

One question I get asked all the time is "how can I hit the ball further?" Well this summer has been perfect for the long game. Warm temperatures and hard ground have been ideal to get that extra 10-20 metres. Unfortunately with the colder air, damp ground and colder body muscles, distance will disappear.

Warming up correctly is important if you are serious about your game. Doing golf specific stretches will ready your muscles for the violent act of hitting a golf ball.

Then there is your swing. It will be completely different from summer to winter. More clothes, cold muscles, all contribute to less movement which again restricts distance.

Try using the bigger muscles, in your chest, stomach, and back. Rotate your sternum around your spine moving your shoulders and arms at the same time, allow your wrists to hinge on the way back then when you feel tightness stop your back swing, finally let your body uncoil on the downswing.

Unless you want to spend hours in the gym working out remember winter is a lot harder on your body than summer, and as you get older the power source in your swing, the muscles, get stiffer, but you already know that! So be realistic with your goals.

On the retail front our winter range is arriving daily. Remember to wear layers that are easily removed as the temperature does vary hugely from the start of your round to the finish.

James Funnell is off to Ireland again for six months, we wish him well and hope he returns in November refreshed and ready for another great summer. Whilst he is sunning himself I still have my dynamic duo of Patrick and Chris helping us all through to the next summer.

Good golfing stay warm.

*James Morgan*

PRO SHOP NEWS

Deacons Retravision Twilight golf concluded for the summer this month. Numbers were down on last year and a review team will be looking at options to revitalize this competition for 2008/2009.

Season prize winners in the team's event were the Mixed Breed team, pushing pre-xmas winners The West Green into the runner-up position. The victorious team were Jason McIntosh, Mike Messenger, Russell Wineera, Doug Simmonds and Daryl Morris. In the individual season competition, Belinda Prater was the clear women's winner from Joanne Thatcher after some excellent early season play. The men's winner was Brendon Weston, just edging out Mike Messenger and John Matthews.



2008 already under way, we have had our Open Day and I must say from my point of view it felt like the first day at school (if I could even remember that far back). I was very excited and somewhat nervous.

I would like to thank all the ladies that have been so encouraging and have offered their help for this coming year. I am also grateful that the committee has mostly remained the same and am pleased to have "the young ones" on board and looking for work. At this time I would like to thank Mary Plummer for stepping in as Vice Captain, I know she is going to be a great help to me, and in turn to you as members, she is an "on to it" lady.

There is a small change to this year starting days, please note Disc's to be in by 9a.m. so hopefully we can be out there ready to start by 9.15a.m. It would also be great if the majority of players could stay for prizegiving. It is always nice to be cheered or heckled by the unlucky one's and bear in mind you may be the winner next week.

The Harcourts Tournament when off very well and we have

had mixed comments about the silver women playing the Centennial course and this will be discussed and may be changed or altered by 2009. We were very lucky to have good weather and the courses are in good condition considering this lovely hot summer we have been having. Coming up is the Twin Classics on the 27th and 28th Feb. there is a full house for this once again and already a waiting list, so should be a good tournament once again.

In closing your committee is always there to help and if we don't have an immediate answer to a problem we will find out and get back to you a.s.a.p. Please do not stew or grumble, come and talk to us.

Here's wishing everyone good golfing and good friendship for 2008.

*Dioienne (Dio) Nyssen*  
Women's Captain.

WOMENS' GOLF

Welcome to all new and current men Golfers to the 2008 season here at the Taupo Golf Club, a very special welcome back to Jim Clelland, good to see you making progress on the road to recovery.

We have a new look men's committee this year, Neil Hickman (Mel Gibson "stand-in") and Ron Forbes (back from unforced "break") along with Russell Wineera, Jason McIntosh, George Lasker, Bryce Cutler and Dick Fraser (Vice Captain). The committee will be working hard again, along with the office staff to make our weekend events run smooth and efficient.

A couple of months into the new season and it's full on.

- Pennants in all grades have been competing since the middle of February. A number of our Junior players are spread across all grades.
  - The fate of the Championship Team will go down to the wire, their last game (must win convincingly to stay in that grade).
  - The Senior A Team have completed their completion. They came last but had some close games
  - The Senior B Team are holding their own with 2 more rounds to go
  - The Intermediate Team is near the top of their grade, my expectation is they should win Murray?
  - The Junior Team continue to perform well year after year and should go close to winning this division again
- Two rounds of our premier men's doubles event have brought a number of surprises, none more then two of our top players been beaten in the first round, but bounced back to win their second round (plate)
- The golf courses are in great condition, especially given the summer we've had (irrigation pays dividends)
- Keep checking the program for events coming up, also make sure your matches are completed by the due date

There seems to be a trend across the Country, where the number people joining Golf Clubs are declining. We discussed this issue as a committee

- How well do we make new members welcomed
- Do we invite people we know to play golf, eventually join – (See Bruce for an introductory round)
- What could we do better? Submit your ideas to the office.

I've seen and been part of this slogan in the past "Each one Invite one", food for thought, have a challenging and super year.

Men's Captain

*Mark Tito* (9/7)

SUMMER AMBROSE

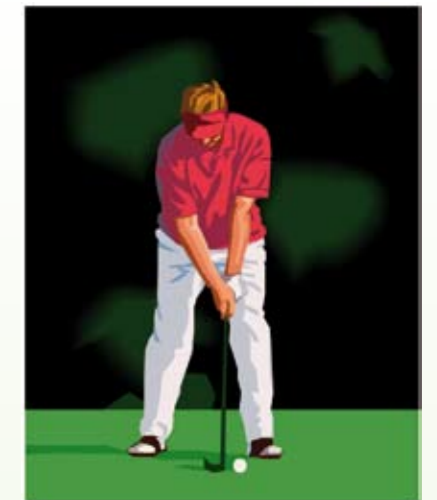
The highly successful and popular "4 Seasons Home & Leisure Summer Ambrose" was held February/March with four weeks of competition on each of our four nine hole courses. It was a very tight competition played in tremendous spirits, with some teams probably needing to lay off the spirits next time!

Going into the final round Chris Smiths "4 Lost Dogs" had a reasonable lead, but someone suggested it may have been a choker chain, as their previous form went astray but they did finish a creditable 3rd.

Coming through the pack were the defending champions "Ray White" with top dog Craig Orr. They were in 3rd place after three rounds and ready to pounce on the Lost Dogs which they did with their best round of the event to win by one stroke over the Masurel Directs "Sheep Shitters" lead by Brent McKay. George Gamblin was the lucky recipient

of a 9 hole membership for which all non-members in the event were eligible.

Bill and Carolyn Nickelsen capped off an excellent sponsorship from 4 Seasons Home & Leisure by forfeiting their teams 4th place prize to allow the next place team some of the spoils.



MARK'S "SENSE"