

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

THE FINDINGS OF SURVEYS UNDERTAKEN BY OURSELVES AND PGA AUSTRALIA SHOW:

- Many modern golfers are time poor and would be attracted to an 18 hole short course.
- New & senior golfers have difficulty reaching fairways from existing tees.
- Many women golfers will welcome an optional shorter course.
- Juniors and beginners are intimidated by longer fairways.

The Murrumbidgee board has decided to trial an innovative new “short course” to be known as:

THE GREEN COURSE

This concept has been advocated by Women’s groups and Seniors for some years, yet no-one has taken the initiative until now.

Leading golf course designer/ consultant Lyne Morrison has laid out markings to indicate the position of the now green markers. These will be included in the 2011 course ratings.

Our proposed Green Course is short, somewhere around 1,000 metres shorter than the existing Red Course and a Par 70 rather than a Par 73. (It is suggested the 15th become a Par 4 instead of Par 5, and the 8th and 18th both be reduced from Par 4s to Par 3s.)

As expected, for most holes the tee would be at the start of the fairway, or even further forward, and would be low profile so as not to interfere with mowing of the fairway. Care has been taken not to obstruct existing Blue, White, Yellow & Red landing areas. On holes 4 and 17, Lyne suggests the teeing ground for the Red Course be extended forward a few metres to accommodate the Green Tee. New tees are suggested for the 9th and 13th. Lyne will provide the club with a detailed plan of her proposed course and an outline of her thinking in setting up each hole for our consideration

The markings Lyne has made on the course are only temporary and permanent plates will be in place by the time the ratings team arrive on Thursday 24 March 2011. Thanks to Sandra Fenwick & Willie Tyhouse for installing these at no cost to the club.

Once the plates are down, all members will be able to see what is proposed. If something has been overlooked or an error made, there will still be time to move the Green plates. Even if it is decided to move the Green plates after the rating is done on 24 March, it should not be a major exercise to get Golf Australia to vary the rating.

At this stage no decision has been made to do any work on the course smoothing fairway teeing positions, extending tees or building new ones. That will all need to be considered further down the track.

This is an exciting project and I very much hope a Green Course will prove to be a real asset for the club.

Use of the green tee’s in competitions will be determined later, and they will be an option we will publicise to attract golfers presently intimidated by longer courses.

The club has secured sponsorship for the new short course to cover any costs incurred in the construction of the new teeing positions or fairway course smoothing.

Any comments or suggestions are welcome.
On behalf of the board of directors

Ron Shepherd
President




Murrumbidgee Country Club