

Competitive Scores in the 4BBB Champs

(contributed by Short Putt)

Many of the large field of golfers on Saturday were keen for an early start and avoid the forecast wet weather. So intent were they to complete their round in good time, that almost all players got in without getting wet. Only the last few groups had a slight shower, but it did not affect their concentration.

On Saturday the Men played their 4BBB Stroke Championship. A good pairing was needed to ensure that at least one player was in for a good score on each hole. Overall the 86 players worked together, producing some very competitive scores. Unfortunately a few players lost their partners, but still competed in good humour.

In the 4BBB Stroke Championship event the winning pair were among the last groups to finish, and with a score that was way ahead of everybody. While Peter 'Ecky' Dawson was first on the card for most holes, it was definitely a team effort with Tim West supporting Ecky and maintaining their score when Ecky faltered. The pair scored 34 on the front-9 but really scored well on the back-9, where Tim put in a performance that turned the clock back to his Champion play of 2001. The pair finished with 33, a total of 67 Scratch.

The Stroke Runners-up on 71 were Dan Bayley and Mark 'Stubbie' Collits. A single untidy hole on the front-9 meant they carded a 37. It was all Stubbie on this '9', with Dan a little inconsistent, and even scoring double figures on the 7th. But Dan was back to form on the back-9 scoring numerous pars, while Mark's birdies on the 11th and 15th carried them home.

The Nett Championship saw a number of very competitive scores. More than two-thirds of the field finished under par, and a quarter of the field finished with a score less than 65 nett. The Nett Champions were George Falvey and Damien Kennedy with a nett 59. They used their handicaps well to record seven nett birdies and three nett eagles overall. Their score of 30-29-59 was compiled with near equal contribution by each player.

The Nett Runners-up were Greg Webb and Rod Besgrove with 62. The split scores of 32-30-62 was typical of the teams who fared better, whereby they carded a better back-9 than the front-9. They only had eight nett birdies and one nett eagle, with the eagle a result of very fine play Greg on the 15th.

The ball sweep went to 67 nett on count back: 62 – C Dwyer/T Howe; 63 – C Hurford/A Currey; 64 – P Maher/M Cahill, R Grayson/T Wallace, I Bown.B Chandler, N Duncan/S Grallelis; 66 – L Whifield/C Moore, J Ridley/B Slack-Smith, R Williams/D Sharpe; 67 – D Churchill/ P Barnes, B Parker/L Little.

The NTP's were both very fine shots: 9th – K Herbert; 18th – G Falvey. Kim got his '2' but George missed out. The greens were running quite quickly, which must be the

reason for only four 2's all day, and those on the 3rd and 9th holes. There were no visitors.

It was interesting to see the scoring difference between the front-9 and back-9. Those pairs who did better on the back-9 were towards the top of the leader board, while those who faltered on the back-9 fell down the leader board. Once again the 15th hole did some damage, but in this regard was assisted by the 13th and 14th holes.

One player played the 12th hole most unconventionally to score his par. His drive was long and down the fairway, but was followed by a second shot that was too long and that finished well over on the 13th fairway. His return chip came over the hill and was almost a slam dunk in the hole, but the ball ran off the green. Then he putted from off the green straight into the hole. Yep, Adam Borger will dine out on that story for a long time.

Andy Grogan, a left-hander, pulled his 9th tee shot very low and left, and which appeared to carry under the walk bridge. It was adjudged OB, so he replayed the tee shot. Walking over the bridge he spotted his ball on the western bank and towards the carpark from the bridge. It was definitely OB, but he could only surmise that it skipped off the water to finish there. If only he had hit it straight, it may have skipped onto the green.

Ben Robinson and Matt Roynance were going strong early in their round. But they seemed to falter, which Ben claimed was due to fatigue as a result of being unfit. Meanwhile Terry Griffiths and Al Rees claimed they needed some help to make it into the winners circle. Yep, they needed 30 of the leading pairs to be DQ'ed before they could even score a ball!

Andy Dukes and Mike Spice were looking forward to playing their round, going around alongside a couple of Ladies. It must have been a pleasant day, with good humour all the way, as the scores reflected some occasional losses of concentration. But both pairs enjoyed the company.

Ralph Baker did very well alongside Alf Watts. This was Alf's first foray into Championship play, and while he found the tees rather long he did play well on quite a few holes to use his handicap to score well. It was just a shame that their only scratch par came late in their round, on the 18th.

The completion of the cards was quite challenging, but most players can be congratulated on their efforts. Some players did not listen to instructions and recorded their stableford score, for unknown reasons. Keep the good work going.

There was no Sunday Stableford Medley, due to some cold and inclement weather keeping the golfers away.

Here is the news:

Do not forget the farewell to Ben Gear and Som, scheduled for July 4. To manage the social-distancing aspects please advise Ladies Captain Heather Davidson or Mens Captain Steve Grallelis if you would like to attend. Donations for a gift can be provided to the Captains.

The Mens Wallace Cup will commence soon, but we need some more players to make it a worthwhile draw. Contact Captain Steve if you need more info, or place your name on the list in the Pro Shop.

The 'Eagles Nest' will recommence in July, open to Men and Lady players in the Saturday comps. The Men shall also be commencing an Eclectic Comp, so watch out for the notices regarding that.

Remember, we still need to practice the social distancing, even in the 'Golfie' where you must sign in if you intend to stay for a little while.

Crystal ball:

The weekend of 27 and 28 June will see the playing of the Foursomes Championships. The Ladies play 27-Holes on Sat 27 June, with timeslots reserved between 9am and 9:30 am for the commencement of their first 18 holes. The Men play their first round on Sat 27, and their second round on Sunday 28 June.

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