



## Maleny Golf Club

**Stephen Porter** joined Maleny Golf Club as General Manager in May 2021.

Stephen is a general management professional with business development expertise and extensive sports business management experience - in Australia and internationally, including:

- International Business Manager – HART Sport
- General Manager – Peregrine Springs Golf Club
- Chief Executive – Australia Sport International (ASI) Ltd
- Regional Manager (Asia) – Balsam Pacific

Stephen began his sports career as a Club Tennis Professional in Austria before moving into sports business sales and marketing in Sydney. Whilst studying for his MBA Stephen relocated to Singapore to head up Asian operations as regional manager for Balsam Pacific Sports Surfaces.

Stephen was recruited by Australia Sport International Ltd in the late 1990s as its inaugural Chief Executive – heading up the Australian government's 's key sports industry development initiative and promoting Australia's sports business capabilities to the world – leveraging the Sydney 2000 Games.

Moving to the Sunshine Coast in 2003 Stephen worked briefly with Caloundra City Council and the Chamber of Commerce & Industry QLD (CCIQ) before lengthy tenures with Peregrine Springs Golf Club and HART Sport.

Stephen is 24 years married to Wendy, a sports administrator at a Sunshine Coast independent school; and father to Nicholas – an Australian Water Polo representative (currently on a college athletics scholarship in the USA). Stephen's niece Cassie Porter is currently the top ranked Australian female amateur golfer and #40 in the world.

Whilst Stephen is keen to fine tune his golf game (after reaching a modest career high handicap of 19 several years ago), his focus as General Manager will be helping Maleny Golf Club realise its amazing potential as a highly valued golfing destination, membership experience and social hub.