

**2024 AKAROA RYDER CUP**  
**9am SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

An important date for your diary, the 4<sup>th</sup> Ryder Cup event following the first - a Kiwi win, the second - a draw and the third - an Expat win.

These are recorded on the new Trophy (a replica of the Ryder Cup Trophy) which now resides in the club Trophy cabinet. The Ryder Cup tournament always promotes a high degree of friendly rivalry between the 2 teams (Kiwi's and Internationals/Expats) and this is particularly evident 'post match' in the clubhouse.

The Ryder Cup is a match play competition between 2 teams of players which is compressed into 3 x 9 hole comp's played in one day: Morning Foursomes then Fourball best ball followed by afternoon Singles match play. Opposing players will be matched as closely as possible by handicap to minimise giving shots.

Essentially, the 2 teams are labelled 'Kiwi' and 'International' (or Expat). The term 'International' (or Expat) being loosely based on country of origin or any other tenuous connection you can come up with.

Each team (Ladies and Men) consists of a multiple of 4 players. Ladies and men play separately in their own 4 balls. There is no fixed limit for numbers of participants but, most importantly, the numbers in each team must be equal so we may need to make up Expat numbers using some fairly tenuous or historic connections!

A large exterior scoreboard is maintained at the clubhouse to enhance the rivalry! 1 point is awarded in respect of each match.

Special 9 hole cards have been developed for this tournament and these will be handed out and explained on the day. These, and the carefully calculated handicaps, will be unlike anything you have played to before but have proved very fair and acceptable in the past.

Team member numbers have grown each year and in 2023 we fielded 12 Ladies and 48 Men (60 points in total). We hope to improve on that for 2024!

Interest is invited from all AGC members. Kaituna members are also welcome (separate sign up sheet). Players must have an official WHS golf handicap (max playing handicap is 32 for both men and ladies). Anyone with a higher handicap will be restricted to 32. Each participant must play the full 27 holes. There will be a lunch break from 1-2pm (allowing 4 hrs for the morning fourball matches).

A \$10 entry fee will apply - to include a closing Sausage sizzle and team, individual and 'discretionary' prizes. Fancy dress is encouraged – and rewarded. All proceeds go to the club.

There is a sign up sheet on the notice board. Please get your name down as soon as possible. Feel free to email me direct to apply or for further info. Please do not rely on word of mouth (I have form in this area!) I will contact all participants a week before the event to confirm your availability before putting the fourball teams together.

Gabby has again kindly agreed to act as event photographer and chief scorer and we would be grateful for any additional help for her and with the sausage sizzle and kitchen service.

The emphasis of this event is on fun. Don't be put off by the match play format. There will be plenty of experience/help in each fourball. Expat entries are encouraged as we must field equal numbers on each team. Ladies are also particularly encouraged to participate and any help in recruitment in that respect would be greatly appreciated. There is always massive positive feedback from the vast majority of participants so please give it a try.

Please feel free to contact me for any reason on 02040618375 or email paul.broderick2@btinternet.com. Let's hope for good golfing weather.