

July 2017 Newsletter

Chairman's Report

Hi All

For those of you who have ventured out onto the course recently you have probably seen that the fairways are holding up nicely and the greens, surrounds and tee boxes are in beautiful condition. Our boreholes are continuing to yield nicely and we are storing water which will be used on the fairways at the beginning of spring to get them to pristine condition over the coming summer rain months.

The statutory work for Elements Owners Limited continues and we will be issuing the share certificates to all shareholders soon.

Our new focus on stand sales and promoting the Reserve is gathering momentum with multiple meetings being held with estate agents and banks, and interest in EPGR is growing rapidly. Again, please remember to mention EPGR wherever you can in social media and especially concentrate on key words such as "wildlife golfing" which gets our international visitors, and potential owners, really interested.

Our clubhouse and pro shop are showing good profits, so thanks for your support, which is especially gratifying given the massive monthly cost that was laid on us from this section under the previous management. It really is pleasant to be greeted with happy smiling faces when you arrive at, or eat in, the clubhouse. Thanks again to Ian for his leadership in this regard.



From the General Manager

July is traditionally the slowest month for golf, yet we again did well and exceeded budget forecast on rounds played and revenue generated. 710 rounds were played, which exceeded forecast by 37%. Well done and thank you to everyone who visited and played during the month. 39% of rounds were played by Members and 11% by Member Guests. This is remarkably high and shows the commitment and support received from Members.

The worst of winter is now behind us and we look forward to spring fast approaching. Hopefully spring will bring early rains which will boost our efforts in getting the fairways back to where they were 6 years ago. Once again we look forward to meeting as many owners as possible this coming month.

Golf Operations

We have participated in a Customer Service and Merchandising training programme, and the results will hopefully be visible to all guests. The golf shop has also been rearranged in accordance with the merchandising concepts and we hope you will like the new look and feel. Stock on hand has also been increased with top quality products which we expect will sell well. Ladies Nike golf shoes are now also available for sale.

The five additional golf carts have been delivered and the GPS system is booked for installation in mid-September.

Green fee income exceeded forecast by 35% which has improved the year to date income to only 10% below budget, and we expect to make up this small deficit in August.



Golf Course Report

The fairway grasses are now dormant and have turned mostly brown with the winter frosts, which have been quite severe. The grass is, however, holding up and will recover well with warmer temperatures and irrigation from September onwards.

Green speed remains at 11 ft 6ins which is very fast. We have increased the height of the greens mowers by 0.5mm to slow the green speed down to a target of 11ft. There are traces of Poa Annua in the greens

and where possible this is been removed by weeding it out. There are a few greens that are already too infested to remove by hand and these will be treated chemically.

The fairway widening programme has been continued and will be completed by the end of August. The first ten holes have been done so far. Once again, this has been very well received by all golfers. The course will be closed for hollow tining from the afternoon of Sunday, 8th October and will reopen for play on Friday, 13th October.

Fauna and Flora

A game count will be conducted during August, following which the Fauna and Flora Committee will decide on what actions needs to be implemented to get game counts to recommended numbers. This is an ongoing matter that will take time to reach the optimal balance.

Marion Melville has taken the initiative to identify specimen trees on the golf course and has had botanical name plates made to place on them. Once this has been completed, she has offered to conduct the same exercise on the cycling track. We thank her sincerely for this which adds great value to the Elements experience.



Our marketing initiatives are definitely bearing fruit, as can be seen from the growing number of rounds being played. You might have seen that we have the front page cover on the July issue of Tee and Sandwedges newspaper, together with an advert for a Golf and Glamping event to be played on 10th and 11th September. We hope to attract a good field for this unique overnight camping golf event.

The Waterberg SAGES Sanlam Cancer Fundraising golf day will be hosted at Elements for the first time on Friday, 27th October and all Members will be invited.



Property Sales

The transfer of the 84 stands into Elements Owners Limited is in progress. The Body Corporate Stands Administration and Marketing Committee is hosting a Property Workshop in August to discuss and develop a property marketing strategy for the Estate. We will advise you of the decisions reached at the workshop in the August newsletter. If you want to buy or sell property on Elements, please give us a call at the Club and we will be able to point you in the right direction.

Security Report

No security incidences were recorded during the month. A fully trained guard dog will be stationed on the property from mid-August and will be used for routine patrolling purposes. This will add significantly to the security of the property.

