



Summer Beginner Clinics

Our summer beginner clinics have sadly come to an end, but what a fantastic season it has been! Each Wednesday night from December through to last week, we welcomed 20 to 30 beginners to the course, with a short break over Christmas.

We are thrilled to see a solid number of regulars who have been attending for the last 2 to 3 years. These dedicated individuals often only pick up a golf club at our clinics, participating in a friendly 5-hole competition. Each week, the runner-up receives a golf ball, while the winner takes home two balls. Many of our participants work full-time and are looking forward to taking up golf more seriously in the future.

Every year, we also have the pleasure of introducing some newbies to the sport. It's always exciting to see fresh faces trying golf for the first time. A massive thank you goes out to our wonderful helpers who come out each week. They guide the beginners on the practice fairway and accompany the regulars around the course, teaching them basic rules and etiquette. This year, we had around 10 beginners take out a membership, showing their commitment to the sport and our club.

It's been brilliant to see the clubhouse come alive on Wednesdays as we wind up the evening with toasties and a glass of beer or wine. A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who help arrange the clinics, work behind the bar, and make the toasties each week. Your efforts make these clinics truly special.



From The President March 2025

Buggy Shed

The buggy shed has now been fitted with a power sub board and multiple power points to accommodate the charging requirements of the ride on buggies. Thanks to the sparky crew Neville Smith, Chris Hinds, John Nichols and John Murphy and handyman Tony Dick for finishing their tasks quickly. Also, the two Johns have sealed the concrete floor and Tony has installed plyboard panels on the walls. We are awaiting the final stage which is the installation of security cameras and entry hardware. We have had request from 21 buggy owners so will do our best to accommodate all of these.

Course Consultant



We are pleased to announce the appointment of Harry Skledar to the position of Course Consultant. Harry has a wealth of experience in turf management, having worked as the greenkeeper for Port Sorell Golf Club for many years. Harry will be responsible for the management of all aspects of the course maintenance and development and will be liaising closely with our volunteer work crew.

Harry replaces Jason Sims who has held the position for the past two years and we thank Jason for his input and effort during that time.

On Site Caretaker

The club has appointed Mike George as a live-in caretaker, providing us with 24/7 presence on the property. Mike (and his dog) will be living in his caravan and will keep an eye on the course and buildings, assist with opening and closing of facilities, managing RV camping, placing signage out when required and attending to visitors during outside normal hours of operation. Once appropriate conditions are finalised, we should see Mike in residence early next month.

Etiquette Issues

All members who use ride on buggies are asked to travel at a safe speed, avoid travelling close to greens and tee beds and to use designated pathway where applicable.

All members with remote controlled buggies are asked to keep their buggies within two meters of the operator and to avoid moving their buggies when others are playing shots, especially around the greens.

Tree Maintenance

Several trees have been identified with yellow tape - these will be dealt with over the next few weeks. The trees are not targeted for removal but require limb removal and preventative measures.

Roger Eadie

Veterans Championship

2025 NTVGA Veteran Champion Robbie Berne pictured with NTVGA Rep Brian Whelan. Robbie has now gone back to back to back and promises to return to defend his title in 2026. During presentations Brian announced the Thirlstane have been awarded hosting rights for the next 3 years with an option for another 2. Everyone commented on what a fantastic facility we have and we as members should be very proud of ourselves.



Patrons Day



Bev Williams (the Women's Patron) was recently welcomed to join us in afternoon tea after golf. Bev is pictured receiving flowers from Jan Richardson.

Tasmanian Dressage Championships

The Tasmanian Dressage Association leases about 13 acres off the TGC. This past weekend Tasmanian Dressage Championships were held. It is a big deal. They will turn the area into a small town. Dressage North and Dressage NW are impressed with being able to lease our land and the way we look after them by keeping the area clean and tidy.

Peter Skirving keeps the area clean with the old Fergus and slasher. Chris Brown has taken over harrowing the arena's for their events (he is paid for his work) by them





6 March 2025

Mr Greg Boyd
Secretary, Thirlstane Golf Club
Email: secretary@thirlstanegolfclub.com.au

Dear Greg and Committee members

Well, what a weekend! We are exceptionally pleased with how everything went, and it all boils down to the support and assistance you provide.

The Northern Zone of Dressage Tasmania, along with the Championships Organising Committee would like to officially thank the Thirlstane Golf Club Committee for having us at your fantastic facility. We are so very grateful not only for your acceptance of us at your Club grounds, but the high level of investment on many levels you have made so the dressage grounds would be safe and of high quality.

International, mainland and Tasmanian judges all commented on how incredibly well prepared the grounds were, and high level of compliance with the layout of the site. Again, this all boils down to your generosity and support for us and our sport. For example:

- *Thank you for a great champs, congratulations on a first class event!*
- *Fabulous event! It was great to catch up with so many friends and colleagues. Huge congratulations to the organising committee and all those who worked behind the scenes to make this such a successful event.*
- *Wonderful weekend judging with colleagues from Australia and New Zealand at the Launceston Tasmania Dressage Championships. Super organisation and hospitality - thanks for the precious memories.*
- *While dressage in Tassie might be smaller than some of the bigger areas, it was certainly grand! Super grounds, amazing hospitality, even the port-a-loos are flasher than our ones.*
- *A wonderful event thanks to a hard working committee, Judy Atkinson, Linda Smink and co at the beautiful Thirlstane venue which continues to get better all the time.*
- *I am sailing, home again across the sea. Thank you McGrath Launceston, Equestrian Tasmania, Dressage Championships - Judy Atkinson, and her team for including me and my art at your successful countryside event.*

You are included in all these congratulatory comments as part of our team that made this event so successful.

Thank you so very much for everything you do to support us.

Kind regards,

Judy Atkinson

Vice Chair, Dressage Tasmania Northern Zone
Chair, 2025 Championships Committee

New Buggy Shed

The new buggy shed has been wired by a team of TGC veteran sparkies who are all very proud of their efforts and I must add was completed in under 2 days.

The works included the following:

- Adding a new 3 phase circuit breaker to the workshop sub-board.
- Installing a new 3 phase sub-main from the workshop underground to the new buggy room.
- Installing a new sub-board with a kilowatt hour meter and protection for all circuits by RCBO,s.
- Installing 17 double power points.
- Installing 4 internal low bay led lights controlled by a movement sensor.
- Installing 1 exit light.
- Installing 2 external security lights.
- Installing a communication conduit underground for security works by others.
- Trenching and backfilling.

Chris Hinds, John Nichols, John Murphy and Neville Smith were the electrical crew and we were ably assisted by Tony Dick and Les Finarty who assisted with trenching, backfilling, seed sowing and levelling. Tony ,Les and Mike Rataj also constructed the cart entry and relocated the buggy wash water line.

Tony has since installed timber panelling to the walls so that no one damages the new building and John Nichols and John Murphy have coated the floor and the timber-work with a protective sealer.

I believe the buggy shed is another project to be proud of and trust that those that store their buggies within appreciate everyone's efforts.

The General Committee are delighted with the new shed. The Eureka Shed was purchased through Richardson Sheds at 4 Export Drive in Ulverstone. Kim and Mel Richardson arranged the purchase. We discovered that Kim (Poud) Richardson is a Member of the Club and plays with his mates on Sunday mornings. Kim approached us and offered to build the shed with his mates who are also Members, at basically no cost. We would like to recognise Poud and his friends, Ian Abley, Bob Curran, Kevin Pearce and Peter Smith for their good work and generosity.



Winners



Cock'O Walk Winners: Anthony Webb and Matthew Connelly



Spreyton Fresh Winners: Marcus Rigby, Dusty Rigby and Brendon Keep



Rohan Clarke: The Quaich and overall Nett Winner



Summer Cup Winners: Graeme Sward and Keith Cock



Thirlstane Cup Winner: Ben Smith



Matthew Connelly: Albatross on the 8th hole



Women's Handicap
Champion: Cheryl Sutcliffe



Women's Handicap Runner Up
Glenda MacDonald

We Welcome These New Members

Full. Jackson Woods Social. Keith and Annie Didham

Lost Balls and Slow Play

Rule 8.2 states the following:

Ball Lost or Out of Bounds

Stroke-and-Distance relief must be taken when a ball is lost or out of bounds.

When Ball Is Lost. A ball is lost if not found in **three minutes** after the player or their caddie begins to search for it.

If a ball is found in that time but it is uncertain whether it is the player's ball:

- The player must promptly attempt to identify the ball (see Rule 7.2) and is allowed a reasonable time to do so, even if that happens after the three-minute search time has ended.
- This includes a reasonable time to get to the ball if the player is not where the ball is found.

This Month's Photos

