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## Manager's Newsletter – June 2024

### Introduction

Winter is upon us! They say we will have a dry winter this year, yet this was not the case for this past week. As it is our quiet time, we have a chance to look at all the little things that go on at our great club. A few of these will be mentioned in the additional section of the newsletter.

### Course

The course is looking better than ever before. The new bunker sand that we added the past month made a great difference in the golfer's experience of our course. In the process of adding sand, we also dug down into the foundations of our bunkers and loosed all the compacted sand from all these years. This helps with drainage after heavy rains. We know it was tough at the start as the sand was extremely loose and a plugged golf ball was easy to come by. To make this more player friendly we have compacted the sand to make it more playable and easier to get out and make that par putt. We had 115mm of rain the past week! This comes with pros and cons. The heavy rain coming down from the mountain is always a blessing as it cleans out the duckweed in the dam around the Putting Green. Even after all this rain, we did not have one bunker that was waterlogged. When it rains, it brings about a different "Green" to our beautiful course. With rain comes a very wet golf course! The decision about golf carts will be made on the day.

### Improvements

You have probably noticed a few changes that have taken place in and around the clubhouse. We are trying our best to improve the overall experience at our club, that statement stretches from the entrance to the last round of drinks you have at the bar. We had two projects that happened the last month.

The first one is the new tar that we have at our entrance. We thank our Captain, Conan Doyle, for setting up the meeting with AECI World Asphalt. They Manufacture and develop new forms of asphalt. Our new Asphalts is one of these products. A total of 90 tons of asphalt is equivalent to R500 000 that they laid down, FREE OF CHARGE. I would like to thank Conan for his overall effort and commitment to our club.

Another project was the entrance hall. It started with a bit of black paint and a beautiful leather couch sourced by Hennie Strauss. I would like to thank all the members who made donations towards this couch. Bakkie Loubser, Gerrit van Nierkerk, Micheal Holmes, Theuns Pool, Emile Krugmann, Bertus van Zyl, Eben Kotze, Benna Theron, Willie van Zyl and Gert Brynard. We thank you gents for all your help in making a positive contribution to the club.



## Communication

You might have noticed that we focused on improving communication with you as a member. We want to avoid sending out emails for everything that happens at the club.

Our first attempt to improve communications is by using WhatsApp. We will need you help with the setup to comply with the POPIA regulations.

Please **SAVE** the following number to your phone and send a WhatsApp message to this number with your Name and Surname in the body of the text. Only once we receive your messages will we be able to register you on the WhatsApp line.

Strand Golf Club (WhatsApp Line) 079 529 7527

What are we going to use it for?

1. We will be broadcasting in time information about the Golf Club.  
Weather Conditions, if carts are allowed after rain, Special events, Course updates and any other news that affects the members.
2. You will be added to our WhatsApp Group, "Captains Corner" where all this information will be shared.
3. This group only be used for Club communications. Members will not be able to send texts or interact on this group as it will only be me and the captain who can send communications on this group.
4. Messages and information all always be shared professionally and relative to the members.

## Additional

We would like to congratulate Keaton Filander on making the U/15 Matchplay Invitational team. We as Strand Golf Club are proud of this young man and wish him all the best in this tournament.

Congratulations to Gideon and Andries van der Vyver who was part of the winning team at this year's Challenge IPT that was held at Metropolitan Golf Club. Andries had a great week as he was awarded the MVP award for this tournament.

As you might have noticed we have been cashless since the start of June. The transition went smoothly with only a few tweaks to the normal routines. All in all, we have had only positive feedback as it is just something new to get used to.

## Conclusion

I would like to thank you as a member for your continued support. We will continue down this road of improvement till we reach our possible potential of a great golf experience.

Elmo Barnard



General Manager

