

Firstly I apologise for my absence from the AGM. My son is graduating after sitting the HSC and the graduation dinner is tonight.

Welcome to my Annual report.

Our year started with the implementation of a widespread change to the rules of golf. I am particularly proud that we were brave enough to endorse the full range of rule changes and I'm sure you will agree, they make the game more enjoyable.

Our Mixed Pennant team has been building over the last few years and this year we narrowly missed out on a playoffs spot, but I am confident under Jim McKendrick's Captaincy, we will get there very soon.

Our A Grade team had a crushing win in the A Grade pennant totally dominating the District competition.

Our B grade and C Grade continued to represent well against the other teams in the District but fell short of the mark.

Our Masters and Super Senior represented well, and both teams will strengthen with the injection of some rookies to the sides in 2020.

Our Junior Pennant team fell just short of Victory, but our Encourage Shield team were victorious.

We watched and followed Jordie Garner criss-cross the globe chasing his golfing dreams. The highlight was no doubt firstly qualifying for the US Amateur, then narrowly missing out on the match play section in a playoff. Jordie also added the Queensland Amateur stroke play to his resume plus being picked to play for NSW in the interstate series.

Our Junior Gala Day was won by Gary Herman and his grandson Isaac Ind. The Junior trophy event was won by Zac Cammileri. Funds raised for the day go towards our Junior program and we thank everyone for their generosity.

I am particularly proud of our current crop of Juniors. I rate this crop amongst the best we have had in club history, not only in golfing ability, but also attitude, friendliness, and encouragement and support for another. They truly are an asset to the club. This no doubt is attributed to great parenting, plus the support of Mick Lamaro and Peter Cliff.

We had an exciting finish in our Mixed foursome event. Brett Parker paired with Jude Tarran, and Brett holed a 16ft birdie putt on the last hole to shoot 122 for 27 holes to edge out event favourites and reigning champions Kim Burke and Scott Armstrong.

A two man ambrose event replaced the District Foursomes this year and Shelly Beach won the teams event.

Unfortunately, through the year we heard about the closure of Morisset Golf Club. Shelly Beach was the first golf club to extend a hand and give assistance to the Morisset members with honorary membership until July.

August saw us play our second Greg Chambers Classic. The winners of the 36 Hole event were Lesley Armstrong in the Ladies section and Steve Taber in the Mens section. Once again we thank Greg for his kind donations which were auctioned off for our Junior Fund.

Our Mens Foursomes Championships was played in extremely tough conditions. The foursome champions were James Swanson and Andrew Arkins, who toughed out the conditions for a popular win. In B grade Anthony Campbell and Rick Beves took the title and in C Grade, two juniors Connor Rigby and Finlay Taylor were popular winners.

Our Junior Top Gun was won by Dylan Kable and Mens Top Gun by Jamie Power.

Our Mens Club Championships was played and again did not disappoint. Unfortunately, the first round was abandoned due to poor weather. We had 60mm of rain on the Friday which rendered the course unplayable. But the next 3 rounds were played in near perfect conditions.

In A Grade, Jamie Stephen led the field with under par scores to the final day. Jamie had recently come off surgery to both feet and overcame this injury to win by four shots from Jordie Garner. Jordie made a late charge with an eagle on 17 after hitting his tee shot to tap in range. Curtis Lanarch also made a late charge with an eagle on 15. Keiren Jones battled away until the end.

In B Grade Matty Garrett was a very popular winner taking the prize from Kim Barkel in second place. Matty Garrett then went on to become the District Champion of Champions.

In C grade, Blaine Anderson was a worthy runner up falling just short to Serge Yardin.

James Linnet won the A Reserve and Junior Championships. Well done to all our Champions!

During October, President Malcolm Sheldon, Mick Lamaro, Jason Hart, Peter Cliff and myself attended the 2019 golf industry awards of which we were nominated in two areas. (1) Volunteer of the year - Mick Lamaro and (2) Junior Golf Club of the year NSW/ACT. Unfortunately Mick was out pipped by a volunteer with 45 years of service to his club, but I am extremely proud to announce that Shelly Beach Golf Club was awarded Junior Club of the year NSW/ACT. What a huge honour!

October was also a sad month with the passing of Long Term Shelly Beach Member and Legends Tour Pro Les Allen. Les was golf...full stop. He loved the game. His funeral was a wonderful send off for a great man. Winner of 24 Vardon events and numerous Legends tour events. May he Rest in Peace, or, knowing Les, be on the first tee in the sky waiting to hit off before daylight.

Now for the thankyou's. Thanks to Jason, Cliffy, Leigh and all the Pro Shop team for their work in the golf operations side of things. To all the office staff, you all do a fantastic job behind the scenes and you are all highly valued. The club couldn't run without you. To all the bar and kitchen staff, some days you are run off your feet and we as members thank you greatly. To Andy and the greens staff, once again thank you for presenting the course in truly fabulous conditions. Finally to our GM Scott Armstrong. You have turned this club around in ways that we would never have thought of. We don't always agree on things, but that is healthy as we normally thrash it out and hopefully come up with the right outcome.

I have been proud to serve you as Captain and I am very happy that Vice Captain Mick Lamaro was re-elected as well. I thank Arthur White for his efforts on the board and I welcome Dean Lappas to the role.

I congratulate Malcolm Sheldon on his first year as president and I look forward to serving the members and board for the next three years.

Stay safe and have a Merry and safe Christmas.

Peter Sliwinski

Club Captain