

Ashburton Golf Club

We had two cracking battles in the Watson Cup semi finals last Saturday. First up FC and Chrisjan played Pat and Paddy. Dad and lad took the first hole, stretched it to 2 up after a birdie from FC on 7. Pat won 8 to pull them back, a run of battling halves followed with everyone having a dig, then a great eagle by Chrisjan on 13 took them back to two up and looking in control. Poor tee shots on 14 saw the Senekal's only card a bogie, so it was back to one. Paddy got a scrambling par with a shot on 15 and we are all square again. FC took the 16th and all halved 17. Four poor drives down 18, but Paddy made the best recovery and scrambled another par to send the game down the 19th. Again, 4 more, less than average drives and this time Pat and Paddy's recovery shots failed to save them and FC and Chrisjan won the day and a well-deserved place in the final. It was a wonderful game to be a part of, played in a great spirit, plenty of banter and great fun.

Playing behind us and always on our heels were Dad and lad Ralston, Chris and Nick playing Ram Clarke and Frank Sandys. From what could hear Ram and Frank had a great start and then the Ralston's kicked into life with a chip in eagle by Chris on 7. Nip and tuck all the way until they finished up all square after 18 as well and followed us down the 19th. In another great spirited game, the Ralston boys finally got over Ram and Frank and take their place in the big showdown.

It was pointed out that we had the top 4 seeds in the semi finals and as it now happens, we have the top 2 seeds in the final. I am not sure how the game will fall, but one thing I'm sure of is that it is going to be a ding dong of a contest and whoever wins the cup will have certainly earned it. Good luck boys. Play well.

In the Newton trophy we had two more big games that went deep. Jeff Hewitt and Chris Lovelock thought they would have a big scrap on their hands playing George Brown and Rob Pawsey and they weren't wrong with Jeff having to give a thousand shots. Ok it was 29 but I'm trying to build the tension! With the ever steady Chris in his corner Jeff managed to handle the shot giving and they took out the game in the end. Across the board Jason Overend and Kev Smith were also up against it playing Rob Coyle and Henry Lawrence. Kevin is a master of matchplay and loves the rough and tumble and with Jason just doing what Jason does, hitting it a mile and rolling puts in, Rob and Henry knew they would have to bring their A game. By all accounts it was a great game with everyone taking part, but when the dust had settled Jason and Kevin just snuck home to set up a mouthwatering final. Again this one will be too close to call, and which ever pair prevails, they will be, well deserved winners.

In the game of the day last Saturday young Blair Snowball reminded everyone of what he can do by shooting a superb 73 off a 10 handicap and taking out the Stableford round with 45 points. Top work Blair.

On Sunday this week we have pennants teams playing around the district. Jeff and the big boys are at home against Gleniti, Terry and the not as big boys are also at home and are also playing Gleniti. In the Patterson grade Jordy takes the pups to Point to take on a strong Tinwald team. The Old dogs welcome back their inspirational leader Captain Pugwash as they head down to the backwater that is Waimate and take on the Highfield hobbits and finally Shane and the bravehearts are over the bridge at Tinwald playing Temuka. I reckon we could be looking at a Pennants clean sweep this week. Travel well boys, keep the clubs good name intact. Good Golfing

Many thanks,
Paddy Bradford