Ashburton Golf Club,

We had a busy time down at the Brandon over the long weekend even with lots of people away. We had the Brandon open on Saturday which saw a dozen gun golfers play for the chance to get into NZ Open qualifying. Both Ryan Cockburn and Chrisjan Senekal shot level par 72's and had to play extra holes to find a winner and well done to Ryan from Rakaia golf club in taking out the title.

In our normal club day exactly 54 players took part in the stroke round. How do I know it was exactly 54? Well, Davo came 54th and there was nobody behind him. That's how. Anyway, at the top of the list Stu Dunlop led the way with a cracking net 68 just pipping Kevin McStay on 69 and Kevin Smith on 70. Well done boys,

On Monday we had over 50 players again having a fun day with a three player Ambrose. Leading the way was Team Hopeless, captained by Shaun Hope who just snuck over Team Dodgy led by Ram Clarke. All in all, a great weekend at the club well organised by Captain Richard, well done to all.

Now we move into the Final round of the RMF Silva Cup, this has taken 19 rounds and started in February, and it all comes down to this Saturday. Somebody will be crowned RMF Silva Champion and receive a full club sub for next year, thanks to the great gang at RMF Silva. Who is going to be champ? I hear you say. Well, all fingers are pointing to Paul Clarke. He steps onto the first tee with a five shot head start over his three playing partners Grant Hastie, Dave Hampton and Sandy Shepherd then another couple of shots clear of the peloton. If it was a Stableford round you would start engraving the trophy now, but stroke rounds can get in your head. Sandy and Paddy would be at the side of Clarkey but for disastrous finishes to the last round, so the game is never over till the final putt is sunk on 18. Anyone of the top 20 has got a magic round in them to swoop in from the clouds like a falcon and snatch the prize. Alternately they could also all drop like dead ducks and hand the cup to someone. Pressure is a funny thing! We will have the prize giving for this after golf on Saturday and of course the major RMF Silva prize is what everyone is after, but we do have a brand-new golf bag for second place kindly donated by Matt Davis and Sega Golf and then 3rd and 4th will pick up $100 and $50 respectively from the golf club. It is going to be a cracker of a day. The draw is posted and everyone will be playing in order with the Muppets leading off first, and the Superstars teeing off last. Good luck to everyone involved, and thanks again to RMF Silva, Mid Canterbury's top lawyers.

The first week of November is maintenance week where the course will be closed for Simon and his crew to get amongst it, with a busy week planned. Then we come back on November 7th with the John Richards Memorial trophy playing an Ambrose. Take care everyone, catch you around the course, good golfing.

Many thanks,

Paddy Bradford