

PADDYS PRATTLE 24 Aug 2024

Club champs kicked off last Saturday. We had some tight games, some spankings and a few upsets. What's the problem with being second seed? Who knows, but all the second seeds fell over in the first round and the 15th seeds go through and also in Junior A the top seed fell as well, so that opens the grade right up. Well done Gordy Crawford, Mitch Stoddart, Perry Hunt and Alan White.

We have some big quarter finals in store this weekend, too many to talk about them all, but I will pick a couple of juicy ones. My game to watch in the Seniors is Chrisjan Senekal against Gordy Crawford. They both exceeded expectations last week and will be sure to fancy their chances this time around against each other. In the Inters, I hate to say it but the big match up looks to be Tuffy against Paddy. Both ex champions and good mates. This one could well go on until dark. In the Junior A, we will stay away from the two giant killers and look at Kevin Smith against Ram Clarke, they both had great wins first up and are wonderful matchplayers its sure to be a cracker of a game. In Junior B, Pat Turton absolutely smashed the bye in the last round, so he will be full of confidence when he faces up to George Brown, another game too close to call. Good luck to everyone playing. We also have the Plate going on for the first round losers. Results and Semi Final match ups next week.

On Sunday we welcomed the lovely Tinwald gang over to the sunny side of town for the annual Foodstuffs Trophy. Leading the scoring was the Brandon Lady Captain Lynn Small on 41 points, just behind on 39 were Tinwalds Jim Lattimore and our own Gary Stratford. When the dust had settled and the scores averaged out, Ashburton had 33.6 points and Tinwald had 31 so the trophy stays in the club house for one year at least. Well done to everyone who played and thanks to the out of form players for not showing up and lowering the average. You know who you are!

Sunday this week is a big pennants day down at the Brandon starting from 8.00 am and going through the day. We will have over 140 players with multiple tee starts so the course will be closed for casual golf until after 3:30pm.

We have 5 Ashburton teams taking part, which is a great effort. First up in the morning we have the scratch semi-finals, in the Holmes grade, Jeff and the A team have a big challenge taking on the Tinwald top team. Then in the Redpath grade, Terry and the Bomb squad take on Methven and Tommy and his "C" snakes take on Timaru. Hopefully all three of these teams can get a win and tee off again in the afternoon in the finals, which would be a wonderful match up between Tom and Terry.

In the handicap section Alexander grade, Shane leads his handsome warriors out to battle against a very strong Temuka team, and then finally in the Patterson grade President Putin leads the dogs of war into battle. The Old Dogs, at long last, have made their bite stronger than their bark, and by god they do bark a lot. They will take on a team of superstars from the Rakaia club, so home field advantage will mean nought. It's the first time that these Alex or Patterson teams have made the semi-finals, and they would both dearly love to tee it up at Gleniti in two weeks' time for the Final.

If you find yourself at a loose end on Sunday, then please pop down and support all the boys playing for the club, it would be wonderful to see a crowd down there. That will do, see you around the course. Good Golfing.