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Newsletter ... January 2019

Welcome to our first Newsletter of the New Year and of your new Committee who met mid-December to "get things going" for some upcoming events: first the district championships and then the 2019 pennants season. The "old" executive welcome Lyndsay Neilson our new captain and the extra assistance he will provide to the team.

District Championships: To be held at Kew Sunday 3 February in four Divisions based on GA Handicaps: < 5.9; 6-10.9; 12-15.9 and 16+ at 3 February 2019. Entry forms are with your club captains NOW! And don't forget there are separate events for all club champions or club medal winners as well as the usual team events. Be there!

Pennants: The draw for the pennants is now out and club and team captains should be well and truly preparing their teams for the contests. And why don't we all follow FT's example and make performance at the stroke championships 3 February part of the selection criteria for pennants? And the good news is ... there will not be an entry fee for clubs participating in the 2019 pennants season ... and one hopes for years to come!

Pennants Conditions of Play: Have been be tweaked slightly and reissued a week or so ago.

Bulahdelah: Our thoughts are with our colleagues there as they work through issues relating to recent storm damage.

LNC Program 2019: Now issued to all clubs and on the LNC website.

Junior Golf: LNC Junior State Pennants

Here's a snap of the six junior golfers who represented out district so well in the NSW Junior JNJG Pennants finals with Jack Newton at the presentation after the finals contest.



From the left: Madelaine Laws Farrell, Jack Newton, Danny Bisby, Quedesha Golledge, Fletcher Murray, Pyper Hollis, Oli Payne and Howard Burrows.

On Monday morning 14 January 2019 at Newcastle Golf Club in head to head match play, LNC beat Kiama 4 matches to 2 with Fletcher, Danny, Madelaine and Quedesha winning. The following day, Tuesday 15 January, we played Toukley in the final in very hot steamy conditions. The matches were close for much of the morning but the LNC players finally got the upper hand and came away winning 5 matches to 1. Our only loss was Oli, who was one down at the 18th after fighting back from 4 down at the half way mark.

All six of our players were simply magnificent and were well led by captain Fletcher in the #1 position. Our team spirit and the camaraderie among our six players had a big bearing on our win as they continued to encourage each other as the matches progressed regardless of whether they were up or down. Here's the summary of the individual matches making up an outstanding two-day team effort:

Monday 14 v Kiama: Fletcher 2/1, Oli 2/4, Pyper 2/3, Danny 2/1, Madelaine 8/7 and Quedesha 3/1. Tuesday 15 v Toukley: Fletcher 3/2, Oli 1 down, Pyper 2/1, Danny 2/1, Madelaine 5/4 and Quedesha 2 up.

Congratulations to all six players on outstanding golf they played which led to their wonderful win. Oli Payne deserves special mentions for playing in the #2 spot; he had not had the time for much practice or tournament golf during 2018 due to his studies, but he put his hand up when he was needed, played some great golf and added enormously to the team spirit.

Our junior coordinator, Howard Burrows, who deserves a lot of credit for the work he has put into our junior program suggests that all clubs use this triumph ... no better word for it ... to encourage all our LNC juniors to play as much club golf as their busy schedules will allow, to take every opportunity to obtain coaching from their club professional or the academy staff who are always there to help them ... and to play in as many tournaments as they can especially our local junior classics: the North Coast Junior Masters and the LNC junior championships ... and to look forward to representing the LNC at future events.

Later this year we will be selecting a team to defend our JNJG junior pennant title, a team to compete in the JNJG Encourage Shield, a team to compete in the Col Johnson Four Ways tournament in the Hunter Valley and we have three inter-district matches scheduled in 2019.

It's time to step up and see to the further development of our game of golf through junior programs at club and district levels.

... from your DGA ... good golfing!