

BOWEN ISLAND GOLF ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JUNE 3, 2016

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

On May 20, 2016, the Bowen Island Golf course celebrated its tenth year of operation. We are all very proud of our Golf Course and of all the volunteer and staff effort that has gone into creating, building and maintaining it.

Sadly as in past years we acknowledge the passing of two of our members, Marilyn Harris and Louise Dale. Both were strong supporters of the golf course for many years.

We now have had a full year with Monaghan Golf Inc. operating our Pro-shop. We renewed the contract with Monaghan Golf Inc. for 2016 and I think you will all agree that they are doing an excellent job.

In January we renewed our agreement with Glenn Cormier of the Bowen Pub to operate the Cup Cutter for 2016. Glenn has, as his right hand, Frank Patt who runs the Cup Cutter and we thank him for his dedication to the operation and for being the "soup fairy" this past winter! As I have mentioned in the past operating a small food establishment on Bowen is difficult at the best of times. Hours of operation are a challenge and we continue to try to find the optimum mix. It makes it much easier if the facility is well used and I urge you, and all of your friends to patronize the Cup Cutter.

The Committee structure continues to work well for us with all board members on at least one committee, and the work load is spread amongst all the board members. We also recruited members, who are not board members, to participate in some of the committees to broaden our perspectives. The committees are:

- Finance/Budgets/Administrative
- Golf (Pro-Shop and Tournaments)
- Food/Beverage
- Grounds/Greens
- Special Projects/Fundraising

A continuing concern is our financial health. We continue to struggle to make ends meet, but I believe we are making progress. The economy, ferry fares, health of the golf industry, lack of bus service to the course and the slow development of Seymour Bay have all contributed to our struggles. All departments have looked for ways to save money or to do things more efficiently and they have all done that again this year to help our bottom line.

As in the past we rely on members support to make physical improvements to our course and to come out for work parties. We always maintain a wish list of projects or improvements that members, a group of members or anyone for that matter can peruse to see if they would like to take one on.

Our course continues to be in great shape thanks to Frank Griffiths. We purchased a new coring machine (which aerates the fairways and greens) and it has helped immeasurably in keeping our greens, tees and aprons in great shape and we are also using it on our fairways to help with drainage and soft spots. We continue to deal with the chaffer beetle and geese, but I think we are slowly winning. Frank continues the Turf Management courses.

Our Logo and "Up to Par" newsletter are new and improved. You have, I'm sure, seen our current edition of the "Up to Par" newsletter that has been put together by Terry McKeown and designed and laid out by our member Pat Adams. I'm sure you will all agree it is an outstanding publication. Pat has also given us her expertise in updating our Logo. The logo has given us a modern look and lends itself to all applications from letterhead, advertising and for embroidery on BIGA merchandise. We owe Pat a huge Thank You!!

Reciprocal Privileges with Mt. Brenton Golf Course are available for 2 tee times per week for members in good standing to play at Mt Brenton. If you want to play please speak to our pro-shop to have them book the tee time for you. More details are available in the April issue of "Up to Par".

Upcoming events:

- BIGA is hosting the B.C. Bantam Tournament on August 22, 23 & 24. This is very exciting for us to be hosting an event of this magnitude. Our recent "Up to Par" newsletter provided some details and a call for volunteers. If you can help, please contact the pro shop
- Our Annual Fundraising Tournament, the most significant event of the year will be held on Saturday September 10th. Wendy Bower, Heather Coulthart and their committee are hard at work organizing this event. Mark your calendars and stand by for details.
- Work parties will be happening again and are a good way that volunteers can help with some of the maintenance, such as sand and seed, thistle attacks, alder control, etc.
- Junior golf lessons will be held in July, details are on the website.

I would like to thank the board of directors for their never ending dedication and work in making our golf course such a great place. All of our current directors have agreed to stand for re-election with the exception of Ralph Keefer who will be splitting his time between Bowen and a new home in Victoria. I want to thank Ralph for his time, expertise and patience during the past year. Rob Purdy has agreed put his name forward for election to the board. Last but not least a huge thank you to all of our members for their support for our wonderful golf course that we all enjoy so much.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Morse, President