WORRIGEE LINKS, NOWRA

GOLF COURSE MASTERPLAN REPORT

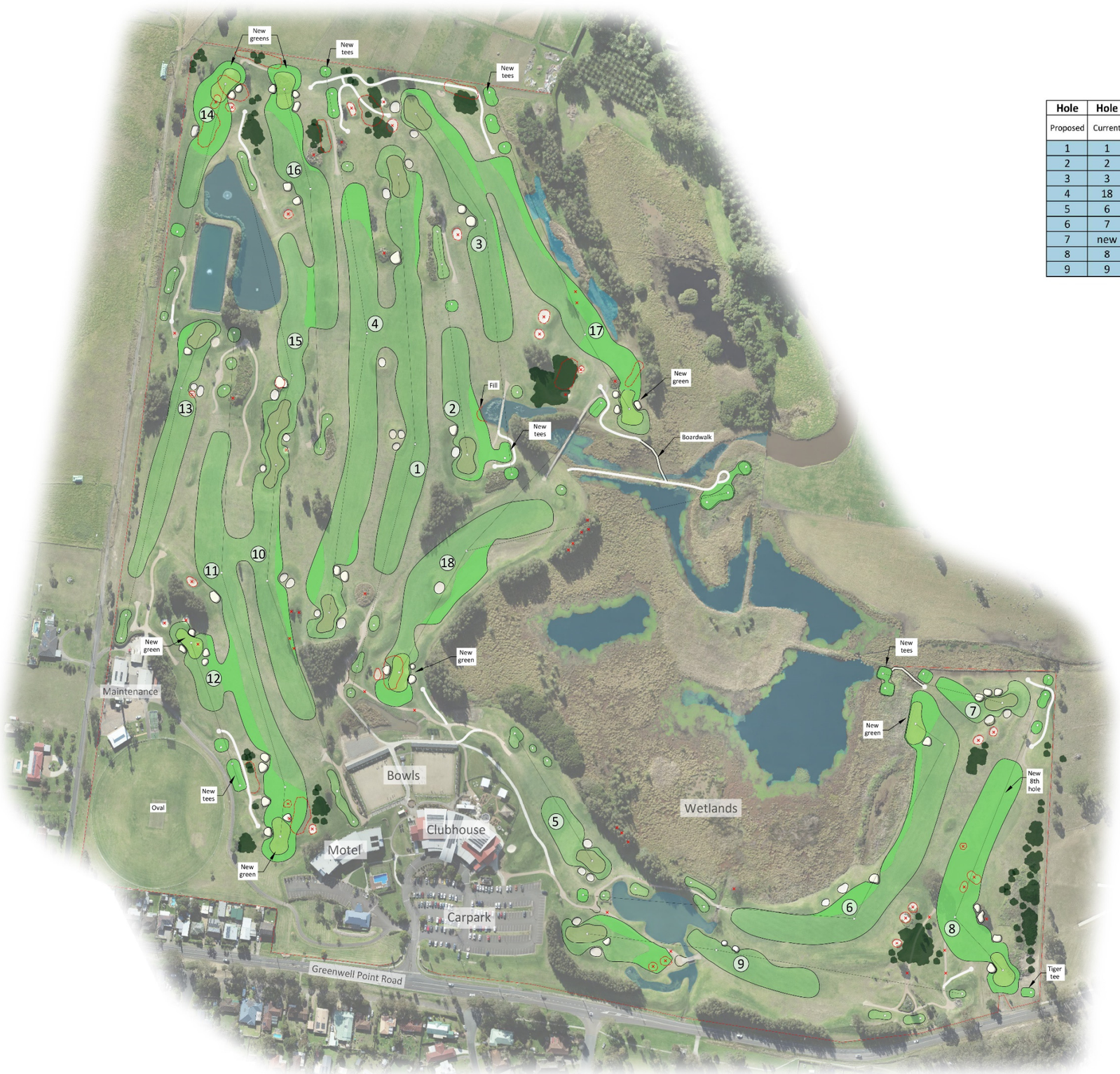
December 2021



worrigee sports

PREPARED BY:

CONTOUR
GOLF DESIGN GROUP



Hole	Hole	Men's		Par	Ladies	Par	Hole	Hole	Men's		Par	Ladies	Par
Proposed	Current	Metres	Length Difference				Proposed	Current	Metres	Length Difference			
1	1	468	0	5	409	5	10	10	335	0	4	300	4
2	2	202	0	3	135	3	11	11	459	15	5	413	5
3	3	335	11	4	273	4	12	12	135	-50	3	110	3
4	18	487	42	5	414	5	13	13	280	0	4	270	4
5	6	132	0	3	100	3	14	14	215	40	3	137	3
6	7	457	-21	5	350	5	15	15	242	0	4	230	4
7	new	115	NA	3	100	3	16	16	328	-22	4	299	4
8	8	294	137	4	250	4	17	4	311	32	4	264	4
9	9	409	63	4	293	4	18	5	390	20	4	241	4
		2899	**+ 232**	**36**	**2324**	**36**			**2695**	**+ 35**	**35**	**2264**	**35**
									2899	**+ 232**	**36**	**2324**	**36**
									5594	**+ 267**	**71**	**4588**	**71**

Legend

- Proposed new putting greens
- Existing putting greens
- Existing and proposed new bunkers
- Existing fairway turf.
- Areas of new turf and areas where fairways are to be expanded
- The line of existing features and existing bunkers to be filled in, or trees to be removed
- Proposed areas of new tree planting

- NOTE: Refer to the accompanying Masterplan report for details, explanations and design rationale.

0 50 100 150 200

Scale in metres
1:2000 @ A1

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worrigee sports

Worrigee Links: Golf Course Masterplan

December 2021

CONTOUR
GOLF DESIGN GROUP

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PART 1: Introduction

1.0 Preamble

The Worrigee Links golf course is owned and run by Worrigee Sports, formerly known as Shoalhaven Ex-Servicemen's Sports Club. The golf course, located in the regional town of Nowra, New South Wales, was opened for play in January 2005 and was originally designed by Ken McKay.

In July 2021 Contour Golf Design Group were engaged to prepare a Masterplan for the golf course. The scope of work was to include the following:

- A study of how the course plays, especially in relation to the location and number of bunkers, and how this can be improved.
- Consideration of how to better integrate the course with the wetlands.
- Consideration of how to introduce more 'wow' factor into some of the holes, to give the course a signature identity.
- Consideration of how to make the course more fun to play and more challenging, especially for better golfers, while also respecting and considering the needs of beginner golfers, veterans, and lady members.
- Consideration of safety issues and what measures may be required to address them.
- Consideration of whether there may be a way to rearrange the order in which the holes are played, so that the closing holes relate better to the clubhouse.

1.1 Who are we?

Contour Golf Design Group is a specialist Golf Course Design company based in Canberra, ACT. Ben Davey is the company Director and the lead golf course architect for this project. Ben is a full member of the Society of Australian Golf Course Architects.

For more information on Contour Golf Design Group and Ben Davey, the lead architect, please visit www.contourgolf.com.au.



Ben Davey, Golf Course Architect, and a selection of Contour Golf Design completed projects.

1.2 Site study visits

Prior to, and during, the preparation of this Masterplan, four site visits were conducted by Contour Golf Director, Ben Davey. During these visits, all aspects of the golf course were considered including, but not limited to;

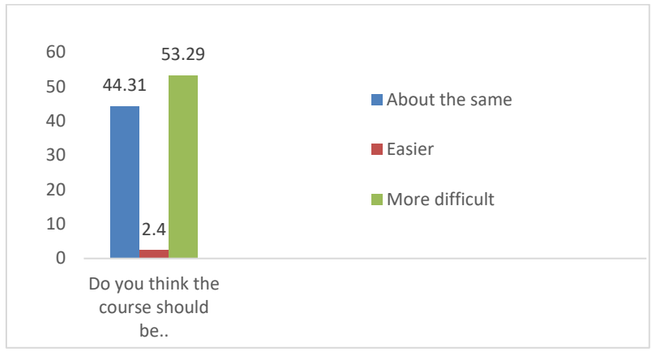
- The design quality of the greens.
- The size, shape, and location of tees.
- The design, location, number, challenge, and strategy of the bunkers.
- Fairway widths.
- Maintenance practices, including mowing patterns of fairways, short and long grass areas around greens.

- Access, wear areas, cart paths and the need to improve connections between greens and the following tee.
- Vegetation management and landscaping.
- Safety issues, both within the course and to external boundaries.

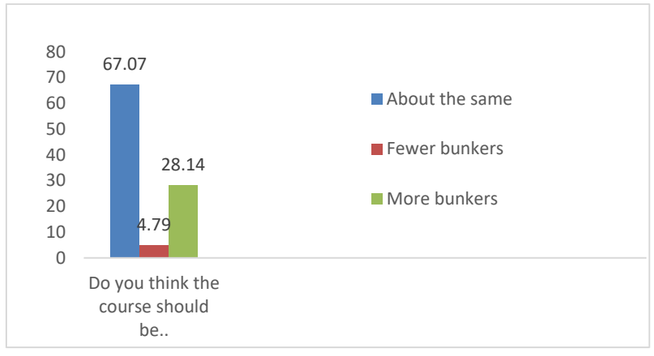
1.3 Member Survey Results

A member survey was conducted in August 2021. A total of 167 responses were received of which 91% were male members, and 9% were female. Approximately 60 % of respondents are affiliated with one of the sub-clubs. A summary of the most relevant questions and responses follows. All figures are percentages.

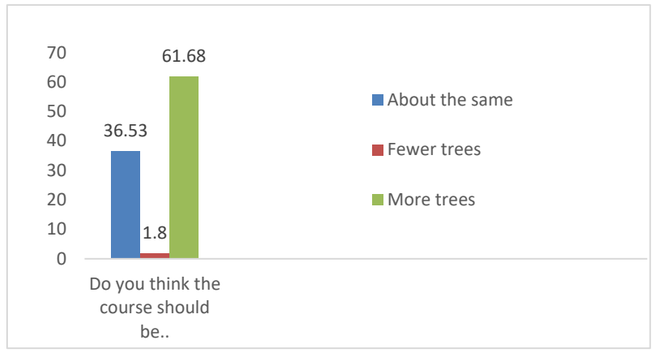
Question: Do you think the course should be a) more difficult, b) easier or c) about the same.



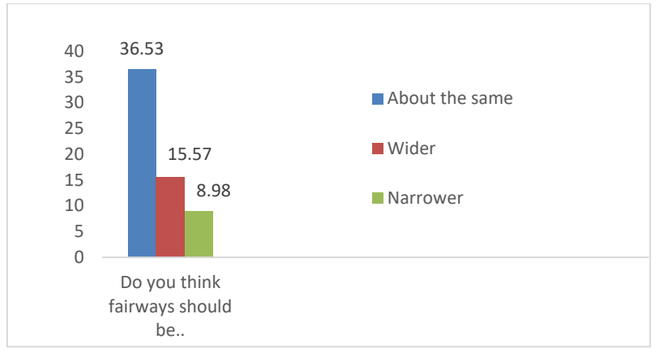
Question: In relation to bunkers, do you think there should be a) more bunkers, b) fewer bunkers or c) about the same.



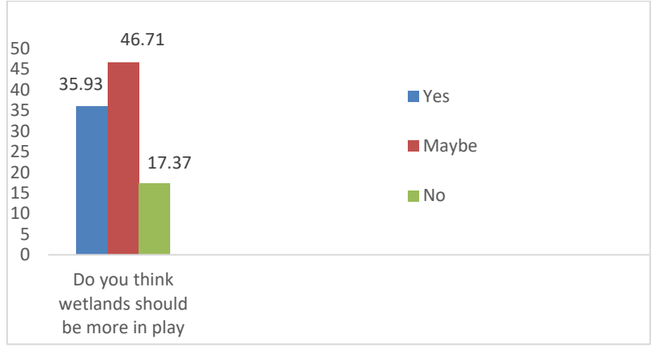
Question: In relation to trees, do you think there should be a) more trees, b) fewer trees or c) about the same.



Question: In relation to fairways, do you think they should be a) wider, b) narrower c) about the same.

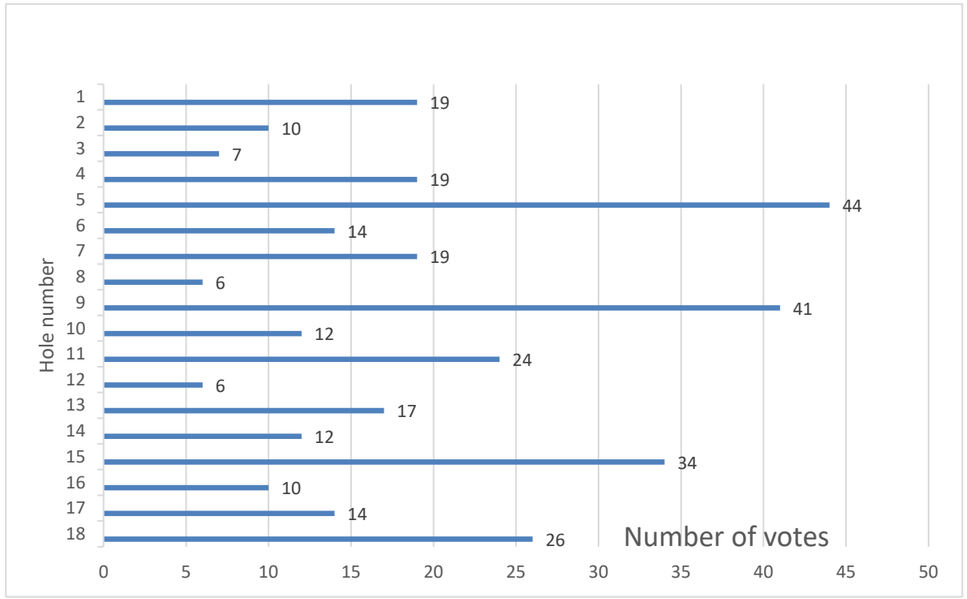


Question: Do you think it would be a good thing for wetlands to be brought more into play on some of the holes? A) Yes b) Maybe, I'd need to see the plans, c) No

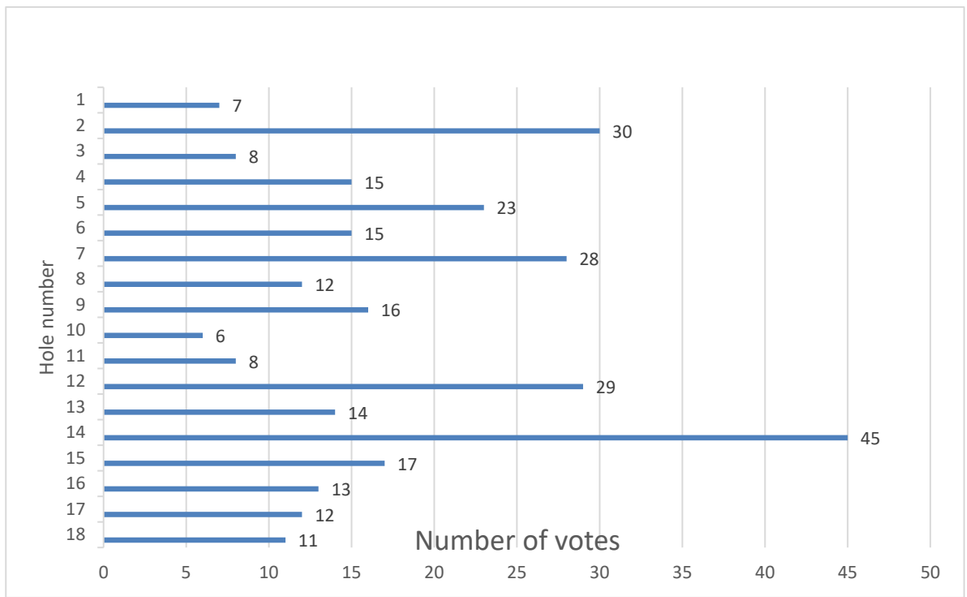


Members were also asked what their **three favourite** and **three least favourite holes** are. The results of this question are summarised below.

***MOST* FAVOURITE HOLE: TOTAL VOTES**



***LEAST* FAVOURITE HOLE: TOTAL VOTES**



The results of the survey and the comments made in relation to the course revealed that members are generally very happy with the golf course. In relation to the most liked and disliked holes the votes revealed the following;

- The three most liked holes on the course are the 5th, 9th, and 15th. All par 4's. These were closely followed by the 18th and 11th, both par 5's.
- The three most disliked holes on the course are the 14th, 2nd, and 12th, closely followed by the 7th. Interestingly, all three are long par 3's. The 14th hole was the clear winner in this category!
- The best rating any of the par 3's achieved was 9th most favourite - the 6th and 17th holes. Clearly the par 3's need to be addressed.
- The 5th hole is the most divided, with it being the *most* liked, but also the 5th most *disliked* hole on the course (67 total votes).
- The 3rd and 10th holes received the fewest overall votes (15 and 18 votes).

In addition to the survey questions, members were asked to comment. While it is beyond the scope of this report to individually respond to these comments, the vast majority of comments made were positive. These comments and the survey results have driven many of the recommendations in this Masterplan report.

PART 2: Course Overview and Design Response

2.0 The golf course site

The Worrigee Links golf course (the course) was opened in 2005 on what is partially a flood plain. The course is bounded on the south by Greenwell Point Road, on the east by a new low-density subdivision and open farmland, on the west by Westbrook Road for a short length and a road reserve, and on the north by farmland at the western end and wetlands for the remainder.



A 2018 aerial photograph of the Worrigee Golf Course layout

The site is generally very flat but gently falls towards the wetlands in the north and east. Holes adjacent to the wetlands are only 1-2 metres above sea level, while the clubhouse is approximately 5 metres above sea level. The only exception to this general flatness is a small rise in the south-eastern corner which rises to 9 metres above sea level. The consequence of this is that there are drainage problems in many areas, especially the lowest sections of the property.



A 2002 aerial photograph of the Worrigee Links site. The clubhouse and bowling greens had been built, but not the golf course. This photo makes it clear where the original wetland was located.

Prior to development of the golf course, the site was mainly cleared farmland devoid of trees. The 2002 aerial photo (above) clearly shows the wetlands that were not touched in the golf course routing devised by Ken McKay.

2.1 The Course routing

The Course is arranged in two 9-hole loops returning to the clubhouse. The front nine occupies the eastern half of the site, firstly playing in a loop for the 1st to 5th holes. The 5th finishes near the clubhouse. The 6th to 9th holes are arranged in another clockwise loop to the east. The back nine holes play back and forth in a north-south orientation. Only the 17th hole breaks this mould, playing to the east.

2.2 Putting Greens

The putting greens designed by Ken McKay are generally very good. Nearly all of them are deeper from front to back than they are wide. In fact, many of them are quite narrow in width. There is not a single green that is wider than it is deep in length – an observation, not a criticism. In area, they average about 400m² which is on the small side compared to most city courses.

Most of the greens tilt gently from back to front and some fall away at the sides. There are no wild undulations.

The Masterplan requires, at a bare minimum, the construction of six (6) new greens. Two additional greens (the current 12th and 5th) are also recommended for reconstruction, but these are not a priority and could be done after all other works are completed.

All new greens would be designed in a similar style to the current greens, so that there is a seamless blend of putting green designs. While we would aim to design and build new greens that are *better* than those they replace, we would not want them to stand out as being different to the 12 greens that will not change.



The unique double green 10th and 15th green which is nearly 80 metres in length.

2.3 Tees

On a high usage course experiencing a reasonably high number of golf rounds per annum, tees must be large enough to distribute wear. This means about 250-300m2 for par 4's and 5's where a driver is generally used and about 350-400m2 for par 3's where divots are taken with irons.



The current 15th tees (left) and 2nd tees (right).

Tees should be unobtrusive and tie into the surrounding ground, wherever possible. We should avoid the 'upturned saucer' appearance poorly constructed tees sometimes have when dropped onto flat terrain. When they are built close to the previous green they should tie in with that green and the flow should be seamless from one to the other.

The Masterplan requires, at a bare minimum, the construction of seven new sets of tees – four on the front nine and three on the back. New tees should be designed and built to marry with the existing tees.

2.4 Bunkers

The bunkers at Worrigee Links are generally simple, circular 'pot' style bunkers, reminiscent of the style of bunkers seen on British links courses. The bunkers have usually been built into mounds, especially the fairway bunkers. This would have been done to ensure they drain. Some of the fairway bunkers have been built up too high though, and if the mounding hadn't been quite as artificial, but a little more subtle, their visual character would have been better. Examples are the fairway bunkers on the 3rd and 16th holes. The location of some of the fairway bunkers is also questionable and this will be discussed in the hole-by-hole descriptions.

Greenside bunkers are generally good, however their visibility from the tee or the fairway is sometimes poor. The 5th hole is an example where there are three greenside bunkers, yet from the

fairway, no sand is visible. The green complex would look much better if the sand in the bunkers could be seen.

There is also some unique 'landscaping' that has been done around several bunkers with timber walls and Lomandra grasses. We will be recommending these be removed.



Some examples of the simple, circular, pot style bunkers. The bunker on at top right is on the 1st hole. 30mm of rain had fallen the previous evening. The timber walls and Lomandra's should be removed (bottom left) and one of the better shaped bunkers with a slightly angular face on the current 18th (bottom right)

2.5 Fairways

The width of fairways at Worrigee Links is generally quite narrow, however they do vary considerably, even on the same hole because of the 'wavy' mowing patterns that have been introduced. The fairways generally vary in width between 20-30 metres. We would like to see them maintained at a more consistent width closer to 30 metres.

On some holes the fairways also seem to stop short of the green and on others they narrow considerably as they approach the green. We recommended this be discontinued and that fairways maintain their 30-metre width through to the green. We also recommend that there be far more short grass (fairway cut height) in the surrounds to greens. For example, when a hole is bunkered on one side, on the opposite side of the green the surrounds should be short grass extending at least 5-10 metres from the edge of the putting green.

2.6 Practice facilities

Worrigee Links does not have a practice fairway. Although it would be preferable to have one, there is simply not the available land to do so. Major changes would be required to the golf course, and the resultant course would be shorter with a reduced par.

A new practice putting green has recently been built by the Club, practice nets have been installed near the 6th tees and there is a small chipping green also near the 6th hole.

2.7 Trees

Originally the Worrigee Links golf course was built on cleared farmland. The only remnant vegetation present when the course was built are two large Eucalyptus near what is now the 8th hole and two Casuarina's on what is now the 5th hole.

Extensive planting took place following construction of the golf course. Large groups of Allocasurina's (sheoaks) were planted around the edge of the wetlands and in groups within the course. Other plantings included Cypress (near the 9th tees) and various deciduous trees, such as near the 12th tees. Tree planting has been used sparingly however and done in a way so that rarely do trees impact on the play of the course. The course retains an open, links-like character with good distant views, which is good given that large parts of the golf course are very tight.

The results of the survey reveal that nearly 62% of members would like more trees on the golf course and only 2% would like fewer trees. We will be recommending there *are* more trees planted and our Masterplan drawing illustrates the recommended locations. However, we will *not* be recommending that trees are planted *between* golf holes to address safety or define fairways. Trees will not make the course any safer, in fact they may make it less safe if planted between holes. When we have a site as tight as Worrigee Links, the best way to make golf play safe is **visibility**. Golfers need to be able to make eye contact with other golfers and screening sightlines does not allow this. Proposed tree planting should continue the current theme of groupings of sheoaks.




Sheoaks that were planted nearly 20 years ago nearing maturity, and Lomandra's next to the 11th tees.

In addition to trees, Lomandra longifolia (the strappy leafed grasses) were densely planted on artificial mounds in various locations. Many members made negative comments about the Lomandra's, complaining that they are too penal and have become snake pits! We concur with this sentiment and one of our recommendations will be that most of the Lomandra's, especially where they are in play, be removed and the mounds sometimes lowered.

2.8 Safety Issues

There are two types of safety risk to consider on golf courses. These are;

- Safety to boundaries (houses, pedestrians, roads, and anything else beyond a boundary).
- Safety internally, within the golf course and between holes.

The golf holes where there exists an issue to **external boundaries** are;

- The tee shot on the 9th hole, less so now that the trees are mature.
- The 12th hole, to the sports oval and maintenance sheds.
- The 13th and 14th holes if the adjacent land is ever developed (unlikely).
- The 17th hole if the adjacent land is ever developed (unlikely).

It is really only the 9th hole, that abuts a public road, and the 12th, where there is any concern. Most of the adjacent land uses (farmland and wetlands), means stray balls do not pose a risk.

The real issue at Worrigee is not to external boundaries, but internally between golf holes. The Worrigee site is small for an 18-hole golf course, occupying just over 32 hectares (excluding the clubhouse precinct, bowling greens and wetlands). Many of the holes play parallel to each other with very little space in between fairways. It is especially a problem between holes such as the 10th and 11th, the pathway to the 11th tees and the 15th, the 15th and 16th, and 2nd and 3rd. There are too many other examples to list them all. Conversely, the eastern part of the site, occupied by the 7th, 8th, and 9th holes, is relatively spacious with large areas of unused land

Generally, where golf holes run parallel to one another, there is very little that can be done to make them completely safe to each other. The presence of trees will often not help because golfers can hit the ball over them, and if planted, they will take many years to fully mature. As mentioned, the trees can make it worse too because the striker of the ball cannot see golfers on an opposite fairway and therefore cannot warn them of potential danger. Likewise, the other golfers cannot see the ball striker and therefore cannot watch them play their shot or give way as they do. Trees between fairways on what is already a narrow course would also compromise the open links character of the golf course.

There are recommendations that *will* make the golf course safer however, and these will be discussed later in the report.

2.9 Returning 9's, course flow, course difficulty, length and par

The current course has **returning nines**, although the nines were reversed some years ago, with the original 1st hole now the 10th. Having returning nines is not essential – there are many Clubs that do not have them – but there is a strong argument in favour of keeping returning nines. There are definite benefits of having two starting tees adjacent to the clubhouse.

The Masterplan *does* retain returning nines although the order the holes are played in is reconfigured. The current 1st hole, current 10th hole and current 9th hole all remain. The current 5th hole becomes the new 18th. Part 3 of this report will explain in more detail the new course layout and hole numbering.

Course difficulty is subjective, but the results of the survey were revealing. A surprising 53% of members would like the course to be more difficult and only 2.4% would like it to be easier! We strongly believe however, that while a golf course can be difficult and challenging, it should also be fair and not penal, especially for less skilled golfers. Making par should be challenging, making bogey should be relatively easy. Golf holes should always have an easy way of being played if a golfer is happy to accept a net bogey – allowing for handicaps. That means that the placement of hazards, whether they be bunkers or water, should be done in a way that allows golfers to play around them or away from them should they choose. If they do choose to play away from them, then their following shot should be more difficult, so making par becomes harder. That is the principle of strategic golf design.

The current **par** of the course is 70 with a course length of 5344 metres from the black tees. The revised course layout will have a par of 71 and a potential **maximum** length of 5594 metres, an increase of 267 metres. The ladies course will have a similar increase in length. We suggest that for major events or pro-am's the new 6th hole (the current 7th) could be played as a par 4 from the current back tee giving a length of about 415 metres.

PART 3: The Masterplan

3.1 The Overall Plan

The Masterplan aims to achieve the following;

- Create golf holes that interact more with the natural wetlands. This will make for better golf holes but also engage the golfer with the natural environment. This has been achieved on the current 4th and 5th holes (proposed 17th and 18th), on the current 7th hole (proposed 6th) and through the establishment of a new par 3 7th hole.
- Fill in obsolete and poorly positioned bunkers and reposition new bunkers to add greater challenge and strategy to golf holes.
- Expand the area of maintained short grass, especially around greens so that golfers can play safely away from hazards and to offer more shot options around greens.
- Make better use of the available land by closing the current 17th hole. This enables the rearrangement of the 14th, 16th, and 18th holes to make them safer, better, and longer.
- Add the par 3 7th hole and lengthen the par 3 8th hole to a par 4, in a part of the course where there *is* surplus land available.
- Reconfigure the order the holes are played to achieve a more exciting finish to the course, while retaining returning nine's. The redesigned 4th and 5th holes become the new 17th and 18th.
- Address the safety issues on the 10th and 11th holes near the 11th green.
- Respond to the survey results by addressing those holes on the golf course that are least liked.
- Propose achievable recommendations that can be constructed on a staged basis to minimise disruption, retaining at all times, a playable 18-hole golf course.

NOTE: all recommendations are subject to detailed design. Refer to Part 4 of this report for suggestions on a possible staging option.

3.2 Hole by Hole Descriptions

The following is a description of each hole on the redesigned golf course. For golf holes that remain from the current golf course routing, we have assessed how these holes can be improved and listed all recommended changes. For golf holes that are entirely new and not part of the current course routing, we have described our vision for these holes.

Reference will also be made to **positive** and **negative** votes: a positive vote is defined as members choosing a hole as one of their three favourites, while a negative vote is defined as a member choosing a hole as one of their least favourite.



Hole 1

	Tee	Metres	Par
1	Black	468	5
	Blue	450	5
	White	430	5
	Red	409	5

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The opening hole remains the current 1st hole, a mid-length par 5 that plays from near the clubhouse, to the north. The hole is essentially straight for its entire length but is broken up by bunkers and mounding.

The tee shot is played to a fairly tight landing zone, with a group of sheoaks on the right about 150-200 metres from the back tee. These trees catch many lazy sliced opening tee shots. On the left, about 230 metres from the back tee is a group of three small pot bunkers cut into a low mound. These are in play for longer hitting players. A mound covered in Lomandra grasses, just 80 metres from the tee, hides the view of all but one of these bunkers and also conceals the view of the current 18th hole, meaning golfers on the 1st tee cannot see players on the current 18th (proposed 4th).

The approach shot to the 1st green has to be threaded between another Lomandra covered mound on the left and another on the right that protects the 2nd tee.

The 1st green is good and typical of Worrigee's greens – long from back to front, tilted slightly, and quite narrow.

The 1st hole is popular with members receiving the equal 5th most positive votes and 2nd least negative votes.

RECOMMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- Remove all the Lomandra grasses from the mound 80 metres from the tee, lower the mound by 1-1.5 metres. This will open the view of the three bunkers and give visibility down the current 18th fairway.
- Straighten the mowing pattern of the fairway and mow the fairway closer to the three fairway bunkers.
- Remove all the Lomandra grasses from the mound 50 metres short left of the green, cut a new bunker into the front right of the mound. This will still be a hazard to avoid, but far less penal than the grasses
- Expand the area of short grass, short and right of the green.



The opening tee shot with the sheoak trees on the right and Lomandra covered mound on the left.

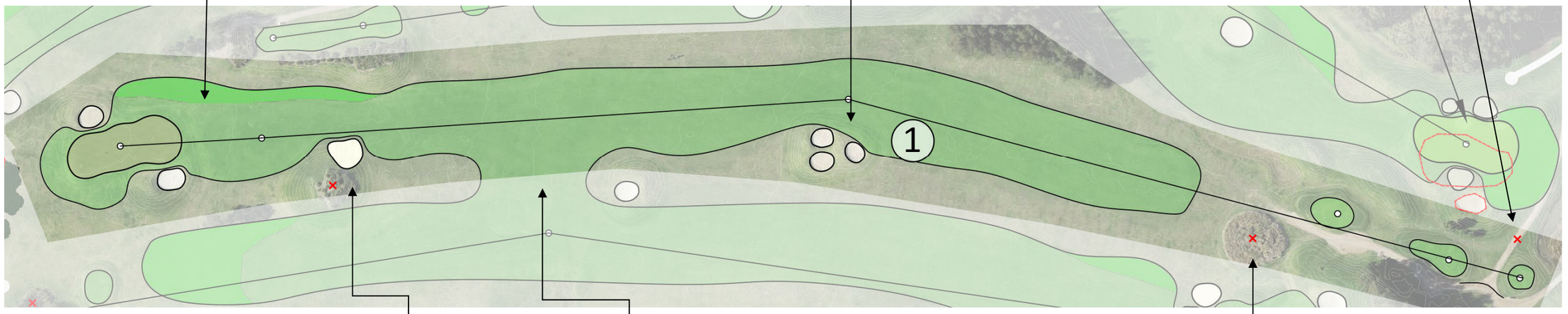


The first green is bunkered front left and back right.

Expand the extent of short grass to the right of the 1st green. The green itself is retained as it is.

Mow the fairway as close to the bunkers as possible

Remove the pathway that currently cuts in front of the back tee and to the rear of the current 5th green



Remove the Lomandra's on the hill and cut a new bunker into the right side of the mound.

This fairway can be mown across to connect with the new 4th hole (current 18th)

Remove the Lomandra's from this hill, lower and soften the mound by 1-1.5m to give clearer views from the tee.

HOLE 1 Par 5 468m

Hole 2

	Tee	Metres	Par
2	Black	202	3
	Blue	190	3
	White	180	3
	Red	135	3

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The 2nd hole is a long par 3, that is unreachable for the majority of members, especially the ladies. The tee shot plays to a green that falls from back to front and falls off on the left. There is a single bunker on the right side of the green that is only just visible from the tee. There is also some mounding short right of the green.

About 170 metres from the back tee on the left is a small pond. To the right of the pond and beyond the pond and to the left of the green, is low, rough ground that is difficult to drain and difficult to grow healthy turf. It also seems to attract golf balls as the green falls off towards this area. To make matters worse, it is also a heavily trafficked area.

The 2nd hole received just ten favourable votes from members, the fourth lowest of any hole. Perhaps more telling however, it received the second most negative votes of any hole, only surpassed by the 14th. Clearly there is not a lot of love for the 2nd hole in its current format!

RECOMMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

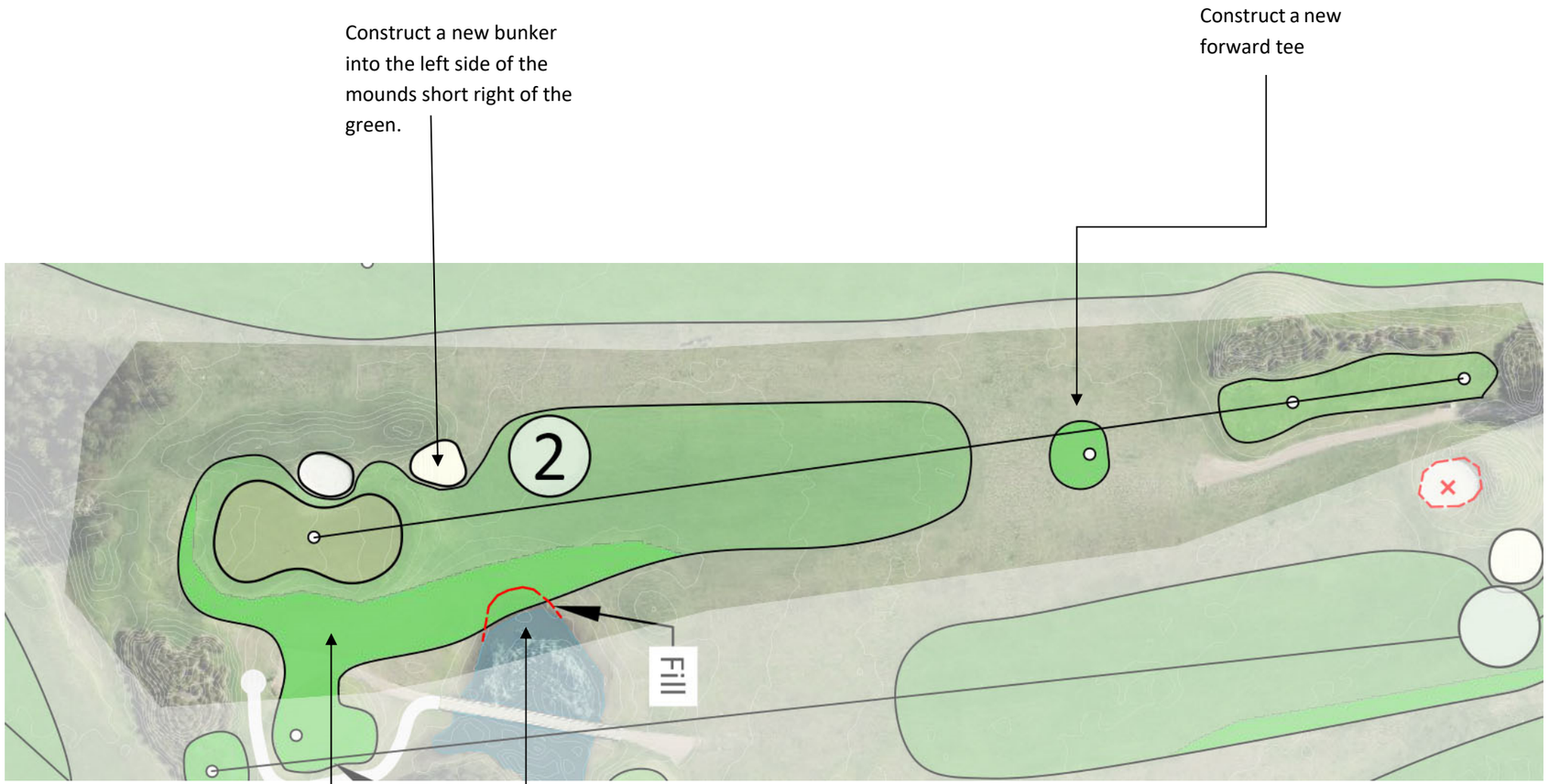
- Construct a new forward tee in the location shown. This will provide a fairer test for the ladies and slow swing golfers.
- Construct a new visible bunker into the left side of the mounding, short and right of the green. This will make the right side the no-go area and challenge better golfers who try to feed their tee shots on from the right.
- Fill in about 5 metres of the pond on its right side. Import quality sandy fill and elevate the ground slightly on the left of the green and to the right of the pond, grade it so it drains.
- In conjunction with proposed works to the 3rd tees, reshape and re-grass this entire area and maintain as fairway cut turf. These measures will make the left a fairer bail out area from where chip shots can be played off quality turf.
- Expand the fairway cut to the rear and right of this green and treat the paspalum that has invaded the approach, and to the rear of the green.



The tee shot on the new 2nd hole.



The edge of the pond on the left, and rough ground short left of the green that needs to be addressed.



HOLE 2 Par 3 202m

Hole 3

3	Tee	Metres	Par
	Black	324	4
	Blue	315	4
	White	290	4
	Red	273	4

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The 3rd hole is a short par 4 that bends to the left. The tee shot is played over a small pond and an attractive timber bridge. There is a pot bunker built into a high mound on the left that can be carried quite easily from the tee for many golfers. It is located just over 210 metres from the tee and just to its left are the 2nd tees. There is lots of space to the right from the tees, as this fairway links across to the following 4th hole.

The approach shot is to a green that is longer than it is wide. There are three bunkers on the left, although the far left one is a long way from the green and more in play on the adjacent 17th hole. The green has an attractive backdrop of farmland and the distant hills.

The 3rd hole received just seven positive votes, but also just eight negative votes making it the hole with the lowest total number of votes. This tells us it is neither particularly liked nor disliked.

RECOMMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- Rebuild the tees, aligning them in the correct direction (the current tees aim too far left). Add an additional back tee into the area currently covered in Lomandra grasses.
- Realign the pathway, taking it between the back and main tees, and then down the right side of the tees. This will mean tee shots off the 2nd hole landing in this area will not finish on the pathway.
- Convert the ground between these tees and the previous green to maintained fairway.
- Fill in the fairway bunker on the left, lowering the mound. The current bunker is too short and too close to the 2nd tees.
- Using the material from that mound, construct two new bunkers further right, and further on (about 225 and 245 metres from the new back tee). Set the new bunkers into mounds, but lower and more subtle than the current bunker. Bunkers at this distance will challenge better golfers and force play further right.
- Expand the fairway further right, linking it across to join with the current 4th fairway (proposed 17th).
- Extend the short grass to the right of the green.
- Fill in the two bunkers to the left of this green (more in play on the current 17th hole).

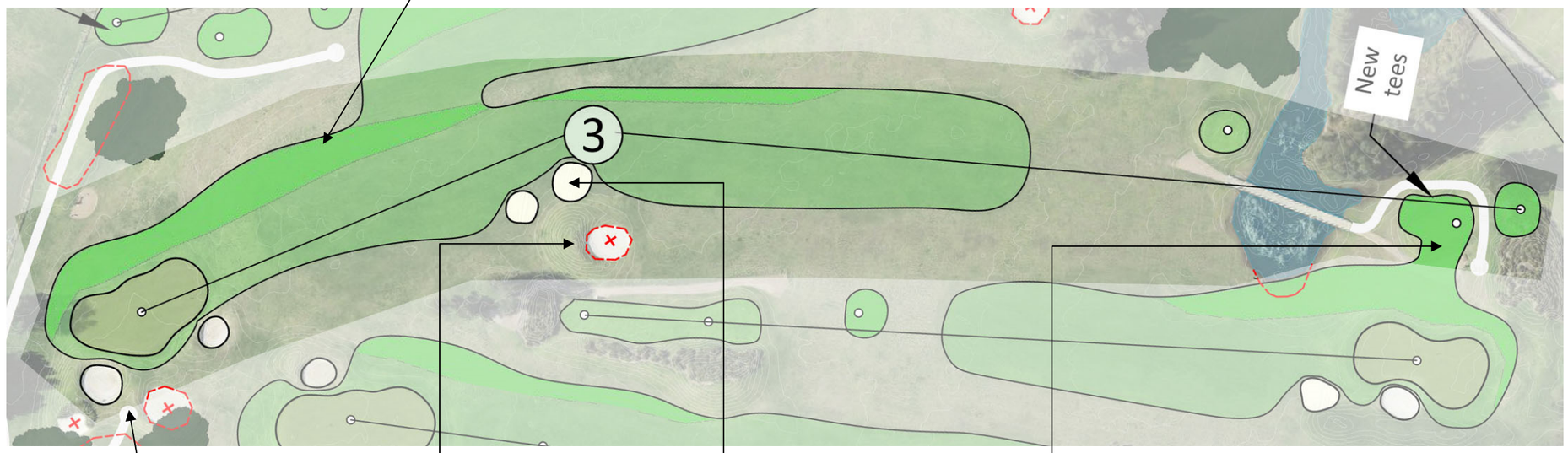


The tee shot on the 3rd hole, with the fairway bunker on the left.



The approach shot from about 80 metres from the green.

Extend the fairway further right of the new bunkers, and to the right of the green.



Fill in the two obsolete bunkers adjacent to the current 17th

Fill in this bunker and lower the hill

Construct two new bunkers 225-245 metres from the back tee

Rebuild the tees, aligning them in the correct direction, moving the path to the right and adding a new back tee

HOLE 3 Par 4 324 m

Hole 4 (current 18th hole)

4	Tee	Metres	Par
	Black	487	5
	Blue	470	5
	White	414	5
	Red	403	5

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The new 4th hole is the current 18th hole. The tee shot on the new 4th is to quite a narrow fairway, but there is actually a huge amount of space as the current 1st and 16th fairways are adjacent, so it's very difficult to get into too much trouble from the tees. There is a single fairway bunker about 215 metres out on the left. Long hitters easily hit it past this bunker.

The approach shot to the green is straightforward with no bunkers present short of the green. The fairway narrows considerably, and then stops short of the green. There are some dinky little mounds short left of the green. The green is bunkered on the right and back left. The green tilts from back to front quite sharply.

The current 18th hole (proposed 4th) is popular amongst members being the fourth most liked hole on the course.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- The removal of the 17th hole from the course layout means this hole can be lengthened by 50 metres. New tees can go back into what is currently the 17th fairway, all the way to the northern boundary. The Canary Island Palm will end up on the left side of the main tee. This will achieve the following;
    - It will create a much stronger par 5 of around 490 metres from the back tee.
    - The fairway bunker will now be at 265 metres from the back tee – a perfect distance for long hitters.
    - The angle of the tee shot from the new tee location is better.
    - The new tees will now be safe to shots from the 16th hole.
- Lengthening the hole also means the approach shot can be bunkered. We have shown two 'carry' bunkers on the left about 20 metres short of the green.
- The fairway short right of the green (to the right of the new bunkers) should all be converted to fairway.



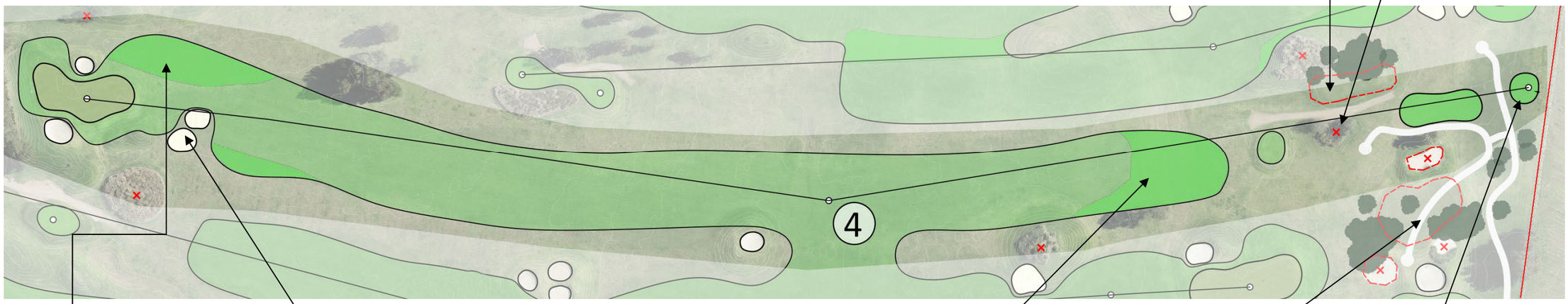
The tee shot on the current 18th. The new tees will go back 50 metres.



The approach to the new 4th green (current 18th) with its backdrop of Sheoaks.

Demolish the current 18th tees. This also means the Lomandra covered hill to their right can be demolished.

Remove several small trees in the path of the new tee shot



Widen as fairway so there is a clear bail out area to the right of the new bunkers.

Two new 'carry' bunkers located 20 metres short of the green.

Extend the fairway back towards the new tees.

New access path from the current 3rd green.

New tees located back on what is currently the 17th hole lengthening the hole by 50 metres.

HOLE 4 Par 5 487m

Hole 5 (current 6th hole)

	Tee	Metres	Par
5	Black	132	3
	Blue	125	3
	White	110	3
	Red	100	3

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The proposed 5th hole is the current 6th hole, a par 3. This hole used to be longer but was shortened when Worrigee Links expanded its outdoor dining area due to safety concerns from poor tee shots. The hole is now just 132 metres, it used to be 165 metres.

The green is bunkered front left and back right, but the green is very open at the front. Only one of the back right bunkers is visible from the tees. There is an argument to say this green was better suited to a longer shot and not a hole of just over 130 metres.

The current 6th hole received fifteen negative votes and fourteen positive votes, reflecting the fact that although it is not a poor hole, it is not that great either!

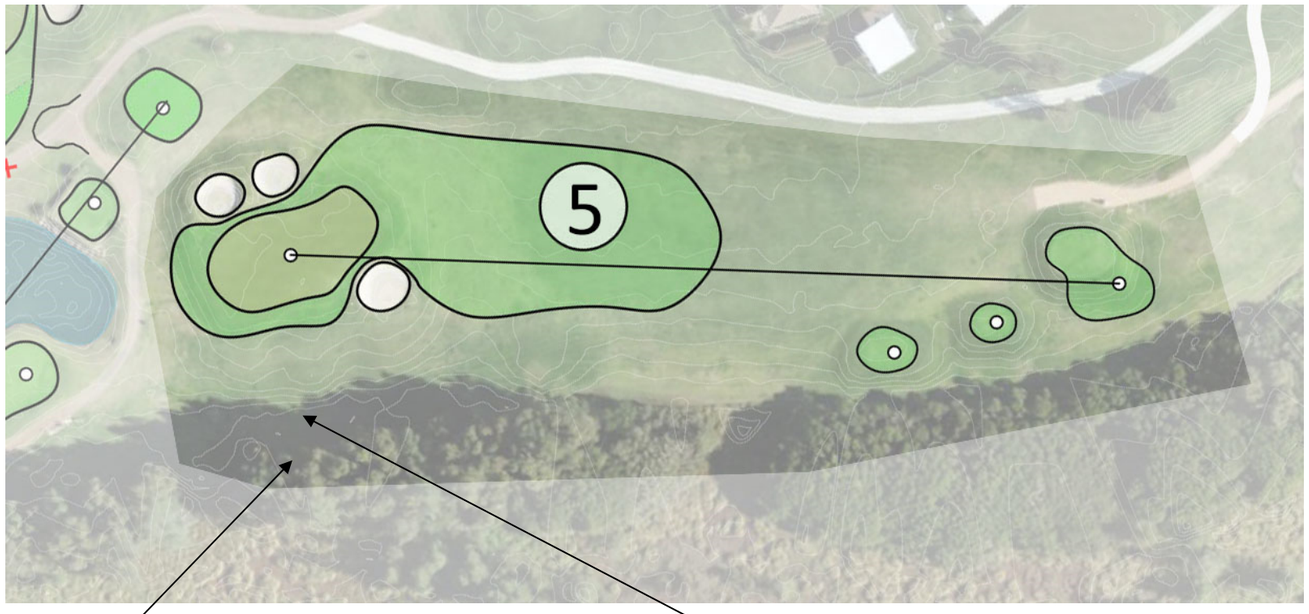
RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- The tees are relatively new and have recently been enlarged. It might have been better if the tee had been kept on one level.
- We have considered how this hole could be improved and one idea was to add a new bunker in front of the green – slightly on the left, however we think this might only marginally improve it.
- Another idea is to completely start again. If the sheoak trees left of the green were removed adjacent to the wetlands, another pond could be built that connects to the pond in front of the current 7th tees. A new green could be built adjacent to the pond, 15-20 metres left of the current green, creating a stunning par 3 with a water carry, water on the left and a backdrop of the wetlands. It may be that with the green further left, the tee could go back further as well.
- Even if the green remains where it is, if some of the trees were removed, it would open up views into the wetlands.

Note: The Masterplan drawing does not illustrate this idea. This is something to consider for the future, in the meantime, leave the current 6th (proposed 5th) as it is.



The view from the tee on the current 6th hole (the proposed 5th hole).



Remove several trees to open up views through to the wetlands

Potential new green site if the trees were removed and a pond built. The tees could then possibly be pushed back to their original location.

H O L E 5 P a r 3 1 3 6 m

Hole 6 (current 7th hole)

	Tee	Metres	Par
6	Black	457	5
	Blue	440	5
	White	410	5
	Red	350	5

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The proposed 6th hole is the current par 5 7th hole. The 7th hole wraps around the wetlands and has probably the best tee shot at Worrigee Links. Golfers can bite off as much of the corner as they dare from the tee. There are two bunkers on the left of the fairway at about 205 and 220 metres from the tee. Then there are three further bunkers on the far side of the fairway on the right, all about 270-280 metres from the back tee.

The approach shot to this green is odd. The eye is naturally drawn down the line of the wetlands in search of the green – this seems the obvious, and most natural location for it. However, the green is nowhere to be seen! The green is actually located behind two bunkers set into a hill on the right (there are actually four bunkers but only two are visible).

The green itself is angled sharply too, and falls away on the left, making it difficult for approach shots to hold the green.

The current 7th (proposed 6th) received the fourth most negative votes and was middle of the pack for positive votes. Several comments were made in relation to the strange location of the green.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

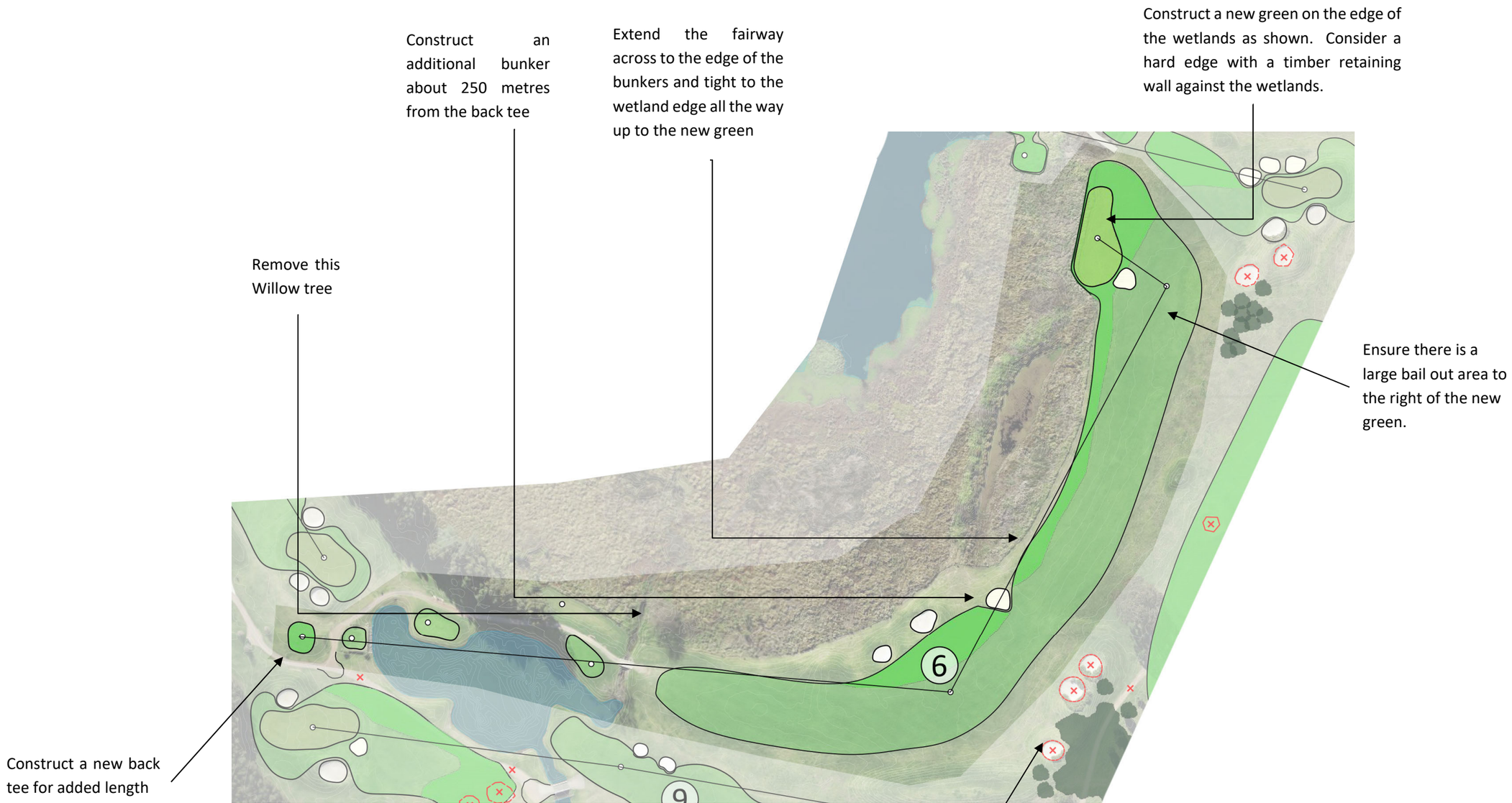
- Construct a new back tee to add 10 metres to what will be a shortened hole.
- Remove the Willow tree on the left that partially blocks the view up the left.
- Fill in the three pointless bunkers on the far right.
- Construct a new bunker on the left, past the second bunker, about 250 metres from the new back tee.
- Extend the fairway on the left across to all three bunkers, and as close to the wetlands as possible all the way up to the new green.
- Construct a new green on the edge of the wetlands as shown. The green could have a hard-edge timber retaining wall between it and the wetlands.
- Expand the fairway on the right so there is plenty of space to bail out away from the wetlands.
- Bunker the green as shown to make recovery shots from the far right more difficult.
- We strongly believe these recommendations will transform this hole, and it has the potential to become an excellent and iconic hole for Worrigee Links.



The potential tee shot from a new back tee



The current approach shot from the left. The new green will be located where the arrow points.



H O L E 6 P a r 5 4 5 7 m

Hole 7 (new hole)

7	Tee	Metres	Par
	Black	115	3
	Blue	110	3
	White	110	3
	Red	75	3

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The proposed 7th hole is an entirely new hole that uses the current 7th green from new tees. The current 7th green is perfectly angled for a tee shot that is played from tees on the edge of the wetlands. The new hole will be a short par 3.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- Construct new tees out in the wetlands approximately in the location shown on the drawings. As with the new 6th green, these tees may have a hard-edge timber retaining wall surrounding them.
- The new tees would be accessed via a boardwalk and pathway system.
- Construct three new bunkers to the left side of the green.
- Fill in the two far right bunkers that will become obsolete.
- Remove the Lomandra's and timber wall from within the bunker on the right of the green.



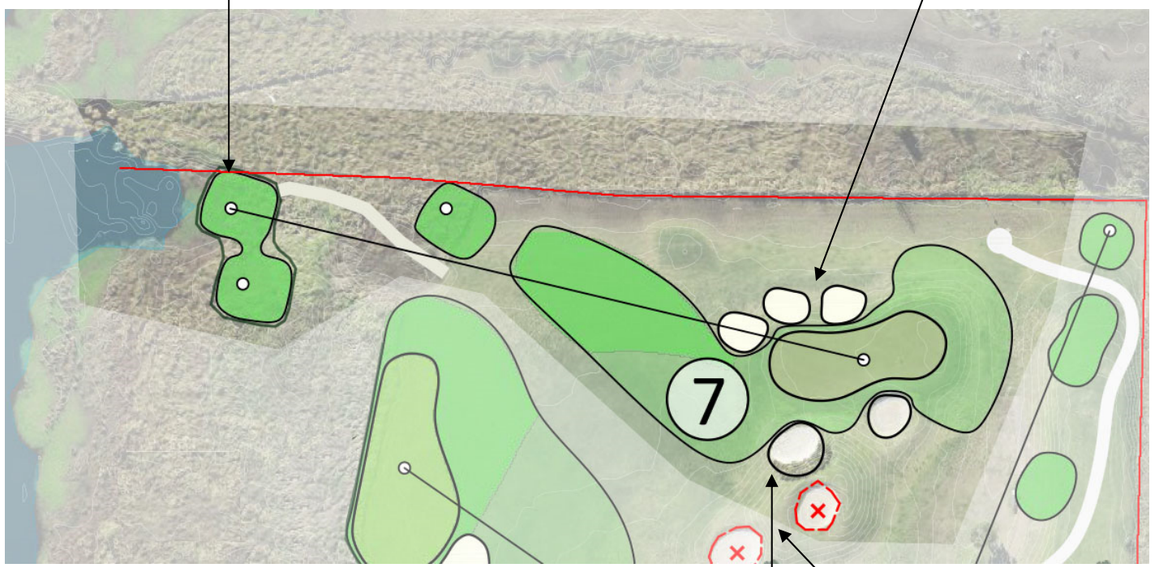
The view from the approximate location of the new tees towards the current 7th green.



The view looking in the opposite direction from the location of the new tees towards the wetlands.

Construct a new tee as an 'island' on the edge of the wetlands. Consider a hard timber retaining wall edge, as with the previous green. Access via a timber boardwalk.

Construct three small new bunkers into the slope front left of the current 7th green.



Remove the Lomandra's and timber from this bunker.

Fill in these two bunkers which become obsolete.

HOLE 7 Par 3 115m

Hole 8 (current 8th hole- rebuilt)

8	Tee	Metres	Par
	Black	294	4
	Blue	280	4
	White	290	4
	Red	250	4

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The proposed 8th hole is an entirely new golf hole that will replace the current par 3 8th. It will be a shortish par 4.

As a matter of interest, the current 8th hole received the equal **lowest** number of positive votes of any hole. Just six members, out of the 167 respondents, voted for the 8th hole in their three favourite holes, equal with the 12th. While only 12 members voted for it being in their three *least* favourite holes (compared to 45 for the 14th!), these figures still tell us the current hole will not be missed.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- The tees for the new hole will go as far back as possible into the northeast corner of the property.
- The current 8th green and bunkers will all be demolished and flattened back to natural ground level.
- Three fairway bunkers located diagonally have been positioned as shown, at the corner of the proposed dogleg, and towards the green on the left.
- The new green is located in the southeast corner of the property, far enough away from property boundaries to be safe.
- Extensive planting adjacent to the boundary should be undertaken to screen the new subdivision, continuing the theme of groups of Sheoaks.
- Carry out all other works as required, including grading, bunker construction, green construction, irrigation installation and grassing to establish the new hole.
- The new hole has the potential to be a great addition to the course with nice views to the northwest from the green site, which is the highest point on the property.



The new 8th tees will go back to the corner of the property behind the current 8th tees. The new tee shot plays in the direction of the current green.



The view of the approach shot to where the new green will be located.

Longer hitters will be able to 'take on' these bunkers and attempt to drive the green.

Demolish the current 8th green and bunkers.

Construct a new set of tees in the northeast corner as shown.



A new green located in the southeast corner of the property at its highest point.

Extensive planting of Sheoaks adjacent to the boundary. Retain a 5-metre setback from the boundary to new plantings.

Carry out all other works as required, including grading, bunker construction, green construction, irrigation installation and grassing to establish the new hole.

HOLE 8 Par 4 294m

Hole 9

	Tee	Metres	Par
9	Black	409	4
	Blue	350	4
	White	330	4
	Red	293	4

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The 9th hole is a par 4 that plays from elevated tees back to the clubhouse. The tee shot plays to a fairway that runs out at a pond about 255 metres from the back tee. There are no fairway bunkers before the water. On the other side of the pond there are two bunkers.

The approach shot to the green is good, the front of the green being very open, with a bunker on the left and another back right.

This is a very popular hole receiving the 2nd most positive votes at 41. It did receive 16 negative votes as well.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- With the previous green being constructed in the southeast corner, there is an opportunity to build a 'tiger' tee for the 9th hole. This may only be used for special events but would add 60 metres to its length making it a very strong par 4. If this was done, several small trees would need to be removed near the current 9th tees.
- Position two fairway bunkers on the right side of the fairway about 215-230 metres from the main (current) tee. This puts them at about 280 metres from the 'tiger' tee. This will add more interest to the drive and shots down the right side will give a better angle into the revised green.
- Fill in the two bunkers on the other side of the water, level and convert to fairway. These bunkers do nothing to make the hole better, and impact unfairly on shorter hitters.
- End the pathway just past the bridge, demolish the gravel path through to the green and convert to fairway.
- Position a new bunker front left of the green. This will defend pins on the left while leaving the right side open.



The tee shot on the 9th. Fairway bunkers on the right will improve it further.

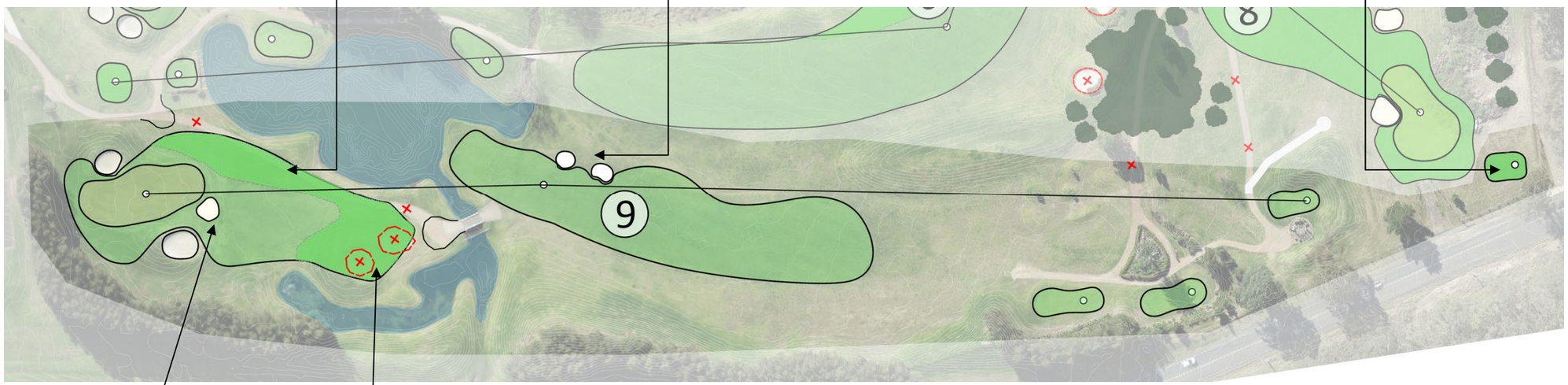


These two poorly positioned bunkers should be filled in and converted to fairway.

Demolish the pathway from just past the bridge to near the 9th green and convert to fairway

Position two small bunkers on the right side of the fairway

Construct a new 'tiger' tee for use in special events, in conjunction with the construction of the new 8th green



Position a new bunker short left of the green

Fill in these two poorly positioned bunkers and convert to fairway

H O L E 9 P a r 4 4 0 5 m

Hole 10

	Tee	Metres	Par
10	Black	335	4
	Blue	320	4
	White	310	4
	Red	300	4

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The 10th hole is a short par 4. The tee shot is good, with a very pleasant backdrop and a lone Pine in the distance. There are two bunkers on the right about 220 metres from the back tee, but unfortunately, they can't be seen from the tee. There is a dense copse of sheoaks on the right as well, but most golfers drive past them.

The approach shot is played to a unique double green, shared with the 15th hole that comes from the opposite direction. This green is nearly 80 metres long! The front half is used for this hole with the back pin positions about 25-30 metres from the front of the green. The green is bunkered on the left and then there are two further bunkers back right.

The 10th hole received the second fewest overall votes in the survey and the lowest number of negative votes. So, while it is perhaps the least disliked hole, it only received 12 positive votes as well.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- Remove several sheoak trees on the right that encroach towards the fairway and conceal the view up the right side.
- Widen the fairway considerably on the right, extending it across to the bunkers.
- Ensure the fairway extends all the way to the green and widens at the right front of the green.
- The first greenside bunker on the right is not really in play, it could be filled in, although it's not a priority.



The tee shot on the 10th hole. Note the trees on the right that screen the view through to the bunkers.

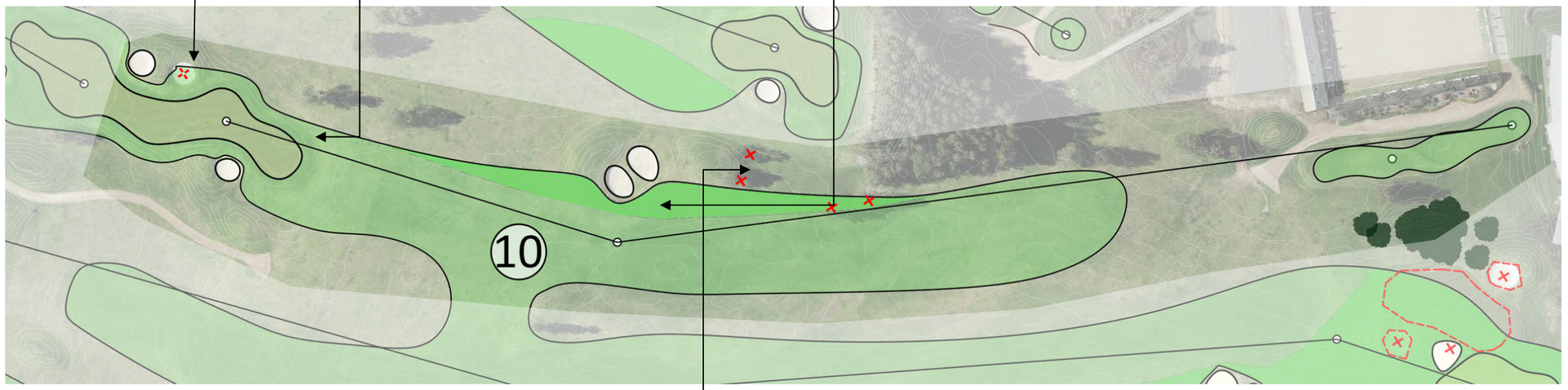


The double 10th and 15th greens.

Possibly fill in this bunker

Ensure this area, to the front right of the green, is maintained as short grass

Extend the fairway on the right across to the bunkers



Remove several trees on the right side of the fairway

H O L E 1 0 P a r 4 3 3 5 m

Hole 11

11	Tee	Metres	Par
	Black	459	5
	Blue	445	5
	White	425	5
	Red	413	5

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The 11th hole is a par 5 that plays back in a southerly direction toward the motel. Currently the hole is 444 metres from the back tee.

The tee shot plays towards a copse of sheoaks before bending slightly to the left. There is a bunker on the right about 220 metres from the tee. Better golfers are aiming much further left than this bunker though. Standing on the tee, it very much feels like a right to left shot is required. The left side of the tees have been densely planted with Lomandra's and several immature sheoaks.

The approach shot to the green is very open with no bunkers, so golfers tend to think they can just hit it anywhere. The proximity of this hole to the 10th and the 12th tees, however, means this is a safety problem. The green itself is good, with a bunker front right and another back left.

The 11th received the fifth most positive votes and only 8 negative votes, indicating it is one of the most popular holes on the course.

RECOMMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- Remove about 10 metres of the Lomandra's at the front of the mounds near the ladies tee so more of the fairway is visible down the left.
- Fill in the fairway bunker on the right, as it is in the wrong location.
- Construct a new bunker, further left, and further on (at about 250 metres).
- Due to the safety issue, we recommend the green be moved to the right, away from the 10th hole. The 12th tees will also need to be moved.
- The green can be moved into the area where there are some small trees and bunkered as shown on the Masterplan drawing.



The tee shot on the 11th is good but can be improved by removing some of the Lomandra's and moving the bunker into a better position.



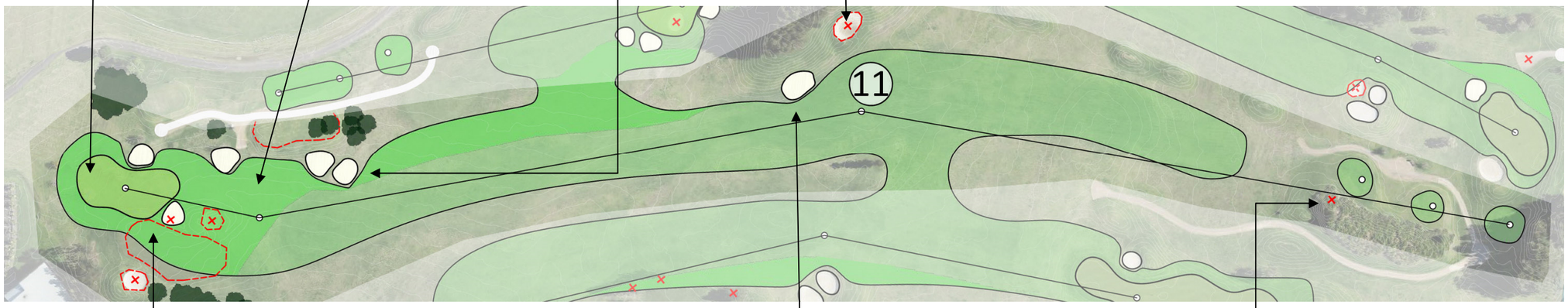
The approach shot to the new green would be played further right, towards the small trees in the centre of the photo.

Construct a new green about 25 metres further back and to the right of the current green.

Establish new fairway for the new hole alignment

Bunker the right side as shown, and front left of the green to reward approach shots played close to or over the right-side bunkers.

Fill in this bunker



Demolish the current green and bunkers, levelling back to natural ground level and convert to turf.

Construct a new bunker at about 250 from the back tees.

Remove at least 10 metres of Lomandra's and 1 Sheoak to open up views down the left from the tee.

H O L E 1 1 P a r 5 4 5 9 m

Hole 12

	Tee	Metres	Par
12	Black	135	3
	Blue	135	3
	White	120	3
	Red	110	3

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The 12th hole is a long par 3 of 185 metres. The green is open at the front except for a single front bunker on the right which is a long way from the edge of the green. There are two further bunkers back left and back right of the green – an unusual arrangement on a par 3. There is a hill behind the green covered in a dense copse of sheoaks.

This green feels as though it has been crammed into a corner, with the maintenance compound only 20 metres left of the green. The sheds regularly get hit by stray balls.

Only 6 of the 167 survey respondents had the 12th in their favourite three holes while 29 – the third highest after the similarly long par 3 2nd and 14th holes – had it in their least favourite holes.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- In conjunction with relocating the current 11th green, construct new tees in the location shown. Demolish the back tee, thus making the hole shorter.
- In the short term, move the pathway as far left (into the Lomandra's) as possible to get it away from the green.
- Convert the current path area to turf.
- In the long term, construct a new green, about 15 metres to the right and in front of the current green.



The view from the back tee showing the proximity of the 12th to the oval and sheds.



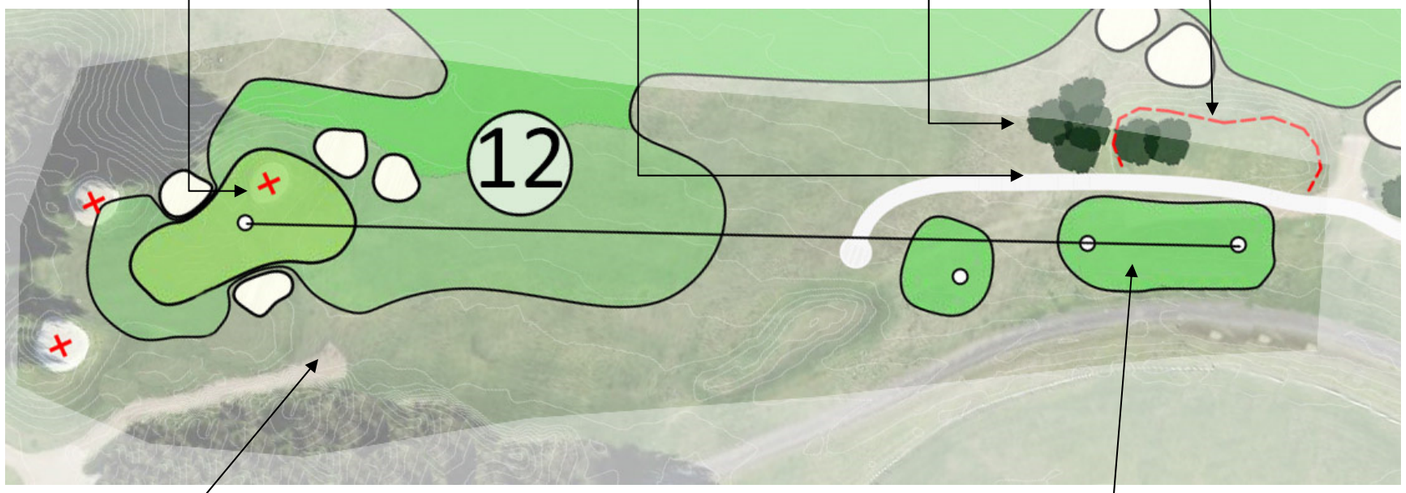
The 12th green, with the pathway a few metres from its edge, and the two rear bunkers that receive little play.

In the long term, construct a new green, moving it 15 metres (approximately) to the right and forward. Possibly angle the green, and bunker it as shown.

Construct a new pathway from the 11th green past the new tees

Plant a group of Sheoaks to provide visual separation between the 11th and 12th.

Demolish the existing main tee and abandon the back tee.



In the short term, move the pathway away from the green

Construct new tees adjacent to the asphalt road

HOLE 12 Par 3 135m

Hole 13

13	Tee	Metres	Par
	Black	280	4
	Blue	280	4
	White	370	4
	Red	270	4

EXISTING HOLE DESCRIPTION

The 13th hole is a short par 4 that plays alongside the western boundary with out of bounds on the left. The tee shot is impacted by a copse of trees that start at 200 metres from the back tee on the left, and a group of three bunkers at about 225 metres on the right. The fairway narrows to just 15 metres between the trees and the bunkers.

The green is angled from back right to front left and there is a bunker on the right, but several metres from the edge of the green. The front of the green is very open at the front considering it's a short par 4. The batter of the water storage dam is to the rear of the green.

The 13th hole received 17 positive votes and 14 negative votes.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- Consider building a new ladies tee further forward. There is only 10 metres difference between the men's and ladies tees on this hole.
- Fill in the first bunker of the three (the one on the left), level, and convert to fairway. This bunker is not needed as the remaining two will have the same effect.
- Mow the fairway closer to the bunkers.
- Position a new bunker at the front left of the green into the slight rise. About 2 metres of the green will be lost at the front left.
- Consider, rebuilding the right bunker, closer to the front and edge of the green.
- Convert more of the left side to fairway, demolishing about 10 metres of the pathway to the next tees.



The tee shot on the 13th hole.



The approach shot to the green. The bunker on the right is too far from the green and the front of the green too open for a short par 4.

Consider rebuilding this bunker, closer to the green, and angled more along its length

Fill in the first bunker and convert to fairway



Demolish 10 metres of the pathway and convert to fairway,

Position a new bunker at the front left of the green into the slope.

Consider building a new ladies tee further forward.

HOLE 13 Par 4 280m

Hole 14 (new hole)

14	Tee	Metres	Par
	Black	215	3
	Blue	180	3
	White	160	3
	Red	137	3

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The 14th hole is a long par 3 (175 metres) with out of bounds on the left and the water storage on the right. The green tilts sharply from left to right and is bunkered on the left. There is another bunker behind the green that is more in play on the 16th.

There is a low area to the right of this green where a lot of balls end up – similar to the area left of the 2nd green. This area is difficult to drain and grow turf and so is not a good place to play a shot from.

There were many comments made in the survey in relation to the 14th and very few of them were positive! The 14th received a total of 57 votes in the survey, 45 of which were negative. It was by far the most disliked hole on the course with 27% of members placing it in their three least favourite holes on the course.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- The removal of the 17th hole from the course layout means the 14th hole can be completely rebuilt with a new green moved 40 metres further back (the 16th green can move as well).
- As the green is moving back, a new forward tee will also be required.
- This will create a long, and much better, par 3.
  The advantage of this is;
  - The green can be moved far enough away from the water that it is no longer in play.
  - The low poorly drained area mentioned will no longer be in play.
  - The green can also be moved slightly to the right, away from the boundary.
  - Golfers will be playing from further forward so the safety issue to the 15th tees should be less of an issue.
  - We can design a completely new hole with a green that is more receptive to a long shot and has more bail out space for shorter hitters.



The view from the current back tee on the 14th hole.



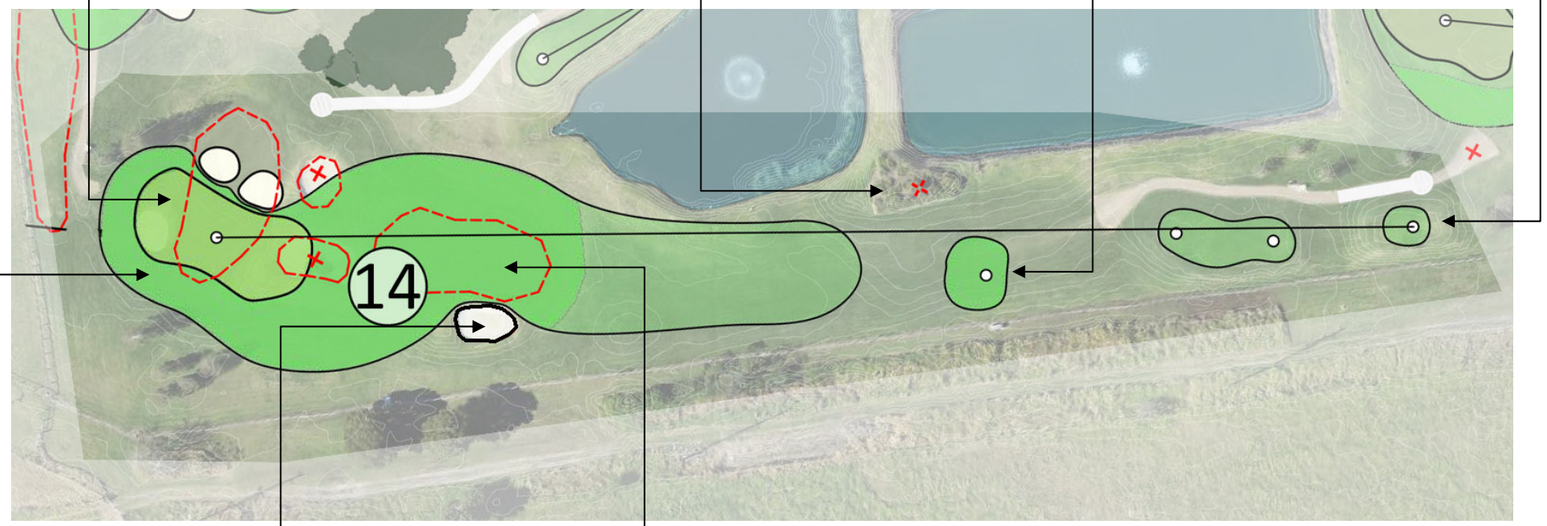
This area, short and right of the current green, is very unpopular with members.

The 16th green and 17th hole are also moved

Remove these Lomandra's and lower the hill. They conceal the view up the right side.

Construct a new forward tee for a hole of about 135 metres for the ladies

This tee may only be used for special events



Construct a new green, possibly bunkered as shown with lots of bail out space on the left

Possibly retain this existing green side bunker

Demolish the current 14th green,

HOLE 14	Par 3	215m

Hole 15

	Tee	Metres	Par
15	Black	242	4
	Blue	242	4
	White	230	4
	Red	230	4

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The 15th hole is a short, drivable, par 4 of just 242 metres. The tees run along the edge of the water storage lake. The green is visible form the tees.

The 15th has a really fun tee shot as there is a water carry of about 160 metres for golfers able to carry that distance. For longer hitters aiming for the green, there are two bunkers just short and right of the green in the path, so reaching the putting surface from the tee is not simple. One of these bunkers has been uniquely 'landscaped' with Lomandra's and timber walls.

Overall, the 15th is a good, short par 4, reflected in the fact that it was voted the third most favourite hole on the course.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- There is the potential for a new back tee, but this could be decided when the new 14th hole is built.
- Remove the Lomandra's and timber from the bunker. Reshape the bunker making it bigger.
- Widen the fairway as much as possible on both sides, connecting across to the 16th.



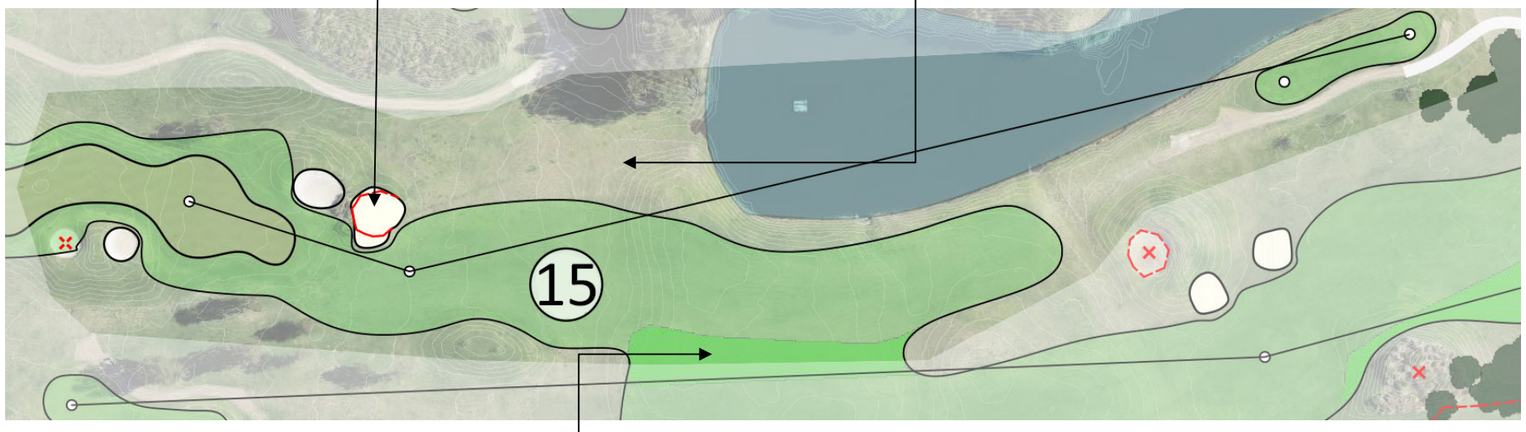
The very good tee shot on the short par 4 15th hole.



These Lomandra's and timber should be removed and the bunker reshaped.

Remove the Lomandra's and timber walls from this bunker. Reshape and enlarge.

If there wasn't a safety issue to the pathways users from 10 to 11, we would like to widen the fairway here.



Widen the fairway as much as possible, on both sides.

HOLE 15 Par 4 242m

Hole 16

16	Tee	Metres	Par
	Black	328	4
	Blue	325	4
	White	310	4
	Red	299	4

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The 16th hole plays back to the north in the opposite direction to the 15th and is a mid-length par 4 of 350 metres (currently).

Standing on the 16th tees can feel a little frightening if golfers are playing the 18th and 15th. Likewise, golfers on the 15th can be in the firing line from tee shots off the 16th as longer hitters can take on the left corner of this slight dogleg left. The 15th-18th holes is a very congested part of the course.

There is a bunker on the left about 215 metres from the back tee, however it is difficult to see it from the tee because of several trees. It's a better view if one climbs up into the Lomandra's to the right of the tee. The fairway has been mown 10 metres to the right of the bunker, we assume to discourage golfers playing too far left towards the 15th. The approach shot is played to a green that is bunkered front left and back right.

The 16th hole only received 23 total votes in the Survey, one of the lowest. Ten votes were positive and thirteen negative.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- These recommendations are only possible once the 17th hole is taken out of play.
- Fill in the fairway bunker on the left. It is too far left and too short for long hitters.
- Position two new bunkers further right and further on, as shown on the Masterplan, 225 and 240 metres from the tee. These will be carry bunkers for longer hitters.
- Remove all the Lomandra's from the hill on the right (adjacent to the 18th tees), and then lower it by at least a metre. Convert to turf.
  Note: this is only possible because the 18th tees (new 4th) are being moved.
- Construct a new green, moving it about 45 metres to the right, into the area where there is another Lomandra covered hill, just front right of the current 17th tees.

- As we discussed earlier, the removal of the 17th hole allows the 18th tees, 14th green, and 16th green to all be moved. This will make for better and safer holes. For the 16th hole, moving the green to the right moves it away from the 14th and 15th holes. And with the 18th tees also moved, the fairway on the right can be expanded.



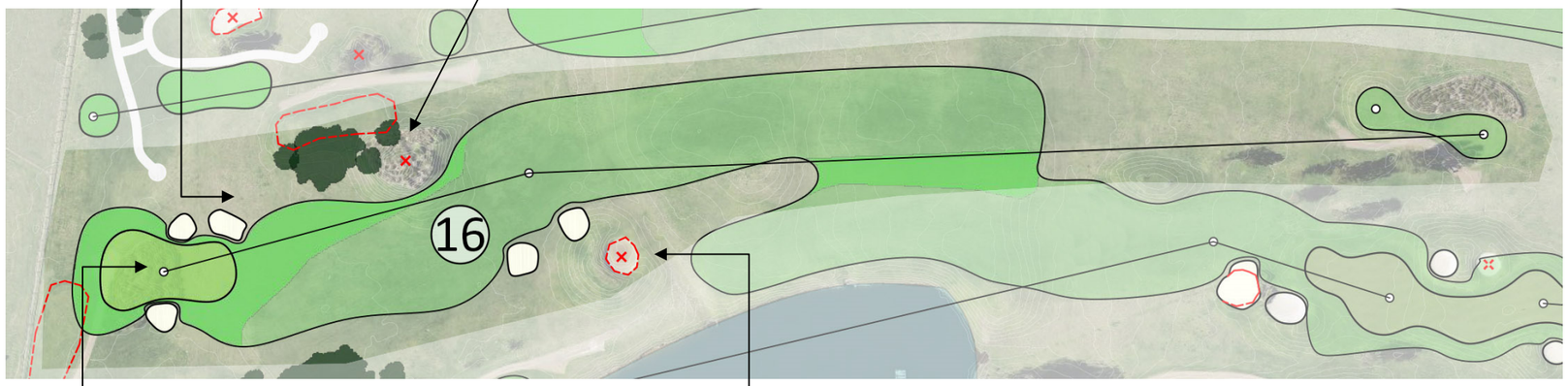
The 16th hole. The bunker on the left cannot be seen. The Lomandra hill in the distance can be removed.



The arrow indicates the new green location. The fairways bunker is filled in, new bunkers moved further right, and further on. The hill on the right that protects the current 18th tees, will be lowered.

Carry out all other works as required, including grading, bunker construction, green construction, irrigation installation and grassing to establish the new hole.

Remove the Lomandra's, lower the hill and covert to turf



Construct a new green, possibly bunkered as shown, 45 metres right of the current green.

Note: the current 17th hole is demolished.

Fill in the bunker, and construct two new bunkers further right and further on.

HOLE 16 Par 4 328m

Hole 17 (current 4th hole)

	Tee	Metres	Par
17	Black	311	4
	Blue	300	4
	White	285	4
	Red	264	4

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The proposed 17th hole is the current 4th hole in the rearranged layout. The current 4th is a short par 4 of 279 metres.

The tees for the 4th hole are unusual because they are not even close to aiming down the fairway! The tee shot though, is quite good. There are two bunkers on the right to negotiate, and two mature Sheoaks on the left. It's a decent carry of about 230 metres over the left bunker.

The green is located just past the bunkers. There is a small bunker on the left that is just visible, and another behind the green. The 4th is a good hole, but could be so much better.

The current 4th hole was voted the fifth most liked hole on the course but also received 16 negative votes.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

- Rebuild the tees, moving them left, closer to the wetlands. Align them correctly.
- Remove the two Sheoak trees on the left of the current fairway.
- Convert the entire left side, across to the wetlands, to fairway.
- Fill in the two fairway bunkers on the right that become obsolete.
- Clean up the weeds in the wetlands and possibly deepen the edge so that shallow water extends across to the edge.
- Construct a new green, moving it 60 metres left and down to the area in front of, and to the left of the current 5th tees, near the edge of the wetlands.
- The above recommendations will give the Worrigee Links an excellent risk and reward par 4 with a tee shot down the left, close to the wetlands required for the best approach angle to the new green.



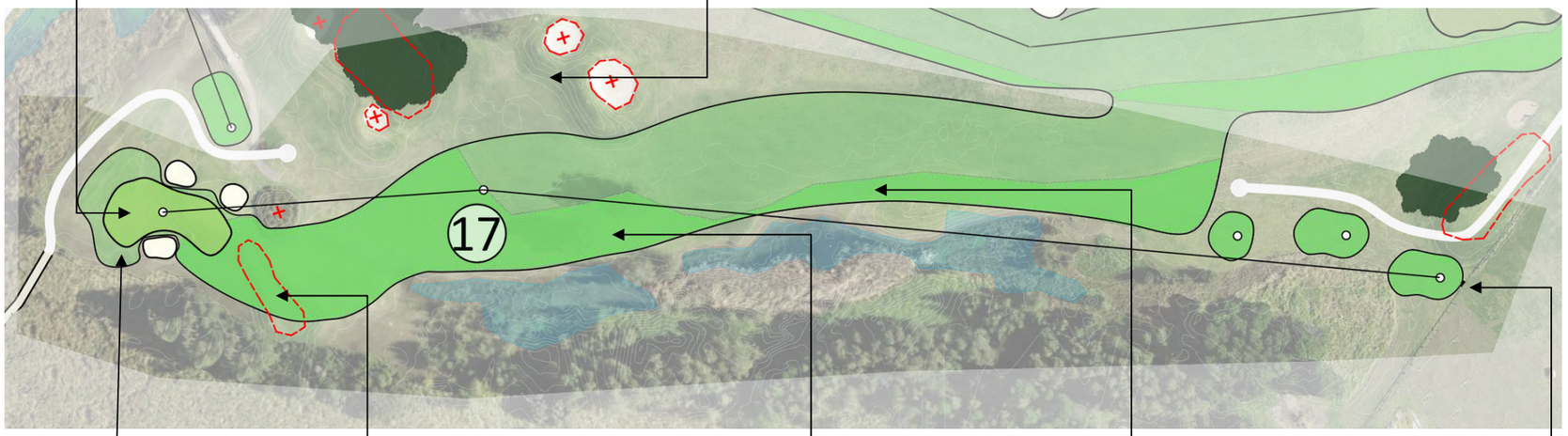
The view from the proposed tee location, closer to the wetlands. The small trees on the left would be removed to reveal more of the hole. This could be the best tee shot on the course.



The approach shot into the green (indicated by the arrow). The two trees will be removed.

Carry out all other works as required, including grading, construction of the new pond, bunker construction, green construction, irrigation installation and grassing to establish the new green.

Fill in the fairway bunkers, demolish the current 4th greens, and covert all to turf. Note: tree planting in the vicinity of the current 4th green can be carried out.



Construct a new green in this location, designed to reward approach shots from the left.

Demolish the current 5th tees

Remove the two Sheoak trees.

Extend the fairway left, across to the edge of the wetlands. Clean up, and possibly deepen the wetlands

Construct a new set of tees, closer the wetlands and trees.

HOLE 17 Par 4 311m

Hole 18 (current 5th hole)

	Tee	Metres	Par
18	Black	390	4
	Blue	370	4
	White	308	4
	Red	241	4

HOLE DESCRIPTION

The new 18th hole will be the current 5th, which returns to the clubhouse. The 5th is one of the few holes on the course that has very good movement in the fairway with a ridge separating the high fairway from a lower area on the left. The tee shot is good, and the view is enhanced by a very attractive timber bridge over the wetlands. There is a bunker on the left side of the fairway at about 265 metres from the back tee – a long way out compared to most fairway bunkers at Worrigee Links.

The green itself is good, but the view of it from the fairway is let down by the lack of visibility into the bunkers.

The 5th was voted the members most liked hole on the course with 44 votes. However, 23 members also voted it in their three least favourite – making it the hole that received the most votes. Given its quite a difficult hole, and from many of the comments, I suspect the hole is more popular with low handicap golfers.

RECOMENDATIONS and RATIONALE

Despite the 5th being the most liked on the course, it has the potential to be even better with more 'wow' factor, especially as an 18th hole. One of the survey questions that the members were very favourable towards was having the wetlands in play more, so there is the opportunity to do just that with the new closing hole. This is in addition to what has already been proposed on holes such as the new 6th, 7th, and 17th holes. So, our recommendations are;

- Construct a new set of tees out on the former farmland on the other side of the wetlands. From this location, the tee shot becomes a really exciting carry over wetlands, better than from the current tee as there is more risk reward for golfers that take on the left side which is a longer carry. Note the very back tee may only be used for special events.
- Construct an additional forward tee on the right side of the previous green near the start of the bridge.
- Construct a new timber bridge/boardwalk over the wetlands to the new tee.
- Convert much of the lower area short left of the bunker to fairway so the bunker becomes inside the fairway.
- In the longer term, construct an entirely new green complex, a little further left, in the same style, but with bunkers visible from the fairway and a green more befitting of an 18th hole.
- In the short term, the pathway behind the green should be removed.
- Consideration should also be given to screening the backdrop to this green which is currently the cart sheds and motel. A backdrop of Sheoaks would be preferable.



The approach shot to the green: none of the greenside bunkers are visible.



This 2009 aerial image shows that the proposed tee location (refer the arrow) is not part of the wetlands but was cleared farmland just over a decade ago. The 'berm' where the access path would be located is a constructed access track that predates the golf course.

Remove the pathway behind the green

Construct an entirely new green complex slightly left of the current green with more 'wow' factor befitting of the 18th green.

Construct a new tee on the right side of the proposed new 17th green

Construct a new boardwalk and pathway system through the wetlands, utilising the existing berm, and enabling cart access to the tee



Convert most of the lower area to fairway

Remove some of the Sheoaks for the new tee alignment

New tees out on the former area of farmland on the other side of the wetlands

H O L E 1 8 P a r 4 3 9 0 m

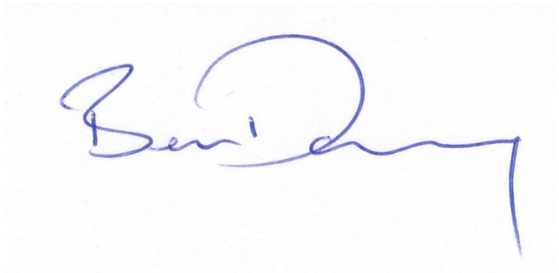
Summary

We strongly believe that this Masterplan will deliver Worrigee Links a golf course layout that is considerably better than the current layout. The recommendations contained in this plan eliminate many of the flaws from the current layout of golf holes, which include the uncomfortably tight group of holes from the 14th through to the first half of the 18th. By removing the current 17th hole from the course layout, more space becomes available for the unpopular 14th hole, and the ability to move the 16th green and 18th tees also makes these holes better and safer. The short new par 3 7th hole, that replaces the 17th, is located in a section of the course where there is surplus land available, and the redesign of the current par 5 7th hole, that frees up space for the new par 3, is logical and will make an excellent risk and reward par 5.

The reconfigured order in which the holes are played enables returning nine's to be retained, which is important for the management of play. In addition, the new finishing holes, the redesigned current 4th, and 5th holes, will provide golfers with an exciting and memorable conclusion to a round of golf at Worrigee Links. This will be especially the case once those two holes have been rebuilt according to the recommendations in this report.

The members survey results made it clear that while the majority of members are very happy with their golf course, there are golf holes they dislike. Our recommendations address those holes. In addition, elements such as having the golf course better interact with the wetlands, introducing more challenge, introducing more risk and reward, and addressing safety issues have all been covered by our recommendations.

This course Masterplan presents a coherent vision for the upgrade of the Worrigee Links golf course over the coming years, and we strongly believe that when completed, Worrigee Links will be considered one of the best courses on the South Coast of New South Wales.



Ben Davey, Golf Course Architect (Director, Contour Golf Design Group)

PART 4: Staging of Construction

POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

The benefit of creating a new hole between the current 7th and 8th holes is that once completed, Worrigee Links will have 19 holes. This then enables holes to be shut down in subsequent years for construction, while retaining 18 holes and minimising disruption to members. The order and timing of construction works will depend on available budgets, but this is one possible scenario that would see the Masterplan completed in six years.

PROPOSED WORKS	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027 →
• New 6th green (current 7th), works to the new par 3 7th hole *Note: this gives a course with 19 holes*	●					
• New 8th hole • Works to the 9th hole		●				
• New 17th green, other works to the 17th hole (current 4th) – the current hole can remain in play during works. • New 18th tees (current 5th). 5th hole can be played from forward tees. • New 3rd tees and works to the 2nd hole			●			
• New 11th green • New 12th hole				●		
• New 14th hole • New 16th green • New 18th tees (17th hole is closed)					●	
• New 18th green (current 5th) • Balance of works • Possibly a new par 3 5th hole with a new pond? (the current 6th hole)						●

Ben Davey

Golf Course Architect (Director, Contour Golf Design Group)