

The Captains Footprint

Fellow Nomads,

I would like to kick off by wishing all and sundry a prosperous 2008 and trust you had a well deserved rest.

We could not have asked for better conditions to start the year off and playing Humewood certainly was a huge blessing thanks to the weather. The course has certainly come on in leaps and bounds and there were no moans from anyone regarding preferred lies. Well done to the greenkeeping staff on presenting us with a course that was an absolute pleasure to play on. Special thank you to the caterers and the bar staff for looking after our needs (trust me, our liquid needs are huge)

We had a 111 players in the field and as Captain I must apologize to you members who unfortunately had to play as a 3 ball, there were quite a few last minute withdrawels which caused this. In the future we will try our best to eliminate this and I urge you, if you have any doubt about whether you are going to play or not, please withdraw timeously. Thank you to my fourball and in particular to Dave Meek from Humewood who by his own admission had an absolutely marvellous day and has asked to be invited as a guest to one of our future games, he might even join, who knows?

Well done to our ladies Jean, Bev, Theresa and new girl on the block Simonay (Greg Clack's wife) We cannot thank you enough for your efforts and I can assure you it does not go unnoticed. Also a thank you to my committee for their efforts especially to our Equipment officer Orion, a lot of hard work takes place behind the scenes.

It is very encouraging to see so many of you joining us for our week-end at Graaff-Reinett. I can assure you it is going to be a biggy, and a nice way to start our Nomadic calendar. For those of you travelling to Boland Anniversary please ensure you get your money to Jean a.s.a.p.

To those members celebrating a birthday this month - Happy Birthday and those members recovering from ops or illnesses - get well soon. I look forward to seeing a full field at our next game to be played at Port Elizabeth Golf Club on the 24th of February.

**Yours in Golf
Marlon Foot**



Marlon Foot new Captian starts proceedings at Humewood

Duke's Divot

Welcome back all fellow Nomads and may all your New Year resolutions materialise.

As Vice Capt. my focus for 2008 is on fund raising. First up are the Bell's tickets. All members received two books each of tickets which were paid for by you with your 2008 subs. Therefore, all you have to do now is return the counterfoils to me. What you must do is this: fill in the counterfoil with the correct answer, remove the front and back cover of the booklet, tear off your copy of the ticket and keep, then simply fold each counterfoil in half, then again in half, and hand over to Jean, myself or any one of the Andrew Mentis Committee guys. These counterfoils will go up to Bloemfontein in March for the draw at Nationals. If your counterfoils are not with me before I depart for the Bloemfontein Nationals, you will not be in the draw and you shall not win the prize! Ask Steve Pritchard. Makes sense does it not? So get those counterfoils in soonest!! The proceeds from the Bell's tickets go straight into our own club funds and will be used for the furtherance of golf in the Eastern Cape. We usually allocate a major portion of these funds to the Eastern Cape Junior Golf Foundation. While on the subject of Junior Golf, Robbie Barth is looking for any golf equipment for which you no longer have a use, mainly bags and clubs. Please contact him .After the game at Humewood I am sure Gavin Cooper has a set to give away?

I have identified two beneficiaries for 2008 and after I have received the approval from the chairman of the AMEF, I shall give you more details on these projects. Look forward to seeing you all at our next game.

Yours in Nomads,
Duke Nel
Vice Captain.



Duke, Rob and Phillip give the thumbs up on the course condition

Greg's Gazette



Fellow Nomads,

Wasn't it most enjoyable to start this Nomads year at Humewood Golf Club in near perfect weather conditions? It's a pity that some of our scorecards didn't reflect this rare opportunity.

I also stated in last month's Gazette that I was hoping to ensure the growth and success of the away tours this year. It was most pleasing that more Nomads put their names down for the Easterns Challenge after the last prize giving. We entered 29 Eastern Cape Nomads with Bruce Harran and Bev Saffy doing a wonderful job of looking after registration and all the administration of the game. The match took place in temperatures of 37°C and Earl Berman, Stuart McIver and Steve Lombard led the Eastern Cape charge. We secured the Easterns Challenge Trophy for 2008! Remember that this is the first leg of the "Away Tours Trophy" as well.

The one of the other two "away tours" which are not too far away, distance wise, is the Rough Ryder Cup and Frontier Trophy played at Fish River and Royal Port Alfred respectively, played on the weekend of 12 & 13 July. It would be great to fill our allocation of places here and "Roughen" the Border Nomads up a bit. The other is the Seaboard in the Southern Cape (courses to be confirmed) from 8 to 10 August.

Our Captain, Marlon Foot, warned us of illegal drivers at our last game. These clubs are illegal due to the Coefficient of Restitution being greater than a set limit. I thought I may just do some research to explain the concept of Coefficient of Restitution (COR). Coefficient of Restitution is a measure of impact efficiency and is sometimes called the "spring-like effect" or "trampoline effect" in drivers. (Ross Bowman's putter had a negative COR of -0.000025 after putting on the 7th at Humewood!) Originally, the spring-like effect of a driver's face was measured as a COR, and the limit was set at 0.83, which simply means the ball rebounds off the face at 83% of the incoming velocity. This was done by firing a golf ball at the clubface at a constant speed (say 100mph) until a constant result was reached. However, this test was of a destructive nature and could not be used at professional tournaments to check the legality of players' drivers. So the USGA and R&A implemented a new measurement called Characteristic Time (CT), which measures the duration the ball stays in contact with the face. This, however, is a topic for another day.

Good luck for your round at "the Hill" on 24 February and remember if you hit it right, it's a slice. If you hit it left, it's a hook. If you hit it straight, it's a miracle!

Yours in Nomads **Greg**