

## Ashburton Golf Club

Well, what a weekend that was. The Harvey Norman classic has been going for around 15 years and this one was up there among the best. We had 112 pairs play the weekend. The course was stunning, hard and fast. The weather started off cloudy then must have been touching 30 degrees on Saturday then sunny and breezy on Sunday.

First tee off was at 7:30 am, the greens staff had been there at 5am and the set up gang arrived at 6:30. It flowed seamlessly and at the end of Saturdays Ambrose Toafa Mafiti and Stanley Pokipoki led the way with a 62 but were closely followed by a gang of 64's. The Saturday evening chip off went well young Gaby borrowed a 52 degree wedge kicked off his jandals, flopped a chip over the hay bales to 6 inches from the pin and picked up \$200. We then had the Calcutta auction and Dylan Forde did an amazing job opening wallets making it our best one yet. The young pups and pupettes cranked up the tunes and settled in for a good night. A group of old dogs headed over to castle Jansen and got themselves outside a bottle of rum, after an hilarious game of cards against humanity which taught us all some home truths, and Davo showed us his Picasso face painting skills. Perry and Sadie got everybody safely home.

The set up crew looked a bit worse for wear on Sunday morning at 6:30, but again the day went off without a hitch. The Kai for Kids team were absolutely amazing from the bacon roll when you signed in to the beautiful platters put out when you finished, certainly no one went hungry and it was great that we managed to put a few dollars into their coffers.

Sundays fourball best ball really suited Leigh and Murray Wackrow who shot a wonderful net 62. When the dust had settled, Vicki, Jenny and their helpers finalised all the scores and the champion golfers for 2025 were Gary Lee and Richard Dudley with a combined score of 127 (64 Ambrose + 63 best ball) just pipping Toafa and Stanley by a shot (62 + 66).

Raffles were drawn, auctions were held and speeches were made. Thanks go to our major naming sponsor Harvey Norman for their continued support, Vision Insurance for the Sunday par threes, Harveys Bakehouse for the longest putts and all round help in whatever we needed. Along with all our other sponsors big and small. There was a list on all the tables and the big sign in the clubrooms, please check it out and support all these wonderful people whenever you can. Finally, thanks to everyone involved in running this beast. There are obviously too many helpers to name, but you know who you are and your club thanks you. I will only name two, Captain James who became a father only 3 weeks ago put his heart and soul into this tournament it must have been a hell of a juggling act, but now you can put more time into nappy duties, and also fellow tournament director Jordy Bird, this was his first time at the helm and he did a sterling job supporting James and bringing his usual fun and energy to the weekend. Well done everyone, can't wait till next year. Good golfing

Many thanks,

Paddy Bradford