

Manukorihi Golf Club
2018 Tournament Report
32nd Annual Mixed Veteran's Golf Tournament
Monday 23rd April to Friday 27th April 2018

Another successful Mixed Veteran's Tournament is over.

The weather gods were very kind to us as the weather was ideal for golf. The golfers have come to expect that our course will be well-presented and were not disappointed. All 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 during the week. Thank you, Paul Fairhurst, David Soffe, and all the helpers. Our thanks to Cath Alvis, Dot Bowers and Trevor Hughes for being tee-starters and to Joy Andrews in the starters office. To Rod Andrews, thanks for becoming the clubhouse starter. A special thanks to Helen Watt who inserted the card details into the machine after each day's play. Also, a thank you to Jan in the kitchen for providing food.

We again had 3 full sections of 16 pairs. We were very pleased to have had 22 new names in the field which hopefully bodes well for our 2019 tournament that will be held from Monday 22nd April through Friday 26th April, with ANZAC day Thursday being our lay-day. The NZVGA President, Don Campbell (Cambridge) and the Secretary/Treasurer Launa Seddon (Omanu) played in the tournament. As a Committee, we really appreciate their attendance. Our first entry was received from Aaron and Jenny Chen (Whitford Park) shortly after the clubs received our flyer and entry forms in early February. Arron and Jenny were new entries of which there were 22. We were pleased that for the first time in many years the field was full before entries closed. Close to start date we had to find three replacements due to injury and illness and our thanks go to Helen Watt, Jim Newlove and Phil Wilson for filling the gaps.

On the first 3 days some of the matches were tied after 18 holes which meant they had to continue from where they had started with one match going 6 extra holes before Kevin Southee (Manukorihi) and Ann Braithwaite (Te Ngutu) won against Jerry and Julia Kuggeleijn (Waiuku). On the Friday there were 4 chip-offs to the 18th green.

We are still fortunate to have players from a wide distribution of regions with the regions being represented with players from; Auckland 3 clubs, Bay of Plenty 7 clubs, Manawatu/Wanganui 5 clubs, North Harbour 1 club, Northland 3 clubs, Taranaki 9 clubs, Waikato 8 clubs, Wellington 2 clubs.

Of the 96 players in the field the clubs within the Taranaki region were represented by; Manukorihi 21, Waitara 3, Westown 5, Inglewood 5, Te Ngutu 1, Kaitake 2, New Plymouth 1, Waverley 1 and Urenui 7. The field covered entries from Northland; Sherwood Park, Okaihau and Waipu to entries from Turangi, Cambridge, Castlecliff, Kapiti and Mahunga in the Wellington region as well as the other regions being represented.

The main results were; **Group A** (the lowest handicaps); Duncan Elliott and Lesley Elliott (Manukorihi) won with 4 wins; Kevin Southee and Ann Braithwaite, John Mohn (Riverside) and Raewyn MacMahon (Ngahinepouri), Ken Bloor and Jean Dillon (Omokoroa) and Jerry and Julia Kuggeleijn all had had 3 wins. **Group B**; Cliff Oxenham (Manukorihi) & Penny Duncan (Waitara) won with 4 wins; Wayne and Kay Gooch (Tirau and Matamata), Bruce and June Churchill (Linton Camp), Geoff Peters and Pauline Davidson (Manukorihi) and Paddy and Josie Keegan (Inglewood) had 3 wins. **Group C**; Brian and Ray Friend (Kapiti) won with 4 wins; Bruce and Christine Waugh (Okaihau), Val Cleaver (Westown) and Barbara Hunt (Urenui), Jack Campbell (Waipu) and Marie Van Praagh (Waitara) and Carl Beale (Manukorihi) and Maggie McMinn (Castlecliff) had 3 wins.

It may be of interest that the **Men's average** index last year was 22.2 now 21.3 giving a Manukorihi handicap that was 22 now 20 and the **Women's average** index last year was 23.0 now 21.3 giving a Manukorihi handicap that was 22 now 20 which shows that golfers are like wine in that they get better with age.

Of possible further interest is that there were 37 twos' last year but 24 this year out of 1920 attempts. Has the course got harder during the last 12 months? The lowest **Men's** handicaps were our own Darryl Baird on 3 with Terry Tapp of Clarks Beach on a 6. For the **Women**, Ann Braithwaite of Te Ngutu played off 6 with our own Christine Ogle on a 12.

The prize presentations for Group C under the name of Waitara Citizens & Services Club was carried out by our life member Melva Meuli. For Group B under the name of Methanex NZ Ltd the presentations were made by our President David Butler. Sheryl Page the owner of Harcourt's Waitara and a long-time supporter of the tournament made the presentations for Group A that was called Harcourts Waitara.

We have again been supported by our past sponsors, namely; Methanex, Waitara Town & Country Club, Harcourt's Waitara, Raleigh Restaurant, Waitara Services and Citizens Club, Fitzroy Engineering Group, New Plymouth Top 10 Holiday Park, La Nuova, BP Waitara and the Intergroup. Without their 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 raffled; -there were 10 winners. The Top 10 Holiday Park, Fitzroy provided a 1-year Top 10 membership voucher and the raffle was won by Sally Ostermann (Whangaparaoa) and Dennis Taylor (Manukorihi). The raffle for a meal at the Waitara Town & Country Club was won by Marie Rayner.

Melva Meuli was present and was welcomed warmly by previous and new players alike.

It has been our pleasure to have organised the tournament.
Marie Rayner, Dennis Elliott, John Stuart