

Manukorihi Golf Club
2016 Tournament Report
30th Annual Mixed Senior's Golf Tournament
Monday 25th April to Friday 29th April 2016

Another successful Mixed Senior's Tournament is over.

The weather god's were very kind to us as the weather was ideal for golf with no rain and very little wind. The golfers appreciated the conditions on our well-presented course as this year was the first for many years that play was not affected by rain. All of the golfers appreciated the effort put into the course by our greens staff in that every green was mown on the 4 mornings that the matches were played as well as having the fairways mown on the Wednesday. Thank you Paul Fairhurst, David Soffe, John Rayner and all the other helpers. To the lady tee starters a special thank you.

Again we had 3 full sections of 16 pairs. We are ever hopeful that due to the popularity of our tournament that next year we can revert to the 4 sections but feel that this is unlikely. Were we very pleased to have had 19 new names in the field which hopefully bodes well for our 2017 tournament that will be held from Monday 24th April through Friday 28th April, with ANZAC day Tuesday being our lay-day? President David has agreed that we can use his Le Dejeuner Wednesday haggie as a tournament day and the committee is very grateful.

Some of the matches were tied after 18 holes which meant they had to continue from where they had started, to find a winner. On the Friday only two matches were tied and as usual had to revert to a chip-off to decide the winners. One chip-off was easy to determine the winning pair as their ball was distinctly closer to the hole but for the other match a measure was required with the winning pair being 50 mm closer to the hole than their opposition. We use a chip-off so that the presentation is not delayed from extra holes being played.

Throughout the country there is still a drop off in Clubs who wish to run these tournaments due to the lack of interest by members who are prepared to do the organising. Of the 96 players, Manukorihi provided 23 of them, Waitara 4, Westown 3 Inglewood 1, Stratford 2 Kaitake 2, New Plymouth 1, Waverley 2 and Urenui 13 The field covered entries from Northland-Sherwood Park, Whangarei and Waipu to entries from Waihi, Mercury Bay, Mahunga, Kapiti, Castlepoint and Paraparaumu in the Wellington region as well as the other regions being represented. The furthest Club represented was Tinwald in Ashurst in the Aorangi region.

The main results were; **Group A** (the lowest handicaps); Geoff Peters & Pauline Davidson (Manukorihi) won with 4 wins; Kevin Southee and Renette Scholtz (Manukorihi), Phil Cleaver (Urenui) & Jo Foreman (Manukorihi), Garry & Sandra Payne (Howick) & Ken Bloor & Jean Dillon (both Omokoroa) had 3 wins. In **Group B**; Ron & Coleen West (Sherwood Park) won with 4 wins; Peter Lopusiewicz (Manukorihi) & Pam Pasma (Sherwood Park), Alan & Min Coplestone (Urenui), Alan & Yvonne Allsworth (Mahunga), Mike & Faye Lack (Formosa) all had 3 wins From **Group C**; Ray and Elsa Bygrave (Otumoetai) won with 4 wins, John Strong (Manukorihi) & Kathy Gower (Waitara), Tony & Kay Wey (Urenui), Eddie Ganzevies -Tulip (Tinwald) & Lauri Fogg (Riverside), Rodney Jupp & Coral Allen (both Manukorihi) all had 3 wins.

It may be of interest that the **Men's** average index last year was 19.6 now 20.9 giving a Manukorihi handicap that was 19 now 20 and the **Women's** average index last year was 22.6 now 22.2 giving a Manukorihi handicap of 22 which shows that the men have got slightly worse while the women have improved since last year.

Of possible further interest is that there were 16 two's last year but 27 this year out of 1920 attempts. Is the course getting easier or the golf better? Our lowest **Men's** handicaps were Terry Tapp of Clarks Beach & Colin Harrison of Omanu on 7 with our Kevin Southee the next on 8. For the **Women**, Ann Braithwaite of Stratford played off of 6 while our own Joy East had a handicap of 12.

We have noticed that due to the ages of the player there are more carts being used with the owners needing lockable storage and the latest permanent container provided by the club was an asset as will be the storage building being planned by the club.

It was unfortunate that for the prize giving New World Waitara/Waitara S& C Club could not be represented so Launa Seddon the Secretary/Treasurer of the NZ Seniors Golf Association made the presentations to Group C. Sheryl Page the owner of Harcourt's Waitara and a long-time supporter made the presentations for Group B. As Methanex could not provide a company representative our Trevor Hughes, immediate Past President Taranaki Seniors Golf filled the role for Group A.

We have again been supported by our past sponsors, namely; Methanex, Waitara Town & Country Club, Harcourt's Waitara, New World Supermarket, Waitara, Raleigh Restaurant, Waitara Services and Citizens Club, Fitzroy Engineering Group, New Plymouth Top 10 Holiday Park and the Intergroup. Without this continuing support the tournament may not be viable as the entry fee would have to be substantially increased. This year Methanex provided various items that the club will raffle with 3 prizes.

Melva has again done a great job in finding replacements at very short notice; e.g. on Wednesday evening (20th) Melva received a phone call from a long attending golfer that he had to withdraw due to a close family member's death. The committee thanks Barry Peterson of the Apati .club for accepting a late call-up. Next year Melva will have spent 21 years in being involved.

The committee has decided to move into the electronic money transfer age by putting the tournament bank account number on the entry form so that the golfing itinerants can pay while they are travelling the country. They must still send in their entry details.

It has been our pleasure to have organised the tournament.

By John Stuart for the committee

Melva Meuli, Marie Rayner, Dennis Elliott, John Stuart