

PRESIDENT UPDATE

DECEMBER 2023

I would like to commence my last update for the year by congratulating Pauline Wilson and welcoming her to the Board of Directors. Pauline is a lawyer and brings a wealth of skill, knowledge, and experience. Congratulations also to Rod Tucker who was formally elected after having served as a Board Appointed Director for the last 3 years.

2023 has been another very successful year with a healthy excess of income over expenditure of 1.5M allowing us to continue to invest in projects like the refurbishment of our Beachside Club House, and to commence planning on exciting future projects like Mini Golf and the Hilltop Course Redevelopment. Other notable achievements are detailed below.

Annual General Meeting

On 27 November we held the 52nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Mollymook Golf Club. I would like to thank those members who attended the AGM (both in person and online) for their attendance and input.

The meeting inter alia approved the re-appointment of John Coburn and John Bendeich as Club Patrons.

The meeting was also asked to consider four Special Resolutions to update our Constitution. Two resolutions, relating to gender neutral language and disciplinary proceeding rules were passed however the remaining two were defeated.

It is my intention to spend the next few months working through a further process of consultation on the two resolutions that were not passed with a view to presenting them to the membership for approval again.



The purpose of the resolutions is to ensure the Constitution reflects legislation change best industry practice governance.

I would particularly like to thank our Assistant General Manager, Nerine Ockwell for the considerable time, effort, and skill she devoted to preparing the resolutions for the AGM.

Beachside & Hilltop Course Redevelopment

Members will recall that in August we launched the Draft Hilltop Golf Course Upgrade Plan as well as changes to the Beachside layout. Two member forums were held which proved popular and successful both in terms of attendance, member feedback and suggestions.

All feedback is currently being analysed/consolidated and when completed, will be made available to the membership. It is important to note that suggestions from members will be subject to further careful analysis, as work progresses.

One important change already agreed is the temporary hole will be located on the sixth hole and not the eighth.

Congratulations

In early November, I had the privilege of attending the Golf NSW, PGA of Australia, and Golf Management Australia industry awards night in Sydney. Our Golf Manager, Barry West, was a finalist for the highly contested 'Manager of the Year' award and we were very proud when Barry was announced runner up to the winner. This is recognition of his standing in the Golf industry, and I feel it is only a matter of time before he wins the award outright. Recently, Barry successfully completed his studies to become a Certified Golf Club Manager, a worldwide golf industry accreditation. Barry is one of only six Golf Managers in Australia to attain this level of qualification and is the only PGA accredited manager to hold both qualifications. Well done, Barry.

I would also like to congratulate our Head Golf Professional, Mario VanZyl, who recently completed the TROON Golf Leader Program and is two years into his four-year Certified Club Manager course. I have no doubt Mario will feature as an industry leader in the years to come.

We are also fortunate to have a skilled and dedicated Course Maintenance team. Led by Superintendent Mark Pullinger and offside Jackson Sylvester, the team has continued to present our two golf courses in immaculate condition, sometimes under very challenging circumstances.

Being awarded the Women's NSW Open Qualifying Tournament for a further two years, hosting the annual Legends Pro Am, together with being rated a Top 100 Course



and second only to Bonville as the most popular golf course, are all testimony to the quality of our Golf Management, and Course Maintenance Teams.

Finally, congratulations to Kelsey Bennet for her performances over the last few weeks in the NSW Qualifying Tournament, Australian Open and Cathedral Invitational. Well done, Kelsey, and good luck from all of us at the LALLA AICHA Q- SCHOOL in Marrakesh.

Troon

I would like to clear up a common myth that keeps popping up. There are some who think Barry is an employee of Troon, but I can assure you he is not. In fact, he has been an employee of Mollymook Golf Club since 2014.

Following 10 years of successful partnership, Mollymook is now an Associate Club of TROON Golf. Whilst Troon are no longer involved in the management of golf at Mollymook, we still maintain



Tron benefits in terms of reciprocal visiting rights, recognition on Tron's website and other collateral material. Members will have noticed the Tron logo no longer appears on Club clothing and merchandise. We have however, maintained an agronomy consultancy agreement with Tron which provides us access to the high-level expertise of Asia Pacific Agronomist, David Lunadelli. David has, and will continue to be, a significant contributor to the Beachside Course redevelopment project and Hilltop redevelopment project.

Communication

When I became your President in 2021, I made one of my first priorities improving communication with members. The feedback I have received indicates that members think communication has improved with my regular updates, regular meetings with the Committees of our two Sub Clubs (Vets and Ladies), focus groups, member consultation around Constitutional changes, and the Beachside and Hilltop Redevelopment Plans. Although it would be easy to be lulled into a false sense of security and become complacent, the work to improve communication will continue.

In the coming year we will conduct a Member Survey and continue with the focus groups. We will also conduct extensive consultation with members around the Mini Golf Project at Beachside.

Finally, on the subject of communication, please ensure your contact details in our membership database are up to date.

The primary communication channel is via email, so please advise management if your email address changes. Ironically, if you are reading this, management has your correct details so if you are aware of members not receiving the communications, please encourage them to contact the club.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank our senior management team for their dedication and the professional way in which they go about their duties. Thank you also to my fellow Directors for the time and effort you put into your role. Last but not least, thank you to all of you, our members, for your support and contribution to make Mollymook Golf Club the successful Club it is.

I wish you all a very safe and joyous festive season and a healthy and happy 2024. If you are travelling over the next few weeks, please return to us safe and sound.

Dave Hume
President