

Newsletter

www.murwillumbahgolfclub.com.au

Murwillumbah
Golf Club

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Chairmans report

2023 ended with a spectacular light show put on by Mother Nature. Thunder, lightning and heavy rain led to our first flood event of 2024 on New Years day and it has continued well into January forcing only the flood nine to be in play for most of January.

Thankfully the Club house has continued to operate without interruption and provides us all with the amenities that we have come to enjoy.

The course staff and volunteers have done a wonderful job in rehabilitating the course only to have further heavy rain events undermine their efforts and prevent us from offering the full course to players in January. The course is now fully operational again. Our course staff will be on top of our program of course improvements including upgrading of the drainage and bunkers on the 5th and 7th holes as well as new cart paths.

We have already ordered 15 brand new replacement golf carts and are expecting delivery in the first quarter of the year. We are continuing with our planned upgrade of course machinery and other equipment to ensure that the course is well maintained.

We are working on plans for further changes within the Club house including a new TAB area and expanded general members area. The car park redevelopment and cart storage area is still awaiting DA approval from Council and as soon as we have the approval in hand we will be calling for tenders. This will be the biggest and most expensive project that we have undertaken since acquiring the Byangum road site back some 60 plus years ago. Fortunately, through prudent planning we have considerable funds invested which will go a long way towards this project as well as all the other capital works we have planned.

While we don't know what the weather will be for the remainder of the year, we can expect the Club house to continue providing our members and local community with first class facilities and service from our friendly staff. There will continue to be regular promotions and events to entertain you.

I hope that all our members had a wonderful Christmas and New Year break and I look forward to seeing you all at the Club throughout 2024. Our Board Members are all here to ensure that we continue to develop the course and club house to meet the needs of our members and the community, so I encourage you to get to know each and every one of our Directors and provide them with feedback on the services we offer.

Wayne Kendrigan

Chairman



Hole In One



Congratulations to Barry James on getting a hole in one on the tenth on the 29th December!

His first one in a comp that now counts!

Martine Brinsdon
OPTOMETRIST

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Riding for the disabled



Pictured the winners of the Riding For The Disabled day which was held on the 26th November.

Tammy Ayres from JH Williams Town and Country with Les Gorton, David Devine, Andrew Brown and Barry Solely. The runners up were Tony, Nick and Drew Reynolds and Zac Lloyd .

Thanks to all the members for supporting this event!

Women's Committee



The 2024 WGM committee met to get the season underway at our President Marie's home on the waterfront. Plans were endorsed before the food and bubbles were enjoyed. We look forward to a successful year of golf and camaraderie.

Promotions Report

WOW! What a busy December we had in the clubhouse! I would just like to thank all the members for supporting the events that were run in December.... and boy were there lots!

Our Kids Christmas event was another huge success with Santa handing out around 90 icy poles to 90 Kids. The Clubhouse was packed! The animals and the music was also a huge hit!
Our 40 Ham Night and Members Free Hampers were also successful and well supported.



We finished the year off with something completely different and a little bit crazy. We didn't run a NYE event for the first time ever. We ran a New Years Eve, Eve event the night before and what a great night it turned out to be..... The Wheel Promotion always creates a lot of excitement and this night was no different. Thank you to the wonderful Bill for being on the microphone and giving us all a good laugh! Pictured below Bill and our very happy member! With one of the largest booked table that night the money couldn't have gone to a better person! Well Done Cathy Ryder, \$1000 richer!



Our Cocktail of Months have been very popular. The Iced-Vovo was quite the internet sensation, and it tasted just as good as it looked with 112 sold. February's Cocktail of the Month is a Watermelon Sour. Gin, watermelon liqueur, fresh lime juice and fresh watermelon juice, I'm sure it will be another well enjoyed special. Only \$12 all month! Very refreshing and a little bit tangy!

Our Wednesday Night Members Badge Draw is \$3600 at time of printing, drawn around 7.30pm every Wednesday Night, after the second round of trivia.

Friday Night Members Badge Draw is \$7100 at time of printing drawn around 8pm every Friday Night!

Natasha Bolden
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**In the New Year I'm giving up
drinking for a month.**

Sorry that came out wrong.

**In the New Year I'm giving up.
Drinking for a month.**

Shane's Slice

What a wet start to the year! Hopefully this month we can play more golf as we draw closer to the end of daylight savings. I'd like to thank the members and guests for looking after the course and abiding by the cart use rules by avoiding wet areas to allow the course to recover.

PRO TIP – TIPS FOR BETTER WEDGE PLAY

Ref: <https://www.golfavenue.com/us/blog/golf-tips/five-simple-wedge-tips-for-beginners/>

Your short game with your wedges can help you scramble and save pars even if the rest of your skills are not up to par on that day. However, having a bad short game with your wedges can lead to an inflated scorecard and will make it very difficult for you to get your golf ball on the green. Most golfer's goal should be to get the ball safely on the green with your wedges. Here's 5 easy tips to improve your wedge play:

1. Use the loft, don't add more loft!

Most beginners and less experienced golfers will take after the pros they watch on TV every week. When it comes to wedges, they'll want to emulate the high arching wedge shots that pros are known for. Most of the time, I see players try to "lift" the ball into the air. But as you know your wedge already has 45 to 60 degrees of loft, so you need to "*de-loft*" the wedge into the ball to create the desired spin. Don't like loft? Then perhaps try a bump and run technique by **taking a club with a little less loft and get the ball rolling sooner!**

2. Swing through the golf ball with your wedges

To me, pitching is a body shot with limited wrists, so using the big muscles to rotate back and through is important for a consistent strike. Did you know that the best way to create a lot of spin on your golf ball at impact is to have it run across as many grooves as possible on the clubface? Your swing speed does play a role in creating spin, but your grooves are even more crucial to your wedges. Many beginners tend to stop their swing motion at the ball to emulate the pros and their ability to magically stop the ball on the green with their wedges. Truth is the pros never stop their swing at the ball. They might stop their swing shorter than what they normally would, but that is simply because they're looking to hold their finish at a lower angle. Make no mistake, however, they never stop their swing at the ball when they hit their wedges.

3. Ball placement on your wedge shots

The placement of the ball on your wedge shots also plays a key role in the trajectory of the ball.

- **Place it closer to your trail foot** if you're looking to generate a lower ball flight, this is particularly useful on chip shots and longer wedge strikes.

Place it closer to your lead foot if you're looking to flight it higher and roll less.

Hopefully, this guide helps you to dial in your wedge game and cut down on the number of strokes around the greens. Mastering one shot type is great but being able to hit all wedge shots consistently will come in even more handy on the golf course. Book in with Duncan or myself for a wedge tune up!

4. Utilize the bounce of your wedges to your advantage

Do you know what the bounce is on your wedges? The bounce of your wedge is the degrees of separation between the ground and the leading edge of your wedge if you were to set it on its sole on a flat surface. The degree of bounce will also vary from one wedge to the next, and this is most likely true for your set as well. You'll want at least one wedge with a low bounce to negotiate tight lies on short distances. You'll also want a wedge with a higher bounce degree for sand shots and softer courses. A high degree of bounce will usually be 12 degrees or more, the medium bounce ranges from 11 to 9 degrees, and anything with a lower bounce from 4 to 8 is generally considered in the low bounce range.

How to utilize the bounce with your wedge:

- **You need to drive your wedge into the ground** at impact for the bounce to truly show its efficiency. If you use it properly, the club will bounce off both the ground and the ball at impact.
- **With low bounce wedges**, you need to clip the ball cleanly at impact. A heavy strike can be very costly with those wedges. Suited to firmer conditions and someone who “clips” the ball from the turf,
- **With high bounce wedges**, you benefit from a little window for error if you struggle with hitting your ball cleanly with your wedges. Suited to softer conditions or someone who “digs” into the turf more often.

5. Learn how to hit the different wedge shots

You should experiment with as many techniques as possible to add to your short game arsenal. After enough practice, you will be able to add them to your bag of tricks on the golf course.

What are the different types of wedge shots?

- **The bump and run** can be executed with almost any single golf club, but if you’re looking for 1-2 bounces and a long roll of the ball, a 7 iron will be your best bet.
- **The chip shot** is a low-flighted wedge strike that is intended to cover a short distance on the green. A well-executed chip shot will bite into the green and “check” on its first or second touch of the ground.
- **The pitch shot** is a longer wedge shot that will tend to feature a higher ball flight. Never hit wedge shots with full power. They are struck to get the ball to spin quickly on the green.
- **The flop shot** is the flashy high-flying wedge shot that Phil Mickelson is so famous for. Hitting a flop demands not only a lot of practice but also demands a good amount of swing speed and an almost perfect swing.

Hopefully, this guide helps you to dial in your wedge game and cut down on the number of strokes around the greens. Mastering one shot type is great but being able to hit all wedge shots consistently will come in even more handy on the golf course. Book in with Duncan or myself for a wedge tune up!

BOOK A LESSON HERE:



UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 1 st February	Ladies Welcome Back Day 8:00am Shotgun Start
Wed 7 th Feb & Sat 10 th Feb	Qualifying for Men’s Single Handicap Matchplay (Top 32)
Wednesday 14 th	February Fitting Day
Friday 1 st March	Back Marker Challenge

Good Golfing,

Shane Miley

Pro Shop Manager



Joe from Tweed Valley Drone Photography



3 Putt Club Donates \$2790!

The 20 boys in the Saturday golf 3 putt club have once again achieved an outstanding result for children's charities this year. A total of \$2290 plus a wonderful donation \$500 from PRO PUMP owner Keith Gordon meant that \$2790 was able to be donated to The Starlight Children's Foundation for seriously ill kids.

Peter Heath would like to thank:

1. The generosity of members who bought the \$10 raffle tickets
2. The Club Board for putting up the raffle prize
3. The members of the 3 putt club
4. And a very special thanks to Kiwi Gordon for his great gesture.

History Article - 1967 Professional \$500 Golf Purse!

Murwillumbah - More than 250 golfers will compete at the Murwillumbah Golf Club over the Easter Holidays for the first \$500 professional purse. The purse is expected to attract 30 top ranking players.

The Murwillumbah Golf Club plans to make the purse an annual event and rival the successful Coffs Harbour purse. Among the leading professionals to appear at Murwillumbah are Jack Coogan, Charlie Earp, John Dyer, J McDonald, Paul King, L. McParlin and Robbie Gibson. "Boy Wonder" Gibson, 19, is the youngest winner of the Queensland Championship.

Entries have come from Brisbane, Toowoomba, Gold Coast and the Northern Rivers. The \$500 purse will be played over 36 holes.

More Than 150 Amateurs will play in the Amateur Title over 36 Holes for a glittering array of trophies. Favorite for the Amateur title is Queensland representative Sommie Mackay.

The Murwillumbah Golf Club is one of the most progressive in the NSW country area. Since work began on the new 18 hole course in 1960, the club has spent more than \$100,000.

About \$12,000 has been spent on more improvements in the last two months.

The spending of \$100,000 in six years is a magnificent achievement. Leading NSW and Queensland golfing officials have lavished praise on the beautiful course.

- Tom Hogan

Two floods in one month.....



Jokes

Other Sport's Jokes

- 1) Horse Racing - "Who were you talking to?" "Tipster. He wanted to give me the winner of the Melbourne Cup." "Did you take it?" "Nah, we've only got a very small garden."
- 2) Wrestling - Professional wrestling is a very hard sport, particularly if you haven't taken any lessons.
- 3) Cricket - The selector say, "You were bowling like lightning today." Fast bowler says, "You mean I'm fast?" "No, you never strike the same place twice!"
- 4) Soccer - A true soccer supporter is one who complains that his team was beaten by seven lucky goals.



Letter to Editor - Slow Play

One of the main causes in play delay is searching for balls, whether or not the three minute rule is obeyed. In this era of modern technology, why has not a ball with implanted microchip, combined with hand held tracker, come to the market?
- David Peach

Varela & Swift
PHARMACY
"Putting people first"

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February Golf Fixtures

Thursday, 1 February 2024	Ladies Welcome Back Day Single Stableford
Friday, 2 February 2024	Titleist Back Marker Challenge Single Stroke
Saturday, 3 February 2024	Casuarina Meat Merchant Men's Monthly Medal Blue Tees Ladies Single Stroke + Putting
Sunday, 4 February 2024	Single Stableford Medley White & Red Tees
Monday, 5 February 2024	Vets Monthly Medal Single Stroke White & Red Tees
Tuesday, 6 February 2024	Ladies Varela & Swift Pharmacy Monthly Medal + Putting
Wednesday, 7 February 2024	Men's Single Stableford White Tees
Thursday, 8 February 2024	Ladies 4BBB Stableford Team Card
Friday, 9 February 2024	Single Stableford Medley White & Red Tees
Saturday, 10 February 2024	Men's Single Stableford White Tees Ladies Single Stableford Red Tees
Sunday, 11 February 2024	Single Stableford Medley White & Red Tees
Monday, 12 February 2024	Vets Single vs Par White & Red Tees
Tuesday, 13 February 2024	Ladies Single Stableford Red Tees
Wednesday, 14 February 2024	Men's Single Stableford White Tees
Thursday, 15 February 2024	Ladies Single Stableford Red Tees
Friday, 16 February 2024	Single Stableford Medley White & Red Tees
Saturday, 17 February 2024	Men's Single Stableford White Tees Ladies Single Stableford Red Tees
Sunday, 18 February 2024	Single Stableford Medley White & Red Tees
Monday, 19 February 2024	Vets Single Stableford White & Red Tees
Tuesday, 20 February 2024	Ladies Single Stableford Red Tees
Wednesday, 21 February 2024	Men's Single Stableford White Tees with 4BBB in conjunction
Thursday, 22 February 2024	Ladies Single Stroke Red Tees + Putting
Friday, 23 February 2024	Single Stableford Medley White & Red Tees
Saturday, 24 February 2024	Men's Single Stableford White Tees with 4BBB in conjunction Ladies Single Stableford Red Tees
Sunday, 25 February 2024	Single Stableford Medley White & Red Tees
Monday, 26 February 2024	Vets Best 2 of 4 Stableford White & Red Tees
Tuesday, 27 February 2024	Ladies Single Stableford Red Tees
Wednesday, 28 February 2024	Men's Single Stableford White Tees
Thursday, 29 February 2024	Ladies American Foursomes (Team Event)