



## From the Bunker

### July 2020

Welcome to this edition of "From the Bunker", our golf bulletin to help both new and old members keep up to date on things like rule changes, upcoming events, and other golfing matters. We received some great feedback and suggestions in the past and have tried to incorporate those into this edition.

#### COVID-19

In recent months we have all had some challenging times with COVID-19. To date, the golf community has led the way in pursuing their chosen recreation in a responsible and safe manner. Please keep up the good work! Just a reminder that we still have preferred lies in bunkers and not to take the flag sticks out when putting.

**To try and improve the condition of the course, the Club is purchasing sand buckets so that *playing members can have their own bucket and be able to fill divots. We will let you know when they are available for collection***

I know we all have really enjoyed the Club being open, being able to have a chat and drink with our friends after the game, BUT it appears that COVID is getting another grip on Australia. We all need to go back to being a little better behaved and careful - so PLEASE let's get back to *proper* social distancing, using hand sanitiser, minimising contact with others, and if we are lucky we might avoid another lockdown. Please do *your* part, and if you see others jeopardising their or others health, be a good mate and *gently remind* them what needs to be done.

#### CLUB ELECTIONS

Recently, all members were advised of the upcoming elections for the Club's Board. The Club encourages members to step up and take a leading role as a director of the Club. All Financial Playing Adult Members of the Club are eligible. If you have any questions about being a director, see any of the current board members who will be happy to assist you.

#### NEW WEBSITE

Check out the Clubs new website. It's the same address, but with a great new look. Thanks to Elaine O'Connor for her hard work in putting it together.

#### CARMEN'S

Carmen's is back! After a corona virus enforced absence, enjoy the culinary delights of Carmen's restaurant for lunch or dinner, or just have a great toastie or bacon and egg roll at halfway.

Carmen can provide tasty snacks at hallway during your round. Text your order (0414 609 398) to Carmen when on the 9<sup>th</sup> tee, and it will be ready for you when you get to the Clubhouse.

## RULES CORNER

**Lost Ball or Out of Bounds** - Just a reminder the Club has NOT implemented the Local Rule where you can drop on the adjacent fairway and add 2 penalty strokes. At Barnie if you lose a ball or hit one OOB, it's a stroke and distance penalty I.E. it's back to the last place you played from, or if it's not a "Stroke" round you can just take a wipe. So the stroke that caused the lost the ball counts and you also need to add one penalty stroke.

**Don't Forget** - If the group behind are waiting on you after your unsuccessful identification or search don't forget to call the group behind through before you proceed under stroke and distance penalty.

**Playing the Wrong Ball** -The Rules of Golf (6.3c) states "a player must not make a stroke at a wrong ball".

When you reach what you *think* is your ball on the course, before you play it, make sure that it is *definitely* your ball. Check for the brand of the ball, number and any distinguishing marks you may have added to it. Playing the wrong ball can ruin a hole (or a round) for you AND the person whose ball you played. It also means that you will incur a General Penalty, that is two penalty strokes (or loss of hole in match play). You must correct the mistake by continuing play with the original ball by playing it as it lies or taking relief under the Rules - The stroke made with the wrong ball and any more strokes before the mistake is corrected (including strokes made and any penalty strokes solely from playing that ball) do not count.

If you do not correct the mistake before making a stroke to begin another hole or, for the final hole of the round, before returning your scorecard, you are disqualified.

What do you do if your ball was played by another player as a Ball? If it is **known or virtually certain** that your ball was played by another player as a wrong ball, you must replace the original ball or another ball on the original spot (which if not known must be estimated).

This applies whether or not the original ball has been found. The important thing here is **what is 'virtually certain'?**

The standard for deciding what happened to a player's ball – for example, whether the ball came to rest in a penalty area, was played by another (moved by an outside agency), whether it moved at address or what caused it to move.

**Known or virtually certain means more than just possible or probable.** It means that either:

- There is conclusive evidence that the event in question happened to the player's ball, such as when the player or other witnesses saw it happen, or
- Although there is a very small degree of doubt, **all reasonably available information** shows that it is at least 95% likely that the event in question happened.

"All reasonably available information" includes all information the player knows and all other information he or she can get with reasonable effort and without unreasonable delay. It *may* also mean running up to the person that you think played your ball and finding your ball...*if time allows*.

**Ball Identification** – Did you know if you find a ball with the same brand, model, number and condition as your ball in an area where your ball is expected to be (even on a green) and there is an identical ball in the same area, your ball is lost and you must proceed under 18.2, penalty of stroke and distance? Yep you need to go back to where you hit the ball last, add one penalty and include the shot you made that lost your ball – OUCH!

This applies to provisional balls too – If you hit a provisional off the tee and when searching two balls are found in the same area, and the balls are not differently marked then the player must choose one of the balls **to be treated as the provisional ball which is now in play**, and the other ball is treated as lost and must not be played so you are playing 4 from one of the found balls, even though it 'might' be your first ball. (DOUBLE OUCH, tough but fair, all you

need do is play a provisional that is different to your first and announce the type, or number of the provisional ball to your playing partners before you hit it).

## HINTS AND TIPS

Please properly identify a ball is your before playing it.

Don't pick up random balls on the course.

Mark you ball with a very obvious mark or marks that can be seen from any angle –people use one dot or 3 dot or a line, so does nearly everyone else, do something big and bold, your initials a few times, a pattern, picture or use a bright colour – put the odds in your favour.

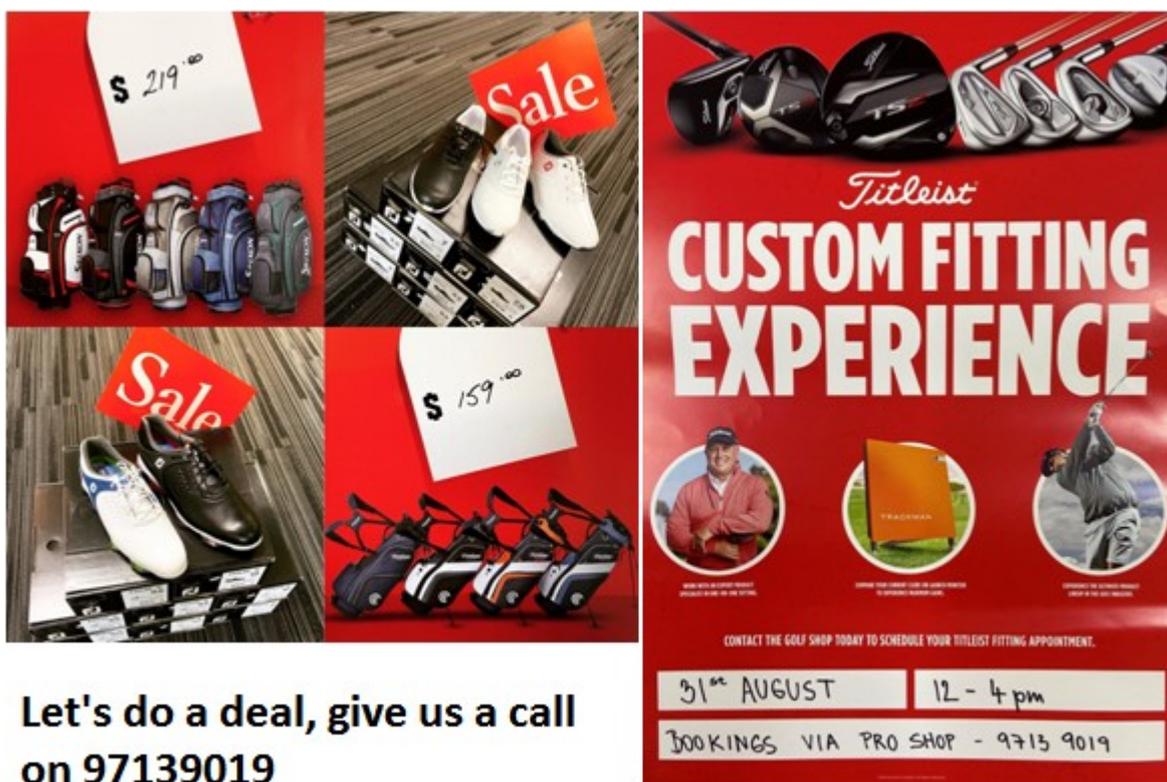
## PRO SHOP

### Current Specials

- Cleveland Carry/ Cart Bags \$159
- Srixon Cart Bags \$219
- Wide range of Junior/ Women/ Men shoes starting at \$89
- Srixon Ulti Soft & Soft Feel golf balls – 1 dozen for \$30/ 2 dozens for \$50

### Pro Shop Special Event

Titleist Fitting Day on 31st August from 12 – 4pm (bookings essential)



**Let's do a deal, give us a call  
on 97139019**

## DIVOTS

In our last issue, we outlined how to repair divots and pitch marks. As these are a perennial problem for golf courses, our top tips are repeated!

- Use the sand to repair divots both on the fairways and in the rough.
- Remove any loose turf from the divot. Do not replace the dislodged divot back in the grass.
- Knock in all sides of the edge of the divot with your Club or your shoe.
- Lightly sand the divot creating a smooth playing surface.
- Where possible, avoid walking on bare patches in order to give the grass an opportunity to recover.

## PITCH MARKS

- A pitch mark that is repaired correctly will recover in 24 hours.
- An unrepaired pitch mark left unattended for 2 hours will take up to 56 days to recover.
- Unrepaired pitch marks also foster disease and infections in the green.

Correctly repairing a pitch mark is as simple as:

- 1 Start at the back of the mark and push forward with your pitch mark reparer (avoid the use of tees or keys)
- 2 Use the reparer around all sides and slowly ease turf *toward the centre of the mark. Do not lift the soil upwards.*
- 3 Lightly tap down the repaired pitch mark with your putter leaving a flat smooth surface.

## TEES

Like pitch marks and divots, did you know grass does not like to grown down into holes? It likes a level surface or slight up hill. That's why a filled divot will grow grass quickly.

We can ALL HELP by filling TWO divots on each tee box, one for us and one for the player that forgot. If you see bare ground on the tee maybe sprinkle the rest of your bucket over it, which will aid regrowth (if only the same thing worked for hair!).

## SLOW PLAY

This item is in every the newsletter! Every group has a bad hole every now and then, a lost ball and having to go back to the tee, or sculling 3 or 4 chips onto and over the green – that's golf and it happens all the time. It's what happens after some trouble that is important. The group needs to do a little work to catch up.

Think about this, you are in the middle of the field on a Saturday and fall two holes behind, that's about 20—30 minutes delay for *everyone* behind you, you run the risk of ruining the day for up to 70 people, that's just not fair. You have some options, doing nothing about it is NOT an option, hurry up (check out below for some fantastic hints on catching the group in front), everyone in your group pick up on the hole go to the next tee, or let the group behind through. Don't wait for the group behind to have to ask, its uncomfortable for some people to have to ask, it's your group that is the problem, it's your group that should fix it fair is fair.

Don't want the group behind to play through?, think again, **Barnwell Park By-Law 6 clearly states:** When a group fails to maintain their position in the field and falls more than one (1) hole behind (& does not invite the following group to pass through either voluntarily or by request from the following players), EACH PLAYER in that group may, at the discretion of the Club Captain, relevant Vice-Captain or relevant MC, be PENALISED TWO (2) STROKES for failing to observe the rules of golf.

So if the group in front of you are slow and have been a hole behind *for more than a couple of holes* and are not catching up to the group in front; POLITELY ask to play through as they cannot deny you, if they do say no, don't start a fight, just write a short letter address it to the match committee and hand it to the bar staff after the game and let the Match Committee deal with it. Dob in a snail today, if you don't write a letter nothing can be done about it and the problem will continue.

Here are some ideas for you to try if you find your group is behind and need to catch up:

- The **low marker** is responsible for pace of play for the group, so if that is you – keep the group moving!
- Closest to pin on green, mark your ball quickly.
- First in the hole? Soon as you putt out walk to next tee and get ready to play as soon as one of your group gets there.
- Mark cards on the next tee while others are hitting off, or if you are a hole behind, do it down the fairway when you are waiting to play.
- If you cannot score in Stableford or Par etc, pick up.

- Leave chit chat with other groups to the Club house.
- Play *'ready golf'* when you are falling behind. If there is no danger walk straight to your ball, don't wait behind the shortest hitter. If you are walking to the far side of the fairway, it shouldn't worry them. Play out of turn a few times to catch up. Hit when safe and ready, don't wait for other payers even if they are further away from hole than you are.
- If your ball is already on the green and someone else is in the bunker, be ready to rake the bunker for them so they can move their Clubs and get ready to putt by the time you've finished raking the bunker (of course this one is for a post-COVID world!)
- Always leave your Clubs at side of green, between the hole and the next tee. Don't leave your Clubs at the front of the green!
- If you are searching for a lost ball or have fallen more than hole behind, please be a good sport and immediately call the group behind through – don't wait for them to ask.
- Putt out when possible, rather than mark your ball – that saves a minute or so each hole.
- Remember the half way compulsory stop rules; When the 9th hole has been completed after the Club opening times, a compulsory short stop is in effect for all players. Players are to move on when the following group enters the Clubhouse. Players must not allow the preceding group to get more than the required distance ahead. Food and drinks purchased should be appropriate to the shortness of the stop.
- If you are a hole behind when you get to the ninth then maybe your group is due for a very short stop in the Clubhouse or maybe no stop at all, use your judgement.

Now that we are using the scoring app, how long we take for a round is recorded. The Match Committee will be poring over this data to see if some of us need a little reminder about how to play faster!

#### **UPCOMING GOLF EVENTS - JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER**

##### **MEN:**

**Winter Cup** (best 4 of 7 rounds) - Final Rounds, 5<sup>th</sup> round 18/ 7, 6<sup>th</sup> round 8/8, and the final round 22/8.

**Warren & Gibson Shield** – Commences 26/7.

**Cup Day** – Barnwell Park, Canada Bay & Five Dock Cups (A, B & C Grade Scratch Cups) Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

##### **LADIES:**

**Midweek Singles Knockout** – Qualifying round 5<sup>th</sup> August - 1<sup>st</sup> round and finals over the following 4 weeks.

**Chris Willard Trophy** – Midweek Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Weekend Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

##### **MIXED:**

**Mixed Match Play** – Qualifier Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September.

**Arthur Collins Trophy** – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September Aggregate Medley Stableford.

##### **MEDLEY:**

**Laurene Priest Memorial Trophy** – Sunday, July 19 – Buy up to 6 'Mulligans' only \$10.

**NTP Knockout** - 2nd of August, 3.30pm on the 8th hole (the tee will be set short). \$5 entry, winner gets \$100 in Club vouchers. Groups of four tee off, the closest two progress to the next round, until there is one left; the WINNER.

**NOTE: Barnwell Park's Spring Green Renovations (coring & sanding) will commence out on the 14/9/2020**

#### **UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS:**

The Club has a new Events Committee, their role is to plan, coordinate and delivery fun social events for the members, they also assist the Match Committees with marketing, planning and running of the 'social side' of some of

the Club's Golf events. They recently brought you; The Roy Johnson Trophy Golf and BBQ day, and The Great Unlockdown Party, with more events planned to keep you entertained throughout the year. Members of this great team are Sonya Jones (chair), Denise Brown (co-chair), Mary Coleman, Neridah Armstrong, Christine Chew, David Stuto , Grant Marshall , and Joe Hall...if you see these guys around give them a pat on the back or 'bump COVID elbows' as thanks for giving their time and effort to the Club and its members.

- **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July: Laurene Priest Memorial Day.** Tee off from 9am, buy Mulligan's from the Pro Shop, 6 for \$10, bring a mate, have a laugh, no handicap required, all money raised to benefit the Club.
- **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August: Nearest the Pin Knockout & Sausage Sizzle:** Starts 3.30 pm, \$5 to enter, winner gets \$100 is Club vouchers.
- **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October: Trivia Night.** With very own Quiz Master Simon Whale, *more details coming soon !*

That's all for this edition of **"From the Bunker"**. We are always looking for constructive feedback to improve future editions. Please send your suggestions, complaints or ideas to [membership@barnwellparkgolfclub.com.au](mailto:membership@barnwellparkgolfclub.com.au) .

Regards,

***Barnie Match Committees***

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