

The 2019 Nambucca Heads Veterans Week of Golf saw a capacity field of over 150 golfers compete over four days from Monday 1st July to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July. Players came from 55 Golf Clubs from as far away as Bargara, Queensland and Melbourne, Victoria to play the beautiful Nambucca Heads Island Golf Course.

This year's New South Wales Veteran Golf Association Shield was a 36 Hole Stableford event played over Tuesday and Thursday and Len Payne, Secretary NSWVGA, presented the trophies to the winners.

The winner of the Men's Shield was Ash Rennie from Beverly Park with 70 points. Runner up was Greg Doolan from Yamba with 69 points. The Shield for the Ladies was won by Helen Gauci from Beverly Park with 71 points. Runner up was Leesa King from Redland Bay with 60 points.

The Men's 36 Hole Scratch event played over the two days was won by Paul Atkins from Wyong with 51. Runner up was Ross Jones from Waratah with 45. The Ladies 36 Hole Scratch was won by Sheena Gunn from Port Macquarie. Runner up was Maree Ciavarella from Rich River.

The opening event on Monday was an Irish Teams event. Winners with 81 points were Jim & Joan Crisp (South West Rocks) and Richard & Nancy Fuller (Byron Bay & Mullumbimby). Runners up on 80 points were Eric & Penny Hudson (Leeton) and John & Lee Daley (Yamba). Coming 3<sup>rd</sup> was Harry Overton (Harrington Waters), Stephen Foster (Moree) and Greg & Dawn Moylan (Harrington Waters) on 79 points.

Tuesday's event was the first round of the NSWVGA Shield. In the Men's Division, the A grade winner was Rad Vasic (Port Kembla) with 36 points. Runner up was Ray Reid (Howlong) with 33 points on countback from Greg Weber (Everglades). The B Grade winner was Gary Craig (Bargara) with 38 points. Runner up was Bill Osborne (Tanilba Bay) with 37 points and 3<sup>rd</sup> place went to Richard Fuller (Byron Bay) with 36 points. The C Grade winner was Eric Hudson (Leeton) with 36 points. Runner up was Chris Pautsch (Wakehurst) with 34 points on a countback from Alan Hawkins (Nelson Bay).

In the Ladies Division, the A Grade was won by Yvie Stafford (Heidelberg) with 32 points. Runner up was Wendy Thompson (Wallacia) with 31 points on countback from Britta Lamborn (Wakehurst) with 31 points. B Grade winner was Jan Alborough (Stawell) with 34 points. Runner up was Cathy Pautsch (Wakehurst) with 30 points while 3<sup>rd</sup> was Helen Venner (Tanilba Bay) with 29 points. The C Grade winner was Joan Crisp (South West Rocks) with 36 points. Runner up was Judy Page (Camden Studley) with 31 points on countback from Goldie Reid (Howlong) with 31 points.

Wednesday was a "rest day" with most visitors opting to enjoy the shopping and recreational facilities of Nambucca town. A large contingent lunched at The Golden Sands Tavern, one of our major sponsors.

Thursday's event was the second round of the NSWVGA Shield. In the Men's Division, the A grade winner was David Doig (Leeton) with 37 points. Runner up was Wendell Reitenbach (Howlong) with 34 points on countback from Gary Donaldson (Coraki). The B Grade winner was Barry Attwood (Leongatha) with 36 points on countback from Mark Rixon (Redland Bay). In 3<sup>rd</sup> place was David Shearer (Wallacia) with 33 points. In C Grade the winner was Peter Hearn (Harrington Waters). Runner up was Sam Ball (Gailes) with 33 points and 3<sup>rd</sup> was Geoff Lee (Pacific Dunes) with 29 points.

In the Ladies Division, the A Grade winner was Nerida Edmonds (Port Kembla) with 33 points. Runner up was Anne Hamilton (Belmont) with 30 points and 3<sup>rd</sup> was Kerry Gallagher (Bargara) with 29 points. In B Grade the winner was Bev Moore (Everglades) with 32 points. Runner up was Nancy Fuller (Mullumbimby) with 28 points on countback from Irene Swyer (Shoalhaven Heads).

The C Grade winner was Jackie Wheeler (Port Kembla) with 31 points. The runner up was Thereza Holley (Noosa) with 28 points while 3<sup>rd</sup> went to Dawn Moylan (Harrington Waters) with 27 points on countback.

Unfortunately, Friday's closing event had to be cancelled due to bad weather making the course unplayable.

The Tournament Committee would like to acknowledge and thank all our major sponsors: Chris Watson (Watsons Leisure Centre), Jan Brown (Foreshore Caravan Park), John Partridge (Golden Sands Tavern), Steve Ward (Pizza This, Pizza That), Anne Marriott (Guardian Pharmacy) and Warwick Lean (Nambucca Newsagency).

To all the members of the NHIGC who donated their time to assist in the running of the Tournament, a big thank you. To Matt and staff of the Island Restaurant, Paul and family in the Pro Shop, and our bar staff, thank you for your friendly & efficient service. Finally, a special thanks to Brendan Graham and his greenkeeping staff for the excellent presentation of the golf course, especially considering the torrential rain of the previous week.

Next year's event is scheduled for Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020.



## **2019 NSWVGA SHIELD WINNERS – Ash Rennie & Helen Gauci**

Geoff McCann