

Canterbury Men Win National Title



Back row: Mike Taylor (Manager), Zach May, Kazuma Kobori, Reid Hilton, Kerry Chuck (Selector).
Front row: Andrew Green, Mike Toeke, Matt McLean.

A stellar performance by the Canterbury Men's Team has seen them lift the trophy at the New Zealand Men's Interprovincial played at Whitford Park Golf Club this week.

The Canterbury Men's team are pictured back row from left, Mike Taylor (Manager), Zach May, Kazuma Kobori, Reid Hilton, Kerry Chuck (Selector). Front row from left Andrew Green, Mike Toeke, Matt McLean.

Canterbury last won the title in 2000 with the team of Eddie Lee, Jay Davies, Andrew Hobbs, Tim Evett, Isaac Randall and Nigel Davis.

"It's so difficult when you have so many teams that can win the event". Said Andrew Hobbs, the winning Canterbury Captain from 2000. "This week has brought back so many memories. I've followed the event all week and have been in touch with the team from 2000. You take a huge amount of pride to represent your province, you don't get that opportunity very often in a sport that is quite individual. It's so special to be part of a team".

Mike Toeke captained the team this week in his third time representing the province at the event after getting a taste for the level of competition in 2014 when he went as Assistant Manager.

"I thought getting to play the weekend was an accomplishment. Our first round loss to Manawatu-Wanganui was the wake up call we needed".

"I told the lads, we came up here to do a job. If you leave the course and you've given it 100% that's all you can do"

The team executed the plan and gained valuable points and games throughout the week which included 5-0 wins over

Aorangi and Tasman to elevate their position on the table.

"I knew we were onto something special when we won against an unbeaten Taranaki side, then on Friday when we beat Otago, who has been dominant in recent years, and Northland the 2018 winners".

"Everything fell into place and everyone played their part."

The Canterbury team came out firing in the semi-final against Hawkes Bay to keep the dream alive.

The final against North Harbour couldn't have been tighter, all five matches were all square through the first 5 holes with Canterbury pushing slightly in front through 9. Matches continued to seesaw throughout the back 9 holes.

Toeke and Jason Gulasekharam went to the 18th all square, but an out of bounds tee shot on 18 would prove costly for Harbour, with Canterbury's team captain Toeke winning the first Canterbury point.

Harbour responded with wins to Jesper Bengtsson and Jerry Ren against Reid Hilton and Zach May respectively in closely fought battles.

Matt McLean locked the scoreline up two all after beating Kit Bittle 2/1 with attention all falling on the number one players.

James Hydes had been in control most of the afternoon but Kobori started to mount a come-back winning the 14th, 16th and 17th holes to turn a two hole deficit into a one hole lead standing on the 18th tee.

With Hydes having to make an aggressive play on 18 to extend the match his approach shot was wide leaving himself with having to chip in to force a play-off.

The Canterbury Men's Team displayed nerves of steel through the week closing out tight matches down the home straight and the final against North Harbour was a further display of this.

"We appreciated all the support throughout the week, it was great to have some of the player's families here as well as Kerry Chuck (Canterbury Men's Selector) and Jake Roberts. We knew everyone back in Canterbury was behind us and the boys appreciated that".

"This one is for the province and the people back home in Canterbury" said Toeke.

"The team have a special bond and will remember this moment for the rest of our lives, it's surreal".

With seven wins from eight starts and his only loss coming the semi-final win against Hawkes Bay, Kazuma Kobori was named player of the tournament.

Kobori thrived on the pressure of being number one and played a valuable role in the team.

"I knew my game was in a great position to make birdies so I wasn't exactly nervous, I was just happy to get the job done."



Kazuma Kobori pictured with Manager Mike Taylor.

After an exciting week of action attention now turns to the Akarana Golf Club with the New Zealand Women's Interprovincial starting there on Tuesday.

Semi-Final Results

North Harbour 4 Taranaki 1 James Hydes def Sam Jones 5/3, Kit Bittle def Ethan Jones 5/3, Jesper Bengtsson def Joseph Doyle 2/1, Jerry Ren lost to Chris Charlton 3/2, Jason Gulasekharam def Caleb Symes 3/2

Canterbury 3 Hawkes Bay 2 Kazuma Kobori lost to Mako Thompson 1up, Matt McLean lost to Russell Mitchell 1up, Reid Hilton def Tyson Tawera 5/4, Zach May def Stu Duff 4/3, Mike Toeke def Zach Swanwick 2/1

Final Results

Canterbury 3 North Harbour 2 Kazuma Kobori def James Hydes 1up, Matt McLean def Kit Bittle 2/1, Jesper Bengtsson def Reid Hilton 4/3, Zach May lost to Jerry Ren 2/1, Mike Toeke def Jason Gulasekharam 1up

Canterbury Golf Sponsors



Canterbury Golf Announce Partnership with Hazlett Insurance

It is with pleasure that Canterbury Golf announces a sponsor partnership with Hazlett Insurance to support development of junior golf in Canterbury.

Hazlett Insurance is part of the Hazlett group. A Canterbury owned and operated business with a focus on high quality personalised service, a belief in putting people first and valuing quality long term relationships. Their insurance business has grown quickly on the back of these values, the relationships of the wider group and the success in building a quality team.

"Hazlett Insurance views its partnership with Canterbury Golf as an outstanding opportunity to develop a mutually beneficial program that delivers an ongoing flow of income to support junior golf development" says Peter Engel, General Manager for Hazlett Insurance. "Hazlett's has been a long-term

sponsorship supporter of juniors sport in Canterbury and sees this as an excellent opportunity to further its contribution" continues Engel.

"We are delighted to have Hazlett on board to support junior golf in Canterbury" says Canterbury Golf General Manager Grant Lewis. "Support will be particularly targeted at the Futures Canterbury programme which has been a phenomenal success so far and continues to grow rapidly" continues Lewis.

The Selwyn and North-East Hubs currently have over 200 junior members and over 80 parent members.

As part of the partnership Hazlett Insurance will also be the naming rights sponsor for the 2021 Canterbury Matchplay to be held at Templeton Golf Club 6-7 March.

Canterbury Golf will be working with Broker James Richards to assist the Canterbury golf community with their insurance requirements. More information will be released shortly.

Hazlett Insurance has a focus on delivering superior expertise to optimise risk protection, pricing and claims outcomes.

Visit www.hazlett.nz



Bell Claims Her First Champion of Champions Title

Catherine Bell (Christchurch Golf Club) withstood the conditions to claim the 2020 Champion of Champions title with Pegasus winning the Gross Stableford teams Rosebowl.

Players had to endure tough conditions with strong winds and showers at Templeton golf course.

Catherine Bell claimed the title returning a 36 hole gross total of 151 which included a stunning 71 in the afternoon to claim the title for the first time. Rachel Eder (Clearwater) finished runner up ahead of Amy Weng (Pegasus) in third place.

The Hagley Trophy for 36 hole net was won by Rhonda Hira (Avondale). The 9 Hole Champion was Liz Agnew (Avondale).

The Gross Stableford Rosebowl for 36 hole team aggregate was won by the Pegasus team of Aileen Morris, Amy Weng and Keryn Bragg.

The Pat Rennell Salver was won jointly by Greendale's Crisie Banks and Gwen Heffernan and Lincoln's Nancy Moroney and Heather Templeton.



News in Brief

Tight Competition at NZ Men's Freyberg

Competition for points was very tight at the NZ Men's Freyberg. The eight round round robin format leaves no room for error with teams all evenly matched.

The Canterbury Men Masters Team finished in 11th position with narrow losses mid way through the week which dashed hopes of a top finish by the team.

Canterbury beat Taranaki 4-1
Canterbury lost to North Harbour 3.5-1.5
Canterbury lost to Manawatu Wanganui 4-1
Canterbury lost to Southland 3-2
Canterbury lost to Northland 3-2
Canterbury v Hawkes Bay (play abandoned)
Canterbury beat Auckland 3.5-1.5
Canterbury lost to Bay of Plenty 3-2

US Open Awaits for Amelia Garvey

Amelia Garvey is finally teeing it up in her first major championship as she joins Lydia Ko in the US Women's Open field.

Garvey has received an exemption into the final major of the year which will be played at Champions Golf Club from December 11 - 14.

It was an exciting phone call to get. "It feels unreal. "The last couple of months have been really nerve racking as I've been on the bubble to sneak into the field on an exemption" she says.

Last year, she was six-under par after 36-holes of qualifying for the US Women's Open and missed her spot in the field by a single stroke.

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