

# CLUB HISTORY



<p>1965</p>	<p>A public meeting was called by the Merimbula Chamber of Commerce on 5<sup>th</sup> August at Twyford Hall Merimbula, to investigate the best possible site for a golf course. Messrs J Pointon, R McKay, J Maiden, A Kaine and E Aldis were elected to carry out the investigation and report their findings to a general meeting. Interim fees were fixed at one pound for members, ten shillings associates and five shillings for juniors.</p> <p>Mr A R Russell chaired the meeting with over 50 people attending resulting in the formation of the Pambula-Merimbula Country Golf Club.</p> <p>At a General Meeting held at Twyford Hall on 9<sup>th</sup> September it was resolved that the Pambula-Merimbula Country Golf Club be dissolved and the Pambula Merimbula Golf Club be formed. Copies of the new Constitution were distributed to all members. A motion that the new club be known as the Sapphire Coast Golf Club was defeated.</p> <p>Clearing of land commenced for the first nine holes.</p> <p>Inaugural Meeting held at Twyford Hall on 9<sup>th</sup> December with Mr Arthur Kaine elected President and Mr F P (Eric) Aldis elected as Honorary Secretary. 48 men and 24 ladies attended the meeting</p> <p>Following an application to the Crown Lands Department in 1965 a lease was granted to the Club for 52 acres on which to build a clubhouse and golf course.</p>
<p>1966</p>	<p>At a committee meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> February membership fees were increased to:-            Members \$7, Associates \$5, Juniors \$2, Country Members \$3.50 and Country Associates \$2.50. A nomination fee of \$2 applied to all categories except Junior and Country Members. The nomination fee was waived for all original members of the Club.</p> <p>A temporary clubhouse was erected in March at a cost of \$842 and permission obtained from the Bega Valley County Council to erect a sign, "Pambula Merimbula Golf Club."</p> <p>The first club tournament was held on 18<sup>th</sup> May, a mixed foursomes event with a competition fee of five shillings, and a request to all players to "bring your own lunch". The winners were Dick Horton and Fay Corcoran from Eden Golf Club.</p> <p>First Annual Report tabled by President Arthur Kaine for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> October 1966.</p> <p>First Annual General Meeting held at Twyford Hall on 8<sup>th</sup> December</p>
<p>1967</p>	<p>First Club Championships held on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> July. The first champions were Keith Robinson and Hazel McKay</p> <p>Provisional Liquor Licence granted to the Club on 17 November.</p>
<p>1968</p>	<p>Tenders called for in June for the construction of a new clubhouse at a cost of \$56,000. The successful tender was P J Rimington Pty Ltd. The clubhouse became known throughout Australia as the Opera House Golf Club because of the design of its roof.</p>

# CLUB HISTORY



1968	<p>The new clubhouse was officially opened on 24<sup>th</sup> November by the President and Secretary of the New South Wales Golf Association, Mr Les Graham and Mr Alan Higginbotham.</p> <p>10 poker machines purchased at a cost of \$880 each.</p> <p>Green fees set at 50 cents per player.</p>
1969	<p>John Watson and Associates, golf course architects were contracted to design an eighteen hole golf course in two stages The agreed charges were: layout \$1000, to complete the design \$2500 and \$3500 for full supervision of the project</p>
1972	<p>At a special Board Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> October it was moved that the Club be incorporated and be known as Pambula Merimbula Golf Club Limited.</p>
1974	<p>October - Opening of the first nine holes with grass greens.</p>
1975	<p>The first extensions including a new office, bar and pro shop were completed at a cost of \$32,000.</p> <p>Noel Matthew was appointed as the Club Professional on 18<sup>th</sup> October.</p>
1976	<p>Board voted to proceed with the layout of the second nine holes, with clearing commencing in September, 1977.</p>
1979	<p>Completion of the second nine holes at a cost of \$224,000. Opened by the President of the NSWGA on 13 May.</p> <p>18 Hole course opened May, 1979</p>
1980	<p>February - The Board agreed to further extensions to the clubhouse costing \$408,736 to be completed within 22 weeks.</p> <p>Chef Eddie Delves operating as "Bunkers Caterers" was appointed (29 July) on a six month trial basis. Subsequently served as the Clubs' caterer until 30 June 2006</p>
1981	<p>First Sapphire Coast Week of Golf Tournament.</p> <p>In November the Board signed contracts for further club extensions which included enlarging the bistro and kitchen facilities, new locker rooms and a new pro-shop. The tender price submitted by builder W. G. Campbell was \$521.637. Extensions completed in September 1982.</p>
1982	<p>Associates became Full Members.</p>
1984	<p>On 24<sup>th</sup> October the Club submitted an application to the Department of Lands for a further portion of Crown Land to extend the golf course to 27 holes.</p>

# CLUB HISTORY



1984	Hosted the inaugural Colts Teams Match between New South Wales and Victoria, with New South Wales winning 6 games to 3.
1985	Hosted second Colts Teams Match between New south Wales and Victoria.
1988	Construction of additional nine holes commenced.
1989	Major extension to the clubhouse and additional nine holes completed at a cost of \$2.3million with the official opened on 24 <sup>th</sup> June  Pambula Merimbula Golf Club named as “Most Improved Club of the Year – NSW”
1997	First Ace of Clubs Tournament
2000	Master Plan review of the golf course commissioned – cost \$30,000
2001	Construction of Garden Room completed at a cost of \$285,000  Purchase of 50 hectares adjacent to the golf course for possible future extension to 36 holes, costing \$187,000.  Purchase of “Courtesy Bus”
2002	Upgrade of foyer and office facilities at a cost of \$85,000
2003	Construction of new course maintenance complex costing \$360,000  March - Hosted the first of four Bega Cheese NSW PGA Championships (2003-2006)
2004	Major refurbishment and upgrade of kitchen facilities at a cost of \$320,000
2005	May - Development Application approved for upgrade and redevelopment of clubhouse costing \$1.25million.
2006	Re-opening of latest Clubhouse extensions on 28 July – comprising relocation of administration area, new entrance foyer, poker machine area and members lounge.
2008	Member-funded Electric Cart Shed constructed with space for 24 electric golf carts.
2010	Development of three year Strategic Plan for future development. Implemented July
2011	January - Listed in top 100 Public Access Courses in Australia by Golf Australia magazine.