

HAWKS NEST GOLF CLUB

LADIES GOLF

GOLDEN GIRLS OF GOLF AT HAWKS NEST

Their average age is 85. And collectively, they have over 295 years of golfing experience between them. These inspiring lady golfers are our own Golden Girls of Golf, who get together at Hawks Nest every Tuesday, and most Thursdays to play in 9 hole Vets competitions. Don't be fooled by their age though, they can hit a really good ball. It may not travel quite as far as in the past, but these ladies seem to have a knack for hitting straight up the middle with a great deal of economy. Younger players have been soundly outplayed by these ladies, and soon learn never to take them for granted.

Many in the group retired to the Tea Gardens/Hawks Nest area and for some, this was the start of their golfing adventure. "It can't be too hard, just look at how many people play the game," Sylvia was told. "If only I knew!" she said. For others like Pam, it was part of a long connection with the game. "I started in 1961," she said, "so I've been playing for 63 years." That's truly impressive!

Most of the ladies in the group played in 18 hole competitions for many years. They all insist that competition helps you learn the rules of the game, makes you concentrate on your play and improve your skills. Now though, they have cut back to 9 hole competition, mostly due to age and health reasons. They approached the board when Pat was President in around 2019/2020, and a short game format for Tuesdays was approved. The ladies are rightfully proud of this innovation which allows them to regularly play the game they love at competition level.



They are equally proud of their role in mentoring new and younger players who may be transitioning into competition golf. The shorter format is a friendly way to adjust to the rules and etiquette of golf, and the ladies are excellent instructors.

They have a lot of tricks up their sleeves on how to get out of trouble, as Pat demonstrates with a reverse flick shot for a ball at the base of a tree. But when they think a new player is feeling comfortable enough, or winning all the balls, she'll be pushed out of the nest into the wide world of 18 hole comp.

The Golden Girls all enjoy the friendship and company of the Tuesday group, which fosters the social aspects of golf. They enjoy the camaraderie, coffee and chat after the round as much as the game itself, and will be the first to tell you that you're never too old to be a golfer. So perhaps when I grow up, I'd like to be a Golden Girl of Golf, too.

Well played, Ladies!

