

Heritage

CHAMPION GOLFERS – MEN

BUDGE GILL was the son of Ernest Gill, who was the 1906 Australian Amateur Champion. His father helped establish the Middle Ridge Club in Toowoomba and Budge started his golf in that city. Budge joined Indooroopilly in 1931 during Ernest Gill's term as Club Secretary and he and Alan Morrow (the son of the Club's first President, Henry Morrow) took every opportunity to play golf. Budge won five Club championships between 1934 and 1949 and was a pennant representative for 31 years. In 1936 he was selected in the first Queensland team to compete in the national interstate competition. He was admitted to practice as a solicitor in the same year.



Budge Gill – a classic swing

He was a QGU delegate from 1950-70 and was Vice-President of the AGU for part of that time. In 1963 he was Manager of the Australian team which tied with Britain for the Commonwealth Teams Series at Royal Sydney.

Indooroopilly awarded Budge life membership in 1971.

Budge joined the militia in 1940 and spent three and a half years as a prisoner of war in Changi Prison. Weary Dunlop praised the heroism of Captain Gill in carrying one of his soldiers who was sick with malaria during their long march as prisoners.

He returned to legal practice in May 1946 and was elected to the Indooroopilly Golf Club committee in 1947, serving continuously for 24 years (1958-60 and 1965-66 as President and 1950-51 and 1954-55 as Captain.



Budge Gill (left) with friend Alan Morrow. Alan also won the Club championship in 1935 and 1947



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1963 Australian team – Budge Gill (Manager) third from left

PETER DAVIES was chased off the old Indooroopilly course many times when he was a small boy. His ritual after school was to jump on his bike and, with a couple of mates and the family dog in tow, ride down to a distant part of the course hoping to remain unnoticed while hitting balls. The boys were hunted off the course by the then Club Secretary, Jack Armstrong and senior member, Budge Gill.

Later he would caddy at the Club and foxed balls for Ossie Walker when he was teaching. If a student did not turn up he would be given a free lesson.

He joined Indooroopilly in 1949 as a sixteen year old and his sponsor was the now singularly impressed Budge Gill. His first handicap was nine and he reduced to scratch in two years. He was Club Champion twelve times between 1953-70, played pennants for the Club from 1950-82, was a State representative 1952-69 apart from two years due to illness and being overseas, Australian Universities Champion in 1953 and Queensland Amateur Champion in 1963. During this time he married, started a family and graduated as a dentist from Queensland University during the first half of the 1950's.

Elected to committee in 1959 he served 24 years straight to 1983, when he was made a life member. He served as Captain (1961-65) and President (1972-74 and 1976). Little wonder he had memories of regularly mowing lawns late into the night and finding a church close to where the pennant team was playing each Sunday so he could fit everything in.

Further service with the Brisbane District Golf Association and the Queensland Golf Union led to him being appointed President of QGU in 1993 and in 1996 he became President of the Australian Golf Union.



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1959 Queensland team
Standing L-R: N Weston, I Carrick, Budge Gill (Manager), J Coogan, S Mackay
Seated L-R: K Drage, L Maher, Peter Davies, D Von Nida



1961 Queensland team
Standing L-R: R Coogan, J Rayner, S Mackay, P Jackman, Peter Davies
Seated L-R: B Porter, Budge Gill (Manager), R Vines, N Weston



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GEORGE GUNDERSON reduced his handicap from twenty-one to six in his first year of club golf. He won his first Club championship in 1962 and his second twenty-one years later in 1983 at the age of 60 when his qualifying score of 72-74 was one of the lowest on record at the time. His opponent in the final was thirty-three year old Tony Kent who was to become Secretary/Manager in 1992.

George spent twenty-five years on committee, four as Captain and two as Vice-President. He represented the Club in pennants for 36 years and appears on the Club's honour boards an amazing twenty-six times.

He was awarded life membership in 2004.



George Gunderson in 1962



“Gundy” in 1999



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DREW TOVEY was Club Champion in 1968, 1969, 1971 and 1972. He was the son of Vic Tovey (pennant player, Club Captain 1971 and Club President 1975). The family home was close to the Club entrance. Drew joined the Club as a ten year old but Club rules of the time prevented him playing in any competitions. He caddied for his father in pennants and in 1964 at the age of fourteen he became the first Queenslander to win the Australian Schoolboys' Championship. He went on to represent the State with distinction in both junior and senior teams.

Drew had no professional ambitions. He studied science at the University of Queensland and followed a career path in IT.



Drew Tovey in 1970

KEITH DRAGE won the Club Championship in 1973, 1974 and 1981. A former champion of Gales and Pacific Golf Clubs, as well as winner of the Spanish and Philippines amateur titles, he was rated by many as the best swinger Queensland amateur golf had ever produced.



Keith Drage as a member of the 1981 Indooroopilly Open pennant team



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DANNY SPENCER won the 1971 NSW junior championship and the 1972 Queensland junior championship. Within six months of joining IGC he won the 1974 Queensland amateur championship, defeating Greg Norman 9 and 8 in the 36 hole semi final.



Danny Spencer – savaged The Shark

SEMI FINAL QD AMATEUR
ROYAL QUEENSLAND GOLF CLUB
NORMAN vs SPENCER
28 holes

HOLES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	TOTAL
NORMAN	4	5	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	297
SPENCER	3	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	288
DIFF	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	

Spencer won 9/8

The scorecard shows how he did it. Norman was one over when the match finished. Danny played the 28 holes at Royal Queensland in eight under (12 birdies), holing “every putt I looked at”.



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Danny was successful in the Australian Foursomes Championship in 1975 and '77 and won the Queensland amateur again in 1979, beating Ossie Moore in the final. He won three Club championships in 1976, '78 and '79, and represented the Club in pennants until 1986 and again in 1991-93. He served on the Club committee for a period in the mid eighties and again in the early nineties.

In 2002 Danny turned professional and played successfully on the Australian Seniors Tour. From 2005 he played a major role in developing the area of corporate golf operations at the Club.



Danny Spencer in 1985

JOHN McMILES learned to play golf in Sydney and was a member of Liverpool Golf Club. John had a successful amateur career, which included winning the 2014 Australian Mid-Amateur Championship. He joined Indooroopilly in 2017 after leaving Sydney to work in Queensland and has been a welcome addition to the Open pennant team. John won the Club Championship for five consecutive years from 2017 to 2021.

