

Echunga Women's Golfers Report 2021

Once again Covid 19 has put restrictions on how we manage events, in particular handling of food and social distancing. However, this has not stopped Echunga women from playing golf and hosting events.

Our AGM was held on the 28th October

After the Meeting Val Nairn and Carlsa Carter spoke on the indigenous plants at the golf course and how they are cutting and dabbing with poison the broom and other invasive plants.

Val also mentioned that 59 different types of birds have been seen at the course.

Open Day

The Women's Open Day was an outstanding success. 112 women entered.

All nominated entrants arrived early for our 8-45 start and all were back into the clubhouse by 1-15 ready for their quiche and salad lunch followed by a Drumstick ice-cream. The latter was an excellent way to go as it required very little effort, was cheap and no washing up.

Kitchen staff of 4 were very efficient. We had salads prepared in quick time and quiches were heated without getting dry. I could not speak too highly of the women who helped me in the kitchen, Vicki Day, Mary Collum and Jenny Byass.

Prizes were well received, as well as the raffles. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day and all want to come back next year. But they need to get in quickly as we were booked out in 2 weeks.

The Sponsors of the Day meant that we had no expenses with giving out up to 9th in prizes and then a ball run down to 21st place.

Our thanks go to Neutrog Fertilizers who have been so generous with donating their products to us. Eagle Golf also came on board this year

Pennants

Our small group of women entered two teams Div. 2 and Div3 in the Pennants this year.

When we had byes on different weeks, we were able to enlist the aid of a member from the other division as our few reserves were unable to play.

Both our women's teams played in their respective finals on May the 3rd at Willunga and Links Lady Bay. Both teams were the underdogs but fought the battle well

Div. 2 was defeated by Oakbank 3/2 and Div.3 defeated by Victor Harbor 4/1. Most of the games in each division went to the 17th. or 18th. hole. One went to the 19th.

This is a great result for a small club to have 2 out of 3 divisions in the finals.

Club Championship

Sue Maddern played Esther Burt and Robyn Eibisch played Mary Holton. Sue Maddern was Club winner and Robyn Eibisch was B Grade Salver winner.

Shylie Rymill Foursome

This is a State Event, held annually, and was won by Pam Gray and Robyn Eibisch

Womens Club Foursomes Championships.

Eleven pairs took part. Scores were very good with Lisa Gray and Esther Burt coming in winners of the Best Gross and Pam Gray and Pat Umlauf the Best Nett.

Hole in One

This year Sue Telfer and Lisa Gray had Holes in One - not recorded at Echunga but still exciting and something to be proud.

Winter

Winter saw the rains come and we relocated to Murray Bridge For those who prefer drier conditions Murray Bridge was more to their liking.

We still collected comp fees and returned money to Echunga each week.

It was great seeing our larger numbers continue to get out and play golf.

We were however, able to present Prizes and awards won at Murray Bridge after golf on the 16th September.

Thank You

The bridge over the drain between the 5th green and the women's 6th tee block was finished making it is so much easier on all our carts, buggies and bodies.

Charity Day

This was held with 34 players.

Meals of sausages, bubble and squeak, salads, apple crumble and ice-cream were successful. Cost Of \$20-00 was a bit cheap but we wanted to encourage people to take part. The free raffle was drawn with much laughter.

Prize list went down to 4th place then run down of 6 for balls.

Thank you to Di for cooking the sausages.

\$400 was raised for Beyond Blue.

Biodiversity and tree planting.

Many thanks to Carlsa Carter and Val Nairn for organising the planting of 200 trees for life around the Echunga golf Course. Much work went into coordinating the plants, the surrounds and the many Volunteers from the Club.

Christmas Lunch

On the 9th December 27 women played a 12-hole Ambrose prior to going to the Bridgewater Hotel for a Christmas lunch.

After a quick change of clothes, we joined other non-players at the Hotel. It was great to see some women who do not play on a Wednesday joining us and swelling our numbers to 35.

We all enjoyed our 2-course lunch and coffee for \$25 and of course the local wines.

Monday News

At the start of the Covid 19 period a Monday News was published and emailed to all Echunga female members to inform them what was occurring around the competitions, competition results, venues, activities people were doing while locked up etc. This has maintained its popularity and has kept all female members united.

Thank you to people who have provided tit bits for me to publish.

Farewell

With mixed feeling we said goodbye to Janeen Coleman who has moved to Victor Harbour with David. Janeen had been with us for 20 years. She was a pivotal part of the Echunga Women Players at Echunga. Janeen took on various leadership roles over the 20 years as committee member, Captain 2006 -2013, Secretary and Pennant's coordinator for most of her time. She became club champion in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2014. When not playing in the championships she was either a referee or caddy. Janeen represented us in the Southern District at all levels. Her Computer skills were such an asset at our Open Day.

We wished Janeen Farewell at a luncheon at the Bridgewater Hotel. Our loss is Victor Harbor's gain and we wish Janeen and David many enjoyable years in their retirement.

The past two years as Captain have been challenging and rewarding. We have seen many new members join us regularly. While this is great, it presented an issue when numbers of over 22 make it difficult to get players to hit off and get back to the clubhouse all within a short period of each other. Most enjoy the social atmosphere of all being together when winners are announced.

I have spoken to many other women captains and players from other clubs where you have to nominate a tee off time. They all say the same thing about the lack of cohesive groups, camaraderie and the difficulty to mix up player groups to encourage new players to both golf and the club, and also getting responses to Open Days and social activities. Echunga is in fact envied by so many of the larger clubs that use the tee times.

This larger group situation is something that will need to be addressed in the future. We cannot use 2 tee blocks on the front 9 to start, so are currently using 1, 18, 17 and occasionally 16 tee blocks.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee and all members for their continued support over the last 2 years.

A special thank you to Pam Gray as my ever-reliable Vice-Captain. Her enthusiasm and support have been treasured.

I wish Pam and the committee every success over the next 12 months. I know that it is not always an easy role, mistakes will be made but tolerance and understanding from all must be needed if we are to encourage women to take on leadership roles and keep this great club running women's events.

Pat Umlauf

Captain

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