

2017 Toro New Zealand Women's Interprovincial

This year the Interprovincial was held in the province of Northland at Sherwood Park Golf Club, Whangarei and sponsored by Toro for the 10th year. The course was beautifully presented with fast undulating greens and tight treelined fairways with bunkers and individual trees placed in strategic spots. Irrigation has kept the fairways verdant and in great condition heading into summer, with no two holes the same making the course interesting and challenging at the same time.

The Hawkes Bay Womens team is made up of career driven ladies and one school girl which dictates the amount of time dedicated to practice. This is evident when it comes time to play teams that are full of school girls such as Auckland, North Harbour, Bay of Plenty and Canterbury. However we set our goals according to last years performance which was finishing in the top half of the field. We travelled up to Northland in 6th place from last years results, coming home in 9th position which was disappointing to all of us.

Having said that Sara Deam who played No.5 had her best and last Interprovincial only losing one game. We will miss Sara's contribution to the team but wish her well in her chosen career training as a Professional Golf Coach at Maeranui Golf Club. Hopefully Sara will be instrumental in recruiting and encouraging lots of new keen girls into the game which Hawkes Bay badly needs.

Welcome back to Lauree Southerden who played for Hawkes Bay as No.1 in 2007 at Napier golf club where we came 2nd. Very fond memories of that year and her last Interprovincial was in 2010 at Miramar GC. Lauree handles herself very well at No.3 considering the amount of preparation she had with a very demanding shiftwork schedule. She only lost two games out of seven which is a commendable performance. Let's hope we can keep her in the district.

Tessa McDonald had another solid year at No.2 only losing 2 games out of seven. Tessa is a very conscientious player, golf is her sport, she puts the time in and will get the results. I have watched Tessa mature as a golfer and a person since she first joined Hawkes Bay in 2011 at Whakatane Interprovincial. Her passion for the game makes her a valued team member and I look forward to seeing her play as a true No.1 for Hawkes Bay in the coming years.

It saddens me to say goodbye to Jaimie McIvor who played No.1 for the team this year. She has had an amazing nine years playing for Hawkes Bay, we couldn't have done without her dedication and determination on the golf course particularly in match play she is a fighter to the very end. She has played in every position in the team over the years and will be sorely missed. We wish her well and hope she returns to Rep golf one day soon.

It was essential to give our young reserve Nicole Aluni some games to grow her confidence at this level. Even though she did not win her two games she handled herself with composure and maturity. Watch this space, I think with another year under her belt she will surprise us all.

I must take this opportunity to thank Fiona Ellis for coming away as our Manager and Wendy McIvor for cooking for us during the week. The whole team dynamics gelled extremely well and it was a pleasure to captained the ship under such pleasant surroundings and enjoyable women. I look forward to the golfing season of 2018.

Janie Field No.4 (Captain)