

CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR BELL

Greg Bell closed out pre Christmas golf in style with a count back victory in the Keith Martin sponsored Stableford event last Saturday. Bell, one of the steadiest golfers in the club, left it until one of the last fixtures of the year for his first club win for 2008, recording 39 points.

Graham Williams continued his very solid form to match the winner's score after an excellent front nine of 22 points. Williams was frustrated by a few missed putts but was one of many who were thankful to even get onto the course after a rain deluge just prior to tee off time caused a number of withdrawals and threatened the running of the event.

Dean Rakich found some form to take third place after his 38 points. Next in the field of 42 were Joe Italiano and John Brown with 37 points apiece. Ed Riley, Rod Miller and Greg Moyle all had 36 points, while Tony Barker-May and Fred Bronickis came home with 35.

Michelle Tate found herself in front of the five ladies on 32 points when heavy rain prompted a frantic rush to the clubhouse from the seventh green, resulting in an early finish.

Nearest the pins were won by John Brown, Graham Williams and Greg Bell. Long Putts went to Brian Banks and Dick Earl. Dean Rakich took the long drive.

Two amusing events deserve a mention. Jim Larsen was unfortunately left with no option but to wade knee deep through water to rescue his car from where he had parked it. He extricated it successfully and then had to allow the water to drain out after the rain deluge turned a portion of the car park into a lake. On the course there is always some mirth when an attack of the dreaded 'shanks' takes hold. In a rare event, Joe Italiano apparently produced one on the putting green.

Tony Barker-May produced some sparkling golf to comfortably win Scroungers. The head Scrounger called a novelty event for Christmas and Barker-May reeled off a birdie, par finish, without taking a Mulligan, to tally an imposing 26 points.

Summer Open Champion, Alex Bayley, again embarrassed his opposition to take the runner up prize with 23 points. Ed Riley and Greg Little with 22 points, Dave Brunswick, Ray Alp and George Davis on 21 points along with Eric Annandale, David Broadbent and Mick Pokrywka who tallied 20 points each were all thankful for the more forgiving format.

Deb Van Vollenstee with 19 points was the best of the ladies to take part. Novelties were won by Harry Hadfield, Tony Barker-May, Phil Warburton and Greg Little.

Ed Riley posted an impressive win with 37 points in the 14 hole Veterans competition last week. Phil Warburton was a long way back in second spot on 30 points, followed by Fred Bronickis, Alan Kent, Les Udy and Brian Banks who all had 29 points.

David Laird returned a modest 35 points in the Leisure Day competition to be the best of only four players.

Leisure Day and Veterans will be played as usual on Tuesday. There will be no Scroungers this week. On Friday a Sweepstakes Stableford is scheduled for those interested, followed by the Showcase Jewellers Par event on Saturday.