



**Albert Ross – 6/8/18**

Despite the current weather conditions being so extremely difficult for some sectors in our community, it must be said that if you need to get out and put any difficulties behind you, our golf course is the ideal location.

The current playing conditions are near to the best we have encountered for this time in the year for quite a while and it is gratifying to see so many members and visitors coming to the course for a good day out with some mates.

The Saturday Stableford reflected this strong interest and it incorporated the Toro Monthly Mug which attracted a healthy field of one hundred and ninety players with scores reflecting the competitive nature of our course.

Our A grade winner was Mark Hodson with 36 points after a countback was required to place Matt Johnson 2nd and Les Edwards 3rd when all three recorded the same score. The 4th place prize went to our effervescent captain, Rick Marsh on 35 points.

The B grade field was just as tightly packed with Murray Richardson declared winner on 37 points with Allen Moore and Phillip Siddens placed 2nd and 3rd respectively after both finished on 36 points and then came Phil Johns in 4th spot with 35 points.

Something special always seems to be a feature of C grade and Adam Vickers returned the best score of the day with 38 points to win from long time member Cec Dron in 2nd place with 36 points with a countback needed to separate Phillip Jobe and Pat White into that order for 3rd and 4th places after both scored 35 points.

Graeme Hodges showed his usual tenacity to take out nearest the pin at the 13th in A grade with Matt Godsell winning B grade and Phillip Jobe C grade at the same hole. Our winners at the 17th hole were the sweet swinging Steve Kostrzewski in A grade, Mick Buffier in B grade and Greg Anderson in C grade. The ball comp went down 30 points on a countback.

The Thursday Stableford attracted its usual strong number of competitors with one hundred and forty eight starters on the course with a feature being the tight scoring across all the grades.

Obviously Tony Ellicott lives way too close to the course with his game seemingly improving each week and he held out in A grade to win from Mick McDonnell after both returned 36 points. Another countback was required to separate Steve McNabb, Kevin Lawler and Terry Parker in that order, after they all scored 35 points.

Our B grade winner was Brian Jones with 38 points from another improving member in David Keith on 36 points with Peter Donald 3rd on 35 points, Paul Fairweather 4th with 34 points and in 5th spot Paul Gould with a score of 33 points.

The C grade winner was a little more clear cut with Noel Hughes doing best with 39 points from Ken McCartney in 2nd place on 36 points with Bruce Geddes next and Barry Pederson 4th after a countback was needed when they each scored 34 points which meant that another fine upstanding member in Rusty Prescott secured 5th spot on the podium with a well compiled 33 points.

The nearest the pin awards went to Kye Rees at the 13th and Luke Merchant at the 17th.

The Sunday Stableford competition was taken out by visitor John Harrison with 34 points from runner up David Keith on 33 points. Nearest the pin winner at the 17th was Dylan Bennett, with the ball comp going down to 31 on a countback.

Some other golfing news for the week that you should be interested in saw our member John Widera take out the H.R.D.G.A. District Senior net Championship with 37 points from a strong field of 100 starters.

I must add that another of our members, Grant Turner, was declared Scratch Champion in the Seniors with a fine 76 off the stick, so well done and congratulations to John and Grant.

It should also be noted that Nominations for the District A grade Championships which are to be played at Singleton, and the B and C Championships which are to be held at the Kurri Kurri course are on our noticeboard. All three grades will be played on Sunday 26th August, so if you want to test yourself against the best, get your nomination in.

Albert Ross