

Ashburton Golf Club

First off this week, I have to start with a massive well done and huge congratulations to the young puppies for picking up the Patterson Grade Pennants title last Sunday. It has been a long time since the Ashburton Club has picked up a handicap grade pennant so it really is a big deal.

Captain Birdseye Jordie Bird led his team wonderfully all season. Dylan Stoddart, FC Senekal, Karl Snowball, Matt Tait, Nathan Stephens and James MacFarlane have all played major parts in the team's success. By all accounts the final came down to the last putt of the last game, with Young Spud Matt Tait standing over a four foot putt. If he sinks it they win but if he misses they lose. No pressure! Well, you know the result. Top work everyone. The old dogs may even let you call yourselves Ashburton 1 next year.

Back to club champs. We had some great games last Saturday and now we move into quarter finals. Seniors sees Jeff Hewitt play Barry Jury, Dave Morrison play Richard McKernan, Owen Miller play Robbie Bell and then the tie of the grade, two young guns Chrisjan Senekal and Joseph Digby facing off.

In the intermediates Steve McCloy plays Chris Ralston, Paddy Bradford plays Hayden McMillan. Greg Sparrow plays FC Senekal and Pete Morrison plays Dave Hampton.

Junior A has Greg Fleming v Colt Hill, Kevin Smith v Shaun Hope, John Ramsay v Antony White and Ross McKay v Brian Fauth. Then finally in Junior B we have Grant Hastie against Pat Turton, Craig Davies v George Brown, Stewart Dunlop against Phil Hill and Murray Wackrow v Henry Lawrence.

We certainly have some eye watering match ups and everyone will be hoping to bring their A game. We also have the plate first round kicking off and we will look into those winners next week.

This Sunday we will have a visit from our very good friends from over the bridge. The Tinwald Ladies and Gents will join us to play for the Foodstuffs Trophy. This is always a fun day, full of good banter. The game of the day is individual Stableford, where everyone plays for a well-stocked prize table. Then all the Tinwald scores are added together and averaged out, as are all the Ashburton scores. Then the Tinwald team take home the Foodstuffs Trophy. It's a good system, it seems to have worked well for the past few years, so who am I to change it! But if you do want to change it then you should get yourself down to the Brandon on Sunday at 11:30 for a 12 noon start and play your little hearts out. It would be lovely to see a big crowd down at the club to welcome our good friends, so if you can make it please pop along.

Thanks, and Good golfing

Paddy Bradford