Wellington Golf Inc

2017 Annual Report



2017 Girls Interprovincial National Champions

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Organisation

Board

Marty Scott	President	Royal Wellington Golf Club
Stephen Bridle	Chair	Royal Wellington Golf Club
Carmen Blackler		Miramar Golf Club
Peter Gapes		Shandon Golf Club
Di Patchett		Miramar Golf Club
Roselee Thurston		Otaki Golf Club

Staff

Steve Weir	Operations Manager
Haydee Wilton	Operations Support

Life Members

Royce Doyle

Rodney Barltrop

Gwen Hill

Julie Murphy

Peg Sargent

Enid Turner

President's Message 2017

2017 has been another busy year for Wellington Golf Inc and the Board feels that good progress has been made in a number of key focus areas that have been of vital concern to our organisation. The level of communication and engagement with clubs in the region has been considerably enhanced and here it is appropriate to acknowledge the fine work of Board Member Roselee Thurston and WGI staff Steve Weir and Haydee Wilton. They have travelled extensively and spent time with many clubs at events and meetings where they have been able to assist with operational solutions to the everyday challenges that arise in the running of events, competitions and development initiatives. There has been progress with securing sponsorship and grants funding and while more work is ahead of us in this area, WGI is moderately satisfied with the year's financial performance and the associated ability to invest back into the sport. We once again acknowledge the diligence and skills of Haydee Wilton in the grants funding space in securing $65k towards the Academy and Representative programmes, where her knowledge and experience are of great value in negotiating the way through this critical area of operations. Progress has been made with the quality of regional tournaments and interclub events where not only has there been an increase in participation, but also significant improvement in the quality of presentation of these events. Wellington is and has every right to be proud of the continued strength of interclub golf in the region.

In representative competitions the standout performance came from the Girls Interprovincial team who were crowned National Champions. Players Darae Chung, Erika Cui, Shontalia William, Michelle Huang, Cheycoda Cocks and Dakota Asi performed superbly under the management of Sue Shin and Steve Weir. The Women's Toro interprovincial side finished 7th with the Women's Masters 12th while Erika Cui won the WGI Women's Order of Merit.

The Men's team were unable to repeat their Toro Interprovincial win of 2016 and finished 5th while the Freyberg Masters Men were 2nd, beaten in the final by a very strong Auckland side. The Boys Interprovincial side finished 5th in their National tournament. The WGI order of Merit for the Men was won by Dan Hillier who also performed admirably to finish the highest ranked New Zealander in 6th place with his provincial team mate Kerry Mountcastle in 9th position, in the prestigious and highly successful Asia Pacific Amateur Championship played at Royal Wellington. Dan also added a 2nd NZ Amateur title to his growing list of achievements.

The Lansdowne Salver and Trophy for Women's interclub supremacy saw Boulcott's Farm Heritage Golf Club triumph in both, while Otaki won the Mary Alward/Tuakana. Shandon won both the Otaki and Duncan Cups for Men with Masterton victors in the President's Salver. Shandon also won the Watt Cup for 2017 and they are to be congratulated on a very successful interclub year.

The board takes this opportunity to thank all volunteers, referees, selectors, team managers, coaches and academy helpers for all of their input into the regions golfing fortunes. We are indeed fortunate to have the commitment and skills of these dedicated people who give so much of their time, for little return, other than the fun and enjoyment of being involved in our game.

We also take this opportunity to thank once again our Wellington Golf staff Steve Weir and Haydee Wilton. They are immensely dedicated people with a deep pride in what they do for golf in the region. We are indeed fortunate to have them on our team.

Within the region we have provided members with quality competitions and events and as Steve Weir highlights, we have seen a significant increase in the number of entrants to these events. At this year's Wellington Stroke Play Championship for example we had 70+ entries, including players and teams from 4 regions outside of Wellington.

The field included several of the country's top ranked amateurs and we expect that number to grow further in 2018 as word of the event's quality spreads.

We are certainly fortunate to have someone of Steve's dedication and experience running these events. We are also very fortunate to have the amazing support of several key sponsors including Harcourts Wellington, John Morgan Consulting and Blackyard Consulting. This support enables Wellington Golf to stage events of this calibre.

In summary, the year on the course probably ranks as a pass mark with perhaps a couple of yardsticks missing from the trophy cabinet. If communication, engagement and organisational teamwork are of merit in the region's golf community then progress had been made. There are significant challenges ahead! Club sustainability, membership numbers and financial viability are very real issues for many clubs around New Zealand and Wellington is not exempt from these pressures. We are all likely to hear more on these challenges in the future.

The Board continues to appreciate the opportunity of working with all stakeholders to advance the game in our region and we look forward to a positive and successful 2018.

Marty Scott



Board Chair's Report

On behalf of the Board it is a pleasure to present members with our Annual Report for 2017.

We continue to build on last year's platform, and through the report we highlight the work we have done. I'm sure you'll agree a lot has been achieved, and while perhaps not our most successful year at the national competition level, our Wellington teams are becoming recognised for their professionalism, dedication and sportsmanship – values we are looking to instil in all areas of the organisation.

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

In 2017 there were 10,198 levy paying members, which was a 6.4% increase on 2016. The bulk of this growth has come from members of the Golf Warehouse and we note the majority of these are not Wellington based. Similarly, Featherston has increased its membership by 145 members, the majority of which are virtual members. If we exclude these clubs from our figures we see a 1.7% drop on last year's levied player numbers.

WGI FINANCES

We continue to be able to live within our means through a mix of cost management and fundraising. While our Profit and Loss report shows a deficit of circa $15,000, there are a couple of accounting elements impacting this result. Firstly, due to audit requirements, we do not include any drawings from the Junior Levy in our income line. As a result, the $13,105 we paid to clubs for Junior coaching and development programmes does not have any corresponding revenue in spite of us using the fund created specifically for this purpose. The deficit also includes $7,420 of depreciation, which of course is a non-cash expense.

WGI VEHICLE

In December we leased a Mitsubishi Triton Ute for WGI. This was in part facilitated by new director Peter Gapes, who is well connected in the motor industry, and Brendan Foot Motors in Railway Avenue. Many of you will have seen this vehicle at your club.

The decision to make this investment was two-fold. The first was Steve was doing a lot of mileage in his own vehicle and was bearing the bulk of that cost personally which I'm sure you will agree was neither fair nor sustainable. The second was part of our overall goal of raising the profile of golf in the Wellington region and presenting a professional image wherever we can. The annual cost of the vehicle is circa $5,000. We have a commitment for the first year's running costs to be covered by Harcourts and will work hard to maintain that relationship.

The choice of vehicle was driven by cost and functionality. In the past we have needed to hire vehicles for transporting equipment to and from WGI events and rep competitions. The ute allows us

to transport signage, playing equipment, personnel and tow a trailer all of which are regular requirements for event and tournament management.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2018

From both the Board's perspective and the majority of feedback we get from our member clubs, it feels like WGI is functioning pretty well, operationally, and moving in the right direction. That said, the Board recognises we are not operating in a business as usual environment.

Most golf clubs, be they in Wellington, New Zealand or quite frankly anywhere in the world, are wrestling with declining membership numbers and the flow on financial effects that brings. Time pressures, and an ageing membership base are also translating into demand for different formats of the game. We see this in our nine-hole membership numbers. Again, these changes are a test for the traditional revenue models operated by clubs and culminates in financial pressure.

There are no easy answers to these issues, but it's hard to see positive outcomes if we wait for them to resolve themselves. As a board we believe we have a responsibility to assist clubs prepare for the future. I would like to be very clear that does not mean being hands-on; it is our strong opinion clubs should be self-managing and WGI has no intention of getting involved in the day-to-day operation of our member clubs' business.

Where we do see a role, however, is providing the information clubs need to make good decisions for the future.

To that end WGI will be working closely with NZ Golf to collate and analyse a solid historic base of information around playing numbers, costs and revenue, and projections for the future might look like based on current trends. We see this resource being made available that all clubs can access in developing their business strategies.

We estimate that process will take six months and we are targeting our half yearly meeting to present the outcome of that analysis with you. Our sole intention with this project is to gather the data we all need to have an informed discussion about the shape of golf in Wellington in the coming decade and beyond. We trust you will support and assist us in this process.

On behalf of the Board I would like to thank you for your support in 2017 and we looking forward to working with you on the issues that matter most in 2018

Kind regards

Stephen Bridle



Operations Managers Report

The challenge of marrying the faces to the names that come across my desk electronically and otherwise, continues apace in my first full year in the Operations Manager's role, and into the second season of Interclub – 1,300 for me to identify versus one from your side of the fairway, a fair challenge.

This is a highlight for me – I figure over 10 odd weekends of Interclub each year it will take a few years, but the opportunity to walk a few holes, take a few pictures and gain some feedback is worth every forgotten name…..

2017 has contained many highlights as the 12 months have flown by – Interclub was duly concluded with Boulcott's Farm, Te Marua and Shandon enjoying stand out years in terms of trophy winning success.

The Representative season was a mixed bag – from the Girls being crowned National Champions, the Masters Men charging through the week to a final showdown with Auckland and eventual runner up, the Boys, Women and Masters Women performing creditably, to the obvious disappointment the Men felt in not following up on 2016's success. Plenty of goals for 2018.

A personal highlight was carrying the young Judgeford player Dakota Asi's bag through the Girls Interprovincial week as she chalked up win after win, and then helping Darae on the 2 playoff holes to victory – the memory of that tough downhill birdie putt swooping into the heart of the hole will remain for a long time ! A true black and yellow moment.

The Lions rugby tour arrived mid year, with their thousands of supporters. WGI set up a companion web site with details of where to play golf and which courses were able to accommodate camper vans. There was limited success regarding direct referrals, but the district held many golf events and hosted a great number of visitors to the clubs in this period.

Later in the year the Asia Pacific Amateur Championship was hosted in New Zealand for the first time at Royal Wellington Golf Club. This was world class on so many levels. WGI provided official starters, and the wider community contributed a large number of volunteers and caddies. A truly memorable week.

In another NZ first, the LPGA tour came to our shores, with many locals travelling to the Windross Farm course in Auckland to support our own Lydia Ko, and see the world's best first hand.

The back end of 2017 witnessed the beginning of one of the hottest summer periods in a very long time – multiple days over 25C and pushing into the 30's. This has posed massive challenges for the grounds staff at all the courses in our region, irrespective of the systems in place, the water allocation or the feet on the ground to tackle the problems. If you get the opportunity to offer a word of support and understanding, please take this opportunity – these Men and Women are experts in their field, but every now and then scenarios come along that are not easy or simple to resolve.

Looking forward to 2018 and beyond there will be many changes in our District, with land pressure in our cities and membership numbers vs. those who play the game casually, two of the key ones.

The WGI Board is acutely aware of the challenges that golf as a sport faces, and like all other sports there are no silver bullet options. Treasure and treat well the current members at your clubs and give the new members and visitors an experience that they can't wait to come back and repeat, would be the mantra.

To conclude, many thanks for the opportunity to interact with you all, one by one I'll marry the name to the face. Keep the e/mails and phone calls flowing, as I will the responses.

Good golfing

Steve



Match Committee Chair's Report

2017 reflected the successful changes to the competitive environment, within Interclub, District and Club Events and our Representative Programme.

Request for email feedback replaced the 2016 meetings, a successful change which allowed many more players and teams to provide feedback. The focus as always is to keep everyone playing golf and in the competitive environment enabling clubs with insufficient members to join with other club teams has proven very successful across all Mens and Womens Interclub Golf Teams.

The Women 9 Hole and 18 Hole Mid Week and Weekend Interclub teams once again had very successful field days. The wet weather proved to be challenging with all courses facing decisions on postponements, however all matches were played; huge thanks to the green keepers for their efforts.

A big thank you also to the Clubs and their many volunteers, who without we would be unable to run Interclub, stage district events and host other provinces Representative teams.

Also I would like to acknowledge the amount of time given by the members of the match committee, enabling me to resource all our many events and roles that the committee provides - it is greatly appreciated.

9 Hole Women's Interclub

Venna Seymour (Kapiti Golf Club) stepped down as Match representative and we welcome Barb Gray from Manor Park as the new representative for 2018.
Wellington Golf wish to acknowledge the huge contribution Venna has made to 9 Hole Womens Golf over the last 5 years.

The interclub season went well for the 9 Hole Women with Kapiti winning the trophy.
A very successful championship was held at Waikanae with the inclusion of 9 Hole Men for the first time and from this the Men have now formed a 9 Hole Interclub division for 2018.

18 Hole Women's Interclub, Mid Week and Weekend

The major change to Monday Interclub was to change the format of the bronze division to a mixed handicap division with a change to the minimum index.
This reflects the ability of clubs to field an Interclub team in either division as some clubs did not have enough of either bronze or silver. The outcome is we are able to maintain all clubs in the competition where without change we would have seen 3 clubs drop out.

Weekend Interclub saw two teams merge to enable these clubs to continue, once again without this provision there would have been two to drop out.

18 Hole Men's Interclub Divisions 1 through 11

Once again this group continued to be the heartbeat of the Interclub scene with around 800 players taking part across the season. Excellent to see no reduction team numbers with all games played in wonderful spirit and great comradeship.
Wellington Golf sends condolences to the families and golfing friends of Wayne Clews and Bill Crooks, stalwarts of this section, both who passed away recently.

Duncan Cup and Landsdowne Trophy

The season ending finals of the Duncan Cup and Lansdowne Trophy had the presentations once again at one venue, proving a great success allowing the 4 teams and their supporters to be part of a great end of season event. Congratulations to Shandon on winning the Duncan Cup and to BFHGC women for winning the Lansdowne Trophy

The Representative Teams

The Women's Toro Team couldn't match the efforts of 2016 however the team spirit was fantastic and we look forward to Shirley this year.
The Men's team also couldn't emulate the efforts of the previous year and being defending champions meant the pressure was always on and in the end was not to be.
Many thanks to the caddies and management who gave up their time to go to the far north and support the Men's and Women's teams.

District Events

WGI made a determined effort to lift the profile, field size and the success of our District Events as well as adding some back into the calendar that had been shelved in recent times.
The Women's Vets, Men's and Women's Pairs, Mixed Foursomes and Women's 36 Hole Strokeplay were all held in 2017. This has proved successful along with the strategy of running events in conjunction with existing club opens, where possible.

We are working hard to get events calendared and dates out as early as possible each year, to try and avoid clashes with your key Club Opens. Competition Rules are constantly being looked at to simplify down and embrace the mantra "we are looking to enable players to be able to compete and for Clubs to be able to field teams"

Roselee Thurston

Match Committee Chair







Funders

Wellington Golf are again hugely indebted and very grateful for the critical support these Funders provide over the following programmes. Without this support these programmes and the pathways and opportunities they offer, would not exist in their current shape, and the support offered to all our players to develop and compete would be very limited.

Representative Programme

- Pelorus Trust
- Pub Charity Ltd
- First Sovereign Trust Limited
- NZ Racing Board
- Four Winds Foundation
- Infinity Foundation





Academy and Junior Development Programme

- Pelorus Trust
- Sport Wellington
- Wellington City Council
- Eagles Golfing Society of Wellington

The Academy programme, now entering its 2nd decade, underwent some strong changes with greater emphasis on player planning, event preparation, exercise and nutrition, and training camps within other districts.

Primary and Secondary Schools Programme

- Sport Wellington, Kiwisport

Two new programmes, Ready Set Golf for primary schools (using Snag equipment) delivered at the school, and a College Programme partnering the college, a local club, their volunteers and a Pro Coach, for after school modules at the golf course, both launched in the back half of 2017.



PGA/WGI Volunteer Coach Training Programme

- Sport Wellington

This programme, designed and lead by Murray Macklin, to upskill Pro Coaches to enable the Pro Coach to train volunteer coaches to ensure sustainability of entry level club programmes.



Commercial Partnerships

In 2017 the development of the WGI 72 Hole Strokeplay towards the goal of a nationally recognised event and eventual Provincial Teams competition within the tournament, took another significant step forward from the successful 2016 event at Manor Park GC.

Harcourts Team Wellington again named and sponsored the event, a sizeable contribution to enable a quality field to be attracted, encouraging Tasman, Manawatu/Wanganui, Hawkes Bay, to join hosts Wellington and field teams within the strokeplay.

With the APAC bound players Dan Hillier, Ryan Chisnall and Kerry Mountcastle leading the field, highlighted by a stunning 65 on Sunday morning in the weekend's toughest conditions by Dan, and 8 Provincial teams competing within the field (a mix of Men's, Women's and U19 Men), the Harcourts Wellington Strokeplay was a huge success.





Harcourts Team Wellington were also involved in providing support to enable Wellington Golf to run a vehicle. With a much greater commitment to run 20+ events a year, maintain a presence across all Interclub rounds and Representative events, this had become an essential requirement.



Continuing on from the 2016 support, John Morgan Consulting (JMC) again committed to providing clothing for the Representative Teams. This ongoing support, extending over many years now, is hugely appreciated and acknowledged by WGI and the players alike – they wear these items with a pride and respect to the province and the sponsor.




With a keen and active involvement in the Miramar Junior space in recent times,
Blackyard Consulting have now expanded this support to partner with Wellington Golf and outfitted both the Boys and Girls Junior Interprovincial teams in 2017 as well as clothing for the team Managers.

Our under 19 players looked very professional with the Girls becoming National Champions in their new attire.





The Golf Warehouse and Boulcott's Farm Pro Shop businesses provided key support around prizes for the Harcourts 72 hole Strokeplay, items for the Representative teams and clothing for the Junior Interprovincial teams.




Competitions

Interclub

2017 was another successful year for the WGI Interclub programme.

New grades in the Junior Interclub completion, 18 Hole matchplay on handicap, and 9 Hole stableford, were created. Also in the near future Men's 9 hole Interclub will be formalised and run on a similar basis to the successful Women's 9 Hole Interclub.

With 180 teams competing across the Men's and Women's, weekend and midweek, and Junior competitions, and over 1,300 players turning up to compete every 2 to 3 weeks, Interclub golf in the Wellington district remains in good health in terms of participation.

A big thanks to all the team co ordinators, selectors, captains and managers who all give many hours of their time to ensure team sheets and results are entered, and given the number of moving parts that the competitions run smoothly.

2017 Champions

Men

- Premier
  - Otaki Cup — Shandon
  - Duncan Cup — Shandon
  - Presidents Salver — Masterton
- Championship
  - Waikanae Cup — Royal Wellington
  - Schroder Trophy — Royal Wellington
  - Dudding Shield — Manor Park
- Div 1 - Kau Kau Trophy — Shandon
- Div 2 - Pennants Trophy — Te Marua
- Div 3 - Dunlop Cup — Mahunga
- Div 4 - Dave Barclay Cup — Shandon
- Div 5 - Mana Trophy — Te Marua
- Div 6 - Wairarapa Salver — Shandon
- Div 7 - Linnell Cup — Martinborough
- Div 8 - Miramar Cup — Miramar
- Div 9 - Capital Cup — Miramar
- Div 10 - Kapiti Cup — Te Marua
- Div 11 - Andy Shaw Trophy — Featherston
- John Durry Salver — Royal Wellington
- Marquis Shield — Mahunga
- Workman Trophy — Masterton
- Intermediate Cup — Carterton
- Sutherland trophy — Mahunga

Junior

• Watt Cup	Shandon
• Pelorus Cup	Paraparaumu Beach
• 18 Hole Pennants	Judgeford
• 9 Hole Pennants	Otaki and Manor Park

Women

• Premier	
○ Lansdowne Salver	Boulcott's Farm
○ Lansdowne Trophy	Boulcott's Farm
• Mary Alward/Tuakana	Otaki
• MAT (runner up)	Kapiti
• Silver Pennants	Royal Wellington Gold
• Silver Pennants (runner up)	Boulcott's Farm
• Bronze Pennants	Boulcott's Farm
• Bronze Pennants (runner up)	Miramar
• Mary Penrose	Te Marua
• Tilson Salver	Masterton
• Riverside Cup	Eketahuna
• Founders Trophy	Alanah Braybrook (4 ½ of 5 round robin wins)
• Betty Duffy Trophy	1st Alison Miller (7 wins, +26 holes); Denise Sweetman (7 wins, +23)
• Lady Meech Trophy	Shontalia William (8 of 9 wins)
• 9-hole Winners	Kapiti
• 9-hole (runner up)	Paraparaumu Beach



District Events

2017 saw a continuation of last year's trend with an increase in the number of events and the size of the fields. The Women's 36 Hole Strokeplay was added back on to the calendar after several years absence as was the 36 Hole Pairs Championship, Foursomes and 4 BBB rounds.

A big thank you to the staff of the host Clubs for their assistance with all facets in the lead up and on tournament day, and to the green staff who put in many extra hours so the players were able to play on the courses at their best.

Event	Host	Champion
WGI 72 Hole Strokeplay	Shandon	Daniel Hillier
		Shontalia William
WGI Women's 36 Hole Strokeplay	Martinborough	Wendy Rhodes
Wairarapa 54 Hole Strokeplay	Masterton	Dean Gray
		Erika Cui, p/off Zhuoyi Hu
WGI Matchplay	Miramar, RWGC	Josef Edge
		Anita Harkerss
WGI U19 Strokeplay	Royal Wellington	Jayden Ford, p/off T.Shedlock, J.Burgess
		Erika Cui
WGI U19 Matchplay	Royal Wellington	Trey Shedlock
WGI 36 Hole Pairs Championship	Miramar	Peter and Thomas Spearman Burn
		Shontalia William & Alanah Braybrook
WGI Men's Champion of Champions	Masterton	Team: Paraparaumu Beach
		Cam Elers, C. Hunt, Matthew Richards
		Senior: Adam Church
		Intermediate: Chris Hunt
		Junior: Innes Kennard
WGI Women's Champion of Champions	Martinborough	Team: Martinborough
		Pip Kirk, C. Parkinson, Karen Shaw

	Silver: Zhuoyi Hu
	Bronze: Carol Parkinson, Angela O'Gorman
WGI Men's Order of Merit	Daniel Hillier
WGI Women's Order of Merit	Erika Cui
WGI U19 Men's Order of Merit	Jack Clout
WGI U19 Women's Order of Merit	Erika Cui
WGI Women's Vets Championship	Fiona McBride
WGI Women's 9 Hole Championship	Nett: Joan Hilder & Christine Blick
	Gross: Lorraine Gibson
	Stableford: Lyn Sherborne
WGI Men's 9 Hole	Stableford: Doug Hipkins





Asia Pacific Amateur Championship

To say that Royal Wellington Golf Club as a venue, Wellington as a city and New Zealand as a country, demonstrated that they are capable of holding a world class event would be a serious understatement.

The members of the R & A, and Augusta National were certainly left in no doubt, and the praise across all levels was of the highest order.

A stunning tournament, the World's best Amateur event, the APAC at Royal Wellington in the minds of those who would know, would on any measure only be surpassed by the professional Major events. Evidence the scale of the major US TV network operation and coverage, fronted by our own Frank Nobilo.

A harbour city at its spring best, a gentle drive north each day to a stunningly presented course and facility, superb weather for the duration – this was something special.

Two of our own Wellingtonians were the lead Kiwis, featuring in the top ten, with the event dominated by the Chinese competitors.

Many volunteers, even more spectators from the wider golfing community enjoyed that final walk into Royal Wellington each day and supported or local hopes and Kiwi team in true NZ style.










ROLEX




Club Car



National Champions



Manor Park's Daniel Hillier won his second New Zealand Amateur Championship after defeating Canterbury's Tom Parker 10up in the 36-hole final at the Russley Golf Club in November.Dan is believed to be the first ever amateur to have won the event twice as a teenager.



Royal Wellington's Kellie Orchard won her 1st NZ Golf National title in claiming the Women's Mid Amateur crown in early January 2018. With steady mistake free golf across all 3 rounds, Kellie got home by a single shot

2017 Academy Programme

2017 was another successful year for the WGI Academy programme. 34 athletes were selected to be part of our Performance (9) and Development (25) Groups.

Consistent with our Golf Development Strategy, the structure and content of our Academy was slightly modified for the 2017 year. The changes made were to the Performance Group programme, with a higher focus on performance at the competitive level. This change was initiated in response to analysis of performance by our athletes at district and national level, supported by feedback from players, coaches and NZ Golf. With the assistance of two of our Academy coaches – Matthew Lane and Alistair Sidford (professionals with playing experience at the International level) – our Performance group experienced three multi-day away sessions. Each of these sessions had a focus on tournament preparation, on-course management, knowing what shot to play when, and making good decisions in a competition environment.

The success of these sessions was evident in the way our two U19 interprovincial teams performed and conducted themselves at their National tournaments in October 2017. Of particular note, is the Girls U19 team who won the title of Interprovincial Champions following a tough competition culminating in a playoff. While not National champions, the Boys U19 team represented the district well finishing 5th out of 12 in our Interprovincial debut.

At the Development group level, our other two Academy coaches – Kevin Smith and Joel Macklin – provided the direction and shape of the three modules conducted during school holiday periods. The development programme is more focused on Technical and Tactical Mastery, while introducing the athletes to the other key aspects of performance sport – Mental, Physical, Character and Organisation.

While in 2017 our overall programme was delivered by our Academy Coaches, we retain our good working relationship with NZ Golf High Performance Team to ensure we remain aligned with the NZ Golf development pathway, and our athletes are on their radar for opportunities at the National level.

Similar to 2016, in 2017 our Performance Group was again selected to take part in the Wellington City Council Sport Talent Development Programme. This programme is limited to 8 sporting codes within Wellington, and gives our athletes the opportunity to participate in a number of workshops focussed on “what high performance looks like, and what it takes to succeed at this level”. Just as importantly, our golfers get to experience these sessions alongside other talented athletes from a range of sports across Wellington.

At an administration level, as part of our excellent working relationship with Sport Wellington, we began a process of review for our Academy Programme – undertaking various facilitated review sessions with athletes, parents and primary coaches to identify what “success” looks like from each perspective. This work continues into the 2018 year, and promises to provide valuable insights into how we can continue to improve.

We would like to thank our four Academy coaches – Matt, Alastair, Joel and Kevin – for their valuable contribution to the success of the programme. We would also like to thank all the parents, supporters and caregivers who continue to assist our young athletes to chase their golfing dreams.

Thank you to the Academy support team for their ongoing dedication to the development of our young athletes. Finally Wellington Golf would like to than Pelorus Trust, Wellington City Council, Sport Wellington and the Eagles Golfing Society of Wellington – all of whom continue to provide generous financial support for our Junior Golf development initiatives. Without their ongoing support, the Academy and other development initiatives would not be possible.

Carmen Blackler

Academy Manager



Development Programmes

Ready Set Golf primary school programme

WGI secured Kiwisport funding to pilot a primary schools golf programme during the 2017/18 period. The Ready Set Golf programme was developed in partnership with NZ Golf, and includes 4 x 45 min lessons in school followed by a fun event at a local Golf Club. The lessons use specially designed modified golf equipment to provide short skills based games and activities, focussing on the key golf skills of putting, chipping and driving. The programme aims to introduce more young people to the game of golf in a fun, engaging way, and give them opportunities to continue developing their skills through their local Golf Club.

As at February 2018, 380 students from 3 schools had taken part in the programme, with a further 800 students from 5 schools scheduled to take part in 2018. Feedback on the programme has been positive to date, and WGI is grateful for the support received from participating schools, Clubs, NZ Golf, Manawatu-Wanganui Golf Inc , Sport Wellington, school sports co-ordinators and our instructors.

Kapiti secondary schools programme

WGI also secured Kiwisport funding to pilot a secondary schools programme in the Kapiti area during the 2017/18 period. The Golf4U programme was developed by the PGA NZ, and is an after school programme designed to support intermediate or College age students to get out and learn golf through playing, rather than focussing heavily on technique and drills. The programme runs for an hour every week, with transport between the College and Club included. A professional coach is contracted to deliver the programme in its first term of operation with support from Club volunteers. The Club volunteers are then mentored and supported by the coach to take over delivery of the programme in the second term of operation, with the aim of making it sustainable for the Club to continue delivering with their own resources and income from programme fees.

Otaki College and Otaki Golf Club started the programme with a bang in September 2017, with 240 students coming to the Club to take part in taster sessions. 20 students then took part in the after school programme at the Club, with positive feedback - particularly about the kindness and support of the Otaki coaching team. The programme is running at Otaki again in Term 1 2018, and WGI is looking at whether the programme can be rolled out in the other Kapiti-based Colleges and Clubs. WGI is grateful for the support received from Otaki Golf Club, Otaki College, PGA NZ, NZ Golf, Manawatu-Wanganui Golf Inc , Sport Wellington, Kevin Smith and the fantastic Otaki volunteer coaches.

PGA/WGI Practical Foundation coach training programme

Clubs had previously advised WGI that the lack of hands-on coaching support on offer made it difficult for them to attract and retain volunteer coaches to deliver their introductory golf programmes. In response to this feedback, WGI sought and secured Sport Wellington funding to develop and deliver a volunteer coach training programme prior to the start of the 2017 summer golf season. A practical training resource was developed by PGA NZ to complement their online training programme, and local professional coaches were trained to deliver hands-on training to volunteer foundation level coaches at Clubs.

The aim of the programme was to better support and equip volunteer coaches to provide quality learning experiences to those just starting out in golf. The programme also offered a professional development opportunity to local pro coaches who work with volunteer coaches or were interested in learning some new coach development skills. By making this training programme available to Clubs, WGI hopes to help Clubs attract and retain volunteers, but also help them to attract and retain more new golfers through fun, varied and quality coaching sessions.

As at February 2018, 10 local professional coaches had been trained to deliver the resource, and 22 foundation-level volunteer coaches had completed the training session. The training programme is now being rolled out nationwide by PGA NZ. WGI thanks Murray Macklin at PGA NZ, volunteer coaches, Clubs and the local professional coach community for their support with this programme.







Representative Programme

This year saw some goals reached, a couple exceeded and a couple fall short of expectation – the nature of competitive sport.

The highlight was the crowning of our Girls Team in Rotorua as National Champions, in a playoff with North harbour, after going through the week unbeaten. A birdie on the final hole by Cheycoda Cocks earning the crucial 3 point for a 3 – 3 result in normal time, meant No.1 Darae Chung got the chance in a playoff to win the title for her team. A testing 8 ft par putt on the 1st playoff hole was made before a stunning downhill 15 ft swinging putt was made for birdie on the 2nd playoff hole and the title.

The Men's Masters Team followed up their runner up finish in 2016, with an unbeaten run through the week to set a up a virtual final with the also unbeaten Auckland on their home track at Whitford GC.

This advantage proved a little much, the end result 4 – 1 posted when the remaining two matches on course ended up being not material to the result, and scored as halves – runner up again.

Fixtures

Women's Masters Interprovincial	12th
Marton Junior Quad	1st
Hawkes Bay	Men -Wellington, Women- Wellington
Marlborough	Wellington
Manawatu/Wanganui	Men - WN, Masters -WN, Women - WN, U19 Men -WN
Auckland	Men - Wellington, Women - Auckland, U19 Men - Draw
Girls' Interprovincial	1st
Shand Cup & Salver, Sybil Green	Men 2nd , Women 1st , Masters 2nd
Northland Men	Wellington
Canterbury Women	Canterbury
Freyberg Masters Interprovincial	2nd
Men's Toro Interprovincial	5th
Women's Toro Interprovincial	7th









Team of the Year Finalist

From a high calibre list of nominations, Wellington Golf's 2016 Toro National Champion Team were one of the 5 finalists in the Wellington Sports Awards, Team of the Year category, won by the Champion Super Rugby Franchise, Hurricanes.

Previous champion Michael Campbell was at the event, and popped by to wish the team all the best, and reminisce about his winning deeds in the then Tower Interprovincial teams of the 90's.





Wellington Golf Referees Association

The Wellington Golf Referees Association (WGRA) had another busy year turning out at our key events, notably Premier Interclub, the Shand Cup/Sybil Green/Masters at Boulcott's Farm and the Harcourts Wellington 72 Hole Strokeplay.

After an extended period of consultation globally, both the "modifications to the rules of golf" and the "world wide handicap", bodies of work are progressing to the point of release, training and introduction.

The WGRA have had input to date and will have a key part to play as these initiatives come to fruition. Watch this space!

Many thanks to the group who give freely of their time, it's much appreciated by all.

Course Rating Programme

Another big year for our course rating group, again like the WGRA giving of their time freely and performing a key function for the clubs and NZ Golf.

With the upcoming rating of Riversdale, Castlepoint, Masterton and Carterton in the autumn of 2018 the 7 year (maximum) cycle of ratings requirement was completed within 6 years, multiple ratings of all tees performed at the same time, and the team will start the cycle all over again.

A huge thanks to Anna Shires and the group, as like the referees we are very fortunate to have this resource in our district.

Membership Numbers (not including Juniors)

	2016		2017	
	Full playing	Summer	Full playing	Summer
Wairarapa	1,520	11	1,651	23
Kapiti Coast	1,694	117	1,638	124
Porirua Basin	808	150	775	107
Hutt Valley	3,928	146	4,530	202
Wellington	1,098	110	1,022	126
Total	9,048	534	9,616	582

Financial Performance of Wellington Golf Inc. for the year ended 31 December 2017

	2017	2016
Income		
Levies and subscriptions	169,134	166,140
Interclub	26,086	31,640
Events	17,376	10,646
Grants received	64,987	62,636
Interest received	6,500	6,963
Partnership	14,026	3,371
Other	186	24
Total Income	298,294	281,420
Expenses		
Interclub	5,656	9,285
Events	21,760	12,190
Representative	74,208	63,970
Junior Academy	28,510	27,845
Other	5,432	2,293
Total Golf Expenses	135,567	115,582
Staffing	131,925	128,352
ACC	225	320
Accountancy	2,700	2,700
Audit	4,456	4,350
Bank Charges	1,336	921
Insurance	1,729	1,069
Rent	2,200	2,160
Computer Support	1,870	2,402
Office Running	5,770	7,391
Vehicle	1,636	
Other	3,263	1,636
Total Administration Expenses	157,109	151,301
Surplus/(Deficit)	5,618	14,536
Depreciation	7,050	8,096
Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets	370	119
Junior Development Fund	13,105	16,010
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(14,907)	(9,687)

Commentary

Commentary on Variances ($000's)

Revenue

- Interclub Fees. $5.5 decr. Fewer lunches charged out, therefore reducing payments out. Refer reduction in Interclub expenses.
- Events. $6.7 incr. Greater number of events run and increased level of participation. Refer increase in Event expenses and Partnership. Total picture is; $17.4 revenue + $5.0 sponsorship (72 Hole Stroke) less $21.8 expenses = $0.6 nett revenue.
- Partnership. $10.7 incr. Partnerships between Harcourts Team Wellington, John Morgan Consulting, Blackyard Consulting and Golf Warehouse.
    - Harcourts; 72 Hole Strokeplay and Vehicle Lease.
    - JMC; Rep Teams, Men's Toro Interprovincial and Management Uniforms
    - Blackyard; Boys and Girls Junior Interprovincial Teams and Management Uniforms
    - Golf Warehouse; Goods for 72 Hole Strokeplay.

Expenses

- Representative. $10.2 incr.
    - Course Fees. $0.6 incr. Toro course fees
    - Travel. $2.8 incr. Increase in trips requiring Air Travel (one), at higher ticket costs
    - Uniforms. $6.5 incr. Refer increase in Revenue, Partnership – JMC and Blackyard ($5.0)
- Other Golf. $3.1 incr. Additional coaching and setup costs for the Primary Schools and Secondary Schools programmes ($3.4)
- Staffing. $3.5 incr. Annual Leave provision expense ($5.2), and increased travel around the district ($1.4) – SW to clubs, HW to clubs and schools (programmes)

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"The playoff, the tee shot, the birdie, the title"

Rotorua Golf Club, Darae Chung