

Paraparaumu Rotary Golf Tournament History

Our Rotary club has had an association with the Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club since 1955/6. In the early days it ran a Pro Am tournament jointly with the Wellington South Rotary Club. From about 1975 this golf tournament became an annual amateur event run by Paraparaumu Rotary only.

The objective of the tournament is to provide participants with an enjoyable social and sporting occasion and to raise funds for worthy community organisations and local area projects. About 128 players from the wider Wellington and Kapiti areas enter each year. The best Stableford score wins the Rotary Cup and a weeks holiday accommodation at the Taupo Ika Nui Timeshare Resort. An all players draw is also held for a similar such week. There are 32 prizes for the 4 divisions, and some other special features, such as target hole, on course refreshments and raffles.

These days financial support comes from a major sponsor, namely HMC Kapiti Ltd. 18 hole sponsors and players entry donations.

The afternoon play is followed by an after match prize giving function, at which each years chosen principal beneficiary is presented with a cheque from the funds raised.

Over the years funds have been raised for many organisations, including the original Marire Home and Sevenoaks, the Wellington Free Ambulance, Coastguard, Kapiti Community Centre, The Aquatic Centre, Paekakariki Surf Life Saving Club, Hockey Club, Swim for life, Kapiti Youth support and Youth Quest and Food Bank to name just a few. In the past 20 years some \$150,000 has been raised for worthy local and district organisations. For this year 2017 the principal beneficiary will be the Blind Foundation Guide Dog Red Puppy Appeal.

A significant factor in the success of the tournament is the support of the Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club and the local and district business communities over the 60 years the Paraparaumu Rotary Club has been running its tournament.

Written by Don Clapcott Jan 2017