

Annual Report 2025



yambagolf
& COUNTRY CLUB

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 55th Annual General Meeting of the Yamba Golf & Country Club Ltd will be held at the clubhouse, 28 River St Yamba, at **5pm on Tuesday, 28th of October 2025.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies.
2. To confirm the minutes of the 54th Annual General Meeting held on the 27th October 2024.
3. To receive reports from the President, Secretary Manager, Match and Greens Committees, Financial Statement of the Directors and the Auditors report for the financial year ending 30th June 2025.
4. Correspondence received.
5. To receive the results of the election of The Board of Directors.
6. To elect the President for the ensuing year.
7. To elect the Captain for the ensuing year.
8. To elect Patrons for the ensuing year.
9. To consider the Ordinary Resolutions to be moved by the Board of Management.
10. To Consider the Special Resolutions to be moved by the Board & Management. If any.
11. To consider Special Resolution on Life Membership to be recommended by the Board of Management. If any
12. To appoint an Auditor or Auditors in the event that there be a vacancy in the office of Auditor.
13. To determine the membership subscriptions for the 2026/27 year.
14. To receive recommendations from members for consideration by the incoming Board of Directors.

ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS

1. That pursuant to the Registered Clubs Act the members hereby approve that the members of the club's Board of Management shall be entitled to receive the following benefits and advantages:

- a. Reasonable food and beverage for each member of the Board of Management at meetings of the Board and meetings of Committees of the Board;
- b. The reasonable cost and expense of, and incidental to, representing the club at functions held within the club and elsewhere, and undertaking such other duties as may be approved from time to time by the Board;
- and c) The reasonable cost and expense of, and incidental to, the professional development training and education of members of the Board, including (but not limited to):

- i. Attending meetings of organisations and associations of which the club is a member, or of which members of the Board are members;
- ii. Attending such conferences, seminars, lectures, trade displays, study tours, fact finding tours and other similar functions as the Board may from time to time determine to be appropriate.

2. The members hereby approve the Board of Directors to pay such premiums as may be necessary to insure Directors and Officers against liability arising from duties performed from time to time.

3. The members acknowledge that the benefits in paragraph (1) and in paragraph (2) above are not available to members generally, but only for those members who are Directors of the club.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

To be passed a Special Resolution must receive votes in its favour from not less than three quarters (75%) of those members who being eligible to do so vote in person on the Special Resolution at the meeting.

Each Special Resolution should be read in conjunction with the notes to members which follow each Special Resolution.

Only Life members and financial Playing members are eligible to vote on the Special Resolutions.

Under the Registered Clubs Act:

members who are employees of the Club are not entitled to vote; and

proxy voting is prohibited.

Amendments to a Special Resolution (other than minor typographical corrections which do not change the substance or effect of the Special Resolution) will not be permitted from the floor of the meeting.

The Board of the Club recommends the Special Resolutions to members.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION ON LIFE MEMBERSHIP

That the members hereby consider the following nomination for the position of Life Member of the Yamba Golf & Country Club Ltd: If any.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. To be passed, each Ordinary Resolution must receive votes in its favour from a majority of eligible members who vote in person at the meeting.
2. To be passed, the Special Resolution on Life Membership requires votes from no less than two thirds of eligible members who vote in person at the meeting.
3. The Board of the Club recommends the Special Resolution on Life Membership to the members.
4. Proxy voting is prohibited by the Registered Clubs Act.
5. Under the Registered Clubs Act members who are employees of the club are not entitled to vote.
6. Admittance to the Annual General Meeting is STRICTLY by current membership card only.
7. Only Life Members and Full Playing Members are eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting.
8. Members attending the Annual General Meeting who wish to ask questions relevant to the Financial Statements are asked to do so in writing, addressed to

the Secretary Manager, and received no later than Monday the 20th of October 2025.

NOTES TO MEMBERS:

Voting for Directors is held at the club at the times and dates listed below. Life, full golfing and social members (with the exception of staff members) are eligible to vote in Board elections.

Sat 18th October	11am – 1pm	3pm - 6pm
Sun 19th October		12pm - 2pm
Mon 20th October		4pm - 6pm
Tue 21st October		4pm - 6pm
Wed 22nd October		1pm - 3pm
Thu 23rd October		4pm - 6pm
Fri 24th October	1pm - 3pm	4pm - 6pm

Dated: 26/09/2025

By the Direction of the Board

Sonya Hill
Secretary Manager

PRESIDENTS REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Directors I am pleased to present my second Annual Report for Yamba Golf and Country Club as its President and the 55th report for the Club. Once again, a year that has had its challenges.

The resignation of General Manager, Josh Blair, has placed us in recruitment mode once again and I thank Sonya Hill and the senior management team for stepping up and working with the Board during this time of transition and uncertainty while we recruit a new GM. The changes in staff, though many, have had a positive and friendly impact on the interaction with members and improved the vibe in the club and restaurant. We thank the YGCC team for your contributions which have not gone unnoticed by members and are appreciated by all involved with the club.

The Board continues to implement a range of changes, repairs and initiatives to strategically move the club forward. The member survey conducted in March, completed by 26% of the member base, with 68% of the responses by golfing members, provided some valuable feedback. Member overall satisfaction with the club scored a rating of 3.7 / 5, indicating there is room for improvement. Tees, bunkers, practice facilities and course drainage were clearly the highest priorities for improvement from members. There was a high degree of satisfaction with golf operations, the MiScore app, the online booking system, the cart paths and the friendliness of the pro shop staff. While friendships and staff are the aspects members valued most about the club, it was very clear that the presentation of the clubhouse interior and exterior, remain a major concern for all members and will need to be a major focus for the incoming Board. Many positive comments, constructive ideas and suggestions were communicated which are duly being considered.

Key achievements throughout the year included the:

- return of a net operating profit of \$385,246.
- replacement of air conditioning in the auditorium.
- upgrade to the lady's bathroom in the auditorium.
- change of financial platforms and associated software.
- appointment of a Restaurant Manager and a part time Marketing Coordinator.
- installation of an updated security camera system both in the Club and on the course.
- implementation of a project team to continue planning for club upgrade. Thanks to Tony McFarlane and José Delmas for their contributions since joining the team.
- purchase of machinery for the course, including an electric greens' mower, workman and chemical spray unit.
- replacement of the practice nets.
- approval for the construction of another 20-space cart shed.
- ongoing development of the course improvement and strategic plans.

These are only a small sample of the work carried out by your Board and management team, but they give you an idea of the diversity of the projects and development carried out by those you have elected to represent you.

The Club's finances remain in a strong position with the past 12 months reflective of several changes implemented by the Board and management. Though inflation and interest rates have begun to decrease, the ongoing impacts, such as, the increasing costs of goods, utilities and wages have seen unfortunate but necessary increases to the pricing of services provided within the clubhouse and to golf. These additional costs have not deterred the use of the club by members with sales in all departments having increased on the previous year.

The budget for the next 12 months will continue to be a conservative approach on expenditure with a continued focus on enhancing members facilities and experiences both on and off the golf course within budgetary constraints.

The Board will continue to work hard with club management to continually review all aspects of club operations that may not be delivering as they should, either economically or in delivering improved service and facilities to the members. Improvements and changes will be made when and where possible.

This year we said farewell to long serving Club House Golf Operations Manager, Chris Durrington, who has taken up the General Manager position at Iluka Golf Club. His contributions and commitment over the past 25 years were acknowledged at his farewell with a packed clubhouse testament to the respect he earned and his popularity. We wish Chris all the best in his new role and thank him for the support and golf knowledge he provided to create many memorable experiences for members and visitors.

The condition of our golf course is a tribute to the tremendous work of Mark Ryan and his team, along with the volunteers who play an integral part in presenting and keeping our course in magnificent condition. Positive feedback from the players at the recent Legends Pro Am, as well as from many visitors is testament to their continued efforts to make our course the best it can be. I thank you all.

A big thank you must go out to all the businesses involved in providing sponsorship for the club and on the course, to golf competitions and to the Pro Ams that we host, particularly our major tournament sponsors Ray White, Mitre 10 and Holiday. The Board and Management thanks all our sponsors and are greatly appreciative of their support and we encourage members to reciprocate by supporting these businesses.

To the Ladies and Vets Committees who continue to do a wonderful job in organising their respective golf programs. I thank you for your continued professionalism, support and congratulate you all on the delivery of such successful golf programs.

Earlier this year the responsibility of Golf Operations was contracted out to our Head Professional Jamie Corkill. Along with his Pro Shop team they have made the day to day running of golf for members and visitors as smooth as possible. I'd like to thank Leigh Robinson whose tireless and energetic work ethic is greatly appreciated by all members. Jamie's vision for golfing's future, in conjunction with Functions Manager, Emma Williams and Marketing Coordinator Aliese Sinitsky, will ensure YGCC will be placed on the bucket list as a venue for all golfers. Thank you for your efforts to date.

A special mention to our volunteers, though small in numbers, we are lucky to have an outstanding group of individuals who freely contribute their time and knowledge for the benefit of our club. Your contributions to course maintenance, cart paths, gardens, functions and the running of golf continue to make Yamba Golf Club a better place. On behalf of all golfing members and visitors to our course I thank you sincerely for your valuable contributions.

The golf course reached a major milestone recently with the completion of the cart paths project. This project was made possible through the contributions and hard work of many over the years which is greatly appreciated. While it is always difficult to publicly acknowledge individuals for fear of missing someone, a few key people need to be individually mentioned; Tony (Head) Moran, Doug Luckie, Phillip (Pip) Dickson and Kevin Lowe, who were always there, whether it be 1 or 7 cubic metres. A big thank you to everyone that has been involved.

Life Member and former President, David Miles, has stepped away from golf organisation after many, many years. David's work on the Men's Open every November had to be seen to be believed. David tirelessly looked after the groups of visiting golfers from clubs north, south and west of the divide making sure that their weekend of golf was an experience that would see them return year on year, and they continue to do so.

To Denise and Bruce Ginn who are hanging up their gardening gloves. The tender loving care they put into the beautification of many areas around the course will be 'greenly' missed, and I thank you both for your input over many years.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to each of the members of the Board for their dedication and contribution to the growth of our Club. They have given their time generously to ensure that this Club thrives. To retiring Directors, Rob Clarkson and Greg Laforest, I thank you for your commitment and input over the past year. It has been a pleasure to work with you all.

Most importantly, thank you to the members of this club who, at times, may query and challenge decisions, but continue to support and enjoy the facilities of the club. Your friendship, support and encouragement make what we do as a Board worthwhile. I look forward to seeing you all out on the course and around the clubhouse in the year ahead. Finally, to my wife Brenda, I cannot thank you enough. Without your continued support, I could not have given the time and commitment to the role of President. Thank you so much for all you have done, because I could not have done it alone.

Wayne Rice
President

CLUBHOUSE MANGAER'S REPORT

Presented by: Sonya Hill, Clubhouse Manager
Reporting Period: Financial Year 2024–2025

1. Introduction

First and foremost, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to President Wayne Rice and the Board of Yamba Golf and Country Club for their outstanding efforts and support during my transition into the role of Clubhouse Manager.

Since the change in management, we have implemented a number of positive changes. These developments are already creating momentum and will, we hope, reflect positively on the Club in the months and years ahead.

2. Financial Overview (2024–2025)

As expected in a regional, tourism-dependent area, the Club experienced some financial challenges during the year. These were primarily the result of external influences such as weather events and seasonal economic patterns.

Despite these obstacles, the Club maintained steady revenue streams and exercised sound expense management. This performance has laid a solid foundation for future growth. More importantly, it has highlighted significant opportunities for improvement and expansion, which we are now actively pursuing.

3. Strategic Plans for Financial Growth

Our primary objective is to ensure long-term financial sustainability through proactive planning and operational efficiency.

Key Strategic Initiatives:

- **Advancement through Financial Reporting**

Over the past eight months, we have implemented a suite of new technologies designed to modernise and streamline our administrative processes. This includes:

- A new accounting platform
- Payroll and workforce management software
- Cloud-based cash handling and reconciliation tools

All systems are integrated with our point-of-sale platform, which allows us to deliver end-of-month financial results to the Board and enabling timely Board meetings. These upgrades significantly reduce the Club's reliance on manual administrative tasks, freeing up our management and staff to focus on customer service and operational excellence.

- **Budget Development**

- A comprehensive budgeting process has been undertaken to align financial planning with strategic priorities, ensuring careful and impactful resource allocation.

- **Feasibility Studies**

- In-depth feasibility studies are now being conducted to assess the viability of key projects and investments. These studies will serve as the foundation of our broader redevelopment plan, ensuring that every initiative is strategically sound and fiscally responsible.

- **Revenue Generation**

- We are actively exploring new revenue opportunities while reviewing and optimising existing streams. Our goal is to increase overall financial stability and diversify income sources.

4. Food & Beverage Services

Plans are underway to revamp our food and beverage offerings. The focus is on delivering fresh, locally sourced ingredients that reflect the region's character and appeal to both members and guests.

Working closely with our Head Chef, we aim to launch a refreshed menu that enhances the Club's dining reputation, increases patronage, and improves profitability.

5. Golf Course and Practice Facility Improvements

Our golf facilities are at the heart of the Club. As such, we are committed to continuous improvement in this area.

Planned Upgrades Include:

- ***Course Enhancements***

Focused upgrades and maintenance works will improve the overall playing experience and increase course resilience.

- ***Practice Facilities***

Enhancements to our practice areas, including the introduction of updated equipment and technology, will better support player development and member satisfaction.

- ***Environmental Sustainability***

We are taking steps to adopt environmentally responsible maintenance practices to ensure the long-term health and beauty of our golf course and surrounding grounds.

6. Redevelopment Plan Revival

One of our most significant priorities is the revival and modernisation of the Club's redevelopment plan.

This plan includes upgrades to Clubhouse facilities, enhanced social spaces, and golf course improvements that reflect both current needs and future growth potential.

Each element of the plan will be supported by feasibility studies and delivered in phases to ensure financial viability and community alignment.

7. Looking Ahead

The future of Yamba Golf and Country Club is bright. Our direction is guided by innovation, service excellence, and community connection. Plans are in place to:

- Expand membership programs
- Host high-profile community and sporting events
- Strengthen partnerships with local stakeholders
- Deliver a modern, engaging Club experience for all visitors

With the continued support of our members, staff, Board, and broader community, I am confident that we will reach new heights together.

8. Conclusion

I would like to thank everyone for their trust and ongoing support throughout the past few months. I am honoured to serve in this role and look forward to working with you all to bring our shared vision for Yamba Golf and Country Club to life.

Let us continue working together to build a vibrant, financially strong, and community-focused Club for the future.

Sincerely,

Sonya Hill
Clubhouse Manager

GREENS REPORT

It's been a dynamic and demanding year for the green staff here at Yamba Golf Club. Nature certainly kept us on our toes, with the Clarence River flooding and a cyclone hitting in early March. Despite the regular inundations, the team worked tirelessly to keep the course playable mowing greens, maintaining fairways, and ensuring both social and competition golf could continue.

A huge thanks must go to our dedicated volunteers. The cart paths they've constructed over the years proved invaluable during the wet months, allowing golf to carry on when it otherwise wouldn't have been possible. Beyond the paths, their ongoing contributions to the gardens and countless other tasks continue to enhance the natural beauty of our course. Your work doesn't go unnoticed, so thank you.

One long discussed project is finally on the horizon: reshaping the fourth green. As most of you know, the southern third of this green is unusable for fair hole placements. While originally designed to prevent balls from running off into the dense woodland just metres behind, once home to Golden Wattles, Coastal Tea Trees, Banksia, She-oaks, Boobook owls, and even visiting East Coast emus, the landscape has since changed. With much of that vegetation no longer present, we plan to level the rear of the green to create more versatile and challenging hole positions. This upgrade will add both character and fairness to our most wind-exposed green, with work scheduled for early in the new year.

Speaking of changing landscapes, the decline of the tea trees on the 4th and 5th holes has become increasingly noticeable. Years of strong, salt-laden winds from the SSE, especially Cyclone Alfred with gusts up to 96 km/h, have left many trees irreparably damaged. Several are now dead and require removal. However, we're already implementing a replanting strategy. Along the 4th fairway, you'll notice new growth and fresh plantings of Banksia, Brush Box, and Tea Tree, while Golden Wattles, Tuckeroos, and Fraser Island Apples are also being encouraged to regenerate.

Another success story is the regeneration zone to the left of the 2nd pond, extending towards Ngaru Village. This area has been thriving, thanks to our extensive planting of Swamp Mahoganies, Brush Box, and Banksia. Natural regrowth from mature plants like She-oaks, Pandanus, and Fraser Island Apple is also taking hold, creating a thriving habitat that now teems with waterfowl and native flora. It's a testament to our ongoing commitment to sustainability and habitat restoration.

On the infrastructure side, the men's 1st tee is holding up well under regular use. The next improvement will be the men's 16th tee, which is set to be widened and levelled following the Yamba Open.

And as always, we'll follow the Open with our regular greens' renovation coring, scarifying, and topdressing using a river sand mix enriched with organics and gypsum to keep our greens in top condition.

A heartfelt thank you to all our green staff for their consistent hard work in what has been a challenging year. Your dedication, resilience, and care for this course is truly appreciated.

Mark Ryan
Golf Course Superintendent

GOLF OPERATIONS REPORT

2025 brought about perhaps the biggest change in the clubs Golf Operations recent history with myself and the Pro Shop taking over Golf Operations after an almighty innings from Chris Durrington. We thank you Chris for your decades of service and dedication to our Club.

It has been one very challenging year with weather. Frequent east coast lows hit Yamba throughout the year wiping out 2-4 weeks of trade at a time and we saw our Golf Course take longer than usual to drain, ultimately affecting trade.

Despite the challenging weather we saw golfers in abundance once the course opened. During these times we saw unprecedented demand on our Thursday and Saturday time sheets. The Match Committee and Board have been fantastic in understanding the steps ahead to ensure our members are not missing out on tee times. We now have a structured plan in place to combat this. Members will now see minimal interference from visitors on these days with visitors allotment being pushed to the 10th tee before 8:20am and last groups in the PM field. More tee times will become available and even help to generate more income. A great outcome for everyone.

2025 brought fresh blood to our championships and marquis events with Will Woldseth(19) being crowned Club Champion and Tyler Essex(22) crowned C Grade Champion. The Championships found a new home at the back end of summer running alongside the Women's Championships which proved a bit early for the women following their summer break. Tana Lowe continued her streak with 3 Ladies Championships in a row and she hasn't even finished school yet! Go Tana!

2025 also saw the successful return of the presentation dinner or Gala Night as it was called. Tremendous fun and it was great to see the members dress up and celebrate all our successes from the previous 12 months of golf.

Daily Medley competitions were introduced to allow members and visitors not only more handicapped rounds but a chance to play with their wives or partners. Numbers have been a little slow as expected but will just continue to grow as time goes on improving income and golfer satisfaction.

It has been a tremendous time to be at our Club. The atmosphere has been simply amazing. Everyone is having a fantastic time and loving their golf and the social setting at the Club. The ladies are always laughing and keeping Irvine on his toes. The volunteers are more incredible than ever with the majority of the cart paths now complete, we all owe you a world of thanks for the incredible amount of work you have done! We are so lucky! I have just been named a finalist for Club Professional of the year for the third year in a row! Fingers crossed it's third time lucky and we can bring more accolades back to our great club this year.

The Pro Shop team is stronger than ever with four professionals and a superstar line up. Mackenzie Wright has come on board as a teaching Professional. Zane Lowe has started the first year of his time where Reilly is in his last. They have both been playing some great golf. A massive thanks must go to Leigh Robertson our superstar Ladies President and Golf Operations administrator. You are the glue that holds this Club together, thank you for all of your hard work!

Let's hope the weather is kind to us over the festive period and we can enjoy a beautiful Yamba Summer of golf!

Comp Rounds - 20852

Social Rounds - 13675

Junior Rounds - 898

Total Rounds - 34527.

Warmest regards,

Jamie Corkill

Head Professional / Golf Operations Manager

LADIES GOLF REPORT

This year has ushered in some significant challenges for our members with persistent wet weather impacting our course significantly over extended periods and necessitating many changes to our planned fixtures. Your understanding flexibility has been greatly appreciated.

At times our weekly Ladies' Competition numbers have been lower than average, due in no small part to the weather conditions and state of the course. It's been tough going at times. The unflinching support from local businesses that sponsor prizes in our weekly competitions is also greatly appreciated. The work done by Jenny Moody, (Nine-Hole Co-ordinator) who has often forgone her own 18 Hole game to play with the nine-hole field, has been appreciated and it's pleasing to see many of the 2024 Nine-Hole players become regulars in the 2025 18 Hole field.

In 2025, Yamba Ladies continued its commitment to charitable causes, raising funds through raffles for organisations such as the Maclean Hospital Auxiliary, Ovarian Cancer Research, Breast Cancer Trials, and the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research. Our ladies have for paid and committed to approx. \$11000 improvements for the benefit of club members and visitors this year, including: the refurbishment of the practice nets which were in dire need of repair, the purchase of plants for the 2nd and 7th tees for beautification and screening purposes as well as the building of a pergola with plants over the chair on the 17th Hole.

At the time of writing this report, over 200 players from clubs throughout NSW, QLD, Victoria and New Zealand, have registered to play in this year's Ladies' October Tournament. The committee is very proud of our hard work around this event and we remain committed to making it three fabulous days of golf, fun and friendship. This year, entries closed after a mere six hours. Over \$15000 in sponsorship from generous local businesses and companies from further afield was obtained with our biggest sponsors keen to be involved. We are thrilled that Mitre 10 came on board as our major sponsor and Bushnell supported us once again this year, donating over \$3500 of prizes for eight of the division winners. We are so thankful to have Clarence Valley Council, Ray White, HQ Snacks, LJ Hooker, The Surf Motel, Elders Lifestyle and Westlawn as proud supporters of our event. Yamba Ladies wishes to extend its appreciation to the many club volunteers who contribute significantly to assist with course maintenance, path construction, painting, gardens, functions and club events. To our hardworking club volunteers, thanks! Without you, our club wouldn't run, so many thanks on behalf of us all.

Thanks also go to the Greens' Staff who continue to keep our course in pristine condition despite what Mother Nature throws our way and, this year, she has certainly thrown some clangers. I wish to also acknowledge our club staff, notably Emma Williams, who keep the club ticking along for events, big and small. Special thanks also go to Jamie, Irvine, Zane, Reilly and Macca in Pro Shop for their support and for making our golf days so welcoming. As Ladies' President, it's a pleasure to work alongside such dedicated, generous, and hardworking volunteers who share a common passion for women's golf at Yamba.

The importance of the friendships we establish and continue to foster through golf cannot be understated. On behalf of the 2025 Committee, I wish you all a joyful Christmas Season and look forward to seeing everyone back on the course next year.
Many thanks

Leigh Robertson
Yamba Ladies Golf (President)