

Ashburton Golf Club

Most of us were lucky enough to dodge the rain on Saturday, the course was playing hard and fast and we had some great scores come in. Leading the way and picking up the Jim McKenzie Trophy with a two ball best ball score of net 57, yes net 57 were Rob Coyle and Kevin McStay. This great score was helped by Rob carding a 1 net 0 on the par three 8th hole. Yep, Rob front edged his six iron, it went screaming over the green like a scolded cat, smashed into the flag and dropped in the hole for his first ever ace. Which puts him one ahead of myself and Arkright. Top work Rob. While we are on hole in ones, it turns out that I missed one a couple of weeks back. Young Harry Watson leant on his driver and managed to get it past 130 metres for the first time and snagged himself an ace on the 14th. Now what do these two fine chaps have in common I hear you say. I will tell you, they both didn't bother to join the Hole in one Club and so for the one off cost of \$5 they both missed out on around \$200. The sheet is on the notice board and the tin is on the bar, sign up for the club and then go and hit it. Ironically, we did have a surge of new entrants last Saturday after seeing Rob miss out. Anyway, back to the scores. Peter Walker shot well under his age with a stunning 68 including 6 birdies and along with Terry Molloy shot 61 to come in second. Then we had three pairs on 62 Stuey and Bryan, Barry and Kevin and the two Paddy's, a bit like the Two Ronnies but with less hair.

This Saturday we have one of Matts Sega Golf Pro shop days, everyone is welcome to pop along and play in a modified trainwreck stableford. These are always great fun days with good prizes. Come along and support our hard working Pro. Then the weekend after it's the Harvey Norman Classic, the full field signs are up, but if you have missed out you can still contact James or Jordy because we always have people drop out, even if you are an individual player we may be able to get you a game if someone can't make it for any reason. If you are not playing but find yourself free on the weekend then pop along, we will find you a job, raffles need selling, the bar staff can always do with helpers or jump in a buggy and help the players flow along better.

Just a quick note for that week, with Waitangi Day being Thursday the 6th the greens staff will be off, so they will be doing full shifts on the Friday to get everything ship shape for the weekend. Therefore the board have decided to close the course on Friday 7th to give the greens staff a good run at it. The JKF Friday night teams will be able to play on the Thursday evening (Waitangi Day) instead, if they so wish.

Finally another note from the board on Health and safety matters. Since the trees were removed at the left side of the 15th tee, if the blocks are put to the left side and the wind is blowing well, some of our long hitters have been aiming down the 16th fairway trying to hit a high fade and bring the ball back to the 15th. This has ended up with players on 16th being hit over and placed in danger and in some cases players on the 17th being in danger. To this end the board have decided that a sign will be placed on the 15th tee block stating that if any player intentionally tees off down the 16th they will be disqualified and may be suspended. If you hit a bad drive and find yourself in the wooded area, you may still chip out and play down the 16th, as always being aware of players coming up, it is just the intentional tee shots that we are stopping. Please play the hole the way it was meant to be played and how it was played for the many years before the trees were removed. Thank you and good golfing.

Many thanks,

Paddy Bradford