The Eagles Golfing Society of New Zealand (Inc)

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APRIL NEWSLETTER NO 1

Welcome to my first newsletter as your new Secretary and hope you find some good reading and something of interest to you all.
If any member should have something they feel is newsworthy to go in a newsletter just forward it on and we will try and get it in the next newsletter, Meantime good golfing Eagles members.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Halberg Awards 18 February 2016

Myself, National Secretary Mike and our wives along with 10 other Eagles including National Patron Brian Osmond, were invited to attend the 53rd Halberg Awards held at the Vector Arena Auckland. After the presentation of the cheque for $144,000 00 to the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation we moved into the main hall to enjoy some pre dinner hospitality. It was once again a great event spending time with many great sporting personalities. A great meal was provided followed by the awards presentations and after that we spent a very enjoyable social hour or two with the awards winners. Everybody I am sure enjoyed themselves immensely.

National Convention 22- 25 February 2016

New Plymouth greeted us with somewhat hot but fine weather to make our stay very enjoyable. The management meeting on Sunday night was over very quickly as there were no contentious issues. A vote for the next incoming Vice President was won by Bob Rosevear from Northland over David Philippe from Auckland. I must thank both candidates for making themselves available and offer congratulations to Bob and my commiserations to David. After the meeting closed we joined our wives and partners for a very enjoyable social hour.
Monday night's A.G.M. was once again over very quickly followed by the cocktail evening and the convention opening. Welcome addresses were given by myself, the Mayor of New Plymouth Andrew Judd and Convention Chairman David Honeyfield. The presentation of the plaques to the participating golf club Presidents concluded the formal part of the evening. It was a great evening and I am sure everyone enjoyed themselves.
On Tuesday and Wednesday all the golfers set off to their allocated golf courses and non- golfers went on a bus trip. Many thanks to all the golf clubs for making their courses available and for the pristine condition they were presented in.
Tuesday's golf was followed by the Eagles Golfer of the Year Annual Dinner. It was a great evening enjoyed immensely by all those who attended. It was great to have our Eagles Golfer of the Year, Siyi Keh attending and able to play golf with us on both days. Other guests included Halberg Sport Disability Foundation, C.E.O. Shelly McMeeken, and Endowment Officer Geoff Burgess and Siyi Keh's mother and sister. Her sister managed to make easy work of both ladies' courses.
On Wednesday after golf afternoon tea was provided and the prize giving proceeded. My congratulations to all the winners, too many to mention individually. This was followed by the change of officers.
I must convey my thanks to Mike for all the work he has put in over the last two years and also to our wives Gaylene and Christine for all their help and assistance. Further thanks to Roger Mori who did a fantastic job as Master of Ceremonies, the Taranaki Eagles and the Convention Committee for a very well run convention and for making our stay very enjoyable.
I would like to thank Eagles New Zealand for giving me the opportunity to represent you for the last two years. I have enjoyed meeting so many different Eagles and would like to thank the many of you who have looked after me as I have travelled around the various golf courses as part of my duties. I believe I leave the Eagles management in good hands and offer Tom Whitaker and Ray Porter all the best for the next two years.
Finally next year's convention will be held in Blenheim in February run by Nelson Marlborough. I hope to see you all there along with some new faces as well.

Golf Results from New Plymouth Convention
Men`s
1st 36 Hole Stableford Aubin Heard Salver Bob Swindlehurst Taranaki 89 Points
2nd Neil Smillie Taranaki 88 Points
Eagles Teams 36 Hole Stableford Waikato Shield Taranaki No 8 331 Points R Swindlehurst, S MacKenzie, G Davidson, C Coulton

18 Hole Individual Stb. Day 1 N P 1st G Kelk Aorangi 43 Point`s 2nd B Venables Taranaki 41 Point`s
18 Hole Individual Stb. Day 2 N P 1st D Clarke Man/Wang 40 Points 2nd M Parker Northland 39 Points
18 Hole Individual Stb. Day 1 Stratford 1st P Wilcox Wellington 43 Points 2nd J Wallbank Wellington 42 Points
18 Hole Individual Stb. Day 2 Stratford 1st P Brownie Otago 43 Points 2nd W McConnell 42 Points
Cut Magazine Trophy Best 18 hole Stableford
1st Stuart MacKenzie Taranaki 52 Points

Ladies

1st 36 Hole Stableford BOP Salver Bev Ireland Northland 79 Points 2nd Erin Little B O P 79 Points
Teams 36 Hole Stableford Waikato Shield
1st Waikato No 1 289 Points H Baynes, M Murphy, L Mills, H Parker.
18 Hole Individual Day 1 Inglewood 1st Margaret Kelk Aorangi 40 Point`s 2nd Helen Parker Waikato 39 Point`s
18 Hole Individual Day 2 Fitzroy1st Ann Preece Waikato 38 Points 2nd Judy Howe Auck/North. 38 Point`s
Cut Magazine Trophy Best 18 Hole Stableford Carole Steele Canterbury 43 Points.
Hal Manson Trophy 1st Geoff & Margaret Kelk Aorangi 83 Points 2nd Eric & Laurine Mills Waikato 82 Points

HALBERG REPORTS

Manawatu Wanganui Halberg Day 14 March 2016
On a very hot day 122 players set out to try their luck at Palmerston North Golf Club. Many thanks to the club for allowing us the use of their very well presented course and club house for the day. Many thanks also to Ian Douglas and his team for organising this event and to all the sponsors helping to make this day a great success, raising approximately $3,500.00 for the day. A well presented prize table saw every player receive a prize. The event was attended by Halberg Trustee Kevin Murphy and his wife Wendy who spoke on the work being done to help disabled sports people using funds raised at these events. Best team score was 171 points by Shane Walker, Rick Hutton, Reagan Cording and Rob Frank.
Division one winners were, Peter Hansen 45 and Barry Hutton 45. Division two winners were Shane Walker 49 and Wayne Myers was runner up.
Best Eagle was Sam McCabe with 40 points.
Peter Skou
National Past President

North Otago Halberg Day 6th March 2016-03-31
I attended my first official visit as National Secretary to the North Otago Halberg day at the North Otago Golf Club Oamaru on 6th March 2016. I would like to thank the North Otago organising committee for the hospitality to myself and my wife Diane for a very enjoyable day. It was a good warm and fine day and I had the pleasure of playing with Bob Brent Otago Pres. Peter Brownie Otago Sec. and Alan Finlay organising comm. on a very dry course but in very good order. There was a big turnout and the scoring was high with a good prize table and plenty of good raffle prizes, I don't think anybody went home without something. I had played the course many years ago but the hills have not got any smaller but we managed it well. After the main prize giving the day was finished with auctioneer Bill Stackhouse (Stackey) doing his yearly auction of some prizes that were left over, well done Bill.

Prize winners for the day were best over the field Julia Knight 45 Points
Women:- Kathryn Clark and Kay Tourell 44 Points Diane Jellyman 42 Points
Men:- Ray McNally, Kevin Tuffley 41 Pts. Jim Vonder, Jock Jellyman 40 Pts, Pete Lawson Neil McKenzie, Lindsay White and Ray Porter 39 Pts.
Best team with 162 Points Julia Knight (45) Katy Tourell (44), Jim Vonder (40), Geoff McLeod (33)

Ray Porter National Secretary

21-03-2016 Report for Buller/Westland Halberg Day.

The weather forecast for the West Coast/Buller region for the days leading up to our Halberg day was for heavy rain with thunder storms, therefore once again we were faced with the prospect of another postponed tournament. As we normally schedule our Annual General Meeting for 9-30am on the morning of the tournament our members travelled from Ross in the south, Karamea in the north and also from Hokitika, Greymouth and Reefton to the Westport Golf Club for this AGM.
The day itself turned out to be a very humid overcast day with no sign of the aforementioned bad weather and we had a turnout of 49 golfers on the day, no doubt this number was affected by the earlier weather forecasts.
At the conclusion of play B/W Eagles president Jim McDermott welcomed and thanked all those that had made the effort to play, he also passed on to those present the apologies from both our newly elected National President and Secretary, Tom Whitaker and Ray Porter whom because of the short time frame and prior commitments were unable to attend. The apology from John Sturgeon the local Halberg representative was also passed on.
It was stressed to all present that the money raised at our tournament (and usually more) did come back to the area to help those with a disability participate in leisure activities and sport.
The amount raised on the day was $1539 and as usual the prize table was full and all participants left with a prize.
Results:- Ladies; Jodi Murray with 38 points,
Senior men; Gavin Grant with 41 points,
Junior men; John Lennon with 44 points,
Teams prize; John Murray, Jodi Murray, Nick Thom and Christine Thom (151).

<u>Otago Metropolitan – 23rd March 2016</u>

The third Otago Halberg tournament for 2016 was the Metropolitan event held at the picturesque St Clair Golf Club which occupies a prime spot on a headland overlooking St Clair and St Kilda beaches and has panoramic views over Dunedin, Otago Harbour and the Otago Peninsula.

Like most of New Zealand, Dunedin had experienced a long hot summer. Just 3 days earlier the golfers sweltered through 30 degree temperatures at the Otago Eagles AGM. While the weather at St Clair on Halberg day was noticeably cooler, it remained fine for the duration of the tournament. However Dunedin's airport on the Taieri plain was fogbound all morning, which disrupted the plans of National President Tom Whitaker who ended up having his longest ever domestic flight. He left Christchurch at 6-50a.m. and finally landed in Dunedin at 2-30p.m.! Needless to say he missed playing the golf but was able to get down in time for the "sharp end' of the proceedings, and his address at prizegiving was well received.

The field of 116 was slightly down on last year's numbers, but this is explained by the fact that the event was in the middle of a very short week – immediately after Otago Anniversary Monday and immediately before Easter's Good Friday. However, with a few receipts still to come in the income appears as though it will be very similar to last year's, which is a great result.

Two Halberg trustees attended the event. Raylene Bates at her first Halberg tournament very ably assisted local menswear shop owner Lindsay Campbell who ran a fundraising 'nearest the pin' contest to the practice green, while Paul Parsons, who has attended several previous events, again played golf and gave an address to the competitors during prizegiving.

The Ladies winner was Liz Watt (a repeat winner from last year) with a great score of 41, on countback from Kay Grey and Patsy Williams who both also had 41.

Mens Senior winner was Duncan Harvie on 43 on countback from Rick Richan on 43 and Jason Smith on 42.

Mens Junior winner was Lester Clark on 43 on countback from Murray Hewitson on 43, and Allan Crawford on 42.

The Halberg wine glasses for best ladies score went to Liz Watt while Duncan Harvie won the Halberg tankard on countback from Lester Clark.

The winning team with a fine score of 157 was (Bryan Williamson (40), James Aitken (36), Duncan Harvie (43), and Phil Luyten (38). This team was quite fittingly from one of our major sponsors, the Lions Club of Dunedin Balmacewen.

All in all, a marvellous day which was enjoyed by everyone.

Peter Brownie

Past National Secretary

South Otago – 13th February 2016

The first Halberg fundraising tournament for 2016 was the South Otago event held at the Balclutha Golf Club, a course built on the hills on the northern side of the Clutha River in Balclutha. After a long and hot summer the course was hard, fast and playing very short (for some) despite rain the previous week freshening up the grass in the gullies. The weather on the day started off overcast, calm and mild, but as the cloud cover burnt off the temperatures increased until later when a slight breeze took the edge off the heat.

The fine weather helped ensure that a good field of 56 faced the starter, and some quite staggering scores ensued.

The South Otago Eagles are to be congratulated for the sponsorship that they obtained and the wonderful prize and raffle table they assembled.

Apologies were received from the Halberg Foundation who were unable to find an attendee, but incoming National President Tom Whitaker attended and was very complimentary about this 'hidden gem' so close to S.H. Tom also spoke about the work that the Halberg Foundation does. He urged the players to look out for Adrian McKenzie, who was riding a specially designed bike the length of New Zealand with his son Ted. Ted contracted pneumococcal meningitis as a baby and suffers cerebral palsy and deafness as a result.

The final figure raised is yet to be finalised but is expected to be in the region of $1600.

The Ladies winner was Julie Allington on 43 points, just ahead of Kate O'Malley on 42.

Mens Senior winner was Glen Paterson on 47 points from David Carson, also on 47. Mens Junior winner was Mark Allington from Lyall Macnee on 45.

The winning team comprised Mark Allington (46), Neil Cromar (39), David Carson (47) and Eagle Kevin McCabe (44), totalling an awesome 176 (yes, 176) points!

All in all, a marvellous day which was enjoyed by everyone.

Peter Brownie

Past National Secretary