

Ashburton Golf Club

We are heading into a busy time down at the Brandon. Everything is in full speed for the Ladies Inter Provincials which is on next week. A note for members. The course will be closed on Sunday 30th November right through to Friday 5th December, re opening on Saturday 6th. During this time, as it is a National tournament, members can enjoy full reciprocal rights at Methven, Mayfield and Rakaia golf courses, right through the week, and also at Tinwald if you are playing in their game day with their members, just pay your game entry fee.

On the Inter Provincials, everything is ticking along well. Simon and his gang have got the course in tip top condition and they are looking forward to a full on week of getting around the course after the girls have played each day. We have got lots of volunteers, thanks so much. We will still need some more, good decent golf trundlers for the ladies to borrow. If you have got one you can lend us then please drop it off at the club, either after golf on Saturday or we will have people milling around the club on Sunday setting up so you can bring it along then.

The main thing though, about next week, is to get yourselves out to the course and watch some amazing golf. We have the best female amateur golfers in the country many of them off a plus handicap playing our gorgeous little course. We will have a coffee cart on site, the caterers will have some yummy food available and the bar will be open. It's going to be a blast.

It all starts on Monday evening around 5pm with the opening ceremony, bagpiper, choir and flag raising, and then the matchplay golf kicks off at 7:30 am on Tuesday with the second rounds starting at 12 noon. Get yourselves down there!

Last Saturday we had the 3 Stooges pick for game of the day and they didn't disappoint with a good fun game. Best 3 from 4 Stableford teams score per hole. Top team were the Perrywinkles. Chrisjan Senekal, Brian Nuttall, Tony Andrews and Perry Hunt with a great score of 136, mainly helped with a superb individual 45 from Tony. In second place were Putins Posse, Simon Cabout, Matt Young, Paddy and Al Jopson, Simon had 44 points and Al got a great 5 pointer on 15 when he holed out from 120 metres for a nett albatross. Hard luck story of the day goes to Chris Ralston who shot a superb gross 74 off a 13 handicap to snag himself 47 points. Unfortunately for Chris, he was in a poor team who didn't get in the prizes, so a lukewarm can of Lion Brown was all he got for his hard work. Oh, and a three shot cut on his handicap.

This Saturday we have Club closing day playing for the Smallbone trophy. This is a mixed day and we now play a pairs Ambrose. Only a mixed pair can win the trophy, but everyone is in for game of the day. Afterwards we will be having a bit of a barbeque and prize giving for the year. It would be lovely if as many as possible can attend, bring partners along as well, especially trophy winners from the past year. Let's make it a great night.

Then Saturday week 6th December we have the Vision Insurance Xmas Salvagers. Individual Stableford mixed day and the prize table full of Christmas cheer, thanks to James and his amazing crew down at Vision Insurance. Then just to give the day a bit of extra spice, as if it needed some, it will also be the first qualifying round of the Property Brokers shootout. More on those two great games next week.

Finally we have our AGM next Thursday 4th December 7.00pm in the clubrooms. Don't forget, this is your club, you should come along and have your say. We have 3 spaces to fill on the board and at last count I think we had six nominations, so it is going to need a vote. We can all welcome our two, wonderful, new captains, and the biggest change of all, after two years of oppressive dictatorship, the downtrodden masses can breathe again, with a fresh new, energetic and more importantly, nice, President taking up office. Please come along, buckets of tar and sacks of feathers will be provided to give old Putin a good send off!

That will do. Good golfing

Many thanks,

Paddy Bradford