<u>Branxton Golf Club</u> <u>Saturday, 31 May 2025</u> <u>Par</u>

Field: 59

A Grade 1st: Craig Howe 0 2nd: Lee Hunt -1 (c/b) 3rd: Steve Ross -1

B Grade 1st: Kel Mather +2 (c/b) 2nd: David Pearce +2 (c/b) 3rd: Barry McDonald +2 C Grade 1st: Sam Bridge -1 (c/b) 2nd: Lennard Porter -1 (c/b) 3rd: Nicholas Redgrove -1

Nearest the Pins

2nd/11th: Cameron Johanson 700cm 4th: Steve Ross 520cm

9th/18th: David Pearce 266cm 13th: Richard Turnbull 297cm

Balls: Michael Carling, Nicole Whale, David Hodges, Chris O'Brien, Dean Clack, Cameron Johanson,

Richard Turnbull, Graham Bull, Gary Walsh, David Kinch, Ben Porter, Murray Johanson,

Matthew Bain, Peter Mackenzie, Geoffrey Masters, Steven Primmer, Robert Hale, Lee Jackson

Pro's NTP - Robert Biles 346cm = \$100 Pro shop Voucher

After last week's washout on Saturday, the biggest field for the year so far turned up for the par event on Saturday. The work done by greenkeeper Brett, President Murray and a group of volunteers during the week on the course to make it "cart ready" certainly paid off. While parts of the course are still recovering from the recent rain, in general the conditions were quite good. Even with some modified tee placements in play, the Branxton track will always provide a good test of golf. Craig Howe took out A grade today with a score of 0, being the only player in A grade to match their handicap. His steady and accurate style of game paid dividends today. Lee Hunt took second place with a score of -1 on a countback from club captain Steve Ross on the same score. Steve hit the best shot on the 4th hole today to a tricky pin placement, taking the NTP with 520cm. The B grade division was where the best scorers were found today, with countbacks required to determine the placegetters. Kel Mather has a habit of doing well in par events and today was no different, with his strong back nine enough to give him the win with a score of +2. David Pearce was out early and also shot +2 but had to settle for second place, while former member Barry McDonald had his first hit at Branxton in a number of years and showed he still knew his way around to post third, also on +2. The C grade division also needed a three way countback to decide the positions. Sam Bridge took bragging rights in his playing group, shooting -1 to take the win. Lenny Porter is a run of good form at the moment and came second on the same score, with Sam's playing partner Nick Redgrove in third place. Murray Kingston managed to have the most interesting second shot of the day after managing to hit the halfway house toilet off the 6th tee to leave a tricky second shot. Current club champion Cameron Johanson took the NTP on the 2nd hole with 700cm, indicating how hard it was to get close to the pin on that hole today. Richie Turnbull won the NTP on the 13th with a great shot to 297cm. David Pearce had the shot of the day with a very good iron shot to the 9th hole at 266cm. Bob Biles picked a good day to win the Pro NTP on the last hole, with most of the bigger field entering to leave a nice pro shop voucher to collect. In the Pairs Knockout, sponsored by Mitchell Olsen at Urban Real Estate, Cameron and Murray Johanson proved too strong for Andrew and Katelyn Keogh 3 and 2. What was significant about this match was that it was the first time in the history of the pairs knockout that a match was played between a mixed team and a men's team. There is another mixed team entered and they will play their round 1 match shortly. Introducing mixed teams into the pairs knockout has been a great initiative and congratulations to the club captain for getting this up and running.

Upcoming Events

The singles and pairs knockouts will continue next week, with the 3rd and 1st rounds respectively due to be played by 21 June. The 2025 Branxton Open Weekend of Golf is coming up. On Saturday 14/6/25 is a 2BBB medley stableford (plus singles) event and on Sunday 15/6/25 is the 2025 Men's Branxton Open. The major sponsor for both events is Ace Mechanical Solutions, with Branxton Pro Shop also sponsoring the Branxton Open. Spots are filling fast so contact the club or pro shop to book your spot.