



New Zealand Golf Update - February 2008

Welcome to the February edition of the New Zealand Golf Update - a monthly publication containing all the latest news and information from New Zealand Golf.

This month we are delighted to announce that Danny Lee has been recognised as World Junior Amateur of the Year for 2007 by Golfweek and the Scratch Players World Amateur Ranking (SPWAR) organisation.

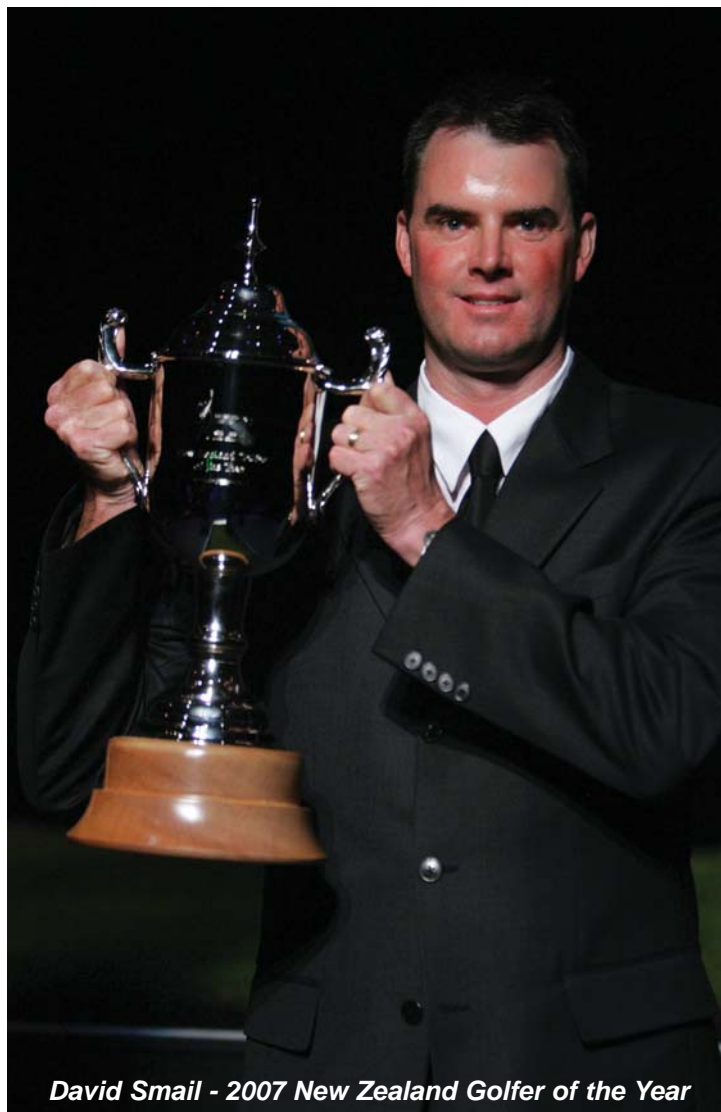
This is a fantastic achievement by Danny and a further endorsement of his phenomenal talent.

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David Smal - 2007 New Zealand Golfer of the Year

New Zealand Golf is Supported By:



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1) The Golf Awards 2008

David Smail was awarded New Zealand Golfer of the Year at a glittering awards function in Christchurch on the 14th February.

The Hamilton golfer completed an outstanding 2007 year, finishing as New Zealand's highest ranked golfer, gaining 15th place on the Japan Order of Merit and placing a career best second on the Australasian Order of Merit.

Smail was awarded the professional player of the year as well as the overall New Zealand Golfer of the Year at the inaugural Golf Industry Awards hosted by New Zealand Golf and the Professional Golfers Association of New Zealand at Christchurch Convention Centre.

He finished the year ranked 99th in the world and while he did not add to his seven career victories, Smail enjoyed remarkable consistency. He finished second in the Australian PGA Championships and enjoyed six top-six finishes in Japan including a remarkable run with five of those placings in his last seven tournaments of the year.

The Achievement Award for 2007 was awarded jointly to professionals Tim Wilkinson and Gareth Paddison after both lefthanders enjoyed major breakthroughs in 2007.

Wilkinson (Palmerston North), 29, finished 14th in the final qualifying school after shooting a last round four-under 68 to gain his full playing rights to the USPGA for 2008. He enjoyed a strong 2007 season making 23 out of 26 cuts and finished 49th on the moneylist on the Nationwide Tour.

Paddison (Hutt Valley), 27, finished in a share of 22nd place in the final qualifying school, one shot inside the cut for the top 30 players to gain his full card for the European Tour. He achieved his maiden win on the Challenge Tour last year.

The other main awards went to Hawkes Bay's Doug Holloway and amateurs Danny Lee and Dasom Lee.

Holloway won the 2007 NZPGA Order of Merit award with his 2007 year including wins in the Youthtown Wairakei Open and several pro am titles.

Male amateur of the year, Danny Lee (Rotorua) won the NZ Amateur, Bledisloe Cup, the North Island Amateur, the Under 23 Championship and reached the matchplay rounds of the US Junior and US Amateur Championships.

Female amateur of the year, Dasom Lee (Auckland) won the Under-19 and Under-23 titles, was runner-up in the NZ Strokeplay and was third leading individual at the Queen Sirikit Asia Pacific teams championship.

The NZPGA also awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award to well known coach Bob McDonald.

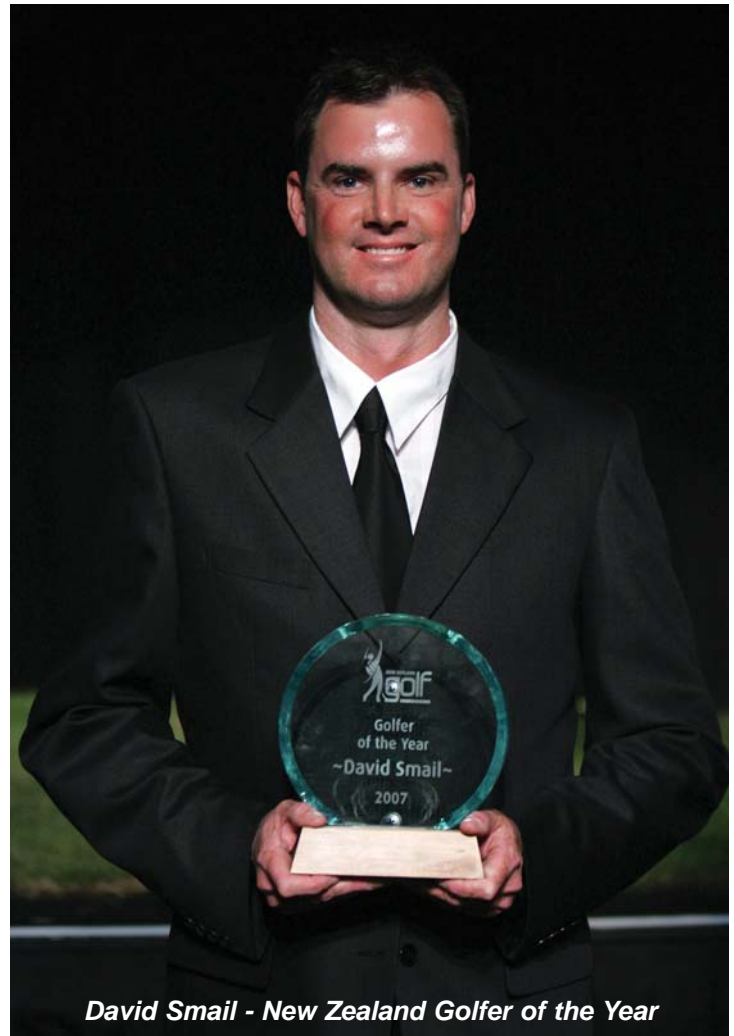
The Golf Awards Winners List:

NZGCSA 2007 Trainee of the Year - James O'Malley

NZPGA 2007 Order of Merit Winner - Doug Holloway
NZPGA Academy - 2007 Trainee Of the Year - Glyn Delany
NZPGA 2007 Professional Player of the Year - David Smail
NZPGA Lifetime Achievement Award - Bob McDonald

NZG 2007 Female Amateur of the Year - Dasom Lee
NZG 2007 Male Amateur of the Year - Danny Lee
NZG 2007 Achievement of the Year - Tim Wilkinson & Gareth Paddison

Supreme Award: NZ Golfer of the Year - David Smail



David Smail - New Zealand Golfer of the Year



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**Danny Lee - 2007 Male Amateur Player of The Year
(Winner of the Phil Tataurangi Trophy)**

2007 Individual Achievements:

- Winner New Zealand Match Play Championships
- Winner New Zealand Under 23 Championships
- Winner South Island Stroke Play Championships
- Winner Harvey Norman Classic
- Runner Up World Junior Champs (Age 15-17) (US Event)
- Runner Up Dogwood Invitational (US Event)
- Runner Up Youthtown Wairakei Open (Professional Event)
- Runner Up Grant Clements Memorial
- Runner Up Individual SBS Invitational
- 3rd Mae Keoung Open (Professional Event – Asian Tour)
- 3rd North Island Stroke Play Championships
- 5th= US Amateur Public Links Stroke Play (US Event)
- 6th= US Amateur Stroke Play Championship (US Event)
- 11th= Carrus Tauranga Open (Professional Event)
- 11th US Junior Amateur Stroke Play Championship
- 12th= New Zealand Stroke Play Championships
- 19th= Western Amateur Championships (US Event)
- 25th= Australian Stroke Play Championship (Australia)
- 35th= Scratch Players Championship (US Event)



**Dasom Lee - 2007 Female Amateur Player of The Year
(Winner of the Marilyn Smith & Oliver Hollis Trophies)**

2007 Individual Achievements:

- Winner New Zealand Under 21 Stroke Play Championship
- Winner Overall (U19) NZ Age Group Championships
- Winner Harvey Norman Classic
- Winner Auckland Provincial Championship
- Winner The Grange 54 Hole Stroke Play
- Runner Up New Zealand Stroke Play Championship
- Runner Up Ruth Middleton Cup
- 3rd= individual at Queen Sirikit Cup, team placed 4th
- Semi finalist New Zealand U21 Match Play Championship
- 5th North Shore Classic
- 9th Lake Macquarie Championship (Australia)
- 21st= Australian Stroke Play Championship (Australia)
- 45th= Youthtown Wairakei Open (Professional Event)



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2) Sir Bob Charles Golf Scholarships

The recipients of the 2007 Sir Bob Charles Scholarships presented at the Golf Industry Awards in Christchurch were:

Lucy Davis (Nelson),
Ewen Hodge (Queenstown),
James Gill (Hamilton, studying at St Andrew University),
Mark Spraggs (Kinloch).

Lucy Davis is a promising young golfer from Nelson, Hodge is studying turn culture and golf course design, Gill is studying for his masters in business at St Andrew University in Scotland and Mark Spragg is studying turf culture.

Lucy Davis and Ewen Hodge were present at the awards ceremony and received their awards from Sir Bob Charles.

Lucy Davis



Ewen Hodge



3) Danny Lee - World Junior Amateur of the Year

Golfweek and the Scratch Players World Amateur Ranking (SPWAR) at www.owagr.com has announced that New Zealand's Danny Lee is the 2007 World Junior of the Year (U18).

Danny Lee



Danny was the top junior for the vast majority of 07 primarily on the strength of amateur tournament play with a mix of junior and professional events added in. His current Golfweek SPWAR ranking is #6 worldwide after winning the 08 Lake Macquarie Amateur in Australia, a top 20 in world event, by a 10 shot margin tying the tournament record.

4) New Staff Member at New Zealand Golf

We have recently welcomed Alice Foot to the New Zealand Golf team. Alice join us from the New Zealand Rugby Union where she has been working in the High Performance team for the past three years.

Alice has filled the newly created position of National Events Coordinator and will primarily work in developing the public presentation and non-golf components of our national tournaments.



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5) International Tournament Results

Wright 12th in Victorian Women's Strokeplay

Nelson golfer Lisa Wright finished in 12th place at the Victorian women's strokeplay championships.

Wright, who was prominent early after her opening round four-under par 69, finished with a 72-hole total of nine-over 301 in hot and humid conditions at the Kingswood Golf Club on Melbourne's sandbelt.

She finished 11 shots behind joint winners of the Neil Smithett Championship, Clare Choi from nearby Huntingdale and Stephanie Na from South Australia on two-under 290. They were two shots clear of Cecelia Nha (NSW) with a further shot to Queensland's Ellie Na, who raced home with the day's best round of 69.

Wright, a Titleist Academy representative, was in third place after two rounds but faded with a third round 77 and final round six-over 79 today.

Leading scores, Victorian Women's Strokeplay, Kingswood Golf Club, par 73:

290 Clare Choi (AUS) 67 76 71 76,
Stephanie NA (AUS) 73 75 70 72
292 Cecelia Nha 73 70 74 75
293 Ellie Na (AUS) 74 75 75 69

New Zealanders:

301 Lisa Wright (Nelson) 69 76 77 70,
Olivia Crispin (Ashburton) mc 78 86.



Dana Kim 2nd at Riversdale Cup

New Zealand golfer Dana Kim came within one shot of the biggest win of her young career at the Riversdale Cup in Melbourne.



The Christchurch teenager fired a final round even-par 73 to close within one shot of winner Julia Boland from New South Wales.

Kim, 19, made a splendid 5m curling birdie putt on the 17th to move to within one shot of Boland but the Australian, who could only manage a two-over 75 in the final round, responded with a solid par on the last. Kim's 8m birdie effort just slid by the hole.

Kim finished on three-under par 289 and drew real praise from New Zealand Golf high performance manager David Graham.

"Everyone seemed to struggle today but Dana held her game together so well. It was an impressive finish to a very good tournament".

Leading scores, Riversdale Cup
Riversdale Golf Club, par 73:

288 Julia Boland (NSW) 71 73 69 75
289 Dana Kim (NZL) 74 70 72 73
293 Kristie Smith (WA) 70 73 72 78
295 Stacey Keating (VIC) 72 73 77 73

Other New Zealanders:

305 Larissa Eruera 79 76 72 78
312 Emily Perry 77 72 74 89
313 Penny Smith 78 77 77 81
318 Caroline Bon 77 81 82 78



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6) Domestic Tournament Results

New Zealand Men's Senior Championship

Australian-domiciled Kiwi David Burton made two birdies in the final three holes to grab his first New Zealand Seniors golf title at Akarana Golf Club in Auckland.

Taking a four shot lead into the final round, Burton twice dropped back to a share of the lead with Sunshine Coast player Chris Coats. But Burton, who still retains a membership at Nelson Golf Club, made clutch birdies at the 16th and 17th holes in tough conditions to cement his win.

Burton finished with a three round total of one-over par 210 at the par-70 Akarana Golf Club.

Leading scores, New Zealand Men's Senior Championship, Akarana Golf Club, par 70:

211	David Burton (Nelson) 66 70 75
215	Chris Coats (Peregian Springs, AUS) 68 72 75, Tony Treen (Muriwai) 72 71 72
217	Stefan Albinski (Mona Vale, AUS) 75 73 69, Barry Shannon (Wanganui) 71 74 72
218	Phil Wood (Victoria, AUS) 73 74 71
219	Martin Webber (Royal Wellington) 71 75 73

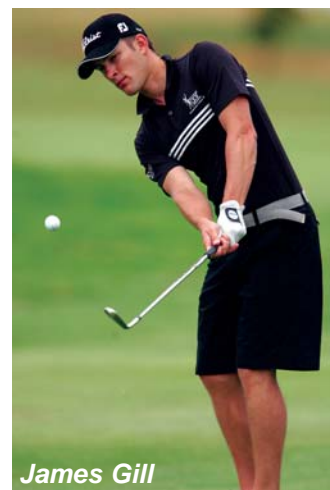


David Burton

7) Sir Michael Bonallack Team Announcement

New Zealand's two leading amateur golfers Danny Lee and James Gill have been selected for the Asia Pacific team to contest the biennial Michael Bonallack Trophy against Europe in April.

The pair will have the rare treat of not only playing in a prestigious international event but on one of the world's high profile courses of Valderrama in Spain - currently the home of the European Tour's season ending championship.



James Gill

Lee and Gill are part of the 12-strong Asia Pacific team headed by Wellington's Roger Brennand, who was also the team captain for the last Michael Bonallack Trophy held in Auckland two years ago.

Lee, now ranked ninth on the world amateur rankings, and Gill, currently studying at St Andrews University in Scotland, will be part the Asia Pacific team with players from Australia, Chinese-Taipei, Thailand, Philippines, Japan and Korea.

The team includes the 2006 Australian champion Tim Stewart and his Australian compatriot Rohan Blizzard, currently ranked sixth in the world. The national champions of Chinese Taipei, Shin-Chang Chan and Korea, Yeong-Su Kim are included.

They will meet a strong European lineup that includes the current European champion Benjamin Hebert (France), the runner-up Joel Sjoeholm (Sweden) and the British amateur champion Daniel Willett, ranked second in the world.

The event takes place at the famed Valderrama course from 25-27 April.

The full Asia Pacific team is:

James Gill, Danny Lee (New Zealand), Rohan Blizzard, Tim Stewart (Australia), Shih-Chang Chan, Ming-Chuan Chen (Chinese Taipei), Barut Chomchalam (Thailand), Yuki Ito, Naoyuki Tamura (Japan), Bi-O Kim, Yeong-Su Kim (Korea), Anthony Ferando (Philippines). Captain: Roger Brennand (New Zealand).



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8) The Charities Commission

Many Golf Clubs have been in contact with New Zealand Golf in the past few weeks regarding the need for golf clubs to register with The Charities Commission in advance of the tax law changes on 1 July 2008.

In the coming weeks New Zealand Golf will issue a fact sheet to golf clubs with a step by step guide on registering with the Charities Commission and the relevance for golf clubs to do so.

Generally, from a tax point of view, there is no need for amateur sports or recreation organisations to register with the Charities Commission however any organisation that considers it has charitable purposes and is established for "public benefit" (not just for the benefit of its members) may apply for registration with the Commission.

From July 2008, all organisations that wish to be eligible for charitable tax exemption from Inland Revenue will need to be registered.

9) The Essential Golf Holes of New Zealand

Tom Hyde, the author of the successful Mad Keen Golfer's Road Trip (Random House) is compiling another golf book entitled "Essential Golf Holes of New Zealand." If your club has a hole or you know of one that's legendary for one reason or another please tell him about it.

Tom is interested in holes that are especially scenic and have a good yarn associated with them--such as a famous shot, a person, an historical event--aimed at providing not only a description of the hole but a good read, too.

This book will be a great promotion for New Zealand golf. If you have a hole you think should be included please contact Tom by email at: tomhyde@xtra.co.nz.

10) Life Member Monnie Hannan - Rest in Peace

New Zealand Golf life member Monnie Hannan passed away earlier this month.

Mrs Hannan was elected to the Taranaki Ladies' Golf Association in 1976, and it was only a short time before Mrs Hannan was elected Executive Member for Taranaki on the New Zealand Ladies' Golf Union, serving on the Council for ten years from 1977 to 1987.

Mrs Hannan served as President of the NZLGU for two years, and in retirement in May 1987, was appointed a Life Member. After commencing golf in 1941, Mrs Hannan scored her first hole-in-one in 1992, after 51 years of golfing.

11) New Junior Plus Golf Clubs

Four more clubs have been Awarded 'Junior Plus' in the New Year; the National accreditation programme recognising successful Junior Programmes in New Zealand Golf Clubs.

Congratulations to those clubs listed below and their volunteers who have worked through the many elements required of an accredited club to become recognised at one of the three levels of Junior Plus.

Newly Accredited Clubs:

- > Taupo Golf Club - Level Eagle
- > Wanganui Golf Club - Level Eagle
- > Horsham Downs Golf Club - Level Eagle
- > Levin Golf Club - Level Birdie



Junior Golf

A special mention must be made for the efforts of the Junior Convenors at each club and to the Junior Golf Development Managers who have assisted these junior Convenors through each stage of accreditation.

Equally important to those clubs who have attained Junior Plus are the many clubs working toward the award. These clubs have taken on the task of setting up formal structures for their junior programmes, are, or will be having, volunteer coaches trained in the NZ Golf Coach Education programmes and are aiming to run a comprehensive and successful Junior 'Season' of Golf.





2008 NZ Golf Calendar of National Events
(dates subject to change)

DATE	EVENT	M/W	VENUE
Jan 7-8	New Zealand Men's U23 Teams Championship	M	Taupo GC, Bay of Plenty
Jan 10- 12	Regency Duty Free New Zealand Men's U23 Championship	M	Hastings GC, Hawkes Bay
Jan 16 - 18	North Island Under 19 Championship	M	Hamilton GC, Waikato
Jan 23-25	Lion Foundation NZ Women's Under 23 Championship	W	New Plymouth GC, Taranaki
Feb 15 - 17	New Zealand Men's Seniors Championship	M	Akarana GC, Auckland
Feb 20 - 22	New Zealand Women's Seniors Championship	W	Whitford Park GC, Auckland
Mar 8 - 9	SBS Golf Invitational	M	Invercargill GC, Southland
Mar 20 - 23	North Island Stroke Play Championship	M & W	Whakatane GC, Bay of Plenty
Mar 27 - 30	South Island Stroke Play Championship	M & W	Southland GC, Southland
April 1 - 3	New Zealand Women's Autumn Foursomes	W	Gisborne Park GC, Poverty Bay/East Coast
April 22 - 29	New Zealand Men's & Women's Amateur Championship	M & W	Paraparaumu Beach GC & Waikanae GC
May 1 & 2	Trans Tasman	M & W	Royal Wellington GC, Wellington
May 10	Cuesport National Interclub Final	M	Ashburton GC, Aorangi
Sept 3	Youthtown New Zealand Secondary Schools Final	M & W	TBC Wellington
Sep 5 - 7	Youthtown New Zealand Junior Girls Championship	W	TBC Wellington
Sep 5 - 7	Youthtown New Zealand Junior Boys Championship	M	Wainuiomata GC, Wellington
Oct 7 - 11	Toro New Zealand Womens Interprovincial Tournament	W	Nelson GC, Nelson
Oct 8 - 11	Espirito Santo Trophy	W	The Grange & Royal Adelaide Golf Clubs, Aust
Oct 16 - 19	Eisenhower Trophy	M	The Grange & Royal Adelaide Golf Clubs, Aust
Nov 3 - 7	Freyberg Masters	M	Poverty Bay GC, Poverty Bay/East Coast
Nov 7 - 9	New Zealand Women's Masters	W	Otago GC, Otago
Nov 17 - 20	New Zealand Women's Veteran Handicap Foursomes	W	Pukekohe GC, Auckland
Dec TBC	Toro New Zealand Men's Interprovincial Tournament	M	Greenacres GC, Nelson

Entry forms for tournaments through to the New Zealand Men's & Women's Amateur Championships are available to be downloaded from www.nzgolf.org.nz

