



## EB Update-Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### The Latest on ...

Graeme – Better news from Graeme. Graeme and family had lunch at the club on Thursday and Graeme was very much his old self. Apparently he had a mild heart attack the previously Friday but when checked over at RPH the doctors said everything was A OK and they did no need to see him for a couple of months

The polyp that was causing the bleeding has been successfully removed and Graeme is recovering well from the operation. Graeme we hope to see you soon on a Tuesday.

Tommy – Improvement has been so good that he and Valerie are now making plans to visit the good ole US o A this coming November. Wow what a turn around.

Terry – Again came to golf on Tuesday, under his own steam. Great stuff Terry, keep coming!

Bridget – Is now home and undergoing physio. She is still in considerable pain but stoic as ever. Patrick says that she is sleeping a lot, not surprising but recovery is progressing well.

### Away on Trips

Away on trips report will be suspended until Kevin returns

### Events Timeline

Sept. 19 Tues..	1	Stableford Competition
Sept. 22 Friday	10	Captain Friday's Comp.
Sept. 26 Tues.	1	Stableford Competition
Sept. 29 Friday	10	Captain Friday's Comp.

End-of-September Dinner @ GGC

### Upcoming Birthdays

Tommy	Sunday, 17 September
Andrew	Thursday, 21 September

### Course Changes

Just a reminder that we will be playing only the Front 9 until the upgrade works on greens 12 & 15 are finished, which is expected to be early January.

### EB New Indexes

The new card for the front was introduced last Tuesday. Members are requested to check the index for each hole before entering the Stableford Points until everyone has become accustomed to the new values, also a reminder to please total the strokes column.

The reason for this is to enable a quick check to be made that the scores entered into the computer are correct. There is an old adage with computers; "Rubbish in, rubbish out!" So checking against the total strokes helps us ensure that the only rubbish is the stuff in the rubbish bin.

### Captain Fridays Reports

Captain Fridays Reports can be found on the EB Facebook Page

## EB Handicaps v Golf Australia Handicaps

There have been ongoing suggestions that the EB's should switch to the GGC Golf Australia handicapping arrangements and abandon the current EB arrangements. To enable members to better consider this alternative we list the following pointers;

The GA system is based on the aggregate of two 9 hole cards.

- A normal 18 hole game provides these two scores at the same time
- A 9 hole score is held in the GA computer until a 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 hole score is entered and then the two are aggregated. This would mean that 9 hole members would have to wait until a 2<sup>nd</sup> round is played until their handicap is adjusted.
- The GA system uses the last 20 scores (40 for 9 hole members) and from these the best 8 are aggregated.
- Thus for EB 9 hole members who do not currently have an 18 hole handicap it would take 40 playing weeks to fill the system up
- Furthermore the rate at which handicaps move, up or down, is quite slow as compared to the current EB system vis:
  - Once 20 scores have been reached the next score (2 x 9 hole cards) will replace the first score recorded.
  - Thus if a player's 8 good scores were towards the middle or later scores it could take several weeks or even months for these to be replaced with higher scores and thus adjust the handicap upwards.
  - For this reason a dip in form could take a long time to be reflected in a higher handicap and equally the reverse would also apply.
- A factor of 0.93 is then used to reduce the aggregated score. Combined with the 'Best 8' this results in a GA handicap which flatters the player because it gives a handicap lower than the player's average ability. This can be seen in the results for GGC 18 hole competitions where, in fields of between 80 & 140 only about 15 to 20 players equal or better their handicap.
- The GA system has a maximum handicap of 36.4 which would mean an upper limit EB handicaps of 18
- The EB's would have to play off the Blue Tees of the day

The existing EB system has the following features:

- A maximum handicap of 27 over 9 holes is permitted. This enables older members, those who are new to golf or who may have physical restrictions, to still be competitive.
- EB's control the handicapping arrangements which are geared to be more responsive to player's current form.
- Results and handicap updates are immediately available
- There is no distinction between 18 & 9 hole members.
- EB's want to encourage members to continue playing golf as long as possible; hence the system has been developed to facilitate this.
- All games are played off the yellow tees
- The EB system has been in use for more than 20 years and in that period has served the EB's well.

Whilst a change to the GA handicapping system would have less effect on existing 18 hole members, who regularly play other GGC 18 hole competitions, it would be detrimental to 9 hole members when compared to the existing EB system.

Just to complete the picture, the GA handicap is the 'Official' Handicap but all GA member courses now apply a "slope" factor to determine the "Daily Handicap" which is the one actually used on any given day. The rationale behind this is to adjust the handicap to the playing difficulties (e.g. which tees are in use) on the actual day of competition.

### Some More Golfing Anecdotes:

"One reward golf has given me, and I shall always be thankful for it, is introducing me to some of the world's most picturesque tireless and bald faced liars."

Rex Lardner

"It's still good sportsmanship to not pick up lost balls while they are still rolling."

Mark Twain

There is one thing in the world that is dumber than playing golf. That is watching someone else play golf.... What do you actually get to see? Thirty-seven guys in polyester slacks squinting at the sun. Doesn't that set your blood racing?"

Peter Andrews from Golf Digest

