

CHATZGOLF

2021 Edition

Fourth Quarter

CHATZ SOCIAL GOLF CLUB INC.

NEWS LETTER



FOURTH QUARTER REPORT

So, as a club, we made it relatively unscathed through covid mark II. I started this edition last year somewhat optimistically with the comment that 2021 couldn't be any worse than 2020. But it certainly was! The Delta variant made a mess of our playing schedule with 5 away games and 3 home games cancelled because of the restrictions. On top of that we saw Moss Vale cancelled because of weather conditions, a partial washout for our penultimate scoring game in late November, the club championships (held for the first time in Spring) suffering multiple postponements through being seriously affected by weather conditions (and still not completed) and a number of other fixtures affected in various ways - who can forget the Leura fog back in January. But fortunately, whilst our fixtures were seriously covid affected, the playing membership was not! I haven't heard of a single case of covid amongst our playing group. Praise the Lord!

Speaking of the playing group, our ranks grew by 3 this year when we welcomed Marianne Templeton, Elly Benkovich and Xiao-Ping Guo. Marianne and Elly doubled our female representation to four. The quartet of ladies all played on 23rd May - probably the first time we have such a representation in Chatz's history!

XP (more colloquially known as Shopping!) also joined us in May and has already reduced his handicap and scored his maiden Chatz win! We lost long time popular member Jake O'Shannessy late in the year when he moved to Queensland. Jake hadn't played for a while because of some serious knee operation and infection problems. He's on the mend now and we wish him well in his new life in Brisbane where he is close to three of his sons. We didn't see a lot of Ken Charles late in the year too. Ken also is battling some knee problems and is on the waiting list (delayed through covid restrictions) for an operation. In the meantime, the drugs are helping!



The recent increases in membership (we also saw 6 join in 2020) has meant that our playing numbers have been up. We averaged just over 16 across the year with averages of 16 at home and 17 away. If it weren't for 2 weather affected games, the home games would have averaged over 17 too. Some 25 games were played (either wholly or partly) for a total of 406 rounds with 14 different winners. William Soo was our most successful player recording 3 wins. Four other players scored 2 wins. Our most popular game was the 7th Nov home game with 21 players. We had 20 players on 4 occasions including Springwood, our best attended away game.

After a false start in 2019, we managed a game at Asquith this year not long before Delta struck. This new venue proved very popular but seems to be very problematical too. We have requested but have not been assured of a game there in '22. Apparently they are cutting back on social groups. Fingers crossed.

COMPETITIONS

The loss of so many games naturally caused truncated results in our two year-long competitions. The eclectic comp featured the highest winning score in living memory, just 48.75 (usually in the 44-46 range) and the pointscore was won with a paltry 62 whereas most years it is won with scores in the 80s or 90s. But nonetheless the competitions were both very closely fought affairs.

Pointscore

Without a lot of golf being played in the third term, Neil Vidler held a small lead going into October and managed to hang on to it, finishing with 62 points. Terence Cheong and Jack Saliba closed with 55 and 54 respectively. Robyn van Yzendoorn capped a good full first year with a fourth placing on 47 while Mike Singleton had 44 to finish. (The 2020 winner was Jack Saliba on 87 points) (The full pointscore table is available separately)



Eclectic:

The eclectic comp was obviously affected by covid with 3 home games lost and 2 others washed out. Nevertheless, it was a very tight finish. After virtually no movement in the third quarter, Bruce McGregor established a handy lead early in the final term but a couple of good games saw his handicap reducing. Bruce started the last game leading Neil Vidler by 0.25 but another sub handicap round saw his score rise (through handicap adjustments) allowing Neil to sneak through to win by just that amount, 48.75 to 49.0. Mike Singleton, who hasn't played for some time, hung on for third with 49.25. Next were Danny O'Brien (49.75) with Allan Garrett and Anthony Toh on 50.0. (The 2020 winner was Graham Montgomery with 44.5) (The full eclectic table is available separately)

Chatz Challenge:

Of all our comps, the Challenge was the most seriously affected through the covid restrictions. Following the Turra game early in July, not another single away game was possible for the remainder of the year. Regrettably the decision was finally made in early November to abandon this very popular comp for the year.

Club Championships

We decided this year to move the club championships to Spring to give us better weather for our most important annual competition. So it has been most ironic that this event has been seriously affected by weather. So much so that, as the year ends, we have still not concluded our championships. We have seen three weekends affected by weather provoking postponements. Three rounds have been played with the fourth now delayed until February. This late scheduling is to ensure that the holiday season is fully concluded so as to enable as many competitors as possible to participate. The fourth round will enable the worst of the four to be discounted so the current leaders are definitely not yet assured of a win. And some who have played just 2 rounds still have the opportunity to play the requisite 3 rounds.

LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE GROUP

As usual, the Wednesday warriors finished their competition year in November with the last game played on Wed 24th. Following the penultimate game a week earlier, it was close with just 3 points separating the top 3 pointscorers. The concluding outing saw Terence Cheong rack up another win to finish on 101 points (31 games) with the minor placings going to Neil Vidler on 94 (29 games) and Buddy Hyde 93 (28 games). Our average numbers were up this year with a more regular attendance from most players and Marianne Templeton and Connie long also became regulars - covid permitting!



We celebrated the year end with a great lunch at the RSL and we raised a glass (or two) to Terence's win. As 2021 concludes, we have already played 4 rounds for the 2022 comp and we already see that TC has leapt from the blocks and established an early lead.

Despite his physical handicaps and non-golf attendance, Ken Charles has maintained the weekly tallies and spreadsheet to keep us up to date. Thanks Ken! And again, Terence has handled the money in exemplary fashion. Thanks TC!

(The 2020 winner was Terence Cheong with 136 points.)

CHATZ HAPPENINGS

Similar to last year, the easing of covid restrictions meant that we were able to hold our Christmas lunch and awards ceremonies and we took advantage of the permitted gathering to hold an abbreviated AGM, as we also did last year.

That meeting saw all your management committee returned. The elections saw Connie long and William Soo jointly assume the role of Publicity Officer with David Bezer and Jack Saliba also jointly taking on the role of Starter. And Robyn van Yzendoorn has become assistant handicapper and took out the annual Encouragement Award. The 2 acts aren't necessarily related!



A notable feature of the Christmas lunch this year was an excellent visual recap of the year's away games and Anniversary Dinner provided by Connie long. This presentation was projected onto the big screen, replayed several times during the afternoon and well received by all members present. Thanks for a great initiative Connie!.

For the AGM and Christmas celebrations, Chatswood RSL again generously provided the venue and a really excellent lunch. On behalf of all members, the Chatz SGC committee extends its appreciation and thanks to the club for this generous contribution and especially for its continued valuable support throughout 2021. It has to be said that Chatz would not be the club that it is without our parent club's fantastic support.

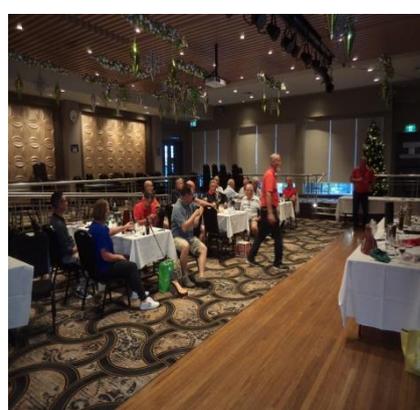
Following a great waiter service meal, presentations were made to all the various competition winners across the year. Congratulations to all those winners and runners-up. (All separately reported).

FOR NEXT YEAR:

At the AGM, several 'local' rules were approved. These should be kept in mind when our new playing year commences on Sun 16th January:

- At each home game, the Starters will nominate a 'Scorer' in the first group out. After his/her round, this scorer will be responsible for collecting, collating and scrutineering the score cards in preparation for the game awards. This to speed up the after game process.
- At GGC and North Turramurra, players will be allowed a 'preferred lie' (via a dropped ball) in the bunkers. This to counter the often poor state of the bunkers at those courses.
- At GGC and North Turramurra, players are allowed a free drop from rocky areas and tree roots.
- It was also agreed that Treasurer would charge a 'late fee' of \$2 for the last person to arrive at GGC for home games.
- Finally, the new Starters advised that, for home games, they will inform all players of the playing groups on Friday evening (after advice from Secretary). It will then be the individual player's responsibility to be present and ready to play on time.

From our 2021 Christmas lunch and awards:





And earlier in the day:



And a little earlier in the year:



Pic of the Year:

Connie long really got into the swing of it when we played our annual 'Take Four' event back in August. Connie looks the part with her home made knitted 4 club golf bag! Tres chic Connie!

The Committee members of Chatz Social Golf Club wish all club members and their families all the very best for a safe, happy and prosperous 2022 and good golfing.

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the Editor and not necessarily those of the Chatz Social Golf Club