RIGC AGM @ Sea View Golf Club . . . Sunday 21st November 2021

Patrons Address:

**Presentation of the ‘Patrons Medal’:**

The Patron (John Birkett) advised that the 2021 winners of the ‘Patrons Medal’ were;

* + Ladies . . . (a clear winner) . . . . Robin Woodward on 142 points
  + Men . . . (only 3 point margin from Greg Whitmee) . . . . Len Strother on 100 points

Timing of the presentation of the medals will be announced by the President to best coincide with next year’s fixtures.

**Update on golf course marketing matters:**

The Patron reiterated the extremely important need to increase general public utilization of the golf course and bowls facility. If those number don’t go up the RIA may have reason to withhold funding to the up-keep of the course and that’s totally unacceptable.

The patron advised that the first tranche of advertising the course utilizing 6ix radio advertising and a competition sponsored by Karma and Rottnest Express had been completed and was felt to be very successful having some 800 responses = 800 people that may or may not have known of the golf course. Around 200 had signed up to receive further information about Rottnest golf options going forward and a special data base is being prepared for that purpose.

Attention was drawn to the business sized cards promoting the special $95 day trip deal which would be available thanks to Karma and Rottnest Express until end May 2022. All members present were asked to take as many cards as they thought they could distribute effectively to golf and/or bowls interested folk. The cards are a form of advertising the fact and don’t need to be presented for each individual taking up the offer; they are simply carrying the story. Larger cards are being produced sized to fit into dispensers on the counters of major contact points both on and off the Island. For starters the RIA Office in Fremantle, Visitor Centre on island, Karma reception, General Store, Volunteer guides and many others. Feedback as to good potential locations is invited.

**Support for Provisional Membership:**

The Patron voiced his support of introducing a form of Provisional membership to the club with the aim of increasing membership numbers that would further strengthen the clubs financial base and importantly its relevance through strength of numbers. Whatever constitutional changes needed can be made easily enough and the clubs web-site needs to be modified to feature the fact that membership is open and detail that. This should all be progressed without delay to coincide with the current promotional work.

**Thanks to the Membership:**

The Patron thanked all present for their participation in the AGM and Sea View Golf Club for access to their course and facilities for the meeting. He also wished the Committees and new Committee members all the best for 2022.