

Ashburton Golf Club

Well the sun came through eventually and it ended up being a beautiful Saturday afternoon down at the Brandon, we were lucky enough to have a good contingent come over the bridge from Tinwald to join in the day so it made for a good size field again for this time of year.

The Presidents Cup and plate had some good battles, we are now left with some mouthwatering semifinals this week.

Jeff Hewitt put old Ram Clarke back in his place with a strong steady game showing that he wasn't going to roll over as easy as Davo did last week. Jeff now takes on young gun Chrisjan Senekal who had a very good win over an always tough to beat Peter Walker. This promises to be a great semifinal and may well be a match up later on this year in the latter stages of Club Champs. Across the draw Adrian Hopwood managed to overcome a stubborn Alan White and will face off against Mark Smitheram who used his shots very well to chalk up a great win over Robbie Bell. Who will make the final? Well, we have two great games lined up, but my thoughts are, Chrisjan's 4 or 5 shots may well be the difference, and I reckon the Hopster has a glint in his eye. In the plate the first semifinal sees Brendon Davo take on President Putin. Once Davo stopped whinging about how hard he had been done by Ram the previous week and actually got into his game against Hayden he looked in control. Whereas Putin and Ryan Stodds had a real battle and in the end were only really separated by the 1 shot that Ryan had to give. This should be a good semi. If it's a fair fight Davo will win at a canter, so I reckon Putin will try every underhand trick he can think of, rumour has it that Ram is going to caddy for him. In the other semi Barry Jury managed to get over Tiny Tim and will face Kenny Clucas who managed to sneak past Grant Hastie. Kenny will get the shots, but Barry is very steady, and I reckon he will face off with Davo in the big dance.

This Sunday we have pennants around the district. The scratch teams are all at Geraldine Denfield where Tommy and the Greenhorns have to face the home team. Jeff and the Aces take on North Otago and Terry's Golden showers take on Gleniti. In the Alex grade, Shane and the Bravehearts are at home against Tinwald and finally in the Patterson grade both teams are at Timaru Levels. Jordy and the pups are playing against Fairlie and then Pugwash and the Old Dogs have a tough game against top of the table Tinwald. All of our teams have a real shot at the finals, but they all need good wins this Sunday. Results and stories next week.

Finally, Gaby and Perry will be out and about on Saturday looking for a couple of suckers to play so they can get rid of the TUB cup and we can actually get a second pair of names on it. If you lost President's cup first round and the plate first round watch out, they may have you in their sights thinking you could lose three in a row.

Good luck to all and good golfing.

Many thanks,

Paddy Bradford