



ShoreTalk

DAD'S ARMY:

The good work going on behind the scenes

ASK THE BOARD

WHAT'S ON AT THE
CLUB IN JULY

LOVE YOUR CLUB
MONTH

GM's *Note*

Dear Members

Our 'Love Your Club' campaign has been huge fun to deliver, and it has been great to see both members and staff actively involved in this program. I would like to recognise the work of Rachel here in the office for pulling everything together, and to everyone who has been involved. The message here is that we all have a part to play in keeping the course in great shape. Please continue to do this in the weeks and months to come.

I have had the great pleasure of attending the Golf Managers Association of New Zealand conference this week at Remuera Golf Club. The annual get together of club managers provides an opportunity to connect with fellow managers from around the country, meet suppliers, service providers and receive updates from Golf New Zealand and other Guest Speakers from around the world, who bring their industry knowledge and expertise.

For me, some of the real value at these events comes from out of session discussions with my fellow managers about challenges and issues clubs can face. In my experience, these problems are not unique to one specific club and in many cases other clubs have been through a similar situation. By sharing ideas, knowledge and learnings, we can help each other within the industry solve problems and make improvements across the golfing sector.

One of the strengths of golf in New Zealand, I believe, is the collaboration that goes on between clubs in support of the sport. Yes, clubs may trade members with each other at certain times, however there is a general consensus between club managers that if the sport is in a healthy position, we all benefit.

With the growth of the sport over the last few years, there has certainly been a change in what some members want from their club experience. Many players have a more transactional relationship with their club than perhaps historically has been the case. This is evidenced in declining numbers of volunteers putting themselves forwards for positions on the board or committee. On that point, over the past month we have been able to welcome our new Board Member, Jay Han. It was great to have the input of someone of a different demographic, who has a clear passion for the sport and love for the club but is also prepared to volunteer her time alongside the other dedicated board members.

One of the key areas of focus at the conference was the role that technology can play in enhancing the club experience, connecting members, helping them with their practice sessions, linking with sponsors, supporting communications. Golf as a sport is seeing significant growth not just in on course participation but also in less traditional golfing facilities such as Digital Driving Ranges, Mini Golf Facilities etc. For some players, these digital golfing experiences will be



enough, and they may never step onto the course, however for others it is the start of their golfing journey. Our challenge as a club is to connect with these casual golfers and ensure that when they are ready to hit the course, North Shore GC is front of mind.

The conference provided the opportunity to experience Remuera's Velocity Driving Range in person, and to also look at their operations. This hybrid model with a traditional range, offering enhanced digital technology, is certainly appealing to a younger demographic. Their winter twilight event saw all 30 bays full, with a mixture of groups playing from all ages and demographics. There were Grandparents with Grandchildren, groups of younger Females, Couples and Families, all competing in groups of four players per bay on a digital course. Food and drinks were flowing, at a time of day where most clubs would be closing the doors for the evening.

Revenue generated through this sort of range operation is significant and can help generate income to facilitate future course and CAPEX investment required in the years to come. As a club we certainly intend to learn from global trends within the golfing industry, and how technology can enhance the current member experience, and draw people into the sport. Trends show that clubs with successful range operations not only generate additional income but have higher demand and waiting lists for membership.

Golf New Zealand were also able to provide a country wide update on membership and participation levels. The good news is that clubs are generally retaining a higher number of members than they had before the

covid boom, rounds played are still increasing and conversion from casual membership categories such as FlexiClub, into full club membership is the best it has ever been. Good signs in a challenging environment.

I would like to recognise the input of the entire board at this critical time in the Course Development process. The hours that all of them are putting in, to support this project are significant. We were also lucky enough to have input from a small working group of members who have knowledge within the project management and land sale space. This group took the opportunity to meet with the Board and discuss the progress made to date, the potential challenges ahead and sense check the direction of travel. The intention here was not to seek endorsement for the project at this stage, more understand from the group where we should be focusing our attention, as we enter a critical period of the negotiations.

The 'Ask the Board' section within this newsletter is just that, the opportunity to raise any questions around the golf club operations or the course development project. It is our intention to present all relevant information well in advance of an SGM if the board feel that there is something worthy of the members consideration. However, any burning questions please submit your question for response in next month's newsletter.

Happy Golfing Everyone.

David

David Herbert, General Manager



Dad's Army

Several years ago, a group of club members began holding monthly work sessions to assist Green Staff in maintaining the Course. About 4-5 years ago, it became clear that the workload was too much for monthly meetings. After consulting with the Course Superintendent and Green Staff, they switched to weekly sessions.

This group, humorously named "Dad's Army," has been meeting most Thursday mornings for the past 4-5 years. New volunteers receive a yellow hi-vis vest labeled "Defenders of the Course" and a contribution toward safety footwear. The vests ensure they are visible to playing members.

A typical week involves:

- An email sent on Sunday or Monday outlining the week's tasks and checking availability.
- A message to the Green Staff on Monday or Tuesday to ask for specific tasks and request necessary equipment.
- By 7am Thursday, the Green Staff have the equipment ready. Volunteers gather tools and start work by 8am.
- Work wraps up between 11-11:30am, followed by cleaning equipment and then socializing at the Sprig Bar.

Dad's Army is always seeking more volunteers, even for occasional participation.

Requirements to join are:

1. A good sense of humor.
2. Ability to engage in friendly banter.
3. Willingness to follow all Health & Safety rules.
4. Willingness to learn to operate equipment, with training provided by experienced Green Staff.
5. Interested members can contact Kevin Connell at 021 545 808.



Benefits of joining Dad's Army:

1. Meeting other Club members in a new setting.
2. Satisfaction from contributing to the Club's future.
3. Finding golf balls in obscure areas (our record is 126 balls in one day, but the location is a secret!).



Ask The Board

Jungmun (Frank) Suh

Currently, Wednesdays and Saturdays are designated as Member's Day at the club, where scrambles, various competitions, and programs are organised for club members. However, the reality is that Member's Day, meant exclusively for members, has become a day where members feel neglected. Despite being elected as representatives of the members, the current Golf Committee seems to not take this issue seriously, showing little willingness or consideration for improvement.

The role of the Club Board includes:

1. Setting Strategic Direction: Establishing long-term vision and goals and making strategic decisions accordingly.
2. Financial Management: Supervising the club's financial status, approving budgets, and making important financial decisions.
3. Legal and Regulatory Compliance: Ensuring compliance with relevant laws and regulations and holding legal responsibilities.
4. Supporting and Supervising Management.

The role of the Golf Committee includes:

1. Organising and operating golf events and competitions.
2. Managing and providing specific services or programs for club members.
3. Maintenance and improvement of facilities and

equipment.

As a private golf club, North Shore Golf Club should operate with a focus on its members. The Golf Committee should brainstorm and implement various measures to ensure that members feel a sense of belonging and actively participate in club events. Considering the current status of Member's Day, it raises doubts about whether the Golf Committee is making even minimal efforts in this regard. To increase member participation, several measures need to be developed by the committee, but initially, I suggest the following two proposals:

1. Members participating in Member's Day on Wednesdays and Saturdays should be exempt from card fees (\$6.00), allowing them to enjoy scrambles at the same cost as weekdays.
2. The Sprig Bar should only remain open until 2 PM on Wednesdays and Saturdays, while the 2nd floor clubhouse should be open to members.

While the implementation of these proposals may lead to a decrease in some revenue, it will significantly enhance members' sense of belonging and pride in the club, increase interest and participation in club events, and positively impact the currently stagnant club atmosphere. Please consider these suggestions carefully.

Board's Response

Thanks for your question, Frank. You're right in terms of responsibility so we've flicked it on to the Golf Committee/Club Captain to respond. Please note though the Board is more than ready and willing to support any Golf Committee initiative.

Hi,

Thank you, Keith, for referring the question to the committee. There is quite a bit to unpack in that question as it involves the use of the Sprig Bar versus the main upstairs bar, staffing and operation of the kitchens, and the previous decision to default to the Sprig Bar, as well as something that will affect revenue related to the agreed membership structure.

Regarding the use of the Sprig Bar, as in previous years, when we start entering the winter and more inclement weather period, we will look to move the afternoon service upstairs on high-capacity and Member days to cater to all afternoon golfers who are unable to fit into the Sprig Bar. This will require coordination with Management to ensure there are no external booking clashes and to ensure there are sufficient staff and kitchen services to support this change.

There have been conversations about the card

fee, compulsory competition fees for afternoons on Saturdays and Wednesdays, and the consensus among the committee and Golf Operations was that the status quo was the most suitable approach. However, we will revisit this with management as it impacts revenue and the membership fee structure set at the AGM. It will also need to take into consideration that if implemented, this would likely need to apply not only to Men's Member days but also to Ladies' membership days, with a full understanding of the impacts.

In 2020, in collaboration with Golf Operations, we conducted a member survey to gather feedback and suggestions. Since then, COVID has changed a lot of things including how we play golf, how we congregate, and even the cross-section of the membership at North Shore. The Golf Committee will work with the team to create another survey to capture your feedback and develop a plan for changes.

We're always open to suggestions, so feel free to approach us directly as we often are, or email us through the management team.

Regards, Gavin
Club Captain

Shigang MA

Regarding the Course Development Project.

What is the method of selling the land, auction, sales or tender?

Board's Response

Knowing who the likely buyers were for large parcels of land, at the value we were seeking, CBRE (our real estate adviser) approached parties individually to seek expressions of interest. Many different parties viewed the land (Retirement Village Operators, Large Developers etc) and two tendered for it seriously. We now have one preferred party that we are finalising the offer with.

Grant Massey

Given the Board is close to reaching a HOA for the land, has the course architect been instructed to provide an updated course plan with yardages that are fit for purpose for a variety of club players, noting that the design presented would be one of the shortest courses in Auckland? And will the board seek endorsement of the members to the course before a proposal to sell land. To agree to sell land without an approved course plan could severely compromise the ability to produce a plan that meets the aspirations of the members. Due to health reasons, I can barely hit the ball past my shadow these days and regularly play courses from the 5,500m tees, however it is the next generation we need to cater for. PGA tees are up to 6,800m a good club course back tee needs to be a minimum of 6,000m. Shorter tees are easy to add.

Board's Response

Thanks Grant. Just to use the correct terminology the Board is finalising a terms sheet with the preferred party with a view to signing an Agreement for Sale and Purchase (subject of course to Member approval). We have asked Brett to finalise his designs for the course and these will include all of the measurements you refer to.

Response from Brett our course designer:

Golf course difficulty is not just a measure of length. Tee placement, pin position, fairway width, rough height, grass variety, fairway dryness and green speed can all potentially add to the 'degree of difficulty', as and when it is required. 'Par' is another mechanism to add to the degree of difficulty and ability to score. For example, Pinehurst is normally a Par 72, but for a US Open it becomes a Par 70.

One of the things that struck me at NSGC was the number of 'walk backs' to tee positions. That, to me, is an indicator that certain holes have been shoe-horned into the land to create a certain par. The most notable

is the walk from the 23rd green to the 24th tee, which is approximately 75m. Walk backs affect pace of play and time per round, both of which need consideration as no one likes slow play.

We are aiming to create a fun, yet challenging golf course for members of all abilities and ages. We are aiming for a blue course around 5700-5800m, but we aren't quite there yet, we are roughly 250m short. That is easy to pick up over the space of 18 holes. We may have to add a few walk backs to achieve it. The White tees we are targeting something between 5350-5500m, so we are there or thereabouts.

The other consideration is that in order to fund this project, certain parcels of land have had to be offered up to FRL. These have directly affected the length of holes 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15. We have been trying to pick up those losses in yardage where possible. It's a balancing act.

Hope that helps answer the question over golf course length.

Have a question to ask the board?

[*Click here*](#)





We're off to a fantastic start with Love Your Club Month, and it's wonderful to see so many of you getting involved! It's been great to see everyone repairing pitch marks and filling in divots. We've had numerous instant winners with the Sand Bucket Challenge—check out these photos of our winners so far.

A quick reminder: the sand buckets are for everyone. We don't have enough for each member, so please return them to the starting tees after your round and not in the carpark.

Keep up the great work and continue showing love for our club!

Pro Shop *With Bevan*

Hello members, family and friends of NSGC.

We have recently welcomed our newest staff member to the proshop, Dylan Pettersson, here is a little bit about him:

"Hi everyone, I am 19 years old and grew up in Wellington.

I have recently moved to Auckland to work here and to study surveying at Unitec.

I am very passionate about golf and have been playing since I was 8 years old. I currently play off a 5.9 handicap and have a pure love for the game.

Outside of golf I love the outdoors, and in the winter time, you will likely find me on the mountain cruising the slopes on my snowboard.

I look forward to meeting and getting to know you all"

Dylan



Exciting announcement from Titleist is that their new series of GT drivers and fairway metals will be released to the public in the next month or so. If you would like to get in and purchase early, we will be holding a VIP GT fitting day on the 19th July. If you would like to book in, either contact me bevan@nsgc.co.nz or click on this link [TITLEIST GT VIP BOOKING](#). Spaces are limited.

Due to the up coming release of the GT range, the current Titleist TSR range in store have been discounted, contact me if you are looking to upgrade your driver, fairway metals or hybrids.

We also have discounts on the Ping G430 range of drivers, fairway metals and hybrids, contact me for the prices or visit the proshop to find out more.

Our Titleist Fitting Days with Alex for 2024 are as follows:

- 19 July, Friday
(VIP New GT Drivers and Fairway metals)
- 31 July, Wednesday
- 28 August, Wednesday
- 25 September, Wednesday
- 30 October, Wednesday
- 20 November, Wednesday

Keep an eye out for the posters or publications prior to these dates, and you can either book online or contact bevan@nsgc.co.nz .





Course Corner

With Simon

**Not drainage, more irrigation...
what a refreshing change!**

Fairways and Greens. This involved replacing over 250 full turning sprinklers to part turning. This allows us to water areas needed as opposed to the previous regime of watering Rough, something we can all agree doesn't require extra water. This produced a water saving of around 12,000m³/year, just over half of the irrigation pond's capacity.

That was a rather prolonged and expensive operation, with sprinklers costing about \$180 each we had kind of blown the kitty on further upgrades 'til this year's budget kicked in. Now that it has, the team led by our dedicated irrigation technician, Jacob, is forging ahead with gusto. As mentioned, last year's semi dry summer revealed the poor nature of sprinkler placement and in many areas a distinct lack of sprinklers full stop. As well as that we also identified that most tees have no QCV (Quick Coupler Valves) to hook up a hose and give them a top-up. With these upgrades Tees will have a much better chance of surviving summer and avoid dead tees like we had on 15.



Further Tee alterations have started like the 20th Tees, but for now these are on hold as the winter rains have begun with a vengeance (Around 100mm in the last week, with more on the way). The wet conditions not only make it difficult to complete such alterations on the Tees themselves, but we have no access to our dump sites to take spoil. Hopefully, we get a few pockets of dry weather in the coming months so that we can get these underway again.

Bores

Work is continuing with the bores, the 18th Tee bore has been refurbished, sterilised and awaiting a camera inspection now that the water in the bore is clear enough to see through. Sterilising the bores isn't to make it potable for drinking, as the term would indicate. The reason the bores are sterilised is to remove iron bacteria that corrode pumps and piping. This was evident when both bore pumps were removed, showing extensive corrosion that would have likely led to imminent pump failure. The next step is to send a telescopic line camera down the bores to assess the health of the bore sleeves. This will then let us know if we need to modify the pumps should there be excessive corrosion within the bore sleeves which reduce the efficiency of the pumps and allow for further contamination of the pump's inner workings.

Once completed, the next step will be installing new pumps to provide a dependable source of water as well as increased output. The wet weather has slowed things down as the driller is unable to get the Dewatering pods off site due to the wet ground conditions, so fingers crossed for a dry spell shortly.

Finally, I'm aware how frustrating it is for some that the course closures have begun in earnest again. But if we look back to last year, we had already been closed several times from February. So, with us now heading towards the end of June, I think it's fair to say we are doing ok. But the closures highlight the need for change and why I look to the members to rally behind the course redevelopment programme proposed by the board. Dry all year round is a goal we can all agree on.

'Til next month, take care and make the most off those dry days.

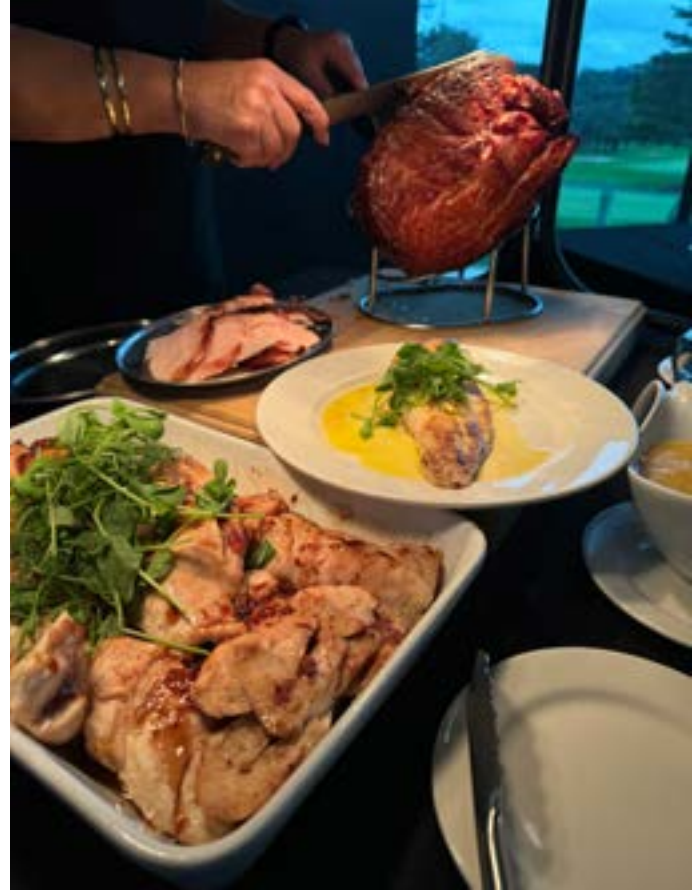
Cheers,

Simon

Course Superintendent NSGC.







What's Cooking

Planning a get-together with friends and family? Look no further! Whether it's a birthday celebration, anniversary, or any special occasion, North Shore Golf Club is your ideal venue. Peggy and her team are equipped to provide a variety of delicious catering options for your private function including canapes, platters, finger food and buffets.

For venue enquiries, please contact Rachel at rachel@nsgc.co.nz
To discuss catering options, reach out to Peggy at forteenter@gmail.com.
We look forward to having you here for your next celebration!

Sprig
Bar





The Bar is excited to announce HEINEKEN BUCKETS!! Grab a cheeky round for the team of either 4x Heineken bottles or 4x Heineken Silver bottles for an extra special discount! Available through the Sprig Bar & Upstairs Bar. We look forward to seeing you!

Events in *July*

This month at North Shore Golf Club, we have a relaxed schedule with fewer events, providing a perfect opportunity for members to fully utilise the clubroom. I understand that some of you feel that access to this space has been limited, and I am committed to changing that. The clubroom is primarily for our members, and I want to encourage more frequent use.

I am inspired to create a more vibrant atmosphere in the clubroom by fostering more activities and gatherings, we can cultivate a lively and engaging atmosphere that everyone will enjoy. Your participation and ideas are crucial in achieving this goal.

Every Tuesday, some of our 9-hole ladies gather for mahjong by the fire, and I would love to see more such gatherings. I am eager to support members in organising similar events and welcome suggestions to enhance the atmosphere of our upstairs area. With a light event schedule this month, I encourage you to come upstairs, relax by the fire, enjoy watching TV, or observe fellow members from the deck during their rounds. If you are looking for a different dining experience than the Sprig Bar, our team can bring your meal and drinks upstairs—just ask us!

Remember, the clubroom is not only a space for our members to enjoy but is also available for hire for your private events. Whether you are planning a birthday celebration, anniversary party, or any special gathering for family and friends, please reach out to me to discuss your event requirements.

Visit me in the admin office during weekdays, where I am available to chat about your ideas and suggestions.





Golf in *July*



Captain's Trophy

The final matchplay round of the Captain's Trophy was played on Tuesday 4th June between Mignon Jeong and Melanie Kang. The match was played in good spirit between two good friends and the eventual winner was Mignon Jeong.

Congratulations!



Tuesday 2nd July

Women – Jubilee Trophy 4th Round – Stableford.
Book your tee time online and tick 'Yes' to qualify when you print/activate your scorecard.

Wednesday 3rd July

9 H Women – Irish Stableford. \$2 entry fee. Book your tee time online and tick 'Yes' to qualify when you print/activate your scorecard.

Thursday 4th July

Women – Fun Day Scramble, format to be revealed on the day. \$2 compulsory entry fee. Book your tee time online. You will be automatically entered when you print/activate your scorecard.

Sunday 7th July

Junior – O'Donovan Cup, 1 round of Individual Stableford. Book your tee time online. You will be automatically entered when you print/activate your scorecard. Boys White tees, girls Yellow tees.

Tuesday 9th July

Women – Jubilee Trophy 5th Round – Stableford. Book your tee time online and tick 'Yes' to qualify when you print/activate your scorecard.

Sunday 14th July

Junior – Combined Stableford. Book your tee time online. You will be automatically entered when you print/activate your scorecard. Boys White tees, girls Yellow tees.

Mixed – Foursomes Championship Qualifying. Sign up in pairs on the sheet in the downstairs foyer or email your names and membership numbers to GolfOps@nsgc.co.nz . Best 8 pairs to Qualify for Matchplay. Entries close on Sunday 7th July at Middy.

Tuesday 16th July

Women – Jubilee Trophy 6th Round – Stableford. Book your tee time online and tick 'Yes' to qualify when you print/activate your scorecard.

Wednesday 17th July

9 H Women – 3 Clubs & a Putter – Red Tees. \$2 entry fee. Book your tee time online and tick 'Yes' to qualify when you print/activate your scorecard.

Thursday 18th July

Women – CHANGE TO PROGRAMME BOOK – Scramble – Stableford.

Saturday 20th July

Men – Grand Slam Cup 4th Round – Black Tees – Nett Medal.

Women – Winstone Cup. First of two Accumulative Stableford rounds. Book your tee time online and tick 'Yes' to qualify when you print/activate your scorecard.

Sunday 21st July

Mixed – Foursomes Championship, 1st round of Matchplay.

Thursday 25th July

Women – CHANGE TO PROGRAMME BOOK – Captain's Team v President's Team. 8:30am Shotgun start. Book your favourite starting tee online. Golf Operations will place you into either the Captain's or President's team. The team with the best Average Stableford score will be declared the winners.

Saturday 27th July

Women – Winstone Cup. Second of two Accumulative Stableford rounds. Book your tee time online and tick 'Yes' to qualify when you print/activate your scorecard.

Sunday 28th July

Mixed – Foursomes Championship, Semi-Final round of Matchplay.

Thursday 1st August

Women – Fun Day Scramble, format to be revealed on the day. \$2 compulsory entry fee. Book your tee time online. You will be automatically entered when you print/activate your scorecard.

Saturday 3rd August

Men – Patron's Cup. Single round of Stableford for members 55yrs+. Prizes for winner and runner-up.

Sunday 4th August

Mixed – Foursomes Championship, Final round of Matchplay.



We're thrilled to announce some fantastic developments for our tee signs! Along with brand-new signs, we've created drone videos of all 27 holes to guide you on how to play each one. This project has been in the works for a while, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to Rafael and Vivian at Simple Flow Media for making it happen.

Currently, we have five tee signs available for sponsorship, offering incredible benefits at North Shore. Sponsoring a tee sign will give your brand exposure on the course, in the clubroom, in our newsletter, on smart signs, and more. If you're interested in sponsoring a tee, please get in touch with Rachel.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Thank you to our *Sponsors*

MAJOR SPONSORS

CONTINENTAL CARS BMW

MITRE 10 MEGA ALBANY

HOLE SPONSORS

PARKLANDS

BURGS DIGITAL

COCA COLA AMATIL

JL PARTNERS CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANTS

KATSUBI

MITRE10 MEGA ALBANY

RAPT!

DENNIS EBERT

BRIAN TURNER PROPER-
TY SERVICES LTD

HLB MANN JUDD

SETTLERS & FAIRVIEW VILLAGES
ALBANY

JANI KING

UROLOGY INSTITUTE

ROTHBURY & ILG

SKY WORLD

DIL'S FUNERALS

GILMOURS

CONTINENTAL CARS
BMW

KNOWLES HOMES

BENEFITZ

K3 LEGAL

VERO

CLUB AND EVENT SPONSORS

CONTINENTAL CARS BMW

MITRE 10 MEGA ALBANY

ST PATRICKS DAY CHARITY

PAK'N'SAVE/LINCOLN FARMS

BARFOOT & THOMPSON

COCA COLA AMATIL

LISSOM

CART SPONSORS

WILLIAMS CORPORATION

MITRE10 MEGA ALBANY

COLUMBUS COFFEE

PUTTING GREEN SPONSOR

PRECISE HOMES

SHORE TALK | JULY 2024

WWW.NORTHSHOREGOLFCLUB.CO.NZ

