

The Captain's Footprint

Fellow Nomads

As always and now to be expected Walmer Country Club came to the party and treated us like royalty. Well done to club manager, Gerrie Hoekstra and his staff for looking after us and Gerrie was appropriately rewarded with a bottle of the good stuff (Bells of course) by myself. We all had a great time and with prize giving running a little late some Nomads had more than a good time (nothing wrong), but I do urge you gentleman to please afford the speakers in the front some respect by keeping quite whilst the speeches and prize giving is being conducted. Sunday evenings behaviour by some members were totally out of hand and if this continues we will take the necessary steps. We are all grown ups and know how to behave. Enough said.

I had the pleasure of playing with Club President Winston Saga and joining the four ball was 2003 Captain, Howard Lipman and 2004 Captain, Leon Coetzee. Despite the two past captains chocking on the last hole and not scoring we still had to pay them R30. This all attributed to a nice afternoon of golf and lovely company. Winston tells me that their course will be closing early next year to be developed into a housing development, new clubhouse and a totally different course as we know it. I wish Walmer CC everything of the best with their future plans and hope that all goes well with the years ahead and we certainly are looking forward to playing on the new course in time to come.

Sunday's weather was great, the course seemed to play easy and a total of four 40 pointers plus was scored on the day. We have now given away more silver salve's in one year than ever before and this is an issue that will be discussed at the 106th National Management Meeting in Benoni at the end of October and I hope to give you feedback at our next monthly game. I will be attending the 30th anniversary of Easterns and will be joined by Duke Nel and Greg Clack.

Brendon Botha received his 5 year tie and Rob Dowding his 10 year tie. 200 game badges were handed over to Louis Schnetler and James Hannah whilst Bill Anderson received his 300 game badge. We have some great people with huge commitment in our midst and this was the 3rd 300 game badge bestowed upon a Nomad of our club this year. Well done to all of you, Nomads Eastern Cape salutes you.

Warren Hollis received his silver salve for scoring 40 points in the B Division at St Francis and Riaan Mulder for scoring 40 points in the C Division at the same venue.

Just a friendly reminder to please pay your subs in time and as I have said before you will not be eligible to play in our Gold Cup if your subs are not paid. We are part of a wonderful club with great spirit and comradie and despite times being tough I think it is a small price to pay for being part of Nomads.

My tenure as head of Nomads EC for 2008 is slowly coming to an end and I can assure you all that I have had a wonderful year with fantastic support from my committee, the ladies and members alike. We will soon have a new captain and revised committee and I am sure that they will do a fine job and have your support during 2009.

I look forward to seeing you all at Uitenhage on the 9th of November and lets try and fill the field.

Yours in Nomads

Marlon Foot

Vice Captain's Report – Duke's Divot

Fellow Nomads

With our AGM over and only two more games to play our year is almost finished. There will be a new look committee and I am sure that the Andrew Mentis Committee will have some changes too. It was very disappointing to see that many members do not wish to serve on our committee and contribute their share. However, we have a nomination for both JVC and Vice Captain for 2009. We say goodbye to Keith Forgan , Dave Pearson and Dennis Jones, who served us well.

The Eastern Cape Nomads were once again out at St Francis Links assisting with the score control for the PGA/Vodacom Origins of Golf event last month. My sincere appreciation to all those who could help over the three days. Next year we will perform the same function and volunteers are always needed. The dates of this event clashed with our planned Special Game and we had to cancel Hankey, however, we are busy arranging an alternative venue for this game.

Your committee is already hard at work securing sponsorships for next years magazine and monthly games. Anyone not sponsoring on the prize sheet but wishing to be there please speak to Marlon Foot or myself.

Our fixture list for next year is almost complete, and it is apparent that for the next two years we will be without Walmer Country Club and Wedgewood Village Golf & Country Estate. In order to help Walmer Country Club next year, we have scheduled our two games within the first four months, before they start work on the course in April.

And on closing, if it were not for our visitors at our monthly games, we would not field more than 100 players on the day. Please endeavour to up your games played in 2009 in order that we may fill the field. It is important to support those clubs who have limited resources and are not as lucrative as some of the well established clubs.

Yours in Nomads,

Duke Nel

Junior Vice Captain's Report – Greg's Gazette

Fellow Nomads,

I don't think Walmer Country Club has ever seen such amazing weather, or for that matter, such a flurry of forty-pointers as we did last month. Our fourball had the pleasure of playing with "Mr. Average Golfer" – we were a three-ball! Notwithstanding this, my partner, and a Nomad for twenty years Chris Cornish, and I, watched in absolute awe as our opponent Robbie de Scande worked away at acquiring his first Silver Salver. I was astounded that he made it with three holes to spare! When I conquered mine some months ago, albeit at the same battleground, I finished without a PUTT to spare!

Well, as we approach the end of the year, there seems to be less and less to report on under my portfolio – maybe an appropriate moment to briefly look back. All the away tours done and dusted – One trophy, the Easterns Challenge (see insert). We had twenty-nine travelling Nomads to Graaff-Reinet in January for this trophy and a great week-end was had by all. Our Captain Marlon Foot handed over a cheque for R5,000 to Graaff-Reinet Golf Club for improvements. The three respective club captains have agreed that this trophy will be played at three annually alternating venues; Bloemfontein, Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg, starting with Bloemfontein in 2009.



We then met our neighbours, Border, for the Frontier Trophy in Port Alfred in July. Forty-four Eastern Cape Nomads made the trip, but Border pipped us in a closely contested game in outstanding weather conditions at the Royal Port Alfred Golf Club. Nomads donated R6,000 to Nonzamo Special Care Centre, a local charity.

Then lastly in August, twenty-three of us we travelled to the Seaboard in Plettenburg Bay. The low number of entries was apparently partially attributed to the off day between the actual Seaboard game and the Southern Cape monthly game. This has been remedied for next year. Although Boland won the trophy, we did not come last!

Looking back introspectively, I believe we can develop an even better relationship with the local chapter of the South African Junior Golf Foundation. We have set a date for Sunday, 23 November 2008 at Walmer Country Club to play golf with these juniors and I urge all of you to take the time to partake in this day.

Finally, please make an effort to attend the AGM on Monday, 3 November 2008 at the Port Elizabeth Golf Club – and remember that you only have voting rights if your annual subscription fees are fully paid up.

I think Jack Lemmon's quote may be appropriate after the Walmer game; "If you think it's hard to meet new people, try picking up the wrong golf ball." Look forward to seeing you all in the "Valley" on 9 November 2008 – that's Uitenhage Golf Club.

Yours in Nomads

Greg Clack