

Hopewell: 'A wonder downunder'

Club Champion, Hudson Hopewell, showed his class by demolishing the golf course and the opposition to win the Golf Downunder Stableford event last Saturday. In a perfect preparation for this week's Riverside tournament, and on a day when scores were modest, Hopewell snuck in late in the day (almost too late), with 44 points to take the trophy by a comfortable margin. His round included a remarkable 6 birdies and an eagle for 68 off the stick, a score that is a rarity on the course, and equal to the course record set by Michael Dennis.

The unlucky runner up on 38 points was Joe Italiano. He had a firm grasp on the event before it was spirited away by the last card in the box. At least he got a nice reward and the opportunity to give an insightful acceptance speech.

Steve Wallace, Trizzie Lawrence, Ron Annandale and David Broadbent all had 37 points, followed by Denis Cocker, Matt Bernardi and Mick Finlay with 36.

Seven ladies contested the event, with Jill Burgess taking the trophy after she scored 38 points. Vicki Graham was next with 36.

Novelties were claimed by Jill Burgess, Garry Dawson and Colin Giblett for nearest the pins. Clayton Flynn and Steve Wallace won long putts, and Ian Annandale took long drive honours.

Steve Farquhar produced some of his best golf with 21 points to take out Scroungers last Thursday. He finished on top of a field of 47 with John Wray (20), Graham Williams (20), Mick Pokrywka (20), Kevin Ireland (19) and Jim Hine (19) all in the money.

Graham Williams won two novelties as well as the 'money', lifting the hourly rate for his afternoon's golf just above his real job for the day! Ron Annandale won the other novelty and John Wray had the best gross. Shelley Barker-May was best of the ladies with 18 points.

If low scores are any indication then the King Scrounger must be looking closely at putting players back to full handicaps soon. When the record low is matched by two players on the same day and with both having shown very consistent form of late, the message is clear. Either that or they just had a really bad day!

Jeff Crowe with a nice 34 points topped the field at Vets last week. Just behind on 33 was Alan Kent, with Bryan Simpson also producing a tidy 31 points. Ray Alp and John Mumme (26) deserve a mention. Novelties were won by Bryan Simpson, AK and Ray Alp.

Clayton Flynn was back this week but he was finally upstaged when Danny Clayton produced 40 points to win Leisure Day. Ben Kononen kept his nice golf ticking along with 39 after another 74 stroke round.

The next few days promise to be a busy time for the club. Friday will have a full field and the weekend likely to be topped up by the time it gets underway. Hopefully next week's write up will have a good contingent of locals to the fore. The club's best hopes lie with Hudson Hopewell, Ben Kononen and Trevor Johns in the gross event. Clayton Flynn, Steve Edwards, Garry Dawson or Graham Williams would get my nod for our favoured nett contenders. In Friday's fourball watch out for Steve Farquhar and Jim Moyses, Steve and Luke Edwards, Stumpy and 'The Bandit' or Jim Tyler and Toona Simmonds. Best of luck to all.

Scroungers is on Thursday as usual. Friday is the TBS 4BBB Par event. Riverside all weekend.