

## Public Course Pennants Round 4 / Sunday 26 February 2023

The final home games for our teams in all three Divisions were given a splendid setting with the South Course looking a treat on a fine and warm day with a late southerly sweeping in just to spice things up.

Our Division 1 team is back in the hunt for a finals berth after defeating top-of-the-ladder, Sandy Creek 6-2, with 5 wins, 2 matches squared and a single loss in their return match.

Alex Martinson (2&1), Chantha Kong (1up), Shaun Dawson (3&2), Will Phelan (3&2) and John Filmalter with a whopping 7&6 stitched up the round for the 3 points... while halved matches to Yungbok Kim and Dave Renner held off any challenge Sandy Creek may have made on averages through games and holes won. Steve Darch took his match the distance but was ultimately unsuccessful.

Today's loss means Sandy Creek will surrender its lead at the top of the ladder, with the result of the other match between Mawson Lakes and Regency Park set to influence who sits at number one going into the final two rounds.

Anthony Clapp's Division 2 squad remains undefeated through 4 rounds with a dominant 6.5 to 1.5 win today over fourth-placed, Sandy Creek.

Chris Watson (2up), Atila Koca (5&4) Paul Haines (5&3), Anthony Clapp (2&1), Frank Kong (4&3) and Jonathan Gravenor (4&2) swept home comfortably. Toby Maddern squared his match, while Alice Cho took her match to the 17<sup>th</sup> hole before coming up short.

Ahead of the final two rounds away, NAGC Div 2 has jumped at least two wins clear of their nearest rival on the ladder, and boasts formidable stats of 20 matches won, 4 halved and 8 lost with 68 holes won.

In Division 3, North Adelaide held off second-placed Sandy Creek to kick a win clear at the top of the ladder winning their handicap matchplay round, 5.5 to 2.5.

Playing at number 1, the ever-improving Luis Madriz waved off the 2-stroke advantage given to his young opponent to finish early with a commanding 8&7 victory. Playing partner, Luis Plaza drove home his 6-stroke advantage with a 6&4 win. Similarly, Dee Bennett romped home 6&5 off a 3-stroke buffer.

Rory Cho's 4-stroke concession was the margin against him in the end, while skipper Murray O'Neill took one for the team... conceding a whopping 15 strokes to his opponent, before coming up short at 17. A great effort saw Ian George square his match despite a 13-stroke buffer enjoyed by his opponent.

Next week, Round 5 will be played at Mawson Lakes... a tight 9-hole layout, where the sort of finesse demanded of us at North Adelaide is also required here. Finals berths should be decided from this round.

Finally, thanks to Frank Ballard, Peter Norman, Steve Draper and James Abiero for making up the gallery, and to our hard-working barbeque crew of Carla Hirst, Dianne Cocks and Ian Probst for being the front line faces of our renowned NAGC hospitality.