

## Ashburton Golf Club

Well it was one of the better days at the Brandon last Saturday, playing the captain v president matchplay trophy. With the drizzle in the morning only 10 hardy souls turned up. The President was there to greet everyone with a hearty cheer, whilst the Captain didn't give two hoots and was snug as a bug in his bed. Of course all 10 players wanted to play and win for their beloved President, but we had to do a fair draw. Putin's kind nature does get the better of him sometimes, he was maybe a bit too fair and the Captain took a 3 to 2 lead. In the afternoon the sun tried coming out and we got a big crowd. Putin, again, was sorting a very fair draw when the Captain arrived and started bribing the better players with a free beer. I didn't for a moment believe it would work, but some weak minded players were seduced to the dark side, even some who the President believed were close friends,. Yes, I am looking at you Jason and Stewey! Anyway the matches started with the President still shell shocked by the betrayal and after 6 holes he was 6 down, a mini revival around the turn helped but the Captain finally won on 15. When all the scores were entered the Captain had triumphed 20 points to 13. Well done James, I hope your new followers don't spend their 30 pieces of silver too quickly. Any way, he could not bribe the old dogs, and after the 10 games of Dogs v pups were played it was a 5 all tie, so a three way matchplay chip off was called. The Pups of Jordy, Will and James took on the Dogs of Richie, Tuffy and Paddy. Jordy hit a decent chip to 10 foot, Richie shanked his to end up 50 metres away from a 30 metre chip. 1 up Pups. Will chipped to 12 foot and Tuffy to 12 inches. 1 a piece. Paddy went first in the decider and put it to 6 foot. James hit his chip with the delicate touch of an arachnophobe walking through a spiders web and front edged it through the pro shop window. The Mutz Nutz trophy stays with the Old Dogs. It was a great day, a big crowd in the clubroom lots of fun and good hearted banter. Roll on next year.

This Saturday we have club champs finals day starting from 8.00am and going on through the day. Come on down and support the players it will be a great day. Going for gold in the mens seniors we have Jeff Hewitt aiming for 3 in a row and Dave Morrison looking for his first. I reckon Dave is certainly going to be a senior club champ. Is it going to be this year? That's a tougher question. Both of these chaps played great in the winning Holmes cup team. I think it will be a match for the ages. In the Ladies Silver grade we having Jen Shepherd going up against Brandon legend Pauline Bell, again as with Dave, Jen will certainly hold the Champion title at sometime and it may well be this year, but Polly won't give up her crown easily. Intermediate mens sees Chris Lovelock going for 3 in a row against the form player of this years champs Chris Ralston. Mr L doesn't give holes away, Mr R is going to have to win them, another top notch game is in store. The ladies Bronze 1 has lady captain Lynn Small taking on Bev Turton, both great matchplayers and there is bound to be a wee bit of sledging. Junior A finds Shane Beaven playing Perry Hunt, the big question being asked here is, which Perry is going to turn up? Shane has been having a great year in pennants and they will both fancy their chances. Bronze 2 finds Maryann Blair taking on Liz Cabout, another good pair of matchplayers who will bring the best out of each other and finally in the Junior B George Brown and Murray Wackrow will lock horns like a couple of rutting stags. I can't see many pleasantries passing between them, in fact as long as we don't get spilt blood it will be a good day.. The 9 holers sees Sam Prince taking on Paul Baird in the championship final, Sam has been here many times before but I believe it may be Pauls first rodeo, this may well go 18 holes. Then in the Sega mens we have Murray Williams taking on Peter Stechman and the ladies have Janice Dunlop and Fairlie Matsinger squaring off. You chuck in all the Plate finals as well, then presentation , a happy hour and a fun evening with the All blacks Bledisloe Cup game on it really looks like another big day is in store.

On Sunday we have club day sponsored by Davidson Refrigeration and Electrical (DRE), not sure what Davo has picked for us yet, but 11.30 meet for 12 noon start, its bound to be good fun. See you around , good golfing.