



## **Free Drop April 2020**

### **Competition Golf at Willunga**

On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March the Committee made the decision to cancel competition golf until further notice.

This was done in consultation with Golf Australia, the City of Onkaparinga and the Pro Shop.

The decision was not taken lightly as the committee is well aware of how much pleasure and camaraderie members gain from playing in the weekly competitions.

The main reasons for this decision were:

- Concerns about social distancing both on the course and the Pro Shop and concern for our “older” members as per the government guidelines.
- Handicaps would be compromised due to the “special” local rules implemented
- Members could still enjoy a game of golf as the council had decided to keep the course open. Please note that if you do wish to play book a timeslot either via the Pro Shop or online. Under the current environment you cannot walk up and play when you want to.

The committee is monitoring the situation very closely in conjunction with Golf Australia and as soon as it is possible we will resume competitions. The Match committee is also considering how the major monthly and championship competitions will be completed if possible.

### **Some comments from playing without competition:**

1. The course superintendent, Sam, is wondering whether he will put the rakes back in the bunkers as people are keeping the bunkers tidier using their club and shoes than they did with the rake. Thank you members.
2. A member playing the 10<sup>th</sup>, recently, found a ball in the trees with a big red “G” on it. He immediately recognised that the ball belonged to one of his regular playing partners. Yes - his regular playing partner later admitted to losing the ball about an hour earlier. Yes, despite COVID-19 playing restrictions some things just do not change.

### **Restaurant**

The club would like to inform members that Cassie Southwell has decided to terminate her lease to operate the restaurant. The initial intention has been for her to cease trading on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May and the operator of the McLaren Vale Visitors Centre cafe would take over the running of the restaurant until the council determined its future operations. The club has been invited to provide input re the future operations. We have provided the council with a copy of the survey results relating to the restaurant from the club survey for their consideration.

We thank Cassie and her staff for the efforts the service they provided members.

### **Members' Accounts**

The audit of the remaining balances of members' accounts in the Thyme system has been completed and will be transferred to the MiClub system. Once this has been completed the Pro Shop will have access to your total points for purchases and members will be able to check their full balances on the club website within the “My Information” section. Please note only your balance will be transferred from the Thyme system and not the details of each prize etc.

Also note that until the restaurant is online to the MiClub system and can check member's balance you will not be able use your account to purchase food and drinks. The club is currently negotiating for this to be the case with the council and hopefully it will be resolved in the near future.

### **What to do while you are at home - Become a Rules “Expert”**

The club is still seeking members to become level 1 accredited rules' “experts”. To do so you need to complete the level 1 rules accreditation course and test on line. Use the following link to see if you know what you think you know!!

<https://www.randa.org/rulesacademy> and become the rules arbiter of your playing group. It does make for more enjoyable golf when you understand the rules!

### **GAVIN'S COACHING CLINICS**

As a result of the new restrictions on no more than two people gathering outdoors, Gavin is offering Willunga GC members an INDIVIDUAL lesson for 40 minutes for \$60, (normally that price for 30 minutes) but this is a MEMBERS ONLY deal.

All lessons come complete with a video and a voice note to give you the advice that is pertinent to YOU!

For bookings online: <http://gavinfontainegolf.gettimely.com/book> or phone: 0415 823 322



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### Tree "Fun"

#### 1. on The McLaren District Veterans Tour

The debate continues – Is it better to cut the trees down or leave them standing?



#### 2. Willunga Golf Course

The course staff removed a tree between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> fairways (plenty more to go) and when they cut through the tree they cut through the middle of a ball which originally had lodged into a branch of the tree. Over time as the tree has grown it became imbedded into the tree. If any member can remember losing a ball in this tree about 15 to 20 years ago and can tell the club its brand and prove their marking on the ball we will buy the member a new ball.



Before the "fatal" cut

the "ball" exposed – what are the odds of this precise cut?

### Sponsors

The club would like to remind members of the support our sponsors provide to the Club and it would be great if, when visiting a sponsors business, you let them know we value their support. This provides an ongoing acknowledgement of their support of the club. We will acknowledge our sponsors within the Free Drop every month but members can identify who they are from the annual program booklet. We urge you to support our sponsors and it would be great if you identify yourself as a Willunga Club member and thank them for their support.

Our sponsors for the recent competitions played before the "crisis" hit were:

Feb 29th	Par Round	March 7 <sup>th</sup>	Monthly Medal
Hugh Hamilton Wines/Lloyd Bros Wines		Shingleback Wines/Willunga Pharmacy	
14th March	Stableford	21st March	Mayors Day Stableford
Hugh Hamilton/Lloyd Bros		Shingleback Wines	
28th March	Stableford		
Alma Hotel/Lloyd Bros			

We also urge members that if you require any golf equipment, large or small please discuss your requirements with the Willunga Pro Shop. Support the business that supports the club and Peter and Monique are more than happy to negotiate a good deal with you and they do provide an excellent after-sales service.