

# FAIRWAY NEWS



AUGUST  
2024



## Two new MiScore Features.

MiScore now has two new features that members can and should take advantage of:

- Nearest the Pin. Members can now enter Nearest the pin details through MiScore
- Pace of Play Notification through which members will be able to compare their round time with an average time for that day.

See later in the newsletter for more details.

### *Ye Olde Annual Membership Reminder*

Annual Subscriptions (\$150) are due on or before 31 August 2024 for the membership year ending 31 August 2025.

Please contact the Treasurer if you have not received an email.

## This Issue includes

Two New MiScore Features Above and P6-8  
Olympics Coming to Sandy  
Upcoming Events  
Recent Results  
The President's Blog  
Captain's Corner  
News and Notes  
Supporting one of our sponsors  
Major Competition News  
Slow Play Fixes  
From the Archives – Presidential Golf  
Do you score better on the front or back 9?  
All about caddies  
Golf in the Olympics

## Olympics coming to Sandy

Sandringham Golf Club will be running a new competition later this year called the OLYMPIC. To coincide with this, the IOC and French Government has decided to piggyback by staging the Olympic Games in Paris.

If you cannot get to Europe to watch the action, club members will be able to PARTICIPATE in our own 3-week tournament in November, although sadly no athletes village will be provided for the competitors.

See later for details

Michael Kent  
Club Captain

## Upcoming events

- 3 August** Stroke, VGL Medal, LG McDonald Final  
**10 August** Stableford, Captain's Trophy R3,  
**17 August** 2-Ball Ambrose - JJ Meade Memorial Trophy  
**24 August** Stableford, Singles Match Play R4 and Pairs Match Play R3 complete  
**31 August** Stableford  
**7 Sept.** Stroke, VGL Medal  
**14 Sept.** Par, Club Medal  
**21 Sept.** Stableford, Singles Match Play R5 and Pairs Match Play R4 complete

*Recent Results*

- Competition was tight on 8 June. Three scores of 39pts led the field. Fortunately, all three walked away with a prize after the countbacks. Lincoln Stanley won the Overall. Dan Harrison won B Grade and Kurtley Brandt won C Grade. Ashley Turner's 38pts won A Grade and Alison Kenny won the Women's Division with 34pts.
- Piers Chapple streeeted the field on 15/6. His 45pts to win the Overall was 5pts better than the 40pts that Greg Scott shot to win C Grade. Andrew Preston(37pts) beat life member Bill McLaughlin on a countback for the B Grade win. Gary Boschen (38pts A Grade) and Lynda Douth (34pts Women's Division) were the other winners.
- The Stableford round on 22/6 saw another tightly bunched field in tough conditions (Daily Difficulty was +1). Dara Danh's 39pts won the Overall. Jonathan Edge and Bernie Bagley's 37pts won A Grade and B Grade respectively. The other 2 Divisions were decided by countbacks. Jenni Clarke(32pts) beat Belinda Anson for the Women's Division. James Henneberry(36pts) beat Benjamin Stockdale for C Grade.
- Gary Robertson's 37pts won the Overall on 29/6 in another tight race. Greg Scott (36pts B Grade), Andrew Lejcak (35pts A Grade), Colin Burge (35pts C Grade) and Ruth Branagh (27pts Women's Division) were the other winners.
- Nick Hague's net 62 took out July's VGL Medal and the Overall on 6/7. Geoff May's net 64 won A Grade and Gavin Kinnaird's net 66 won C Grade. Richard Grace's net 64 included an eagle on the 6<sup>th</sup> as he took out B Grade. Emma Regos' net 65 won the Women's Division.

**THE PRESIDENT'S BLOG**

Having successfully made it back from Scandinavia I think I have brought some of the weather with me. Winter is definitely upon us and there have been some pretty cold and wet days that have tested the resilience of all of us golfing enthusiasts.

Despite all of the weather challenges, we have continually seen regular Saturday fields of around 70 hardy participants and total mid-week players between 60 – 100 (I guess the weather has had a bigger impact on individual days). Despite all of this, the course continues to play to a high standard with some small exceptions. Bunkers have been a bit scratchy (further added to due to my personal ineptitude), but by all reports most courses have suffered similarly with bunker conditions as a result of the weather.

Given the conditions we have experienced and the fact that the course is playing so well, we can all contribute to a much more enjoyable experience by being more diligent around bunker and fairway repair.

I doubt there is a player that does not carry sand bucket, but let us all go to the effort of using the sand to repair divots around the course, even if they aren't yours. Not many of us enjoy going into bunkers but it is even less enjoyable if there has been the proverbial herd of elephants through beforehand. Generally, on a Saturday morning there is no-one else to blame except our own members, so please make the effort to rake the bunkers and appropriately replace the rake afterwards. In the "waste land" areas, a bit of smoothing over with your foot or club work (after your shot "Patrick") can always assist in a more preferable lie for those following.

And finally;

A "gimme" can best be defined as an agreement between two golfers... neither of whom can putt very well.

Regards

Rob

*Recent Results (cont.)*

- Michael's Grusauskas' excellent 43pts was best on 13/7 and won the Overall. Emma Regos continued her great form with 41pts to take out the Women's Division for the second week in a row. Peter Bowen's 35pts won C Grade. The other 2 Divisions were decided on countback. George Bakrnchev(38pts) beat Michael Kent for A Grade and Darren Swinnerton(39pts) got the nod over Julius Chan for B Grade.
- Difficult conditions kept numbers down and scoring hard in the Par round on 20/7. Anthony Denahy and Michael Sneyd lead the field with +2. Anthony winning the Overall on a countback and Michael winning B Grade. Geoff Maynard (Sq A Grade) and Michael Lenkic (+1 C Grade) were the other winners. Not enough Women members played to trigger a separate competition this week.
- A countback was needed again on 27 July to separate Matt Scott and Ken Smith after both scored 39pts. Matt got the nod with 20pts on the back nine to Ken's 18pts and won the overall. Ken took out the B Grade prize. Clayton Ford (35pts A Grade), Peter Bowen (36pts C Grade) and Gail Simpson (37pts Women's) were the other winners.
- Two exceptional scores highlight the mid week competitions in this period. Visitor Susie Packham's 45pts amazingly occurred in the same week as member Darren Vandehoven's exceptional 46pts.

**CAPTAIN'S CORNER**

For those who watched the golf at British Open at Royal Troon it was a reminder that even the best players can come adrift on a tricky course in average weather conditions. All the more reason to keep playing over the winter months so you are not put off by a bit of wind or rain.



Playing numbers continue to be high with some members reporting difficulty getting an early tee time on Saturday. A reminder if you have a spare tee time, or are looking for a game, please use the process shown on the 1Golf booking page. It is a very useful way of ensuring the maximum number of club members are getting a game on Saturday morning.

Results are rolling in for the various match play competitions with most matches completed on time. If you need an extension, please make early contact as we cannot always accommodate a delay and a forfeit will result.

Finally, a reminder to all club members to check the notices section on the 1Golf booking page. This is where the club will add important bits of information and changes that don't always make it into the newsletter. Topics for this month include the new NTP and Round Times functionality in MiScore.

Happy Golfing

Regards

Michael Kent



## News and Notes

### Best wishes

Best wishes to Vice Captain and Life Member Geoff Thornton who is recovering from a double hernia operation.

### How do you know who the members are when you book in Quick18?

The Club is asking members to edit their surnames in their Quick18 account by prefixing the surname with SGC. This idea helps new and existing members to identify fellow members when booking rounds.

### Club apparel

The Club has Men's and Women's Polos and Caps for sale. See last issue for a picture of these items or admire from afar fellow member who wear them with pride. To inquire or purchase Email: [memberservices@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au](mailto:memberservices@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au) OR send a message on the website's [Contact Who](#) page



## Supporting one of our sponsors and Cancer Treatment

The House of Golf has supported the Sandringham Golf Club over the years, whether it be our weekly competitions, raffles and our Charity golf days. This relationship was established by the Club with *Innes Ireland*, one of the owners of The House of Golf group of stores.

Innes has recently undergone treatment at The Peter MacCallum for Mycosis Fungoides, a rare Cutaneous Lymphoma of the skin and in his words a treatable lifelong condition.

The Charity challenge was conceived during his treatment and is his way of giving back to this incredible health facility.

There's 2 components to Innes' fundraising activities, *The House of Golf Charity Challenge Golf Day* in October at the Kingston Heath Golf Club , full details can be found here

<https://golfdays.com.au/Event.aspx?ref=3p62f>

All funds raised from the event will go directly to the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, supporting their life-saving work in cancer research and patient care.

The second can be accessed via the QR code on our Club's OneGolf website where members can contribute towards the fundraising.

Donations of \$20 or more go into the drawer to win a King Island Golf trip for 4 players worth \$6995.

You can enter more than once, simply by donating \$20 multiple times.

Best of luck and please support his efforts to help eradicate cancer and provide effective treatments.

The House of Golf.



## Major Competition News

### Captain's Trophy

The Captain's Trophy is awarded to the best aggregate score over three designated Stableford rounds during the year. Going into the last round on 10 August Club Captain (fittingly!) Michael Kent leads the way with 72pts. He is 2pts clear of Lynda Douch and Gary Boschen.

### LG McDonald

The LG McDonald is a knockout competition played over 5 stroke rounds with the field being reduced by half after each round. The final round is on 3 August and the winner will come from Anna Puchalski and John Bris. Unfortunately, this year's competition was marred by a lot of DNPs with only 7 of the 32 qualifiers playing in Round 1.

### Eclectic Competition

The Eclectic Competition adds up the best score on each hole during Saturday Stableford competitions. With a couple of months to go Paul Norton has taken a one-point lead. He is on 59pts but there is a 6-way tie right behind on 58pts - Ben Akdag, Patrick Maginness, Gavin Kinnaird, Wayne Powell, Michael Lenkic and Steve Bywater. Seven other members are only a point further back. Still, anyone's title and plenty of time to make your mark in this competition.

### Match Play Competitions.

This year's Match Play competitions have provided a lot of interest and attracted record entries. A field of 58 entered the singles match play with 32 pairs fighting out the pairs competition. The parallel running of the competitions has thrown up some quirky clashes. Regular playing partners Ruth Branagh and John White teamed up and have made the quarter finals of the Pairs Match Play but their performances in the Singles match play means they were drawn to face each other in the quarter finals in that competition. Ruth got over the line 3 and 2 and is into the semifinals.

In the Pairs comp the results so far have meant that there is certain to be an all women team in one of the semifinals. Last year's Pairs winners of Jason Rainbow and Tim Noonan are also still alive to defend their title.

### John Pittard Singles Match Play

The quarter final match ups are:

Michael Kent vs Ash Nugawela	Bernie Bagley vs Don Tasevski
Ross Gordon vs Stuart Low	Ruth Branagh def John White 3 and 2

### Ian Fraser Pairs Match Play

The quarter final match ups are:

Paul McGarry/Colin Hunter vs Jason Rainbow/Tim Noonan  
 Clayton and Cooper Ford vs John White/Ruth Branagh  
 Jenni Clarke/Christine Nicholson vs Winner of Reynolds/Macdonald vs Best/Adam-Gedge  
 George Andreetta/Craig Brenner vs Glenda McDade/Andrew Bakker

## New MiScore Features 1

### Pace of Play Notification

Members may have seen a notice on MiScore when starting their round. The app is now automatically recording round times for each competition round. This is being rolled out to all clubs using MiScore.

At this stage Sandringham is not actively reviewing the results, but it is a good reminder to all members to keep up with the group in front and always play Ready Golf.

An 18-hole game at Sandy Golf Links should only take 4 hours, whereas most members in the later groups on Saturday finish in around 4.5 hrs. The graph below is for a typical (recent) Saturday.

The new feature notifies each golfer of their average round time, and their ranking based on previous rounds for that day of the week. The purpose of this feature is to encourage awareness, better practices in regards to pace of play and advise members of their true performance (no player thinks they are slow).

Players will see a personal notification at the commencement of each competition round just prior to choosing partners unless otherwise advised. The information is based on the players round history over the 3 months for that day of the week at the club i.e. Wednesday afternoon competition. Players must have played at least two rounds to record details. Times are calculated on tee time and score submission time.

Tips for improving your pace of play are on the next page. Please take note!

Round Time by App



### Fairway News Contributions and Feedback

Fairway News is always looking for contributions so if you have any comments, suggestions, photos have a Sandy golf story to tell or fancy a bit of creative writing please send it along to [newsletter@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au](mailto:newsletter@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au)



## WHO ME?...SLOW? SLOW PLAY IS SELFISH PLAY

**You are slow** if you have one clear fairway ahead; you must call the following group "through" if they are waiting and then keep up with them.

**You are slow** if you take more than one practice swing.

**You are slow** if you do not, when possible, study your putt while others are putting and thus be ready as soon as it is your turn to putt.

**You are slow**, if after your first putt, and you are not interfering with your opponents' putting lines, you decide to sit and mark the ball.

**You are slow** if you are first to hit off and you mark your card before hitting off.

**You are slow** if you do not move as quickly as you can between shots or if you spend an inordinate amount of time conversing with other players. As a guide for the first group, on most courses, an average of 13 minutes per hole is appropriate.

Therefore a comfortable time for the round is four hours. The lowest handicapped (adult) player is responsible for:-

1. Speed of the entire group
2. The decision to call through
3. The speed of the first group in the field

Hints to expedite play;

- Keep your club head covers in your bag. (Replacing head covers after every shot is a waste of time)
- Carry your phone in easy reach – this will allow you to enter the score while waiting for your shot.
- When safe to do so, move quickly to your ball and be prepared to play your shot.
- Be prepared when using a GPS device. (Turning the device on and off for each shot wastes time)
- Play a provisional ball when unsure whether the first ball is in play
- Spend only 2 minutes looking for a lost ball.
- Put your glove on before moving to tee box so not to delay others teeing off

## New MiScore Features 2

### Nearest the Pin Entry

Just look out for flashing golf ball on a tee on a hole that there's a Nearest the Pin (Holes 9 and 16 at Sandy)

Press NTP Icon to:

- Add your shot and approximate distance in cm or
- Add a playing partners shot and approximate distance or
- Just see who in the field is winning the prize and been close

You only need one player in the group to be using MiScore App to add a name from the group to Nearest the Pin. Names are automatically sent to the prize results with the details of the player's name and distance.

#### How-to add your name to Nearest the Pin

1. Select flashing NTP icon
2. View Distance if no marker on green to indicate distance if you are closer select Add Self
3. Add Distance and Confirm
4. Your name as Nearest the Pin at that time

The screenshot shows the MiScore app interface for Hole 9. At the top, it displays 'ROUND TIME 00:00:20', 'HOLE 9', and 'TO MID 3811m'. Below this, the player 'Geoff Thornton (HC: 17)' is shown with a score of 3 (2 points) and a pick-up status of 'P'. The stats table below shows PAR 3, SHOTS 0, PICK UP P, and TOTAL 2. Below that, 'Michael Kent (HC: 13)' is shown with a score of 3 (2 points) and a pick-up status of 'P'. The stats table below shows PAR 3, SHOTS 0, NTP (with a golf ball icon), P/UP P, and TOTAL 2. A blue arrow points to the NTP icon in Michael Kent's stats table.

#### Note:

**NTP results will be accepted via MiScore submissions or using the old SMS method until the end of August after which all results will need to be submitted via MiScore.**

### Reminder – Tee Time Swap Process

Members are reminded that if they are looking for a tee time or have a spare tee time they would like to offer to another member there is a process through OneGolf to make it happen.

Please take the time to check the Club's website and the OneGolf page to keep up to date.

### Interested in volunteering at golf tournaments?

Golf Australia has called for people to volunteer at this summer's major Australian golf tournaments including the Australian Open in Melbourne.

Details can be found on the Golf Australia website – search marquee events or go to:

<https://www.golf.org.au/call-out-to-volunteers-for-marquee-events/?lid=r1q5m1dz5a1w>



## From the Fairway News Archives – Presidential Golf

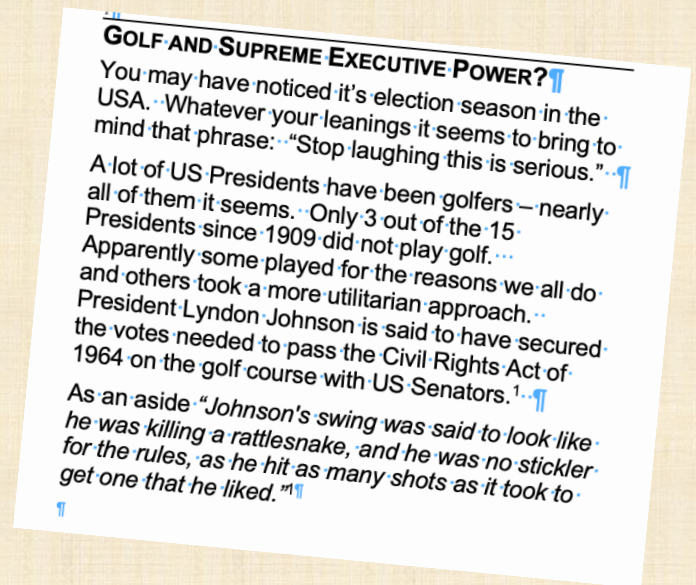
Back in August 2016 amidst the heat and fury of a previous American election cycle *Fairway News* did a piece on golfing Presidents and Prime Ministers. Although for some reason it wasn't the biggest news(!) out of the Biden/Trump debate back in June there was some back and forth about who was the better golfer and who had the lower handicap.

At one point Trump said of Biden "he can't hit the ball 50 yards" and claimed that he had won two "regular club championships". Biden responded that he'd "be happy to have a driving contest with him," and later asked "And where's Trump been? Riding around in his golf cart, filling out his scorecard before he hits the ball?"

Both are apparently single digit handicappers and Trump (despite long standing rumours about cheating) has shown he has game(at least until he reaches the green!) particularly through a YouTube video he did with Bryson De Chambeau on the golfer's channel. De Chambeau has offered to play with Harris or "anyone from that side".

Of course, it is all moot as Biden has withdrawn from the Presidential race. And despite extensive research by the cadre of *Fairway News* researchers nothing has been found about Kamala Harris' golf game.

Back home Anthony Albanese shows little interest in the sport according to one report however he did campaign for the retention of 18 holes at his local course - Marrickville Golf Course and like all Prime Ministers he has been offered (and accepted) membership at Royal Sydney Golf Club. The annual fee for Royal Sydney is reportedly about \$30,000 per year so there is that.



### 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

## Do you score better on the front nine or the back nine? Are you sure?

How often have we said after our round “I was going really well until 13 (or 11 or 16)...?”

This seems to be a common post round feeling so a guru at GolfInsiderUK did some research to test it out. The table shows average score to par from rounds recorded by Shot Scope for different handicap points.

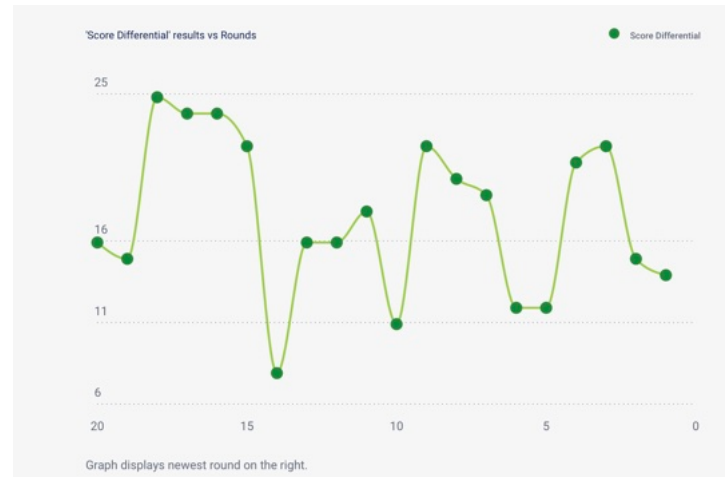
Handicap	Front 9	Back 9
0	0.9	1.1
5	4.1	3.9
10	6.6	6.4
15	9.2	9.2
20	11.7	11.4
25	15.1	14.8

The stats seem to suggest that for most golfers there is not much difference between the nines but that most golfers' scores tend to improve on the back nine – especially higher handicappers. So why does this feeling that we blew a great score late persist?

One of the suggestions in the article is that, starting well and then losing an opportunity for a great score leaves us with a more painful memory. Situations that evoke an emotional response are far more likely to be remembered than when we improve during the round and turn a poor score into an average or slightly above average score.

The article goes on to speculate that there is a natural variance in golf – “...golfers bob around their average score, but they can string together golf holes that raise them to dizzying heights and a run of golf holes that makes them vow to quit the game.” See example from a Golf Australia Handicap page (right).

These runs may occur at any stage of a round but it's the response they provoke in us that drives whether and how we remember them.



### Addendum- the Hot Hand Fallacy!

Heard of the *Hot Hand Fallacy*? The article also references this term which originates in basketball where it is common for commentators and even coaches to believe a player is “hot” and is therefore more likely to score if their previous attempts were successful and should be given license to shoot as many shots as they can get. Although contested the research shows that whilst there may be a small impact for a small number of players the “hot hand” is generally not supported by analysis of games and specifically designed trials.

Story drawn from article on GolfInsiderUK June 24, 2024 by Will Shaw, PhD, MSc, PGA Pro

<https://golfinsideruk.com/front-9-vs-back-9-scoring/>

## SGC's Own Olympic Competition

Call it a triathlon, call it a triple threat call it whatever, but this November Sandy Golf Club will crown its own Olympic champion.

We all have views on our preferred competition format. How often do you hear someone say they hate Par comps?

The **2024 SGC Olympic Competition** will test our ability to forget our prejudices and play and score well across all three formats.

The competition will be played over three consecutive rounds in November – Stroke then Stableford and a final round of Par.

Scoring will be the top 50% of the Stroke field progressing to round 2 with another 50% reduction after the Stableford round. The winner will be the best score of the remaining field in the Par round.

### Mark it in the calendar now!

Date	Format
2 November	Stroke
9 November	Stableford
16 November	Par

## More food for thought from GolfInsiderUK

Below is a table showing the average number of birdies, bogeys and double bogeys (or worse) by handicap. Data from rounds recorded by Shot Scope.

Handicap	Birdies	Bogeys	Doubles +
0	2.34	3.87	0.27
5	1.26	6.12	1.44
10	0.72	7.2	2.88
15	0.36	8.1	4.68
20	0.36	7.38	6.66
25	0.18	6.12	9.18

It's remarkable how little difference there is in the number of bogeys for handicaps of 10 and over. The secret to getting the handicap down is keeping those double bogies or worse off the card!



## All About Caddies

Not many Sandy members would have the use of a caddy in our regular comps. However, If you visit a bucket list course, play in South East Asia or are a professional player and haven't told us then maybe you will have benefitted from the wit and wisdom of a caddy. But where did they come from? Like a lot of golf history, we need to go back to auld Scotland.

### The Word - Caddie

The Scots word *caddie* was derived in the 17th century from the French word *cadet* and originally meant a student military officer. Caddie became used for a general-purpose porter or errand boy in Scottish towns in the 18th Century. They were formed into a society in Edinburgh in 1711, with self imposed rules and published fees much like taxi cabs. Caddies are often mentioned carrying golf clubs, but it was not until 1857 that the Oxford Dictionary ascribes the use mainly to those carrying golf clubs. In the early days there were no bags and the clubs were carried in bundle, which can be clearly seen in paintings of the time.



### The Caddy Shack\*

Courses in Scotland, England and later the US had established caddy corps to service members and guests. Many caddies established large reputations based on their extensive knowledge of their local course. Prior to the advent of the personal caddy in the professional game many of the top pros would vie for the top local caddy or try and hire one they had used before and performed well with.



This age is where some of the well known tropes about caddies are born and mythologized. Consider two descriptions of a caddy:

*Caddie – A Gentleman of leisure, who for a consideration will consent to sneer at you for a whole round.*

*The professional caddie is a reckless, feckless creature. ...he makes money all day and spends it all night. His sole loves are golf and whiskey." Horace Hutchinson 1900*

Or these reported pieces of caddy advice:

"Look here sir. I'll give you the clubs, you play the bloody shot."

"It'll take three good ones to be on in two t'day sir."

Less so these days but several legendary players were caddies in their youth- Jack Nicklaus, Tom Watson, Johnny Miller are examples. Pulitzer Prize(3 times) winning author Thomas Friedman was also a caddy as was Chris Sullivan who founded the restaurant chain the Outback Steakhouse. So a preparation for life not just golf huh?

## Caddies in the professional game

In the professional game relationships between caddies and players vary from the caddies need to just “show up, keep up and shut up” type to having your life partner carrying the bag (a number of examples in the LPGA).

There have been many fruitful and long-term partnerships between player and caddie such as:

- Tiger Woods and Steve Williams. Williams was once considered New Zealand's highest paid sportsman and won 14 Majors with Tiger and one with Adam Scott
- Nick Faldo and Fanny Sunesson. Won 4 majors together. Sunesson has also caddied for Sergio Garcia, Adam Scott and Henrik Stenson.
- Phil Mickleson and Jim Mackay. Together for 25 years and five major championships.

It's not all beer and skittles for caddies however. Ian Woosnam's caddie once forgot to remove an extra driver from his bag before he teed off in the final round of the 2001 British Open. As the opening hole is a Par 3 the mistake was not discovered until the 2<sup>nd</sup> hole and the subsequent 2 shot penalty negated Woosnam's opening birdie and did nothing for his piece of mind or his bank balance – a loss of £220,000 (Note: Woosnam fired his caddie a few weeks later when he slept in and missed his tee time!)

Seve Ballesteros once said “The only time I talk on a golf course is to my caddie. And then only to complain when he gives me the wrong club.”

## The Black Caddies of Augusta

For the first nearly 50 years of the Masters tournament at Augusta players were only allowed to use caddies from Augusta National Caddie Corps. All these caddies were black and most came from the local Sand Hills area (on the National Register of Historic Places) just south of Augusta. As a reflection of the historic racism of the area the first Chairman of Augusta National Clifford Roberts notoriously said

“As long as I'm alive, all the golfers will be white and all the caddies will be black,”

Despite this a number of the caddies became well

known as one writer put it: for two things: “their expert knowledge and vibrant nicknames”

- Willie Lee “Pappy” Stokes who was born on the property that became Augusta and is famous for imparting the wisdom that at Augusta every putt breaks towards Raes Creek.
- Tommy “Burnt Biscuits” Bennett caddied for Tiger Woods in his first Masters.
- Carl “Skillet” Jackson who fixed Ben Crenshaw's swing before he won the Masters in 1995
- Nathaniel “Iron Man” Avery, who caddied for Arnold Palmer for four Masters victories

Unfortunately, many of these caddies lost a major part of their livelihood when the rule was changed to allow players to bring their own caddies. In the first year after the change (1983) only 22 of the 82 players used Augusta caddies.



The Black caddies of Augusta are part of the history and legend not only of the Masters but of the society they lived in. They have been the subject of a book "The Legendary Caddies of Augusta National" and feature in at least a couple of documentaries "Loopers: The Caddie's Long Walk" and "Rise Above: The Carl Jackson Story".

## Caddies in South East Asia

In most South East Asian countries it is compulsory to have a caddy when you play golf. Often not expensive and often women the caddy role provides employment for local people some of whom may have lost land and livelihood to golf course developments.



## Other memorable caddy quotes

*I was lying ten and had a thirty-five-foot putt. I whispered over my shoulder: "How does this one break?" And my caddy said: "Who cares?" It's the greatest line from a caddy I've ever heard.*  
Jack Lemmon.

*"Wee wheels in ya head sir. You've got to forget those bloody wee wheels sir."* Sandy Matheson – a caddy at Dornoch to noted golf writer Rick Reilly.



(1) 1913 US Open winner 20yr old Francis Ouimet is accompanied by 10yr old Eddie Lowery who skipped school to caddy for Ouimet when he famously beat English professionals Harry Vardon and Ted Ray in an 18 hole play off. Lowery later became a multi millionaire in the auto trade and a sponsor of amateur golfers.



We couldn't complete this story without a reference to the creepy, stalker caddies so often represented in the golden age of golf we presented last issue. Here's another one on a Valentine's Day card where the caddy is reading the card over the recipient's shoulder!

*\*Note: Not to be confused with the seminal but related movie CaddyShack. However the movie was partially based on the experiences of star Bill Murray and his five brothers as caddies*





## Golf in the Olympics

As we go to press the Olympic golf tournaments are close to half way done. The Men's tournament will be played from 1 to 4 August whilst the Women's event will take place from 7 to 10 August.

For those of us of a certain vintage golf and the Olympics are strange bedfellows. For many decades never the twain shall meet but, in all likelihood, the ever expanding empire of the Lords of the Rings (Olympic rings that is) was always going to try and suck golf (like tennis) into their athletic juggernaut.



In modern times golf first appeared on the Olympic program in 2016 at the games in Rio de Janeiro. This was a surprise to many who wondered whether including the elite of the professional golf world fitted with the Olympic spirit and whether golf needed another high-profile tournament that looked much the same as all the other golf tournaments on the existing tours.

Somewhat surprisingly it turns out golf was in the Olympics soon after the dawn of the modern Olympic age. A golf tournament was played as part of the second ever modern Olympics in 1900 in Paris. The men's tournament was a 36 hole stroke play event contested by 12 players from 4 countries. The women's tournament however

had only 10 entries from 2 countries and was played over just 9 holes! Although it appears the women golfers(r) were not aware they were competing in the Olympics.

Golf was also played at the 1904 Olympics at St Louis in the USA. This time it was men only and included team and individual (match play) competitions. There were 77 competitors – 74 from the USA and 3 from Canada – global tensions and travel difficulties meant there were very few athletes from outside North America competing. Not surprisingly USA won the Gold, Silver and Bronze in the teams event - different regional golf associations providing the teams but what may have been a bit of a surprise was that a Canadian won Golf in the individual event. Note: This is the Olympics where the Gold, Silver, Bronze format was introduced.



Golf was due to be played at the 1908 Olympics but was cancelled only days before the event was due to start after strong opposition from leading British players. "Speaking on behalf of the Royal Ancient Golf Club, John L. Low announced that golf was not an Olympic sport. In fact, he declared that the proposed Olympic competitions were against the spirit of the pastime!"

Herbert Flower publicly stated that "he could not understand what golf had to do with the ancient games of Greece...!"

A sentiment I'm sure we can all agree on! However, I don't know what Mr Flower would have made of Breaking (Break Dancing) in this year's Olympiad.