

A massive weekend, just gone, down at the Brandon for the official club opening weekend of the 2024 season. With the sun forecast to be baking in the afternoon, around 60 players decided to get out early and beat the heat. Then we had around 50 hardy souls endure the afternoon furnace. When the dust had settled Sharon and Ron Carlson took out the AC Browne trophy for mixed pairs with a superb nett 64 just pipping Lynn Small and Bruce Day by half a shot, then Polly and Robbie Bell were a further shot back. In the mens pairs playing for the Smith Salver, Matt Davis weaved his magic again and put two guns together with Nick Knight and Hayden McMillan shooting a wonderful 63.25 which was a full quarter shot ahead of Rob Coyle and Peter Natua, and then Gaby and Perry along with Pete and Dave Morrison were another half shot adrift on 64. All in all a great day of golf.

After golf we had a super fun auction hosted by Hamish to "sell" the Property Brokers shootout finalists. Bidding was hot and at times unruly, but in the end top qualifier Henry Lawrence went for top price closely followed by Gav Douglas and Brendon Davidson. The great race kicked off at 10am on Sunday morning and the left practise ground seemed to be the place to go off the first tee, nobody went out of bounds and 6 nett 5 was the highest score, after a chip off the first faller was the only filly in the field Bev Chinn. A couple of runners were struggling on the second, but George Brown struggled a bit more and he was dropped. We lost Chris then Mark on 3 and 4. Paddy found the help from the golfing gods with a ball sailing into knee high grass, only to hit a tree and bounce back towards the green for a lucky escape on 5, where Leaky left us. Top money Henry fell at 6. Matt then Aaron at 7 and 8. Gav left us on 9 and we moved into the back nine. Karl fell at 10 Pauly at 11 and Hayden at 12. Davo and Paddy put drives in the trees on 13 and both had to take penalty drops. Davo recovered brilliantly then a chip off between Jordy and Paddy saw Birdy fall. Jason left us on 14 and Dylan on 15, so Nick, Gordy, Davo and Paddy were the final 4. Nick didn't have a shot on 16 and lost in a chip off with Davo. Then Gordy missed a knee knocking putt on 17 when a 3 way chip off was looming, so Paddy and Davo were left going down 18. Paddy was greenside for 2, Davo was behind the bunker for three, he is known as the chip in king and he rattled the flag again which could easily have dropped in for a par and it certainly got the big lads attention, but it rolled a good 8 foot past. Paddy hit a nervous chip, just missed his par putt and tapped in for 5, leaving Davo with a swinging 8 footer to force a chip off which just, agonizingly, slipped under the cup leaving the big Yorkshire pudding with a free club sub thanks to Hamish, Karen and the great gang at Property Brokers. Many thanks to all the helpers for the day Hamish, Gaby, Perry, Hopster, Arkright and Joanne for keeping everyone hydrated with the drinks cart. What a great competition this has been again over the past 7 weeks, we had a big crowd following us and a glorious day for it, can't wait for the next instalment.

This Saturday we have Mens opening day playing a pairs best ball for the Jim MacKenzie trophy. Head down for a game.

The Harvey Norman Classic is virtually full and a standby list has been set up. If you haven't entered yet, then please do very quickly, last year all of the standby list got in as we got a few late call offs. If anyone has raffle prizes they would like to donate then please bring them to the club, they can be handed into Mindy or anyone of the organising committee. That will do for now. Good golfing.