



Canterbury Golf Annual Awards Dinner

The postponed 2020 Canterbury Golf Annual Awards Dinner is being held at the Christchurch Golf Club on Friday 21 August. Normally held in early June, the celebration of golf in Canterbury was postponed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Another stellar evening is planned and will be led once again by MC extraordinaire Phil McGoldrick. We will be celebrating the success of both players and volunteers throughout the evening as well. The evening will also include a feature interview with some of the players that have currently returned from their golf scholarships in America due to the pandemic.

We will also be presenting a Life Membership to a former President of Canterbury Golf, and launching the "Friends of Canterbury Golf" fund-raising initiative that will be led by ambassadors Sir Bob Charles and Todd Heller. Todd will be the guest speaker for the evening and will talk about his life building a multi-national business as well as his passion for golf.

Tickets are limited this year to ensure everyone has a quality experience. These are available through your club or by contacting Canterbury Golf directly on 359 4000. Tickets include a 3 course dinner, table wine and entertainment. \$75 per adult, \$50 per Junior (U18).



Golf in NZ thriving despite Covid-19 pandemic

Golf in New Zealand continues to thrive despite the recent Covid-19 pandemic, with statistics showing an increase in membership throughout the country from this time last year.

New Zealand Golf has seen a 4.1% increase in golf club memberships across the country since the end of June 2019, with a recent spike from April to May as the country came out of isolation.

June 2020 has also seen a significant increase in rounds played compared to June 2019 despite an additional weekend in the month of June last year. An 11.1% increase in rounds played this year outlines golf's popularity in what has been a tough year for most sports in New Zealand.

Golf plays a vital part in the lives of New Zealand golfers mentally, physically, and socially; bringing people together in a safe environment, often creating a community hub at local golf clubs around the country.

New Zealand Golf Chief Executive Dean Murphy says "The state of golf in New Zealand post Covid-19 is quite amazing. We've seen a record in number of rounds played this year and we were up 28% for the first 15 days of June compared to last year. There is a lot of great golfing activity



happening throughout the country.

"When New Zealand moved into isolation it was highlighted how important golf was to both members and casual golfers. As New Zealand started to move out of Covid-19 Alert Level 4 the playing of golf was relatively simple under Alert Level 3 guidelines compared to other sports, so a lot of people started playing as it was a great way to get outdoors during a difficult time.

"There are a lot of golf clubs that have signed a number of new members as a result, which is a great thing for the game in New Zealand," Murphy says.

For the first time in 10 years junior membership and rounds played by young people has substantially increased. Junior membership has increased 13% and rounds played being up by 12%.

Over 105,000 golfers are currently members of a golf club, with over 120,000 golfers registered as casual players.

Canterbury has seen an annual increase in membership of 3.5%, and rounds played through the start of June increased by 30%.

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Interclub Set to Get Underway

The 2020 Premier Interclub competitions commence on 9 August, with Woodward Cup at Pegasus, Blank Cup at Coringa, Simon Cup at Harewood and Pollock Cup starting the following week at Harewood.

Indications from Team Managers are that their teams are all well prepared and raring to go, with a number of teams already having played several warm-up matches over the past few weeks in readiness for the match play format.

In both Woodward and Pollock Cups, interest will be high

with the return of a number of top flite younger players still in Canterbury, pending their possible return to University golf in the United States.

This year, like the Woodward Cup conditions, Pollock Cup teams are allowed up to two imports in each team.

For many it's been some time since they have enjoyed competitive golf so it's shaping up to be a great season of interclub. Full draws are available on www.canterburygolf.co.nz.

Inspiring the Next Generation



Having the opportunity to play alongside some of the region's top golfers was an inspirational experience for eight young Canterbury girls. With Amelia Garvey currently back from America and Momoka Kobori having just graduated with a Sports Medicine degree from

Pepperdine University it was the ideal opportunity to hold a session with these girls along with Canterbury representative Maddie May to inspire the next generation of girls.

The young girls had fun warming up with some games before heading out to play 9 holes at Harewood Golf Club. "It was a lot of fun playing with the younger girls, I remember looking up to older players when I was their age so it was great to be involved with these girls" said Amelia Garvey.



Canterbury Junior Events Attract Record Number

The Canterbury Futures Junior events, held during the school holidays, attracted some of the largest fields in the past ten years with over 60 players enjoying the events played at Waimairi Beach Golf Club and Avondale Golf Club.

With both 9 hole and 18 holes there was something for everyone. "It was great to see a range of players aging from 5 to 18 years playing in the events with some new faces participating in the Canterbury Golf events for the first time," said Rachel Thow Canterbury Golf Development Manager. "It shows that there are a number of clubs, along with the Futures Canterbury hubs, doing some great work to provide programmes to grow participation in this age bracket".



News in Brief

McLeans Island Win Presidents Grade

The final round of the Presidents Grade interclub was hotly contested with very little separating the top six teams.

McLeans Island and Russley finished tied on points after the final round where McLeans Island beat Christchurch and Russley finished with a draw against Clearwater. McLeans Island edged out Russley for the title on a countback of games.



North Canterbury Interclub Finals

The Kaikoura Cup final was contested by last years Champions Amuri who played against Amberley. The Kaikoura Cup was won by Amberley who defeated Amuri 4-2.

The Templeton Cup was won by Rangiora Red defeating Amberley Gold 3.5-2.5. The winning Rangiora Red Team are pictured below.



Juliana Hung Finishes 6th in Taiwan LPGA Event

Juliana Hung, who earned her card to play on the Taiwan LPGA Tour, has finished 6th in the WPG Ladies Open which had prize money of NZ\$230,000.

The Taiwan LGA Tour is the fifth largest LPGA Tour behind the US, Japan, Europe and Korea. Juliana will enjoy playing events mainly in Taiwan but also in the Philippines, Thailand, Hong Kong, Singapore and Japan.

We wish Juliana all the best.



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