

Murrumbidgee Country Club

MEMBERS NEWS April 2010

To receive your regular
Newsletter by email, contact:

The Management office
admin@mccgolfclub.com

PIPELINE UPDATE

Thanks to recent rain we can now see the difference water makes to our course. Our progress with the pipeline project is still high priority as history shows that without it, we will be at the mercy of drought again before we know it. We've now completed site surveys of the pipeline route, and although our grant application for government financial assistance was rejected, I am maintaining pressure on local government to source funding, but in the interim we must adopt a business plan to fund this project which is vital to our future.

To allow for repayment of loans and costs incurred to build & maintain it a \$2 'pipeline' fee will contribute to these costs. To assist members follow the progress of the pipeline development and in particular ensure we are on track to meet our obligations the Board will regularly inform members how we are tracking.

As at February 2010 MCC had incurred \$15,000 worth of expenses, and even before construction begins more costs will accumulate.

The \$2 fee is a 'user pays' fee we feel is necessary to help meet targets.

Every Month we will publish a flow chart showing exactly how the fund is progressing, As promised this fund will be totally transparent, so each month the \$2 pipeline fee collected will be clearly displayed and distributed to members.

VIKINGS DISCUSSIONS

The board has accepted an offer of financial assistance in the form of a temporary loan from the Vikings Group, while discussions progress towards a possible merger plan. Contrary to many rumours Murrumbidgee and Vikings has **not** entered into any formal agreement. We made the initial approach to Vikings in November and they responded positively. However, there are many necessary steps to take before either party can commit to such an arrangement.

I make no secret that I personally believe that the future growth and prosperity of Murrumbidgee will rely on support from an organisation such as Vikings who have a substantial member base, and proven ability to sustain profitability while maintaining the highest standards of member benefits, at minimum cost. It is important, however, to ensure that both parties benefit. Therefore we await a formal proposal, as soon as practical.



Chief Minister **Jon Stanhope** recently joined us for a close inspection of the course and visited the proposed pipeline route as part of his assurance he and his government will continue to support **Murrumbidgee Country Club** as a valuable Tuggeranong sport and recreational facility.

WORKING BEE

Thanks to 30 volunteers who manicured our entrance at the working bee on April 11. In particular, **Phil Terry** of Superior Landscaping, who once again rose to the occasion. The gardens and new stone wall have transformed the club entrance magnificently, and credit is due to all contributors.

COCKTAIL NIGHT

Well done to our entertainment volunteers, who conceived and ran the hugely successful Cocktail night on Saturday March 20. The night was attended by more than 70 revelers and around \$1000 was raised towards new outdoor furniture.

The next 'theme' night will be a 70's and 80's Theme on Saturday, May 1. A \$5 cover charge will apply Angel will provide the music, & the restaurant will be open. Please book your table early.

WELCOME RAIN.

Recent rain has given us welcome relief and magnificent lakeside views from our club and course. We are, however maintaining the highest priority on the completion of our pipeline project and continuing negotiations with the Vikings group. Both, I feel are essential to not only the future of our club, but to our goal of reaching the potential standard Tuggeranong's only golf course deserves.

To recover from many years of hand-to-mouth trading, and torture by drought, we need at least 2 years with water, and more cash than we have, to raise our standard to a level our paying members and visitors expect.



The Sky fell on Finance Director Tony Lee during the downpour, which raised our dam levels to capacity.

For the first time in many years, we enjoyed relief from casual water extending well beyond the 18th fairway hazard pegs. The following unusually warm spell, has encouraged excellent fairway growth. Green staff have coped well with the additional mowing and maintenance workload, plus unexpected water damage to power supplies.

CLUB THEFT.

Over past months, the club has been broken into & , vandalised 5 times, and the culprits have escaped with little more than a couple of bottles of liquor, before police and security arrived within minutes.

Each time, however, damage or our insurance excess has cost many thousands of dollars.

What a waste!!!!

Recent clearing of the club entrance should now improve visibility to the front entrance, and hopefully deter offenders.

Another gross example of dishonesty that directly costs our paying members and green fee players is 'FENCE JUMPERS'

Increasing numbers have been reported, and it seems they have little regard for the high costs of up keeping our course, or basic honesty.

I urge all players to ask anyone they see on the course , cue jumping, or moving to or from the car park, for their Pro Shop receipt, or their membership card. Everyone has full authority to ask alleged offenders to pay, or leave the course. If necessary, just take details, and we will follow up. Only those guilty of not paying will refuse to give personal details.

Some offenders even park vehicles by the roadside, and play a few holes. They may as well be stealing from our cash register.

All members and visitors **MUST** report to the Pro Shop before play.

OPEN WELCOMES NEW SPONSOR

We are proud to welcome LJ Hooker Tuggeranong as club sponsors and corporate sponsors of the 2010 Murrumbidgee Open. Mario, Frank and the team at LJH will be regulars at Murrumbidgee since they played in Donna Soldo's Canteen charity day. LJ Hooker specializes in the Tuggeranong region and I hope our members support them whenever possible. **Those who haven't yet entered in the event, please hurry as spots are limited**

The 2010 MURRUMBIDGEE OPEN
April 17 & 18

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN PRIZES
36 Hole Tournament - 3 Grades

LJ Hooker Tuggeranong **WIN TELEVISION** **COME OUT & PLAY**

Entry forms available at your club or at Murrumbidgee Country Club
Kambah Pool Road, Kambah Phone 6296 2888

Murrumbidgee Country Club

Finally...If you don't agree our course is finally coming back to a standard competitive to any other local coarse...you don't like home cooking. Our club functions and competitions are attracting more patronage each week which is encouraging.. Enjoy your golf and tell your friends.

Ron Shepherd. President

Murrumbidgee Country Club