

FAIRWAY NEWS



JUNE

2022

New Scoring System, New Website – all happening at Sandy.

Who said Sandy members were a bunch of old fogeys who would take to the streets in protest to preserve the sanctity of the scorecard? Probably no one!

Change hardened Sandy members have proved once again that they can adapt and embrace new technology.

The take up of MiScore has run pretty smoothly with nearly all members able to enter competitions and record their scores. A few hiccups have occurred and then been resolved with a couple of issues still to be addressed – nearest the pins for example.

This Issue includes

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The smooth changeover is in large part due to Vice Captain Michael Kent who has driven and supported the adoption of the MiScore process.

Michael was a welcome sight around the club room on a Saturday morning on those first few weekends as he helped members with the log in process.

The ability to check the leaderboard while the round is in progress is a fun feature but has reduced the utility of that favourite café question – “How did you go?”

Our new website is also up and running. Same web address as before.

Liz Tanzimat, Geoff Thornton and Michael Kent have done a great job in conceptualizing the new site and transitioning from the old one.

Most information on the old site is now accessible on the new however as indicated in the email to members feedback is welcome about how the site can be improved.

Upcoming events

18 June	Stableford (Captains Trophy R1)
25 June	Stableford (3 clubs + putter)
	Afternoon tea for women members
2 July	Stroke VGL Medal, LG McDonald (R4)
9 July	Stableford
16 July	Stableford (Captains Trophy R2)

Recent Results

- The Ray Fraser Memorial Trophy competition was conducted on 9 April. The Aggregate Stableford competition was won by Andrew Vines and Andy Bakker with 72pts on a countback from Nick Hague and Andrew Rumbelow - Nick stands out in a sea of Andys here!
- Brett Dennis' excellent 41pts won the overall comp. on 16 April. Anna Pchalskii won the Women's Division (37pts), Craig Brenner's 40pts took out A Grade, and Colin Hockley (38pts) won C Grade. Mark Johnson broke a 3 way tie on a countback to win B Grade with 38pts from Tim Kelson and Jason Maynard.
- 41pts was also the winning score on 23 April with Susan Anderson taking the overall prize. Bruce Baldey (39pts) - A Grade, Chris Brown (40pts) – B Grade and Rod Nowlan (40pts) – C Grade also won. Lynda Douth (33pts) won the Women's Division on a countback from Fiona Reynolds.
- John Bris won April's VGL Medal with a brilliant net 59. Francis Armstrong was next best and won A Grade with a net 63. Peter McLeod (B Grade net 65) Phil Ramsden (C Grade net 68) and Ruth Branagh (Women's net 65) were the other winners.
- See elsewhere for Pink Day results
- Matt Scott's 39pts was the best score on 14 May and won the overall prize. Ruth was again best of the Women's Division with 37pts. Craig Punshon(36 pts) won A Grade on a countback from James Honner. Trevor Schultz (B Grade 36pts) and Laurie Spence (C Grade 35pts) were the other winners.
- Tim Noonan won the Par round of 21 May with a +4. Seven players scored +1 with Liz Mitchell (Women's), Michael Kent (A) and Alan Merrifield (C) winning their grades with that score. In B Grade +2 was the popular score. Alan Russell getting home on a countback from George Andreetta and Bill Nicholl.

THE PRESIDENT'S BLOG



First off, a big thank you to everyone that got involved in the Pink Day and especially for the \$3,000 that we managed to raise for a cause that we are all close to in one way or another.

Well, it's that time of year where we should all be migrating north to warmer weather and some of the fortunate ones among us have already followed this migratory path. Enjoy it while you can as we shiver away in Melbourne.

Those of us who have stayed and endured the cold climates of Melbourne have had mixed fortunes of weather, covering all conditions other than warm. Through all of that though, the course is still playing to the high standards that we all enjoy and the challenges are still there to be conquered (albeit my scores of late are not very conquering... "better luck next week").

Happy golfing everyone and enjoy it whilst we can and look forward to seeing you on the course.

Regards

Rob Harris

News and Notes

Club Apparel

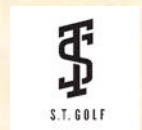
Members can purchase Club apparel.

- Polo shirt \$35. Women's polos now also available.
- Cap \$10

Email: captain@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au or text 0413 438 048

Golf Gloves

Members are now able to purchase high quality Cabretta Leather golf gloves at discounted prices.



Details of the process were sent to members by Club Captain Geoff Thornton on 27 September. On the Checkout page **please do not change the email address** – leave it as captain@sand...

Recent Results (cont.)

- Jan Roker had a good day on 28 May. Her 37pts won the Les Stainsby Memorial Trophy for Over 60s and the Women's Division. Matt Scott (38pts) was again the overall winner (2 out of the last 3 weeks). Others to win were in A Grade Cris Payne (36pts) on a countback from Geoff Thornton and James Honner, in B Grade Brett Clarke (37pts) and in C Grade Yufang Mao (37pts).
- June's VGL Medal was a tight contest with three players shooting an excellent net 61 in windy conditions. Phil Ramsden won on a countback from Francis Armstrong and Allister Lahood who won A and B Grade respectively. Anne Forwood's net 63 won the Women's Division and Michael Lenkic won C Grade with a net 69.
- Solid scores on 11 June. Jay Ramsden own the overall with 39pts on a countback from Tim Noonan who won A Grade. Jenni Clarke the Women's Division with 35pts. Countbacks were needed to decide B and C Grades with Andrew Hunter and James McKonkey getting the chocolates both with 38pts.

US Mens Open –16 June

With one US Open already in the bag for Australia this year can we make it a clean sweep in 2022. Congrats to Minjee Lee on winning the 2022 US Women's Open.



This week's best chances – Cameron Smith, Adam Scott??

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

It has been a busy couple of months, culminating in the new website being launched on 8th June and Saturday competitions now fully live on MiScore and OneGolf. Mid-week competitions will be live by the end of June.



Special thanks to our member, Liz Tanzimat, for building the new website and transferring relevant data from the old website. Liz was ably assisted by another member, Paul Hurkmans, who will fulfill the important function of content management going forward.

Michael Kent met all challenges to get MiScore and OneGolf implemented, and, as hard as it tried, the Kiosk didn't beat him. Well done Michael. Our Comp Steward, Jay Ramsden, is starting to get his Saturday nights back.

Jenni Clarke (Committee member) is arranging an afternoon tea for our women members after golf on 25th June. We support this initiative for women to meet and hope it will increase greater female participation in our comps.

Due to the significant increase in mid-week competitors the Club is increasing the level of prizes for the mid-week competitions. The 18-hole field will be split into division 1 (daily handicap to 18) and division 2 (above 18). First prize per division is \$30, and, subject to 20 entries in the division, a second prize of \$20. The 9-hole prize of \$20, subject to 10 entries, continues. This will be effective from the beginning of July.

We have received newly designed stock of Club polo shirts, including women's. The men's shirt is white, and women's navy blue. Cost is \$35. The old stock is for sale at \$15.

Keep warm in what is looking like a cold winter.

Best wishes

Geoff Thornton

Major Competition News

John Pittard Singles Match Play

First round results are now complete.

Michael Kent	def	Jason Maynard (5 and 3)
Frederick Hughan	def	David Waters (3 and 2)
Brad McDiarmid	def	Craig Punshon (1 up)
Leigh Busby	def	Colin Hockley (2 and 1)
Nick Hague	def	Anthony Jean (6 and 5)
Mike Roker	def	Ruth Branagh (1 up)
Gary Gibb	def	Bernie Bagley (4 and 2)
Don Tasevski	def	Tony Turpin

The match ups for the second round due to be completed by 30 July are:

Brad McDiarmid	vs	Nick Hague	Leigh Busby	vs	Mike Roker
Frederick Hughan	vs	Don Tasevski	Gary Gibb	vs	Michael Kent

Ian Fraser Pairs Match Play

Two matches have been completed with two to go in the first round of the Pairs Match Play

Colin Hockley/Rob Harris	def	Colin Burge/Jay Ramsden (4 and 3)
Andrew Rumbelow/Nick Hague	def	David Mallen/Adrian Thomas (1 up)
Michael Kent/Michael Sneyd	vs	Cris Payne/Mal McAfee
Mike Roker/Bruce Baldey	vs	James Honner/Simon Catzikiris

The round is due to be completed by 25 June.

L G McDonald Memorial Trophy

After the 3rd round of the LG McDonald 4 players are left in the competition.

Francis Armstrong, Anne Forwood, Archie Hendry and Larry Stewart.

The 4th round will be played on 2 July.

Why do golf courses aerate greens?

Golf courses aerate greens to control organic matter such as roots and thatched grass, and ensure water can move through the upper layer of soil freely. This helps to reduce soil compaction, help oxygen reach the roots of the turf and promote growth. Aeration and top dressing helps to maintain a smooth and consistent putting surface that is more resistant to wear and tear.

Aeration involves removing small cores of soil, usually around half an inch in diameter, from the putting surface to aid in water absorption and oxygen flow in the root system. It normally takes two weeks for a golf green to recover from aeration and perform similar to how it did prior to the process being performed.

If sand is thoroughly spread into cored holes in the green, it will often return to normal playing conditions more rapidly.

Source: Project Golf Australia <https://projectgolfau.com/why-do-golf-courses-aerate-greens/>



VGL Pennant Season Wrap

Not the best season for Sandy's Pennant teams with all three missing the final. Both the Scratch and Seniors teams finished the season one win and 5 losses. Hopes rested with the Handicap team but a narrow loss at home to Brighton in Round 5 cost the team. As it was all 4 teams in Division 3 finished with a 3 win 3 loss record. Sandy finished 3rd on matches won – missing the final but avoiding relegation.

Congratulations and thanks to all players who represented the Club and to team managers – Michael Kent (Scratch), Geoff Maynard (Handicap) and Rob Harris (Seniors).

Congratulations to Pennant Players of the Year:

Scratch	Matt Scott	(3W, 3L)
Handicap	Jay Ramsden	(4W, 1L)
Seniors	Rob Harris	(3W, 0L)

D	Scratch (Div 2)	Handicap (Div 3)	Seniors
Rd 1	Brighton (A) L 13pts to 3pts	Eastern Sward (H) W 10pts to 6pts	Centenary Park (A) L 13pts to 3pts
Rd 2	Westgate (H) L 9pts to 7pts	Brighton (A) W 10pts to 6pts	Eastern Sward (H) L 11pts to 3pts
Rd 3	Waterford (H) L 9pts to 7pts	Ringwood (A) L 5.5pts to 2.5pts	Creekside (A) L 13pts to 3pts
Rd 4	Brighton (H) W 10pts to 6pts	Eastern Sward (A) L 14pts to 2pts	Centenary Park (H) W 10pts to 6pts
Rd 5	Westgate (A) L 14pts to 2pts	Brighton (H) L 9pts to 7pts	Eastern Sward (A) L 14pts to 2pts
Rd 6	Waterford (A) L 16pts to 0pts	Ringwood (H) W 9pts to 7pts	Creekside (H) L 10pts to 6pts

Good Luck Helen

The Club would like to wish former Committee member Helen Ansems all the best for her move to warmer climes.

Helen was one of the first women members to join the Committee and together with Cathy Dixon played a big role in reengaging the Club with Charity Days and making the Club more attractive for women members.

Helen has promised to play at the Club when she is in Melbourne so we haven't seen the last of her.

Best of luck to Helen and Roly.

Helen celebrating her Hole in One on the 16th on the 9th January 2021.




Where to redeem your vouchers if you are lucky or good enough to win one!

- Sandy PGA Pro Shop
- House of Golf
- Some Drummond Stores
- Sandringham Café for food or drink
- Grape and Grain Liquor Cellars, Station St Moorabbin
- Royal Melbourne Golf Club Pro Shop

Booking, entering and scoring in Sandy Comps.

Here's a quick guide to booking, entering and scoring in Sandy competitions.

There are three stages



The first screenshot shows the 'Sandy Golf Links' website with a 'New Tee Bookings' section. The second screenshot shows a 'Welcome to Members of Sandringham Golf Club' login page with fields for Username and Password, and a 'LOGIN' button. The third screenshot shows a mobile app interface for 'Sandringham Golf Club' with a 'Welcome John' message and a 'Score Competition' button.

Book Round

Go to Sandy Golf Links Quick 18.
Log in and book and pay for your tee time.

Enter Competition

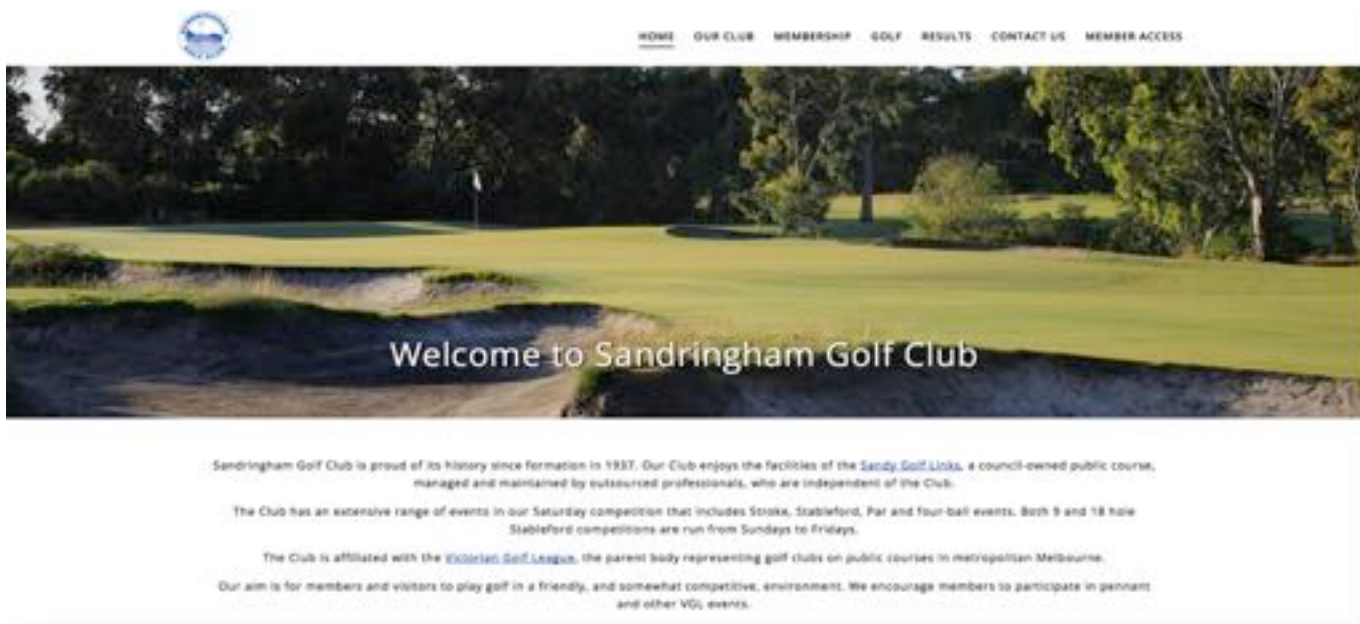
Log onto One Golf, go to booking and enter your name or group in your tee time slot.

Score Competition

Open MiScore on your phone, select competition and marker and enter scores as you play.

There is a great [Quick Reference Guide](#) to these steps on our website.

Our New Website Home Page



The screenshot shows the website's home page with a navigation menu (HOME, OUR CLUB, MEMBERSHIP, GOLF, RESULTS, CONTACT US, MEMBER ACCESS) and a large banner image of a golf course. Below the banner is the text 'Welcome to Sandringham Golf Club'. The main content area contains three paragraphs of text about the club's history, events, and affiliation.

Sandringham Golf Club is proud of its history since formation in 1937. Our Club enjoys the facilities of the [Sandy Golf Links](#), a council-owned public course, managed and maintained by outsourced professionals, who are independent of the Club.

The Club has an extensive range of events in our Saturday competition that includes Stroke, Stableford, Par and four-ball events. Both 9 and 18 hole Stableford competitions are run from Sundays to Fridays.

The Club is affiliated with the [Metropolitan Golf League](#), the parent body representing golf clubs on public courses in metropolitan Melbourne.

Our aim is for members and visitors to play golf in a friendly, and somewhat competitive, environment. We encourage members to participate in pennant and other VGL events.

Lost ball musings!

Can you declare a ball lost? Nope!

Not sure how many of us knew this rule!

The ability to declare a ball lost has not appeared in the Rules of Golf since the early 1960s.

[Rules of Golf - R and A Website](#)

Here's what the rules say

“A player may not make a ball lost by declaration. **A ball is only lost when it has not been found within three minutes after the player or his or her caddie or partner begins to search for it.**”

Some nuances and interpretations of the rule.

- “For example, a player searches for his or her ball for two minutes, declares it **lost** and walks back to play another ball. Before the player puts another ball in play, the original ball is found within the three-minute search time. **Since the player may not declare his or her ball lost, the original ball remains in play.**”
- *Player May Not Delay the Start of Search to Gain an Advantage.* The three-minute search time for a ball starts when the player or his or her caddie (or the player's partner or partner's caddie) starts to search for it. **The player may not delay the start of the search in order to gain an advantage by allowing other people to search on his or her behalf.**
- When a player has played two balls (such as the ball on play and a provisional ball) and is searching for both, whether the player is allowed two separate three-minute search times depends how close the balls are to each other. **If the balls are in the same area where they can be searched for at the same time, the player is allowed only three minutes to search for both balls. However, if the balls are in different areas (such as opposite sides of the fairway) the player is allowed a three-minute search time for each ball.**
- *Provisional Ball:* A Provisional Ball becomes the ball in play after the end of the three-minute search time, or **when that provisional is played from a spot nearer the hole than where the original ball is estimated to be.** The original ball is no longer in play (even if it is then found on the course before the end of the three-minute search time or is found nearer the hole than had been estimated) and is now a wrong ball that must not be played (see Rule 6.3c).

For those of us worried about pace of play this last allows some flexibility but remember:

The ball is not lost unless:

- The three-minute search time has expired from the time the search starts; OR
- A provisional ball is played from a spot nearer the hole than where the original ball is estimated to be.



Golfer 1: “What a shocking round. I lost so many golf balls!

Golfer 2 “ I’ve seen you play. They weren’t lost they were hiding!”

Golf courses and public spaces – the Covid aftermath

Members will probably remember the kerfuffle about public access to golf courses that arose during the Covid lockdowns. This issue is still in play for a number of courses in city locations and not just in Melbourne.

The cause celebre in Melbourne has been access to the Northcote Public Golf Course. The battle has seen community groups organised on both sides of the fence (so to speak).

The local council (the City of Darebin) recently made a decision on the future use of the course which would see 5.72 hectares of land at the southern and northern ends of the course turned into local parks and linked by a shared path. The golf course would be redesigned to keep nine holes and the council will investigate ways to use the existing buildings for hospitality and events.

From various reports this approach had some measure of broad agreement but a spanner was thrown in the works on the night when a proposal was put that golfers would not be able to access the course after 3pm when the course would be open to the public.

This proposal was not formally agreed to by Council but it has agreed to investigate it further and renegotiate with golf course management however as has been pointed out it is hard to see how the golf course can remain viable if players are not allowed to tee off after 1 pm – for a 3pm finish.

Elsewhere:

- the City of Stonnington has requested a report to help shape the future of Malvern Valley Golf Course after community feedback indicating interest in increased access to the area in the future. The Mayor has said “the Malvern Valley course had been an important source of open space for the community during the pandemic.”
- Brisbane's Victoria Park is no more. The putt putt and driving range are staying but the 18-hole course will now be transformed into parklands.
- Talks are underway in Sydney to shrink Moore Park Golf Course and turn 20 hectares into public parkland.

Sandy's recent development has protected us from this trend but the debate over the best use of these open city spaces is likely to continue.



Sunrise or sunset on public golf in cities??

Pink Day - a big success

The Pink Day fundraiser for Breast Cancer Trials on 7 May was a big success.

The two ball Ambrose competition was tight with Adrian Thomas and David Mallen recording a net 58.5 off a handicap of 5.5. They got home by half a shot from Ilja Sidoti and Neil Singh who played off a handicap of 7. James Honner and Cris Payne were 3/4s of a shot further back.

A special Thank You to all those who bought raffle tickets. We sold 449 tickets and raised over \$3,000.

The Raffle prize winners were:

Prize	Winner	Prize	Winner
Drummonds Big Swing and \$100 bar tab	Tony Pearce	9 hole playing lesson at a nearby course	Ruth Macdonald
Round for 4 at Sandy	Anthony Cape	Annual Subs for SGC	Peter Faddy
60min lesson with Mark Stephens	Michael Lenkic	60min lesson with Chris Donovan	Andrew Vines
House of Golf 2 hr simulator for 6	Peter McLeod	House of Golf 2 hr simulator for 6	Alan Abbes
House of Golf 2 hr simulator for 6	Tony Morgan	House of Golf 2 hr simulator for 6	Janine Brown

Thanks to member Mark Brooks for supplying the A Frames and signage.



The Control Centre. Jenni Clarke seated at the helm. (l to r) Christine Nicholson, Geoff Thornton, Michael Lenkic and Nick Jamieson.



Mal McAfee, Ruth Branagh, James Honner and Cris Payne in all their finery including their "Pink Pinkies". Courtesy of Ruth

Play 9 Any Time



Play 9 Any Time is an initiative of The R&A and Golf Australia.

Simply play in at least one official nine-hole competition between 1 July 2022 – 30 September 2022. Golfers automatically qualify for the competition for every round that is submitted via GolfLink

Following the qualifying period 40 male and 40 female qualifiers will be randomly selected to play in the Victorian Play 9 state final, where two leading male and two leading females will qualify for the national final.

The state final will take place on Sunday 30 October 2022 at Spring Valley Golf Club.

You can play in as many nine-hole competitions as you like and each recorded nine-hole score in Golf Link during this time will constitute one entry. In practice, this means you can enter as many times as you like!

Qualifiers for the national final (four per state/territory) will receive the following at no cost:

- Return flights to the event;
- 2 nights accommodation;
- Up to \$200 towards food and transport expenses;
- Entry to the Play 9 national final;
- Player gift pack;
- Attendance to the Play 9 function;
- Tickets to the 2022 Australian Open.

Tell your friends and give it a go!

The Seven Stages of a long putt (PG version)

(Please read from the bottom up)



The Back to Reality Stage

Oh! (Looking at the MiScore).
I only get a point for that!

The I'm a Real Golfer Stage

Yes! Yes!
Thanks guys (modestly accepting the plaudits and the jeers from your playing partners).
I can do this every day – I think.

The I Didn't Hit it Hard Enough Stage

Keep going ball! Don't be just short!

The Did That Hit Something? Stage

What happened! Why aren't you turning ball??

The I Hit it Too Hard Stage

Slow down. Oh no! It'll be off the green

The This Almost Never Happens Stage

Hey! It went over my spot!

The Golfer's Self Talk Stage

Uphill at the start and then downhill.
Two breaks. Pick a spot and just lag it down there. Inside half a meter would be nice!

Editors Note: I really love this illustration but can't remember where I got it. Will keep looking and post an acknowledgment next issue.

Feedback, comments or suggestions on the newsletter can be sent to
newsletter@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au

LIV and let LIV – or maybe not?

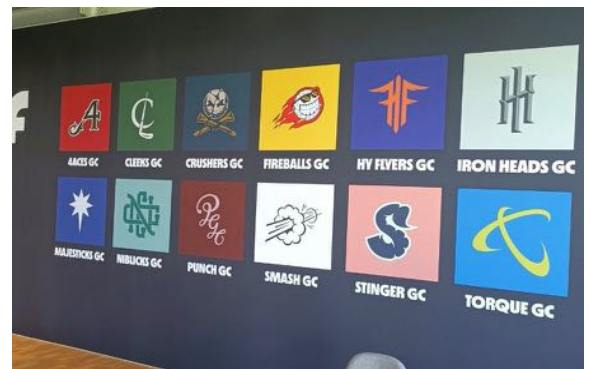
As we go to press the first event of the rebel LIV Golf Tour has just been completed in England. For months the Golf World has been (agog, excited, indifferent – pick your own word) to see who would join the rebel tour, what the PGA of America would do in response, how much money would the Saudi's throw at the tour and how low can Greg Norman's reputation sink.

Who's playing?

- The big surprise was the inclusion of former World No 1 Dustin Johnson. Sergio Garcia, Louis Oosthuizen, Lee Westwood, were known to be on board but Johnson's decision surprised many and gave LIV a lift in profile many golf pundits were not expecting. Phil Mickleson's participation was also confirmed just before the tournament. The field was a mixture of journeyman pros, top golfers in the latter half of their careers and young pros- even a couple of amateurs.
- Bryson De Chambeau and Patrick Reed have also announced they would be joining LIV.

How does it work and who won?

- Shotgun starts, 54 hole tournaments, 48 players in 12 teams, teams and individual competitions.
- Teams are formed by a draft before each tournament. In terms of favourites you surely can't go past the *Iron Heads* as a team name.
- Charl Schwartzel won the individual tournament and his team of fellow South Africans (*the Stingers*) won the team section by 14 shots.



How much money? Sorry! How much?

- Reportedly Tiger Woods knocked back an offer of nearly a billion US dollars to join the tour, Dustin Johnson is supposed to get \$US150m, Phil around \$US200m.
- A total of \$AUD354m is available across 8 events. Each tournament has a prize pool of \$AUD35m. The individual winner takes home \$AUD5.6m which is more than the biggest winner cheque on the PGA Tour (\$AUD5m). Last place finishers get \$AUD167k compared with nothing if they miss the cut on the PGA Tour.

What is the PGA Tour doing about this?

- Initially the PGA Tour threatened players with suspension, refused them leave to play in the first tournament and as the tournament started announced that any PGA member that played in a LIV event now and in the future was suspended from the Tour and the Presidents Cup.
- Interestingly some players, Johnson among them, got ahead of this and resigned their PGA membership before the suspensions were announced.
- The four majors and the Ryder Cup are independent of the PGA Tour and it's not clear what will happen except that the US Open (starting on 16 June) has announced they will not refuse entry to players who have qualified according to the rules.
- Court battles are expected to follow with legitimate questions about whether players are employees or free agents. There are many in the golf world that believe the PGA Tour needs a good revamp but whether this outside assault will succeed remains to be seen.

What about Greg?

- Norman has drawn level with Phil in the crass/astonishing/dumb comments stakes by dismissing the Saudi involvement in the murder of a journalist in terms of "we all make mistakes" and calling Jack Nicklaus a hypocrite.

LIV? Really? LIV?

- Here's where it gets cute. LIV are the Roman numerals for 54. 54 hole tournaments – get it.