

Akaroa Golf Club Inc.

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Newsletter Winter 2019

Recent wins

Alison Stewart Trophy (Stableford 2 rounds) – **Jill Lockett**.

Ron Luisetti Memorial Trophy (Highest aggregate Stableford over the five par 3 holes) – We had the unique position of four members tied on 12 – Peter Guthrey, Chris Bleasdale, Kev Kerr and Keith Vogan, resulting in a chip and putt shootout which was taken out by **Keith Vogan**.

Review of Green Fees

In May 2019 Canterbury Golf facilitated a Golf Forum to create a shared learning platform for Canterbury golf clubs. It was a unique opportunity for local golf club leaders to come together and discuss topical issues that are affecting golf clubs throughout New Zealand. 70+ delegates from Canterbury golf clubs were in attendance. Gary Knight, AGC President attended on behalf of Akaroa Golf Club.

One hot topic discussed at the forum was the price of green fees and whether clubs were underselling themselves by charging low green fees. Golf Clubs were challenged to complete a study on what it costs their club to provide an 18 hole round of golf, and compare to how much the club is charging for a round of 18 holes.

This exercise was completed and the results showed the cost of a round at Akaroa was substantially more than the current green fees.

The forum was told that a similar studies and recommendations were made to North Island clubs some time ago, with most clubs increasing their green fees. The results showed little change in the number of green fee player rounds at those clubs, but a marked increase in revenues to the clubs.

NZ Golf and the forum recommended that all Canterbury clubs raise their green fees to a level that represents no less than one 12th of the annual full membership subscription. Thus making club membership more attractive.

The AGC General Committee met on 17 June 2019 where a recommendation was made to increase the green fees:

18 holes	\$40
12 holes	\$30
9 holes	\$25

Members Guest Discount 18 holes less \$10; 9 and 12 holes less \$5.

No affiliated membership discount.



Excerpt from Canterbury Golf June Newsletter:

“Following on from the success of the Canterbury Golf Club Forum on 5 May, a Club Manager’s Meeting was held to discuss one issue – how club’s set their green fee prices. The goal of the meeting was to have some robust and meaningful discussion, improve the knowledge base of those attending and enable some critical thinking about the decision making process for setting of green fee prices.

There was general agreement that many club green fees prices were set based on competitive pressure from other clubs and the “fear factor” of demand being dictated by price. There was little apparent use of qualitative measures and simple analysis methods by clubs that would help them assess what their green fee price should be, and make an informed decision from there. It was thought that overall green fee prices did need to increase in the region to improve the value proposition of being a member, but the biggest barrier was the historical expectation of low green fee prices in Canterbury.”

Greens team busy at work

Projects completed over the past two months:

- Spiking of the Greens & Tees completed.
- Installed a temporary all weather tee in front of No.8 Tee block.
- Replaced small wooden bridge on walk way between No.12 Green & No.13 Tee.
- Boundary gates now locked with combination locks.
- Tree Tech trimmed the road side trees, around 16 Green & no. 17/18 boundary hedge – too wet to do anymore.
- Drainage: have installed open slot drainage at No 3, 4 & 5 Greens which seems to be working successfully, however early days – thanks to all the helpers!
- Cleaned gutters on club rooms thanks to Jeff Greening for the loan of the cherry picker.
- Creek cleared of logs from No.16 Green thanks to Richard Craw & his digger.
- James Anderson has kindly installed extra lighting in the Green Keepers Sheds – thank you James.
- Thanks to Rob Doole - new double shed is complete.

Annual General Meeting - Wednesday 11 September, 7.30pm

More information regarding AGM will be sent out shortly to members.

Office hours over winter

June-August – Monday and Friday 9-3pm.



Health and Safety

Please take extra care on the course coming into winter, watch your step, especially on the slopes. Golf carts must remain on the designated cart tracks. Any restrictions on the course will be communicated by the Greens Team or Greenkeeper.

All incidents/accidents/new hazards are to be recorded. Forms available on the H&S noticeboard in the downstairs lobby.

Competition Start Times

Weekend and Thursday Mens – 1st June to 31 August – 11am

Wednesday Women – 1st April to 30 September – 10am and 9 holes 11.15am

JULY 2019

11am Start June 1st, to August 31st Inclusive

Wed 24 Multiplying Stableford
Sat 27 Medal Round Count Putts 5
Sun 28 Stableford
Wed 31 Bisque Par

AUGUST 2019

Sat 3 Stableford - Shoot out qualifying and silent pairs
Sun 4 Stableford
Wed 7 Captain's Choice, Entries Aileen Newton
Sat 10 Medal Round Count Putts 6
Sun 11 Stableford
Wed 14 Hidden Holes; Count Putts
Fri 16 Women's Forum: Templeton Golf Club
Sat 17 Murray Davis Memorial Mixed – 18 holes combined stableford
Sun 18 Stableford
Kaituna Men's 27 Hole Open
*Wed 21 *LGU*
Sat 24 Presidents vs Captains
Sun 25 Stableford
Wed 28 4BBB Stableford. Women's AGM
Sat 31 Stableford - Shoot out qualifying and silent pairs

Enjoy your golf!

**Rachael Court
AGC Secretary**