

2017 Captains Report for Annual Meeting March 11 2018.

2017 was the 64th year of golf competition at Clifton. 4093 games of competition golf were played. This was down by 73 on the previous year. All days except for Tuesday Sporters recorded lower numbers than 2016.

Club Championships reverted to the usual March timeslot. The honour boards will show that we had 2 new names added. Jane Farrell won her first ladies championship and in the men's Quinn Croker beat all comers to win his first title. Quinn won as a junior, the last being Barry Volp in 1994. Jack Farrell won the B grade and Daniel Hedges put a large gap between himself and the rest of the C grade field. Congratulations to all players on winning their first titles at Clifton.

Single matchplay winners were Gloria Moore and Lachlan Meacle. Wendy Ladewig and Genny Imhoff won the ladies four ball title and Rob Imhoff and Lyster Rickert were victorious in the men's division. The mixed matchplay was won by a Julia Ritson and Colin Hoey. Well done to all that competed in the matchplay events. Matchplay adds another dimension to our game and some obviously thrive on it.

Foursomes championships were played at the usual time and Lynne Harber and Jane Farrell were successful in their title defence. Bill Bailey and Robert Meara won the men's event and the mixed was won by Avril and Paul Millard. Congratulations to all of the winners of honour board events. Also sincere congratulations to everyone who competed in these events and made them earn the titles.

Carnival Days

The Parkhouse Cafe Day had a field of 50 and the Backhouse Cup and Rosebowl saw 85 hit off. Both days ran smoothly and were well supported by visiting clubs. Thank you to the sponsors of these events.

Monthly Medal final winners for 2017 were Wendy Ladewig and Colin Hoey. Jane Farrell and Lachlan Meacle were victorious on Patrons Day and Wendy Ladewig and Wade Bowden won the Presidents trophies. The Captains Trophies were won by Avril Millard and Bill Bailey. It is nice when major trophy days are shared amongst the club.

The men's pennant team competed in the Handicap Division. Sponsorship of the team by Pilton Valley Premium Pork continues and is very much appreciated. 2017 was a less than spectacular season and a new year is now upon us. Making the final is the initial goal.

The club sincerely appreciates the ongoing support of the club members, companies and local businesses who have donated trophies in 2017. Long standing supporters Forbes Batteries and Wippells Autos again helped us program very well supported days at the club. In a first Melrose Meats and Felton Fine combined to program a fun day for members and guests. The format of eat first, play later worked very well. This day will only grow.

Saturday events such as the Clifton Business House Challenge, Riverina Saturday Cup and the Ambrose Challenge received good support. 2018 will see some modifications to the Ambrose Challenge after the general consensus of too many ambrose events became apparent. The format remains but will be a 4BBB competition.

Clifton members who travelled to other clubs had some success and this pursuit does help in reciprocal play. I know that the club has a good reputation with other clubs. Not all clubs have this.

We continually attract new members. I urge everyone to make new members welcome. Everyone has to start playing golf somewhere. Please encourage them and if offering advice or assistance please do it in a kind and considerate manner. There are far too many intricate rules in our game and nobody would know them all. The R and A is proceeding with some simplification at present.

I thank those who have stepped into the Captains chair to lend support whilst I have been away. It is nice to have a break occasionally.

Thanks also to the committee in 2017 for their effort, foresight and time. The second stage of the course redevelopment has been completed. Congratulations to both Ian Jones for stage one and Rob Imhoff for the completion of stage two. We have a golf course to be proud of.

Thank you to John Keleher for giving us a challenge each week that is always better than the quality of golfer playing. Yesterday was a fine example of a great challenge.

In my report last year I stated that 2017 would be my last in the Captains chair. Apart for a short period I have been there for 7 years. I have given this club all that I have and whilst some may not appreciate the work that goes into the job, a club without a Captain is rudderless.

I ask you all to respect and give assistance if asked to Darren as he now takes us on a new journey. Please be very careful in offering advice as mostly the difference between it and criticism is a fine line. Winners seldom have problems and those who have not played well for some reason seem to have the most complaints. I applaud him on accepting the role and wish him a successful time as Captain of our club.

I wish everyone an enjoyable experience playing this great game. We should play for the fun and camaraderie. To win is just a bonus.

Thank you,

Colin Hoey, Captain Clifton Golf Club 2017.