

SENIOR GOLF NEWSLETTER

18 Sep 2015

GLENELG SENIOR

The past few weeks have seen plenty of action for senior golf in South Australia commencing with the inaugural Glenelg Senior being played on the 24th August. The course was presented in great condition, however the cool to cold temperatures and a very strong southerly wind made conditions very challenging. A very good field of 58 players showed how strong senior golf is in South Australia. Norm Cordina from Tea Tree Gully won the day with a solid round of 77, the only score below 80 on the day. Full results were.

Senior Gross	Norm Cordina	Tea Tree Gully	77
	Steve Ross	South Lakes	84
Senior Hcp	Glen Smith	Flagstaff Hill	70
	Tony Saunders	Flagstaff Hill	74
Super Senior	Peter Bywaters	Victor Harbor	84
	Andrew Nairn	Mt Osmond	85
Super Senior Hcp	John Reynolds	Grange	73
	Andrew Nairn	Mt Osmond	74

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SECONDARY EVENT

This event saw a change in format this year from 36 holes at Grange to 18 holes at Grange and then 18 holes at Kooyonga on 3rd/4th September. A strong field of local and interstate seniors played the first round at Grange East in again very challenging conditions, cold with a strong wind that made scoring very difficult. The course was set up very well for senior golf and was in excellent condition. The leading score for the day was by Mick Streit a visitor from Victoria with a fine 73 in the conditions with a very hot putter. Scores after the first 18 holes were

Mike Streit	Huntingdale	73
Greg Rhodes	Coomealla	75
Wayne Humphries	Glenelg	77
Barry Tippett	Shepparton	78
Marty Miller	Tea Tree Gully	78
Vincent Clark	Lakes	79
Norm Cordina	Tea Tree Gully	79
Shane Amor	Grange	79

The Friday morning saw an 8.30 am shotgun start at Kooyonga on a course which was presented in great condition. The greens in particular were in fantastic condition. They were quick, but not over the top and the ball rolled beautifully on these great surfaces. Scoring again was not easy with the best score of the day being a 73 from Ian Frost, Bendigo, then a 75 from Greg Rhodes, Coomealla. This included an eight on the eighth where he found some bunker problems so it could have been a very good round under the conditions. Unfortunately our first round leader Mick Streit fell away with an 84.

The overall winner of the 36 holes event was Greg Rhodes, a recent addition to the Australian senior ranks and arguably the form senior in the nation. He recently won the 54 hole Coomealla senior event in July by 28 shots, his home course where he plays off plus 3, with scores of 67, 68 and 72. For those who have played Coomealla these are great scores. The leading local players were Wayne Humphries, Glenelg with 157 and then Martin Miller, Tea Tree Gully with 158. Leading scores for the event were

Greg Rhodes	Coomealla	75, 75	150
Vincent Clark	Lakes	79, 77	156
Gordon Claney	Kingston Heath	82, 75	157
Ian Frost	Bendigo	84, 73	157
Mick Streit	Huntingdale	73, 84	157
Wayne Humphries	Glenelg	77, 80	157
John Banting	Royal Perth	81, 77	158
Martin Miller	Tea Tree Gully	78, 80	158
Keith Thornley	Lakes	80, 79	159

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SENIOR AMATEUR

The next event was the 54 hole SA Senior amateur at Links Lady Bay on 7th – 9th September on a very well presented course that again was well set up for senior golf. The majority of a good field had made the journey down from Adelaide following the Grange/Kooyonga event, plus a number of additions, both local and from interstate.

Cool and windy conditions greeted the players on day one and remained for all three days presenting very challenging conditions for scoring as evident in the scores. The majority of the better scores for the event were in the mid 70's with the exception being Gordon Claney's terrific last round of 69, making up 7 shots on the second round leader, Ian Frost who finished a last round of 76. This saw a tie on 227, 6 shots in front of Chris Gordon, New South Wales Golf Club, and a play-off on the ninth hole.

After playing the ninth hole twice with both Gordon and Ian making pars, the third time around saw the result achieved. Gordon unfortunately found a green side trap short siding himself and leaving a bunker shot that was very difficult. Ian in the meantime played his second shot to just short of the green and putted up to inches from the hole ensuring a par with Gordon unable to make his par. Congratulations to Ian Frost on his solid play over the three days.

All who played would like to say thanks to Golf SA and Links Lady Bay for the way the event was conducted and the course set up.

SENIOR ORDER OF MERIT

The playing of the SA Senior saw the completion of the order of merit events for the 2015 season with the winners being finalised. The order of merit medals, both senior and super senior, were a recent addition to senior golf in 2013 and has quickly developed into a sort after trophy.

This year has seen the naming of the senior medal as the John Beaumont Medal and the super senior the Tony Mazzone Medal in memory of two stalwarts of senior golf who both passed away far too early in 2014. These medals will be very much sought after as both these gentlemen did a lot to develop senior golf in SA and represented senior golf in a terrific manner.

The winner of the senior order of merit, the John Beaumont Medal, for the second year running was Norm Cordina, Tea Tree Gully with Steve Ross second from South Lakes.

The winner of the super senior order of merit, the Tony Mazzone Medal, was Chris Claxton, Blackwood, with the runner up being Allan Cooper from Mt Osmond.

Congratulations to all.