

June 2019

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From the General Manager

By the time you receive this newsletter the Annual General Meeting will have been held. Some new Trustees will have been elected and on your behalf we wish them well for their time on the Board. Some of the existing Board members have announced their intention to resign and will no longer serve in the coming year. We thank all of them for their outstanding services over many years. The Trustees have a huge responsibility to lead and guide Elements into the future and we know that the newly elected Board will continue with this in a positive way.

The system currently in use for burglar alarm monitoring at the access gate is outdated and we are in the process of identifying a new upgraded system which will offer more functionality and more responsiveness when an alarm is activated by an intruder. At present less than 50% of the houses on the property have an alarm linked to the security gate. When the system is upgraded we urge all house owners to secure the contents of the property. We will keep you informed with urgency on the progress made over the next few weeks.

The trend in golf clubs is to convert to a cashless system in order to minimize risk. We intend to do the same and as a first step we have implemented a voluntary process whereby all guests will be requested to pay accounts by credit card instead of cash. We hope to reduce our present cash volume by as much as 90% through this system and request full co-operation from all to make this happen. Thank you.



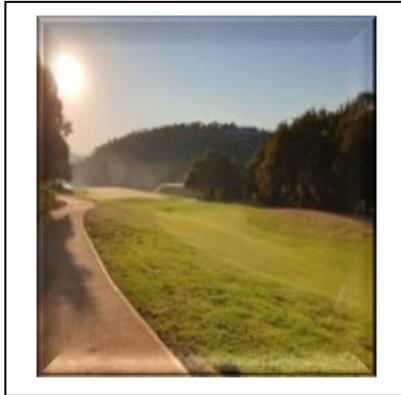
Golf Course Report



Winter has set in and the shortest day of the year is already behind us. Severe frost has occurred on numerous occasions already and the fairways are beginning to show some discoloration. Cynodin grass becomes dormant at a higher temperature than Kikuyu and has all turned brown already while the Kikuyu is still holding up. The tees and greens are showing no strain from the cold weather.



Up to 50% of the course maintenance staff take their annual leave at this time of the year. Even so, the winter projects are all under way. These include work on cart paths, trimming of trees, cleaning up around tree bowls and laying rock strips between tees/greens and cart paths.



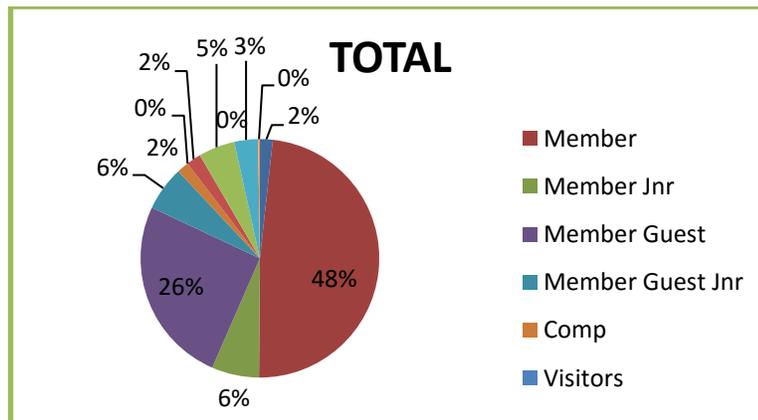
In the Spring, as soon as temperatures increase to a reasonable level, a project to re-establish Kikuyu grass where Cynodin has taken over will be implemented. This involves irrigating the Cynodin patches, spiking them with a spiked aggravator, planting sprigs of Kikuyu in the holes, fertilizing the areas and irrigating them as much as possible. Within one season we expect the Kikuyu to take over completely.



Golf Operations

Once again, the number of rounds played met budget forecast. Year to date rounds are 13% higher than forecast. For the year to date revenue from green fees, golf carts and merchandize exceed budget by 10.8%. We have experienced a good start to the year and see no reason why this trend should not continue throughout the year.

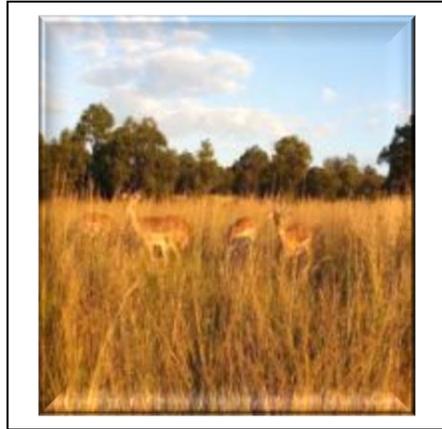
We have two interesting new golf tournaments coming up in August which are described further on in this newsletter. Both of these offer substantial prizes and we encourage you to plan to enter both of them. Entry forms will be mailed out shortly and we look forward to two great events.



Fauna and Flora



A trophy white Kudu bull crossed the fence between Newburg and Elements and has been spotted several times. The owner of the Kudu has it tagged and is making plans to have it darted and returned to Newburg. It is a beautiful specimen and crossed over either to befriend our white Kudu or because he has found the leaves on Elements to be greener than where he normally resides.



The game remains in good condition despite the winter conditions. We are still supplementing their diet with game pellets and will continue to do so through the winter.

Please remember that owners are no longer allowed to feed game on their property, as outlined in the professional report submitted by Marion Melville which was mailed out two months ago.

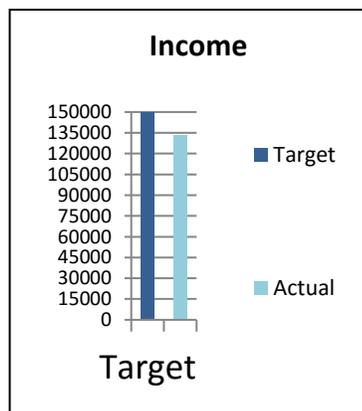


Flora is also holding up well, although the veld is very dry. This will recover rapidly when the Spring rains begin.



Water Status

No further contributions have been received for the water project since the Club Championships. As we have said before, this could prove to be the most significant opportunity ever to improve water availability and at the same time ensure that water is permanently available in the dam. If you have not already done so, we invite you to be part of this project by making a contribution.



Work has begun to identify suitable engineers and contractors to design and build the free-flow waterway from Waterberg directly into the 9th dam.
Consideration will also be given to sealing the base of the dam with Bentonite. This will be reasonably cost effective and will reduce water loss significantly.
Water consumption has reduced during the winter months, particularly on the golf course, and our available supply is coping well.



Property Marketing

There appears to be a marginal upturn in interest in property. Three new potential buyers were shown stands and all seemed to be interested in making the investment in Elements.

Four existing partners in a stand on Elements visited for the first time in a number of years. They came to take a look for themselves because they had heard so many positive things that they thought now could be a good time to consider their options. They were undecided on whether to build or to sell their stand and buy an existing house. The families were all together and all expressed real interest in the houses they were shown. They took all the relevant information away with them to help make a final decision. We await the outcome and look forward to them hopefully visiting far more frequently in the future once their house is bought or built.



Paul van Zyl, Rubin van Zyl, Henry Shuttleworth, Xander Venter, Eben Venter and JP le Roux owners of a stand.



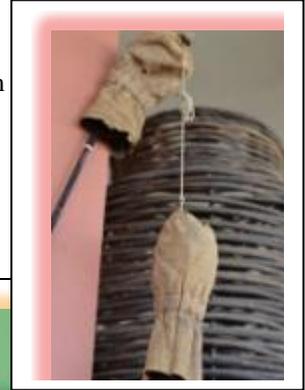
General

Congratulations to Jarred Pyle who scored an Albatross on the 7th hole on the 16th June 2019. This is a magnificent achievement and only the fourth Albatross ever recorded at Elements. Well done, Jarred.

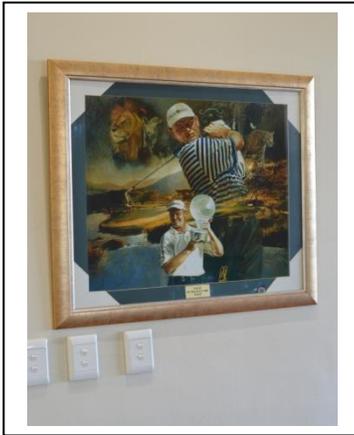
We have reported that we are protecting two greens every night with an electric fence. The greens currently being protected on rotation are the 1st, 2nd, 10th and 11th. The fence is installed on two greens at the close of the shift every day. We need to draw your attention to the fact that it is dangerous if direct contact is made with the electric wires. It has the same impact as any normal domestic electric fence. Please be warned of this and always be sure to keep children well away from the danger. The fences are marked as dangerous.



A while back we appealed for donations or loans of golf-related memorabilia. We are pleased to advise that the response has been very good and so far we have received a set of old (1950's) clubs and bag from Chow de Beer, a set of hickory shaft clubs (1920's) from Norman Kok, a signed print of Ernie Els winning the Million Dollar on loan from Rocky Boulanger and a magnificent set of two unique Bushveld chairs and a sleeper wood table donated by Marilu Coetzee, Wiehaan, Stacey and Dean.



We have room for more in the Clubhouse and if anybody wishes to loan or donate anything, please let us know.





Important Dates

**Saturday, 17th and Sunday, 18th August
Elebula Open.**

This will be the first time that a Limpopo Golf Union-managed Club Open will be played over two courses. Saturday will be played at Elements and Sunday at Zebula, followed by prizegiving. Entries will be open to any affiliated golfer, who needs not be a member of either Club. Invitations will be sent out by the Limpopo Golf Union shortly and we encourage you to enter if you will be at Elements that weekend.

**Saturday 31st August
BMW International Tournament.**

A National BMW golf day will be held at Elements on Saturday, 31st August. This is a new project from BMW where they are hosting qualifying tournaments at selected clubs around the country. Any affiliated golfer may enter and the winners will receive complimentary entries into the Regional Finals to be played at Highland Gate. If you are planning to be at Elements that day, be sure to enter and stand a chance to get into the Regional Finals, followed by the South African Finals, and then even into the World finals.

