

- **Committee Information Sessions**

Since the last Council meeting, sessions have been conducted at Orange, Katoomba, Coolamon and Federal (ACT). Planning is underway for sessions to be held in the Illawarra and far South Coast Districts in late August. Clubs from neighbouring districts will be invited to send representatives if the selected venues are easily accessible. Sessions are also being planned for Metropolitan Zone A clubs in September.

- **Anchoring Update**

As outlined in my report to the previous Council meeting, the deadline for submissions on the proposed prohibition on anchoring the club in making a stroke passed on 28 February, 2013.

The R&A and USGA announced jointly on 21 May that final approval had been given to the new Rule (14-1b), which takes effect on 1 January, 2016.

Interestingly, one of the Rule's outspoken opponents, the US PGA Tour, announced on 1 July through their Policy Board, that they acknowledged that the ban on anchored strokes will apply to PGA TOUR competitions beginning on January 1, 2016.

RULES EDUCATION

- **Club Level**

The 2013 Club Level accreditation program is in full swing. Metropolitan seminars have been conducted at Kogarah (20 June), Long Reef (24 June), Killara (27 June) and Lynwood (1 July). Country seminars have been held at Magenta Shores (12 June), Wagga Wagga (8 July), Finley (9 July) and Bathurst (10 July).

The schedule for the remainder of the year is available on the Golf NSW website under the Rules tab.

Attendees at the first seminar at Magenta Shores are in the process of completing their on-line examinations. The on-line exam process will be rolled out in the other states when it is confirmed that the exams conducted in NSW are providing reliable results. Extensive testing thus far suggests that the on-line exam process will meet all expectations.

- State Level

The 2013 State Level program will be held at Elanora Country Club on 7/8 September. The course has been expanded to include components of the pilot Advanced Referee course, which was successfully held at Pennant Hills in November, 2012. Twenty four eager club accredited applicants from various parts of metropolitan and country NSW will be looking to upgrade their accreditation and enhance their refereeing skills during the seminar.

The written exam component will be separated from the weekend program. The exams will be undertaken two weeks later at Arncliffe and various regional centres. This will enable attendees to focus their attention on the practical application of the Rules and developing their refereeing skills.

Frank Gal

Chair,

Rules and Amateur Status Committee