

Nambucca Heads Island Golf Club – Golf Report for the week ending Sunday 25th October 2020.

By Geoffrey McCann.

This week's featured sponsor is Allied Air Conditioning, Coffs Harbour – thank you! The week has seen a continuation of great fields and good scores from members and visitors!

The big talk around the club is the removal of two iconic Casuarina trees to the left of the First and Eleventh greens – assessed to be dangerous by a consultant arborist, the Board resolved to mitigate the safety risk to players by having them removed. Our course Superintendent Greg Jager is most pleased with the result - apart from constant removal of fallen debris, the tree root systems are aggressive, invading the surrounding fairways and the greens themselves. What a visual difference this has made, not to mention an easier approach to these greens – I know, found the left bunker on the First on Thursday!

Photo – Dan Wood expertly felling the iconic and “much loved” casuarina adjacent to the First Hole!

Tuesday 20th October was a Medley Single Stableford with 94 starters, and a warm welcome to a large contingent of Vets from Port Macquarie – some good players in this lot! Paul McTakkett (15) visiting from Kiama and John Tracey (13) from Port Macquarie both top scored on the day with 42 points in Division 1 (scratch to 16), with Paul winning on the countback. In Division 2 (17 to 23), John McCollom (20) scored 39 points to win from Andrew Donovan (22) with 34 points. Donald Atkinson has been in the winners circle a few times recently and kept the good form going with 36 points to win Division 3 (24 to 45) from Grant Smith (29) with 35 points. Other good scores from Aaron Loughland and Stephen Truelove 40 – great rounds guys! Robert Pengilly (Port Macquarie) 38, Michael Mulvihill (Port Macquarie) 37, Phil Johnson (Port Macquarie) and Phil Dixon (Port Macquarie) 36. The Ball Comp went down to 33 points on countback.

Wednesday 21st October was the last Women's Single Stableford to qualify for the Top Ten Shootout, 40 points were required to make it into the 10. There was a field of 43 players taking advantage of the perfect conditions with Ann Antcliff from “B” Grade winning overall with 38 stableford points, runner up in “B” was Sue Seymour with 37. “A” Grade was won by Lisa Urquhart on a count back from Helen Ferrero with 35 points. Robyn Dyer won “C” Grade with 37 and runner up was Deidre Byrne with 35 points. Ball run went to 32 stableford points.

Photo: Winning Duo Lisa Urquhart & Robyn Dyer.

Thursday 22nd October – another Medley Single

Stableford with over 100 competitors enjoying the great spring weather, no doubt the good run on the fairways allowing for some more high scoring. In Division 1 (scratch to 18), Linne Street (16) and Stephen Truelove (8) both scored 39 points, Linne having the better back nine to win on countback. Christopher Tinson (23) top scored for the day with 42 points to win Division 2 (19 to 24) from Paul McElhinney (19) with 41 points – a tough school, boys! We haven't seen Roy Louis (27) in the winner's circle for a while, and it's good to see him have a good round of 39 points to win Division 3 (25 to 45) from Leonard Daly (25) from Cromer with 36 points. Other good scores from David



Ogilvy, William Mann and Gary Thurlow 38, Rosemary West (Long Reef), Peter Fredericks and Leanne Welsh 36. In the Ball Comp you needed 32 on a countback, Peter Farrell collecting the last one.

Saturday 24th October was a Medley Single Stableford event with a much reduced field of 38 playing in one Division due to rain which threatened most of the day. Geoffrey Poole (26) top scored for the day with 41 points to win from Glen Crow (11) with 37 points on countback. Other good rounds from Kim Michelson (Urunga), Talia Waaka & Stephen Carr 37, and Edward Penrose 36. Balls went down to 34 on countback.

Photo: Geoff McCann and Geoff Brooks at 7th Tee – this week's sponsor - Allied Air Conditioning, Coffs Harbour.



Sunday 25th October – The Nambucca Men's Open sponsored by Kempsey Haval – deferred from earlier in the year due to COVID issues, competing events at other Clubs and a threatening rain event kept numbers down to 46 players. Backing up from a huge 43 points last Saturday, Dennis Ashton (19) continued some amazing form to card net 63 to win from Keith Elphick (25) with net 64, and Bruce Berry (4) net 66. Other good scores from Brian Ussher 67, Steve Doherty, Rodney Ford and Leslie Mohr all 68. David Bagust (Port Macquarie) won the scratch with 72. A big Thank You to Kempsey Haval for sponsoring the event.

Next weeks' golf has Medley Single Stableford events on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday – Thursday's event is "Open" Dolphin Day, with a specially embroidered shirt for the overall winner. Our featured sponsor of the week is Nambucca Heads RSL Club. The ladies play a 4BBB Irish Stableford on Wednesday, and a 9 hole Chook Run is on Friday. The "Island Sunday" is back - an Open 4BBB Mixed Stableford - Social play is available after competitions, and on other days from 8am until 4pm.

All Golf bookings are available on-line for members, or by contacting the pro shop 6568 8172. See you on the Island!



Dan's Tree Service in action on the First hole. Both trees were in bad shape – the photo on the right is the tree on the 11th Hole. Dan was quite amazed that both trees had survived the recent strong nor'easters – they were really a disaster waiting to happen!



Well done to the Board of Directors – player safety is paramount!