

Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> may 2019 saw SA Seniors travelling south down the Fleurieu Peninsula to a location familiar to many interstaters as the host of the SA Senior Championship on two occasions.

Victor Harbor Golf Club is a most suitable venue for senior golf – not too long but requires accuracy or “lunches will be eaten” - as was the case for a lot of the field including some of the favourites.

The weather was excellent with little wind; Victor Harbor has access to recycled water and the recent rain meant first-rate fairways, some defined rough plus the greens had been cut and rolled to perfection ready for the field of 44 combatants which included Gary Johnstone from Belvoir Park, Victoria and Peter Pavy whose home club is Royal Aberdeen although he “suffers” at Kooyonga during the worst of the Scottish winter. So – arguably both an international and interstate field !

Peter Shaw (The Grange) assisted by what I’m assured was a miracle chip in on the 17<sup>th</sup> won his first Senior event with a 77. Peter just pipped Steven Scholefield from near-by McCracken Golf Club and Glen McGough (Blackwood) who both had 78’s.

Glen is a former Simpson Cup Pennant winner for Blackwood and was starting in his first SOOM event and is keen to make his mark having seen the quality of the events and the competition.

Trevor Smith (Naracoorte) was a shot further back, continuing his consistent season.

In Super Seniors, another first time winner in his first event – local Mike Howard (82), followed by Order of Merit leader Michael Richards (Tea Tree Gully) with 83, a score equalled by former local, Laszlo Balaton (Mt Compass).

Seniors and Super Seniors were combined for the Nett and John Agar (The Grange) (71), won easily from fellow Grange member, Kim Meyer (75) and Brian O’Shaughnessy (75).

Regular SOOM stalwart, Gordon Whittaker, took his turn at coming under notice by losing his ball on the first hole – for those not familiar with this hole – whilst providing a magnificent view of Victor Harbor and Encounter Bay, the tee is some 30 metres above the fairway therefore Gordon had to retrace his steps back up to the tee to put his third into play suitably exhausted – should have played a provisional, Gordon !

Overall, an excellent, well run event and a most welcome addition to the SASOOM calendar.

