

BRIDPORT GOLF AND CROQUET CLUBS

NEWSLETTER

Edition 63 - January 2026

Without our sponsors this club would not be in the positive position it is in and able to afford the huge amount of maintenance and equipment required to run a golf course.

We therefore take this opportunity to thank, and advertise these wonderful supporters of our club.

For the month of December:

Scotty Hill & Danny Freeland along with their companies Brown Brothers Wines & Coca Cola Amatil.

Andrew Challis - North-East Glass & Screens, Scottsdale.

Ivan Jensen - IJ Motors, Bridport.

For the month of January:

Jamie & Madeline Carins - J & J Spraying

Capone Mikitae - Sublime Hairdressing

.....and our Big Bash sponsors:

Phil McKenzie & the Sattler Family - Barnboughe Dunes and Lost Farm.

Will & Nick Homan & Todd Daking - Intas Insurance Services.

Will White - WillFit

Jason Russell - Drummonds

Keith Groves, Ken & Ross Padgett - Padgett's Pinebark & Garden Mulch Supplies

Shane Baker - X Golf

Tim Piper - Jailhouse Grill

Peter Caldwell - Dalrymple Wines

Ross Clayton - Sports Power

Josh Molendyk - Star Bar

Nic Betts - Bridport Golfers Lounge

Will Homan & Merodi Jack

Steve & Lisa Ayres

St Marks Bridport



How good is this!

Todd Daking took his two boys up to the golf course and had them repairing divots on the fairways.

Jimmy (7) and Hugo (3).

If only our players took the time to do this!



ROWIE'S BIG BASH

Another extremely successful Big Bash over for 2026, again with a full field of 36 teams, with players coming from as far away as Hobart.
After December's extreme winds we were very lucky to encounter perfect weather for the event, in fact the bar on the 6th tee was well utilised because of the heat.
The winning scores were slightly higher than last year, but still admirable.



The winners were the Bumble Bee team of Jason Lanham, Graeme Williams, Nick and Will Homan with 55.25 nett, and the best Gross score was from the team of Adam Bartholomew, Gerald Matthews, Brett Churchill and Michael French with a neat 60 off the stick.

So nice to see many teams competing for the best dressed team, with the judges unable to separate the Gorillas and the Ginger Bread Men, with both receiving trophies.



We even had spectators from the mainland enjoying the sun at the "Party Hole"



Report from the Board

With only two apologies, Nick Hayes & June Atkinson, the meeting was held on Sunday 18th January.

The sign re drivers of mobile carts is now displayed at the entrance to the clubhouse.

The necessary clearing of vegetation under the power poles leading to the old dam near the 4th green is yet to be undertaken as the power has to be turned off prior to the work being done.

Will Homan & Danny Freeland have developed a good understanding of the Rainbird irrigation system which is now working well.

We were unsuccessful in obtaining a grant to build a new buggy shed, but as this is really needed ASAP, it was voted to proceed with construction with our own funds.

The problem of players hitting up the 4th fairway from the 5th tee has again come up for discussion as one of our players was recently hit by a golf ball. The option to make this Out of Bounds was not favoured as it could slow up play. Players are encouraged to please NOT use that route and to play the hole as it has been rated!

The Board has agreed that we need to take preventative action by conducting controlled fuel reduction burn offs.

These have not taken place for many years and fuel has built up from natural weather events and course clean-ups. It would be appropriate to commence these in April/May this year and be completed by September.

The Tasmanian Fire Service has been consulted.

Nick and Will are working the the 2026/27 fixtures as we have many new sponsors to fit in at appropriate times. The fixture book should still be published by the end of February as usual.

Xavier has offered to assist Greg with the moving of the pins, and whilst he is available through school holidays Greg has accepted the offer gratefully.



Very exciting day for one of our juniors. 13 year old Jobe Beeson had a hole-in-one on the 13th at Bougle Run on Tuesday 27th. Fantastic effort Jobe!

MATCH COMMITTEE REPORT

I'm delighted to share that the new Sponsors Fixture Book will be released shortly. This is an important resource showcasing the continued support of our valued sponsors, Members are encouraged to plan ahead, participate in upcoming competitions and events, and make the most of the opportunities the club provides. I also encourage all members to support these businesses that sponsor us wherever possible. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to course management for maintaining the course in excellent condition, ensuring a great experience for all members. A huge thank you also goes to our volunteers, whose dedication keeps our weekly competitions and club events running smoothly. On a personal note, I am very grateful to the members who have guided and supported me as I settled into Captain's role. Your advice and encouragement has been invaluable, and I look forward to working with you all throughout Our competitions to date have been well supported and I look forward to seeing everyone on the course, enjoying the weekly competitions, and making this a fantastic year for our club.

J & J SPRAYING DAY

An excellent field of 50 players competed for the very generous prizes supplied by Jamie & Madeline Carins. Mandy Claridge was the women's winner with the best score of the day of 40 points, with Trish Nichol a close second with 39 points.

A countback decided the winner and runner-up for the A grade men with Mick Taylor edging out the runner-up Eddie Walker, both with 38 points.

Division 2 men's winner was Russell Allen also with 38 points and the runner-up Henry Carins c/b Graeme Williams with 36 points.



CROQUET REPORT

Welcome back to all members. Our 2026 season kicked off on Wednesday 14th January, which was well attended and some beautiful weather at last.

With the departure of Chris and Kevin, Danny and Eddy are now managing the watering and mowing of our lawns.

It was good to see new faces and especially young ones enjoying a game of croquet over the summer break.

On Monday 19th January, the golf club held their Opening/Charity Day. it was good to be able to lend our support in the kitchen.

Probus members had a play date on 23rd,



enjoying fun games and sharing lunchtime with our members.

Our next general meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th February after our scheduled croquet games.

Croquet held every Wednesday at 9.45; new players most welcome.

OPENING/CHARITY DAY

No charity has yet been decided upon to donate the profit from this day. We usually try to keep our donation local, but no decision has been made this year on the beneficiary.

14 teams competed in a 4 ball Ambrose on Monday 19th January, 9 players of whom were juniors.



With a great score of 53.25 the winning team consisted of 2 juniors - Beau Gerke, along with Dad Sam & Austen Freeland, with grandmother Breeze Ebbelaar. Runners-up were Phil Atherton with son Hugo, Charlie Slater and Emmett Gale - 54.125.

It was great to see Helen and David Watts back playing in competitions, teaming up with Raylene Taylor & Jamie Carins to come in 3rd with 55.625.

With our caterer extraordinaire, Lindy, away, the Croquet Club ladies took over the task of feeding the masses, for which we are very grateful.



Junior and Beginner Participation in Club Competitions Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that junior and beginner golfers have a safe, fair, and enjoyable experience while participating in club competitions. This policy is designed to help juniors and beginners learn the Rules of Golf and develop good golfing etiquette. To support this aim, juniors and beginners will play in groups that include at least one experienced adult player.

Commitment to Learning and Consistency

Our club is committed to providing a supportive learning environment for all juniors and beginners. This policy ensures clarity and consistency in applying the Rules of Golf, discipline, and etiquette across all competition fields. The policy aligns with the principles set out by Golf Australia.

Scope

This policy applies to all junior and beginner members who participate in club-run competitions.

Policy Details

Adult Accompaniment

- Junior and beginner competitors will be grouped with an adult club member during competitions unless the Match Committee grants approval for an exception.
- The adult's role is to help juniors and beginners understand the Rules of Golf, maintain proper etiquette, and uphold an appropriate pace of play.

Role of the Adult

- Explain the Rules of Golf when necessary.
- Encourage good etiquette, maintain pace of play, and ensure care of the course.
- Provide supervision and support for junior and beginner golfers.
- The adult must not give coaching or swing advice, instruct juniors or beginners on how to play specific shots or select clubs, nor influence the outcome of the competition.

Expectations for Juniors and Beginners

- Always Follow the Rules of Golf.
- Show respect to other players, officials, and the golf course.
- Play at a good pace and enjoy the game.

Safeguarding and Fair Play

- All participants must adhere to the club's Member Protection Policy and Golf Australia guidelines.
- The goal is to foster a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for everyone.

Review

- This policy will be reviewed periodically by the BGC Board to ensure it continues to meet best practice and Golf Australia standards.



At the mention of Lindy's name, these 4 snapped into gear to have the back door fixed before she returned home. How many Irishmen.....?

Operation of Mobile carts on the Golf Course.

Operating a mobile cart on the Bridport Golf Course requires a valid driver's license and adherence to all applicable licensing regulations. E-bikes and e-scooters are not allowed on the golf course.

Welcome to New Members:

Golf:

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Karen Hay | Brett Hay |
| Jonty Krushka | Maddison Dunn |
| Jack Gillespie | Jacob Bowerman |
| Kirby Gerke | Karen Laycock |
| Jan Lynch | |

Juniors:

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Ruby Hall | Lewis Schulz |
| Hugh Gerke | |

ATTENTION PENNANT PLAYERS!

Both men and women - if you are interested in being included in a pennant team this year, please add your name to the list on the notice board. Pennant season will be upon very soon and our teams have performed very well the past couple of years.



Another of our juniors had a day out on Wednesday 28th January. Xavier Nicholls has broken the course record set by Anthony Toogood, by carding a 66 off the stick. Well done Xavier.

COURSE REPORT

Lots of problems with equipment at present. Tractor, Rough mower, Fairway watering and several sprinklers are broken.

Winners of Major Events

Men:

Monthly Trophy: Xavier Nicholls

Women:

Monthly Trophy: Breeze Ebbelaar
Elaine's Summer Cup: Mandy Hall

- To me, "drink responsibly" means don't spill it.
- I had my patience tested. I'm negative.
- I don't mean to interrupt people. I just randomly remember things and get really excited.