



NOMADS GOLF CLUB (NZ) INC

po box 6444 , wellesley street , auckland , new zealand

JULY/AUGUST 2009

GREETINGS

I am told Spring started today, I guess they did not need to remind us, it is partly cloudy and blowing a gale! But the days are getting longer and that means summer is on it's way, it also means that the golf courses will be at their best. Am a little annoyed though, in that some no hoper by the name of Heath Slocum has just deprived me of watching what would have been the 'dream play off', Pdraig, Stricker, Ernie and Tiger. Arguably the best 4 players to have ever been involved in a play off? Oh well, good on 'whatshisname'. What is interesting is reading about the course, Liberty National. As you probably know it is brand new and in Jersey City overlooking the Manhattan skyline, absolutely stunning! Tom Kite along with Bob Cupp designed the course on behalf of the Reebok CEO Paul Fireman and went onto say "I hated the site, but loved the location". It was 160 acres of wasteland with a total gradient differential of 2 feet. Now this is where Paul got involved and literally threw money at it. US\$150 million later we have a 7346 yard golf course with paving on less than 100 acres of land, which is about the same size of the Peninsula golf club site but about 1000 yards longer. To start off with they literally covered the site with a humongous plastic sheet. They then dropped off some sand, well 3 million cubes of it, which gave the course the desired 3 - 4 feet of soil to sculptor a golf course. Devoid of any vegetation 5000 mature trees were planted and 5200 sprinkler heads positioned to irrigate the course. (Double the usual number) Every cart path of brick was painstakingly laid by laborers. (I guess that means Mexicans, what are they doing on the East Coast?!) If you still do not think that the \$500 000 entry fee is value, you will definitely change your mind when you see the club house, that came with a price tag of 30 mil. They do not give a visitors green fee price, so I assume the course will be exclusive to members and their guests. A bit like 'The Hills' in Arrowtown, but without the plastic sheeting, and a somewhat less modest Club House but no lesser location.

Well it looks like that on the 20th of March next year we may just have that opportunity of playing what is possibly the best course in NZ. Ken Buck is finalizing our tour to Queenstown and is hoping to get us on that track. In fact next years calendar is looking pretty good, as we have Gulf Harbour, The Lakes and Wairaki (October) scheduled in our playing days calendar! I was fortunate enough to spend a few days in that region last month taking advantage of free accommodation in Stu Corser's apartment. You cannot go too far in this part of the world without bumping into someone as I caught up with Tony Clephane for a beer and Pete & Jeanette Langerack who are spending a few months there and took the time to give us a tour up triple cone and show us what a 'Kodak moment' really is! Sadly Stu will be back up this way sooner than expected as his daughter, Sophie has smashed the top of her tibia in a skiing accident.

COMPETITIONS

The knock out tournament continues to progress albeit rather slowly and we have now reached the semis of the JOS and the quarters of the Roy Best. We need to have the next round of both competition completed by our next playing day, the 17th September so if you are unable to play your game by then, arrange to do so at Huapai.

MONTHLY GAMES

MURIWAI 23RD JULY.

On the 23rd of July the weather Gods really did look after us and after reading all week of horrendous weather to come, we played our game in gorgeous weather on a great golf course. We had a field of 24 players with 6 guests In lieu of Phillip Drew's work in formatting the newsletters David was transferred onto the honorary membership category and also presented with his 5 year tie. Phil, thanks very much for your efforts, most appreciated. Chris Allen, Evan Henning and Gary Van Rensburg were also inducted at the same meeting. Chris plays out of North Shore Golf club and is a lawyer by profession. Evan also plays out of North Shore and is an accountant by profession. Gary plays out of Formosa and is an I T consultant.

Results:

Player of the Day: Bob McGuiness

Playing 4: Phil Drew, Ean Pyke, Haydon Gaskill and Ian Braddock. 131 pts.

Ind Prizes: Bob on 39, Craig Joynt 39, Gary Van Rensburg 38 and Evan Henning on 35.

Guest Prizes: K Senior 30 followed by Rimo Ribechini on 29.

Bob qualifies for Gold Cup, Craig has already qualified (twice before)

Crying towel: Haydon Gaskill, hey how do you get to win the playing 4?????

Longest Drive: It pains me to tell you that it was Neill Reid, did everyone miss the fairway like me? We need an uncomplimentary nick name. (Chopper is already taken!)

Lucky Draw: Russ Maloney, Tony Clephane, John Kelliher and Mike McKenna.

All in all an enjoyable day, good food and an amusing fines session conducted by JP.



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MONTHLY GAMES

MANGAWHAI HEADS 21ST AUGUST.

Sadly we had a few late pull outs and this reduced the field down to 29 with 5 guests including 2 ladies! The weather was perfect and the course immaculate; it really is a stunning course which presents a tough challenge to any golfer, particularly hard for the likes of me who has a draw! Missed the crying towel by a point! The caterer gave us a super lamb and ham buffet followed by a massive array of sweets. Jeff Meltzer presented an excellent fines session interspersed with a few jokes. A few of us stayed over and played Waipu the next day, also a course well worth playing but at \$45 perhaps a little over priced. They have changed and improved a few holes and surely there is no club house with better sea views?

Results:

Player of the day: Peter Cotton 43 points.

Playing 4: George Knightly, John Abbott, Tony Clephane and Peter Cotton.

Ind. Prizes: Paul Monks 37; David Bell 35; Ian Braddock 34 and Chris Allen on 32.

Guest Prizes: Emile Versako 33 and Maria Tapper on 28.

2's Chris Allen and George Knightly.

NTP. George Knightly and Neill Reid.

Peter and John qualify for Gold Cup.

Longest Drive: Ray Parsons, not bad for a 60 plus member!

Crying towel: Paul Tremewan, who had no excuses as he is a member there!

Lucky draw: Norm Weitzman, Jeff Meltzer, Phil Stickland and Stephen Gladding.

A good day, just a pity we did not have a larger field.

COMMITTEE NEWS

Due to the current recession we have decided that until further notice we will only have a charity day every 3 years. The last couple have barely broken even and with the current tough economic environment this decision had to be made. Donations made to those lesser fortunate than ourselves is still considered a most important fundamental of the club and we will still by way of fines and other revenue earning streams be donating a minimum of \$5000 to a nominated charity each year, probably at the Gold Cup meeting. So if you know of a 'smallish' charity organization that needs a donated item or two, let us know, we may be able to help. It was also agreed to purchase a fancy gift for Marcia Weaver, David's P.A. as a token of our appreciation in helping with our administration over the past few years. We have got her a fancy photograph album.

That's about it for this month, look forward to seeing you at Huapai on the 17th September (12 noon start, have you registered yet?) and don't forget to support our major sponsor CITY GOLF, they are great supporters of our club so don't forget to try them and please don't embarrass them by expecting them to redeem expired vouchers, that's really not fair and not part of the deal Spend a bit, they are very competitively priced and have a good selection of product. Another little tip that you may not know about, if you are planning on playing a game in Oz try booking on www.iseek.com.au it seems to give you a 20% or so saving.

Cheers

Mel.

How true is this:

Golfers who try to make everything perfect before taking the shot rarely make a perfect shot.



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