

2012

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS - BRANXTON - 11 March, 2012



A small field of 42 players participated in the annual District Junior Championship at Branxton. The course was in top condition after the recent rain and proved to be a test of golf, as indicated by the scores returned.

The unassuming, Bennie Stokes from Singleton won his first District title, when he shot a 3 over par 73 to win by a shot. His winning margin would have been greater, but for a collar tightening last two holes, which he struggled with, for a double bogey, bogey finish. His consistency in recording 12 pars & 2 birdies, earned him the well deserved title of champion.

Runner up was Hayden Gulliver, from Maitland, one stroke behind on 74. Sparra will have nightmares about the final two holes, bogeying them on each occasion. Hayden won the boys 15 years & under scratch trophy.

Best nett for the Boys 15 & under division was Zac Pryor of Kurri on a countback from Josh Tracey of Branxton, both players finishing on 68. Zac's second nine of even par clinched the win after an ordinary 43 hits on the front nine.

Clayton Small (by name & size) won the third place handicap trophy with an excellent round of 93 nett 69.

In the 16yrs & over division Kade Hardy of Maitland was best with a 75 off the stick. Forty hits on the front nine was backed up with even par 35 on the back nine for his winning score.

Net winner was visitor from Shelly Beach, Rhys Pye, who shot 84 nett 68 on his first time on the course, to win on a countback from the Scone thoroughbred Oscar Field. Oscar is obviously a sprinter recording a 35 par round for the first nine, but couldn't stay and finished with 41 hits on the way in. A visit to Bart Cummings might be of help.

Third spot in the nett was Ryan Thomas of Singleton, finishing on nett 69. An opening birdie followed by a disastrous quaddie, unsettled him, but fought back solidly to finish amongst the winners.

Unfortunately there were no entrants from the junior girls ranks, which is a concern for the future of womens golf.

DAVE PARKINSON SHIELD

Hunter River Champion

BEN STOKES (Singleton) - 73

BOYS 15 and Under

	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
Scratch winner	Hayden Gulliver	Maitland	74
Nett Winner	Zac Pryor	Kurri	68
Nett 2nd	Josh Tracey	Branxon	68
Nett3rd	Clayton Small	Maitland	69

BOYS 16 and over

	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
Scratch winner	Kade Hardy	Maitland	75
Nett Winner	Rhys Pye	Shelly Beach	68
Nett 2nd	Oscar Field	Scone	68
Nett3rd	Ryan Thomas	Singleton	69

MIXED AMBROSE CHAMPIONSHIP - ARTHUR FRAME SHIELD

20 May, 2102 at Maitland

Plus one marker Mark Hale teamed with Tim Lawrence, Adele Johns, Alana Lawrence to shoot 10 under par, 61 to capture the title by two strokes. With three low markers, birdies were always going to be the order of the day. A bogey free round, consisting of ten birdies and 8 pars provided a two stroke margin over second placegetters. A string of birdies on holes 6 through to ten, set the foundation for their win.

Runner up vouchers went to The Vintage team of Neville & Dixie Peace ably supported by junior players Jack Clark and Jess Kelly. The mixture of maturity and youth combined to fire a 8 under par round to take second placing on a countback.

Maitland only had to field one team to scoop a major trophy. Ron & Melissa Beavis teamed up with Heather Keith and Rick Marsh to return a nett 55 3/8. Rick Marsh filled in for regular team member Steve Lill and after the win Budgie will be hard pressed to regain his spot, as indicated by team captain Heather in her winning speech.

Runners up in the nett event went to the Denman team of Errol George, Eric Lockwood, Valma Pascoe and Susan Wilson. The side returned a scratch score of 69 for a nett 57 7/8 to make the trip worth their while.

The Bradman trophy went to Stumpy & Parso and their respective brides with a two over par 73.

TROPHY	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
SCRATCH			
Scratch Winners	Mark HALE	Branxton	
	Tim LAWRENCE	Kurri	61
	Adele JOHNS	Kurri	
	Alana LAWRENCE	Kurri	
Scratch RU	Neville PEACE		
	Jack CLARK	Vintage	63
	Dixie PEACE		
	Jessica KELLY		
NETT			
Nett Winners	Ron BEAVIS		
	Rick MARSH	Maitland	55 3/8
	Heather KEITH		
	Melissa BEAVIS		
Nett Winners	Errol GEORGE		
	Eric LOCKWOOD	Denman	57 7/8
	Valma PASCOE		
	Susan WILSON		

KING WARBURTON CUP - TWO MAN AMBROSE

Kurri - 15 July 2012

The 2012 holders of the King Warburton Cup for the District Two Man Ambrose Championship are Jeff & Andrew Wyper (Kurri), winning convincingly with a 10 under par score of 62. The heavy going did not affect the big hitting brothers, who combined to shoot 6 under on the front nine and backed it up with 4 under the back. In all they recorded 8 birdies and an eagle on the par 5 dogleg 5th hole. The brothers have become recluses on the District Tour of late, but have lost none of their ability.

Runners up in the scratch event were the star's of the future Tom Bateman and Dylan Perry four shots back on 66. A slow start of 34 for the opening nine holes saw them chasing the birdies on the back nine but could only muster a further 4, to oust Brent Watson & Mark Hale by a shot.

Dean & Mark Lauder, (Royal Patto) kept the family theme going, when they were victorious in winning the Division 2 Scratch trophy with a one under par round 71. The father & son combination was tested at times, but father Mark kept them focussed to win by a single stroke.

Runners up in the Div 2 scratch, Bazza Vercoe & Brad "The Elf" Ehlefeldt, from Maitland, proved they were "no flash in the pants" to be runner up on 73.

Another family combination the Cresswell boys, Chad & Kurt, also from the Kurri Club, bombarded the fairways with their huge drives, to win the Div 1 nett with a score of 64. A lone bogey on the relatively easy par 3 6th hole was the only blemish on their card.

The mixed pairing of Michael Clark (Stonebridge) and Matt Hopley (Cypress Lakes) had three birdies aside and the balance in pars for a consistent round to be runner up in the Div 1 nett with a score of 64½.

Clayton Babic teamed with Adrian Stevens to shoot a one aver par round 73, nett 65½ to be the victors of the Div 2 nett event, edging out Stonebridge players Adam Jackson and David Crosdale one shot back on 66½.

TROPHY	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
SCRATCH			
Div. 1 Scratch Winners	Jeff WYPER	Kurri	62
	Andrew WYPER	Kurri	
Div. 1 Scratch RU	Dylan PERRY	Muswellbrook	66cb
	Tom BATEMAN	Aberdeen	
Div. 2 Scratch Winners	Mark LAUDER	Paterson	71
	Dean LAUDER	Paterson	
Div. 2 Scratch RU	Brad EHLEFELDT	Maitland	73
	Barry VERCOE	Maitland	
NETT			
Div. 1 Nett Winners	Chad CRESSWELL	Kurri	64
	Kurt CRESSWELL	Kurri	
Div. 1 Nett RU	Michael CLARK	Stonebridge	64½
	Matt HOPLEY	Cypress Lakes	
Div. 2 Nett Winners	Clayton BABIC	Kurri	65½
	Adrian STEPHENS	Kurri	
Div.2 Nett RU	Adam JACKSON	Stonebridge	66½
	David CROSDALE	Stone bridge	

2012 MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP – CYPRESS LAKES

Sunday 5 August, 2012

GIBBS TAKES SECOND MASTERS TITLE

The Cypress Lakes Golf & Country Club proved a testing layout for the 2012 District Masters Championship. The venue was instrumental attracting a field of 104 golfers, who were troubled by the slick greens and the bitterly cold westerly wind which prevailed throughout most of the day. The decision to play a stroke/stableford event by Captain Dave, was hailed as rare, but brilliant decision. The course played off the blue markers, with fair pin placements still proved to be a test of golf for the majority of the field

Peter Gibbs, from the Maitland Club, omitted to enter and was granted a late start on Saturday evening, then proceeded to return the winning score of 78, well below his best. Even he was surprised when he was declared the winner. Nine bogeys and three birdies on the inward nine provided the advantage when the countback was applied.

Stonebridge stalwart Robbie Logue came in with a similar score, and was hoping for a play off, after a back nine of 38. A double bogey on the relatively short 5th hole proved to be a costly slip up, when the average score on the hole was 4.1.

Third placegetter Greg Wyper clawed his way back into contention after a disasterous start. A double, bogey, bogey, double start would have seen the average golfer toss in the towel and head for the bar. Greg soldiered on to finish one off the pace on 79.

Ross Wood playing on his home track made a mockery of his 13 handicap in winning the handicap trophy with a nett 66 or 42 points. His scratch score of 79 was only one shot off the best score of the day. Highlight of his round was a 2 on the 7th hole, when he slam dunked his wedge into the hole for an eagle.

Three points in arrears on 39, was Bruce Rose, from The Vintage, who would have joined Greg Wyper in the Clubhouse after an opening nine of 48 hits, but stormed home in 38 for a total of 39 points and second place in the handicap event. Stewards were unable to take a swab, due to the fact he had left the course.

Fellow Vintage member Glen Batty took third spot in the handicap event, with 38 points and 32 marker from Royal Patto, Mark George shot a PB for 36 points and fourth money.

The ball comp went down to a record 23 points and all balls were collected.

At the presentation it was announced that Cypress Lakes had offered to host the event for a further two years, which was gratefully accepted. Cypress are considering introducing the slogan "Cypress Lakes – Home of The Masters".

		Name	Club	Score
Scratch	Winner	Peter GIBBS	Maitland	78 c/b
	Second	Robbie LOGUE	Stonebridge	78
	Third	Greg WYPER	Kurri	79
		Name	Club	Score
Handicap	Winner	Ross WOOD	Cypress Lakes	42pts
	Second	Bruce ROSE	Vintage	39
	Third	Glen BATTY	Vintage	38
	Fourth	Mark GEORGE	Paterson	36 c/b



2012 DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS

26 August, 2012

A Grade – Branxton

Bryan Gulliver was crowned the A grade champion when he shot a one under par 71 around the Branxton layout. An opening nine of 37, was complemented by inward nine of 34. The 2/11 was his bogey hole, taking a double and single bogey, but fought back with an immediate birdie on the 3/12 on both occasions.

Bryan's golf is improving with age and is experiencing pinnacle year, which can be attributed to the time he spends on the course. The win rates up there with his District B Grade title in 1988.

Runner up was Tom Bateman from Aberdeen, two shots behind on 73. Tom was heading for the winners dais after turning in 32, 4 under par until he came to grief when he drove OOB through the fairway on the 14th hole for a quaddie.

Humongous big hitter Matt Hopley from Stonebridge, was edged out on a countback, when he finished with 73 off the stick. A mixed bag of 6 birdies, 4 pars, 7 bogeys and a double for a 73 nett 70 was sufficient to win the nett trophy. On the par 5, 466 metre 16th hole, Hoppy launched a driver & wedge to reach the green in two!

Pushed into second & third spots were Jack Clark (Vintage) and Mick Tracey (Branxton) also on nett 70.

B Grade – Kurri

Fourteen year old Khan Gallagher, from the Denman Club, shot a brilliant round of 8 over par, 80 to be a clear winner of the B Grade Championship. Playing off an 11 handicap, Khan had an opening nine of 38, backed up by a 40 on the back nine. Due to his young age, Khan was fearless on the slick greens, canning putts of various lengths, all day. A quick check of District history indicates that Khan is the only winner of a District championship who hails from Denman.

The runner up trophy was won by Neville Peace from the Vintage, on 86 hits. Neville is a competitive golfer who supports the District events and is rarely out of the money. He showed great fortitude and fought back, after opening and closing the front nine with a pair of sevens.

Senior golfer & Kurri stalwart Dave (bedlam) Beldham who shot an 83 nett 68 won the nett trophy by 3 strokes. Kurri trifecta'd the nett trophies with Chris House coming in second on 71 from Wayne Drayton on 72.

C Grade – Kurri

Course Super at the Vintage Steve Harris played consistently to be the 2012 C Grade champion, with a score of 86 off the stick. His rounds of 43 – 43, saw him a clear winner by 4

strokes. His only blemishes were doubles on the 2nd, 11th & 13th holes, the balance made up of pars & bogeys.

Runner up from Branxton was Rod Williams who won on a countback on 90. Rod was also a model of consistency shooting 45 on both nines.

Lewis Howells, who is only knee high to a grasshopper, indicated he has a bright future in the game with a round of 99 nett 67 to win the C grade handicap trophy, from Geoff DeVos from Maitland on 70. Finishing one shot back for third money was Adrian Stevens from Stonebridge.

Ball Comp – all balls were claimed by those who were still in attendance at presentation time.

TROPHY	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
A GRADE			
Scratch 1	Bryan GULLIVER	Maitland	71
Scratch 2	Tom BATEMAN	Aberdeen/Scone	73
Nett 1	Matt HOPLEY	Stonebridge	70 c/b
Nett 2	Jack CLARK	The Vintage	70 c/b
Nett 3	Mick TRACEY	Branxton	70
B GRADE			
Scratch 1	Khan GALLAGHER	Denman	80
Scratch 2	Neville PEACE	The Vintage	86 c/b
Nett 1	Dave BELDHAM	Kurri	68
Nett 2	Chris HOUSE	Kurri	71
Nett 3	Wayne DRAYTON	Kurri	72
C GRADE			
Scratch 1	Steve HARRIS	The Vintage	86
Scratch 2	Rod WILLIAMS	Branxton	90c/b
Nett 1	Lewis HOWELLS	The Vintage	67
Nett 2	Geoff DeVOS	Maitland	70
Nett 3	Adrian STEVENS	Stonebridge	71

SAND GREEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Merriwa Golf Club 23 September, 2012

The deferred sand green championships were conducted at Merriwa on 23 September, 2012, after the initial event was washed out, earlier in the year. The field was only 23 players, probably

due to players having other commitments after the postponement. Many thanks to those players who made the effort to travel the distance and participate.

Sand greens exponent, took advantage of the limited field and shot a consistent 77 to win by two shots. With two holes to play Phil, had the event shot to pieces. Either the collar tightened or a lapse in concentration saw him fritter away his unbeatable lead. Luckily there were no further holes to play and he limped in to win and take his second title.

Runner up was Cameron Norman from Denman who shot a 79 to take second place on a countback.

For ease of play the handicap event was run as a stableford, and the winner by a clear margin was Daniel Hogan from Denman, with an excellent score of 45 points, coming in 4 points clear of George Smith of Aberdeen who managed a creditable 41 points.

		Name	Club	Score
Scratch	Winner	Phil LEDGERWOOD	Murrurundi	77
	Second	Cameron NORMAN	Denman	79c/b
		Name	Club	Score
Handicap	Winner	Daniel HOGAN	Denman	45 pts
	Second	George SMITH	Aberdeen	41 pts

AMBROSE FOURS CHAMPIONSHIP

STONEBRIDGE GOLF CLUB - SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER, 2012

This is the first District event played on the re-built layout, and the players enjoyed the new greens and testing layout. A pure round of golf, by locals Rob Logue, Josh Knott and brothers Scott & Andrew Ling, won the District Ambrose Fours Championship for 2012. Their card of 57 (15 under par) was dominated by 13 birdies and an eagle and four lonely pars. Josh Knott's prodigious length off the tee, reduced the course to a par 3 layout for his teammates, who peppered the pin and canned the putts.

Scratch Runners up were also a Coalfields based team in John "Barney" Barrett, Steve Leathley, John Retallick & Jamie Crampton who finished 3 strokes in arrears on 60. Ten birdies and an eagle on the 17th made up their 12 under par score.

Adam Jackson led his Stonebridge team of David Crosdale, Shannon Bone & Murray King, to a quarter shot victory in the handicap event. Their nett score of 55¼ consisted of 9 birdies and the balance in pars.

The Royal Patto Club came to the fore when they took out the second & third spots in the handicap trophies. The team of Glen Davies, Greg Scott, Paul Monaghan and the old wily fox Tom Goodman had an 8 under par score for a nett 55½. Their bogey free round edged out Paterson President Roy Bishop and his team of Brent Eslick, Phil Watson & Mark Shillington who missed out by an 1⅛ of a stroke. Long marker Brent held the team together when under pressure.

TROPHY	NAME	CLUB	SCORE
SCRATCH			
Scratch Winners	Josh KNOTT		
	Robbie LOGUE	Stonebridge	57
	Andrew LING		
	Scott LING		
Scratch R Up	John BARRETT		
	Steve LEATHLEY	The Vintage &	60
	John RETALLICK	Stonebridge	
	Jamie CRAMPTON		
NETT			
Nett Winners	Adam JACKSON		
	David CROSDALE	Stonebridge	55 1/4
	Shannon BOWE		
	Murray KING		
Nett R Up	Glen DAVIES		
	Greg SCOTT	Paterson	55 1/2
	Paul MONAGHAN		
	Tom GOODMAN		
Nett Third	Roy BISHOP		
	Brent ESLICK	Paterson	56 5/8
	Phil WATSON		
	Mark SHILLINGTON		