

CAPTAINS REPORT 2020/2021

Welcome to my Annual report.

In preparing my report, I always consult my previous years report. And to be honest, in many respects, I could have simply hit copy and paste. Clubhouse closures, lock down periods, COVID safe golf, preferred lies in bunkers, playing in groups of two, no cart sharing, board zoom meetings. It really felt like ground-hog day. The only thing consistent, was the inconsistency. We would read one website and it said one thing, another website gives contrary advice.

Anyway, enough of COVID!

Despite the interruptions, we still found a way to play golf...and lots of it. I would like to thank our golfing membership for compliance with the numerous rules and protocols we have had to introduce under advice from the various authorities. Despite these imposts, we still enjoyed golf through the pandemic.

I will not go through all our winners as some events have been postponed. What I will do is invite you to have a look at our new honour boards to review a year that was.

On the representative scene, our Encourage Shield team progressed to the state final and came runner up and our junior pennant team narrowly missed out on a spot in the finals at Lynwood. A fantastic result for both teams. We also were the first club to have two teams in the finals!

Our A, B, and C Grade Pennant teams played in great spirit but unfortunately failed to win titles.

Our Mixed Pennant team won their division and unfortunately were beaten in the semi-finals. What a great effort from our team to break into a metropolitan final!

Our Master Pennant Team easily won their division and then went on to a playoff series for the Northern Division Pennant. I am pleased to announce they won the Pennant in an incredible comeback against Waratah GC who had their measure all day. At time of writing, they now progress to another final against Southern Region with the winner then playing against Kogarah in the State Final at Cronulla GC.

A huge thank you to GM Scott Armstrong for his fantastic efforts over the past five years. Scott has left us now, but his work here will always be remembered for turning us around financially from a significant yearly loss to a great surplus. We wish Scott well for the future.

To my fellow board members. Thank you for all your efforts during the year. We have had some enormous challenges, but still can have a good laugh whilst getting the job done. A huge thanks to our President Malcolm Sheldon who stepped in as honorary secretary during our recruitment process for a new general manager. What a fantastic gesture and one that won't be forgotten.

A huge thanks to our front of house staff and back of house staff during the pandemic. From Chef Mel and her team who maintained "Aqua at home" providing us with delicious meals to be enjoyed at home during lock down. To Jason, Cliffy, Leigh, Cath, Matt Gaffney and team in the Pro Shop. These folk really were the front-line, keeping golf operations running under considerable stress from inflated golfing numbers during the pandemic.

To Andrew Banning and his team, we offer great praise and thanks for the continued excellent condition of our course. What must be remembered is how hard it is to maintain our course whilst we are pushing out record numbers of players.

And finally, I am doing a cut and paste from last year. My final thanks goes to you, our members.

We asked so much of you through the year, and you delivered. In some way maybe this terrible disease has added to our positive and friendly culture that is Shelly Beach. Let's build on this culture and continue to grow and cement SBGC as the friendliest and premiere golf course on the Central Coast.

Kind regards,

Peter Sliwinski

Club Captain