

The Captain's Footprint

For the 104 golfers in the field at Uitenhage golf club on Sunday it turned out to be a wonderful day with the most perfect playing conditions, not a breath of wind.

Congratulations to the greenkeeper and his staff for presenting us a course in immaculate condition and the hard work they are putting in is very evident, and the attention to detail noticeable. The extension of the dam surrounded with palms on the 7th is both a pretty picture and an added hazard.

I had the privilege of playing with the President of Uitenhage Golf Club, Fanie van der Bank, and he has made a huge contribution in helping the greenkeeper getting the course into the shape it is. Fanie is very passionate in what he does and his wife, Michelle, runs the half way house. Well done to her and the catering staff for looking after our needs and the smell of the boerie braai coming up the 18th fairway certainly got the taste buds going.

I had the pleasure of inducting three new members in Jason Aitken, Ian Gooden and Marcelle Roux. Gentleman, welcome to Nomads and I bid you a pleasant and lengthy stay.

Congratulations to the Italian Stallion, Angelo Bertola, on being awarded his 25 year tie. Silver salvers were handed out to Greg Clack and Rob Griffiths and at the rate the 40 pointers are being recorded at the moment our sponsor from Bloomingdales, Ray Long, is soon going to be out of pocket. Talking about sponsors, gentleman, please support them and especially our National sponsors whom are putting in large amounts of cash and effort. At our Nomad events please drink the products of S A B and Bells. When you bring a guest please inform them of this as not to embarrass them when they are confronted.

We have noticed an increasing amount of early leavers and despite the R20 fine as a deterrent some members just conveniently forget to pay, you know who you are and so do we and your letters are in the post. Prizegiving forms a very important part of the Nomads day and it is expected of you to remain behind and attend.

The Volvo International Pairs day is taking place at Walmer Country Club on Thursday 19th June. We have space for 50 x Nomads and 50 x guests so please make a concerted effort to bring a guest and support this day in aid of The Junior Golf Foundation. For an entrance fee of R350.00 per person you will get the following: golf shirt, sleeve of balls, golf, dinner and a clinic by Dale Hayes. The prizes on offer is really fantastic so I am really looking forward to a full field. I believe ladies are also welcome—only on this day—so this is your chance to bring a lady golfer along.

We will be travelling to Zim Nationals at the end of June and as I have never been there it is certainly an exciting trip for me and I will report back with all the skinder and the photos.

Our next monthly game takes place at the St Francis Links on Sunday, 8th of June, and I see we already have a very good field. Jeff Clause is always the perfect host and I know that we will have a great day, providing the weather is good.

Last but not least well done to those teams having won their Gary Player rounds and I look forward to seeing you all at the Links on the 8th.

Yours in Golf

Marlon Foot

Vice Captain's Report – Duke's Divot

Fellow Nomads, in last month's magazine I told you all about the fabulous weekend on offer down in Knysna. This weekend is Southern Cape's fund raising drive for their Andrew Mentis Endowment Fund. You can also make up a game on the Sunday if you happen to have missed a game in May and/or June and July. That is the window that you use to make up games, one month before and two months after your missed game. There will still be spots available so let's get you in the field, even at this late date. Please have a look at those details again, and please remember formal dress except on Friday night, dress is casual.

By the time you receive this June Magazine we will already be into the "crazy months", i.e. there is just so much going on during June/July and August that it takes a bit planning to partake in all the activities. Please check your diaries for details. We will be at the St. Francis Links on the 8th June, down in Knysna on the 13th-14th June, back at Walmer Country Club on the 19th June for the Volvo Masters Amateur in aid of funds for the Junior Golf Foundation. Dale Hayes will be there for a very entertaining day. Then off to the Zimbabwe Nationals, June 22nd - 28th. at Elephant Hills, unfortunately spots are limited.

Then we have a recovery period in July with our game at Port Elizabeth Golf Club on the 6th July with the National Chairman on his annual official visit to our club, please all enter as we would like a big field. July 13th sees us at Port Alfred for the annual battle against our neighbours, Border, always a good weekend. Special rates at the Fish River Sun, with a free game on the Saturday, for those who wish.

We start off August with our monthly game at Humewood on the 3rd, Seaboard at Goose Valley on the 8th (and not the 9th as printed in the diary) and a monthly game at Plettenberg Bay Golf Course on the 10th, another opportunity to make up a game for keeping a clean slate for the year in terms of games played. We finish off the month with our Andrew Mentis Endowment Fund Day on the 28th August.

From thereon in, things return to normal till Gold Cup Day on the 7th December.

Race Day July 4th. Arlington. At the time of going to print, it appears that there is a remote chance that there may be a table or two up for grabs on that day, please contact myself or any of the AMT Committee members for details.

Yours in Nomads, **Duke**.

Junior Vice Captain's Report – Greg's Gazette

Fellow Nomads,

The weather was absolutely perfect for golf at our last monthly game at Uitenhage Golf Club in May 2008 – and the golf course to match. Congratulations to the Management and Staff at Uitenhage GC for the state of the course. A special thanks to Shane Little, the club General Manager, for his assistance in the organisation of the day and for arranging “Wors Rolls” for afterwards. Further, to Caitlin who travelled all the way to Uitenhage to assist at the Bells and Milk table, much appreciated.

I, again, was drawn in a most pleasant and hospitable four-ball, and I trust they will forgive me for their bestowed nicknames; my playing partner, Darrell Weir, was “Steady Eddie” as I don't think he missed a fairway off the tee the whole day, Mike Fowler started off poorly and was “Frustrated Fowler” by the 5th hole, and Ken McLachlan was named the “Lip-out Legend” as I have never ever seen anyone lip out on so many holes in one round!

By the time you read this the Nomads organised accommodation bookings for the Fish River Sun (Rough Ryder Cup and Frontier Trophy weekend) would have closed. You can still approach the hotel directly for accommodation. The Rough Ryder Cup allocation has been fulfilled, but should you wish to enter the Frontier Trophy at Royal Port Alfred Golf Club on Sunday, 13 July 2008 please submit your entry form to Jean Newman. The closing date for entry is 23 June 2008. I look forward to taking those Border chaps on and adding to our “Trophy Cabinet”.

The Eastern Cape Nomads website has been running for a while now and is accessible at www.easterncapenomads.co.za. New additions to the site can be viewed by clicking the “Notice board” tab at the top of the page. These include entry form downloads, links to view the Eclectic Trophy standings, the Sampson's Away Tours Trophy standings and the Royal and Ancient's list of non-conforming drivers, an interesting interactive rules quiz and the Rules of Golf.

Talking about rules, two came up during our last round and “Frustrated Fowler” had his rulebook out instantly. Firstly, from whom can you solicit

advice? You can only get advice from your caddie in the Nomads format, as you do not have a partner, *per se* (Rule 8-1). Furthermore, you are only allowed to give advice to your caddie – and he probably does not need it. Secondly, what is the difference between a water hazard and a lateral water hazard? Well, the water hazard has yellow stakes and the lateral hazard red stakes to start with! The lateral water hazard also has an additional option of where you may take your drop (Rule 26-1). For instance, this rule has implications when you play over the hazard; your ball pitches on the far bank and then rolls back into the hazard.

Bobby Jones' comment seems to be relevant: "*The difference between a sand trap and water is the difference between a car crash and an airplane crash. You have a chance of recovering from a car crash.*" I look forward to seeing you at our next game at the St Francis Links, and don't forget to bring you A-game – we're going to need it!

Yours in Nomads,

Greg Clack