

# New Member Ryan trumps the field

By Dennis Fuller 19-06-2010

The cool but fine conditions at Emerald Golf Club last Saturday suited Ryan Aitken (28) to a tee when he won overall and B Grade in a canter with 43 stableford points, in his very first Emerald Golf Club Event.

The ultra consistent Allan Ecclestone (17), who has been closing in for a win fell just short with his 39 points but that was good enough to top the A Grade dais.

Others to do themselves proud without gaining any bragging rights were Ben Balfour with 38 and a gaggle of golfers including David Aitken, Rod Ward and Brendan White all came in with 37 points.

When it came to nearest the pins, Ryan Aitken was nearest on the 4<sup>th</sup>, Ecclestone the 7<sup>th</sup>, Martin Yeats the 12<sup>th</sup>, Dennis Fuller the 13<sup>th</sup> and Ross Martin picked up the pro pin money on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Not nice Roscoe, thought I might be able to pay the bills this week but a selfish captain standing on the 18<sup>th</sup> tee, who can play a bit, is a real killjoy.

Martin was also nearest the pin after two shots on the 10<sup>th</sup> as was David Aitken on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

The two stand out rounds belonged to Bouncer Holland and Jeff Marsh, who, before heading to Garfield and ignominy, who fronted up to the front 12. Neither set the world on fire but I can say that the 5 balls that Bouncer lost possible belonged to you members in another life. He varied his attack on the trees from left to right and all points between. His 21 points at Garfield indicated that stuff-all changed. I don't have Jeff's score but there has been a rumour that he and Bouncer were spotted after the first 9 holes edging towards the car park?

John Fisher played with Bouncer for the first 12 and then he came with Ben and I. It only took us till the 13 to get him back to the field and away from Bushranger country,

In the ladies' comp Daphne Hunt was a clear winner as she has been showing increasingly good form for quite a number of weeks.

Wednesday's Outrageously Fiddly Golf (OFG), using OFG handicaps, was a tie between Ben Balfour and Allan Ecclestone who both came in with 33 points. Contests were suggested to break the impasse but these peaceful combatants decided to split the bag of gold.

Mark Lothian won the bocce on the 19<sup>th</sup> to prove that sometimes youth can succeed.

Two teams of four also travelled down to Garfield for their annual plate and it must be reported that they did not star, with one exception. Riley Stevens (25), a Grade 6 student

at Emerald Primary School, was completely undaunted by the situation and playing at an unfamiliar course. He came in with 40 points to pick up the \$100 purse for winning C Grade. This round has also seen the adjustment to his handicap and next time he stands on a first tee he will be playing off 23.

Next Saturday the qualifying round for the club match play will be played so the fur will surely fly. I believe it is to be played although we have had a couple of false starts. The top 16 players next Saturday will compete in the knockout comp so if any of you have serious painting or weeding to do at home next Saturday, it is my suggestion that you should do it! Win some brownie points at home and give some of our poorly performing floggers a chance.

#### LOST

A fairly new Srixon ball, somewhere in the very rough between the 14<sup>th</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup>. It came in from the 17<sup>th</sup> and hit a tree and bounced back 30m and in 30m. I suppose I could wander down and have a look for **my** ball today but it is just a little soggy underfoot.....and Essendon lost!

#### SCORES

##### A GRADE

**Wardy and Tommy Bell back on the one Saturday!!!!**

A Ecclestone ... 39

B Balfour ... 38

R Ward ... 37 ...he came back for a round to hit some form ....and did!

Bill Badgery ... 35

D Fuller ... 33

L Morison ... 33

W Degering ... 33

K Hill ... 33

R Martin ... 32

S Courtney ... 31

G White ... 30

M Yeats ... 30

D Hunt ... 27

##### B GRADE

R Aitken ... 40

D Aitken ... 37

B White ... 37

B Isherwood ... 34

I Scott ... 34

D Jennings ... 33

J Fisher ... 32

C Whitlock ... 32

P Farmer ... 31

G Isherwood ... 31

Bernie Badgery ... 30