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NSW Open Reaches Halfway Point

The NSW Open has reached its halfway point, and for information regarding who has made the cut (and who hasn't) go to the NSW Open website - www.nswopen.com. - with 'on the spot' comments, photos, live scores and leaderboard.

Young amateur and recent National Squad appointee Jake Higginbottom is giving the professionals a nudge, lying 2nd overall on 4 under after 15 holes in his second round.



2011
nswopen

Social Golf Embarks on New Frontier

Crown Lager and Golf Australia partner on new social golf program

Casual golfers and non-club members around the country will now be able to obtain a recognised casual handicap and access some of the best courses in the country thanks to the **Crown Lager Social Golf Club**. The program launched yesterday with a stellar line up of high profile golf enthusiasts challenging each other on a putting green set up on top of the MCG scoreboard. For full story, [click here](#)



NSW Dominates the Australian Amateur Rankings

In five out of six categories, NSW players are number one in the Australian Amateur Rankings. Congratulations to **Cathleen Santoso** (Girls), **Ricky Kato** (Boys), **Matt Stieger** (Men's), **Sylvia Donohoe** (Senior Women) and **Stefan Albinski** (Senior Men) who are all sitting at the top of their respective age groups for 2011 and they are all from NSW. Read more on the website - www.golfnsw.org.

Congratulations also to **Jake Higginbottom** who, along with Matt Stieger, has been selected into the 2012 National Squad. The new High Performance scheme, in which all the states are co-ordinating with Golf Australia, has very high benchmarks for qualification into the National Squad. Read more - www.golfnsw.org.



Cathleen Santoso



Ricky Kato



Matt Stieger



Sylvia Donohoe



Stefan Albinski

Women's Medal Finals

The 2011 Women's Gold, Silver and Bronze Medal Playoffs have been played. Full results and prize winners are now available at www.golfnsw.org.

The **Gold Medal** playoff was held at Long Reef on Tuesday 15 November. Congratulations to Truda Rail (Strathfield Golf Club) - 2011 Women's Gold Medal Metropolitan Winner & Alison O'Connor (Moruya Golf Club) - 2011 Women's Gold Medal Country Winner.

The **Silver Medal** playoff was held at Wakehurst on Monday 31 October. Congratulations to Patricia Stiles (h/c 29) from Killara with a fantastic nett 69.

The **Bronze Medal** playoff was held at Bayview on Monday 14 November. Congratulations to Leonie Showell (Woolooware Golf Club).

Club Information Update

In 2012, Golf NSW is producing a Club Directory that has all the contact details for your club. Each club will receive a copy (free of charge) and more can be ordered. Alternatively, it will also be available on the website for download. Recently, all club managers were emailed by Mitsie Kent seeking confirmation that the contact details we have for your club are current and correct.

If, by some chance, this email was missed, you can download the form from the Club Login page on the Golf NSW website.

Staff Changes at Golf NSW

The position of Golf Programs Coordinator, recently occupied by Donna Mitchell, has become vacant. Donna's mother died recently, leaving her father in need of extensive care and Donna has taken on that task. In getting to know Donna over the past 18 months, she brought dedication and humour to the office and she was always the one we tested equipment on. Donna's touch with electronics is diabolical, so quite apart from losing an enthusiastic and efficient staff member, we're now in search of another guinea pig. A replacement for Donna has been widely advertised and the final interviews are taking place with an announcement due at the end of next week.

I (Nicky Bethwaite) will also be leaving Golf NSW at the end of next week. Although very disappointed to be going, I can honestly say I've really enjoyed the past three years from many perspectives. It's not often that the opportunity arises to be part of major change in a well-established sport, and the challenges and excitement of being in the middle of it have left some great memories. The association with the

administration has also re-ignited my love of the game, and with much hard work thanks to Dennise Hutton, I can now hit a ball with some pride. Above all, I've met some really delightful people, including the staff at Golf NSW, and I wish everyone all the best with the administration of this wonderful game. Drop Zone will continue to be produced fortnightly.

Coming Events!

17-20 November	<u>NSW Open</u>	Newcastle
5 December	Women's 3BBB - State Final	Cypress Lakes
2012		
9-10 January	Women's Summer Foursomes	The Coast
9-12 January	Women's Lake Macquarie Amateur Championship	Belmont
27-29 January	Women's NSW Open	Oatlands

Entries are also open for the following tournaments

2012

25 January Lake Macquarie International Amateur Pre-Qualifying Belmont

All entry forms and results are available from the Golf NSW website (www.golfnsw.org) under the Events tag.

There is a theory which states that if ever anybody discovers exactly what the Universe is for and why it is here, it will instantly disappear and be replaced by something even more bizarre and inexplicable.

There is another theory which states that this has already happened.

Douglas Adams

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