

# **MEMBERS UPDATE OCTOBER 2024**

## **THE COURSE**

As previously reported you would all be aware the course has required a considerable amount of maintenance during the last six months. Greg and his team have kept the course playable for most of the time through these weather conditions and our thanks and gratitude go to him and his team. The new green on 12 is now fully operational and we are all enjoying the challenge this is providing. I would urge you all to consider purchasing tickets in our golf cart raffle as these ticket sales will fund this green renovation.

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The club AGM will be held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November. A notice of motion and a call for nominations for director positions will be issued on 13<sup>th</sup> October and nominations will close on 27<sup>th</sup> October. Voting for these positions will close on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. We are hopeful that the annual report will be available for issue on 29<sup>th</sup> October. We are still waiting for signoff by our Auditors.

## **FINANCIAL**

As has been previously reported the club will trade at a loss for the 2023-2024 trading year. This is disappointing and this resulted from a lack of visitor traffic during the last few months of the trading year. Overruns in costs also contributed. Your board has found it necessary to make a considerable number of changes to return the club to a profitable trading position and adjustments to staff numbers and rosters have been implemented to address this matter. We have also adjusted revenue by leveraging our operating margins across the business. We are pleased to confirm that these changes are now bearing fruit and our bottom line is gaining strength.

Whilst we have found trading tight we have managed our cash flow well and we have not experienced difficulty meeting our financial obligations.

## **THE CAUSEWAY**

I am pleased to advise that a review of the causeway access to Stuart Island is now underway. An outcome of this review will be available towards the end of November and further action will be considered at that time. This outcome has followed many discussions with council along with both state and federal political representatives. Your board will keep you all up to date as this matter unfolds.

## **BELLINGEN RSL GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB.**

A revised restaurant facility is now operating at Bellingen. This will be staffed and run by us on a labor hire arrangement. We are very confident that this facility will be most successful and this will be the first step into our operational assistance package.

It is quite distressing to note that a recent fire at Diggers Tavern in Bellingen has created a severe disruption to their trading position and the golf club are anxious to assist in any way possible as both businesses have been staunchly supportive of each other for some considerable time. It is too early to predict how this will unfold.

## **MACKSVILLE COUNTRY CLUB**

Operations at Macksville are progressing well and I can report that all facets of their business are returning large increases in turn over. The restaurant sales are predicted to be \$300k for the year and that will represent an increase of 150%. Whilst there is still some way to go everyone is pleased with results to date.

## **JOHNATHON**

Recently we were advised that Johnathon had been nominated for the 2024 PGA NSW Management Professional of the year award. More recent advice has confirmed that, on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October, Johnathon will be announced as one of three finalists. The winner will be announced at the NSW/ACT Golf Industry Awards Night to be held at The Crown Barangaroo on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November. Johnathon is named as the first finalist and the other two are from Royal Canberra Golf Club and Eastlakes Golf Club. Exalted company indeed. Please wish him well, as being a finalist is a really great achievement, but having a real shot at winning is most exciting. We will keep you all posted on the outcome.

## **SUMMARY**

As stated above the last trading years results have been disappointing but we incurred some weather related inconvenience late in the year. In spite of this membership and revenue continue to grow and our restaurant business is a driving force in this regard. We are now stabilizing our trading position, we have reduced costs in a number of areas and, as mentioned above, we have leveraged margins across the business.

We are grateful for your ongoing support and appreciate your continued patronage of our club. As always I urge you to bring matters of concern to our attention as we are unable to act in any matter if we are unaware of it. Our job as directors is to provide all members with the best facilities possible and we only do this as your representatives.

As we are now experiencing some great weather and our course is looking fantastic, after some recent rainfall, I wish you all good golfing.

Geoff Harris,  
President.