

Ashburton Golf Club

Well, we now know all the finalists in the men's club champs for 2025 and some absolutely cracking games are in store. Most of the semifinals went down to the wire with nobody giving an inch.

In the Seniors semis both games finished on the 18th green. Jeff Hewitt held off a fast finishing Robbie Bell and new chap on the block Dan Lundt managed to sneak past Peter Walker. This promises to be a ding dong of a final, Jeff has been there a few times now with a good win percentage. In the opposite corner Dan will be playing his first final and will certainly be up for a battle.

In the intermediates Pete Morrison continued his superb consistent form and got the better of Matt Tait whose driver didn't quite behave but had some amazing clutch saves. Across the draw Paddy Bradford and Greig Sparrow had a ding dong battle, both very evenly matched in size and weight, so it was no shock that the game went down to the last hole, where Paddy just managed to hold on to book his date with Pete. This will be another great game that will be too close to call.

In the Junior A Rob Pawsey kept up his giant killing run by taking down Mike Kelly. Rob wasn't even in the top 16 when the draw was first done, but a couple of pull outs saw him elevated and he has certainly taken his chance well. He will now lock horns in the final with the matchplay king Terry Molloy who managed to overcome a stubborn challenge by Shane Beaven. Rob and Terry play quite a lot of golf together and will know each other's games so this match could go all night.

Finally in Junior B, Brian Fauth got up well and took down top seed Matt Harvey and Craig Davies got the better of Henry Lawrence, both games went down to the last hole and were nip and tuck all day long. I can't see the final being any different. We will look a bit more in depth into these games next week as well as the Ladies finals, as they are still to be sorted.

We will also look at all the plate finals as well.

Finals day is Saturday week 20th September with the major finals teeing off early and playing over 36 holes.

This Saturday we take a break from club champs for the annual Captain v Presidents matchplay games. This is always a fun day. Everyone is welcome to pop along, tie your colours to the Captain or President. The starter will match you up in a singles matchplay game. Every singles winner will receive a brand spanking new Pro V1 and 8 points for their RMF Silva Cup tally. They may also get a beer off the Captain or President if they are very lucky. When all the scores are tallied up, the office with most wins will pick up the trophy. It really is a great fun day and a wonderful respite from the pressure cooker of champs. Come on down and pick the correct team. Viva El Presidente!!

Finally, don't forget we have the Hydraulink Brandon open coming up soon on the 27th September. Thirty six holes of stroke play with great prizes, open to all men and ladies. It will be a good day and a top challenge. Also if we have enough people interested we will keep the club rooms open later and show the Bledisloe Cup match after prize giving. Entries for this are online, but if you are struggling to do it, just give me a shout and I will sort it out.

Good golfing.

Many thanks,

Paddy Bradford