

## AGM 2024: WOMEN'S GOLF MURWILLUMBAH PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members

It is with pleasure I present to you the 2024 Annual Report for Women's Golf Murwillumbah.

We have certainly had a block buster of a year. Sharing our course with many visitors, providing a network for local women and extending our hands to the community through our charity days.

There is much to inspire us as 2024 draws to a close:

- Our financials are sound and substantial which the Treasurer's Report will detail.
- On the course we have successfully completed a full playing programme.
- Off the course we have enjoyed many social gatherings including the "O" Birthday Luncheon, 30th Anniversary Mt Warning/Wollumbin Classic Dinner and our Annual Presentation and Christmas Dinner not to mention many small group get aways near and far in the name of golf.

How lucky are we in a time when many clubs are struggling and numbers are falling. We actually have the opportunity to play on a first class course in the most picturesque surrounds and then relax in a clubhouse full of comfort and charm.

In June I was invited, as your representative, to attend the MGC's 10 Year Strategic Management Plan information meeting. Discussion took place regarding the decline in women playing members due to the gradual aging of existing members and the lack of young women taking up the sport. Thankfully, the Board and Club management has reassured me it is a priority within the future of the club to support and promote women's golf.

As your President, I ponder what the next 5 years may bring? Our numbers are dwindling at the rate of 10% per year. In 5 years time we could be looking at a membership base of approximately 55. Presently, it stands at 106. There will be change but rest assured this change will be for the betterment of all club members. Presently, we are blessed to have a dedicated and proactive committee who will work closely with club management in developing appropriate strategies to embrace us and encourage others to the game we love. We take this opportunity as a positive, for the future of woman's golf in Murwillumbah will be in our hands.

A full year of golf does not occur without the support of many. On behalf of WGM I wish to acknowledge and thank Gary Thatcher and the Board for their continued support during 2024. Our first-class course and club house facilities are testament to the Capital Works Programme currently in place. We, the members, have witnessed the continued refurbishment of the clubhouse not to mention the non-stop maintenance programme and upgrades to our beautiful course.

I also wish to thank:

1. Brian Cox and the ground staff for the course on which we play. It is second to none.
2. Shane, Duncan and the pro shop staff for overseeing our weekly competitions and tournaments.
3. The club administration staff, Deb, Aileen and Tash for always being approachable and willing, for your expertise and support.
4. Terry and the bar staff for your professionalism, friendliness and service.
5. Lyn and Lyn's Kitchen staff for your offerings and service.
6. To our sponsors who have helped finance tournaments, championships and monthly medals. Our yearly golfing programme would be difficult to run without their support.
7. The volunteers, in particular, the Murwillumbah Vets who donate their time so willingly during our tournaments.
8. Finally, I wish to congratulate and thank the 2024 WGM Committee for your commitment and support.
  1. To secretary, Helen Ansems , your administration has been invaluable.
  2. To Patsy Brady, who is stepping down as Captain this year, I salute. Patsy has been an absolute inspiration and support to us all during the past three years as Captain. Congratulations and thank you to the Match Committee for the organisation and running of our annual golfing programme in such a professional manner. Our "Pink for Breast Cancer" Open Day and Mt Warning/Wollumbin Classic were both resounding successes in every way.
  3. To Vice President, absolute champion, Jan Chant and team for organising all the memorable celebrations, functions and weekly raffles throughout the year.
  4. To the Treasury, Anne Ring and Jo Campbell for taking care of the financial well-being of the club. Special thanks also to Anne's husband, Stephen who donated hours of his time with budgeting and reconciling leading up to the Mt Warning/Wollumbin Classic. As Anne is stepping down as treasurer, I wish to personally thank Anne for her dedication and commitment. Anne's meticulous attention to detail has WGM financial records in great stead.
  5. To Karyn Mottershead, even when you are travelling abroad there seems to be a spirit that lingers amongst us.
  6. To the non - committee workers. Although your help is often behind the scenes it is always appreciated.
  7. I wish to acknowledge and thank committee members Lea Clare and Ros Julien who are also standing down this year. Lea has given much support while on the house committee with the organisation of functions and raffle sponsorship during the past two years.

Ros has been a jack of all trades, serving on match and house during this particular term on committee. I wish to personally thank Ros for her support and advice during my office as President. It has been invaluable and very much appreciated.

Finally, as I close my address I wish to acknowledge Life Membership nominee, Adrienne Amisano. It was an absolute honour and privilege to work with Bill Quantrill during the year in producing the submission for the Club's Board. During its writing so many memories came flooding back. A part of club history which needed to be acknowledged and honoured.

I will conclude my address with an extract from Adrienne's submission.

"Adrienne Amisano is a unique member of Murwillumbah Golf Club who, through the early 2000's, not only steered us through a very challenging period of club history but led the team who built the foundations for transformation and success of the club we now enjoy. A member known for her sporting achievements which span over five decades; a member known for her business acumen, insightfulness, and vision. A member who has always led through example and diplomacy. A member who has made a meritorious contribution which undoubtedly has benefited past and present members. A member who is worthy and would certainly be honoured to be a Life Member of Murwillumbah Golf Club."

Adrienne, we thank you.

Finally, to you, the members of Women's Golf Murwillumbah, I am honoured to be your President, I thank you for your support and wish you a safe and festive season.

Marie Morrin  
President WGM