



Taupo Golf Club Inc. 32 Centennial Drive, P.O. Box 224 Taupo New Zealand.
Telephone: 07 378 6933, Facsimile: 07 378 6932, E-mail: playgolf@taupogolf.co.nz Web: www.taupogolf.co.nz

*Profile: Stuart McKinlay
Position: Board Chairman*

It's fair to say Stuart has taken the challenge of leading the Club through these times head on! So who is this man leading the Club? We thought we would find out a little more about him on your behalf.

Stuart entered the world as a Manawatu supporter a few years back (circa 1943) in Palmerston North. His lovely wife Ivy has put up with him for 43 years, and they have one son, two married daughters and two grandsons.

He gained a Bachelor of Engineering from University of Canterbury before starting a career in the forest products industry by joining NZ Forest Products, Tokoroa in 1966.

He did an 8 year stint with British Columbia Forest Products in Canada and returned to New Zealand in 1981 to join Tasman Pulp and Paper. From 1984 until retiring from full time work in 2004 he worked for Pan Pac Forest Products, a company that was initially a joint venture between the Carter's of Carter Holt Harvey and two large Japanese pulp and Paper companies. For the last 12 years of the 20 years he worked for Pan Pac, and coinciding with the Company becoming 100% Japanese owned, he was Managing Director of the Company.

Apart from the occasional round before retirement from full time work, I think it is fair to say he started working on this challenging game when he joined the Taupo Club 3 years ago. His golfing career highlight to date is scoring an 86 on Centennial this year.

When not on the golf course Stuart enjoys Gardening, Bridge, Reading and generally enjoying life here in Taupo.

We put a few questions to Stuart, we hope this gives you an insight into the Chairman's role and the man in the hot seat.....

So what are the responsibilities of Chairman?

Unlike the President who is elected by the membership at large to represent the Club, the Chairman is elected by the Board Members to chair meetings of the Board, and provide the link between the Board and the Manager of the Club. As I see it the



responsibilities of the Chairman are mostly related to the business affairs of the Club. This requires effective Board meetings drawing on the collective wisdom of the Board Members to set the direction and monitor overall performance of the Club. The most important decision for any Board is the appointment of the Chief Executive, in our case the Golf Club Manager. The day to day management of the Club, which the Board retains responsibility for, is delegated to the Manager and his team. It is imperative that a good relationship exists between the Board and the Manager for this delegation of authority to work effectively. In my view the Taupo Golf Club is fortunate to have Grant Hill in this position, a very capable Manager who understands his role, who enjoys a very good relationship the Board and is introducing constructive ideas to benefit the club and its members.

What gives you a buzz in your role?

Seeing people respond to challenges in a way that exceeds my original expectation.

What do you think are the Clubs strengths and weaknesses?

I think having two 18 hole courses is a great asset. Visitors and members alike can gain easy access to one or other course with relative ease. The cost of maintaining both courses in good shape on the other hand is not easy. The Club does need to review and decide on how the two courses should be differentiated and then market them accordingly

What is your vision or the Club?

To develop the full potential of both courses with the greater involvement of members so as to attract substantially increased visitor numbers and visitor income.

Thank you Stuart for your contribution to the Club to date and for providing this insight.

Grant Hill.



Taupo Golf Club NEWSLETTER



ISSUE No. 23 June 2009

THE CHAIRMAN'S PERSPECTIVE

A lot of changes have been made over the last few months to improve the management and financial position of the Club.

These changes were essential.

The increasing level of debt over recent years had to be brought to an abrupt halt. The amount owing to the BNZ was bad enough, but worse in my view, was the increased indebtedness to other parties buried in the Clubs' accounts.

The imposition of a \$250 levy on members was regrettable, but the cash was desperately needed this financial year to extinguish debt. Thank you for your understanding and a huge thank you to those who have made voluntary donations.

The take-up of Debentures, which Colin Ridge comments on in this newsletter is very encouraging.

Provided membership numbers do not drop off any further, and I sincerely hope they don't, there should be no need to call on members again in the foreseeable future, to bail out the Club.

The Board's focus will now shift to next year's budget. Total cash

outgoings next year must fall within the total projected cash income. Nothing less will be acceptable.

The restructuring that has taken place over recent months will not only reduce future cash outgoings, but will also introduce efficiencies and accountabilities which will be of immense value to the Club going forward. The appointment of Grant Hill to drive the management changes was in my view the most important and best decision the Board has made.

The increased involvement of members under Eddie Hawke's guidance assisting Gordon Ward and his revitalised team to upgrade both courses, is achieving outstanding results.

I believe a turnaround has been achieved which will now pave the way for a much stronger Club in every sense of the word.

Stuart McKinlay
Chairman of the Board

Staff profile:

Linda Cooper, Golf Administrator

Linda came to Taupo from Auckland in 1991 and has family wide spread around the world in Ireland, Canada & New Plymouth. She has a varied background with education including a BSc, Dip Pers Man & a Certificate in Massage (if only she could massage her own shoulders after a tough day at the office!).



She joined the Club in November 2005 having previously worked for Accounting firm Beker Findlay Allen and prior to that GM at NZ Aerial Mapping. Asked to provide her golfing profile, she gave us.....

Golfing profile: | <-- looking sideways (very slim)

Her job responsibilities are administering the Clubs' facilities while making the Players time here at the golf club as pleasant as possible. She enjoys the person to person interaction in her role and dealing with the technical stuff.

3 key questions:

What disappoints you most in your job?:
Having to pick up cigarette butts dropped outside the Clubhouse

What do you think are the Clubs strengths?:
Its location here in Taupo and its assets :
Two good courses, the Clubhouse and the Members.

What would you like to see improved at the club?:
The weather for weekend events



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PRESIDENT'S PIECE

It would be fair to say, that the past six months has seen a level of activity within the Club that for a variety of reasons has greatly assisted your Board and the Club Management Team in planning the future direction of your Club.

Yes there has been the need for three Special General Meetings, a Membership Survey, an in-depth review of the Club Rules and the imposition of a one off levy and while singularly or collectively these matters have resulted in wide ranging discussion, which is good, at times it is necessary for decisions to be made which impact on each of us individually and while we may not totally agree with the outcome, of importance is the need to accept the result and move on and from the information that I am seeing and hearing, this is what in fact is happening within our Club. When you read and listen to what is happening generally within golf within New Zealand, many other Clubs' are facing similar or even more difficult challenges, but I am of the view that we have the structure, product and of course the people to overcome the issues that we have faced in recent months.

On another positive note there are a number of initiatives happening, which tells me that members are getting behind the Club and making things happen and list the following as a sample of the work that is being undertaken by key people from within the Club:

- the excellent work being undertaken by Board Chairman, Stuart McKinlay – Stuart brings to his role a sound business background that has been put to good use in set our future direction, during what has been a challenging time for the Club and during which key management changes have taken place

- the voluntary work that Eddie Hawke is undertaking in helping to lift the presentation of both courses, which has also involved a number of members assisting with the recent coring work.

- the work being done by the Project Birdlife Team – I am sure

you will agree that once the area adjacent to the 3rd and 4th holes on Tauhara becomes established, this is exactly our vision for the ongoing beautification of both courses.

From a golfing perspective, it was a pleasure to participate in the "Helicopter Event" held recently and my sincere thanks go to Jim Clelland and his team of helpers – wife Helen, Patrick Moore, Doug Scott, plus those members who gave up their time to assist on the course during the day. In addition the Club received good media coverage both in the weeks leading up to the event and again in the print media during this past week.

My thanks also to Warren Cholmondeley-Smith – many of you will perhaps not be aware but Warren has been instrumental in sourcing a shed that he has since erected within the green keeping compound, which will be utilised for the storage of machinery – this was achieved at no cost to the club, and again another example of a willingness to help the club.

Finally, some members may or may not have noticed two new initiatives that are currently on show within the foyer of the Clubhouse:

- the first being a result of the Boards desire to increase the level of communication to members and to this end a "Board Notice Board" has been created to make important material available to the wider membership and hopefully keep you better informed and

- secondly, through the work of Eddie Hawke and Colin Ridge, a "Debenture Barometer" has been created, which as of 10 June stood at a little over \$125,000 – a good start and something that as a Club we want to build upon, so if you are thinking of helping in this worthwhile initiative, talk to Grant and the Team within the office and they will be able to provide you with the relative information and application forms.

Ernie Oxnam
President

Mens' Veterans Report

After a couple of years of decline the Veteran golfers seem to be picking up with new members joining, as we have a constant number of players turning up each week to enjoy the game. It is really the companionship, the uncertainty of who you will play with on the day, with a good result of your own game being a bonus, there is no such thing as a bad day.

The senior Vets (9 hole players) are also in a healthy position, with 20 players a common number.

Our programmes of play are pre-organized for the year, including intervets, (other clubs) mixed vets and BOP v Central Plateau.

We are in the process at the moment of organizing our annual 5 x day Tournament which will be held on Monday, November 2nd to Friday 6th. This will be our 53rd year of running the competition. The inclusion of the Ladies Vets last year was successful and we are looking forward to them joining us again this year.

At the Vets AGM held in March the following were elected to the committee.

President Bob Cope. Vice President Malcolm Munro.
Secretary Peter Robertson. Treasurer Ian Latham.
Committee Franz Brunner. John Chrystall. Doug Cullen.
Stuart McKinlay. Ron Palmer. Graeme Pringle. Ian Styles.
Paul Whitelock.

We are always open to visitors and new members, the criteria being 55yrs. of age to qualify as a veteran golfer.
Good golfing

Bob Cope.

Womens' Veterans Report

The Veteran Women Golfers have had a good first half-year with an average of 32 players each playing day. Membership is keeping steady & we welcome new players – anyone reaching the grand old age of fifty-plus is eligible to join us.

The weather so far has been kind to us with no cancellations and only a couple of days delayed starts due to frost. Let's hope this will continue over the next month or so.

The Vet Women Championships were held recently and the winners are Silver division – (Phyl McHardy trophy) Lynn Edwards, runner up Catherine Jenkins
Bronze 1 – (Rewa Marlow trophy) Susan Gleeson - runner up Gloria Stephens
Bronze 2 – (Eve Avarid trophy) Anne Shearer - runner up Alison Fletcher
Over 70 – Ngairie Skews trophy) Bub Shepherd - runner up Dorothy Stone

While these matches were being played the rest of the field had a Canadian Foursomes event, followed by a prize-giving lunch, wine, raffles and jokes (Eddie Hawke & Daryl Morris were seen trying to pretend they weren't listening!)

There was unanimous approval from all members that the Women Vets purchase a \$1000 debenture using funds that have been in a savings account for some years – every little helps to support the Club's fund-raising efforts!

Liz Ranson

Mens' 9 hole report

Well, a lot of Taupo Golf Club members probably don't know that the Club has a Nine Hole Men's Group who play each Wednesday at 1 pm, with a second day on Friday for those keen enough, again at 1 pm. All those playing at present are capable golfers with official handicaps applicable to nine holes. Ages range from 40 to early seventy.

The group is enthusiastic and friendly. After play on Wednesdays we adjourn to the clubhouse for a social hour or so. Of course the afternoons' play is discussed and it is surprising how much better we all played once we have been there for even a short period.

Stan Blair

We really want to

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GRANT HILL
General Manager
Taupo Golf Club Inc

TAUPO LADIES NINE HOLE GOLF 2009 REPORT

The year is progressing well with the Monday club days being well supported. We have approximately 90 registered members

Our Hospice Tournament was extremely successful thanks to the entrants and the sponsors. 124 entries in total which raised \$1800.00 for Taupo Hospice.

We are presently in the throes of interclub matches with Rotorua and Springfield with our club running a very close second behind Rotorua.

The "Shoot Out" is also progressing very well and creating much interest.

On the 29 June we are once again having a

mid winter mulled wine breakfast followed by our usual Monday morning golf, and this year we have invited the 18 hole ladies to join us.

When the 18 hole ladies have their 2 day tournament in late August Marie and Val from the nine hole club have offered to help out.

We have 2 more tournaments to follow later in the year and we are positive these too will be full of fun and friendship.

Happy golfing from your convenor

Val Somers-Edgar

