Board Members to improve this area without removing any trees. Once again the greens staff have done an outstanding job in presenting the course in an excellent condition throughout 2021. Many Favorable comments have been received by visitors so we must be doing some things right. Just on the course it has been noticed some holes have been damaged by Members who use their putter to pull the ball out of the hole. Please refrain from this practice.

The Board has decided to obtain quotes to improve the toilet & showers in the men's locker room. This is an area of the clubhouse that does need improving.

**With Covid numbers on the rise it is imperative to sign into the club and wear a mask when moving around. Singing and dancing is not allowed at this stage. Please adhere to all regulations.**

Enjoy your golf, enjoy your clubhouse and look forward.....optimistically to a better 2022.

Graham Rosenbaum - Chairman

### 50 years of continuous membership.....

**Members on achieving 50 years continuous membership of the Club as from the 1st July 2022 will be granted exemption from paying the Annual Green Fee portion of their Membership Fee! Members involved will be required to sign a Statutory Declaration.**



**When were the first Rules drawn up?** “The Thirteen Articles” of golf were drawn up by the Gentlemen Golfers of Leith in 1744 to govern play in their annual competition. Until then, players would simply agree on a list of arbitrary conditions of play prior to teeing off on the opening hole. The Leith code has been modified regularly down the centuries, but it still forms the core of the Rules that apply today.



### **The Thirteen Articles.**

1. You must tee your ball within one club's length of the previous hole.
2. Your tee must be upon the ground.
3. You are not to change the ball you strike off the tee.
4. You are not to remove stones, bones or any breakclub for the sake of playing your ball except on the fair green, and that only within a club's length of your ball.
5. If your ball comes among water, or any watery filth, you are a liberty to take out your ball; and bringing it behind the hazard, and teeing it up, you may play it with any club and allow your adversary a stroke for so getting out your ball.
6. If your balls be found anywhere touching one another, you are to lift the first ball, till you play the last.
7. At holing, you are to play your ball honestly for the hole and not to play on your adversary's ball, not lying in your way to the hole.
8. If you should lose your ball, by its being taken up or any other way, you are to go back to the spot where you struck last and drop another ball and allow your adversary a stroke for the misfortune.
9. No man at holing his ball is to be allowed to mark his way to the hole with his club or anything else.
10. If a ball be stopped by any person, horse, dog or anything else, the ball so stopped must be played where it lies.
11. If you draw your club in order to strike and proceed so far in the stroke as to be bringing down your club – if then your club shall break in any way, it is to be accounted a stroke.
12. He whose ball lies farthest from the hole is obliged to play first.
13. Neither trench, ditch nor dyke made for the preservation of the links, nor the Scholar's holes, or the Soldier's lines, shall be accounted a hazard, but the ball is to be taken out, teed and played with any iron club. (This was a local rule and peculiar to the links at Leith).

## **Green's Chairman December Report**

Greens Committee Chairman Neil Fogo reported that the greens staff did a fantastic job getting the course ready for the Pro-Am. Two greens have been lost due to poor quality soils and topdressings. Lots of fertilizer has been put into the 3rd green and top has been taken of the 8th that was found to have no nutrients in the soil. The 8A green is to be used for 8 to 10 weeks until the 8th green is back in play. A demo blower was supplied by Toro the Monday prior to the Pro-Am for a tidy up. New blower is still to come and the old blower is being repaired. The course is looking great after lots of rain. New concrete paths to be done starting with the 17th tee late March.

## **Meet Duncan**

I'm sure most of you have already met our newest staff member in the Pro Shop, Duncan Crilly. He is a PGA Member who completed his traineeship at Palm Meadows Golf Course and has vast experience in running bars, restaurants, and night clubs. Originally from Palmerston North, New Zealand, (don't hold that against him!), he moved to Australia in 2009. Prior to completing his PGA traineeship Duncan was an award-winning bartender winning multiple Cocktail Championships as well as representing New Zealand at two World Cocktail Championships. Duncan is also available for golf lessons and will play the occasional members competition so be sure to make him feel welcome.



## Lucas Higgins will be a name to remember....



Higgins upstages big names to win Southport Pro-Am  
The field boasted European Tour players, US Tour winners, PGA Tour of Australasia champions and some Aussie legends yet it was rising Murwillumbah pro Lucas Higgins who stole the show at the Schweppes Southport Pro-Am.

The final event of 2021 on the adidas PGA Pro-Am Series, the \$15,000 Southport Pro-Am at Southport Golf Club on the Gold Coast attracted the likes of Michael Sim, Chris Wood, Peter Senior, Deyen Lawson and Daniel Gale yet it was Higgins who had the hot hand.

On a run of superb golf through the Northern Rivers run of events, Higgins brought it all together at Southport in a round of eight-under 63 for a three-stroke win.

Starting his round from the 10th tee, Higgins opened with three birdies in his first four holes and went five-under around the turn – including an eagle three at the par-5 first – to take a stranglehold of the tournament.

“I’ve been playing very solid the last week,” said Higgins, who ended the year 19-under in his past six rounds. “Today managed to be a great day with minimal mistakes. I’m very happy to have finished the year with a win,” added Higgins, whose other wins in 2021 came at Gympie and Windaroo Lakes.

Lucas has been playing some great golf in the professional ranks and has climbed up the order of merit to 9th in South East Queensland. Lucas has shown he has the talent to play with the best and is quickly building a reputation as one to beat.

### **2021 Pro-Am Event 1st place results at Gympie, Windaroo Lakes & Southport!**

#### **Most memorable golfing moment:**

Holing a 10 foot putt to get myself into my first professional event at the 2016 NSW Open.

#### **Career low round:**

-10 at Lakelands Golf Club.

#### **Club memberships:**

Murwillumbah Golf Club.

#### **Favourite sporting team:**

The Sydney Roosters.

#### **Favourite player:**

Xander Schauffele

#### **Your most inspiring sportsperson or individual and why:**

Tiger Woods – to comeback from where he was physically and mentally is just amazing.

#### **Who has been the biggest influence on your career to date and why:**

Dad, he was why I started playing



# Promotion Report

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2022! 2021 seemed to go by in the blink of an eye and where has January gone????.....

Thanks to all the Members who came out to support our events in December. The Kids raffle and Santa day was a smaller turnout than previous years, but it still seemed like the children had a ball. The face painting was amazing and we will be getting the talented lady's back for sure! Thank you to Keith Fellowes for helping out on the day to be the special man in the suit. (I'm sure no little kids are reading this....)

**We now have the birthday cash draw TWICE A MONTH. The first and last Friday of each month and you can win on BOTH nights. Win up to \$100 and enjoy a great nights out at your local club! See below Bill pictured with the lucky winners of the 1st draw this month.....**



Don't forget to take advantage of our courtesy bus which runs every Friday and Saturday Nights from 5.30pm. The bus is usually quieter on the Saturday Nights and may even pick you up slightly further

than the radius, simply ring up, book in and enjoy your night out, worry free about getting home safely. The bus is regularly sanitised, as the health and safety of our Members is our main priority!

Fairway Sessions is back and runs on the 4th Sunday of each month from 1-4pm! We suggest booking a table in the large room for the best seat in the house!



We had a beautiful wedding here in December, congratulations to Katrina and Dylan. We received some of the wedding photos from Sean Reefman. You get the complete ceremony package with arch, chairs, runner and signing table all for only \$550! Compared to a lot of the near by venues especially along the coast we are much cheaper!



# Golf Shop Report

## PRO TIP – MORE DISTANCE FOR GOLFERS OVER 50

With the course being wet after all the rain, we aren't getting as much roll on the fairways. So how can you get that little extra off the tee, reach the green in regulation and puff your chest out a little more? Go for the high draw!

### 1) Turn your back foot out to prevent swaying

This helps golfers with a lot of stiffness and lack of hip flexibility. If you have good hip flexibility, you can keep feet perpendicular to the target line as per normal. To further explain this, if your foot is facing forward, then your hip is in the neutral position. During your backswing when your body is turning, you need to have good hip flexibility to keep the hip in this neutral position. If you feel stiffness or pain on the backswing, this may cause your body to sway onto the back foot, dipping your front shoulder creating all sorts of problems! Test yourself by taking a backswing and stop at the top. The correct feeling should be your weight on the inside of your back foot. If you feel your weight rolled to the outside of your foot, then this is a tell-tale sign of swaying. By turning your back foot out, your lower body will be able to rotate better and the more you can separate your lower body turn from your upper body turn, the more power you can generate.

### 2) Strengthen your golf grip

A strong grip promotes a drawing ball flight. To do this, all you need to do is *slightly* rotate your hands to the right when gripping the club (for right handers).

Pic: A strong golf grip



### 3) Move the ball up slightly in your stance, plus trail foot back

With the ball set up off the front toe, this promotes a more “upward” angle of attack, for a higher launching trajectory. The other catalyst for a draw is to have an in to out swing path. Something I often do is drop the right (trail) foot back to close off my feet, hips and shoulders, promoting a better club path.

Ref: <http://agedefyinggolf.com/>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Ladies Welcome Back Day 2-tee start 7:20am – 8:20am
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Qualifying for Men's Single Handicap Matchplay
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Callaway Fit Day
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	VW Scramble Elimination Ambrose

Good Golfing,

Shane Miley


Pro Shop Manager

## THE BIG O'S 15 TO 1 COUNTDOWN

### AUSTRALIA'S GREATEST SPORTS STARS OF THE 2010 DECADE

15. **PATTY MILLS** The only Aussie to play in an entire decade in the NBA (588 games) winning a title with the Spurs ins 2014.
14. **CAMERON SMITH** The most influential player of the decade, winning two premierships, seven Origin series and captaining Australia to World Cup success in 2013 and 2017.
13. **STEPH GILMORE** Arguably our greatest female surfer, winning four of her seven world titles during the 2010s.
12. **ASH BARTY** Made an impact late in the decade, becoming the first Australian in 46 years to win the French Open.
11. **CASEY STONER** In 2011 was crowned MotoGP world champion with 16 podium finishes in 17 races, including 10 victories.
10. **MARK WEBBER** Finished third overall in Formula One's driver's championship in 2010, 2011 and 2013, with 32 podium finishes.
9. **CATE CAMPBELL** The mainstay of the Dolphins swim team, is a four-time world champion, winning 22 gold medals at international meets during the decade.
8. **DANIEL RICCIARDO** During the 2010s, he finished in the top 10 of the Formula One championship standings six times, with a best result of third overall in 2014 and 2018.
7. **ELLYSE PERRY** Named the ICC female player of the decade with a Test average of 86 and a bowling average of 19, while in 114 ODIs she averaged 50.
6. **ADAM SCOTT** In 2013 became the first Australian to win the US Masters. Twelve months later outstanding form saw him take the No. 1 world ranking.
5. **CADEL EVANS** Created history in 2011, becoming the only Australian to win the coveted Tour de France yellow jersey.
4. **SAM KERR** Arguably the world's greatest female striker, she was a pivotal figure in the Matilda's meteoric rise, starring in the 2019 World Cup.
3. **STEVE SMITH** During the decade he scored a record 7164 runs at 63.28, captaining Australia to a 4-0 Ashes win in 2018 and the No. 1 Test ranking.
2. **JASON DAY** The world's top-ranked golfer in 2015 after his US PGA victory, he finished 10 times in the top five of majors during the decade.
1. **TIM CAHILL** Our greatest Socceroo was instrumental in Australia's qualification for three World Cups (2010, 2014, 2018) during the decade.





**RSL upcoming events for February are:**

- 06/02/2022 Stroke Monthly Mug- (Sponsor My Tiler, Matt Young)
- 13/02/2022 4 Person Ambrose/AGM RSL Pres. - BBQ – (Sponsors -Chappies)
- 20/02/2022 Single Stableford at Twin Towns – (Sponsor Mick Rosolen)
- 27/02/2022 4BBB – (Sponsor Chris Webster – Webster Bus Services)

## Jokes

A man was sitting quietly reading his paper when his wife walked up behind him and whacked him on the head with a magazine. 'What was that for?' he asked.

'That was for the piece of paper in your trouser pocket with the name Laura Lou written on it,' she replied.

'Two weeks ago when I went to the races, Laura Lou was the name of one of the horses I bet on, I bought you those flowers with the winnings,' he explained.

'Oh darling, I'm sorry,' she said. 'I should have known there was a good explanation.'

Three days later he was watching TV when she walked up and hit him in the head again, this time with a frying pan, which knocked him out cold.

When he came to, he asked, 'What was that for?'

'Your horse phoned'



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# Kitchen's Monday to Thursday specials!

## STEAK NIGHT

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT



BUY TWO STEAKS FOR ONLY \$30!  
SAVE \$19!  
INCLUDES TWO \$2 WINE OR SOFT DRINK TICKETS!  
\* MEMBERS ONLY \* DINE IN ONLY

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT


### MIXED GRILL

\$15



STEAK, PORTUGUESE CHICKEN FILLET,  
SAUSAGE, ONIONS, TOMATO & CHIPS

## SEAFOOD NIGHT




CHOOSE ANY SEAFOOD MEAL FOR \$15

EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT!

## BURGER NIGHT

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT



AMERICAN BURGER & CHIPS FOR ONLY \$12!



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