

## Mahunga Golf Club Report

From Kevin May

Saturday saw two match play events decided, with the finals of the Dove trophy and Nichol Cup.

In the Dove Trophy Final, Ken Luke was up against Francis Nicholls, and they had a great battle. Ken Luke was one ahead playing the last hole, but Francis Nicholls was able to win the hole with a par. So it was off down the nineteenth hole, where Ken Luke secured the win with a par. In the Nichol Cup, Daniel Towgood emerged the winner from Jamie Hall.

The club competition on Saturday was a stableford round, which was also the first round of the O'Keeffe Trophy, and in both groups, the scoring was close. In the lower handicap group, both Francis Nicholls and Laurence Butler finished with 44 points, with Ray Cocks the next best with 41 points.

In the second group, Alan Eagle and Ken Luke shared the honours with 41 point totals, which was one more than Syd Whittington. There were only two holes in two for the day, with those being scored by Trish Gallon and Anita Karaitiana.

The Solway Pie Shop nearest to the pin on the first hole and the Dinah and Deb Keats Professionals Real Estate one on the seventeenth fell to Ray Cocks. Kevin Gibbs secured the Mitre 10 one on the third hole, Trish Gallon secured the McAuley's Transport one on sixth hole on the way to her hole in two, Anita Karaitiana did the same on the Alister Bruce Affordable Building's one on the tenth, and Kevin Hunter wrapped up the Solway Butchery one on the eighth hole.

The men's Marquis Shield team played the competition leaders Carterton at Featherston on Sunday, and they ended up with the lion's share of the points. While the eight matches to four was not enough to overturn Carterton's lead, it was enough to make sure that the end result of the Marquis Shield will go down to the wire in the last round, which is to be held at Mahunga on 13<sup>th</sup> May.

Sunday's competition at home was a medal round. The best round of the day was the 62 nett scored by Ian Grant in taking out the second group, with Mike Foote the runner up in that group on 69 nett, with Jessica Butler on 70 nett. It was close in the lower handicap group, with Rob McKelvey, Kevin May and Alan Biel all finishing on 68 nett. The Lukies Lucky last prize went to Gavin Towgood with a score of 78 nett.

On Tuesday, the veteran's group hosted their counterparts from Masterton in a competition over fourteen hole instead of their usual sixteen holes. In the ladies lower

handicap group, Janet Shaw was a clear winner with 38 points. Pat Gard was the runner up on 33 points, followed by Evelyn Munn on 32 and Yvonne Allsworth on 31. In the second group, Sue Ratapu led the way with 33 points, followed by Pamela Andrew on 31 and both Brenda Perry and Judith O'Connor on 30 points.

In the men's lower handicap group, Syd Whittington led the way with 36 points, from Peter Campbell on 33 and Ian Gemmill and Alan Allsworth on 32 points.

The second group saw Alan Blundell in the top spot with 32 points, with Ross Ireland and John Eccles joint runners up on 31 and Colin Henwood rounded out the prize list on 29 points.

The ladies nearest to the pin on the third hole went to Pat Gard, while Yvonne Allsworth took the one on the sixth. The men's one on the sixth went to Trevor Oliver and Jim Munn got the one on the seventh hole. There were just two holes in two on the day, those being scored by Peter Campbell and Jack Richmond.

In the battle between the two clubs, the Masterton total was 302 points, and the Mahunga team took the day's honours with 330 points.

Next week, the veteran's group will be playing in the second round of their Haddon Donald trophy.

This coming week-end has a stableford round on Saturday, which is the second round of the O'Keeffe Trophy. Sunday is a free day, with the competition being a medal round.

The following week-end has the club hosting the Wairarapa 14 – 36 Strokeplay Championships, with 18 holes being played each day, commencing at mid-day. The entry sheet for this tournament is in the club house foyer.