

Ashburton Golf Club

The club champs finals threw up some cracking games last Saturday. We will start off with the Men's Senior grade, where we now have a brand new name on the legends board. Dave Morrison fought hard all day and managed to overcome reigning champ Jeff Hewitt. After 18 holes they could not be separated. Dave had a great afternoon front nine to turn 3 up after 27. Jeff fought back well, like the champ that he is, but a superb chip on the 35th gave a birdie and the well-deserved title to Dave. Well done Dave great work. In the Ladies Silver division Pauline Bell made it a round dozen of titles with a hard fought win over a battling Jen Shepherd. Polly seemed to be up most of the game, but she could never put daylight between them. Jen fought hard like everyone knew she would, but Pauline managed to hold on and close it out on the 34th, top effort. Men's intermediate saw a threepeat from Chris Lovelock, he was 3 down with 5 to go against Chris Ralston, but wins on 15, 16 and 17 had the match all square going down the last. They both had a chance on 18 but neither of them could take it, so they went up the 37th and the 38th before Chris Lovelock managed to get his name on the cup once more. Ladies Bronze one was a great battle between Bev Turton and Lynn Small, the match ebbed and flowed but Bev finally managed to sneak home on the 35th. In Junior A, Perry Hunt jumped out of the blocks like Usain Bolt and before Shane Beaven knew what had happened, he found himself 5 down. They both calmed down, with a bit of too and froing but the 5 hole lead was still there. Perry stood on the 29th tee 6 up, then Shane hit overdrive winning 4 on the trot. The 33rd hole was the swinger, they both tried to give it away, but Perry eventually took the hole to go dormie then a half up the 34th got him home. Ladies Bronze 2 was another very close game, but Maryann Blair just got the better of Liz Cabout. Men's Junior B looked like it was going to be a bloodbath between George Brown and Murray Wackrow, but with them both playing on different sides of the fairway it diffused the situation a wee bit. When the dust had settled and the wounds stitched and bandaged George stood atop the dais like Rocky Balboa, top effort. In the nine hole champs Sam Prince and Paul Baird could not be separated after the 9 and had to go extra holes before Sam finally triumphed. We also had two great games in the Sega 9 hole Champs with Murray Williams overcoming Peter Stechman in the men's and Fairlie Matsinger defeating Janice Dunlop in the ladies. Well done to all the Brandon champions. The Plates were also played for, congratulations to our winners. Nick Knight, Greig Sparrow, John Ramsay, Craig Davies, Bev Chinn and Sheryl Reid.

Sunday we had the DRE Day sponsored by Davidson Refrigeration and Electrical. Top scores of the day saw Old Arkright MacGregor lead the way with 39 points closely followed by Matt Harvey and Tonee Hurley on 38 then Dave Hampton one shot further back. Thanks for the sponsorship Davo!

This weekend we have two big days, on Saturday we have the Bermaline Vase and Barnett Cup these are Par rounds, one for under 18 handicap and the other for 18 and over. These are also RMF Silva Cup qualifiers. This is getting to the sharp end now, you can check in the club rooms where you sit. Then on Sunday we are hosting the County Stroke, the four other Mid Canty clubs Tinwald, Rakaia, Mayfield and Methven are all invited to bring teams of 4 men and 4 ladies to do battle for the Mayors trophy. You may well get shoulder tapped by your captains to be in one of the teams, but if you don't,

no worries there are plenty of individual prizes up for grabs as well, so just pop down at 11:30 am for a 12 noon start. Don't forget that it is daylight savings Sunday and the clocks will have jumped forward so don't be late! Finally, entries are streaming in for the Hydraulink Brandon Open on the 5th October. This is 36 holes of stroke for Men and Ladies also incorporating the Aorangi Opens. There are loads of prizes on offer for net scores, so don't worry if your not a scratch golfer, everyone welcome. Entries on the website. Good golfing.

Many thanks,