



# THE WOODRISING TIMES

Newsletter of the ANZ Devonport Golf Club, May 2010

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Welcome to the new version of the Woodrising Times newsletter.

This is my first newsletter as Secretary / Manager of the Club. And I just want to get this back to something that I know people will read, if we limit its content. We will no longer list all results to different comps as these are readily available at and after presentations, and they are also published in the Advocate newspaper.

This will be used for golf club news, as it relates to new ideas, complaints, course issue's, staff movements and anything else that will pop into my head, which is a scary thought in itself.

There will also be things that I and the board feel need to be brought to the your attention for the betterment of the club and the board.

As I have stated to those of you I have met, I am open to any idea and I do mean any idea, because we need to start moving the club forward in this modern era, and look at bringing youth to the club for the future.

In my short tenure here to date and in co-operation with your board we have achieved the following.

- New lastec roughs mower (**I would like on behalf of the board to thank both the ladies and vets for their combined \$10,000 contribution to offset its cost**)
- New Toro fairway mower. The deal is done and we are just waiting for confirmation on finance and we hope to have this across the line in the next day or so.
- Nigel Dutton is assisting Kane Mc Donald in bringing some of the long running maintenance

issues to an end, and together over the winter months you will see a marked improvement.

- Secured a huge amount of soil from Fonterra.

## The bits and pieces we have in the pipeline are.

- The new computerised bar till should be in operation over the next couple of days.
- A new web site will be designed and I have the intentions of adding an interactive golf course map (lets just hope I can get it to work).
- Dead tree removal will be targeted over the winter months.
- Tree stump removal
- New rating markers will be added.
- Bunker cleanup, sanding and alteration will start again
- New buggy room to be built where the old barbeque area is now. Ian Fawkner through choose employment will do this for us, and match us dollar for dollar in its cost. July is the possible start time.

That's about all I have for now, but I just wish to thank all that I have met for the very warm welcome I have received, and lets see where we together, can take this place.

Kind regards

Dean Murrell

## **Some thankyou's.**

A huge thanks to the vets boys that front up here every Monday. The work that these men do is to be commended and the amount of work it saves the course staff an insurmountable.

A very special thanks to Royce Miles. As most of you know Royce carries out a hell of a lot of mowing and other work throughout the course. He work ethic is something that is to be aspired to.

To Bev Holman for all of her efforts over the management changeover. Bev has put in a huge amount of time at no cost, and has been a great benefit to the golf club. Bev has a teachers eye for detail and certainly keeps me on my toes when it comes to paperwork and adhering to the requirements of the constitution. If you see her around a little thankyou goes a long way.

And finally a big thankyou to our departed Green keeper John Hughes. John was with the club for some 33 years. Unfortunately for John his back health has deteriorated to the point that it was no longer safe for his health to be here. His knowledge of the course is unlimited and we hope that in time he will pop back in for a catch up.

## **CLUB WEBSITE**

As stated earlier a work in progress. But watch this space.

## **COURSE REPORT (by Dean in consultation with Kane)**

As most of you are aware, the greens were recently spiked, sanded and fertilized. And being that Kane is extraordinarily blessed or just plain flukey, it rained the following couple of days which was fantastic for washing in the sand and fertilizer. Kane will tell you he knew the rain was coming, but we all know the real truth.

The greens this week have also been sprayed for fungus and weeds, so the first in particular should show a great improvement.

The lads are very pleased with the new roughs and we will see a great improvement with the cut quality and lack of scalping along the 2<sup>nd</sup> cut.

As stated earlier, all dead trees will be removed over the winter period. This will create a lot of firewood, which we intend to sell for around \$50 per meter. First in, first served, with this, so if you are interested in any way shape or form, you need to let me know.

Please understand we have to address these trees from a liability perspective. We do have a great respect for the environment and the aesthetics of the course, but dead trees with large limbs are a very real danger to anyone that plays, and also our course staff.

If there is a tree that is currently in play, then its removal will be done in consultation with the course committee.

We now have a water committee working on a possibility of a full course watering system. I wont say to much on this now, as I don't want to pre-empt the future as there is a lot of work to be done.

Whilst I am on the subject of water, a member who needs to be commended on his efforts for the golf club on this subject is Neville Dance.

Those of you who know Neville, will know that he was once an integral part of the Northern water board, and his knowledge on this subject is incredible. With our first meeting on water last Thursday, the documents and drawings that he produced, and most were by his hand, which was mind blowing to say the least.

Neville has put in an incredible amount of time and effort into this golf club, and I could not start to quantify the money he has saved this club through his efforts alone.

The new course rating is supposed to occur in the next couple of weeks. If you have any questions as to what is involved, I have a copy of the course committee minutes penned by Bill Newman, which in 2 pages explains each hole.

In very basic terms, the tee beds will remain in their current locations on most hole's. Some need to be lengthened to accommodate the 5 meter minimum from the back of the tee to the first marker and the minimum 3 meter distance for the front of the tee bed to the last marker on that tee bed.

Some tee beds will be bought back to level and some will also be widened.

So, if you want to know more, come and see me.

## **BAR IMPROVEMENTS**

Over the next month or so, We have intentions to improve the look and performance of the bar. The new BISTEC bar system coming in will help us a lot with stock control, price point and what moves and what doesn't.

We will also look at replacing the very old wine glasses as we now have to comply with weights and measures, and the old style glasses do not meet with those requirements.

Also on the issue of wine, through speaking with Liquor and gaming, as I am now the licensee, we can no longer lay-by bottles of wine within our fridges.

We are a commercial enterprise and hence cannot treat our fridges as your home fridge.

We are still able to sell wine by the bottle, but it must be consumed on

premises, or taken away unopened, or buy it by the glass.

There will be some adjustments to the price of our alcohol, as in the past we have been selling some items at a loss.

For the club to succeed, we rely greatly on price pointing of our drinks, to cover wage's and outgoings. I will be mindful that we are a non profit organisation, but the bar is a very important component in keeping your subscription fee's down.

Well folks, that's it for the now. I will see what happens over the next month to determine whether the newsletter should come out monthly.

Please find attached on the next couple of pages our business and corporate partners. These businesses also enable us to keep your subscriptions where they are through their generous support, so we ask you respectfully to support them when you are able.

Happy golfing.

Dean

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