

Branxton Golf Club
Saturday, 3 January 2026
Monthly Medal (Men's) – Stroke

Sponsored by IGA Branxton

Field: 54

Monthly Medal Winner: Graham Cole 64

A Grade	1st: Mick Barrett 70	2nd: Cameron Johanson 74	3rd: Peter Conroy 75
B Grade	1st: Robert Hale 67 (c/b)	2nd: Joe Bereza 67	3rd: Garry Taylor 70 (c/b)
C Grade	1st: Dean Clack 66	2nd: Lee Jackson 69	3rd: Pip Lancaster 70

Nearest the Pins

2nd: Graham Cole 300cm	4th: Tim Arthur 242cm
11th: Norm Pringle 169cm	13th: Neil Bridge 143cm
9th/18th: John Burgess 77cm	

Balls: Murray Johanson, Geoff Geason, David Kinch, Michael Carling, Andrew Keogh, Carter Swan, Dean Hodges, Murray Kingston, Justin Asciak, Graham Bull, Karen Johanson, Kyran Reynolds, Geoff Jones, Scott Duncan, Steve Eccles, Caleb Swan

Pro's NTP – Robert Biles 362cm = \$94 Pro shop Voucher

Pro Comp – Front 9

1st: Joe Bereza 2nd: Robert Hale

Balls: Dean Clack, Carter Swan, Graham Cole, Steve Eccles, David Kinch, Ed Garland, Peter Conroy, Murray Kingston, Geoff Geason, Greg Tearle, Robert Miller, Chris O'Brien

The first event for 2026, the January monthly medal, sponsored by IGA Branxton, was played in warm conditions with a solid field of 54 players. Graham Cole took out the monthly medal with an excellent score of 64 nett. Graham had a fantastic back nine of 37 off the stick (2 over par), which included birdies on the tough 11th and 15th holes. The field in A grade struggled to better their handicaps today, with Mick Barrett taking first prize with 70 nett. 2025 Club Champion Cameron Johanson took second place with 74 nett, with Peter Conroy in third on 75 nett. In B grade, Robert "Bobby" Hale took the honors with 67 nett on a countback from Joe Bereza on the same score. Bobby's back nine was 2 shots better than Joe's, allowing him to take the win. However, Joe was one shot better on the front nine which saw him pick up first prize in the Pro comp. Garry Taylor took third place with a steady round of 70 nett, on a countback from Club President Murray Johanson on the same score. In C grade, Dean Clack put together his best round at Branxton of 88 off the stick to take the win with 66 nett. Dean had an adventurous time on the 7th/16th. On the 7th he birdied the hole for the first time, and then on the 16th despite a wayward tee shot landing in the dry part of the dam, he played out of the dam and managed to scramble a bogey 6. Lee Jackson returned to form, with his 69 nett giving him second place, despite claims of a misbehaving driver throughout the round. Pip Lancaster played well to post 70 nett to take third place.

In the NTP's, Graham Cole took the prize on the 2nd with 300cm, while Norm Pringle was best on the 11th today, "Barney's Hole", with a great shot to 169cm. Tim Arthur, a visitor from Karuah Golf Club had the best tee shot on the 4th hole with 242cm, while Neil Bridge hit a great iron shot on the 13th in order to get it to 143cm. John Burgess has shot of the day with a magnificent tee shot on the 9th which stopped 77cm short of the hole (and yes he made the birdie putt 😊). Robert Biles picked up the Pro NTP for the second monthly medal event in a row to start the new year with a nice Pro Shop voucher.

Stroke events always have a few hard luck stories to share and today was no different. One player managed to hit one of the red tee markers with his drive off the 1st tee, flipping the tee over and landing it back on its resting spot (meanwhile his ball went flying over into the trees on the far side of the 8th fairway). On the same tee another player heard the dreaded sound of hitting the metal tee post and flying off to a spot that left an interesting second shot. While some players will be happy that they had some good scores to contribute to their eclectic today, the players who shot 12 on the 11th hole, 13 on the 10th hole and 16 on the 15th hole will be hoping for a better score next time out. As reported to me, the score of 16 included four attempts to hit it over the creek.

Once again, we would like to thank IGA Branxton for their sponsorship and support for today's event.

The halfway house ran today, and we thank John and Nick Dunningham and Jan Davidson for volunteering their time to run it. Your efforts are appreciated.

A new ongoing weekly competition is being held in 2026, and it started today. It is called the WOMBAT – winner of most balls all together. Peter Conroy is the coordinator, and he has been running it with the Thursday Vets over the last few years. The event rules and procedures are posted in the clubhouse. There is no cost to players. Thanks to Peter for offering to run the event for the Saturday competitions throughout 2026.

Next Saturday sees the start of the 2026 Summer Cup. It is a stableford event with the best 3 rounds out of 4 counting.