

Ashburton golf Club

I have been a bit lax over the past weeks, very busy at work and home so haven't managed to get around to write anything.

Over the past month a few of us have managed to play in a couple of other big, sponsored tournaments. We headed down to Pleasant Point and played in their Summer Classic. Beautiful course great people and a very well run tourney. They go with cheaper entry fees and don't provide food as part of the entry. They had a very good caterer onsite and you could get anything from a burger and chips meal or a cheese scone. We all thought this system worked well and took a lot of pressure off the organising committee.

Then to the other end of the spectrum, we were lucky enough to get a space in the Tinwald 3500 the "Daddy" of all the sponsored tourneys. A fun filled weekend, that is so wonderfully organised it just seems to go from strength to strength every year. I do know what it takes to run a good tournament, but this is head and shoulders above anything else around, so a massive well done must go to Dave King, Jeff Naish and their amazing band of volunteer helpers, and if like ourselves, your golf is not up to scratch, then the raffles, beef sandwiches, camaraderie and Tons Thai's world famous meal more than make up for any poor golf. Top work guys and gals!

With all that going on I have not really played much at the Brandon, but I will certainly be there on Saturday. Its Watson Cup time again. The time of year when Lefty and Ken come out of hibernation and tell anyone who will listen that this is their year. On Saturday we play the Murray Webb Trophy which is a pairs best ball nett game. This is a standalone trophy, but even if you don't win it, your aim is to get into the top 16 and thereby qualify for the Watson Cup knockout games. These knock out games will go over the next 5 weeks with one week off for club champs, so make sure you can play all the games and have a go for it. On Saturday, please let Matt know if you are eligible for the Watson Cup and put your names down. If you don't have a set partner then just let Matt work his magic, he has got a great record of putting winners together.

With the clocks changing, we now move into the winter start times. Which are 8:00 for 8:30 start in the morning and 11:30 for 12noon start for the afternoons. The new match committee are looking into all our starting times, Wednesdays and weekends to try and get a bit more conformity across the board. With that in mind, Captain Richard had a chat with the morning players last week about their wishes and will be looking for some feedback this Saturday. Matt has offered to do the morning starting, if report moves to 8:30 with a 9am start. If the consensus of morning players is to leave it as it is, then we will need to do a roster with all regular morning players taking their turns in doing starting throughout the season. Please have a think about what you reckon will work and have your say on Saturday or get your ideas to Richard so we can keep as many players as happy as possible. As we all know there is no way we can keep everyone happy, but we will do our best.

Good Golfing

Many thanks,

Paddy Bradford