

Reading Country Club

P.O. Box 18, Alberton 1450
Telephone: 907-8906/7/8
Fax: 907-1379



<u>Results</u>		
<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Date :- 25th May 2011</u>	<u>Competition</u>
		Betterball Stab.
1 st	M de Wet / J Louw	44 pts
2 nd	E Kilian / R Williams	40 pts
3 rd	P Taljaard / W Jacobs	40 pts
4 th		
<u>Friday</u>	<u>Date :- 27th May 2011</u>	<u>Competition</u>
		Meat Comp. - Ind. Stab.
1 st	N V D Westhuizen	22 pts
2 nd	S Cappelletto	20 pts
3 rd	D Peterson	19 pts
4 th	M Bradshaw	19 pts
5 th	S Sales	19 pts
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Date :- 28th May 2011</u>	<u>Competition</u>
		Alliance - 1 to count
<u>A.M. Field</u>		
1 st	P Jones / P Bekker / T Noble / A Caley	51 pts
2 nd	M Kassen / S Vanmali / B Mistry / C Vanmali	47 pts
3 rd	K Padayachee / K Cloete / A Ioannou / A Jordaan	47 pts
4 th		
<u>P.M. Field</u>		<u>Competition</u>
		Alliance - 1 to Count
1 st	G Field / J Reis / B Gordon / A Brinkman	49 pts
2 nd	A Pedro / H Bred / N Edmunds / D Morris	47 pts
3 rd	A Swanepoel / E Swanepoel / N V D Westhuizen / K Nel	47 pts
4 th		
5 th		
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Date :- 29th May 2011</u>	<u>Competition</u>
		Ind. Bogey
1 st	D Middleton	+ 1
2 nd	M Jacobs	+ 1
3 rd	P Carter	0
4 th	C V Aardt	- 1
5 th	G Field	- 1

Barrel of Fortune

Ticket No 453

D du Plessis

Unclaimed - not in the Bar

Next Week

R2900.00

Whisky Draw

Delville Reynolds

Dirk Oelofse

100 Club

1st

Ian Brown

R600

2nd

Harold Cass

R400

3rd

Les Ashkettle

R200

From :- Larry Macartney

This past week has seen the fairways covered in frost, which will soon turn them from green to brown. Of course, this means less mowing and more time for Rob to attend to his many winter projects - all those tasks that seem to not get done in warm weather, such as removal of dead trees and stumps, cleaning out the 15th Dam, and once again addressing the wet areas on the 3rd and 4th holes.

A long standing wish has been to complete the cart paths around the Course, and to this end Graham Field and Brian Gordon have compiled a plan of all areas requiring paths, together with a measurement of some 1000 metres. The next step is to get costs for both brick paving, to match what we already have, and concrete blocks and then decide how best to proceed. This project is receiving a high priority as it will help to protect and preserve the course in the long term, especially in wet weather when carts really cut up the course.

Last week saw the first of our Karaoke Evenings - which was well attended, but no "Idol" contenders emerged. The highlight for me was the rendition of "Singing in the Rain" by Eddie "Satchmo" Smyth - all he needed was an umbrella to complete the transformation to Gene Kelly re-incarnate. We also re-introduced the Sunday Lunch and it was pleasing to see 38 Members, and their guests, partaking of the meal. We must apologise for the lack of traditional Sunday Roast, but assure you this error will not happen again. Given the success of the turnout, we will continue with the lunch every LAST SUNDAY of the month.

Last week also saw the introduction of a popcorn machine in the Bar, and judging by the amount of popcorn consumed, this was a popular innovation. I know that he does not want to be recognized, but thanks must be extended to Mark Peterson for his generous sponsorship of the machine. From now on, he is to be known as "Mark Popcorn Peterson".

A quick up-date on the Scratch League shows a welcome return to form of our 1st Side - who recorded two halves in their matches, while the 2nd Side retained their unbeaten record with a win and a half in their two matches. These results leave us in mid table in

1st Division and joint top in the 3rd Division - after seven games, so with four games to go we are certainly in the mix for top honours.

It was great to see Kyle Lucas at the Club over the weekend. He is home for a break from University in Texas, where he is studying on a golf scholarship, and it was interesting to learn how the system works in the U.S.A. It is quite something for a kid from the South to be exposed to the huge number of talented youngsters from all over the world, who make up the College System, but we know that Kyle has the talent to make it to the top. Welcome home Kyle, enjoy your three months at home.

For this week again, I am including the “Progress Report 2010/2011 - Grounds”

PROGRESS REPORT 2010/2011

As we come to the end of the term of this year’s Governing Body we would like to reflect on the successes achieved on the Golf Course under the watchful eye of Mr. Rob Stewardson and his staff. Aided and abetted by Kevin Gough (Chairman of Grounds) and his Committee.

GREENS

The greens today are undoubtedly in the best condition that they have been in for many years (possibly 15 or more.) There was only one small incidence of burn (12th Green) this summer, a pleasant change from the past. The cost of this was slightly slower softer greens and going without a second cut on hot Saturday afternoons (a small price to pay.)

Going forward the Governing Body has commissioned Jock Tame (Reading Greenkeeper when the original bent grass greens were laid), to introduce his world leading bent grass and poa reducing practices to the course.

Our decision to over-seed has been successful giving us an average 25% of coverage of bent. We now hope to take the greens to the next level with Jock’s advice, this will give us a firmer truer surface with deeper a root system, giving us more protection against burn. The practice of verti-cut and dust will once again be the norm.

FAIRWAYS AND TEEBOXES

You will have seen an improvement in the grass coverage and divot filling on the fairways and tees, this has been brought about not only by good rains but fertiliser being applied regularly, unfortunately financial implications amongst other reasons has led to a neglect of these important parts of the course in the past. The Governing Body recognises that the course is the jewel in Reading's crown and ensures resources are channelled to the course as a priority. Jock has identified serious deficiencies in the Kikuyu and we will be rectifying this immediately along with a 3 month programme which should give us good fairways going into summer, for a change. The 12th Tee Box has been a disappointment but lessons have been learnt and we hope to have it in play (although not perfect), in the next week or two. Subsidence causing tees to not be level are recognised and will be rectified when time permits.

BUNKERS

Rob has reshaped and filled almost all the bunkers and while we realise that they are still not perfectly consistent and that we still get spots with a lack of sand (sometimes due to bad raking, which Members and Visitors can help with.) In comparison to a year ago prior to the programme, there is no comparison.

DRAINAGE

Major work was done in the spring and for the most part wet spots have been alleviated or eradicated. We are looking into a project for the winter, finances permitting, possibly making a small pond between 2 and 3, opening the sluit across the 3rd fairway from the 4th and re-routing the sluit on 4 to drain the wet areas on the right.

THE LAST 12 MONTHS HOLE BY HOLE

- HOLE 1** - Trees thinned out to give fairer driving line.
- HOLE 2** - Area short and around green rehabilitated mainly by exclusion of carts
- HOLE 3** - Drainage sorted to the extent that the hole was fully open to players the whole year.
- HOLE 4** - Herring bone drainage was partially successful
- HOLE 5** - Back tee box open for use of the brave, cart path levelled behind green. Safety rails provided by Mr. Willie Jacobs.
- HOLE 7** - Tee boxes weeded and treated extensively, trees replaced left of the green
- HOLE 8** - Fairway extended at the request of the senior members
- HOLE 9** - Safety rails provided by Mr. Willie Jacobs
- HOLE 10** - Walkway from tee to fairway no longer flooded due to drainage ditch construction

- HOLE 11** - Paving on bridge to tee box repaired.
- HOLE 12** - Drainage improved along highway, preventing water silting fairway green and 13th fairway.
- HOLE 13** - Fallen tree removed promptly. Area in front of green improved by diverting carts.
- HOLE 14** - Green was taken back to its original size, this was only partially successful but will be completed soon.
- HOLE 15** - Willows taken back allowing use of right hand side of tee box, cart path levelled
- HOLE 16** - Drainage has stopped walk to fairway being flooded
- HOLE 17** - Drainage, drainage, drainage the bunker was not flooded this year,
- HOLE 18** - Improvement in drainage, two bridges fitted thanks to Mr. Ian Brown, bunker reshaped flower bed removed and pond filled in, final touches during winter.

All in all a successful year, with very little time lost due to bad weather, including Rob's amazing feat of having the course back in play 24 hours after the worst floods in recent memory on December 16th 2010.

Once again a vote of thanks to Rob and Kevin who have formed a formidable team, making sure that there has been no communication gap between the course and the Committee, with Kevin using his technical expertise to keep the machinery on the course.

Thanks for taking your time to read this.

Graham Field
Club Captain

Dates for the Diary

Friday - 27th May 2011

Sunday - 29th May 2011

Sunday - 5th June 2011

Wednesday - 22nd June 2011

Karaoke Evening

Sunday Lunch Carvery

Bowls AGM

Club AGM

From the Pro Shop
Barry Bothma - PGA Professional

“Reading” entered in team in the Glenvista Golf Festival last week. The team consisted of Barry Bothma, Kevin Gough, Brian Gordon and Mike Bradshaw. Congratulations to our boys who kept the “Reading” name high and came home with the Trophy.

Wednesday was the “Race to Du Boma Better Ball Stableford”. Playing some hot golf to win the day was Michael de Wet and his partner Johan Louw on a great score of 44 pts. In second place were A Pedro and J Tait on a solid 43 pts, followed by E Kilian and R Williams in third place on a count out with 40 pts. Fourth place went to P Taljaard and W Jacobs on 40 pts.

Friday saw a big field of players all competing for some meat in the cold weather conditions. Managing to take some boerewors home was N vd Westhuizen on a very good 22pts. Second place was scooped up by the very experienced S Cappelletto on 20 pts. Third place saw a three way tie, but winning the count-out was D Peterson, followed by M Bradshaw and S Sales all on 19 pts.

Saturday was the Month End Alliance played over 18 holes. First place was taken by none other than the experienced team of G Field, J Reis, B Gordon and A Brinkman on a great score of 49 pts. Winning the count-out for second place was the team of A Pedro, H Breed, N Edmunds and D Morris on a solid score of 47 pts. Settling for third spot was A Swanepoel, E Swanepoel, N vd Westhuizen and K Nel on 47 pts. The Nearest to the Pins were won by Lee Scott on the 5th and Jaco de Swardt on the 11th.

Sunday was an Ind. Bogey Competition, firing at all cylinders and winning the count out was D Middleton on +1, followed by M Jacobs in second place also on +1. P Carter claimed third place with his solid 0, followed by C v Aardt and G Field both on -1.

From the Lady Captain :- Marietjie Tame

Local Rules

The Committee is in the process of updating the Ladies Golf Section “Local Rules” and it will soon be distributed to all Lady Members via e-mail. If you have not received this by middle June, please advise any of the Committee Members, and check that the office has your correct / current e-mail address.

Sanlam Cancer Challenge

The Sanlam Cancer Challenge this year takes place on June 18 with the format being Individual Stableford. The 3 Divisions will be A-division (0-18), B-division (19-30) and C -division (31-36). There will also be a prize for Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin. Green Fees this year will be R225 per player of which R60 goes to CANSA. The fees also include a prize-giving lunch. Please append your name to the list in the Locker Room.

Knock Out Comps

The first rounds of all three the Knock-Out Competitions have been completed. Please ensure that you organize your next rounds in order to ensure we meet all the cut-off dates. If you have any queries on this, please contact Blandyna Babski on 082 375 8782.

Locker Room

*The locker room is finally completed and many thanks must go to all who contributed in some way or another to make it happen. We believe we have one of the most beautiful Ladies Locker Rooms this side of town 😊
Enjoy!*

That’s all from me, enjoy a great week and stay warm

Thursday's (Same times are booked)

The same provisions apply where applicable

Exception :- Every 2nd and 4th Thursday players may arrange their own 3 or 4 Balls.

These will usually be Individual Competitions. The starter on duty will arrange a balls-in-the-pipe draw for those players arriving without arranged groups. Also one ball in the pipe per arranged group to determine tee-off order.

General

Except for the two Thursday's per month Members are not encouraged to arrange playing partners. (Visitors excepted).

Starters : Sid duToit assisted by Roy McGregor, Dave Ford and Robert Barker

Stan Ingram and Wim Smalle are on the reserve list.

The Starter on Duty will decide on the format of the competition.

*Should you have enquiries regarding the "Seniors Golf Section"
- please contact one of the following Members :-*

<i>Mr. Sid du Toit</i>	<i>011 827 2035 (H)</i>
<i>Mr. Roy McGregor</i>	<i>082 871 7013</i>
<i>Mr. Dave Ford</i>	<i>083 257 8336</i>