

team consisted largely of juniors D. Shaw being one of last year's second juniors. Nevertheless, he was the hero of the game, playing splendidly at half. Beere and Rockley, respectively, for Paeroa and Karangahake, played well amongst the backs, but the rest were only fair. Karangahake won by 16 points to nil, McLean, Rockley, Smith and Houghton scoring tries, two of which were converted by McLean. The game was slow and uninteresting, especially in the first spell, when Karangahake only scored one try on the call of time. Mr R. Jones was referee.

The Waitekauri-Waikato match, at Waikato, resulted, after a close contest, in a win for Waitekauri by 3 points to nil. Keating scored the try. Mr J. Macdonald was referee.

The junior match, Paeroa v. Karangahake resulted in an easy win for the latter by 9 points (3 tries) to nil. Bush, Shepherd, and Rae each scored tries.

The other junior fixture, Waitekauri v. Waikato, was won by the former by 6 points to nil. Hattan scored 2 tries for Waitekauri. Mr C. Johnson was referee.

The champion five-eights, Olly Reilly, arrived here yesterday, and will play for Karangahake, which club promises to be very difficult to beat this year.

WELLINGTON.

The following matches for the Rugby Senior Championship took place on Saturday.—Poneke versus Oriental resulted in a tie, each team scoring nine points. Neither side could claim any signal advantage. In the last stages of the play for the winners, Roberts played finely, showing excellent defence, while Davis shaped well behind the scrum. McAnally, Mann, O'Brien, Wilkinson and Reedy (wing) did good service in the vanguard. Bush was far and away the best back on the Oriental side, and Wylie, Dixon, Skelton, and Ritchie did good forward service. In the match Petone versus Wellington, the former won by 13 points to 6. The Wellingtonians, however, sustained serious loss through Buchanan, their crack three-quarter, being incapacitated and having to leave the field at an early stage of the game. All the Petone backs did yeoman service, especially Woods and Barber. Judd, Bate and Chambers were the best of the forwards. The yellow backs need no comment, except that they displayed some excellent defensive work. Kemner was the best forward on the ground, his attacking and defence play being excellent. Of the others Leveridge in the pack, and Thompson in the open, were best. Melrose beat Old Boys by nine points to nil. The winners played with more than usual vigour, and at times the play was somewhat rough, and there was a good deal of off-side play which escaped the notice of the referee. The play exhibited by the Old Boys did not come up to expectations, but this was due in a great measure to the fast forward play of the winners.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

WELLINGTON.

In the senior ranks Rovers and Swifts played a match at Miramar, the former winning by 3 goals to nil. Throughout the first spell the game was lively, the Rovers showing smart forward play, their opponents' passing being somewhat loose. In the second half of the game the Swifts maintained a fairly consistent attack, and for a long time kept their opponents penned, but they sacrificed several fine chances by poor shooting.

LACROSSE.

The season was opened on Saturday with a very successful tournament, and the gathering of spectators, considering the unfavourable afternoon, was distinctly good. Six clubs were represented, the first match to be decided being that between Suburbs and Parnell. This proved a much closer battle than was expected, Parnell succumbing by one goal to nil.

North Shore and Grey Lynn were the next to meet. The former carried on a strong attack, and seemed certain to score, but the defence proved too sound. Close on time Bradley got a goal through the posts for Grey Lynn, and thus gave the victory to his side.

A very keen game was the upshot of the encounter between Grafton and Ponsonby. Noton got in one for his side, but this was more than neutralised by Grafton, for whom Atkinson and Hill registered goals.

The winners of this beat accordingly had a bye, while Suburbs and Grey Lynn tried conclusions. Out of this the former came victorious by one goal to nil.

Much interest naturally centred in the tussle for the final between Suburbs and Grafton. Both teams gave a fine exposition, a very even go being the result. Towards the close of play the Grafton defence men got out of place, leaving a splendid opening for Suburbs to score, and this they were able to do despite Kallender's efforts to avert, the reds thus winning the round.

At the close of the tournament Mr David Goldie, the Mayor of Auckland, presented the trophies (kindly donated by Mr Kohn) to the Suburbs team, in the course of his speech promising the victors in the season's championship a handsome banner.

During the afternoon a number of ladies supplied tea to those present on the stand, and their efforts in this direction came in for the most cordial appreciation. Considering the wintry state of the weather the "opening" must be considered a most successful function.

CRICKET.

AUCKLAND WINS THE THIRD GRADE CHAMPIONSHIP.

The final between Auckland III, and Wakefield for the third grade honours was concluded on Saturday afternoon on the Domain. Auckland had twelve runs to get and seven wickets to fall. They won the match by six wickets. Bronfroot (12 not out), Nolan (10 not out), Court (13) and Philson (9), batted well in Auckland's second innings. For Wakefield J. Walker and P. Edwards howled well. This match concludes the cricket season.

GOLF NOTES.

(By Bogey.)

On Saturday, the 12th inst., the Bogey match for Dr. Stuart Reid's prize was played. The weather was perfect, but the links were a trifle soft after the recent heavy rains, although the greens were by no means slow. There was what is known as "golfer's paralysis" in the air—in other words, the display of golf was, with the exception of that of the winner (Mr. Bamford) only of a very poor order. Mr. Bamford finished one up on his opponent with a handicap of 8 strokes, and his card shows that he was playing a very steady and occasionally a somewhat brilliant game. I think this is the first time Mr. Bamford has score a win, which is due perhaps to the fact that he has never received very lenient treatment at the hands of the handicappers. The next best cards shown in were those of Messrs Hogg and A. B. Lawrence, who were each 3 down to Bogey. Both these gentlemen state they have a grievance against a well-known member of the Club (who is also a bit of a wag), who informed them towards the end of their game, that he had finished 6 up on Bogey. Thinking that they had no chance of winning the competition, they played the last few holes carelessly, and were very wroth to find that this self-same wag had actually finished 6 down to Bogey. It is, I regret to say, a common practice for players to give wrong information as to the result of their game. I think this practice should be put down with a strong hand, although I am also of opinion that no competitor ought to ask another competitor the state of his card till he has finished his own match, for if he receive information it may give him an advantage over anybody who has not had an opportunity of obtaining it. There were a number of informal cards handed in, and I would again remind members that cards must be signed by the scorer, with the result shown on the card, and then the player must countersign the card.

Before closing this week's notes I would like to record an amusing incident that occurred on the links a few days ago. A player drove his ball into the forest at he forest hole, and after searching for it for a few minutes eventually espied it in a clump of grass. He called for his "heavy iron" in his well-known deep bass voice, and addressed his ball in his own peculiar and inimitable style. The ball not being sufficiently "teed" caused the player to miss it altogether, much to the amusement of the two caddie boys and his opponent.

Nothing daunted he approached the little white sphere once again with a wild, wicked look in his eye. At this, second attempt, the heavy iron carried off before it, the ball flying away in various pieces, and still the caddies and the opponent appeared convulsed with merriment. The striker, somewhat dazed and ruffled in his temper, turned to his caddie and said "Where the d— is the ball, anyhow?" The reply was, "Please, sir, it was a mushroom."

On Thursday the committee of the A.L.G.C. held a meeting to make final arrangements for the championship meeting this week. It was decided to play the championship on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (the Auckland Golf Club having kindly given the ladies permission to play on that day), and Friday. The handicaps, approach, and putting competition commences on Tuesday at 2.30. The handicap doubles take place on Thursday, and on Friday, besides the championship final, there will be the driving competition, the putting competition, and the presentation of prizes by the president. There are 10 entries for the championship, and on Monday Mrs Colbeck plays off against Miss Shuttleworth, and Miss M. Wilkins against Miss L. Gillies.

Great regret is felt throughout the Club that Mrs W. Bloomfield has been obliged to retire from all events.

On Thursday seven new members—Miss K. Lennox, Miss T. Baddeley, Mrs T. Hutchison, Miss M. Puresha, Mrs Stafford Walker, and Miss G. Russell—were elected playing members, and Miss M. Auckland was elected an hon. member.

The enlarged Ngamotu Links, New Plymouth, now available, with a fine complement of 18 holes, over some rather difficult country, including a running stream, which has already proved the death of innumerable balls, and the birth of a considerable quantity of unparliamentary language, have been pronounced by a St. Andrew's authority to be as nearly perfect, when the greens are in a little better order, as can be found in the North Island.

On the last two holidays there were most of the players present, especially the ladies, who are competing for Mrs J. Weston's trophy. Mr Standish, Mr D. Wood, and Dr. Walker (captain) have also contributed trophies. The best scores so far have been by the 18 holes: Dr. Walker, 87; Mr W. Todd, Aberfoyle (Scotland) Club, 91; and Mr Poffen, 92.

The following is clipped from "The Australasian":—

The Hon. Treasurer of the Auckland Golf Club writes a very fair letter to "Golf Illustrated," re their mistake of calling Mr J. D. Howden Champion of Australasia. This mistake has occurred in other papers, but I have never corrected it, as I thought most golfers knew the real facts of the case. I need not say that Mr J. D. Howden has never claimed to be the Champion of Australasia, but only Champion of Victoria. A few words relative to the championship will be interesting, and enable the matter to be clearly understood. In 1892 and 1893 some Adelaide golfers came over to Melbourne for the Cup, and played over the Caulfield course. It occurred to the R.M.G.C. it would be a nice thing if an inter-colonial contest could take place then, and it also seemed as if Melbourne at Cup time was the only time and place at which it was possible to get inter-colonial players together. Accordingly the Hon. sec. wrote to the principal clubs in Sydney, Adelaide, and New Zealand about it, giving the above reasons, and received letters from Sydney, Adelaide, and several New Zealand clubs agreeing to its being considered the Championship of Australasia, and the said clubs also sent players to play for it. The R.M.G.C. provided a cup called the Victorian Golf Cup, to be held by the winner. After some years the other clubs got stronger, and the Royal Sydney suggested that the championship should be played on alternate links. To this the R.M.G.C. at once agreed, as it was only held on this course for the general convenience. A Union was formed, and it was decided to play for it for the first time under the new conditions in Sydney. This was done in May last year, when Mr Gillies, of New Zealand, won after a good contest with Mr H. A. Howden. At the time of the alteration, however, it was agreed that the R.M.G.C. should have a Victorian Championship the same as New South Wales have, and that the Victorian Golf Cup should now become the prize for that. It was this prize which Mr J. D. Howden won,

so that although he won the prize which had hitherto carried the Championship of Australasia, it now only carries the Championship of Victoria.

The ex-Champions of Australasia are—1894, Mr L. A. Whyte, Geelong (V.C.); 1895, Mr R. A. A. Ballour, Melbourne, R.M.G.C.; 1896, 1897, and 1898, Mr H. A. Howden, R.M.G.C.

WANGANUI GOLF CLUB.

May 10.

The showery weather of the last fortnight has vastly improved the turf, and the putting greens are now in good order. The match with Palmerston, which was to have been played on Saturday last, comes off on the 12th. The alteration was made at the request of the Palmerston Club, who purpose bringing up six or eight players. We do not anticipate such an easy win as we had last year when Wanganui inflicted a crushing defeat of 33 to 1. Indeed, though we expect the match will be a close one, we shall not be surprised to have the tables completely turned on us. Anyhow the match is sure to be as enjoyable as its predecessors.

The work of top-dressing and turfing the greens is now completed, and the renovation of teeing grounds is now proceeding. It is unlikely that we shall be able to extend our links to 18 holes this year.

The ladies are in strong force this year, having a membership of over 60. They have not yet shown, however, any great vigour in practice. A combined foursome was arranged for Wednesday, 9th inst., but owing to showery weather had to be postponed, as no ladies turned up.

The second monthly competition, a Bogey match, was played last Saturday, May 5th. There was an excellent entry of 21, but, though the weather was perfect, the scoring was poor, largely owing no doubt to the temporary greens which, not themselves bad, have very rough approaches. Time only allowed a 12-hole round to be played, and the winner was found in E. B. Heywood, who with a handicap of 10, was four up. Mr Heywood is an improving player and well deserves his success. Dr. Saunders, also with 10, was three up, played much more steadily than usual; F. Heatherly, with the limit of 24, was 2 up. The following were close up:—J. D. Grey (2), 1 down; H. B. Taylor (10), 1 down; 1. Sauters (scratch), 2 down; J. Harold (owe 4), 3 down; H. B. Watson (2), 3 down; D. Meldrum (scratch), 3 down; and S. T. Fitzherbert (2), 3 down.

Entries for the local tournament close on Saturday, May 19th.

FOOZLER.

WELLINGTON.

We are sorry that more of our men have not been able to get away for the championship at Dunedin. However, we hope that Arthur Duncan, Ken Duncan, and Jackson, who will be there, will bring back some prizes. As far as Wellington is concerned, May is rather early for the championship. Some of us take a long time to get into form, and find that at the beginning of the season we never know if we are going to play a decent game or not. Malcolm Ross and E. Pearce have been playing well in our local competitions.

Miss Githa Williams leaves for a lengthy visit to England. If she gets good coaching there we expect to hear of her again in the golfing circles.

There has been great excitement lately over a house match. Webster was captain of one side and Coom of the other. Coom's side won by two holes.

We were glad to see Mr Gillies on the links on Tuesday.

CHRISTCHURCH, May 2.

There was a very large entry for the first monthly medal competition of the season, which was played on Hagley Park last Saturday. The greens were a little bit rough, and the scoring was consequently on the high side. Mr R. Kitto won the medal for the best gross score, while the handicap fell to Mr H. H. Pitman, the limit man. Curiously enough, limit men occupy the first and the last positions on the list. On the