

Senior Golf SA

Senior Order of Merit

The SA Senior Order of Merit commenced in 2013 and now has seven established events, culminating with the SA Senior Amateur in September. Events are conducted in two categories, Seniors 55 years and over, and Super Seniors 65 years and over.

So far this year four events have been played with the following being the best scores of the day:

Blackwood	Norm Cordina (TTG)	77
	Chris Claxton (Blackwood)	78
	Chris Everett (TTG)	78
	Gary Duperouzel (Nth Adel)	78
Tea Tree Gully	Jim Richards (TTG)	71
	Nigel Turner (Lady Bay)	73
Mt Osmond	Ken Brown (TTG)	72
	John Hill (Mt Osmond)	73
Flagstaff Hill	Phil Smith (TTG)	76
	Nigel Turner (Lady Bay)	78

At the conclusion of the events, points awarded on finishing places at each event are totalled and medals awarded in both categories. A minimum of four events must have been played to qualify and the number of points vary dependent on whether events are local (SA), secondary (traditionally The Grange event) or national, such as the SA Senior. Hopefully some really good news will be out soon regarding the naming of both medals.

Senior golf is the fastest growing demographic in Australian golf. Whilst seniors might not hit it as far as the young bombers, events are very competitively contested.

The NSW Seniors was recently won with a score of six under, over 54 holes, by a newcomer to the senior ranks whose current handicap is plus three. Can play!

There is an excellent website, AUSOOM, where details of all Australian senior events are maintained along with a complete calendar of events, from local 18-hole events to 54-hole Australian Senior Championships. During events reports and scores are updated on AUSOOM on a daily basis for those interested, and very professionally done, along with other articles of interest regarding senior golf. There are also national ranking tables from which Australian Senior Teams are selected.

The eastern states dominate senior golf both in the number of events and players, although both SA & WA are now on the rise. As well as local and traditional state senior events, there have been a number of fantastic events developed over the past few years for those who qualify. These are The Royal Melbourne Senior Classic in January, over 54-holes (the west, the east and the composite). The National Masters, again over 54-holes, played on each of the Old, Ocean and Moonah courses and the NSW Secondary events at The Lakes, Australian and Avondale on consecutive days. These are great events that are worth the travel and the effort to attend.

Whilst the above events are great for those who qualify, do not for a moment think that senior golf is all about hard courses and scratch scores. It's also about the camaraderie and friendships that are made, whether playing at Royal Melbourne, or a local 18-hole event at Tea Tree Gully, and possibly winning the handicap section.

We have three events remaining in our season before the Senior Pennant season commences in October. These are at Glenelg, Kooyonga/Grange and then the State Senior at Lady Bay in mid September. Details of these events are on the Golf SA website under events/senior.

Looking forward to seeing more seniors at our local events as they develop, enjoying the competition, camaraderie and friendship of the day.