Dear Fellow Club Members,

As we start a new year and prepare to launch a fresh season on the greens, we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Clare Golf and Country Club! Since 1966, the club has offered an unparalleled experience to its golfers and guests, and as we all know, remains a "hidden gem" among Nova Scotia courses. We're grateful for the hard work and dedication of the club's founding members, and will take time this year to remember and celebrate the five decades of friendly competition that our members have shared.

It's important that we also pause to remember those who passed from our midst in 2015. This was a difficult year, as we grieved the loss of several long-standing members of our community. On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I want to wish their families well and remind them that they and their loved one will always remain a part of the Clare Golf family.

This is also an emotional final letter for me as club President. The club has meant so much more than simply a place to golf – it is indeed a second home to me, and I've appreciated the countless friendships that will no doubt last a lifetime. As President, I have – along with my fellow board members – felt compelled to make a number of difficult decisions that are nonetheless in the long-term best interest of the club. While some have disagreed with our decisions, I'm confident that they will ensure the club remains financially viable for many generations of Clare golfers to come. I assure you that these strategic moves were not taken lightly, and were never intended to unduly burden any individual or group. I will be forever grateful for the support that I received in my presidency, and sincerely hope that each member will understand the rationale and intentions behind the board's leadership.

Finally, I wish to thank our board members for their service on behalf of our beloved club. Your time and energies are more valuable and appreciated than you know. I wish each one of our members all the best as you start a new season of golf, and look forward to "finishing well" as President.

**Humbly Yours**,

Blair Mellor President