

Course Update

Doctor Dirt

Rock-Ups

GA NEWS

21 November 2025



COURSE NEWS

Navigating a Challenging Spring

Spring has presented several significant challenges this year, with conditions remaining far cooler than average. Air temperatures have struggled to rise consistently, and soil temperatures are still sitting at around 14°C.

This is well below the ideal range for strong couch grass activity, making it difficult for the warm-season surfaces to generate the growth, density, and recovery we would normally expect in November.

As a result, many areas across the course are developing more slowly, and we appreciate members' patience as we work through this unusual start to the growing season.



Despite the weather, there has been steady progress. Our team has been actively topdressing the irrigation trench lines across the course. This helps surface levels settle more evenly, encourages new growth, and ensures these areas continue to blend in seamlessly with the surrounding turf as temperatures rise.

Next week, we will also be undertaking a partial turf replacement of the 4th tee. This improvement will provide a clean, consistent playing surface heading into summer and allow us to present this tee to the standard expected.



Greens Management

Managing the greens has been a major focus during this slow-growing period. We are continuing to plug weaker pockets to maintain uniformity and ensure the overall health of the putting surfaces. This is an ongoing task until growth rates improve naturally.

The greens will also receive a light dusting this coming Monday. Regular dusting plays an important role in smoothing the surfaces, diluting organic matter, and improving both firmness and trueness.

Even with difficult weather, these practices help us stay ahead of potential issues as we transition into warmer conditions.



COURSE NEWS

Rainfall and Course Conditions

The course has received more than 100 mm of rainfall already this month, with 9 rain days in the first 11 days alone. This level of early-month rainfall has made moisture management across fairways, roughs, and greens particularly demanding.

Saturated soils and limited sunlight have contributed to softer conditions than ideal, but the team is doing an excellent job balancing playability with turf health. As temperatures improve, we expect a much stronger response from the couch and continued firming of surfaces. In saying this, the course has held up very well with challenges.

GREEN ACRES RAINFALL													
YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
2025	50	34.5	35	22	24	40.5	50.5	43	25	45			369.5
2024	98	3.5	1.5	107	32.5	28	85.5	28.5	50	51	61	28	574.5
2023	27	29	50.5	121.5	92.5	58	30.5	27	16.5	87.5	49.5	76	665.5
2022	57	2.5	21.5	72.5	41.5	59.5	52.5	85	65.5	189.5	82	35.5	764.5
2021	92	11	63	61	69	78	69	29	102	104	103	9.5	790.5
2020	117	84	79	162	63	39	40	75	48	70	55	64	896
2019	15	26	17	12	79	67	49	71	67	33	68	7	511
2018	82	5	32	16	77	46	32	48	19	34	114	110	615
2017	29	49	46	130	32	17	28	62	48	43	49	163	696
2016	58	12	31	49	64	81	82	84	111	85	53	62	772
2015	62	62	14	69	70	36	82	56	38	24	48	35	596
10 YEAR AVERAGE	63.7	28.4	35.6	80.0	62.1	51.0	55.1	56.6	56.5	72.1	68.3	59.0	

A Well-Deserved Farewell

We would also like to acknowledge our horticulturalist, Peter, who will be retiring on the 20th of December. Over his two years at Green Acres, Peter has made significant improvements in the vegetation areas throughout the course.

His eye for detail, dedication to quality, and passion for improving the natural environment have been widely recognised, with many members offering positive feedback on the transformation of these spaces.

On behalf of the club and its members, we thank him sincerely for his outstanding contribution and wish him all the very best in his retirement. Congratulations, Peter, and enjoy this next chapter.



James Stewart



Course Superintendent

DOCTOR DIRT

2025 Spring Display

It has been surprising how much the vegetation areas have grown and developed over the last year. While we got some flowering last Spring, this year they have put on quite a show, and things should only get bigger and better each year from now on.

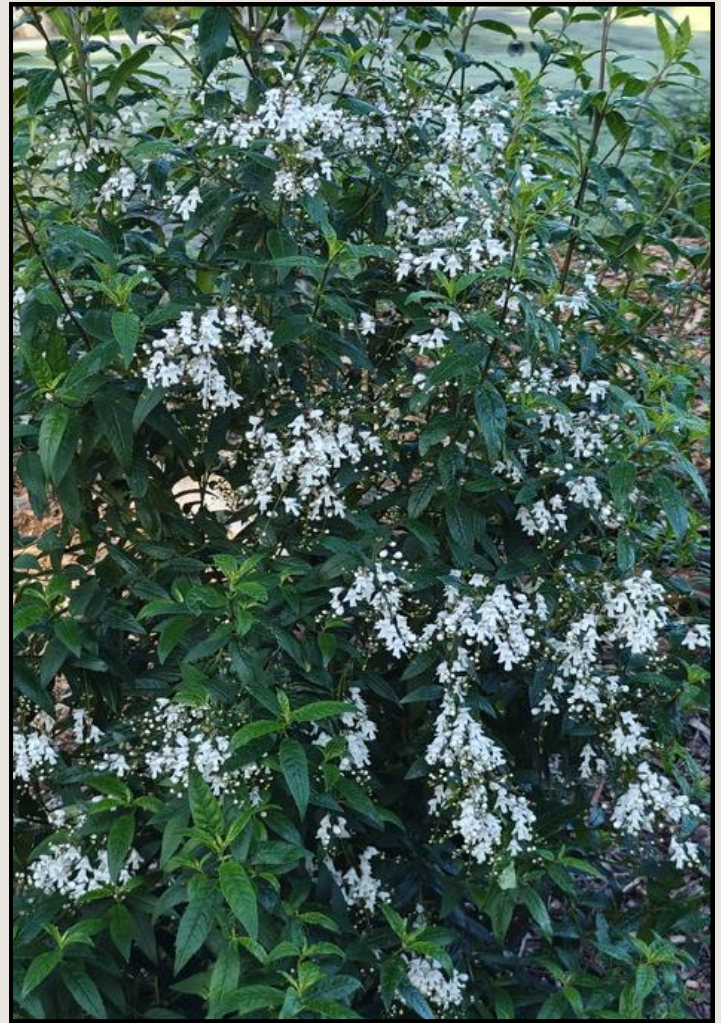
Naturally, the wattles did their best to brighten things up from about the middle of August, but from about the middle of September, a host of other species also joined in.

Two species of Bush pea put on a distinctive 'bacon-and-eggs' showing, and the white flowers of the Daisy bushes chimed in to provide some brilliant contrast. Following this, red bottle brushes, white Kunzeas, and purple Kangaroo Apples further added to the floral diversity.

So too did the Running Postmen, but with only a few flowers in their first year on course. And of course, the Grevilleas at the 1st tee and prostrate Banksias in the carpark have been putting on a very strong show.



Grevilleas



Victorian Christmas Bushes

Just recently, the Victorian Christmas bushes have started their display. Their white flowers are plain to see (especially in the vegetation area between the 13th and 18th tees), but look a little more closely for the full effect – charming purple speckling inside the throats of the flowers.

Although not strictly local indigenous (being a selected variety), the dwarf Tea-trees above the 8th green have been putting on an almost iridescent red display that shines out with added brilliance on bright, sunny days.

In fact, a few members have commented on this and asked whether more could be planted there. I would like to second that motion, Mr Speaker!

DOCTOR DIRT

Continued

Many of these flowers are either honeyeater or butterfly friendly, so wildlife activity and diversity should also continue to increase over time. This year, the activity of many eagerly pollinating honeybees has been the prelude to what is certain to follow in the coming years.

Among other wildlife changes, there has been a subtle but important increase in the activity of both Eastern Rosellas and the smaller Red-rumped grass parrots – both important indicator species that I am sure will continue to add interest to the course in future.



Red-rumped Grass Parrots

Some less obvious changes have also occurred with the development of leaf litter habitat and refuges for bluetongues next to the 7th tee and 6th green – into which the two baby blotched bluetongues (rescued from the vegetation area next to the Maintenance area driveway) were relocated.

Also, another frog species – the Brown Tree-frog – has been added to the GAGC retinue during clearance of the Lomandras on the 11th tee. I am now even more keen than ever to explore opportunities for the inclusion of Frog saunas in various parts of the out-of-play vegetation area.



Brown Tree Frog

The Lomandras were cleared to provide additional access to the tee, and I was pleased to see signs of traffic flow through this area less than 24 hours after we finished.

Turfing of this area should further improve member access to the tee in the near future.

Likewise, further development of the vegetation areas on either side will continue to make this one of the more interesting tees on the course.



Common Bluetongue

Peter Brown

Horticulturist



DINING EVENTS

Green Acres Christmas Dinner

Bookings are now available for this festive event. Book your table now to secure your spot, available between 6:30pm and 7:30pm table sittings. Click [here](#) to book.

Adults are \$60 per person, kids under 12 years \$30. Bring family and friends to enjoy the yuletide spirit at the Club!

Club Presentation Night

Join us on Friday, November 28th, for our Annual Club Presentation Night, celebrating this year's Board and Trophy event winners.

The night is open to all members, with tickets at \$45, which includes a 2-course meal.

To secure your spot or book a table, click [here](#).



GOLF OPERATIONS

Golf Rules Trivia - Friday 5th December

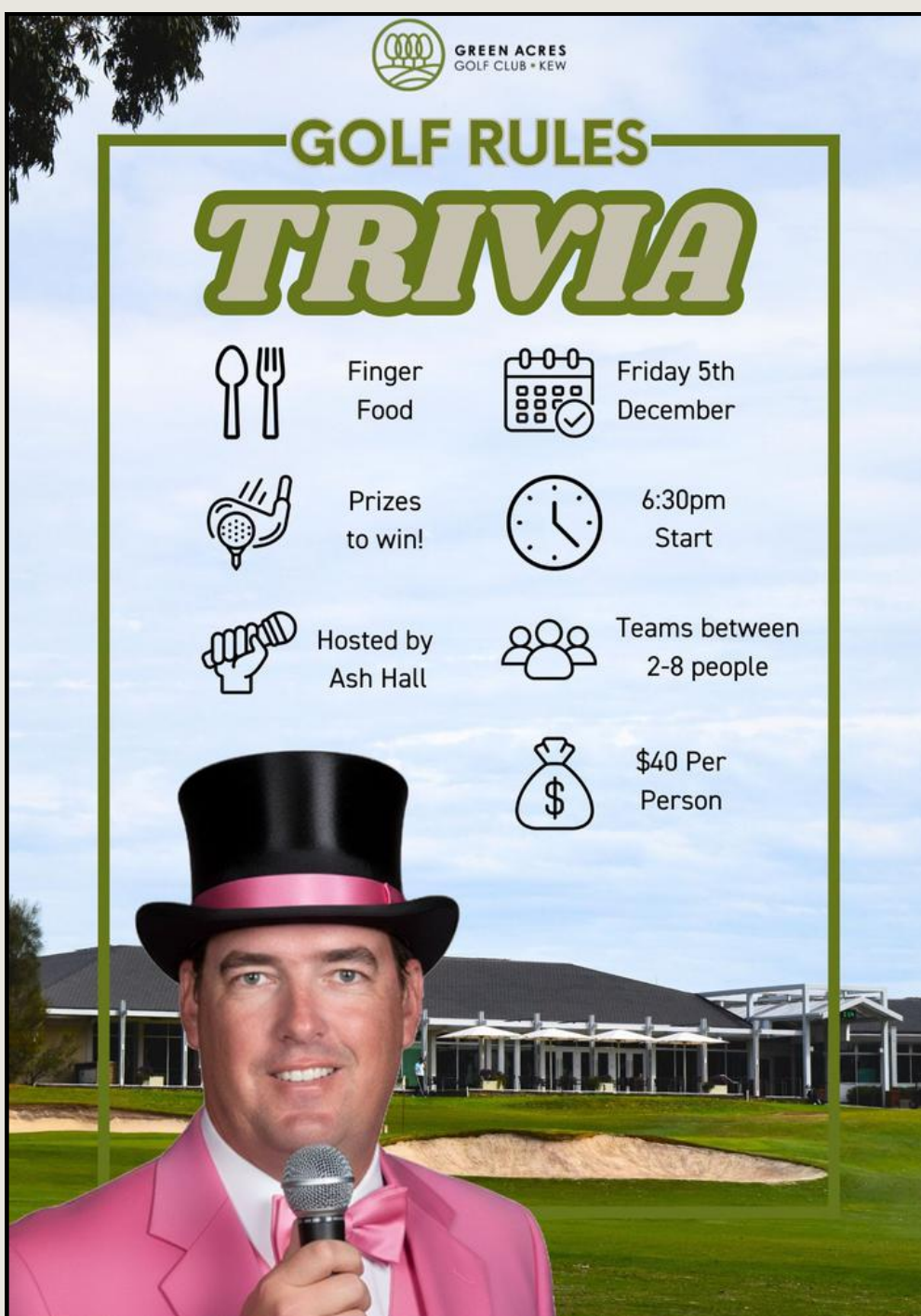
Think you know the rules of golf better than your playing partners? It's time to put that knowledge to the test!

Join us for a fun night, where trivia meets the fairways. Hosted by our own Ash Hall, the night promises plenty of laughs, finger food, competition, and some great prizes up for grabs too!

Gather your team of 2-8 and get ready to show off how well you really know the Rules of Golf and the game we all love.

Spots are limited, so book [here](#) and get ready for a great night at the Club!

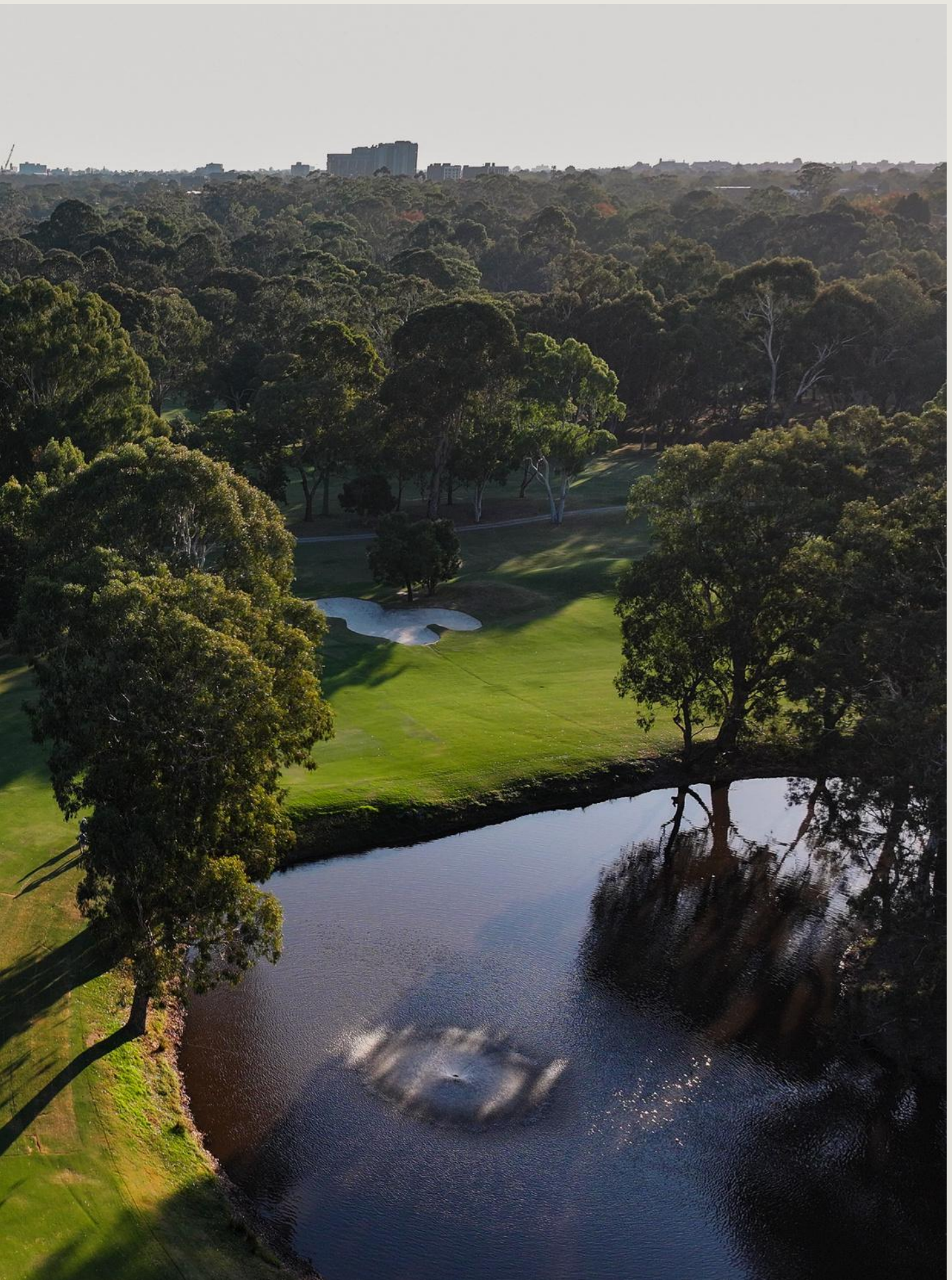
P.S. - The pink suit may not be on show unless there is overwhelming demand!



The poster is for a 'GOLF RULES TRIVIA' event at Green Acres Golf Club. It features a man in a pink suit and top hat holding a microphone in the foreground. The background shows a golf course and clubhouse. The event details are listed in a grid:

- GREEN ACRES GOLF CLUB • KEW**
- GOLF RULES TRIVIA**
- Finger Food** (Icon: fork and spoon)
- Friday 5th December** (Icon: calendar)
- Prizes to win!** (Icon: hand holding a golf ball)
- 6:30pm Start** (Icon: clock)
- Hosted by Ash Hall** (Icon: hand holding a golf club)
- Teams between 2-8 people** (Icon: three people)
- \$40 Per Person** (Icon: money bag)





GOLF OPERATIONS

Cox Plate - Sunday 14th December

The T.E & E.J. Cox Plate was introduced in 2015 to honour Terry and Joy Cox for their outstanding contributions to Green Acres over nearly five decades. The timesheet is open to all members, but only those who have previously or currently served on a Sub-Committee or Board are eligible to win.

The perpetual trophy was generously donated by Peter and Jennifer French, with Peter Hopper, a 50-year member, as the inaugural winner.

Terry Cox, a member since 1971 (54 years), is a Life Member, former Club Captain from 2004 to 2011, multiple Board Event winner, and has played key roles in pennant teams, course development projects, drought-proofing initiatives, and clubhouse upgrades.

Joy Cox, a member since 1983 (42 years), is a former Ladies' President, Women's Sub-Committee member, and Green Acres Women's Pennant player. Both are highly respected stalwarts of the Club, making it fitting that the trophy bears their name.

In recent years, the Cox Plate has been played as a golf and dinner event alongside the Christmas buffet. This year, it will be held separately, with eligible registered players who are current or former Board or Sub-Committee members competing for the plate alongside the daily Stableford competition.

The timesheet setup will be the same as a normal Sunday.

Men's & Women's Matchplay Finals

The Men's and Women's Matchplay finals have reached their conclusion, with the championship matches to be played this Saturday.

In the Women's final, giant slayer Linda Li will take on the 2023 Matchplay Champion Deb Guilmartin.

In the Men's final, it is a showdown between men's pennant representative and four-time champion Jack Allan, who is aiming for a fourth consecutive title, and senior pennant player and 2019 Matchplay Champion Paul Thaw.

Which players will reign supreme come late Saturday afternoon?

Keep track of the results below.

Women's Final - click [here](#)

Men's Final - click [here](#)



GOLF OPERATIONS

What are Rock-ups?

Rock-ups are an important part of Green Acres' history. In the 1970s, the club's time sheets were entirely based on rock-ups before evolving to include partial bookings. The head teaching professional at the time, Brian Dowell, and his wife, Karen, began recording names in a physical booking book.

Soon after, with the introduction of golf timesheet management software, a hybrid online booking system was launched, similar to today's setup. Over time, the rock-up system evolved into what it is today, with more online bookings than rock-ups.

The spirit of the rock-up remains an important part of Green Acres as it offers members the chance to play with people they might not usually meet, and provides an opportunity to secure a tee time on the day, even if the booking sheet is full.



Below is a breakdown of the days and times when rock-ups are available, along with the relevant opening times.

Wednesday

- Morning field: 7:00 am to 8:52 am (check-in opens at 6:30 am)
- Afternoon field: 11:22 am to 1:06 pm (check-in opens at 10:30 am)

Thursday

- Afternoon field: 12:02 pm to 1:06 pm (check-in opens after 11:00 am)
 - Most of these spots are arranged by the Marriott Group, who coordinate their own playing groups.

Saturday

- Morning field: 7:00 am to 8:52 am (check-in opens at 6:30 am)
- Afternoon field: 11:22 am to 1:06 pm (check-in opens at 10:30 am)

Sunday

- Morning field only: 7:00 am to 8:52 am (check-in opens at 6:30 am)

The next time you play, consider using the rock-up system, who knows who you'll meet!

Tristan Cross

Golf Operations Manager



WOMEN'S GOLF

Summer Cup

The Summer Cup has begun, with Judy Millard taking an early lead with a fantastic round this week.

To stay up to date with results, click [here](#) for the leaderboard!

The National Goblet

Green Acres Golf Club Women's team has triumphed at the 2025 National Goblet, marking our first bowl win in many years!

The event was held on November 17th at The National Golf Club's Gunnamatta Course. Green Acres proved too strong, posting a team aggregate Stableford score of 136 and winning on a countback over Metropolitan GC.

To read the full story, click [here](#).



(L-R) Trish Seccombe, Sue Cudmore,
Karen O'Donoghue, and Leanne Reynolds

Women's Sub Committee

Green Acres Challenge Bowl

The 2025 Women's Challenge Bowl brought together 116 players from 24 clubs.

Northern Golf Club delivered a standout performance, winning the Bowl with 97 points and also taking out the 4BBB prize.

To read the full story, results, and see photos from the day, click [here](#).

New Members

New members are invited to come along for a get-together for a few holes of social golf with the Women's Sub-Committee and some of our more experienced members. If you, as one of our experienced members, are free to assist on this day, please let us know.

If you have recently joined our club or are one of our 5-month Membership group, you are most welcome to come along. If you've not yet gained your official handicap, this is an event for you as well.

Please contact Jacqui Moorhead or Bev Moore [here](#) to confirm your attendance.

This event is planned for Monday, 1st December, from 4:15pm.



MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

Movember

With just nine days left in Movember, now is the time to get behind this fantastic cause.

Movember continues its important work in men's mental health, suicide prevention, prostate cancer, and testicular cancer.

Roger Grigg's passion for the cause lives on through the Monday Boys and the continued efforts of his wife, Irene, and son, Andy. Since 2009, Andy has raised more than \$93,000 and is close to reaching this year's \$5,000 goal.

Members can support by donating to the Roger and Andy Grigg Movember page and, of course, by growing a mo if they can.



Andy & Roger Grigg

[Click here to donate](#)

Volunteer at the Webex Players Series Victoria

The Webex Players Series Victoria returns to Rosebud Country Club from Thursday, 22nd January to Sunday, 25th January 2026, and members are invited to get involved as event volunteers.

A range of roles are available across on-course and off-course marshalling, scoring, and event services. Volunteers will receive a uniform, daily lunch, and refreshments.

This televised event is a great opportunity to support the tournament and get up and close with the pros.

To register your interest, head to Golf Australia by clicking [here](#).



Nathan Rees

Membership & Comms



GOLF CENTRE

New Full Ping Bag Range

DLX: Premium Classic look with easy to clean vinyl leather, big on storage with 15 pockets overall, including upper and lower magnetic pockets.

Pioneer: 15-way top with a larger putter well, and an extra removable valuables pocket makes this bag appealing.

Traverse: The smallest of the 3 Ping cart bags, it is highly organised and extremely light, weighing only 2.7kgs.



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'Go long or go home!' - Tristan

TRISTAN'S PICK

*Claim based on consumer testing of Callaway Elyte vs. Callaway Paradym Ai Smoke Max drivers, with average gain of 1.8 yards.

Ash, Alana & Brian

Golf Centre Team



MVP CONCEPTS

Cathedral Invitational 2025

The crown jewel of the Australian Summer of Golf is back for 2025, with the Cathedral Invitational making its highly anticipated return this December!

This year's tournament will showcase some of Australia's golfing royalty and emerging global stars, including Adam Scott, Marc Leishman, Geoff Ogilvy, Lucas Herbert and Nicolas Colsaerts, making it one of the most exciting fields yet.

Join Head Teaching Professional Mark Varela for an exclusive day trip to the renowned Cathedral Lodge and Golf Club on Wednesday, December 10th. A private bus will depart from Green Acres, ensuring a seamless and memorable experience.

With only 24 seats available, we encourage you to express your interest early!

To register your interest, click [here](#).



Mark Varela

Head Golf Professional





GREEN ACRES
GOLF CLUB • KEW

51 Elm Grove, Kew East
VIC 3102

(03) 9859 1294

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

communications@greenacresgolf.com.au