

Opotiki Golf Club Newsletter

Winter 2017

Just when we thought clean-up after the havoc of Cyclone Cook on April 13th was over the course suffered another series of winds over early and mid-winter resulting in further debris to be cleared and burnt. Still lots of firewood the result which the Club has been selling to both members and the public at an attractive price for a generous trailer load. This is still available for those wanting to get in early for next winter.

It seems that it has been raining continually over the last three months. However, given the amount of rain the course has fared well. And the conditions have not stopped some members from lowering their handicaps, although with the heavier conditions some have gone the other way. See results sheet on this site for regular updates on Club Saturday results, and for the Stroke Play champions.

Club competitions are coming to an end, with the finale, the Club Match-Play Champs completing Round 1 on the 16th September. Finals will be played at the end of the month. Waikohu Club visited us in early August and participated in the annual Tim Hickey memorial competition. The two Clubs also play a home and away game for the Horse Shoe shield. Points are accumulated and carried forward to the return game later in the year. The Ladies Open Tournament sponsored by Placemakers, Whakatane was held on September 10th, and On the Monday 11th Bay Of Plenty vets played at the course. Both attracted good fields, and comments on the course conditions were very positive.

The Clubs new caterer is starting to build up a good client base especially for the Friday night dinner which has been getting good reports for its menu. The Club has also re-started the monthly Friday night Quiz. These have attracted an excellent turn out with 6-8 teams of 4-6 members contesting.

Several projects have been completed. A new ablution block has been erected adjacent to the No 11 tee. Materials purchased through a grant from Southern Trust, with building mainly done by the late Hekara Mato, and finished off by Trevor Harris. Many thanks also to Glen Stenson for painting and to Same Howe for connecting the plumbing. We have also run a new 32 mm water pipe along the back perimeter connecting the water supply on the Number 12 fairway to the back of the course and to the two ablution blocks. This will improve water pressure and allow watering to the back of course tees.

The greens are still a bit slow after renovation work on the 3 and 4th of the September. This year it was decided to just vertidrain with 8-inch tynes, sand, fertilise and over sow selected areas. Mowing has been at 4.5 mm.

To our sponsors a big thank you, as always. 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 materials. This support is crucial for the club's survival.