

# HISTORY

The Super Senior Pennant competition has provided match play golf for players who because of being over 65 years, cannot compete with the incoming 50 year old players for places in the Masters Pennant teams.

After returning from a golf trip in the USA in 2001 Barry Ewert (a former world left-handed championship winner from Morisset Golf Club New South Wales) told Jim Earl-- Central Coast Convenor for Master Pennants at Toukley Golf Club-- that in the USA a senior golfing society for male players 65 years and over was going very well. "Why don't you see what can be done to start something similar to this on the Central Coast?" asked Barry. Jim Earl spoke to the captain of Toukley Golf Club at that time namely, John Cranston, who sent emails to Central Coast clubs.

After these meetings, a Super Senior pennant competition was commenced in 2002 with six clubs namely: Toukley, Wyong, Morisset, Tuggerah Lakes, Terrigal and Gosford. In 2003 Everglades Country Club came in making seven clubs. In 2004 Newcastle area joined also with three clubs namely: Newcastle, Belmont and Merewether; making a total of ten clubs.

Nineteen clubs from Sydney joined in 2005, making 33 clubs participating in the Pennant Series, played in three areas, namely Sydney with four Divisions, Brisbane Waters one Division of seven clubs and Newcastle one Division of seven clubs. Strathfield GC won the Sydney Division, Morisset GC the Brisbane Waters Division and Newcastle GC the Newcastle Division. Strathfield GC defeated Morisset GC but lost to Newcastle GC in the final played at Wyong.

The format for 2006 was changed to seven Divisions, five in Sydney, one in Brisbane Waters and two in the Newcastle area. Newcastle GC defeated Pennant Hills GC in the final at Tuggerah GC. In 2006 the competition name was changed to Super Senior Pennant. Rules were changed to give a smoother playing format.

Forty four clubs contested the 2007 Pennant with twenty seven clubs from Sydney, seven clubs from the Central Coast and ten clubs from Newcastle. The Lakes defeated Monash in the final, played at Castle Hill.

Forty Four clubs again played in the 2008 Pennant. Sydney with twenty six clubs, Central Coast seven clubs and eleven clubs from Newcastle. The home and away format was used in Sydney but due to club numbers in the Central Coast and Newcastle the old format was used. Belmont overcame Newcastle to win the Pennant played at Horizons.

Wollongong joined and made three clubs in 2009 and played the home and away format. A total of forty nine clubs (51 teams) contested the Pennant, twenty seven clubs (28 teams) from Sydney, seven clubs (eight teams) from the Central Coast and eleven clubs from Newcastle. Belmont was again Pennant winners beating Newcastle at Wyong.

At the end of the 2014 season some 53 teams had entered the SSP Match Play competition. The final was played at Horizons Golf course between Newcastle Golf Club, finalists in 2013, and Forster-Tuncurry Golf Club. The Forster-Tuncurry Club was successful in winning the Pennant after only its second year in the competition. Congratulations to both teams who played the matches in the right spirit.

In 2015 the Pennant maintained 53 teams with each of the 8 Divisions having a winner and runner up in the Finals draw. The composition of the finals consisted of 3 teams from the Central Coast, namely Morisset, Wyong #1 and Magenta Shores, 5 from Newcastle and the remaining 8 from Sydney and surrounds. For only the second time in the history of the Pennant Wyong #1 team made its way through to the final with victories over Cabramatta, Morisset and the 2014 winners Forster Tuncurry. Their opponents were the strong The Lakes team who eliminated Magenta Shores, Toronto and Nelson Bay. The final was played at the demanding Monash Country club, prepared in magnificent condition and some excellent match play was observed. Triumph was achieved by The Lakes team 7/1. Well done to both teams for the manner in which the final was played in front of an enthusiastic crowd.