

2008

DISTRICT JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS - Maitland - 16th March 2008

Hunter River Champion

Matt Cluff - Kurri - 71

GIRLS	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
Scratch Winner	Aliza Huff	Belmont	73
Nett Winner	Samantha Sinclair	Maitland	71
Nett Runner Up	Jordana Keaton	Muswellbrook	72

BOYS 12 and Under	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
Scratch Winner	Nat Barnes	Merewether	80
Nett Winner	Brodyn Gargan	Muswellbrook	60
Nett Runner Up	Ben Clapham	Highlands	69
Nett Third	Isiah Wolferstan	Branxton	70

BOYS 13 and 14	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
Scratch Winner	Beau McDonalds	Beresfield	76
Nett Winner	Anthony Bentley	Branxton	65
Nett Runner Up	Max Bryant	Coffs Harbour	69
Nett Third	Tim Hyland	Coffs Harbour	70

BOYS 15	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
Scratch Winner	Connor Walton	Kurri	73
Nett Winner	Tom Leslie	Maitland	65
Nett Runner Up	Clayton Bridges	Belmont	68
Nett Third	Andrew Marriott	Maitland	69

BOYS 16 and 17	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
Scratch Winner	Mitch Kellehar	Toronto	70
Nett Winner	David Connaughton	Maitland	64
Nett Runner Up	Adam Hume	Muswellbrook	66
Nett Third	Troy Cameron	Maitland	68

COLTS	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
Scratch Winner	David Morgan	The Oaks	67
Nett Winner	Eli Richardson	Beresfield	68

AMBROSE FOURS CHAMPIONSHIP - McLINTOCK SHIELD

114 District golfers took to the course at Cessnock for the popular ambrose event. The course was presented in excellent condition, but most players found it difficult to get the ball up to the hole on the unusually slow, but true greens.

Obviously the winners didn't have this problem returning a record winning score of 16 under par. The Lucas family, Anthony Snr, Jnr & Troy teamed up with the newly crowned Kurri B Grade champion Matt Rieck to record 4 pars, 2 eagles and 12 birdies .

Scratch runners up were the composite junior side of Cameron & Brody Benkovic, Connor Walton & Daniel Rigby. The boys played solid golf for a scratch score of 58 and could be considered unlucky not to win the event.

District Senior Martin Jolly led his Kurri team of Chris Ford, Matt Cluff & Eden Hayes to a nett 53 1/4 to nudge out the Branxton team of Errol Munzenberger, Kyle Mounser, Phil Carter & Paul Smith by half a shot.

4 MAN AMBROSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE OAKS - 18th NOVEMBER 2008

TROPHY	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
SCRATCH			
Scratch Winners	A LUCAS		
	A LUCAS	KURRI	56
	T LUCAS		
	M REIKE		
Scratch R Up	C BENKOVIC	Muswellbrook	
	B BENKOVIC	Muswellbrook	58
	C WALTON	Kurri	
	D RIGBY	Oaks	
NETT			
Nett Winners	M JOLLY		
	C FORD	KURRI	53.5
	E HAYES		
	M CLUFF		
Nett R Up	E MUNZENBERGER	Branxton	
	P CARTER	Branxton	53.75
	K MOUNSER	Branxton	
	P SMITH	Kurri	

INDIVIDUAL SCORES OF HUNTER PLAYERS AT 2008 REGIONALS

AT CENTRAL COAST

**Jim Baker Shield
Team**

		Tuggerah	Gosford	TOTAL
Seniors	Mark Hale	65	69	134
	Michael Clark	76	78	154
	David Morgan	77	78	155
	Josh Knott	82	75	157
	Scott Hayes	75	83	158
	Martin Smith	87	83	170
Juniors				
	Connor Walton	78	78	156
	Cameron Benkovic	82	77	159
	Luke Gagelar	78	82	160
	Daniel Rigby	86	81	167
	Nick Payne	87	87	174
Colts				
	Mac Dawson	71	74	145
	Chris Ford	74	78	152
	Brendan Smith	75	78	153
	Jono Towns	80	78	158
	James Smart	80	82	162
Veterans				
	Ken Roe	82	77	159
	Martin Jolly	79	80	159
	James Hogg	84	81	165
	Ross Banks	86	89	175
	Cary Johnson	84	92	176

2008 District Championships – Kurri Golf Club

Sunday 24 August, 2008.

Branxton member Mark Hale made it two in a row when he returned a 3 under par 69 to win the 2008 A grade District Championship. Mark played his usual consistent game with four birdies and a glitch on the 15th where he made the only bogey of his round.

Runner up 5 strokes behind was Andrew Harrison, from Singleton, on 74.

The A grade handicap winner was Martin Smith (Maitland), who edged out fellow member Bryan Gulliver, both players finishing on 69. Junior Cameron Benkovic came in with a nett 70 to take the third placed money.

Anthony Lucas Jnr from Kurri was no surprise as winner of the B grade Championship when he carded an 80 off the stick to win by a shot from up & coming junior Hayden Gulliver from Maitland. Hayden's nett score of 68 was sufficient to win the handicap trophy.

Mark McKenzie also from Kurri, was awarded the B grade scratch runner up trophy when he shot an honest 82 off the stick.

Handicap runner up in B grade was another junior Brady Benkovic on nett 71 and bringing up third spot was veteran Dave Curry from Branxton on 73.

The 2008 C grade champion was Graham Groizard of The Oaks with a gross score of 91. A couple of early blips in the form of a double and triple bogey in the first four holes would normally unsettle any golfer but Graham knuckled down to consolidate his round for a fine win.

Runner up in the scratch was septuagenarian Kevin Coleman on 92 from Kurri.

Handicap winner, not to be outdone by his son, was Anthony Lucas Snr with an incredible nett 66. The two Anthony's will no doubt be pleased with their handicap reductions.

Perennial C grader, Steve "Ossie" Oswald from Maitland won the handicap runner up on nett 74, whilst Tim Clark from Dungog was third on nett 75.

TROPHY	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
A GRADE			
scratch 1	Mark Hale	Branxton	69
scratch 2	Andrew Harrison	Singleton	74
nett 1	Martin Smith	Maitland	69
nett 2	Bryan Gulliver	Maitland	69
nett 3	Cameron Benkovic	Muswellbrook	69
B GRADE			
scratch 1	Anthony Lucas	Kurri	80
scratch 2	Mark McKenzie	Kurri	82
nett 1	Hayden Gulliver	Maitland	68
nett 2	Brady Benkovic	Muswellbrook	71
nett 3	Dave Curry	Branxton	73
C GRADE			
scratch 1	Graham Groizard	The Oaks	91
scratch 2	Kevin Coleman	Kurri	92
nett 1	Anthony Lucas_snr	Kurri	66
nett 2	Steve Oswald	Maitland	74
nett 3	Tim Clark	Dungog	75

MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP – Ben Owen Cup

Dungog Golf Club 17 August, 2008

HOGG CLAIMS MASTERS JACKET

All round sportsman and card sharp James Hogg, from the Oaks and Cypress Lakes, won the 2008 Masters Championship held at Dungog, on Sunday 17 August, 2008. His sparkling round of even par 70 on the tricky layout gave him a clear 3 shot margin over defending champion Gary Mears from Muswellbrook.

James had been spied spending many days on the Dungog course leading up to the event. Pundits thought he was practising when in actual fact, he confided he was taking measurements for his SureShot GPS. However the GPS proved to be fallible, when he came up two feet short of the pin on the 9th hole for his second shot.

Third place in the scratch went to Rob Logue of Cessnock on 75.

Phil Howell from the Kurri Club struck form to win the handicap event with a nett 68. Phil was drawn in the same group as Dave Parkinson and luckily didn't become infected with Dave's notorious J Arthur Rank.

Beaten into second place also on 68 was Col Bagnall (the Second) from the Dungog Club who was relegated into minor placing by the countback system.

Regular on the Hunter District Circuit John Stewart and President of The Oaks, came in third on 70.

Special mention should be made of the Dungog Club for their hospitality and condition of the course, the Denman team who ran out of petrol at Jerrys PLains and the participation of members from Cypress Lakes Club, which was a first for that Club.

MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP

Dungog - 17th August 2008

		Name	Club	Score
Scratch	Winner	James Hogg	Cypress Lakes	70
	Second	Garry Mears	Muswellbrook	73
	Third	Robbie Logue	The Oaks	75
		Name	Club	Score
Handicap	Winner	Phil Howell	Kurri	68
	Second	Col Bagnall	Dungog	68
	Third	John Stewart	The Oaks	70
Ball Comp		75 nett		

2008 TWO MAN AMBROSE - Maitland Golf Club 20 July

Two members of the District Junior side, teamed up to win the King Warburton Cup, in the two man ambrose championship, held at Maitland.

Cameron Benkovic (Muswellbrook) and Connor Walton (Kurri) shot a 10 under par 61 to win the title by two strokes from veteran Martin Jolly and colt Chris Ford, both from the Kurri Club.

The boys had an opening nine holes of 31, registering birdies on 1, 4, 5, 7 & 9. After a slow start on the inward nine, they strung together 6 birdies from the 13th to the 17th, for their total of 10 under par.

The Division II scratch was taken out by Joel Craig and ambrose exponent Phil Howell, both hailing from the Kurri Club. Their winning score of two under par gave them a two shot advantage over Muswellbrook pairing Chris Lawler and Andy Jackson.

Division I handicap winners were Steve Lill and Jono Towns (Maitland) on nett 60 1/2 from the Branxton pairing of Mark Hale and Wayne Jordan, half a stroke back.

The in form Geoff Towns, teamed with Brad Ehlefeldt (Maitland) to return a nett 62 3/4 to edge out fellow Maitland members Ben Finucane and Adam Melville by 1/4 of a stroke for the Division II nett event.

A pleasing field of 94 players supported the event.

SAND GREENS (CAMEL GRASS) CHAMPIONSHIPS 2008

The 2008 Sand Green champions is Martin Smith, who tasted victory in his virgin game on the "browns". After victory in his first match for the District against Newcastle last year Marty was again selected to represent against Central Coast which will be played on the sand greens at Murrurundi. To gain experience he entered the Sand Greens Championships and came away with a surprising victory with a hard fought 77 off the bat.

Runner up was his Maitland compatriot Steve Lill on 78, with Muswellbrook junior Kyle O'Keefe one shot back on 79.

The handicap event was keenly contested with hot scores being returned by the leaders.

Handicap winner Mal Newman (nett 63) had a point to prove when he was snubbed by the selector to represent the Senior side in the match against Central Coast. Mal found the the fairway with regular monotony then trundled his trusty 8 iron near to the pin. He came unstuck mid round when he left his 8 iron at the drinks tent but came good when he retrieved it on the second time around.

Runner up was local Des Vero who had the event wrapped up until Mal, who was playing in the last group pipped him at the post by a shot.

Crackers Avarad was third in the handicap event with a nett 66 on a countback.

A field of 37 players made the journey to Merriwa, where they were treated to the warm hospitality of the Merriwa ladies and members.

It was also very pleasing to see juniors from Muswellbrook & Scone making the effort to play in the event.