

Ashburton Golf Club

We had a beautiful day for our club champ's finals on Saturday. It was a wee bit chilly when we set off at 8.00am but it turned out lovely as the games progressed.

Junior B men set us off and we knew it was going to be a tough game between Henry Lawrence and Craig Davies, well they didn't disappoint and after 36 holes they were all square, so they played a 37th where Henry managed to sneak a victory. Well done boys, great effort.

Junior A was another tight tussle between John Ramsay and Greg Fleming, this game too and froze all day until John finally managed to close it out on the 35th hole 2 and 1. Good work John.

In the ladies Bronze 1, this was a game of two rounds. After 18 holes Bev Turton had jumped out into a 7up lead over Bev Chinn who then took the lunch break as a good time to give herself a damn good talking to. Bev C came out in the afternoon on fire and started the long trip of clawing her way back and she almost got there, but Bev Turton held on well with a superb par on the 36th hole to eventually finish it off. That was a hell of a battle ladies, well done!

Ladies Bronze two was over 18 holes but no less dramatic Brenda Fechny and Liz Cabot threw everything at each other and in the end, Liz managed to sneak the win again on the last hole. With all this drama going on around the last and extra holes, it was inevitable we would get some boil overs.

In men's Intermediates Fritz Senekal jumped out of the blocks winning the first 4 holes against Chris Ralston and took control from there. After the first 18 holes Fritz had got two twos and found himself 8 up. We all knew Chris would never give up and he came out strong after lunch winning the first three holes to close the gap, but FC found his groove again and pulled back away finally taking the match 8 and 6. Well played FC.

In the ladies Silver grade Pauline Bell jumped into an early lead over Jen Shepherd and was 7 up by the turn. Jen tried hard to pull the deficit back, but Pauline was in no mood to give anything away and held on well for a very strong win and yet another title, Legend!

Finally in the men's senior champs. I think I may have hindered young Chrisjan, by backing him to win on facebook last Friday. That was all the motivation Jeff Hewitt needed, he jumped out of the starting gate like a panther, ok not a panther more of a grizzly bear, but whatever it was he came out strong and didn't give Chrisjan a look in. At halftime Jeff was 7 up and a champion like Jeff was never going to let that slip. Chrisjan gave it a good go in the afternoon, but Jeff closed the game out 7 and 6. Well done to all of our Club champs, you don't win these things by chance, but by hard work and great skills. Also, great effort by all our losing finalists, hopefully you will come back stronger next year.

In the nine holes championships, Sam Prince had a strong win over Pete Macaulay and Sue Forrest got the better of Jenny Mathews, well done to the both of you. The 9 Hole Sega Golf trophies went to Joy Nicholas and Peter Kiddy, congratulations

Finally in the Plate finals we had some great games Ron Carlson had to go 3 extra holes to overcome Charlie Alexander in the Seniors. Bruce Day managed to outlast Paul Greer to win intermediates on the 18th. Steve Kennedy got the better of Paul Clark in Junior A and Perry Hunt absolutely smashed whoever he was playing in Junior B. We only had one ladies plate final where Kay Fox managed a good win over Kerry Pevy in Bronze 1.

It was a great day. Thanks to Simon and his gang for setting up a great course and thanks to Jess and Catherine keeping everyone fed and watered. Roll on next year.

We are not having much luck with the Foodstuffs trophy as this had to be cancelled for the second time with the rain on Sunday. We will work with the Tinwald GC to sort out a new date soon.

This weekend we are back into the RMF Silva cup sharp end with the Barnett and Bermaline Cups. These are both individual Par rounds in grades, 18 handicap and less for the Barnett and over 18 for the Bermaline. RMF Silva Cup points on offer so make sure you get down there and give it a go.

On Sunday we have the County Stroke where the other 4 clubs from the Mid Canty district send teams of 4 men and 4 women to play for the Mayors Cup. There are also plenty of individual prizes on offer as well, so if you don't get shoulder tapped for the team, pop along still and pick up some great prizes. This is 11.30 meet for 12 noon tee off. Have fun.

Good golfing.

Many thanks,

Paddy Bradford