

The latest Newsletter from Shoalhaven Heads Golf Club Ltd

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Chris Campbell playing his chip in the playoff with many people on the deck and surrounds watching

The **2026 Macey Insurance Shoalhaven Heads Open** was run and won over the weekend. This year we experimented with a shotgun start at 8am, which limited the field to 124 players, as that is the maximum number we can get out there at once. What the shotgun did allow though was the opportunity for a playoff if required. Previously with a one tee start, the final groups did not finish until almost dark which prevented the opportunity of a playoff if needed.

Another trial this year was the introduction of a first prize for the Gross event of \$1000 in gift cards. This resulted in the strongest field we have seen since the inception of the event in 2013. A field of 122 players took to the course with 77 players in A grade (handicap of 12 or less). In total, 20 players had a handicap of 2 or less, including 9 with plus handicaps. Two players were on plus 5 handicaps. The number might have been even higher, with 4 players who have plus handicaps and another with plus 5 withdrawing in the days leading up to the event.

As usual, events like this don't happen without the support of sponsors. Since the event began in 2013, **Macey Insurance** has been the naming sponsor. To Brendan Goddard and the Team at Macey's thanks again for your continued support. It is greatly appreciated and we look forward to future events. Titleist have also been a sponsor of this event since inception assisting with prizes at a reduced rate. To Dane Price and Brandan Small, Greg's account managers, thanks again and we do appreciate the support.

The course was presented in excellent condition. Recent westerly winds and efforts from our ground staff quickened the greens up, presenting players with a tough test of Golf. Congratulations to Will And his team for their efforts. Many of the players commented on how good the surfaces were.

Results

On to the results! A full list can be seen below but here is a snippet:
In the **Nett Events** (and to Lloyd's surprise), Brett Herron from the Heads fired 77 to get the chocolates on a count back. In B Grade, and also from the Heads, was Nick Wilson firing a 72 to win the grade and making it a clean sweep for the Heads. A Grade was Steve Hancock who managed a 71 to win his grade.

In the **Gross events** - in C Grade it was Harrison Daly from Windsor firing a 91 to win his grade. In B grade it was Trevor Harris from the Heads who cleaned up with an 85, whilst in A grade it was Dom Falk from Goulburn Golf Club with an even par 71 who got the prize.

As well, we had **two overall Gross and Nett prizes**. In the Nett event and firing a 70 to finish runner up was Justin Flanagan from the Grange Golf Club whilst the winner was from Shoalhaven Heads firing a score of 69 - congratulations to Noel Garden on a great effort.

When it came to the Gross overall prizes, a playoff was required to determine the winner. Tied with a score of 2 under par 69 were Ethan Harvey from the Links and our very own member Chris Campbell (Chris is a member of a few clubs but we will claim him). A score of 69 in strong westerly winds with fast greens in great condition was a super effort.

Down to the 18th tee we went and a nice drive up the left from Chris kicked us off. Ethan made average contact turning it over left. With the wind we thought It may have carried over onto the 13th fairway. A search began and we found the ball in the penalty area behind the 14th green. Taking a drop, Ethan played his third ball just short of the right hand bunker. Chris played his second which finished in the grass area left of the green that used to be a bunker. From here Ethan made thin contact with his wedge and he was very much facing an up-hill battle. Chris chipped it to 3 feet meaning Ethan had to be aggressive from 40 feet which he ran several feet past and then missed the one coming back. Chris, needing only 3 putts from 3 feet, calmly stroked his birdie putt in to claim the title of 2026 Macey Insurance Open Shoalhaven Heads Open Winner.

Thanks again to all who played and to all who made the day a great success. Special mention to Renee and our kitchen staff, volunteers Rob and Chris Russell for their efforts in a busy bar and to Col Brown and Nic Hall for assisting the pro shop team administering the day.

Next Year

The 2027 event has been moved into April to allow our masters pennants players a chance to play as well. Please save Sunday 18th April in your diaries.

Happy Golfing

Greg



Clockwise from top left: Ethan Harvey having a run at his par putt in the playoff; Greg starting the presentation; Chris Campbell during his winning speech; and Ethan Harvey receiving his runner up prize with Captain Col Brown.

Prizes	Item	Won by	Club	Score
Overall Winner Gross	Gift Card	Chris Campbell	Mount Broughton	69
Overall Winner Net	Stand Bag	Noel Garden	Shoalhaven Heads	69
Overall Gross Runner Up	fuels	Ethan Harvey	The Lakes & Kiama	69
Overall Net Runner Up	fuels	Justin Flanagan	The Grange	70
A Grade Gross Winner	Tour Rivals	Dominic Falk	Goulburn	71
B Grade Gross Winner	Tour Rivals	Trevor Harris	Shoalhaven Heads	85
c Grade Gross Winner	Tour Rivals	Harrison Daley	Windsor	91
A Grade Net Winner	Jacket/hoodie	Steve Hancock	Shoalhaven Heads	71
B Grade Net Winner	Jacket/hoodie	Nicholas Wilson	Shoalhaven Heads	72
C Grade Net Winner	Jacket/hoodie	Brett Hemon	Shoalhaven Heads	77
A Grade Gross Runner up	vest	Mark Johnston	Shoalhaven Heads	72
B Grade Gross Runner Up	vest	Joe Nolan	Shoalhaven Heads	89
C Grade Gross Runner Up	vest	Craig Burgess	Highlands	89
A Grade Net Runner Up	shirt	Steven McGillvray	Kiama	72
B Grade Net Runner Up	shirt	Jack Tooley	St Georges Basin	73
C Grade Net Runner Up	shirt	Mark Ackroyd	Shoalhaven Heads	77
Ntp 2	glove/sleeve	Stuart Glass	Moss Vale	
Ntp 6	glove/sleeve	Colin Mitchell	Links Shell Cove	
ntp 8	glove/sleeve	Dominic Falk	Goulburn	
ntp 10	glove/sleeve	Ben McEvoy	Links Shell Cove	
ntp 11	glove/sleeve	Ray Orr	Shoalhaven Heads	
ntp 15	glove/sleeve	Garth Evans	Highlands	
Long Drive A Grade	glove/sleeve	Ethan Harvey	The Lakes	
Long Drive b Grade	glove/sleeve	Jeff Preston	Kiama	
Long Drive C Grade	glove/sleeve	Harrison Daley	Windsor	



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