

Italian Golf Association Melbourne



30 May 2011

To all Australian Golf Clubs,

I am writing to introduce myself to Australian golf clubs and golfers as the new Chairman of Golf Australia and to provide an update on progress to implement changes to the new Golf Australia Handicap System.

It has been apparent to the Board of Golf Australia since late last year that the wholesale adoption of the USGA Handicap System in its entirety would not be in the best interests of Australian golf. Accordingly, we commissioned a very experienced statistician to analyse the impact of the changes to the handicap system made in April last year. This analysis showed that the new system had overcorrected the previous heavy bias in favour of low markers to a significant bias in favour of the higher marker.

In February of this year the Board adopted a draft set of first principles (subsequently endorsed with some slight modifications by each Member Association) that should govern a handicap system. During March, a series of discussion groups and forums was held with Clubs and Member Associations. This was done in conjunction with a visit from a senior USGA official to provide background for us and him to understand the Australian golf club and competition culture. At the conclusion of the visit it was conceded that the complete USGA system was not adequate to deal with large field net events.

It was then agreed to analyse every competition over the past 3 years from 15 different and diverse clubs across the country by trialling a range of different variations to the current 10 out of 20 sample method, with the aim of finding a method which would satisfy an overriding principle of "affording each player in a competition field a reasonable expectation of winning or placing well if that player plays reasonably better than their handicap". After an exhaustive analysis, we believe we have now arrived at an appropriate method for adoption. We have subsequently tested that method at a number of other clubs and the proposed changes stood up.

The Board believes that the proposed changes will please the Australian golf community and we will soon start to see a handicap system more closely aligned to the way we play our golf.

I can now announce the following four priority amendments to the Golf Australia Handicap System:

1. Alter 'Best 10 of 20' to 'Best 8 of 20'.
2. Change the Bonus for Excellence multiplier from 0.96 to 0.93.
3. Introduce an Anchor which will prevent a player's handicap from increasing any more than 4 strokes beyond their best exact handicap from the previous 12-month rolling period.
4. Golf Link will cap the score that goes into a player's handicap record at no more than the following amount over the course rating:
 - 50-women
 - 40-men

I.G.A. Newsletter

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In case you missed it

Special Notice

*The IGA Game
scheduled for August
8th has been moved to
August 15th. This has
be due to issues The
Huntingdale Golf
Club has on that day.
We will still be
playing against The
Fairway Club so
make sure you bring
your "A" game*



These four priority amendments will come into effect on Wednesday 21 September 2011. This will involve the GOLF *Link* system being down from 1.00pm on Monday 19 September until Wednesday 21 September. Related assistance for club administrators will be provided in the lead up to 19 September, this will include tailored advice on gaining access to GOLF *Link* when the system is back on-line on 21 September.

Included at Appendix A is a summary of the Implementation Plan for the new Golf Australia Handicap System. This covers off each item to be included in the new system.

I can also confirm that the following will NOT be a part of the new system:

- 'Most Likely Score'.
- Required handicapping of novelty competitions.
- Handicapping of ALL non-competition scores.
- Handicapping of match play scores.
- Handicapping of a score returned by a player who plays alone.

More detailed information and regular updates are provided on the GA website:
www.golfaustralia.org.au.

In the meantime we continue to re-rate all of our courses. This invaluable task is being performed by many volunteers across the country and will be completed by the end of this year. Many clubs already have their upgraded scratch ratings in place. This process is also readying us for the final introduction of Slope Indexing. Later this year we will provide details of the final additions to the handicap system.

The Board is committed to ensuring we have a handicap system that is suited to our golf culture and I am committed to ensuring we achieve that.

I look forward to working with the Board and staff to do what we can to improve the experience of all Australian golfers.

Yours sincerely

John Hopkins
Chairman
Golf Australia



Would you fly with this man?

Seems that seven other members of the IGA trusted Anthony to pilot this aircraft to Barnboughe Golf Course. They all got there safely and he managed to get them home again. Now what an asset we have in the IGA our own in house pilot who can fly us anywhere.

On Friday in true Croatian style Rudi and Zvonko (Peter) managed to get rid of a Litre of Grappa in just 12 holes of golf and we thought Mick and Cosimo were bad. As a result of the alcohol intake Rudi believed he was 10 men and bet Anthony \$50 a hole for the following round on Saturday. In true style at dinner Vince consumed his meat and everyone's leftovers.

Saturday saw Rudi nearly missing the shuttle bus to Lost Farm due to a hangover. To his credit however he managed to only pay Anthony \$50 and battled on in Bridport where he celebrated with a cigar and glass of red.

Sunday saw the Croatian team of Rudi, Zvonko, Ante and Rob winning the weekend and Zvonko taking home the overall prize. Ante (Tony) narrowly missed a "hole in one" by some 5 inches and while everyone felt "really bad" they were glad it happened on the final day as he never shut up about the one that got away



Barnboughe Golfers

***Stephen McKillop
Vince Iacobacco
Rob Riordan
Ante Cikoja
Zvonko Cvitkovic
Rudi Horvat
Eugene Ballao***

***And the pilot
Anthony Murphy***



*Italian Golf Association
Melbourne*



Games Report:

Rosanna Golf Club was the scene for the Match Play Final with the winners being A grade John Divincenzo defeting Rob Bisignano 3 and 2 and in B grade Tony Renda defeated John Maronne 5 and 3.

Well done to everyone.

The days competition

A grade John Blatti 37 points

B grade Adrian Ferrante 36 points



New Golf Technology

Now you no longer need to carry a bag full of golf clubs. This latest offering allows you change the loft from a 3 iron to a wedge and in addition you can alter the lie of the club head. So all you now need is a driver and a putter plus your special club.

Sponsors on the Day

Frank Costanzo of Aussietravel Insurance

Dom Torre of Don Torre Cafe





In the Bunker

Italian Wedding

I was soon to be married to this lovely Italian Girl. Her younger sister was even more gorgeous and wore very short mini skirts and more often had no bra on, she would regularly bend down close to me so I had a major eye full each time.

One night she asked me to call over and check out the wedding invitations. When I arrived there was no one in the house but her and me. She was dressed in the usual mini skirt and said she really fancied me and would like to have sex with me before I was married. She said she was going upstairs and if I wanted her all I had to do was to follow.

I was shocked and could hardly believe my eyes, I turned and ran for the front door and rushed outside.

There on the front lawn was my entire future family all clapping and cheering. My future Father in Law shook my hand and saying we are so pleased you passed our little test that you will be true to our daughter and make a great husband.

The moral of this little story is....

Always keep your condoms in the car!!!!!!!

The grim reaper came for me last night, and I beat him off with a Vacuum cleaner.

Bloody Hell, talk about Dyson with Death...

Did you hear about the fat alcoholic transvestite? All he wanted to do was eat, drink and be Mary.

Man calls 000 and says I think my wife is dead. The operator says how do you know? He says "the sex is the same but the ironing is building up"

*I was in bed with a blind girl last night and she said I had the biggest p***s she ever laid her hands on. I said "you're pulling my leg"*

Three old ladies were sitting side by side in their retirement home. The first lady recalled shopping at the green grocers and demonstrated with her hands, the length and thickness of the cucumber she could buy for a few cents.

The second old lady nodded and added that the onions used to much bigger and cheaper also and demonstrated the size of two big onions she could buy for 20 cents.

The third old lady remarked "I can't hear a word you're saying, but I remember the guy you're talking about..."

What's the difference a USA northern fairy tale and a southern fairytale?????????

A Northern fairy tale begins. Once upon a time...

A Southern fairy tale begins. Y'all ain't gonna believe this shit.....

Rules:

Question came up recently regarding borrowing clubs which comes under the general rule 4.

Rule 4-4 b Partners may share clubs.

Partners may share clubs, provided the total number of clubs carried by the partners so sharing does not exceed fourteen.

The player must not start a stipulated round with more than fourteen clubs. He is limited to the clubs thus selected for that round, except that if he started with fewer than fourteen, he may add any number provided the total number does not exceed fourteen

The addition of a club or clubs must not unduly delay play and the player must not add or borrow and club selected for play by any other person playing the course

