

## Ashburton Golf Club

What a week we had down at the Brandon. On Thursday we welcomed 14 provinces from around New Zealand into the Ashburton district for the Ladies Masters. They all played a practise round on Thursday and were amazed at the level of course that was put before them. We had the opening ceremony on Thursday evening all the teams were piped in by young Harrison Doak, what an amazing performance he gave. The flags were all raised as the wonderful Lochlea singers sang the national anthem and then everyone went into the clubrooms for the welcome dinner. The tournament kicked off on Friday morning and finished on Sunday afternoon. When the dust had settled, and the scores tallied the Ladies from the Mighty Waikato stood proudly on top of the podium just pipping the girls from Northland. I received a delightful email from NZ Golf who ran the event thanking us for a beautifully presented course and the amazing band of willing volunteers, who all made this such a superb tournament. Ben, Nick, Josh and the greens committee the course was indeed amazing, I never heard anything but praise from all the players. Lynn, Marilyn and your army of helpers, everything ran so smoothly and when something needed doing, it just got done. To all starters, caterers, bar staff, scorers, club security and all round tidy uppers, thank you all so much. Have a week off!

While a few of the club stalwarts were helping at the ladies masters Tommy took a fine band of brothers up to Rangiora for the haggie shield. I think the last time that Rangiora held this shield the Berlin wall was still up, Ronald Reagan was US President, and the golf club president was still at school, yes he did go but only for the free lunches. Anyway, the team went with only one instruction, "Don't buggie it up!" Now fair play to the Rangiora club they must have done their homework, in the club diary the game of the day was a Stableford round, but as soon as they saw Perry and Pat in the minibus they changed it to a stroke round and started to engrave the shield. Oh well, we will have to bring the old guard back for the haggie next year and win it back.

Easter weekend coming up, on Saturday we have the Keig Cup and Coasters Trophy, both of these are pairs Greensome games. The Keig is for family pairings and the Coasters for any pairings. Come on down for a game, sort out your own pairing or let Matt work his magic. Then on Easter Monday we have the Turkey trot playing an individual Stableford. Both days are mixed days so everyone welcome don't forget that the tee times have moved to winter times so early start is 8am meet for 8:30 start and afternoon is 11:30 for 12 midday kick off. Come along and enjoy your long weekend. Good golfing

Many thanks,

Paddy Bradford