

Ashburton Golf Club

We had a beautiful day last Saturday and we played the three Stooges blind Stableford round. Everyone played an individual Stableford, then the cards were randomly paired together. We had prizes for individual scores and loads of Brown bombers for the pairs scores. Leading the way in the individual scores was Paul Huang you shot a superb 86 off a 20 handicap for a great 42 points. That put him two shots clear of Nick Ralston on 40, and then 3 more players shared 39, Rob Pawsey, John Duncan and Matt Harvey. Well done boys that was good shooting.

When the pairs were sorted. John Duncan 39 and Steve Kennedy 38 topped the table with 77. Two shots clear of Paul Huang 42 and Colt Hill 33. Many thanks for the continued support of the 3 Stooges, Hamish, Pat and Gaby, the Brown bomber prize every week is an iconic part of Saturday golf. It always brings cheers and laughter. While I am on this path, I would like to say another thanks to all our Saturday Nearest the pin sponsors. Brent Clarke at South Island Seeds and Processing, Matt Davis and Sega Golf, Skip and Amanda at The Salty Pig, Hamish and Property Brokers and finally Ton at Ton's Thai for our longest putt. These prizes all make the day, because everyone has a chance at picking up a good prize. Thank you all again.

Right then, its Club Champs time, that time of year when you hope your game is in good form and the body is swinging smoothly. We have quite a few games going on so I will just pick one game from each grade to look at. In the seniors, the game that stands out to me is Brendon Davidson against Robbie Bell. Two players who don't do much wrong, just fairways and greens and both love the rough and tumble of matchplay, should be a cracker.

In intermediate we have the crash bang wallop and man in form Nick Ralston taking on Mr Consistent and reigning champ Pete Morrison, as I said last week, there will be no easy game in the intermediate grade, this years champ, as in previous years will have to beat 4 great players to pick up the trophy and it all starts here.

Junior A is another very tough grade where anyone can take the trophy, my pick here is two newbies. Young Colt Hill has hit the ground running and I keep seeing his name in the results and he is playing old/ newbie, Steve Kennedy who has returned to the Brandon this year after a few seasons away and is just starting to return to his previous good form, this game will be a great battle.

Finally in Junior B we not only have the tie of the round but more than likely the tie of the season. Pat Turton will lock horns with a well prepared Perry Hunt. Perry has been doing a bit of warm weather training to prepare for the Champs, that is how serious he is taking it this year. Seven days of golf on the Sunshine coast, back home on Thursday and straight into it. Poor Pat has been nursing an injury and will be lucky to make the first tee, but I'm sure the thought of taking down Perry will stir him up for battle. Will Pez come in overtrained? Will Pat be underdone? I reckon we could sell tickets. The Fumble in the Jungle! Good luck to everyone playing in the champs. Give it your best shot and don't die wondering. Play well.

On Sunday Captain Birdseye and his pups head down to Geraldine for the Patterson grade Pennants final. I don't think we have had a team in a handicap grade final for many a year, so it is a massive game for the club. Jordie will have done all his prep work and sorted out any selection problems. The team will head down full of confidence after turning Mayfield over and they will go with the best wishes of everyone at the club. Go the Puppies!

Many thanks,
Paddy Bradford