Public Course Pennants Round 3 / Sunday 19 February 2023

A clean sweep of wins in all three divisions for North Adelaide with Round 3 played in the unlikeliest place to be considered a home team fortress… the North Course.

Patience needed to be at a premium today, with the now-expected slow greens, the heat, our match referee unable to procure a cart, and the embarrassing spectacle of play being stalled as self-entitled members of the public helped themselves by sneaking in between pennants groups at various points around the course,

So from the top…

Division 1 bounced back to form with a 7-1 crushing of Regency Park…

The big guns fired all the way down the line with Yungbok Kim (3&1), Alex Martinson (3&2), skipper Shaun Dawson (2up), John Filmalter (3&2) all successful, while Steve Darch (6&5), Will Phelan (7&6), and Shane Leatham (7&6) all posted massive, dominant wins.

Only Chantha Kong came up short against the very-experienced Lee Jurga.

The win was just the tonic the team needed at the halfway mark of the home-and-away fixtures, with the combined winning margin of 31 holes to 4 certainly helping the averages.

Division 2 remains undefeated against all comers, with a 4.5 to 3.5 win over Playford Lakes, the closest anyone’s come to them in three rounds.

No blowouts in this round, but good wins to Bob Henley (4&3), skipper Anthony Clapp (4&2), Jonathan Gravenor (3&2), and North Course specialist, Frank Kong (4&2).

Paul Haines squared his match, while Atila Koca, Toby Maddern and James Abiero were unsuccessful today.

In Division 3, North Adelaide went into this round top-of-the-ladder against second-placed Playford Lakes in what was effectively a match on neutral ground.

In the end, a solid win to the home side, 6.5 to 1.5.

Playing at 1 & 2, Tom Ryke and Brett Heaven were in blazing form, posting big wins, 6&4 and 6&5 respectively. Tom giving his opponent a 1-stroke advantage, while Brett made the most of his 5-stroke buffer.

Cleek champion, Dee Bennett made the most of her 10-stroke handicap advantage to win comfortably 5&4. Despite giving his opponent, a 2-stroke edge, Luis Madriz enjoyed a 2up win.

In what could be the first time a married couple has played together in our pennants competition, Nat Potter (3&2) and Josh Wade (1up) were successful… Nat enjoying a 12-stroke handicap buffer and Josh with 2.

In a match fought off the stick and decided at the final hole, V-P Peter Adams came from 3-holes down to square his match with a win at 18. Skipper, Murray O’Neill couldn’t quite find his line, length and rhythm despite a 1-stroke edge, and came up empty-handed.

Besides the win, the number of holes won…23 to 2… gives this side a crucial advantage on the ladder before next Sunday’s return match with Sandy Creek on the South Course at high noon, where the greens run much faster than what the visitors have become used to.

Divisions 1 and 2 tee off at 11 and 11:30 am respectively, both seeking to make the most of their home advantages before we all hit the road for the final two matches.

Thanks as ever to match referee, Dave Harrington… also to Peter Norman (exercising his new titanium knee) and Frank Ballard for their support… and especially to Se Young Jung, Dianne Cocks and Ian Probst for working the barbecue to keep the troops well-fed.

Good luck to all teams next week.