EDITORIAL
Hi Everyone. It has been a busy couple of months since our last edition, both on and off the course. Here are the main points from the Board: Firstly, Helen Langenberg has decided to stand down from the role of Chair and Mr Tony Bush has stepped in for an initial term until the first Board meeting after the Annual General Meeting. The governance and structural review continued, the main activity being the collection of around 160 survey responses. Thank you everyone that took time to respond. Lander & Rogers are now analysing and summarising your responses and will report back to the Board in late January. Mr Stephen Pitt, CEO Golf Australia, has agreed to facilitate a Strategic Planning session with the Board. Further progress and the outcomes will be forth coming with a member’s forum proposed to follow the 2014 Annual General Meeting. Speaking of the Annual General Meeting, we are working towards (but subject to change) Sunday April 13, pencil it in. Golf Tasmania has announced the launch of our Regional Development Programs and the appointments of Zac Rollins (NW), Bryce Gorham (N) and Alex Head (interim, S) as regional Development Coaches. We will arrange information evenings in each region for players, parents etc. and look forward to meeting and working with the established junior committees in each region to ensure the best and efficient use of resources state-wide. Golf Tasmania has also released its State Team Selection Policies which are available on the Golf Tasmania webpage in the (still under construction) redesigned Development and HP page. Finally we welcome new Golf Tasmania members The Tasmanian Police Golf Club.

Craig French, GENERAL MANAGER

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR
The highest priority for the Board of Golf Tasmania this year is our review. Our advisors in this are Lander and Rogers, who have now conducted forums in each area of the State, listened to interested golfers and other parties and produced a survey document which has been completed by many members of the golfing fraternity. We await their collation of the results of the survey with anticipation as it should formalise what golfers in this State are actually concerned about and what their needs are. It has been wonderful to see that even before the forums and the survey, Craig French our General Manager and his team have been dealing with one of our member’s biggest gripes which was lack of communication, now being addressed regularly with newsletters which can be read on the Golf Tasmania website and are being sent to clubs. I really hope clubs are sending these on to their members email addresses for their information. Following a great deal of time and effort, Paul Beard has nearly completed his plan for implementing a system of regional coaches for development of our higher performance golfers and for criteria based selection of State and representative teams, so that everyone understands the requirement for making these teams (see them on our website). I really hope this publicizing of what golfers need to achieve to reach the next level diminishes the angst sometimes seen relating to selections. Currently Golf Tasmania is on track for our Annual General Meeting in late March or early April to release the Lander and Rogers report and recommendations, and our new constitution. I look forward to then assisting the implementation of these recommendations giving us all greater faith in the direction of Golf Tasmania, increasing club viability, and improving development pathways for our members who are chasing a career in golf.

Tony Bush, CHAIR

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TASMANIAN MEN’S & WOMEN’S AMATEURS

33-year-old Mark Schulze claimed the Men’s Amateur Championship of Tasmania in November.

To reach the final, the Tasmania Golf Club member and number three qualifier despatched Smithton’s Ben Elliott 1up in the first match play round of the championship.

Schulze then made short work of his quarter final match defeating Devonport Golf Club member Scott Read 6&5 on the morning of November 23.

The afternoon semi-finals saw Schulze encounter Victorian James Bannan from the Rosanna Golf Club.

Bannan, who qualified second, defeated Prospect Vale Golf Club member Matt Marston 7&5 and accounted for Queensland’s Dylan Brown 4&2.

However Bannan’s run to the final came to an end when Schulze, un-phased by his opponent, confidently set about his business and claimed the match 3&2.

Meanwhile in the lower half of the draw Queenslander and number four qualifier Alexander McCoy was paving his own path to the final.

In the first round the Royal Queensland Golf Club member defeated Austin Dukeson from the Zeehan Golf Club 4&2.

McCoy followed this up with a quarter final win over State team member Nathan Gatehouse 5&3.

The 20-year-old had a nail biter of a semi-final defeating another State team member in Andrew Phillips of Tasmania Golf 1up.

The highly anticipated final lived up to all expectations with neither golfer gaining an advantage throughout the 36-hole final. Schulze eventually winning 4&3.

Victorian and former National Squad member Grace Lennon won the corresponding women’s title.

Lennon, a member of Kingston Heath Golf Club, defeated Western Australia’s Hayley Bettencourt 4&3 to claim the Tasmanian Amateur championship.

Lennon had earlier beaten Launceston’s Tammy Hall 1up and Tasmania Golf Club junior Georgia Milbourne 7&5 en route to the final.

Bettencourt defeated local member Sarah Johnstone of 4&3 and Devonport’s Lu Proud on her journey to the final.

Burnie Golf Club’s Aaron Dobson and Riverside member Amanda Smith took out their respective men’s and women’s handicap titles.

Dobson defeated Tasmania Golf Club’s Ranald Allan 1up and Smith claimed her first handicap title by the same margin over Maree Fish of Mowbray.
GEORGIA IN MASTERS LINE-UP
Promising youngster Georgia Milbourne will represent Tasmania at this month’s Greg Norman Junior Masters on the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast.

Milbourne has been improving in leaps and bounds over recent months and should benefit greatly from the experience.

“My long game, especially my drives, have been the strongest part of my game,” said the Tasmania Golf Club junior member.

Milbourne has been playing golf for about three years and has reduced her handicap from 31 to 8.

“Winning my first State event would certainly be a highlight of the past three years,” said the 15-year-old.

Milbourne recently held off a quality field to win the Tasmanian Business Women’s Open Tournament at Kingston Beach Golf Club beating the likes of Royal Hobart Golf Club’s Anne Medlycott and Victoria’s Heather Harley, to claim the title with a round of 85.

It is stand-out performances such as this which have inspired Milbourne to challenge stalwarts of the game on a grander stage.

“Georgia’s hard work and dedication is starting to pay off,” said Georgia’s mentor and National Coach – Tasmania, Alex Head.

“Georgia is on track to achieving success locally and nationally. She is an exciting prospect for Tasmanian golf.”

Milbourne will be joined at the event which is held annually by Prospect Vale Golf Club’s Jack Tregaskisjago.

Tregaskisjago is a current member of the State boys’ team and will welcome the opportunity to once again mix it up amongst his peers on the National scene.

The Palmer Colonial and Gold Coast courses, and the Palmer Coolum Resort on the Sunshine Coast will host the Greg Norman Junior Masters from December 14-18.

2014 EVENTS CALENDAR
Tamar Valley Junior Cup* January 19-21
Tasmanian Junior Masters* January 23-24
Tasmanian Open* February 6-9
Elvie Whitesides 72-Hole Stroke Play* February 6-9
Tasmanian Men’s Senior Amateur* February 12-14
Tasmanian Men’s Senior Open* February 16-17
Claremont Shield March 1-2
Tasmanian Junior Pennant Final (South) March 23

*Rental Ranking Event

A more detailed schedule of events can be viewed at http://www.golftasmania.org.au/default.aspx?sl=events&ye
ar=2014

RULES OF GOLF QUIZ
In a match, Bill by mistake starts with fifteen clubs in his bag. He wins the first three holes and, walking to the 4th tee, he discovers his error. What is the ruling?

Bill incurs a penalty of two holes with the penalty being applied to the state of the match at the time the violation was discovered. Thus Bill is 1 up at the 4th tee. Rule 4-4a.

OFFICE CLOSURE
Please note that the office of Golf Tasmania will close for the Christmas holidays on Friday 20 December, 2013 at 4.00pm. The Office will re-open in the New Year on Monday 6 January, 2014.

THE OFFICIAL RULES OF GOLF APP
Available free on iPhone, iPad, Android and Windows 7. From on-course behaviour, through a summary of the fundamental Rules, to the complete Rules of Golf (2012-2015).
HALL DEFENDS 54-HOLE TITLE

Defending champion and Launceston Golf Club member Tammy Hall has won her twelfth Judy Elphinstone 54-Hole title.

The 53-year-old won the championship at Royal Hobart Golf Club with rounds of 80, 37, 77 and 38, a total of 232. Hall defeated her nearest rival, Tasmania Golf Club junior Georgia Milbourne, by a massive 15 strokes.

15-year-old Milbourne placed second with scores of 85, 44, 80 and 38, a total 247, and took out the net section of the tournament in the process.

Devonport Golf Club’s Lu Proud placed third with 84, 44, 87 and 40, a 54-hole total of 255.

Claremont Golf Club’s Sharon James-Wood picked up the B Grade title with scores of 102 and 92, a 36-hole total of 194.

While Tasmania Golf Club’s Gill Foster blitzed the C Grade field to win with scores of 115 and 100, a total of 215.

Defending champion Margaret Leary comfortably claimed the Tasmanian Women’s Senior title carding 85 and 85 for a 36-hole total of 170.

Local member Wendy Bond placed second on 173 with Kingston Beach Golf Club’s Suzanne Clark and Royal Hobart member Anne Medlycott tied for third on 175.

FATHER-SON ACE EFFORT RECOGNISED

Around 46 inductees and their guests attended the Wrest Point Hole-In-One Club Cocktail Party in the Casino’s Wellington Room on October 5. This fabulous night marked the thirteenth hosting of this event since its inception in 2001, a night where golfers gather to celebrate their extraordinary golfing feats.

70 holes-in-one were recorded in the 2012 period, slightly below the 100 average of the thirteen years of the club. This includes extraordinary results of 120 and 142 in 2005 and 2006 respectively.

Attendees who recorded a hole-in-one during 2012/13 were presented with a commemorative pin by Golf Tasmania Chair Helen Langenberg.

Father and son combination of Neil and Paul Faulks from Tasmania Golf Club achieved aces during the 2012-2013 registration period. Neil recording his hole-in-one first on March 9 and son Paul following in his footsteps at the eighteenth hole on July 20. Given the recognised odds at best being one in every 5000 (rounds) a truly outstanding achievement.

Congratulations to all 2013 inductees and a sincere thank you to Wrest Point for its ongoing support of the ‘Hole in One’ Club.
MOTHER & DAUGHTER WIN BRONZE STABLEFORD
Mother and daughter combination of Colleen Krushka and Tania Thompson from the Moorina Golf Club have taken out this year’s Bronze Stableford. The pair combined for a team stableford total of 66 points, Krushka carding 35 and Thompson returning 31 points at the Ulverstone Golf Club on November 11.

Moorina eclipsed an enthusiastic field of 35 teams (70 competitors), their nearest rivals being the Bridport and Elderslie Golf Clubs in equal second place on 62 points. Bridport was represented by Christine Rowbottom and Raylene Taylor, while Cheryl Butler and Kayleen Shaw flew the flag for Elderslie.

The individual title went to Butler who carded 35 stableford points and was followed by Mowbray Golf Club’s Helen Finn in second place on 34 points.

Riverside Golf Club’s Joy Church claimed third place on 33 points.

MOTORISED VEHICLE REGULATIONS
Golf Tasmania will be modifying the condition with regards to Motorised Vehicles in all tournament conditions from the beginning of 2014. The condition will read as follows. During play, it is prohibited for a player to ride in or on a motorised vehicle unless specific written permission has been granted by the Championship Play Committee. (NB Subject to host club permission, a caddie may use motorised transport at any time.) Penalty: 2 strokes for each hole at which a breach occurred; maximum penalty per round – 4 strokes (unless permitted to ride by a member of the Championship Rules Committee).

Procedure when breach discovered: Use of any unauthorised form of transportation must be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred. Otherwise the player is disqualified.

Note i: Permission will only be granted to entrants who can provide a Medical Certificate.

Note ii: GT takes no responsibility for the availability of golf carts.

Note iii: Permission will be granted on the basis that the following requirements are adhered to. Players failing to adhere to these requirements are liable to have such permission revoked:

Players who drive at a pace which is clearly quicker than walking pace; and/or who drive to a point past their ball which is clearly unreasonable for a player who is not using motorised transport to reach, are in breach of these requirements.

LU DOES TASSIE PROUD
Tasmania’s Lu Proud has won her second national crown at the Australian Women’s Senior Amateur Championship at the Tanunda Pines Golf Club in the Barossa Valley.

Competing in the super veterans’ flight the Devonport Golf Club member defeated New South Wales’ Carol Hurst 3&1 and Sue Ceeney from the Australian Capital Territory at the nineteenth hole to set-up a show-down with Judith Tunks.

The eight handicapper defeated Tunks from New South Wales 4&2 in the final. Proud also won the title in 2011. Proud was among eight Tasmanian women chasing championship honours in the senior, new-age, veteran, super veteran and super veteran plus categories. Unfortunately Jane Donohue and Patsy Muir met in the first round of the super veterans plus flight with Donohue winning 8&6. Donohue went down to Queensland’s Anne Alletson-Brown 3&1 in the semi-finals.
OATLANDS AND SCOTTDALE LIGHT UP FOR MEN’S B & C GRADE AMATEURS
The Tasmanian Men’s B and C Grade Amateur Championships were conducted at the Oatlands and Scottsdale Golf Clubs from November 16-17.

After the first round of the B Grade Championship there were fifteen players within five shots of Pat Davis of St Helens who carded an impressive 78. Royal Hobart Golf Clubs’ Bruce Hannan with a round of 80 returned the best score for the second round conducted the following day. This combined with his 81 the previous day was enough to secure the tournament by three strokes from Phillip Fuglsang from Tasmania who carded an 84 on Sunday.

The overall handicap championship fell to Pittwater Golf Club’s Nick Vincent with scores of 64 and 69, a 36-hole net total of 133. Vincent was followed by Roger Carnes of Oatlands who returned rounds of 69 and 69 for his total of 138.

Local golfer Ron Averay collected the corresponding C Grade Championship at the Oatlands Golf Club. Averay was too strong for the field carding rounds of 89 and 96 for a 36-hole total of 185. Averay’s nearest rival, Tasman Golf Club’s Jonathan Ricketts, carded 94 and 93 to finish two strokes adrift on 187. The handicap championship was collected by local golfer Paul Carroll with 141 and was followed closely by fellow club member Robert Walker on 142.

TASMANIANS COMPETE AT AUSTRALIAN MEN’S SENIOR AMATEUR
For Tasmania, Llanherne Golf Club’s Robert Dyson tied for sixty sixth position with rounds of 88, 80 and 79. Royal Hobart Golf Club’s Noel Mills missed the cut for the final day carding 92 and 99 in the opening two rounds.

New Zealander Murray Martin became the first Kiwi since 2009 to win the Australian Men’s Senior Amateur Championship in September at Royal Queensland Golf Club.

The first Australian Men’s Senior Amateur Championship was first played in 1981 and is contested over 54-holes Stroke Play. Players must be 55 years and over to be eligible for the championship.

BAILEY INTO FINAL EIGHT
Tasmania Golf Club’s Tony Bailey made the quarter-finals of the Australian Men's Senior Match Play Championship at Thirteenth Beach Golf Links, Victoria in November.

Bailey defeated Roy Vandersluis and Keith Thornley from New South Wales 4&3 in the first and second rounds before going down 3&2 to New South Wales’ Sal Ballard in the quarter finals.

Claremont Golf Club’s Noel Mills qualified twenty fifth for the championship but lost his first round encounter with Victoria’s Alan Bullas 4&3.

KEPERRA BOWL
A handful of Tasmania’s elite golfers were in action during October at the Keperra Bowl in Queensland. The 72-hole Golf Australia national ranking event was conducted at the Keperra Golf Club from October 15-18.

Smithton junior Ben Elliott was the best placed of the Tasmanians making the cut but missing out on the final round due to unforeseen circumstances. The seventeen-year-old shot opening rounds of 73, 78 and 78 but missed the fourth round due to traffic delays and a pending flight to Melbourne for another event.

Launceston’s Cameron Bell and Riverside’s Samuel Rawlings and Isaac Pinnington also competed in the event. Unfortunately the Launceston trio missed the cut with Bell carding 81 and 75, Rawlings 75 and 82, and Pinnington 86 and 84.

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RULES ON-LINE AT R&A

A new on-line Rules seminar and exam for everyday golfers is available from the R&A. The Australian National Rules Accreditation & Education Programs Framework will now consist of six tiers following the recent inclusion of The R&A Rules Academy.

The Academy is based on the Etiquette Section and the Quick Guide to the Rules of Golf and provides a great introduction to the Rules for players starting out in the game. The course features video, images and diagrams of Rules situations and includes revision questions after each section. Major championship winners Padraig Harrington and Suzann Pettersen both serve as Rules trainers in this interactive resource.

The R&A Rules Academy covers the essentials that all golfers should know such as sportsmanship, integrity and respect.

It adopts a tee to green approach and tells you what you need to know at each point; from where to tee your ball to holing out and returning the score card.

At the end of the course, people can take a Rules Exam and receive a certificate upon attaining a mark of at least 70% to pass. Exams consist of 50 questions broken down into 30 multiple choice questions and 20 penalty stroke input questions.

For those wishing to continue to develop their Rules knowledge, there are the Club Level and State Level Rules Accreditation Courses. At the elite levels there is the Advanced State Level Rules & Competitions Course, or perhaps the opportunity to be a National Referee at either of the men’s or women’s Australian Opens.

For more information on the National Rules Accreditation & Education Programs Framework please visit www.rulesacademy.randa.org

AARON BADDELEY INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR

CHAMPIONSHIP

The ever popular Australian final of the Aaron Baddeley International Junior Championship was conducted during October.

Of the six Tasmanian boys and girls in the field Smithton’s Ben Elliott lead the Tassie charge at the Heritage Golf and Country Club in Victoria. The 17-year-old shot rounds of 77 and 73 to finish in equal seventh position on the leader board with a total of 150 (+6).

Other Tasmanians to perform well were Prospect Vale’s Jack Tregaskisjago, Mowbray’s George Waller, Launceston’s Paul Siejka and Scottsdale’s Lachlan McDougall.

Tasmania Golf Club’s Georgia Milbourne and North West Bay’s Zahara Lemon represented the State proudly in the girls’ category. Lemon the best of the pair finishing in equal twenty second place with Milbourne following close behind in twenty fifth.

COLLEGE SCOOPS TITLE AGAIN

Scotch Oakburn College won back-to-back Tasmanian Secondary School Teams titles in very wet conditions at the Mowbray Golf Club on November 8. The team of Joel Harwood, Alexander House and Thomas Rehrmann won the event on a count-back with a combined total of 66 stableford points. Latrobe High School’s Sean Birchenough and Joel Lunson placed second with 66 stableford points as well, but fell short as the school was not represented by a third team member.

Riverside High School represented by Connor Brugeand, Josh New and Samuel Manix-Geeves placed third with 62 stableford points. The best individual stableford score of the day went to Riverside High School’s Josh New with 37 points.

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LAUNCESTON WOMEN TRIUMPH IN BARCLAY SHIELD

Launceston Golf Club fought gallantly in damp conditions on Monday to secure a well-deserved victory in the Barclay Shield. The team of Gail Buckby, Virginia Davies, Jenni Jago and Jo Perry won the team foursomes event with a net score of 159.5.

Defending champions Richmond Golf Club claimed second place on a count-back from Thirlstane with a combined total of 160. Richmond was represented by Pauline Corney, Lynette Munnings, Susanne Richardson and Alison Salter. While Thirlstane were represented by Wendy Beaton, Kaye Dixon, Helen Richards and Lorraine Smith.

The day's best 18-hole net went to North West Bay Golf Club's Sue Symons and Annette Grimes on 76. Two strokes adrift on 78 were Freycinet Golf Club's Patsy Muir and Pat Gaby picking up second place.

MILBOURNE WINS BUSINESS WOMEN’S TITLE

The 42nd annual Tasmanian Business Women’s Open Tournament was conducted on October 27 in near perfect conditions. A total of twenty eight business women golfers who are either full time, part time, retired or students contested the event at the Kingston Beach Golf Club.

Tasmania Golf Club junior Georgia Milbourne took out the championship with a round of 85. The 15-year-old who plays off a handicap of nine defeated a quality field which included Royal Hobart Golf Club’s Anne Medlycott and Victoria’s Heather Harley. Medlycott, a former State representative, and Harley, who hails from the Kooringal Golf Club, tied for second place with rounds of 86.

The handicap championship was won by local member, Jane Richardson, who carded a net 73.

The club team’s event was collected by the Kingston Beach Golf Club with a net score of 228 and was represented by Richardson, Suzanne Clark and Clare Furness.

GOLF AUSTRALIA HANDICAP SYSTEM

Golf Australia recently advised all clubs of the confirmed implementation dates for the complete new Golf Australia Handicap System. In order to bring the various changes into effect, Golf Link will be taken off-line on January 20 and will come back online on January 23 with the new system fully operational. Golf Link will re-calculate the handicaps of all players during the time the system is off-line and the newly-calculated handicaps will all be Slope handicaps. All remaining handicapping changes will come into effect at this time. In order to bring the various changes into effect, major software development is currently being performed on all of the central Golf Link systems. Major work is also currently being performed on all of the Tier 3 systems which are accredited to allow their software to interact with the Golf Link systems.

As is currently the case, the Tier 1 system will continue to provide all necessary handicapping services. The major reforms to the handicap system that will come into effect on January 23 are the introduction of the Daily Scratch Rating, Slope, Stableford Handicapping Adjustment, handicapping of Conforming Social Scores and new 9-hole handicapping regulations. Details of the new handicap system have previously been communicated to all member clubs however a summary of the new system is available at www.golf.org.au/new-handicapping-system.

Golf Australia will continue to provide clubs with regular communications and resources in order to make club’s transition to the new handicap system as seamless as possible.
USEFUL LINKS/TOOLS AND RESOURCES FOR CLUBS:
There are a number useful tools available for clubs and associations and over the coming additions we will included here the ones that we come across. Of course if you know of any please let us know so that we can share with everyone.

PlayGolf.com.au
PlayGolf has been relaunched and is set to be the website for all national golf marketing programs to direct inquiries, including the soon to be announce national GOLF WEEK set for November 2014. Make sure you club details are correct and contact Golf Australia to find out how to make use of this space for advertising your memberships offers and participation activities.

Junior Golf Participation/Development:
For clubs junior coordinators there is fantastic information contained in the Junior Coordinator Administration kit available from the MYGolf Web page, including a step by step guide to establishing a junior program.

Australian Sport Commission:
The Club Development link from the Australian Sports Commission home page has a vast amount of information and tools for clubs, particularly the resources tab.

Good Sports:
Good Sports provides free support to sporting clubs to change their culture and reduce high risk drinking. Under the program, clubs will focus more on young people, families and sport participation and less on drinking alcohol.

Sport & Recreation Tasmania:
Sport and Recreation Tasmania’s vision is "all Tasmanians being physically active through sport and recreation." Sport and Recreation Tasmania’s goals are to: Develop and support a vibrant, innovative and inclusive sport and recreation sector; Develop Tasmania’s elite athletes; Facilitate participation opportunities in sport, recreation and physical activity; Promote the individual, social, economic, environmental and health benefits of sport, recreation and physical activity to the Tasmanian community; Support the provision of quality facilities and environments that meet the sport, recreation and physical activity needs of the community.

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