



Volume 12
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WINTER
2015



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Message from the President



MPVGA President

Peter Unkles

The 2015 season continues on a strong footing with a good number of players at each event in this quarter. The weather has been generally kind although early starters have had to endure some low temperatures.

After the Sorrento event cancellation due to bad weather conditions the Les Prideaux Championships were concluded during the Cape Schanck round. As usual competition was tight and we look forward to learning of the winner at our next AGM. Of course, the Len Barrow Award for the most consistent player over the year will still continue until the last 2015 round.

Our congratulations go to Trevor Bishop and his crew at Devilbend Golf Club for the successful hosting of the VVGA 2015 Country Championships in early May. Golfers from across Victoria enjoyed the natural beauty of the Mornington Peninsula combined with the occasion and the challenge of the Devilbend golf course.

You will all be aware that this year we have decided to have a mid-winter break in our golf program from 14th July until 9th August in an attempt

to avoid the usual cold and wet winter. We will see how our plans unfold!

As usual we remind all players to play ready golf to make sure we achieve that maximum 4.5 hour round. Also a reminder for you to advise us if unable to attend an event you have booked. Please let your Delegate know or Ian Purchase or if at the very last minute please ring the Pro Shop at the course first up in the morning. Our Delegates have enough of a challenge running the registration desk without "no shows."

We should all be looking forward to the second half of the 2015 season with a series of great courses highlighted by The National (Moonah Course), Moonah Links (Legends Course) and St Andrews, which is not to lessen our view of the quality of every course. It is hard to think of any other region that has so many incredible courses on which to play as the MPVets and generally at an affordable cost. We just have to hope for kind weather to match the quality of the courses. We encourage all members to take advantage of the opportunity.

- OFFICE BEARERS 2015
- President: Peter Unkles (Cape Schanck GC) 59872206
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MPVGA VICE CAPTAIN TONY CLARKE'S RULES CORNER



"1. Your club is grounded when the grass beneath it is compressed enough to support the club's weight. If the ball moves after that, it's a one stroke penalty and the ball should be replaced. Rule 18-2b .

2. If your ball is sitting up on top of some grass and descends into the blades of grass when you address it, it's a one stroke penalty and the ball should be replaced. Rule 18-2, Decision 18/1.

3. If you step on your ball in the rough while searching for it, it's a one stroke penalty. Replace the ball. Rule 18-2.

4. To take free relief for a ball embedded in the turf, it has to be still in its pitch mark and at least partially below ground level. It also has to be on the fairway or in an area of the course where the grass is cut to fairway height or less. Rule 25-2, Decision 25-2/0.5.

Mornington Peninsula Vets News

Official newsletter of the Mornington Peninsula Veteran Golfers Association Inc. A0045478Y

5. If grass clippings are piled for removal, you may treat the area as ground under repair and take free relief. But that relief does not extend to loose grass clippings or piles not intended for removal. Decision 25/11.

6. You can take practice swings in a water hazard that clip the tops of reeds, plants or grass. Note to Rule 13-4.

7. You may ground your club before playing from a grass-covered area within a bunker or from a stacked turf face. Definition page 23.

8. Don't remove sand or loose turf from the area in which you intend to drop or place your ball. Rule 13-2.

9. If any part of your golf ball touches the putting green it is deemed to be on the green and it can be marked and cleaned. Definitions page 32.

10. During play of a hole, you cannot test the surface of any putting green by rolling a ball or roughening or scraping the surface. Rule 16 -1d.

11. You can pull strands of grass from the ground to check wind direction provided it doesn't improve your lie, line of play or area of intended stance or swing. Decision 13-2/0.5."

2015 EVENTS CALENDAR 3rd QUARTER

- * Monday July 13 - The National - Moonah Course Stableford
- * Monday July 19 to Monday August 5 - Wet weather break
- * Monday August 10 - CP @ Eagle Ridge Stableford
- * Monday August 24 - Moonah Links - Legends Course Stableford



MPVGA CAPTAIN'S REPORT IAN PURCHASE

Attendances have continued to improve with the exception of Safety Beach which was a dash wet. The Dunes led the charge with 103 competitors. After the National event on 13 July we will have a winter break - a first for the Association. (It will be just our luck to have 'short sleeves' golf during that period!)

The VGA Country Championships were held at the Devilbend Club on 4-5 May. Unfortunately the numbers were down as a result of Country Districts holding conflicting events and with the PDGA holding a Veteran's Championship on the Monday. Overall, the two days went extremely well, despite rather ordinary weather on the Tuesday. Trevor Bishop and his team worked very hard to provide a hassle-free two days of competition. A special vote of thanks is extended to Gordon Warren (major Sponsor), Chris Lee-Brown and Peter Unkles for their generosity in providing prizes for the various competitions. Titleist, Srixon and Callow donated major prizes for the main events.

The Teams Event notice will be distributed on 30th June. I have booked accommodation at the Stratford Motor In - three twin rooms - a short ride from the Maffra Golf Club.

There are still a few members who still believe that they are 'exempt' from phoning in their inability to attend a particular event. Such an oversight requires members organising the morning shift to make the unnecessary alterations.

Please attend to pitch marks on greens. We may not make them but it doesn't take too much effort to

repair them. Remember the golden rule - repair your own + another one!

I recently came across a rather interesting article on the maintenance of bunkers. Bunkers typically take up two per cent of a golf course property and consume anywhere between 10-25 per cent of allocated man hours of the maintenance staff. One high end Queensland resort course pays out over \$87,000 on bunker maintenance each year. That is a scary amount of dollars to be expended on one area of the course. This article also raises the question are there too many bunkers on certain courses and could these be converted to the grass variety i.e. closely mown grassy hollows and swales?

At St Andrews in Scotland the Old course has 0.4 hectares of sand, whilst at Melbourne clubs Victoria and Royal Melbourne have 2.4 and 2.0 hectares respectively. Whilst the R & A course has a number of pot bunkers, our sandbelt courses tend to have larger and more shallow varieties. In certain Mornington Peninsula clubs bunker maintenance is a real concern so perhaps conversion to the grass variety would decrease expenditure in this area. Worth considering?

New Book 'Golfing Etiquette' by Mike Henry.

(This is an extract - more to follow in later editions if they pass the censor)

This book on golf gives the reader valuable playing tips gained from 40+ years of Mike's golfing experience. Highlights include:

- Chapter 1) How to Properly Line Up Your Fourth Putt
- Chapter 2) How to Hit a Maxfli ball from the Rough When You Just Hit a Titleist from the Tee
- Chapter 3) How to Get More Distance off the Shank
- Chapter 4) When to Give the Curator the Finger
- Chapter 5) Good Excuses for Drinking Beer Before 9AM
- Chapter 6) How to Find That Ball That Everyone Else Saw Go in the Water
- Chapter 7) How to Relax When Hitting 3 off the Tee
- Chapter 8) How to Relax When Hitting 5 off the Tee
- Chapter 9) When to Suggest Major Swing Corrections to Your Opponent.



Pics from Safety Beach, VVGA Devilbend & Flinders



Photography by Trevor Bishop



MPVGA Events Results

2nd Quarter 2015

Rosebud Country Club - April 20

It was a cold clear autumn morning for the 83 players who actually did arrive for their early tee times. Unfortunately we had around 20 cancellations and 'no shows' for various reasons however those who did play enjoyed a great morning's golf at one of the peninsula's best courses. We played the north course which was particularly well-prepared and offered a good challenge, and some very good scores were recorded on the day.

INDIVIDUAL STABLEFORD WINNERS

A GRADE
Stephen Travena (DB) HC 13 39 pts (C/B)

B GRADE
Terry Ryan (DB) HC 27 42 pts

RUNNERS UP
A GRADE
Chris Lee-Brown (RCC) HC 19 39 pts (C/B)

B GRADE
Roger Anderson (DB) HC 24 40 pts

NEAREST THE PINS
4th Hole: Geoff Smith (C)
7th Hole: Bob Leatham (MGC)
11th Hole: Ross Treverton (C)
13th Hole: Mark Van rijn (RCC)

Safety Beach - April 27

A very dreary start to the day with some heavy showers and very wet underfoot caused quite a few problems for the small field of 39 starters at today's event. Fortunately the sun did appear for a while and it turned out to be quite a nice day for golf. The raised greens and soft aprons also caused some hardship for a number of the non-locals who had to revise their short games.

INDIVIDUAL STABLEFORD WINNERS

A GRADE
Mike Henry (SB) HC 16 39 pts

B GRADE
David King (MM) HC 33 42 pts

RUNNERS UP
A GRADE
Chris Lee-Brown (RCC) HC 18 36 pts

B GRADE
Gary Scott (MM) HC 28 41 pts

NEAREST THE PINS
4th Hole: Gary Victor (C)
6th Hole: Tim Webb (DB)
12th Hole: Roger Hutton (MM)
13th Hole: Mike Henry (SB)

Sorrento - May 14

Once again, a poor weather forecast delivered only a relatively small field of 61 participants to play this very well prepared, challenging golf course. Despite the usual strong representation from the Devilbend club, Rosebud Country Club players featured strongly in the winners list with Russell Seaton and Bob Evans taking out both grades.

INDIVIDUAL STABLEFORD WINNERS

A GRADE
Russell Seaton (RCC) HC 17 41 pts

B GRADE
Bob Evans (RCC) HC 27 38 pts

RUNNERS UP
A GRADE
Brad Johnston (DB) HC 12 36 pts
Barry Stephenson Dunes) HC 14 36 pts

B GRADE
Rob Reeves (DB) HC 20 35 pts

NEAREST THE PINS
2nd Hole: John Cockfield (DB)
5th Hole: Gordon Crockett (Dunes)
15th Hole: Roger Hutton (MM)
17th Hole: Russell Seaton (RCC)

Flinders - May 25

A truly magnificent autumn day - arguably the best that Flinders has ever provided for our event which has often been subjected to strong windy cold wet weather in the past. The fairways and greens were well presented and some excellent ground works are evident since our last visit. Some very good results were recorded and it's fair to say that we all had a very enjoyable day's golf using the unique 'Bendsomes' formula. - a lot of fun.

BENDSONS

WINNING TEAM: Score 148 Points
Brian Thomas (MGC) HC 25
Eric Hobson (MGC) HC 23
Glyn Parry-Jones (MM) HC 35
Dennis Bradley (MM) HC 28

RUNNERS UP: Score 141 Points
Geoff Oates (DB) HC 24
Rob Simms (DB) HC 36
Des Jolley (DB) HC 27
Trevor Bishop (DB) HC 14

NEAREST THE PINS:
9th Hole: Ed Kennedy (C)
12th Hole: Eric Hobson (MGC)
14th Hole: Len Williams (DB)
17th Hole: Russell Seaton (RCC)



Cape Schanck - June 15

We were all really lucky with the weather again this Monday as it was forecast to be quite unpleasant, but was reasonably warm and calm for most of the event.

The course was in very nice condition for the 81 players who participated on the day - the RACV has invested heavily on the resort and the course over the past 12 months and this was certainly evident by the condition and the revised layout.

While the greens were relatively slow, they were very true and some particularly fine scores were recorded.

INDIVIDUAL STABLEFORD

WINNERS

A GRADE

Allan Callaway (MGC) HC 14 39 pts

B GRADE

Dennis Bradley (MM) HC 33 41 pts

RUNNERS UP

A GRADE

Michael Palmer (DB) HC 19 37 pts

B GRADE

Jonathan Vaudrey (MM) HC 36 41 pts

NEAREST THE PINS

3rd Hole: Allan Findlay (DB)

4th Hole: Geoff Leach (C)

14th Hole: Geoff Wilkins (DB)

16th Hole: Charlie Milligan (DB)



Portsea - June 29

Great weather greeted the 68 players for the final Portsea event of the year.

For many players, the new layout is a far cry from the one we knew so well.

Time will tell on this one. Despite this, the course was in good condition, new cart paths were being constructed, however the small, rock-hard greens provided a variety of challenges - if you gave your ball just a wee tap, it ran through the green and down the hill. Still, that's golf.

4BBB - PAR

WINNERS

Evan Carter (17) & Geoff Leach (9) (Cerberus) +8 CB

RUNNERS UP

Anthony Benstead (22) & Hedley Peace (18) (Devilbend) + 8 CB

NEAREST THE PINS

2nd Hole: Ian Smith (Dunes)

7th Hole: Martin Thraves (MM)

13th Hole: Chris Eskinsmyth (Portsea)

16th Hole: Robert Carlton (MM)

