

Paddy's Prattle 6th November

Ashburton Golf Club

The weather was a bit changeable last Saturday, the morning players certainly got the better part of the day. They do say that the wind won't move a well struck shot, I have no idea if that is true or not, as a well struck shot is not in my armoury. If you want coaching on high right pops or low left hooks then look no further, I have those nailed on. A few players were certainly striking it out of the middle as we had some stunning scores. Top of the Santa Marie pile was Antony White who shot a wonderful 86 playing off 22 to get a net 64, great score! Three shots back on 67 was Mike Arnold, then Mike Kelly and Peter Walker shot 68 and 69 respectively. With Mike Kelly leading the RMF Silva Cup final after round one, then shooting a great 68 in round two, he carded 131 combined nett and took out the RMF Silva Cup for 2024 and in doing so he snags himself a club sub for next season, thanks to the wonderful people at RMF Silva. Peter Walker was not even in the top 20 when the first final draw was done, but a couple of withdrawals gave him a lifeline and he took his chance very well shooting a combined nett of 140 to take second place, just pipping Brian Fauth and George Brown on 142. Well done to everyone who had a score in the RMF Silva Cup, well over 100 players took part in it over the season. Thanks again.

Big news out of Saturday as well was a lovely hole in one to one of our new members, Toafa Mafiti struck the perfect shot on hole 14 to get his name on the board. I can't believe it, he has been playing five minutes and gets an ace, whereas some unlucky golfers have been striving for over 30 years and still not a sniff. No justice!

The course is closed this week for maintenance, so I hope you are visiting our neighbours around the county and trying out some other wonderful courses. We are open again on Saturday for the Forsyth Barr pairs ambrose. This has been kindly sponsored by Michelle Parkin and the wonderful gang at Forsyth Barr Investment Advice Ashburton. Playing alongside this we also have the first playing of the John Richards memorial trophy, this is bound to be a great fun day with a big crowd remembering a wonderful club stalwart. You can pick your own pairs, or you can just pop along and let Matt work his magic, he has a good knack at pairing winners together.

Five of our Jolly Boys are away for the week on Hoppy's tour, venturing up to Northland, on Monday they had a game at the Waitangi Course and they have the famous \$500 a round Kauri Cliffs course in their sights. That's certainly getting up there, especially if you throw in losing a dozen Pro V1's as well. I am sure they will have plenty of fun and hopefully a few stories make it back.

Matts Sega Golf pro shop day has now moved to next Saturday the 16th and then on the 23rd we have closing day and presentation night, so keep the dates free in your diary. That will do, catch you around the course. Good golfing

Many thanks,

Paddy Bradford