

TWO RIVERSIDE TITLES TO TILLOTSON

Busselton's Glen Tillotson, returning as the defending champion, captured back to back titles when he was victorious by 3 strokes in the 40th Riverside tournament, which concluded at the Collie Golf Club on Sunday afternoon. Tillotson went into the final round with a one shot buffer over 2009 Country Week Champion, Bunbury's Danny Ennor, after rounds of 72 and 73 respectively. The two low markers were joined in the final group by Barry McGill, representing Bunbury Golf Club and Greg Tuckey from Mandurah, who both shot 75 on Saturday.

After mediocre golf over the front nine from the leading group, Tillotson and Ennor emerged as the only real chances over the concluding holes, with the 2009 Champion maintaining a two or three stroke advantage at most times. Tillotson closed out the tournament in typically clinical style, splitting the final fairway off the tee and then playing a precision long iron to set up a simple closing par. Ennor needed birdie to force a playoff, but when his second shot found the greenside bunker, the result was beyond doubt. Tillotson signed for a 74, and a 36 hole total of 146, 3 better than his winning 2009 result. Ennor's 76 on Sunday gave him the runner up position with 149.

Tillotson becomes the fourth back to back winner of the prestigious tournament. He is already looking ahead to 2011 when he hopes to return to become the only triple consecutive Riverside winner.

First time visitor, Klaus Fast, from Wanneroo, had steady rounds of 78, 76 for a 154 total to sneak into third position. Fast committed to return next year with a few mates after thoroughly enjoying his maiden trip to Collie. Barry McGill held on to fourth after adding an 80 on Sunday to total 155.

Joe Italiano and Ron Annandale made up the quinella to keep the major Nett trophies at home, proving once again that local knowledge is invaluable around the beautifully presented but tricky course. Italiano went in to the final day with the added pressure of being the clubhouse leader after an excellent 67 in the first round. Despite confessing to a few hiccups on the greens, and a drama in the hazard on the 16th hole, Italiano played with impressive control from tee to green over the final nine holes to post a 72 for a 36 hole total of 139. He was a popular winner by a single shot. Ron Annandale did his best work on Sunday, returning a 67 after an impressive 80 off the stick, to snare the runner up trophy with a total of 140.

Ian Mullett, from Pinjarra, was third on a count back with rounds of 70/71 for 141, followed by Greg Tuckey, 67/74 for 141 in fourth. Glen Lever, also from Pinjarra had 71/71 for 142 and fifth place.

Individual gross winners were Chris Stewart on Saturday with 79 and Doug Savarese (Mandurah) on Sunday after a 75. Individual Nett wins went to Neil Graham (Pinjarra) on Saturday with 68 and Collie's promising junior, Ryan Dye on Sunday with a 70.

Overall the event attracted a field of 135 players from 27 clubs. Thanks go to the sponsors, the Coverley family, Pine Hauliers and Wesfarmers Premier Coal, for their generous and greatly appreciated sponsorship.

The Riverside open was preceded by the Dorsett Family fourball Par event on the Friday. A good field of 144 players took part, with noted fourball specialists, Ed Riley and Peter Gray taking out the event, after a count back, on a score of +12. Alan 'AK' Kent and Rob Ferris finished an unlucky second.

Next on +11 were Mat and Gareth Harker, Mike Daley and Darren Morfitt as well as Ian Misich and Dean Rakich who were separated by a count back for third to fifth place.

Golf Notes for the week ending Sunday 21 March 2010

Other pairs to finish at the top of the list in the fourball event were Bill Silverman and Kim Derbyshire and Ian Tweedie and John Kenna with +10. Bill Birkbeck and Ryan Dye, Steven Ireland and Mark Sugget and Gavin Simms and Dennis Annandale had +9, Tony Peck and Gordon Riggir, Rob Sherwood and Barry Stewart and Clayton Flynn and Colin Giblett all had +8.

The Gross event was won by Greg Bell and Leon Moran, after an impressive 67 strokes for +5, from Adam and Barry McGill on +2.

'AK' did his best to add to his fourball trophy over the weekend, attempting to eliminate the opposition with his cart driving. In an effort worthy of an episode of World's Worst Drivers, 'AK' rendered a visitors buggy 'wheel deficient' while reversing near the clubhouse, in full view of an appreciative crowd. The unfortunate golfer was left dumbstruck, considering he still had 5 holes to play. The accident investigation team will release findings after all witness statements have been assessed.

Ross Davidson gained the benefit of the spin when he scored 20 points to win Scroungers last Thursday. Greg White, Neil McDonald and Terry Massara had the same total for the minor positions. Ryan Dye had 19 points with a bunch on 18 points including Warren Harrison Brown, Ross Brody, Bruce Roberts, Phil Warburton, Michael Stocks, David Broadbent and Troy Sheppard all getting a mention.

Nancy Lynn topped the ladies with 18 points.

Alf Sanford had 32 points to win last week's Veterans competition. Alan Kent with 29 points followed by Ernie Sullivan on 28 points made up the top three.

Trevor McCormick led a depleted Leisure Day field with 34 points. Next best was Denis Cocker on 32 points.

Scroungers is on today. There will be an 18 Hole Stableford competition for the Primary Principals trophy on Saturday.

A 9 Hole competition will be played on Sunday. Leisure Day and Veterans golf will be on as usual on Tuesday.