

Ashburton Golf Club

Well, we had some ding dong battles in the Watson Cup and Newton trophy quarter finals last Saturday. The Senekal boys, FC and Chrisjan flexed their muscles again. This time it was FC leading the charge winning the first four holes of their game. Shaun and Mike dug in hard as we knew they would, but they were against the ropes and finally fell over at 15. The Senekals look firm favourites for the Cup and will certainly fancy their chances against tweedle dum and tweedle dumber as they now take on the two Paddy's.

The Pad's were playing Mark Smithers and Aaron Beal, but when Aaron rung in sick, an easy ride looked in store. Nobody had told Mark it was supposed to be an easy ride and after he shot 2 over for the front 9 and was 3 up after 11 holes a big upset was on the cards. The Pad's then had a quiet word with each other and started using some underhand tactics that put Mark in a spin and they were back all square by 15 and a superb birdie by young Mr Turton finished it on 17.

In the other half of the draw, second seeds the Ralston boys got the better of Steve Mc and young Slim and will now face Brandons answer to Waldorf and Sattler, (those two are out of the muppets if you were wondering), Ram Clarke and Frank Sandys. Ram and Frank did a perfect double team on Bruce and Gaby. When one slipped the other stepped up. Frank shot a great net 68 and the game was also finished on 15.

In a weird twist, the two semi finals pit pairs who played together in the qualifying round, and both haggles were easily won by the top two seeds. So who is going to be in the final I hear you say. Well everything points to a dad and lad showdown between the Senekals and Ralstons. They are the top two seeds, they were both seven shots clear in qualifying, all four of them are in career best form and they both sailed through the last round. I reckon only an idiot would back against them!! My thoughts? It will be a Muppet showdown between Waldorf an Sattler and Fozzie Bear with the Swedish Chef!! Play well boys.

The Newton trophy semifinals will see George Brown and Rob Pawsey lock horns with Jeff Hewitt and Chris Lovelock and on the other side of the draw, Jason Overend and Kevin Smith will duke it out with Rob Coyle and Henry Lawrence. These should be two tough battles, with Jeff and Jason both giving a boat load of shots in each game. I think they can just manage it though, especially with them both having solid match players in their corners, so I believe they will meet in the final.

In Pennants last Sunday playing a rearranged game, the Old Dogs fell over in the Patterson grade at Tinwald playing a very average Gleniti team. Hayden managed a win, somehow young Mr Rush turned a net 84 into a win. I didn't know Steven Hawking played for Gleniti! Arkright turned a solid win into a half and the rest of the team, the less said the better. Though I did hear that Bruce was looking for a soft donut ring to sit on after an 8 and 7! Hopefully, Captain Fantastic will be back for the next game in a fortnight at Waimate, to turn the ship around and get the dogs back on course.

Finally, happy birthday to our club Patron Bruce Leighton, 100 years young this week. Still playing at least 4 times a week, walking the course. The man is an absolute legend. Congratulations Bruce, have a great birthday, and plenty more to come. Good golfing.

Many thanks,

Paddy Bradford