Version 2 – 2026
Review date 2028

Echunga Golf Club
Incorporated
Cnr Dolman & Hahndorf Rd, Echunga. SA. 5153

Biodiversity Plan

Introduction

The Echunga Golf Course is a picturesque site set in the Adelaide Hills of South Australia. The land upon which the course lies is owned by Mt Barker Council and is leased to The Echunga Golf Club on a 21-year lease for use as a golf course.

The clear purpose of the club is to provide a facility for playing golf. Within the golf course grounds there are stands of native vegetation that can be preserved and/or enhanced without detracting from the game of golf.

The Committee of the Echunga Golf Club (The Committee) has a primary responsibility to provide a quality golf course for its members; it also takes pride in its unique setting and considers the golf course is enhanced by the flora and fauna of the area.

There are three specific ecosystems on the course, native grassy woodland, cultivated lawn and tree lined fairways and the various wetlands. Currently, the focus is to promote the native grassy woodland by allowing up to **fifteen (15) metre** transition area from the fairway playing edge.

This plan sets out the intent with the management of Flora and Fauna within the grounds of the Echunga Golf Course.

Fauna

A wide range of animals, reptiles & birds can be seen within the grounds of the Echunga Golf Club. Most visible is the western grey kangaroo of which there are regularly 30 to 50 ‘roos living and feeding on the course and sheltering in the scrub. Koalas are also evident in the grounds from time to time. There are over 70 species of birds being noted within the leased area of the club. The club is keen to maintain and enhance its small bird habitat.

The Committee is aware that maintaining the diversity of vegetation on the course is key to providing habitat for bird species particularly the smaller bird species. The Committee is committed to maintaining and improving the understory plants on the course where they do not impact adversely on playing the course.

From time to time the course is affected by overabundant bird species causing damage to the playing surfaces. This damage is caused by wood ducks, galahs and potentially corellas. From time to time the Committee authorises its staff to take action to deter these birds from the course to minimise such damage.

Flora

The golf course grounds contain a wide variety of vegetation types ranging from mown grass fairways and greens to stands of native vegetation. Much of the course is maintained as a golf course with over 400 members and green fee players using the course regularly. The playing areas are adjoined by some stands of native vegetation which takes up large areas of the course.

The table below is a high-level action plan that will be the focus of the committee to improve the sustainability of the biodiverse nature of the Echunga Golf Club.

Vegetation Action Plan

Aspect	Actions
Weeding – declared weeds	Weed Control near 1st fairway & 3rd tee Treat and Eradicate Watsonia throughout the course Treat/eradicate Bridal Creeper between 14th and 16th fairways Treat and eradicate Gorse throughout the course Area on path between 15th tee and 17th green, dirt dumped needs to be sprayed and gorse removed. Treat and eradicate sweet briar rose
Weeding – non-indigenous natives	Hakea pincushion (pink flowering eg between 10th and 17th) Flinders ranges wattle (yellow acacia eg between 10th and 17th) Black wattle near shed eg behind 8th green (cut and poison)
Weeding – other	Remnant vegetation area between 8th green and 9th tee
Shrub Planting	Continue plantings of shrubs to provide small bird habitat species between 1st green and 2nd tee and behind 3rd green and 4th tee – this area has 2 existing plants Dodonia (hopbush) unlikely to support other species due to leaf litter.
Large Scale Planting	Plantings of shrubs & trees around 4th dam. Use taller guards to reduce kangaroo damage. Large scale plantings between 7th to 8th tee. Further plantings of Drooping sheoak & native pine behind 15th tee.

FINAL