

Members,

Firstly, I'd like to thank all the Members who have signed up for another year of membership to the Borneo Barracks Golf Club. Our numbers are slowly growing along with the commitment of your Club Committee to ensure we maintain a great club.

The Committee continues to be in great shape with Mike Denton as the Treasurer, working with BIZGRO on a regular basis who are our now contracted financial accountants. Our Secretary, Brendan Dyer working closely with Mark Hancock and Tony Wright to reconcile the new and renewed memberships and Members Passes with help, where possible, from Rob Jude and Jess Cooney. Graham James our Club Captain and Janelle Kruse, Ladies' Captain and Club Vice Captain, have also been working tirelessly with the men's and ladies' programs and events and have been achieving outstanding successes.

Our Vice President, Paula Heelan continues to step up and be counted and will be doing so again over the period 14 August to 25 Sept this year when Gaye and I will be away overseas. Paula will work closely with Mike and Brendan and the remainder of the Committee in my absence attending meetings and alike to keep the club motoring along nicely.

There are also a couple of highlights /occurrences that I'd like to advise of:

Club Operating Times

As the membership continues to grow, along with the neighbouring communities, more and more people are playing golf to the point the club is now open seven days of the week. This includes;

Monday - 7.30am - 1.00pm - Bar open and golf carts available

Tuesday - 7.30am - 1.00pm - Bar open and golf carts available

Wednesday - 6.30am - Pro Shop open until close of day, golf carts available, and Bar open 8.30am to close of day

Thursday - 6.30am - Pro Shop Open until close of day, golf carts available

Friday - 6.30am - Pro Shop Open until close of day, golf carts available

Saturday - 6.30am- Pro Shop open until close of day, golf carts available and Bar open 8.30am to close of day

Sunday - 6.30am - Pro Shop open until close of day, golf carts available and Bar open 9.30am to close of day

Tanya Moran is now the Bar and Staff "organiser" (as she dislikes the word Manager) and can be contacted on most Mondays to Wednesdays at the club number 4696 6396.

Reviewed Club Constitution

All Incorporated (Non for Profit) Clubs in Queensland were advised by the Office of Fair Trading within the Department of Justice, to review current Club Constitutions and follow the Model rules grievance procedure, as cited in the Dept of Justice advice, or adopt another procedure that complies with section 47A of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 into its constitution.

To that end, the Committee has decided to include the Model Rules. The proposed amendments to the constitution include the following;

- A grievance procedure which includes mediation where needed,
- Changes to types of Membership now being;
 - Ordinary Members
 - Junior Members
 - Life Members and
 - Honorary Members (Patrons have been removed)
- Use of electronic media to attend meetings and conduct committee business.
- Use of votes outside of committee meetings (VOC) for the committee to continually conduct club business without waiting for a scheduled meeting.
- Use of Cash and Electronic Funds Transfer, and
- Mandatory advice to members at the AGM of any remuneration paid to Committee Members, senior staff or relatives during the reporting year.

So not a lot off change that will affect the normal running of the Club. The Constitution will be available for your perusal shortly once the I s are dotted and Ts crossed and will be presented for approval at the next AGM.

Attendance at the Annual General Meeting and Committee Positions for 2025/2026

The Committee is deciding to hold the AGM in late October or early November this year due to committee member absences. At the AGM we intend to present the updated constitution and vote in new committee members. Please remember, as members of our club you have a responsibility to have your say as to how the club operates - ie the constitution and who is on the committee. This is why we need as many members as possible to attend this AGM. Members attending the AGM provide the committee with a good reading across the membership and gauge the way you would like the club to go or otherwise. If you are quiet and won't become involved, then you are not fulfilling your responsibility to us.

I intend to nominate again as the President, as will the current Treasurer and Secretary. If we are elected again this will keep the executive together for another year. I am aware that Tony Wright will be standing down at the next AGM and we need a person to volunteer to help with OH&S. Don't worry about not knowing anything about it, if your able and willing, you will pick it up very quickly.

Once the date for the AGM is promulgated, please clear the diary to attend. This year it is very important.

Golf Australia - Golfers Insurance

On 14 July, the club was advised by Golf Australia that the Players Liability insurance was changing. On receipt I sought the professional legal expertise of one of our members to ensure we clearly understood where the club and players stand should there be an insurance claim from the public, or from another member playing at the club. Thanks to Guy Sara of Guy Sara & Associates Lawyers in Toowoomba the insurance advice has been clearly explained.

Guy looked into the constitution and the Memorandum from Golf Australia and has determined:

- If an event occurs, such as an insured (and therefore financial) member of the club, miss hits a golf ball and the ball damages a motor vehicle or something else and the cost of repair or the claim against the member or the club is **less than \$1,000.00** then the club or insured member is to settle **directly with the third party**.
- If an event occurs, such as an insured (and therefore financial) member of the club, miss hits a golf ball and the ball damages a motor vehicle or something else and the cost of repair or the claim against the member or the club is **more than \$1,000.00** then the club or insured member are to **pay an excess of \$1,000.00 directly to the third party** and **Golf Australia will pay the rest to the third party**.

The Committee is to determine each case as it is presented and will decide whether the member or the club will pay the excess. This is especially important in cases where the damage may have been caused through negligence or abuse, for example, throwing a club or ball out of frustration or if it was indeed an accident.

Non-financial persons playing the course are not covered and all such claims are between the non-financial members and the third party. The club does have public liability insurance, covering personal work-related accidents and events that happen on the course but not comprehensive insurance covering damage to the course or equipment.

Membership Fees

As you are most probably aware as membership invoices were issued by 15 July, all members have until 15 August to pay either the annual membership or the bi annual membership fees. Pro Rata fees are for new members who join up throughout the year. The annual fees for 2025/2026 Ordinary members have remained at **\$500.00** and members who wish to pay bi annually, are required to pay **\$315.00** by 15 August and **\$265.00** by 31 December 2025. I apologise for the very late notice of the bi annual rate, however it is the same as last year. Members who have inadvertently paid the pro rata fee, or have not paid the correct amount are kindly requested to increase the payment to the correct amount and when done so, will be reactivated as financial.

Other cases where members will be away for extended periods of time, ie over 6 months, will be dealt with by the Committee on case-by-case basis as proof of absence will need verification.

Please be aware, all members who are not financial by 15 August, and have not notified the Committee with mitigating circumstances, will no longer be Members of the Club and are required to surrender their Gate Pass preferably to the club and not at the front gate. Defence is also notified of all members who have not renewed their membership.

Golf Link Update

Starting from 29 September this year, Golf Australia are updating their Handicapping platform from **Golf Link** to **Golf Connect**. The transition period should not take more than 2 weeks. During this time, you will not be able to check your handicap or handicap history and all clubs have been advised that they will not be able to send results for handicapping during these 2 weeks.

This will mean that members who wish to use Golf Connect to view their handicap and handicap history online will need to re-register and get the new App. The new Golf Connect App will be available free of charge.

You will be able to contact nominated staff/members to help you with your set up. We will send out updated info when the change date gets closer.

Again, thanks to all the members who have rejoined and welcome to a host of new members. I look forward to catching up with as many of you as possible in the coming months and I look forward to seeing you at the next AGM.

Kind Regards

Bob Foot

President