

In this, the first newsletter for 2005, I would like to formally welcome Bruce Klue to the role of General Manager of our club. Bruce was been “thrown in the deep end” in an acting role when Rob McKnight moved on at the end of 2004. When the Club advertised for a replacement, Bruce lodged an application after what I must say was a fair measure of persuasion from myself and others. He was subsequently the successful candidate against a very good field of applicants because he possesses many of the qualities that the Board was looking for; honesty, integrity, leadership, a passion for the great game of golf and the ability to get on with people from all walks of life. Having recently sold his own business Bruce also has the commercial appreciation needed but will readily admit that he is on a steep learning curve with some of the finer points of computer technology and in reporting to a Board. Most of all we appreciate Bruce’s relationship building capability. Our staff, sponsors, contractors and club members will find him fair, firm, trustworthy and a regular good guy to deal with. The Board is committed to assisting Bruce into his new role and I ask that club members also do all they can to make him welcome. At last year’s Annual General Meeting, President Ron Edwards spoke briefly about the Board’s wish to improve the attractiveness of our two courses and the environment generally by attracting birdlife. There are a range of initiatives that we could undertake as a club to encourage birds (particularly native species) to make our course their home. Planting trees and shrubs that provide food and suitable shelter and discouraging/eliminating predators are the most obvious activities. Perhaps in addition to club members and staff we can involve environmental groups and school children in this project. I would like to form a small group of club members who would be interested in helping our Club with this project, and would appreciate a call from anyone who would like to volunteer their time, knowledge and enthusiasm. We have all played on courses where birdlife abounds and it certainly adds another dimension to the golfing experience (I don’t mean magpies!). Call me please if you would like to help out in any way. (Phone 3773190). Finally I wish everyone good golfing for the 2005 year. Best wishes to all club representative teams and I hope that everyone continues to enjoy the Taupo Golf Club experience.

Dennis Allan, Chairman

March Already – where has the year gone?? They say that time passes exponentially faster the older you get – what do you think? After a pretty scratchy start to our Summer with poor weather over November/December we have really had a top last 3 months. I cannot recall ever seeing both of our courses as good for so long over summer. What a great start to the year as well – Once again our hosting of the Under 23’s in January got us started and was produced right up to the very high standard we have set for ourselves over the years. My thanks to all those involved especially Charley Beagle our Men’s Players Committee Captain who led the organizing committee. The future of this event with the Club was reviewed in February with in conjunction with NZ Golf. The review took into account all the costs associated with running the event, the support we get from NZ Golf, the inconvenience to members activities, the promotional opportunities available to the Club and the workload required from Club Staff. I am delighted that the outcome of this timely review is a recommendation that subject to some additional input from NZ Golf we will continue to host this event for a further 5 years. An Event like NZ Under 23’s is important for the Club in maintaining its profile as a premier golfing destination and being at the forefront of golf in NZ. Also in January we held the Harcourt’s Open Tournament – this year attracting a field of around 284 players which is the best we have had for a number of years. This is a credit to the efforts of our Golf Manager and Players Committees who worked very hard to ensure a good prize table, a good formula and a good event. The season proper was once again heralded in with our Opening Day on 12th February and a good turnout coupled with a great day is hopefully a pre-cursor to a successful year. Congratulations to all our members involved with Pennants this year. As I write the Junior and Intermediate Men’s Team both won their Zone but came up just short in the finals in some (apparently) thrilling matches which went all the way (even if they really shouldn’t have). The Championship team need to win at home on the weekend of 10th April to retain their place in the Group – how about we get some support out there for them and the Senior B team plays at Kawerau on 3rd April needing a convincing win against the Competition leaders to progress to the finals. Good luck to them. Finally congratulations to the Ladies for their organization of the Twin Classic Tournament held earlier in March. In what turned out to be a very popular format we saw a full field compete and popular winners in Sue McCallum, Bar Hoadley, Tina Todd and Mary Weston emerge as the Titleholders for 2005. I am sure we will see this competition back on the programme next year. I would like to formally acknowledge the work done by our Vets on the First and Fifteenth Tees on Tauhara. What a fantastic job – well done – and a continuation of the efforts of this section of the Club in enhancing the Golf experience on the Tauhara Course. Thank you gentlemen for a job well done. With the full playing programme now underway it remains only for me to wish everyone involved all the best for coming season I hope you all enjoy the continued improvements to our courses and the facilities of the best Club in New Zealand. *Ron Edwards, President*

News from the Course

Well its hard to believe we are into the month of March, this of course means the consistently hot days are behind us, while we can still expect the odd warm day, the days are going to get cooler & for the next couple of months we are going to experience more comfortable golfing conditions.

This also brings about for us a very busy time with the programmed renovation of the greens on both Centennial & Tauhara as well as trying to fit in renovations on the tees.

Starting the week of March 7 the centennial greens & immediate surrounds will be cored & sanded, once the major sanding has been worked in to the core holes we will then run the groover through with 3mm tungsten tip blades to remove more thatch from the surface, this will be blown off & followed up with a final light sand topdressing & a final brushing. The greens will then be fertilised & kept damp for a period of a week or to allow the greens to recover.

This process will take place on both courses with the Tauhara greens being done the week of April 4. Each course will be closed for that entire week as it allows us to get on with the coring without interruptions, it also allows us to complete other work that may be planned for that week including tree removal, fairway spraying to name a few. Work that is deemed to be hazardous should golfers be in the area. I can hear the cries of dismay from here, the greens were just coming right & you're going to rip them up again. This is true but the timing of the renovations has to be right so that conditions are ideal for recovery, often this coincides with the ideal times to play golf & this can't be helped. Its no point undertaking this work in the middle of summer or winter for obvious reasons.

In between times we will be renovating the tees as well, they will all be vertidraind & the groover put through them as well, this will be followed up with a sand topdressing & fertiliser. This does not require the course to be closed as we will be fitting this in with our normal weekly programme & it is easier to work from where the play starts not where it finishes, we will hopefully complete up to 9 holes worth of tees a week so I expect this to take at least 4 weeks.

As part of the winter programme we will be using the slicer on the fairways on both courses as many times as we can. This will be disruptive to you the golfers from a visual point of view as well as the odd hole & divot from where the blades have pulled the turf out. Unfortunately this process is necessary to enable moisture to drain away from the surface.

We have very free draining soils here in Taupo as you know but there is no point if water movement in to the soil is slowed because the surface is either compacted or the turf cover is to dense to allow water to get away. These practises are all part of having irrigated turf & need to be done for the longevity of the turf surface.

Other work planned for the winter include a lot of work on the paths, these are in such bad repair that what work we have done on them has done little in the way of rectifying the problems all it has served to do is shift the loose pumice back up onto the path so it can be washed back off again. I have taken advice from a club member who works with DOC & manages all their pumice tracks for them, he has given me some sound advice which we will be putting into practise. Most of it involves getting pumice dumped on the tracks & shaped the right way to shed water. The same can be said for the water that runs onto the tracks from further afield, this needs to be diverted before it gets to the paths to prevent most of the problems cause by the running water.

Other work planned includes a major pruning of all trees on both courses to tidy them up & to allow easier access for mowers to get around the trees. This is not done to make the game easier as I don't believe anybody should be entitled to a full swing when under a tree, they should however be able to get at least a half swing & progress the ball down the fairway.

Over the last few months we have prepared both courses for various successful tournaments including the Under 23's teams event & the Harcourt sponsored tournament. We have always endeavoured to present the courses in the best possible condition but this has not always been possible due to a number of factors which include machinery & staff numbers.

We do appreciate the support shown as we work to improve both golf courses for you enjoyment.

Good luck to all those in the club pennant teams & to those entering tournaments outside the Taupo Golf Club.

Good golfing everybody

Brett Burgess

Course Manager

**Good luck Brett & Karen
with your move to Hutt
Golf Club. Thanks for
what you have done for
Taupo Golf Club**

From Bruce Klue

Welcome to the new golfing year. This report is certainly a first for me.

After 30 years as a meat purveyor sitting in front of a computer all day is about as radical change as you could get! In my new capacity as your General Manager I will endeavour to be upfront and approachable to all members.

As incoming GM I have been helped tremendously by Grant ,Brett ,Natalie and Ginny.

All members of our Board are also only to willing to give any assistance required. As I am only allowed to ask any of them the same question three times I might be approaching some of you soon.

My golf has suffered with not much playing time of late. The form is reminiscent of my old profession, lots of slicing, interspersed with a little chopping and hacking!!

I must say that I have been made most welcome by all our members. Some of you I had not met before, but most I have either played golf with over the last 23 years, or have certainly seen at golf, or in my former shop, Export Meat Warehouse, or Klues Butchery as it was previously known.

Brett Burgess, our Course manager, is moving on. Brett has accepted an offer from Hutt City Golf Club, and will finish here at the end of the month. We wish him, and his family, all the best for the future.

With the start of the year upon us I think we should remember those who have passed away during the interim, and those of us that are for various reasons not able to play this great game any longer. Have a terrific golfing year .

**Bruce Klue,
General Manager.**

From the Women ...

- The 2005 season is well underway with large numbers turning out on their respective playing days.
- The courses have been well set up and in great condition, many thanks to Brett and his team.
- This year we have three of our members holding executive positions, they are:
 - Patsy Hankins, Chair of Woman's Golf New Zealand.
 - Chris Pritt, BOP-TV Woman's Golf Southern Zone II Executive member.
 - Lesley Hosking, Board member Taupo Golf Club.
- Success starts early, congratulations too;
 - Tammy Clelland who has gained a three year scholarship at Toledo, Ohio starting in August.
 - Barbara Jensen for her Hole in one on Tauhara Number 6 (Barbara's 4th hole in one).
- The Starters would appreciate it if you would get your discs in early.
- Don't miss out PLEASE read the notice board.

Carolyn Newth

Womens Captain

Veteran Men

The veteran men continue their weekly events with up to 100 members being present. Since the last newsletter the Society was successful in winning the Moawhanga Shield which is competed for by the Central Plateau clubs over four interclub meetings. An excellent result for Taupo Golf Club.

During the present season success was gained at the first interclub event with Taupo regaining the "Little Man Trophy". This is a hotly contested competition which creates a great deal of interest when competed for at the monthly meetings. The next Interclub is at Taumararui & I would urge those eligible to become a "Vet" & join us in these fixtures. You will be most welcome & it will only cost you \$5 to become a member with pleasant games with some interesting characters assured.

At the recent Annual General Meeting Keith Bretherton was re-appointed as President, with Alan Hughson Treasurer & John Ranson Secretary. New Members elected to the committee were Ian Styles, Ron Palmer & John Chrystall.

Tributes were paid to retiring members Doug Stirling, Brent Player & Ryland Johnston.

Foe those who may be unaware improvements at the Number 1 & 15 tees on the Tauhara course during 2004 were made with funds supplied by the society. Further improvements are proposed to be funded this year.

Until the next newsletter enjoy your golf & look after the facilities provided by the club.

Doug Stirling

From the Pro

Firstly I would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to introduce themselves to me .It is a daunting task trying to remember all your names, but I'm getting there slowly.

It has been a busy and exciting time over the last 6 months, which I could not have survived without my two valuable staff members, Chris Pritt and James Funnell (little James!). Thank-you both of you for all the hard work you have done for me, and helping service green fee players for the club. On the retail front, setting up in the new expanded shop has enabled us to stock a broad range of products for you, but no shop is big enough to stock all the brands on the market. We have access to every brand through a buying group, so not only can we get anything you require, we will be able to beat any written price quoted. All we ask for is the opportunity to quote for any equipment you require. We also custom fit all sets purchased through us FREE. On the coaching side, I am happy to here so many success stories. For those of you who are still struggling along, you will be amazed what the video & the computer analysis can do for your game. It is not about being told what to do, it is about understanding what you do, why you do it, & most importantly how to fix it! We are collecting email addresses so we can keep in touch with you for any specials, up coming fixtures or events like demo days etc. If you wish to be on our list please drop your name & email address in to us at the pro shop. The Proshop is the first point of contact for most golfers, we enjoy you saying hello & hope we can be of some assistance to you in the future. Good golfing this season.

James Morgan

Professional & Good Guy

Grants Gos ... The official club programme is now well underway and all committees are working hard to provide a great golfing experience for all.

Golfer of the Year—After the success of last year's event, we will again be running this for the Men. This trophy recognises the most consistent and dedicated golfers in the Club and is something we should all strive to win. For those that are not aware of how it works, each event on the calendar is allocated points and quite simply the player with the most points at the end of the season is named "Player of the Year".

These points will also be used to determine the top 5 men to play in the Lions of Taupo Charity Skins event in December.

Saturday Start sheet—The Men have introduced an extended timeframe for entering Saturday's competition this year. This year's options:

Enter **in person** on the start sheet posted in the Men's locker room from Wednesday. Phone the office on Saturday.

Some future major events to note:

- Green Jersey Day - April 11th – watch the final round of The Masters over breakfast and then play for the inaugural "Green Jersey" on the Centennial Course. Open to all Men & Women with NZGA handicaps – visitors welcome.
- Holden Scramble Qualifying - Sunday May 1st
- New Zealand Hartball Champ's - Queens Birthday Weekend – June 4 & 5

Charley's Chatter Time has come for the 2005 season of golf to start, hopefully everybody enjoyed their breaks over the Christmas and New Year. A new committee has been formed this year and we welcome George Lasker, Michael Keehan and John Davis to the team. For those of you who are inspired by your handicap Laurie Hema has stepped into the shoes of Vic Stone to take on the role as Men's Handicapper. So any queries regarding your handicap should be forwarded to Laurie. The Match committee convenor is Mark Tito and assisting him will be Michael Keehan and Colin Ridge.

Tournaments Over the past month we have seen two tournaments held on our Centennial course both of which have been praised for the course appearance and to the number of volunteers who have spared their valuable spare time to assist these events. Congratulations must first go to the Waikato U23 team for winning the NZ U23 Team Championship where our local representative side Bay of Plenty came in Third behind Queensland. As for the Harcourt's tournament recently held over the Auckland anniversary weekend, congratulations to all the winners of their respective divisions.

Pennants Looking ahead to the men's program the pennant season is now under way, George Lasker and Daryl Morris have been appointed selectors for the 2005 season. The Montana team consisting of Jason McIntosh, Jonathon Huntley, Michael Keehan and George Lasker recently represented the club at the Montana Classic held at Ohope. The team performed well and ended the 36-hole tournament in 5th Place. The Championship, Senior B, Intermediate and Junior teams are now into their respective competitions and we wish them all well in pursuing to become this year's winners.

Saturday Golf The committee over the past twelve months has been working towards making Saturday golf more enjoyable to all players, so if any of you have ideas of ways to improve Saturday golf more please talk to one of the committee members. For those members that would like to play on Saturday you can now book your tee off times in advance from Wednesday afternoon, please ensure when you book your tee off time that you are at the club ready to play well in advance of your time. This will be monitored by the match committee and if some members are regularly not turning up to their respective tee off times they will be exempt from this privilege.

Safety Just a quick note, recently one of the greens staff was hit with a golf ball while operating machinery, please ensure when you are out and about enjoying your game please give way to the greens staff as they are not targets. As you are all aware these staff members work hard to keep both courses up to the standard that we expect as players.

Charley Beagle, Mens Captain

DON'T FORGET—SOFT SPIKES ONLY





Inaugural “Green Jersey Day” in association with the US Masters

Monday 11 April

Celebrate the best major golf event of the year with us.

**Who will win the coveted Green Jacket?
More importantly - who will win Taupo’s first
“Green Jersey”?**

Join us for a champagne breakfast from 7.30am in the Golf Club lounge while you watch the closing stages of the US Masters. Then play in the “Green Jersey” tournament on the Centennial Course.

Open to Men & Women \$20 entry or \$10 for breakfast option only

**Book your spot with the team at the
Taupo Proshop**

Phil Mickelson - winner of the 2004 Masters



Harcourts Classic Over Saturday and Sunday of Auckland Anniversary weekend, the Club hosted the annual Harcourt's Classic. This 36-hole strokeplay event saw 278 golfers from over 50 clubs taking part and enjoying both the Tauhara and Centennial courses. Local Bay of Plenty representative player Jason McIntosh defended his crown to take out the Men's event, while 2004 Club Strokeplay and Matchplay champion Janine Carroll took out the ladies title. McIntosh was disappointed with his first round 73 to be one shot off the pace set by previous champion Blair Murdock and Michael Sheargold on even par. Sunday's round was a better performance from Jason, his 70 comprising 6 birdies but also a double bogey and two bogeys. Joint overnight leader Murdock provided another solid round of 72, while fellow joint leader Sheargold fell off the pace. Jason played in the NZ open qualifying event the day before the Harcourt's Classic shooting a 76 which unfortunately was not sufficient to make the next round of qualifying. In the Women's event, Janine Carroll produced her best form since making a return to competitive golf at the Club last year to upset the favoured NZ Women's Development Squad player Tammy Clelland. Carroll shot a 3 over the card 76 both days to take the title by one shot from Manawatu's Sarah Vining and Tammy Clelland.

Full 36 hole prize winners:

WOMENS BRONZE DIVISION:

STABLEFORD RUNNERUP	Judith Lawton	Taupo
STABLEFORD WINNER	Jeanette Fox	Hukanui
NETT RUNNERUP	Margaret Stephens	Feilding
NETT WINNER	Noeline Sisson	Western Bay
GROSS RUNNERUP	Annette Smith	Whangaparoa
BRONZE GROSS WINNER	Betty Stephens	Marton

GROUP 5 MEN:

STABLEFORD RUNNERUP	Norm Frazer	Helensville
STABLEFORD WINNER	Wayne Cosgrave	Waikare
NETT RUNNERUP	Graeme Hartnell	Marton
NETT WINNER	Jim De La Haye	Otaki
GROSS RUNNERUP	Alan Garmey	Taupo
GROSS WINNER	Russell Wineera	Taupo

GROUP 4 MEN:

STABLEFORD RUNNERUP	John Rameka Taupo	
STABLEFORD WINNER	Jim Boyd	Lochiel
NETT RUNNERUP	Jim Taylor	Taupo
NETT WINNER	Ian Tapa	Taupo
GROSS RUNNERUP	Ian Styles	Taupo
GROSS WINNER	Bevan Scott	Helensville

GROUP 3 MEN:

STABLEFORD RUNNERUP	David Lomas	Taupo
STABLEFORD WINNER	Roy Plummer	Warkworth
NETT RUNNERUP	Ken Wolfe	Taupo
NETT WINNER	Mike Wattam	Waikanae
GROSS RUNNERUP	Charles Lee	Titirangi
GROSS WINNER	Brian Mason	Taupo

GROUP 2 MEN:

STABLEFORD RUNNERUP	Terry Lomas	Taupo
STABLEFORD WINNER	Murray Newbold	Turangi
NETT RUNNERUP	Laurie Stephens	Taupo
NETT WINNER	Bruce Young	Taupo
GROSS RUNNERUP	Richard Wharton	Turangi
GROSS WINNER	Marcus Barron	Taupo

WOMENS SILVER DIVISION:

STABLEFORD RUNNERUP	Rae Cullen	Taupo
STABLEFORD WINNER	Chris Gillett	Taupo
NETT RUNNERUP	Ann Brodie	Canada
NETT WINNER	Gabrielle Pettit	Taupo
GROSS RUNNERUP	Sarah Vining	Manawatu
GROSS WINNER	Janine Carroll	Taupo

MEN'S GROUP 1:

STABLEFORD RUNNERUP	Alan Richardson	Taupo
STABLEFORD WINNER	Ron Edwards	Taupo
NETT RUNNERUP	Alex Davey	Taupo
NETT WINNER	Phil Davis	Taupo
GROSS RUNNERUP	Blair Murdock	Tauranga
GROSS WINNER	Jason McIntosh	Taupo



**Harcourts Classic
Winners**

Janine Carroll & Jason
McIntosh both from
Taupo—WELL DONE

**National
HartBall Championship**

At Taupo Golf Club

**Queens Birthday Weekend
Sat/Sun June 4th & 5th**

In association with



Enter a 4 person team, limited to first 30 paid team entries

Entry Fee of \$50 pp includes on course food, drinks break, Mid Winter Xmas Dinner & Entertainment on Sunday night, and Team 2's both days.

For further information please contact Golf Manager Grant Hill at the Proshop