

Graham Coulton wins 2011 Victorian Blind Open Championship

Blind Golf Victoria (BGV) conducted its 22nd Open Championship over 36 holes on the South Course of the magnificent Rosebud Country Club on 17 & 18 March 2011.

Nineteen players took part with entrants coming from NSW, QLD, SA, WA and VIC. Blind golf has categories B1, B2 and B3 depending on the player's vision capabilities. B1 players are totally blind.

New South Wales player, and reigning Blind British Open Champion, Graham Coulton (B2), with Sue Carpenter as caddie, won the 2011 championship with a nett score of 142.

In opening the trophy presentation ceremony, BGV President Doug Sloan, thanked the Rosebud Country Club for hosting the event with special thanks to the many members who volunteered their time as equipment manager, starter, marshalls, rules official, and scorers. He also thanked the players and caddies for supporting this major event. Doug also thanked Mr Michael Martin from Martin Assessing Services for donating all the trophies for the event.

These remarks were wholeheartedly endorsed by Rosebud Country Club President Neil Heathcote who also acknowledged the Club's support of this event for the past twenty-one years and thanked club staff and members for their wonderful assistance in running the two-day event.

Doug Sloan then announced that Jeff Ellis had been awarded Life Membership of Blind Golf Victoria and Neil Heathcote presented Jeff with his Life Membership medal.

To learn more about blind golf, go to the Blind Golf Australia website www.blindgolf.com.au or see www.internationalblindgolf.org

RESULTS

22nd VICTORIAN OPEN CHAMPION

WINNER	Graham Coulton	Score 142
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LES BRIEN TROPHY (Best Gross)

WINNER	Jeff Ellis	Score 203
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B1 CLASSIFICATION

NETT WINNER	David Blyth	Score 170
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GROSS WINNER	Glen Niciejewski	Score 305
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B2 CLASSIFICATION

NETT WINNER **Brian Gear** **Score 158**

GROSS WINNER **Gary Sargent** **Score 224**

B3 CLASSIFICATION

NETT WINNER **Rick Krolik** **Score 153**

GROSS WINNER **Stephen Mitchell** **Score 218**

NEAREST THE PINS

8th **Kay Hancock**
12th **Jeff Ellis**
14th **Jenny Abela**

STRAIGHTEST DRIVE

THURSDAY **Rod Mills**

FRIDAY **Jenny Abela**

BLIND GOLF VICTORIA RCC TROPHY

WOMEN **Joan Wheatley** **39 Points**

MEN **Tony Culprin**

JOHN MAHER PERPETUAL TROPHY (for Caddies)

WINNER **David Meers** **19 Points**

PUTTING COMPETITION

WINNER **Graham Coulton** **70**