

Waihi Golf report for April 11 2018

Veterans' golf

With a Wahine-type storm predicted for the second day of the Vets' two-day tournament at Waihi on April 9/10, there must have been a few sleepless nights for the organising committee and the 83 players who had committed themselves to play. The tournament generously sponsored by Summerset by the Sea (Katikati), Craig Investment Partners (Tauranga), RSA Waihi Beach, The French Shop (Waihi Beach), and New World Waihi proceeded as planned, and weather on day one was cloudy, calm and dry, but one has to admire the veteran section for their fortitude, for despite the atrocious forecast, with the eldest in the field an 89-year old— everybody turned up to play on the second day enduring gale-force winds that tore hats from heads, blew trundlers over, and carried unsecured cards far away. There was some excitement on the first day when long-hitting Kevin Southee from Manukorihi in Taranaki scored a hole-in-one on the eighth hole, after his playing partner said as he stepped up to the tee, " I am going to watch you get a hole-in-one here!" She nearly fell off her trundler seat as the ball soared from his club on to the green and into the hole! The 18th hole was chosen for the longest putt, beautifully sheltered from the savage winds by a huge cryptomeria japonica shelter belt outside the course boundary, but with every gust of wind, debris was strewn on to the green in ever-increasing amounts, making putting an entirely hit and hope affair. With the usual "same for everyone philosophy," players coped as best they could and got on with it.

Accumulative results— Men overall nett winner: Kerry Lewis 135. Runners up: David Gear 136, Wayne Gamble 137. Overall stableford winner: Allen Morris (Taupo) 79. Runners up Allen Smith 76; Noel Futter (Paparoa), Colin Vincent (Riverside), Tim Parish, Allen Sarjant 75; Ken Purcell , John Purkis, Kevin Southee (Manukorihi) 74; Gerry Tompkins 73; Rodger Bagshaw, Peter Maria 72; Errol Millar, Bob Hoggard, Aaron Chen (Whitford Park), Maurice Gardner (Clarks Beach) 71; Paul Chadwick 70; Graham Jenkins, Peter Robertson, Ross McFarland, Richard Still 69; Bill Linn (Paeroa), Isamu Otsuka 68; Ross Newnham 67; Rex Ferris (Mt Maunganui), Graeme Hill (Te Aroha), Peter Wright 66. Daily top stableford score— Day One: Morris Allen 43; Day Two: Richard Culleton 44. Twos: John Purkis, Allen Morris (Taupo), Allen Smith, Aaron Chen (Whitford Park) x 2. Hole in One: Kevin Southee (Manukorihi). Longest putts on N° 18—Day One: Roger Gudsell (Twelve Oaks), Day Two: Richard Still. Nearest the pin Day One: Kevin Southee (Manukorihi). Day Two: Andrew Markman (Mt Maunganui).

■ Women—overall nett winner: Judy Borchard 147. Runners up: Diane Lewis , Rae Wright 147. Overall stableford winner: Penny Joyce 68. Runners up: Kathy Ashton, Kimiyo Otsuka 68; Avon Gordon, Rae Brown, Anke Hermannsdorfer, Heather Walker 65; Leslie Noel (Mt Maunganui) 64; Helen Tidswell, Kay Still 63; Marie Roberts (Lake View), Jenny Chen (Whitford Park), Adele Gunning 62 Anne Reece (Taupo) 61; Edna Connolly 60; Brenda Whitehead (South Head) 58. Stableford winner on Day 1: Heather Walker 38. Day 2: Judy Borchard 40. Longest putts on N° 18—Day One: Brenda Whitehead. Day Two: Adrienne Lynch. Nearest the pin Day One: Chris O'Connell. Day Two: Elaine Smith (Hauraki).

It was much appreciated that Fiona Nelson, Sales Manager for Summerset-By-The-Sea, was able to be there to present all the trophies and prizes at the end of the tournament, including the Goldfields Salver for the best overall local man's nett to Kerry Lewis, and the Pye Salver to Judy Borchard for best overall local woman's nett.

Nan Hoggard