



# BOARDTALK

## JANUARY 2010

Welcome everyone to this edition of BoardTalk and to the 2010 golfing year.

There are four changes to the Board of Management this year, John Malouf has been elected Vice President, Kaye Paterson elected Women's President, John Williams elected Director of Men's Golf and Glen Eaves elected Director of Sponsorship. I welcome John, Kaye, John and Glen to the Board and thank them for taking on their roles. The Director of Finance position remains vacant and expressions of interest would be most welcome.

Retiring Directors are Mick Spring, Gail Dau and Wayne Lodge with Nick Jago having resigned his position earlier in the year. I thank each of the retiring directors for their contributions to the management of our Club during their terms of appointment.

I also take this opportunity to welcome the new volunteers to the various committees and thank all past volunteer that are taking a break from committee functions this year.

As always there is much to be achieved during the year ahead and what we are able to accomplish will depend on available resources, priorities, demands and the level of support provided by members. Some of our key focus issues in the year ahead include:

- Implement the changes necessary in preparation for the introduction of Golf Australia Handicap System (these changes are expanded on later in this edition).
- Seek to increase our membership numbers by improved retention of existing members while endeavouring to attract new members.
- Continued focus on our course to ensure that we continue to provide excellent playing conditions for members.

- Look to foster relationships with our existing sponsors and expand our sponsorship base.
- Encourage increased member participation across the various facets of our Club.

### ***Golf Australia Handicap System:***

Members may be aware that Golf Australia is moving to the USGA system of Course Rating and Handicapping. All major golf-playing nations in the world use this system, except Australia, England, Argentina and South Africa. It is poignant to note, too, that the present Australian course rating and handicapping systems are unique and are only being used in Australia. In addition to them being considered fairer methods, all the advantages of standardisation will be gained by changing to the more uniformly used USGA systems, which will be applied in exactly the same way to men's and women's golf.

Members should refer to the 2010 Member's Handbook (pages 10 & 11) for more information on how the new handicap system will work. Initially scheduled to be introduced from 1 February the introduction has been deferred to a date yet to be announced by Golf Australia. Members will be advised via the Club Notice Board and our web site when an introduction date is set.

In terms of the Course Rating component of the new system we will be required to undertake some work on the course in preparation for the official rating of our course. The majority of the work to be carried out will only impact on tee boxes therefore there should only be minimal disruption to members. However, I ask that members accept any inconvenience that may occur during the work which must be done.

### ***Club Administration:***

Close control will continue to be maintained over all operational areas to ensure that we operate as effectively as possible within our available resources.

The 2010 Members Handbook is now available from the club. Please pick up a copy for future reference.

### ***Membership:***

As mentioned earlier we are seeking to increase our membership during 2010. Vice President, John Malouf and the Membership Committee would welcome suggestions from members on how best to retain existing members and attract new members. All members play an integral role in helping to attract new members and I encourage everyone to assist by introducing new comers to our game and our Club.

Thank you to those Board Members and Members that volunteered their time to act as Course Marshalls over the Christmas and New Year break. Your efforts in monitoring course usage and green fee collections are greatly appreciated.

Our website, [www.rmccg.com.au](http://www.rmccg.com.au), is an easy way to provide people with information on our Club. The site has downloadable membership forms, event details and some brilliant colour photos of the course and facilities.

### ***The Course:***

Congratulations to Director of Grounds, David Schramm, Course Superintendent, Chris Ganderton and James and Bernie for the excellent playing conditions we continue to enjoy. Comments from members and visitors confirm that our playing conditions are second to none.

I believe that over the recent spring and current summer months the course is the equal of it's best ever conditions.

Members may have noticed some of our trees have either died and/or are in poor condition. Action is in train to have the dead trees removed with replacements to be planted over the coming months.

### ***Around the Greens:***

#### ***2010 Pennants Campaign:***

The 2010 Pennant season commences in February. Bruce Ironside will Captain the B Grade team and Peter Fields will Captain the Senior Masters team.

#### ***Women's Competitions:***

Women's competitions for 2010 commence on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> at 8.30am and Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 10.40am. Both days are Stableford, please bring a plate.

#### ***HIO News***

Our Hole-in-One sponsor, Defence Force Credit Union has agreed to continue their sponsorship of the Hole-In-One Challenge on the 16<sup>th</sup> Hole during 2010. Defcredit has generously increased the prize value to a total of \$1250.00 (\$250.00 each for the first 5 hole-in-ones scored during Club competitions between 1 February – 31 December 2010. Any unclaimed prize money left after 31 December will jackpot for the month of January 2011. Full details are posted on the Club notice board.

#### ***Sponsors:***

I am delighted to announce that Pete's Golf Connection is continuing their association as the Club's major sponsor in 2010. Please remember to reciprocate the generosity of our major sponsor by purchasing all your golfing equipment from Pete's or Golf Direct at the DFO Fyshwick.

The Board expresses sincere appreciation to all our sponsors. I ask members to show active appreciation to our sponsors by utilising their products and services at every opportunity. Our sponsors are integral to our financial viability. All sponsor contact details are available on the "Corporate Partner" page of our web site.

As always I would welcome feedback and comments on the content and format of this edition. Again thank you for your continued membership of our Club and until next time happy golfing.

*Cyril Mitchell* Club  
President  
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