

Branxton Golf Club
Saturday, 12 October 2024
Daily Competition – Stableford

Men's Club Championships Round 1 - Stroke

Field: 63

Stableford Competition

A Grade	Winner: Ben Porter 42 pts	2nd: Peter Mackenzie 41 pts	3rd: Daniel Hutley 38 pts (c/b)
B Grade	Winner: Joe Bereza 36 pts (c/b)	2nd: Paul Johansen 36 pts	3rd: Ed Garland 35 pts
C Grade	Winner: Luke Tarrant 42 pts	2nd: Norman Pringle 40 pts	3rd: Pip Lancaster 36 pts

Nearest the Pins

2nd/11th: Cameron Johanson 10cm	4th: Tim Whitney 157cm
9th/18th: Craig Howe 72cm	13th: Chris Zawirski 351cm

Balls: Nick Wheeler, Mick Barrett, Toby Grant, Tim Whitney, David Kinch, Steven Primmer, Dean Clack, Robert Biles, Chris Zawirski, Ian Howell, Christian Thompson, Tim Lane, Sam Bridge, David Hodges, Murray Johanson, James Elphick, Geoff Geason, Josh Hare, Garry Taylor

Pro's NTP – Craig Howe 72cm = \$104 Pro shop Voucher

Club Championships After Round 1

A Grade Scratch:	Cameron Johanson 149 (75,74), Peter Mackenzie (75), Ben Porter (75)
A Grade Nett:	Ben Porter (64), Peter Mackenzie (65), Nick Wheeler (68)
B Grade Scratch:	Joe Bereza (86), David Hodges (86), Paul Johansen (87)
B Grade Nett:	Joe Bereza (70), Paul Johansen (70), Ian Howell (72)
C Grade Scratch:	Luke Tarrant (87), Norman Pringle (90), Christian Thompson (91)
C Grade Nett:	Luke Tarrant (64), Norman Pringle (66), Christian Thompson (72)

A great field of 63 players took to the course in cool conditions for Round 1 of the 2024 Men's Club Championships. After round 1 it is tight in all 3 grades. In A grade, current Club Champion Cameron Johanson has a fight on his hands after Peter Mackenzie and Ben Porter posted outstanding scratch rounds of 75 to match his score of 75, leaving a three way tie for first place after the first day. It was Peter's best ever score around the Branxton course, and he was a very happy camper after his round. B grade is also shaping up to be a closely fought contest, with Joe Bereza and David Hodges finding form at the right time of year to both post an excellent 86 to lead Paul Johansen by 1 shot on 87. Six more players are within four shots of the lead, so a tense round 2 awaits. Luke Tarrant had a great day out, posting an impressive score of 87 to take a three shot lead over Norman Pringle on 90, with Christian Thompson and Sam Bridge only one further back on 91. C grade is renowned for having big shifts in scoring, so round 2 gives the rest of the field a chance to make up some ground. In the Mug of Mugs Luke Tarrant has an 8 shot lead over Christian Thompson, Dean Clack, Chris Zawirski and Ian Howell. This event concludes on Saturday 19/10/24.

In the daily stableford event, Ben Porter and Peter Mackenzie were on fire, shooting 42 and 41 points respectively to easily take first and second in A grade. Daniel Hutley won the battle of the Hutley's with a fine 38 points on a countback from Nick Wheeler, who managed to find the perfect shirt to match his flamingo golf towel. As the scores in the B grade club championships suggest, the stableford competition was also a close affair, with Joe Bereza taking the main prize with 36 points on a countback from Paul Johansen. Ed Garland found some form to post a pleasing 35 points and take third place. Luke Tarrant ran away with C grade with a sensational 42 points, two clear of Norman Pringle on 40 points. Pip Lancaster made the most of his day to claim third with a good score of 36 points. No doubt he would have let his playing partners know how well he was playing throughout the round. In the NTP's, Cameron Johanson came about as close as you can to holing out on the 2nd hole, putting it to 10cm from the pin and claim shot of the day. Tim Whitney took the 4th hole with a good shot to 157cm, while Chris Zawirski won the 13th with 351cm. Craig Howe picked the right day to win the NTP and Pro pin on the last. Not only did he hit a great shot to just 72cm, he was able to get it closer to the pin than 2 of his playing partners who also had hit it close. All three players made their birdie putts, and he was very happy with picking up the biggest voucher prize that has been on offer for quite a few months.

The club championships can produce all sorts of shots and scores that you never see in a "normal" competition. Today we had our fair share of pars, bogeys and a few nice birdies for good measure, but we also saw the less fortunate side of the game with double digit scores, balls out of bounds and in the dam, short putts missed and even an air swing. Bill Davies had an interesting and unlucky start to his day. His first tee shot went straight into the gum tree near the 1st tee and rebounded back over his head, landing up on the hill and out of bounds. Those watching commented that in all the years they have played at Branxton, they hadn't seen a ball rebound back that far off that gum tree. Bill took it in his stride and reloaded and got on with the rest of his round.