

Ian Morris Memorial Golf Day

This event was played on Friday 7 August 2015, again at RAAF Darwin Golf Club, where we are always made welcome. The conditions were ideal—a beautiful Darwin August afternoon and the course was in excellent condition.

I believe the history of the Ian Morris Memorial Golf Day, as it was renamed in 2009, is well-known to all ... if this day and its history is not well-known to you, I look forward to your attendance at this event in 2016, most likely on a sunny August afternoon. You will be allocated a mentor and by the end of the day you *WILL* know the history of this day.

That said, I will tell you that there are two trophies to win; one bears a badge that was renamed The Ian Morris Memorial Golf Day in 2009. Traditionally the trophy has gone to the team with the best net score on the day. That is, the gross score, less the total of the roll of the two big, fluffy dice.

A second trophy was added in 2007 which is not as large as the first but much prized by the serious golfer; those who think they can hit it around a bit! This is the Law Society Northern Territory's trophy for the best gross score. It also bears a badge that signifies it is to be competed for as part of The Ian Morris Memorial Golf Day.

These trophies spent some time in hiding in 2014 but thankfully were available on the day to be viewed and admired.

In recent times there has been a legal edict that one team cannot win both trophies however, one of the idiots running the show ignored this and after the roll of the die, Hunt & Hunt 1, took home both trophies. Perhaps fewer idiots are required to ensure no team wins both trophies in the future.

This year 44 players from 11 teams assembled at the club, ready to battle the course, their opponents and at times,

their equipment. This year numbers were down on previous years. Cheryl Richardson was not able to attend as her services were required at an insurance function and no-one from the Variety Club family was able to attend as the day also coincided with the Variety Club Bash.

We are grateful that Jill Morris spent the day with us and her team of four included Marg Carter, Kay Byrne and Lyn Langley.

The club was very supportive of the event, once again, with a donation of the green fees. A number of law firms were represented. The Law Society team, or more particularly, The Legislative Instruments, was well-represented by its President, Tass Liveris, CEO, Megan Lawton, Treasurer, Jeff Collins and Complaints and Discipline Enforcer, Madam Lash ... oops, I mean ... Kellie Grainger.

Barristers of different vintages and ability were sprinkled among the teams, along with government lawyers who were able to treat the day as well-earned recreational leave and appropriate networking opportunities. Mildren AJ and Master Luppino, added a touch of class. Justice Hiley's team of 2014 was without Justice Hiley so the 2015 team of Higher Authority became 'No Authority'.

Thanks are extended to the following people, in particular, who contributed to the day:

- The sponsors, Marsh Insurance Brokers, Skycity and QBE. They were each very generous in their support and the provision of our prizes: cash and handouts. Their continued support and encouragement is very much appreciated.



- The admin staff of William Forster Chambers who assisted with the organisation of the event and made sure the event ran smoothly on the day. The organisation of the drinks eskies was greatly appreciated.
- Lily North from the Law Society who attended and obtained as many incriminating photos as she could.
- Sandy, from the golf club, who ran the bar and provided sound advice and assistance beforehand and Brian Dienelt, also from the club, who accepted our booking and assisted as required.
- David Alderman (see idiot above) and Wade Roper, for help on the day with scores, counting the dice and the presentation of prizes.
- Alistair Wyvill SC and Bruce Taylor, both of William Forster Chambers, who once again appeared at the bench ... the BBQ bench that is ... and ensured the players were greeted with the delicious aroma of sausages and onions as they made their way back to the refreshment zone.

Some golfers probably noticed the event was missing the expertise provided in previous years by Rex Wild QC and Mark Johnson. Both gents were interstate on the day. Mark has relocated to Queensland but Rex will head the organising committee ... wait, he IS the organising committee, next year.

The generosity of the sponsors, those who attended and those who were involved with the day resulted in a donation of \$2000 to Variety NT for Children's Cancer. Thank you all.

The trophies and winners were:

- Best Gross Score: **Hunt & Hunt 1** – Lauren Berry, Greg Worden, David Woods and Greg Hankinson
- Runners-up: **Regal Legals** – Rob Perry, Chris Lee, Hugh Bradley and Mildren AJ
- Best Nett Score: **Hunt & Hunt 1** – aforesaid
- Runners-up: **SWAMBO** – Jill Morris, Marg Carter, Kay Byrne and Lyn Langley
- Longest Drive: **Justice Jocks** – Tom Dunham
- Nearest the Pin [1st shot]: **SWAMBO** – unidentified sharpshooter
- NTP [second shot]: **Hunt & Hunt 1** – unidentified sharpshooter
- Longest Putt: **Regal Legals** – Mildren AJ
- NAGA Award: **I'm on a horse again** – David Alderman, Cassy Ellis, Jessica Holgersson and Rachel McDonald. The team uniform was noteworthy.
- Encouragement award: **No Authority** – Ned Aughterson, Arul Selvaretnam, Bill Piper and Gary Turbill.

Thank you, of course, to all the players. It was a great day that will, no doubt, be repeated next year. Please encourage your colleagues and friends (they don't have to be lawyers) to join us then. You can assume it will be in August 2016 on an inevitable pleasant Darwin Friday afternoon.

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