

PRE 2005

2003

HRDGA v NDGA – P.R. West Shield Kurri Golf Club – June, 2003

In 1956 the two adjoining Districts commenced an annual match for their leading golfers. The match was played for the PR West Shield and up until this year the Hunter River had only been successful on 3 occasions, 1958, 1965 & 1968.

Year after year the Hunter River would front up with high ambitions, and full of confidence in the team selected only to run second again. On many occasions the Hunter would be in a leading position at the half way mark only to capitulate over the last nine holes.

Losing became second nature and long serving District officials vowed to retire if ever the Hunter River defeated Newcastle.

2002 was no different, confidence was high. Fielding what was considered the strongest team ever selected including players of the calibre of Kurt Barnes and Andrew Partridge, only to be smacked to the tune of fifteen matches to one.

But 2003 was finally the Hunters year with an unexpected 9 –7 win over Newcastle. After a 35 year drought the Hunter team could finally lift the PR West Shield as victors.

Kurri Golf Club hosted the match, the greens and fairways in immaculate condition. Both teams were depleted of players due to representative commitments. However the Hunter River were boosted by the availability of Kurt Barnes and Andrew Partridge, again, but surprisingly, both players lost their match on the last hole.

Hunter's win was based in the junior ranks where they were victorious 4 ½ matches to ½, whilst the Colts were tied at 2 ½ matches each. The senior golfers resulted in a convincing win to Newcastle 4 – 2.

Hunter team members were:

Seniors: Andrew Partridge (c), Kurt Barnes, Gary Mears, Matt Chapman, Jamie Stevens and Andrew Wyper.

Colts: Chad Cresswell, Keiran Sloan, Gavin Sutherland, Matt Hill and Nathan Lane. **Juniors:** Michael Clark, Dave Morgan, Brady Stair, Damien Goff and Leigh Williams

The Hunter River, brimful of confidence, will now look forward to defending the Shield at Newcastle next year, with new officials at the helm.