

CLUB NEWSLETTER

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Friday, December 13th 2024



The holiday period is upon us once again and it's great to see the course being utilized by so many for tournaments, functions and overall, some fun.

This is always a very busy time at the club with visiting green fee players also.

Once again, we are asking for volunteers for the following:

Office duty – 26th December 2024 (Boxing Day) & 1st January 2025 (New Years Day).

If you are able to offer a few hours to help cover, please contact the office.

REMINDER: Cart hire is only available between the hours of 8.30am & 1pm, Monday – Friday. No carts will be hired out after 1pm unless prior arrangement has been made. This is another area that we would like to find someone to take on. We are always looking for volunteers to help especially for weekend cart hire. If you are able to help with this, please contact the office to discuss.

Upcoming Events

Tue 17th Dec – Twilight Golf – *Ambrose*

Wed 18th Dec – Club Committee Meeting

Sun 22nd Dec – Closed Hams T/Ment
Register NOW!

Thu 2nd Jan – Half-a-Beast T/Ment
Register NOW!

Clubhouse Bookings

Fri 13th Dec – Buffet – *bookings essential*

Fri 20th Dec – Restaurant

The Restaurant will be closed for the holiday period 23rd December 2024 and will re-open again Friday 24th January 2025

We look forward to seeing you all again in the new year.

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PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR DETAILS

COURSE UPDATE

Members will have noticed considerable drying out of the course over the last few weeks, a much warmer and drier period than normal; interspersed with hot, humid periods. The latter always brings with it challenges for managing the greens, especially keeping on top of fungal outbreaks. Irrigation requirements have been high with several weeks of high evapotranspiration. Although as I write this heavy rain is falling. Hooray! Green speeds (as measured by stimpmeter) have been down a little from previous years at this time of year. A number of factors at play, partly weather, seemingly more vigorous Poa growth on the greens than some years (our greens are dominantly browntop but Poa is present in some to a more or less extent). Green speeds and consistency of roll should improve over the next few weeks and competitors in the Hams may have found putting more approachable. Much work went into course preparation in the days leading up to the Hams, once again a successful event, and my thanks to all the team for time and effort.

Coming up we still have a lot of work to do, especially maintaining our aging irrigation system, attempting to improve the tees, although this will always be a challenge until we can get automated irrigation, keeping on top of the many recurring tasks and at the same time promoting the odd new project. And, hopefully in the next week, we can undertake another verticut and needle tine on the greens. We have had some extra help with Garney volunteering to look after the rough on the bank of No 8, and on the approach to No 14 green. The red pegged area adjacent to No 14 remains just that, a penalty area. This will not be regularly managed except for noxious weeds, so don't go in there! If you should, use whichever is the closest drop zone (front by the steps or at rear of green). A penalty of one will be taken, but the steps and track itself are GUR, again use drop zone without penalty.

Happy holiday golfing!



MEMBERSHIP



A warm welcome to our newest members:

Hasley K Moore
Jamie Findlay
Tom Cass

There are still quite a few membership cards still to be collected at the office.

All unfinancial members have now been removed from dotgolf.

CLUB CAPTAINS

Wayne Morrow & Chris Kora

The Opotiki hams tournament concluded on December 7th with 200 participants from the following golf clubs, Opotiki, Te Teko, Murupara, Patutahi, Mahia, Omanu, Hutt Park, Ohope, Kawerau, Poverty Bay, Royal NZ Navy, Okoroire, Tauranga, Tolaga Bay, Cambridge, Whakatane, Gisborne Park, Taupo, Masterton, Otumoetai, Springfield and Christchurch.

For myself it was a baptism of fire, and I have to thank the people who supported me. Jacqui, for the huge amount of prep work she did on the registrations, draw, all the last-minute changes and the new markers that were made in advance. Big shout out to Hamish whose help and guidance were invaluable and my wife Vicki who assisted Jacqui, however it must be said the more Pinot Gris she had in the afternoon the bolder and noisier she became. Lyndsay for looking after raffles, all organised and ready to go at 05:45am.

I never realised how much easier tournaments like this run when people complete their online payments and registrations in advance, it enables us to get the draw out quicker and print the cards in advance, please consider this when we promote other tournaments in the future. Where their glitches ... yes there were and we will seek to address those, but overall it ran successfully and the weather contributed to some fine scores.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Magnus Lennie and Opotiki Tyre Service for once again stepping up and providing sponsorship for what is our marque tournament. Opotiki New Worlds contribution, an awesome discount on the hams, and a big wrap to Dan Rolls for dealing with our last-minute requests. With covid and the cost-of-living changes over the last 3 years it would have been impossible to run this tournament in its current format without those 3 players. How to repay them.... simple buy local and support their products.

As with all tournaments of this nature the committee will complete a review on sustainability and where we can improve going forward.

Closed Hams is the next tournament on 22nd December, my thanks to Chris Kora for running this in my absence. This is closely followed by Half-a-Beast at Least on Jan 2nd which is a rolling start from 10:00 so get those online registrations in early

On the 11th December, 20 mid-week ladies consisting of 18 and 9 hole players had their end of year luncheon. They played 9 holes with the format, organised thanks to Janice, being 1,2,3,4. Lots of fun was had by all and a few surprises when the actual winners were announced by Claire. A gorgeous, shared lunch followed by a presentation to Jocelyn who is soon departing our shores to Auckland.

Next week will be the last Wednesday until after New Year. Tee time has been changed, 18 holers please meet at 8.30am for 9.00am start. 9 holers meet at 9.30am for a 10am start. I am only guessing. Gail will confirm.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

Merchandise orders need to be in by Friday 27th December 2024.
Contact the office: (07) 315 7415 or email: office@opotikigolf.co.nz



T-Shirt – \$40

Vest – \$75

Long Sleeve – \$68

Hat/Beanie – TBC