

VETERANS WEEK OF GOLF 7TH – 11TH AUGUST 2017

WELL WHAT A WEEK IT WAS, 245 REGISTERED PLAYERS FROM 73 CLUBS MADE IT A CHALLENGING WEEK FOR THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE IN THIS OUR 16TH YEAR.

THE PLAYERS ENJOYED EXCELLENT WEATHER BORDERING ON SPRING TEMPERATURES ALBEIT THAT THE EARLY MORNING PLAYERS EXPERIENCED A DEFINITE CHILL IN THE AIR.

FROM ALL REPORTS THE PLAYERS REALLY ENJOYED THEMSELVES. AS WOULD BE EXPECTED THERE WERE A COUPLE COMPLAINTS REGRADING SLOW PLAY HOWEVER THESE WERE CONSIDERED MINOR AND WERE SOON OVERCOME. WE HAD 2 COURSE MARSHALLS ON THE COURSES WHO KEPT PLAY MOVING AND AT THE END OF THE DAY PLAYER GROUPS NEED TO TAKE SOME RESPONSIBILITY AS TO THE PACE OF PLAY.

THE TUESDAY BBQ NIGHT WAS ATTENDED BY SOME 200 PEOPLE, THE REDUCED NUMBERS FROM LAST YEAR MADE THE EVENING VERY COMFORTABLE WITH EASY ACCESS TO THE BAR AND FOOD SERVING POINTS. THE LADIES IN THE KITCHEN, LED BY LINDA, DID AN EXCEPTIONAL JOB AND ALL WERE FED IN A VERY REASONABLE TIME. THE BBQ WAS FOLLOWED BY PRESENTATIONS FOR THE MONDAY AND TUESDAY EVENTS WHERE OUR SPONSORS OUR SPECIAL GUESTS, DAVID DE CLOSEY FROM OCULUS AND JOHN McMULLEN FROM JAYCO GOLD COAST ASSISTED WITH THESE DUTIES, OUR SINCERE THANKS FOR THEIR SUPPORT. ON WEDNESDAY IT WAS A WELCOME REST DAY FOR THE PLAYERS NOT TO MENTION THE WORKERS WITH SOME STARTING DAILY PREPARATIONS AT 5.30AM.

THE PLAYERS RETURNED TO THE COURSES FOR THE THURSDAY AND FRIDAY EVENTS THAT CULMINATED IN OUR PRESENTATION NIGHT IN THE AUDITORIUM WHERE SOME 190 ATTENDED A SUMPTOUS BUFFET BY DANNY'S.

OUR SPECIAL GUESTS FOR THE NIGHT WERE IAN VIDLER (PRESIDENT OF NSWVGA) AND HIS WIFE LYN, CHRIS CADDEY (CLUB VICE PRESIDENT) AND WIFE ROBYN, CLUB CAPTAIN DOUG GLAZEBROOK AND HIS WIFE JENNY AND DI SWIFT (LADIES PRESIDENT) AND HUSBAND NEIL. OUR GUESTS KINDLY AGREED TO ASSIST IN THE PRESENTATIONS FOR THE NIGHT.

THIS YEAR WE AGAIN INTRODUCED A COURTESY BUS TO FERRY PARTICIPANTS TO THE EVENING FUNCTIONS WHICH PROVED POPULAR AND WAS WELL SUPPORTED.

THE EVENT WOULD NOT ENJOY THE REPUTATION IT HOLDS WITHOUT THE GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP FROM A NUMBER OF LOCAL BUSINESSES SUCH AS TWEED CITY, MICHAEL HOGAN & ASSOCIATES, SCALES SEAFOOD, DANNYS RESTAURANT, JAYCO GOLD COAST, PHIL & JUDITH NECK, TWEED COAST HOLIDAY PARKS, R & J GOLF, DESTINATION TWEED, SURFERS PARADISE BROCHURE SERVICE AND THE PARENT CLUB. IT COULD PROVE DIFFICULT TO HOLD THE EVENT WITHOUT THEIR SUPPORT.

THE COURSES WERE PRESENTED IN FIRST CLASS CONDITION AND TO PETER LONERGAN AND HIS STAFF A HUGE WELL DONE, COMMENTS FROM THE PLAYERS WERE POSITIVE ALL WEEK. THE DAILY RAKING OF THE BUNKERS WAS YET ANOTHER TOUCH OF EXCELLENCE AND THESE WERE MAINTAINED BY OUR ON COURSE VOLUNTEERS.

OVER THE WEEK WE HANDED OUT IN EXCESS OF 600 GOLF BALLS AND MORE THAN \$3,500 IN PRIZES.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE ACKNOWLEDGE AND EXPRESS SINCERE THANKS TO OUR VETS COMMITTEE AND OUR VETERAN GOLFERS WHO GAVE FREELY OF THEIR TIME DURING THE WEEK - FROM BUNKER RAKING TO RETRIEVING BALLS FROM THE WATER AND SPOTTING, SOME WORKED LONG HOURS THROUGH THE WEEK. IT WAS THROUGH THEIR EFFORTS THAT ENABLED THE FIELD TO MOVE SMOOTHLY THROUGH THE DAY.

OUR THANKS TO THE LADIES WHO ASSISTED DURING REGISTRATION DAY TO ENSURE THE PROCESS WENT SMOOTHLY – JUDITH LEVER, LIZ BROWNE (WHO ASSISTED IN SCORE ENTRY FOR THE WEEK), FRAN McLEAN AND LYN EVENDEN. WE SHOULD ALSO MENTION OUR NEW PHOTOGRAPHER JOHN COOPER.

BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY TO THE WOG COMMITTEE WHO HAVE PUT IN A HUGE EFFORT IN THE ORGANISING AND RUNNING THE TOURNAMENT ESPECIALLY TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR ROSS LEVER, NICK BROWN AND GRANT EVANS. I AM SURE OUR WIVES ARE NOW LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING THEIR HUSBANDS WHEN THEY AWAKE IN THE MORNING ONCE AGAIN AFTER SOME VERY EARLY STARTS.

AND WHERE TO NOW, AFTER A DEBRIEF BY THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE PREPARATIONS WILL BEGIN FOR THE 2018 TOURNAMENT AND NEXT YEARS REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE FORWARDED IN LATE JANUARY!

**BOB MURDOCH
VETERANS CAPTAIN**