

It's about more than golf for Nomads Golf Clubs



FOR many golfers, the game is about friendship, competition and enjoying time on the course. For members of Australia's Nomads Golf Clubs, it is also about giving back.

Across Australia, Nomads Golf Clubs have quietly built an extraordinary legacy of community support, raising more than \$1.9 million for charities through their annual fundraising events and charity golf days.

The achievement reflects decades of dedication from volunteer members who have combined their love of golf with a commitment to helping others. Funds raised by Nomads clubs are directed to a wide range of local charities chosen by individual clubs, while also supporting initiatives that help grow the game, particularly through the Jack Newton Junior Golf Foundation.

To date, approximately 77 percent of funds raised have been distributed to nominated charities, with the remaining 23 per cent supporting programs that encourage junior participation and development in golf.

While the fundraising milestone is significant, members say the true success of Nomads lies in the impact these funds have on local communities. Across the country, charities have received vital support for health services, youth programs, community projects and assistance for those facing hardship. At the same time, young golfers have benefited from opportunities that help develop their skills and foster a lifelong connection to the game.

The Nomads movement has a proud history dating back to 1960 and continues to thrive through the efforts of members who believe golf can be a force for good. What began as a fellowship of golfers has evolved into a network



■ Presenting a cheque to Camp Quality, Nomads Golf Clubs have built an extraordinary legacy of community support.

of clubs united by friendship, generosity and a shared passion for the game. Outside of Australia there are clubs in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Botswana, Zambia, New Zealand and England.

In an era where many sporting and community organisations face declining volunteer numbers, Nomads continues to demonstrate the positive role golf can play beyond the fairways. Members regularly describe the organisation as offering the best of both worlds: the chance to enjoy great golf and great company while making a meaningful contribution to their communities.

As Australian Nomads clubs move closer to the remarkable milestone of \$2 million raised, they are also looking to the future, with many clubs welcoming enquiries from golfers interested in becoming part of an organisation that combines camaraderie, charitable giving and a genuine commitment to supporting the game.

For golfers seeking more than just another round, Nomads offers an opportunity to build friendships, support worthy causes and leave a legacy through golf.

For further information about Nomads Golf Clubs and membership opportunities, golfers are encouraged to contact their local Nomads club or visit the Australian Nomads Golf Association. The clubs in Australia include Sydney North, Sydney South, Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Perth and a new club starting in Melbourne.

Nomads clubs play once a month on a Sunday on a variety of courses.

Contact Nomads Golf Australia to join a club www.nomadsgolfaustralia.com/contact-us/ @

The House of Golf Challenge swings ahead

By Raquel Stevens

EVERY four minutes, a life changes forever in Australia with three devastating words: "You have cancer."

It is a stark reality, but few communities rally against it quite like the golfing world.

On October 13, the power of that community takes centre stage at the legendary Kingston Heath Golf Club for The House of Golf Charity Challenge.

It promises a day of world-class golf fuelled by a deeply personal mission, proving that while a diagnosis can isolate, a fairway can unite.

For Innes Ireland, co-owner of The House of Golf, the connection to the cause is intensely personal. Innes was diagnosed with Mycosis Fungoides, a rare type of skin lymphoma. His journey led him to the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre (Peter Mac), a world-renowned institution where over 750 researchers, doctors, and nurses collaborate under one roof to pioneer kinder, faster cancer treatments.

"From the moment I arrived, I knew it was the best place to help manage my condition. After receiving incredible support during my three weeks of radiation, I knew I had to give back," Innes expressed.

What began as a grateful patient's vision has rapidly evolved. Securing Kingston Heath was a dream come true for Innes.

"Hosting an event at one of the world's top courses, and my personal favourite, adds immense prestige. In just two years, we've created an atmosphere where players experience a genuine 'golfing life moment' while raising vital funds," Innes said.

Because Peter Mac relies heavily on public donations to fund its cutting-edge work, the impact of this Charity Challenge cannot be overstated. The proceeds from the day go directly to the Skin Lymphoma Department, aiming to accelerate diagnoses for patients facing rare conditions.

Innes's treating specialists, Dr. Belinda Campbell and Dr. Chris McCormack, are



■ Innes Ireland (back centre) with his team at Peter Mac.

aiming to use the momentum to help establish a crucial worldwide database for the disease.

The golf industry has rallied behind the cause. Last year's event raised \$71,000, and it is on target to reach a six-figure sum this year.

Innes adds; "It is a collaboration of great sponsors and golf clubs, and I want to extend a big thank you to our naming rights sponsor, Bendigo Bank - Parkdale, who joined as soon as I started the event."

Innes says this event is a powerful reminder of how golf can serve as a vehicle for hope, recovery, and survival.

"My condition is not curable, but it is manageable. The challenges are lifelong, so this event gives me a massive psychological boost. The body responds physically to that positive mental state. When I'm feeling flat, I'm constantly reminded that what we are doing makes a real difference."

To find out more: <https://fundraise.petermac.org.au/thehouseofgolfcharitychallenge>

To register sponsorship interest: Contact Innes Ireland directly at innes@houseofgolf.com.au or call 0409 216 631. @



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