

# FAIRWAY NEWS



OCTOBER  
2024



## Annual General Meeting 12 November 2024

The Club's 2024 AGM will be held on 12 November at the Mentone RSL Palermo St Mentone.

Come along and meet fellow members, discuss issues about the Club's operation and elect the 2025 Committee.

Also, at the meeting members who have won Club Competitions will be presented with the appropriate medals. (See later for details of changes to how the Club awards trophies and how you can get yours if you don't attend the AGM)

Drinks and finger food provided.

Note: This venue will likely be a one off whilst our usual venue undergoes renovations.

## VGL Mixed Pennant Review

The inaugural VGL Mixed Pennant season has concluded, and Sandy's team performed creditably especially considering the number of players who were playing Pennant for the first time.

The team recorded a 2 draws and 1 loss season and went into the last round with a chance to make the final. Congratulations to those who represented the Club. Tim Noonan(Captain R1), Kate Caridakis, Nick Hague, Sarah Adam-Gedge, Andrew Rumbelow(Captain R2), Anna Puchalski, Ruth Branagh, Terry McAleenan, Geoff Maynard, Clayton Ford, Emma Regos, Michael Kent(Captain R3), Mark Brooks, Ollie Cunliffe and Ellesse Graham.

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## Upcoming events

- 5 October Stroke, Star Medallists
- 12 October Stableford
- 19 October Stableford
- 26 October 4BBB Stableford, Singles Match Play and Pairs Match Play Finals complete
- 2 Nov. Stroke
- 9 Nov. Stableford
- 12 Nov. Annual General Meeting
- 16 Nov. Par
- 23 Nov. Stableford, Southern Cross Cup
- 30 Nov. Stableford

*Recent Results*

- August's VGL medal was comfortably won by Rod Burke with an excellent net 59. Liz Mitchell's net 65 was next best and took out the Women's Division. Anthony Denahy (net 67) won B Grade on a countback from Ilja Sidoti. Jeremy Williams (net 66 A Grade), Rob Harris (net 68 C Grade) were the other winners.
- After a long medical layoff Barry Russell announced "I'm back!" with 41pts to win the Overall on 10/8. There were 3-way ties in two of the Divisions. Countbacks gave Ruth Branagh (35pts) the nod over Angela Stein and Anna Puchalski in the Women's Division and George Bakrnchev(36pts) over Terry McAleenan and Michael Kent in A Grade. Tom Tomlin (38pts) and Jim Henneberry(35pts) won B and C Grades respectively.
- The JJ Meade Memorial 2-Ball Ambrose on 17/8 was won by Sarah Adam-Gedge and Linda Best with a net 58 on a countback from Paul McGarry and Colin Hunter.
- Some good scores highlighted the Stableford round on 24/8. David Beecham's 44pts was best and won the Overall. Michael Sneyd (42pts B Grade) and Andrew Lejcak (41 pts A Grade) were not far behind. Both the Women's Division (Angela Stein) and C Grade (Paul Norton) were won with 38pts.
- Windy conditions meant it was tightly bunched at the top on 31/8. Three players scored the day's best score of 38pts. Julie Coupe (Overall), Matt Scott(A Grade) and Wayne Powell(C Grade) were the winning three. Fiona Reynolds (37pts Women's Division) and Pat Maginness (36pts B Grade) were the other winners.

**THE PRESIDENT'S BLOG**



Well as Winter slowly fades into our distant memories (or has it...!!!) we can all start to imagine a Spring that will bring us back to life and shake out some of the stiffness from the bones and muscles of many of us (well, one of us at least).

First off, congrats if your favoured AFL team was successful and commiseration to the Swans supporters - must be something in the Sydney water that makes them succumb in the final showdown of the year.

Our weekly numbers have continued to be over 70 players, and I think special recognition needs to be given to the 86 hearty souls that managed to endure the weather of the monthly medal round on 14<sup>th</sup> September. Well done to all that persevered, as there were some that "pulled the pin" very early and retreated to the warmth of the club house to dry out and enjoy a coffee (I'll put my hand up as being one of those that weakened to the vagaries of Melbourne's weather). Whilst on the weather, let us all hope for fine days and NO wind as we venture forward into the warmer months.

Some of our annual competitions have already been decided and congratulations to the respective winners – see later in the Newsletter.

For fear of boring everyone (but I will anyway), I feel I need to continue to bang on about bunker raking and divot repairs. No more needs to be said than if you're not doing it as we all know we should, then you are disrespecting your fellow golfers who may venture into your divot or bunker footprint.

And finally (sent to me by an admiring fan that wanted to be part of the sick joke fraternity);

"What was a bigger invention than the First Telephone?"

Look for the answer later in the Newsletter

Regards

Rob

*Recent Results (cont.)*

- Rosie Ross set a new Course record for a net Stroke Women's competition when she shot a net 56 to beat the previous record by 2 shots. Naturally Rosie won the Overall. The VGL Medal was won by Justin Lo's excellent net 58 which also won C Grade. James Mackie's net 60 won A Grade and Sarah Adam-Gedge's net 67 won the Women's Division. Roger Van Hilst (net 62) won A Grade on a countback from Filip Cosic.
- Winter weather returned for the Par round on 14/9. Brian Kyne's exceptional +5 lead the way and won both the Club Medal and the Overall. Next best was Jeremy Williams' +2 to win A Grade. All the other Grades were won with a +1 - Julie Coupe (continuing her good form won the Women's Division) and Matthew Dawson (C Grade). Peter Bowen won B Grade on a countback from Allister Lahood.
- The round on 21/9 was a very tight contest. James Mackie(37pts) won the overall on a countback from Cris Payne (who won B Grade) and Ollie Cunliffe who missed out. Eoin O'Connell (35pts) won A Grade also on a countback from Allister Lahood (who having moved up to A Grade missed on a countback for the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in row!) and 4-time Club Champion Sean Paterson playing his first round for some time. Cathy Dixon (35pts Women's Division) and Elliot Haralambous(36pts C Grade) were the other winners.
- Cris Payne's hot 41pts was well clear of the field on 28/9 and won the overall. Liz Tanzimat's 38pts won the Women's Division. Remarkably 8 players recorded 36pts which meant 5 players missed out on countbacks. John White won A Grade over Matt Scott and Francis Armstrong; Peter Karvelis(B Grade) over Andrew Ball; Rob Harris(C Grade) over Grant Nicholson and Jim Henneberry. Some compensation for Matt Scott as he eagled the 17<sup>th</sup>.

## CAPTAIN'S CORNER

As winter fades and spring gets underway, the season at Sandringham enters the end phase of our tournament and trophy golf.



This year has seen a growing number of players participating in match play events with record fields in the Pittard Singles and Ian Fraser Pairs competitions and both finals due for completion in the next few weeks. We also saw the first year of mixed pennant golf with several members having their first taste of match play and pennant competition. If you have been lucky enough to win a trophy event, make sure you attend the AGM later this year to collect your trophy or medallion. More details in this newsletter.

There is one fixture of golfing events that not many Sandringham members are aware of and that is the VGL list of tournaments. I would recommend that you take the time to visit the VGL homepage to see this list of events. We have also provided a summary of tournaments and links to the booking process on the UPCOMING EVENTS posts on our club homepage. Most of these events are open to all club members and operate on a first come basis, others require qualification and all entry costs are free to Sandringham members. So if you play Sunday or mid-week golf and want to test your skills against other club members at a different course, this will make a nice change of pace.

Whatever your preference, happy golfing.

Happy Golfing

Regards

Michael Kent



## News and Notes

### Best wishes

Great to see a number of members return to the playing recently – Geoff Thornton, Cris Payne, Barry Russell and Sean Paterson.

### 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



## Who are we?

Here are some options to help something go ping in your brain:

- A. We are the cooky couple from next door in the 1960's sit com *Mr Ed the Talking Horse*
- B. We have twice had significant (revolutionary in one case) impact on the golf world
- C. We have just bred the first pink version of the flower pictured.



As a further clue if you know who these people are you are very deep into golf history. See later for all the details.



Recent windy weather has seen a number of trees down around the course. This massive tree (above) split on the morning of 14/9 on the 15<sup>th</sup> hole. It stretched all the way across Tulip St and blocked the road for some time. Lucky there was no parked car directly opposite. The winds also blew considerable sand out of the bunkers as can be seen on the 8<sup>th</sup> (left)

## 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. And guess what?. The Club Captain won the Captain's Trophy! Michael Kent's final round 36pts was enough to see him home on 108pts – which gave him a tidy average of 36pts over the three rounds. Gary Boschen was runner up on 104pts. Congratulations Michael.

### LG McDonald

The LG McDonald is a knockout competition played over 5 stroke rounds with the field being reduced by half after each round. Anna Puchalski took out this year's trophy. Her net 70 being too good on the day for John Bris' net 77. Congratulations to Anna

### Eclectic Competition

The Eclectic Competition adds up the best score on each hole during Saturday Stableford competitions. Nearing the finish line Wayne Powell's 62pts gives him a 1pt lead from Pat Maginness with three people a point behind - Paul Norton, Michael Lenkic and Belinda Anson.

### Match Play Competitions.

This year's Match Play competitions are reaching the pointy end. Ruth Branagh is this year's top performer having made the final of both the singles and pairs competitions. Ruth will have a busy October as she will play Club Captain Michael Kent in the singles final and together with John White will take on Linda Best and Sarah Adam-Gedge in the pairs final. Ruth and John knocked out defending champions Jason Rainbow and Tim Noonan(1up) whilst Linda and Sarah defeated George Andreetta and Craig Brenner (3 and 2) in the semi finals. Super veteran Stuart Low should also be congratulated for making the semis in the singles.

### John Pittard Singles Match Play

The quarter match results were:

Michael Kent def Ash Nugawela (2 and 1)	Bernie Bagley def Don Tasevski(2 <sup>nd</sup> playoff hole)
Stuart Low def Ross Gordon (3 and 1)	Ruth Branagh def John White 3 and 2

The semi final match results were:

Michael Kent def Bernie Bagley (6 and 4)	Ruth Branagh def Stuart Low (5 and 4)
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### Ian Fraser Pairs Match Play

The quarter final match results were:

Jason Rainbow/Tim Noonan def Paul McGarry/Colin Hunter (2 and 1)
John White/Ruth Branagh def Clayton and Cooper Ford (1 up)
Linda Best/Sarah Adam-Gedge def Jenni Clarke/Christine Nicholson (8 and 7)
George Andreetta/Craig Brenner def Glenda McDade/Andrew Bakker (1 up)

The semi final match results were:

John White/Ruth Branagh def Jason Rainbow/Tim Noonan(1 up)
Linda Best/Sarah Adam-Gedge def George Andreetta/Craig Brenner(3 and 2)



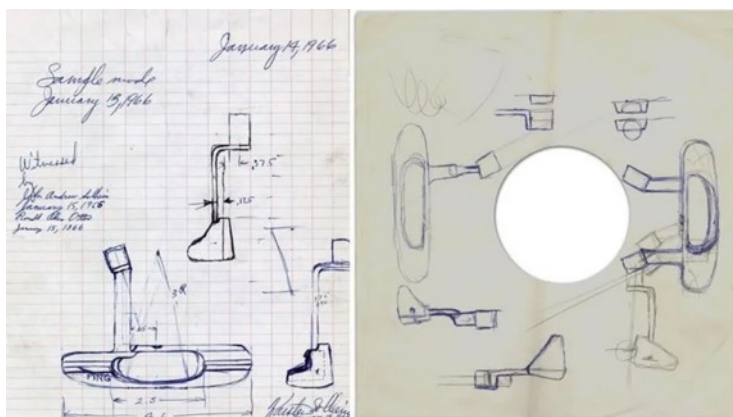
## Who are we?

We are Karsten and Louise Solheim. They are famous first for Karsten inventing the Ping putter and revolutionising golf club manufacturing and secondly for their support for the women's golf and in particular the team event that is named after them – the Solheim Cup.

Karsten Solheim was born in Bergen, Norway in 1911 and his family emigrated to the US in 1913. He trained as an engineer and was working for General Electric when he took up golf at the age of 42. Like quite a few of us he quickly realised that putting was going to be his downfall at the game. Unlike most of us he decided to tackle things from an engineering perspective. He played around with cubes of sugar and lollipop sticks and hit on the idea that instead of attaching the stick (i.e. shaft) to the heel of the cube (i.e. club head) things might work better if the stick was attached to the middle of the cube. After messing around in his garage, he produced a new type of putter. The ball made a distinctive sound when it hit the face, and a company name was born – Ping.



Solheim was making clubs as a hobby until a few years later (1966) he had a stroke of inspiration and came up with a new design and sketched it quickly on whatever was to hand – the sleeve of a vinyl LP as it turned out (see right). It featured an offset hosel that provided golfers a clean view of the face, and lines parallel to the face to help in squaring the putter to the ball. The innovations would gradually make it the most copied putter on the market.



Looking for a name Louise suggested he call it the Answer. Eventually the name was settled as the Ping Anser. It didn't really take off until a desperate Julius Boros grabbed one and won the Phoenix Open in 1967. Solheim quit GE and started making Ping clubs full time. In 1969 he produced irons based on similar principles of perimeter weighting and the rest is history.

## What to do with all the money?

The Solheim's became great benefactors of golf particularly ladies golf. They sponsored three tournaments a year and often (especially in the 70s and 80s) were left picking up the tab. In 1990 they were approached to sponsor a ladies version of the Ryder Cup for two years. It was Louise's suggestion that they should sponsor the event for ten years and the Solheim Cup was born. They went even further in their desire to provide the ladies game with more exposure when for the third edition they agreed to pay for the event to be televised. Reportedly this left them picking up the tab for about \$3.2m.

Karsten died in 2000 and has been inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame. Louise was a supporter of the Cup until she died (aged 99) in 2017. It is unlikely that the recent Solheim Cup won by the USA would have the same prominence and interest without the Solheim's contributions.



Sources: BBC Sport article by Peter Scrivener <https://www.bbc.com/sport/golf/articles/cz73xp4wpvqo> , Wikipedia

## Grow the game! I don't care how just grow the game!

Read any major golf organisations mission statement/goals/ strategies and you will find in one form or another an intent to “grow the game”.

Here's part of the R&A's vision statement:

“Above all, we want to inspire more people in more places to enjoy the many physical, mental and social benefits of golf more often.”

Golf Australia's strategy includes (amongst others) three statements: “to attract new golfers”; “to grow our core” and “to attract new fans and grow revenue.” Strategies tend to include programs to attract and retain more women and young people to play golf in all its forms.

Golf Australia's website contains many stories of successful initiatives and programs which usually follow fairly traditional approaches and target existing low participation groups such as women and young people. The back of the Sandy Golf Links scorecard is another example of golf management emphasizing the enjoyment of golf rather than the formality and competition side.

### Riding the coattails of Golf Content Creators

One of the more interesting aspects of the grow the game efforts is watching the traditionally stuffy golf authorities seeking to engage the burgeoning world of golf social media.

A prime example of this was on the Wednesday before the PGA Tour Championship the PGA hosted what they called the “Creator Classic”.

Sixteen golf content creators

competed on the back nine at East Lake. The tournament consisted of eight holes of gross stroke play, then a playoff between the top four finishers.

Not only did the PGA Tour allow the game to take place the day before their premier event of the year they also broadcast it live on their YouTube channel (fittingly!).

The response seemed to be positive with reportedly over 100,000 watching live at one stage.

It's no wonder the authorities see golf social media as an untapped resource to grow the game by creating bridges between fans of content creators into the more structured world of traditional golf. See next page for some numbers these creators can draw to their channels.

Of course, we at Sandy Golf Club have our own content creator and we are wondering where his invitation to compete in the classic was. Maybe next year Nick!

*Look out for Nick Hague's YouTube channel – the Way of the Helmet.*



## The World of Social Media Golf

*Caveat. No-one here in the Fairway News Editorial Offices claims to have expertise in social media. Heck we are still trying to refurbish our MySpace page. So be advised when considering the following discussion.*

The big players in the world of social media golf deliver a mix of serious golf business and golf entertainment. Most of the following concentrates on “content creators” on YouTube as did the selection process for the *Creator Classic*. Interestingly those creators that concentrate on golf instruction also did not make the cut. Danny Maude for instance (1.4m subscribers on YouTube) was not involved.

The OG of YouTube golf is usually considered to be English pro Rick Shiels(r) who provides a mixture of instruction, equipment reviews, golf industry news and commentary golf course vlogs and golf and golf adjacent challenges. Shiels has 2.89m YouTube subscribers as well as 836k on Instagram and 433k on TikTok.



Aside from the channels that feature seasoned pros or who focus on instruction (e.g. Me and My Golf 982k and Peter Finch 664k YouTube subscribers) the real rise in popularity has come from outside the normal industry paths.



Often young guys just filming themselves playing with their mates some of these channels have really found an audience. The *Good Good* channel founded by Garret Clark has 1.68m YouTube subscribers and 818k Instagram followers. Clark himself has a huge following on his own channel *gm\_golf* (1.2mYT, 974k Insta). His match with a *Good Good* alumni Grant Horvat had over 1m views in 24 hours.

All these eyeballs have attracted the interest of the PGA and the commercial golf world. Sponsorship deals, access to courses and having professional golfers on their channels have all followed once people saw the huge numbers involved. Jon Rahm has played on channel called *Bob Does Sports* (850k YT and 727k Insta) for instance. Bryson DeChambeau has his own channel which has surged in popularity in 2024 (1.5m YouTube subscribers) where he has shown another side of himself. His game with Donald Trump attracted more than 4m views in 24hrs. *No Laying Up* only has 163k YouTube subscribers but known for its mix of serious and lighthearted analysis of the professional game and high quality video offerings has had sponsorship from BMW, golf and leisure apparel companies and golf equipment manufacturers. Originally with Callaway they are now with Titleist, and you can see film of the members being fitted for new clubs. Nice work!

Whilst its mainly a male domain two female “creators” played in the *Classic*. Paige Spiranic who is a quality golfer but who’s looks have helped to drive people to her channels including 4m followers on Instagram. GabbyGirl Golf (r) (164k YT, 574k Insta) is only 16 and illustrates the fact that this is a young person’s game.



Not all the golf on these channels has to be great or even good. Part of the attraction is watching golfers at your own level hit bad shots and pull off the occasional miracle. The names of some channels provide the clue: *Not a Perfect Golfer*, *Breaking Eighty* and *The Average Golfer* for instance.

Fun and engaging are the key attributes of many of these channels and increasingly they are interacting with each other appearing on other’s channels and growing the interest that led the PGA and golf businesses to sit up and take notice.



## Victorian Golf League (VGL) Events

### What is the VGL?

The Victorian Golf League (VGL) is the parent body that represents Clubs that play on public golf courses. Established in 1932 the VGL organises and runs a calendar of events for both men and women that involves both team and individual competition. Part of the SGC member annual fee goes to supporting the operation of the VGL. Most members will know that Sandy enters three teams in the VGL Pennant autumn season (Scratch, Handicap and Seniors) and has recently had a team playing in the inaugural Mixed Pennant competition.

To assist members find and participate in VGL events, upcoming tournaments have been added to the Booking Page in 1Golf and on the Upcoming Events page on the club website.

### Process for members wishing to enter

Entry for VGL events is through the Event page on the VGL website – link from our own site. Sandringham Golf Club will reimburse the entry fee for any club member who participates in any posted VGL event. Simply make your booking, attend the event and email your receipt and results to our Treasurer for reimbursement. [Treasurer@SandringhamGolfClub.org.au](mailto:Treasurer@SandringhamGolfClub.org.au)

Remember to wear your club colours and let us know if you win or have a great time.

### Upcoming VGL Events

Event Date	Event Name	Entry Closing Date
21 October	Women's 4BBB Stableford	14 October
17 November	Men's Foursomes	9 November
17 November	Mixed Foursomes	9 November

All events are played at the Waverley Golf Course in Rowville.

## Holes in One - Tom Tomlin and Mark Smith

Tom Tomlin (r) has been hitting the greens recently with several NTP results and went one better on 6 September with an ace on the tricky 11th hole. In windy conditions under the close auspices of Colin Hunter and Danny Harrison, Tom took the ball to task with an 8 iron and declined the putter. This was Tom's second hole-in-one.

Mark Smith also came up trumps when he aced the 9th hole on 24 September. Sometimes it pays to play mid week! Well done Tom and Mark.

Tom's is the 5th hole-in-one on the 11th in SGC competitions since the new course opened making it the hole with the most aces. This is on the face of it a bit surprising given it is the longest Par 3 on the course. Next best is 16th with 4 holes-in-one. Holes 12 and 14 are yet to be aced. Mark's ace on the 9th made it the second on that hole and the 13th in total – as far as we know! It also makes 5 holes in one so far in 2024. There was only 2 in 2023.



## Pace of Play

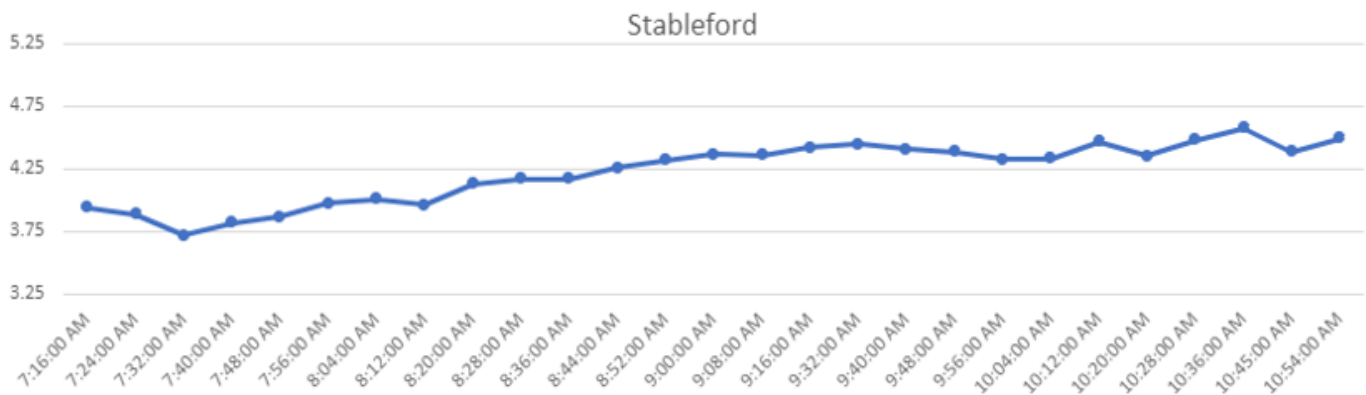
As members will have noticed, MiScore now provides a personalised statistic at the start of each competition round showing your typical time to complete a round and a ranking. For a short course like Sandringham, this should be around 4 hours, maybe less if you are in the morning groups.

Pace of play is often impacted by the competition format, with Stroke taking longer than Stableford or Par where a pickup is used.

Match play is slower as shots are taken in order of furthest distance and putts are taken with great care, although with matches sometimes finishing early the end of the round can be very quick. Probably not a surprise is Ambrose which is the slowest format of all.

At a recent pennant match at Waverley, the VGL and course management were not happy with the rounds taking up to 6 hours. Many players were not happy either. The graph below for Sandringham shows how this can occur with incremental time losses compounding as the day progresses. If players through the field do not make a conscious effort to catch up, then those at the tail end suffer with a cold reception back home when they are late for the BBQ.

Please make it a challenge over the coming months to keep the game moving and remind players to do their "personal admin" after they have taken their shot. A fast game is a good game.

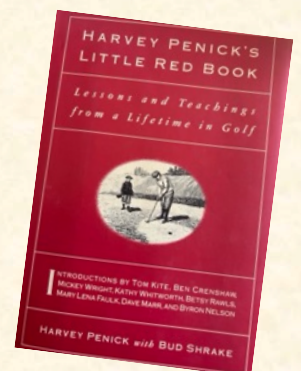


**Harvey Penick** was an American professional golfer and coach, who coached many Hall of Fame players including Tom Kite and Ben Crenshaw. Late in life, he became a best-selling writer. He is most famous for "*Harvey Pennick's Little Red Book*" which was his collection of anecdotes and tips that he developed over his long career. He was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2002, seven years after his death. Here's the first of two extracts:

"When I ask you to take an aspirin please don't take the whole bottle.

In the golf swing a tiny change can make a huge difference. The natural inclination is to overdo the tiny change that has bought success. So you exaggerate in an effort to improve even more and soon you are lost and confused again.

Lessons are not to take the place of practice but to make practice worthwhile."





## Bibs and Bobs

### Upcoming Australian Golf Season

As professional tours around the world either finish their season (US PGA, LIV) or get to their last few tournaments (LPGA and DP World Tour) our attention can turn to the upcoming Australian season. The first half of the 2023-2024 season is highlighted by the two Australian major events, which form part of the start of the DP World Tour's 2025 Race to Dubai – the Fortinet Australian PGA Championship at Royal Queensland Golf Club (November 23-26) and the ISPS Handa Australian Open for men and women (28 Nov to 1 Dec at Kingston Heath and Victoria Golf Clubs), as well as the Australian All Abilities Championship, at The Australian and The Lakes (November 30-December 3).

### Reminder SGC's Olympic Competition

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. The event will be played on 2,9 and 16 November.

### Plan for old Sandy Driving Range

Bayside Council has adopted a Master Plan for the old Sandringham Driving Range to create a new open parkland area that will support the health and growth of indigenous plant communities and native fauna and includes passive open space including garden beds, trees, walking trails and seating throughout the reserve. Active recreation activities such as running, group

fitness and kick-about are also considered in the design concept, with features including an open grassed area for informal play, fitness pods stationed around the lawn perimeter, a fenced off-leash dog area, and a play zone for younger people. Stay tuned if you are local.

### Changes to GolfLink Forthcoming

Later this year Golf Australia is retiring the GolfLink system and replacing it with a new handicapping club management, and membership platform called GolfConnect.

The change is expected to happen between 1 and 6 December.

As this is a back of house change it is not expected to greatly impact members. There will be some one-off actions at the time of the transition at the Club and potentially at the member level (i.e. refreshing or loading new apps) but the new system is expected to seamlessly support the continued operation of MiScore and 1Golf.

The term *GolfLink No* will be replaced by a *Golf ID* and there will be a new Golf Australia website.

Golf Australia has partnered with DotGolf to develop the system. DotGolf is a golf technology company half owned by Golf NZ and the R&A and the system is in use New Zealand and the UK. There is no cost to the Club or members.

### Answer to joke in the President's Column.

“The second telephone!”

## Important ballistics research at Sandy

An important scientific research project conducted its initial carefully controlled experiment on the 9<sup>th</sup> hole at Sandy Golf Links on 21 September. An anonymous member was a reluctant participant but, in the end, produced the goods in order to provide important and credible data.

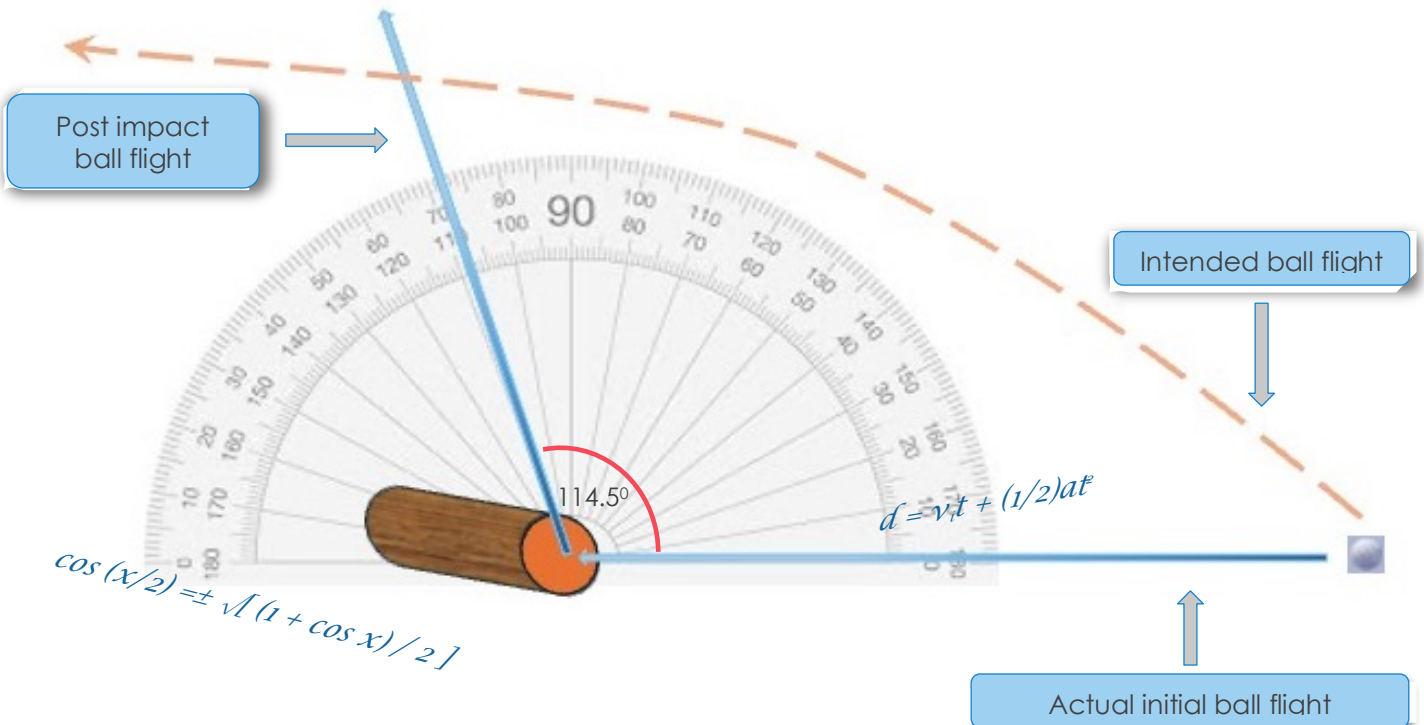
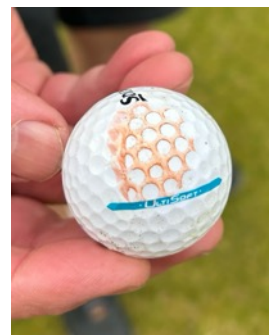
Playing from the Purple tees with the pin back left the usual approach is to loft the ball with the intention of landing on the front of the green and roll up towards the hole. There are many tried and true alternative approaches – trees on the right, bunker on the left, through the green or even missing left of the bunker. However, it is believed the approach under discussion here is the most difficult of all to pull off.

The ball left the club with considerable force and with an extremely low trajectory. (Note: the use of the word trajectory may be inappropriate here as it implies some height or curve to the shot neither of which was the case in this instance.)

The ball then hit the orange tee marker flush and naturally according to the laws of physics shot into the air. The lab coated boffins watching spontaneously gasped and broke into applause as they scanned their instruments to track the flight of the missile. There was time enough for the TV coverage to go to a short commercial for *BetYourLifeAway.com* and come back before the ball returned to terra firma landing near the A frame pointing the way to the toilet facilities.

Whilst the ball did not reach exit velocity or height (probably due to the low rebound coefficient of the local tee tree) the hang time was impressive.

Unfortunately, after no score was recorded the research program was discontinued as it is believed that the shot is not easily replicable. The picture(r) shows that at least it happened once!





## Club Competitions and Trophies

The Club Committee has made some changes to how members who win Club competitions will be recognised and rewarded. The major change will be for nearly all the Club's competitions (excluding the regular weekly competitions which will still receive cash vouchers) will be recognised with a cash voucher and an engraved Club Medallion. A limited number of major competitions will also receive trophies. These will be:

- Club Championships, Mens Open
- Club Championships, Womens Open
- Perpetual Founders' Trophy
- Southern Cross Cup

And everyone's personal favourite - for a Hole in one – an engraved ball holder.

The retired trophies will be put into storage and the winners of the events will be given an engraved medallion and their names recorded on an electronic honor board on the club website.

### Collection of 2024 Medallions

At the AGM on 12 November the winners of each event will be read out and medallions presented to those in attendance. If the member is not in attendance, then the medallions can be collected from the Pro Shop over the following weeks.

If for some reason you can't remember whether you have won anything this year(!) you can check here:

<https://www.sandringhamgolfclub.org.au/cms/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/2024-Trophy-Winners-1-1.pdf>

## How to lower your handicap by 5 strokes according to Harvey Penick

"If you want to see radical improvement in your game and cut off five strokes in a week or two, you must make a radical change in the way you practice," Penick said. "For two weeks devote 90 percent of your practice time to chipping and putting, and only 10 percent to the full swing. If you do this, your 95 will turn into 90. I guarantee it."



## 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)