



Annual Report

2021

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 51st Annual General Meeting of the Yamba Golf & Country Club Ltd will be held at the clubhouse, River St Yamba, at 9am on Sunday, 31st of October 2021.

AGENDA

1. Apologies.
2. To confirm the minutes of the 50th Annual General Meeting held on the 25th October 2020.
3. To receive reports from the President, General Manager, Match and Greens Committees, financial statement of the Directors and the Auditors report for the financial year ending 30th June 2021.
4. Correspondence received.
5. To receive the results of the election of The Board of Directors.
6. To elect the President for the ensuing year.
7. To elect the Captain for the ensuing year.
8. To elect Patrons for the ensuing year.
9. To consider the Ordinary Resolutions to be moved by the Board of Management.
10. To Consider the Special Resolutions to be moved by the Board & Management (if any).
11. To consider Special Resolution on Life Membership to be recommended by the Board of Management (if any).
12. To appoint an Auditor or Auditors in the event that there be a vacancy in the office of Auditor.
13. To determine the membership subscriptions for the 2022/23 year.
14. To receive recommendations from members for consideration by the incoming Board of Directors.

ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS

1. That pursuant to the Registered Clubs Act the members hereby approve that the members of the club's Board of Management shall be entitled to receive the following benefits and advantages:
 - a) Reasonable food and beverage for each member of the Board of Management at meetings of the Board and meetings of Committees of the Board;
 - b) The reasonable cost and expense of, and incidental to, representing the club at functions held within the club and elsewhere, and undertaking such other duties as may be approved from time to time by the Board; and
 - c) The reasonable cost and expense of, and incidental to, the professional development training and education of members of the Board, including (but not limited to):
 - i) Attending meetings of organisations and associations of which the club is a member, or of which members of the Board are members;
 - ii) Attending such conferences, seminars, lectures, trade displays, study tours, fact finding tours and other similar functions as the Board may from time to time determine to be appropriate.
2. The members hereby approve the Board of Directors to pay such premiums as may be necessary to insure Directors and Officers against liability arising from duties performed from time to time.
3. The members acknowledge that the benefits in paragraph (1) and in paragraph (2) above are not available to members generally, but only for those members who are Directors of the club.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION ON LIFE MEMBERSHIP

That the members hereby consider the following nomination for the position of Life Member of the Yamba Golf & Country Club Ltd: If any.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. To be passed, each Ordinary Resolution must receive votes in its favour from a majority of eligible members who vote in person at the meeting.
2. To be passed, the Special Resolution on Life Membership requires votes from no less than two thirds of eligible members who vote in person at the meeting.
3. The Board of the Club recommends the Special Resolution on Life Membership to the members.
4. Proxy voting is prohibited by the Registered Clubs Act.
5. Under the Registered Clubs Act members who are employees of the club are not entitled to vote.
6. Admittance to the Annual General Meeting is STRICTLY by current membership card only.
7. Only Life Members and Full Playing Members are eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting.
8. Members attending the Annual General Meeting who wish to ask questions relevant to the Financial Statements are asked to do so in writing, addressed to the General Manager, and received no later than Monday the 25th of October 2021.

NOTES TO MEMBERS:

Voting for Directors is held at the club at the times and dates listed below. Life, full golfing and social members (with the exception of staff members) are eligible to vote in Board elections.

Dated: 07/10/2021

By the Direction of the Board

**LUKE STEPHENSON
GENERAL MANAGER**

Sat 23rd October	11am - 12noon 3pm - 5pm
Sun 24th October	12noon - 2pm
Mon 25th October	4pm - 6pm
Tue 26th October	4pm - 6pm
Wed 27th October	1pm - 3pm
Thu 28th October	1pm - 3pm
Fri 29th October	1pm - 3pm 4pm - 6pm

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Once again, this report is written after a very difficult year for the Board and Management of the Yamba Golf & Country Club. The Covid situation is not disappearing any time soon. It will be with us in the foreseeable future but the Board and Management will handle each challenge as it arises. This is what we have achieved to date in an ever changing environment.

The Department of Health has recommended we become a double vaccinated establishment as soon as possible which will assist the club's operation, and more importantly, keep it open.

On a more positive note, the club is in a very good financial position to move forward. Our five year machinery policy has rolled over into the second stage. All of our new mowers, work machinery, buses, and golf carts have been updated well within budget for another five years but we are still waiting for our two new fairway mowers which, when they arrive, will complete the roll over.

By the time you read this report, we will have started our \$250,000 upgrade of the irrigation system. The system will be computer operated, solar powered, and will complete irrigation to all areas of the course. This will be a huge move forward.

I would like to thank all of our great volunteers for their contributions to our club including: the concrete paths, gardens, general maintenance on course, and setting up the clubhouse for functions, to name a few. Thank you all for giving back to your club so generously.

Many thanks are due to all our staff members for their hard work to support the club in these difficult times.

To the Board and Management, a massive thanks for making decisions on the direction of the club. Some decisions were made years ago e.g. the five year machinery replacement program and the very big decision to clear the decks moving forward. We took a loss of \$500,000 but those past decisions have now placed us in a very good working position.

In the last two years there has been some great government support for the club which has enabled us to come out of shut downs in a sound position. Our thanks are extended for this.

I would like to welcome our new golfing professional, Jamie Corkhill and his family, to the club. Jamie will bring a new path forward for our golfing operations and the Board and Management will give him all the support necessary to help improve our club's great game.

My condolences to all of those who have lost loved ones through the year. Unfortunately we recently lost life member, Ken Wood. Ken was a great contributor to the club over many years as well as a fantastic member, and person to have associated with our club. My thoughts go out to Ken's family.

Finally, I would like to thank you, the members, for playing golf, supporting your club, and making it such a great meeting place. Please keep playing, supporting, and enjoying your club and course. We are so lucky to have it.

TONY MORAN
PRESIDENT

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Experiencing our first full financial year living with the Covid-19 virus, despite all the challenges and associated difficult circumstances, I am pleased to report a successful result with an end of year profit of \$737,609. The hard work performed utilising strong strategies pre- Covid has stabilised our club and we are now learning to operate and exist alongside Covid, giving us every opportunity to move our club forward successfully. Maintaining due diligence and persistence will ensure the long term viability for our members, staff, our great course and club.

During the year we progressed into the second term of our equipment replacement strategy. Frustratingly, there were significant delays in the new equipment's arrival including the golf carts and course machinery. Several pieces of key equipment, including two new larger fairway mowers, are still to be delivered. The gaming area received a complete, new gaming system along with several new machines to give the area a much needed boost.

Amongst the many challenges of the year I was very happy to receive a call from club patron, Chris Gulaptis, informing us we had submitted a successful grant application which committed \$250,000 to upgrade and refurbish the course irrigation system. Planning and work has commenced and will continue through to February 2023.

Our volunteers' tremendous, continuous work contributes strongly to the success and progression of our club. I thank all who commit their time and efforts across all areas. The cart path proceeds to march along and recently passed the two kilometre milestone. This is an extremely big effort for those involved and I invite any members who wish to assist in any way, to call in and have a chat to us. We can always use extra help.

Financially it was a very good year for the balance sheet while recording a healthy EBITDA of 25.2%. During the year the overdraft facility with NAB was completely paid out by \$220,000. The \$250,000 Covid 50% government guaranteed loan was paid out and closed. The gaming system and buses have been purchased outright and the club house improvements commenced out of cash flow. This was all achieved while building a strong cash position to tackle any further shut downs or Covid challenges.

Sales have shown improvement, however, it is difficult to draw comparisons against last year with both years challenged by Covid business interruptions. Bar sales increased 13%, gaming increased 26%, golf increased 10%, but unfortunately catering was hit the hardest, down 18% due to functions essentially ceasing production for twelve months. I am sure catering will return strongly as the majority of our bookings have chosen to postpone to a less restricted time rather than cancelling all together.

I would like to thank John and Natasha Wright for their strong commitment to the club over eleven years. Thank you to Greg Syle for his consistent effort and dedication to establish our restaurant's food quality reputation. I wish John, Tash, and Greg all the best and success in their future endeavors.

I thank the staff every year, however, last year was extremely challenging. It is well documented across many industries the current challenges in attracting quality employees. Our staff battled through the year, many without opportunities to take well deserved annual leave or time off, and their sustained efforts, particularly the Christmas holiday period which in my opinion was the busiest to date for Yamba, highlights their commitment to servicing the club and its members and guests. Again, I thank you all.

Another challenging year is now behind us. President Tony and the Board of Directors have been up to every challenge, supportive of Management and decisive when setting direction through uncharted waters. It has been a pleasure working for you and I look forward to the coming year full of new challenges. To my wife Jodie and my boys, thanks again for your ongoing support.

Overall the club has performed extremely well. These continue to be tough times for all, especially when isolated from friends and family with restricted living circumstances enforced at very short notice for long periods. The members have been active in support of our club throughout, reassuring staff who are implementing Covid safety plans, and overall enjoying the club, the course, and each other's company. We have more very challenging times ahead and I look forward to your continued support and enjoyment of this great club.

LUKE STEPHENSON
GENERAL MANAGER

GREENS REPORT

This last year has certainly been an interesting test for the staff and members of the Yamba Golf Club. Covid restrictions brought great uncertainty - not knowing exactly what would happen next has been stressful and concerning for all – but now we look forward to this new change. Increased vaccinations influencing the government to ease Covid restrictions will hopefully create a bit more “normality” so we can enjoy the long, hot summer days of golf ahead as we use to.

The green staff have been very busy conducting work on the course at a steady rate continuing with regular preparation for competition and social golfing, and assisting the volunteers with cement preparation and installation on cart paths when required. Repairs to the irrigation system are always ongoing however, with the available \$250 000 grant from NSW Government, we have a very rare opportunity to complete our irrigation system on the 14th, 16th, 17th, and southern half of the 18th fairways to a fully automated watering system at night.

There are many other areas this money will also be utilised. For example, A Grundfos variable speed drive pump has already been installed to replace the very old pump that maintained water pressure on the hydraulic sprinkler line. A new Toro Lynx computer control system is on order which will provide great improvement in how our most important resource, water, is applied to the turf surfaces. There are valves, sprinklers and suspect pipelines that will also be replaced as time allows, and it is important to understand that the entirety of this extensive work will be carried out by the very few green staff and volunteers we currently have. If you are interested in helping, please do so.

In March the Clarence River flooded and even though the river doesn't break over the banks at Yamba, the river height does keep the flood gates closed preventing water flow off the course proper. Prior to the flood, multiple weather fronts kept increasing the water aquifers until the water table was actually above the ground's surface resulting in excessive running water across the 4th fairway and ducks swimming in both the fairway and bunkers at the 4th.

The larger portion of machinery replacement occurred in June, which was timely as the smaller work utilities were struggling to be effective, but the fairway mower replacements and large rough mower are still on back order.

The continuous work on cart paths is quite amazing! The volunteers are always present, either preparing or cementing, and now they are helping with the irrigation installation too, not to mention the garden maintenance, branch, limb, and rubbish removal.

Thanks once again to all the volunteers and green staff who do a great job thoughtfully and consistently.

MARK RYAN
COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

MATCH REPORT

Another difficult year so far for our world with golf, one of the few sports allowed to continue, being a small positive among the many negatives, and bringing many new players to our great game. With numbers increasing like they are, the game and club will continue to grow in years to come.

We also endured the very sad departure of John and Tash from the Pro shop. They supported us for almost 11 years and in that time encouraged so many new members to join our club. John is the epitome of fostering golf, with his clinics and Track Man technology, he gives his all to help others improve their game. Although we'll miss their smiling faces they've left us with some great staff: Leigh, Irvine, and Reilly. Thanks for keeping golf going during these trying times.

On the other hand we're very excited to welcome our new Pro, Jamie Corkill, and his family to the club. They will have big shoes to fill, but I'm sure they will fall in love with our town and community like everyone does.

Golf Australia has stated that for the second consecutive year golf is up in numbers, this time a massive 25% on last year, which is fantastic for our industry. The biggest contributor is the larger numbers of younger people discovering golf and enjoying their isolation time on the course.

Fields for Ladies, Mens, Vets, and Seniors are all seeing large numbers and with not many visitors playing our course it displays our members' loyalty and we thank them for that.

Unfortunately we've witnessed the cancellation of many events like: the Ladies October Tournament, Ladies Pro-am, Vet's Week of Golf, and our Junior Open. We've also faced the constant postponement of our Pro-am, which has now been moved to the 18th and 19th of December 2021. We look forward to next year when all these events are overflowing with golfers keen to return to our beautiful course.

We congratulate the worthy winners of our Ladies Championships: Darrie Nightingale again winning the Ladies A Grade from Susan Scott, Glen Czarnota was the winner from Di Sigle in B Grade, and Ann Schuhmacher was victorious over Meg Kulmar in C Grade. This year's 9 Hole Championships, which continues to grow greatly, was won by Sonya McLennan.

Sue Wilson and Jo Simmons won the 4BBB Match Play Championships, and Ann groom and Val Pate won the Foursomes Championships from Robyn Brockwell and Nadene Carroll.

In the Men's Championships: Richie Carter won convincingly from Jolon Homewood, Andre Rizk won the A Grade net from Craig Penman, Darryl Hagarty beat Tommy James for the title in B Grade, and Jeff Boylan triumphed Nick Allan (both fairly new to the game) in C grade.

The Match Play Champion was Peter Brennan who defeated Luke Woldseth on the 19th hole in the final, and in the 2BBB Match Play Championships a fantastic rivalry unfolded, with Greg Laforest and Andy King defeating Phil McDougal and Neil Drummond in the final.

The Men's Foursomes Championships was won by Col Lindsay and Barry Fisher from Geoff Flett and Rick Addinsall, for the second consecutive year.

I must give a lot of thanks to our Superintendent, Mark Ryan, and his team for making our course the best in the Clarence and beyond. A special thanks to Clayton Hope who, despite the club's closure and being included in the stood down staff, was on course mowing and raking when he wasn't in any way obliged to do so.

Firstly, a huge thanks to David Miles, for whom I can contact any hour of the day with problems and more times than not he finds a solution. Thanks to Dorothy also for allowing us access to this fine man.

To Graham Niland, who is at his post week-in-week-out helping with the smooth operation of Golf at our club. Graham always puts the club first and that's why we admire him so much. Thanks Rowdy.

To the Ladies committee for all your efforts, you've done a fantastic job in especially difficult times, as evident with the sheer increase in numbers to our game.

Many thanks to Greg Starr, Mike Grills, Ken Hall, and Teddy Tuchin for running Veterans golf, and thanks to all the Vets for their generous donations around the club.

To Harold Roberts, Maiva Burnham, and the Seniors committee for running your competitions so smoothly and thanks to the seniors for their patronage of the club.

To the social clubs: the Tramps, the Oyster Cove group, the DRC, the Skins group, and the Friday Angourie Chook runners. All your patronage continues to support the club that supports you.

A big thanks to Cate and her fantastic bar staff who give us such a good name in the industry. Their professionalism makes everyone feel welcome and proud to be a part of this club.

To the kitchen staff for all of their hard work in continually producing great meals we can all enjoy with limited numbers to conduct the work load, an outstanding effort.

To Khara, Brendon and Eryn in the office for helping with all your behind the scenes work and assistance with all things golf. You make us look good and that isn't an easy job.

To President Tony and the Board for continuously guiding us in the right direction and ensuring the club's future for many years to come.

A massive thanks to Luke for leading us through, what I would say, has been the most trying time in Yamba Golf Club history.

Last but far from least, an enormous thanks to the members of the Yamba Golf and Country Club. It is because of your positivity and support that we, the staff, are happy to continue working at such a fine club we can proudly call ours.

I am proud to represent you all as the Golf Operations Manager, and again, I thank you for allowing me to continue my work in this role

CHRIS DURRINGTON
GOLF OPERATIONS MANAGER



FINDEX

SEAFIRE
STEAK + SEAFOOD

THE DECK
BAR AND CAFÉ