

Club Report for November-December 2016

This year marks the half way point of our 4-year plan leading up to centenary year in 2018. Good progress is being made achieving the yearly targets, and with the help of supporting grant money from Lion Foundation and Sothern Trust, the club could purchase a new greens mower, complete its planned greens renovation programme, and renew the steps leading to the No. 14 green. October was miserably wet and coring had to be deferred twice. The last weekend in October the first chance to core, which meant a tight timeframe to have the greens in better shape for the Clubs well known Waiotahi Contractors Hams tournament held on December 3. A great turn out with nearly half the field winning a ham or half ham (see Results page for successful winners).

Its now one year since the Club disestablished the paid greenkeeper role. A strong volunteer greens group taking up the challenge of maintaining and enhancing the course – with all its challenges. Hopefully the club members continue to see progress from the collective efforts of not just the committee, but also from other club members. Many of whom year in and year out continue to provide equipment, materials and most of all, their valuable time. As always the proof is in the pudding, but we have had good feedback from both members and visitors on how the course looks and plays.

On the playing front, we saw some great battles for the various Ladies and Mens club champions, all keenly contested. A superb Club turnout to see a great game between the 'old' senior (Charlie Hayes) and the 'young' senior (Paul (Skip) Brown). A notable achievement at the Champion of Champions was Tyla Kingi making it six in a row. There were several other achievements as well. All in all, a good showing by the Club. Interestingly there was a 16% increase on games played on the course over the previous year. This is against the NZ and Bay of Plenty trend which is downwards.

For holiday makers in the Opotiki area this summer we would love to see you on the course. We have some great green fee deals, and on January the 2nd we are holding a Stableford competition with great meat pack prizes (beef and venison). With divisions for all handicap grades and a non-handicap players section as well. There will be refreshments available during play and an on-course BBQ. All included in the \$20 entry fee.

To our sponsors a big thank you, the club appreciates your support both in prizes, funds, materials, time, and loan of equipment. Especially to our major sponsors: Waiotahi Contractors, New World, Opotiki Drainlayers, Hickey Sports, Ocean Seafoods and Harcourts, and several new ones now on board. To the Lion Foundation and Southern Trust, for enabling the purchase of vital course equipment and for sand and fertilizer materials. This support is crucial for the club's survival.