

7.3 Women's Match Report

J. Moran

October 2013

Another year has flown by and it can be summed up by change and controversy. As a streamlined committee we have been breaking new ground in many different ways. To start the year we successfully trialed a different format for our meetings. Topics on the agenda are backed up with detailed papers presenting the subject matter and circulated well before the meeting. This allows committee members to have plenty of time to formulate discussion points, objections or decisions prior to the meeting. Ensuing discussions thus become much more meaningful and to the point, and meetings make more efficient use of available time.



Initiating change is controversial especially when it seems that the current model is working adequately. However it is the job of committees such as Women's Match to look to future developments and trends in golf. We are in the business of providing what present and future female golfers will want and need and sometimes this means examining current models with eyes free from the blinkers of what has always been. We do, however, need to be mindful of the "ripple effect" of decisions that we make. Feedback from Women Captains and District Committees (both positive and negative) is always welcome in examining the effects of new or changed policies. In responding with

feedback it is important that the big picture is evaluated, free from a subjective personal bias.

We have initiated a new Weekend Pennant for women and the response has been very positive and supports our belief that this is the way of the future. Commitment to the competition has been received from twelve teams which will allow us to run two divisions. The Weekend Pennant is to run alongside the current Friday Grade competition and it is intended that different players make up each team. However in the first year of operation (in 2014) some leeway will be given in the Conditions of Play in order to accommodate teams experiencing one off issues in fielding a full team.

Changes to the format of the Women's Senior Championship caused much concern in some quarters. It was thought that reducing the event to a three day competition would mean that the matchplay element would be dropped. Happily we have managed to arrive at a great compromise - two days of stroke and one day of matchplay involving morning semi finals and afternoon finals. In addition the players who do not qualify for matchplay on the third day will have a competition on the morning of the final round and then will be able to support the finalists in the afternoon. This results in a much better package for anyone entering the competition. Players are guaranteed three rounds of golf whereas previously it was only two, and there should be sufficient numbers on the final day to make a worthy presentation.

The new handicapping system was discussed with a view to its possible impact upon our current competitions. It was decided that handicap divisions would remain the same until we had more data and information. However it should be noted that handicap divisions where applicable will be based on the Golf Australia (GA) handicap.

Due to date changes, this year the 2013 Women's NSW 72 hole Stroke Play Championship was to have been played in December and then played the following year at the end of January 2014 (at Castle Hill, Pennant Hills and Concord Golf Clubs). Obviously this was too close together and therefore it was decided that the event would not be played in 2013. The Marjorie McWilliam Bowl,

7.3 Women's Match Report

J. Moran

October 2013

played in conjunction with this event, has not been attracting sufficient entries over the last few years. It was open to players with handicaps of 15 to 28 and involved 36 holes of stroke play to qualify for 8 matchplay positions. It is intended to re-vitalise the trophy by changing the format and awarding it to the best 36 hole scratch score in the handicap range 6 to 14.

The 2014 Calendar is now available on the Golf NSW website. Any amendments required should be sent through to Christy Collier as soon as possible so the calendar can be finalised.

This report has to go to press before the final meeting of the Women's Match Committee in October where we will be reviewing progress to date. I would therefore like to thank all the members of the Match Committee, Annette Baggie, Janet Bracken, Marcia Box, Julie Jones, Lynne Robson, Susan Wilson, Sue Fabian, Chris Allen and Les Browne for their contribution to what has been a very interesting year. Discussions have been lively and have provoked much thought. Breaking new ground often causes doubt and uncertainty but the committee has risen to the challenge. Particular thanks must go to Graeme Phillipson, for all his hard work and stimulating ideas.

Jean Moran

Golf NSW - Chair of Women's Match

7.3 Women's Match Report

J. Moran

October 2013

Recent Events Results: (full details available on the Golf NSW website.)

JULY

Pewter Plate at Manly: Winners: Woollahra Golf Club - Dallas Griffin & Vanda Smith

AUGUST

NSW Mixed Foursomes Championship at Shelly Beach Golf Club:

Winners: Olivia Wilson (NSW) & Kayne Carmichael (Catalina)

Weekend Tournament at the Vintage:

Winners: Ruth Challinor (Coffs Harbour)

Ann Brownlee (Ryde Parramatta)

SEPTEMBER

Country Meeting at Glenmore Heritage Valley, Penrith and Lynwood Golf Clubs.

Winner: Jocelyn Mackay (Moss Vale Golf Club)

Bronze Medallion at Wakehurst Golf Club and Cabramatta Golf Club, NSW

Winner: Wakehurst Golf Club

Coronation Medal at The Lakes Golf Club and Ryde Parramatta Golf Club

Winner: Concord Golf Club

KENO Mixed Fourball at Bonville Golf Resort

Winners: Ray and Bev Bisby (Wingham Golf Club)

Coming Events:

OCTOBER

14th to 17th Mountain Meeting. Thanks go to Lithgow Golf Club for stepping into the breach on the closure of Katoomba Golf Course.

19th to 20th Women's Sand Greens Championship at Hay Golf Club

NOVEMBER

6th Silver Medal Play-off at Liverpool Golf Club

19th Bronze Medal Play-off at Eastlakes Golf Club

22nd Gold Medal Play-off at Oatlands Golf Club

24th to 27th Fourball Classic Final at Bonville Golf Resort.