

Club Captain's Report 2025

It has been a pleasure to represent the Heads as your Captain for the past 3 years. Early on I was not sure I would last the distance but with the guidance of mainly **Greg Collins** and **Will Ockenden** as well as continued encouragement from so many members, I got through only slightly scathed, battered and bruised. Also, many thanks to the current and past **Board Members**. I have enjoyed your ongoing support.

My aim as Club Captain was to try and communicate to our members basically what is going on, and I endeavoured to do this via my monthly Captain's Newsletter. Also to include information on all members, especially the Ladies and I truly thank **Chris Russell** our Ladies Captain for working so closely with me.

The Vets as well, with **Harry Delany, Brian Rowe, David Wilson** (and sometimes **Paul Manning**) has been a breeze. They are a well-drilled team that has never posed any issues, and the Club always appreciates their donating funds for worthy upgrades around the course.

To the Ladies team led by **Chris Russell**, I appreciate your support. I hope I was able to assist where possible.

Many thanks to the Match and Greens Committee members that meet every month. We have always had an excellent working relationship doing our best to keep everything on track.

A special mention to Greg Collins and his staff who are at the forefront and the first impressions of our Golf Club. They are always welcoming to both members and visitors and conduct their work ethic very professionally.

Also, the Greens Staff under Will who working tirelessly to maintain the course in the best condition possible irrespective of what Mother Nature throws at them. What these five employees do on a consistent basis is outstanding and we should always periodically thank them when we see them out on the course.

Over the past 3 years we have now built two permanent/spare greens (located half-way down the 9th and adjacent to the right of the 17th tee which will also be used for lessons). We have rebuilt the 4th and 11th greens, enlarged the 3rd green and rebuilt tee boxes on 11th and 12th holes. We now have our regular 18 holes back in play. Will and his green's staff can concentrate primarily on course maintenance throughout 2026 before we start more cosmetic work mainly to bunkering in 2027.

There will also be many challenges for our Golf Club into the future. The main one being how to manage playing numbers. We are constantly putting through 4,000+ rounds per month and the golf course is seeing the effects. We will trial ideas and some will probably crash and burn but I am confident we have the right people to navigate our way to the correct solutions eventually moving forward.

The New Practice Nets will be erected soon and ready before the 2026 Championships.

I wish all members happy golfing and that they take time to appreciate the many hours of hard work undertaken by so many volunteers that effectively keeps our golf course in the best condition possible (including facilities), resulting in annual fees that Sydney golfers would dream about.

Many thanks,

Phil Lyons - Club Captain