

# **JWANENG GOLF CLUB**

## **The terrain can be a headache**

The Jwaneng golf course is famous for its demanding terrain. Perhaps the most challenging golf course in the whole of Botswana with its clustered giant trees that have become natural barriers. It is a sandy course and this is not surprising since Jwaneng is in the Khalahari desert. The terrain also has a stream running through it which has also become a nightmare to golfers coming here as they must manuevre around the stream.

The club was named after the mining town Jwaneng and was built on the diamonds mining company's land and is also maintained by the mine, Debswana. It was built by the mine as a recreational facility.



**JWANENG GOLF CLUBHOUSE**

As a Debswana sponsored and financed club, the Jwaneng Golf Course, a 9 hole course remains one of the best in the country. It is one of the only three all grass golf courses in the country. Sponsored events are played every month, and the club also encourages women, and youth participation. The Jwaneng Golf Club also hosts the annual BGU event, the BP Open.

## **Background**

The club was founded by Debswana Jwaneng Mine for employees, around 1984, and was funded from the Mine. The current membership is 134, of which about half are players.

Golf is on the decline in Jwaneng, as the majority of the people living in Jwaneng come from elsewhere and they do not spend a lot of their free time in Jwaneng but in the Home towns.

The Main golf event for the Club is the Club Championship, which is sponsored by the club for its members, as it is a closed competition. The course is maintained by the Mine, and it is one of only three all grass courses in Botswana, effluent water from the Town sewage is used to water the course, this assists the town council in disposing of excess waste water.

Jwaneng course has a number of trees on the fairways, making it a "thinking" course. At this time there is no plans for any development. The club is attempting to boost membership, and we have plans to start a junior development programme in conjunction with the BGU.



### **JWANENG GOLF CLUB**

The biggest challenge facing the club is attracting new players, in an environment of decreasing people.

The Club is run by a committee who are elected annually from the members. These are the: The Chairman, Secretary, treasurer, Captain and Ladies Captain, and the Competition Secretary.