

# AGCSA Golf Championships - Can Sellar Master Metropolitan?

MELBOURNE



20th Australian Turfgrass Conference Preview



For superintendents playing in this year's AGCSA Golf Championships, there is only one question – can anyone scupper Sellar? ATM previews the showdown at Melbourne's stunning Metropolitan Golf Club and the AGCSA Corporate Cup.



With extensions to his wardrobe complete, Glenelg superintendent and perennial champion Daryl Sellar heads to Melbourne on the hunt for his fourth consecutive Toro Red Jacket.

Sellar winning the AGCSA Golf Championship has become a bit like Brisbane dominating the AFL, and in Adelaide last year he collected his third consecutive jacket with a two shot victory on a soggy Royal Adelaide.

But as St Kilda has shown in the 2004 AFL, Brisbane's grip on the premiership could be loosening, and no doubt a number of superintendents, particularly the band of Victorians, will be hell bent on scuppering Sellar's intentions of donning yet another Toro tailored Red Jacket.

After last year's tournament Sellar told ATM, "I hope to defend it next year although a few of the Vic boys seem pretty intent on doing something to me to prevent me from doing so. I'll need eyes in the back of my head".

With a winning streak to match that of the Tiger himself, Sellar has proved to be a formidable opponent in recent years. However, ATM has it on good authority that the near-scratch golfer could be primed for the taking in 2004.

Apparently the sticks haven't seen much daylight in recent months, meaning the door could be left open for a number of hopeful superintendents who will be looking to do a Phil Mickelson and win their first jacket.

After shooting a 78 to finish third on a countback last year, Mona Vale Golf Club's Andy Hugill could be a threat to the Sellar mantle, while former champion Martyn Black from Castle Hill Country Club could be the dark horse. In his first year as an AGCSA Board member, Black has been south of the border a few times and believes he now has the knack of the Victorian greens.

Metropolitan Golf Club will be the venue for Sellar's attempt to make it four in a row, a course that has been under the stewardship of Richard Forsyth for the past 10 years. As always Forsyth will have the course in peak condition for the tournament and for those who haven't played on the famous sand belt giant will get the opportunity to see why it was ranked sixth in the Australian Golf Digest's Top 100 Australian courses earlier this year.

Can Daryl Sellar secure his fourth consecutive AGCSA Golf Championships?



While Sellar will be feeling the heat from a hungry field, the teams' event will also be closely contested as Victoria defends its title on home soil. Last year's team of Brett Balloch (Anglesea Golf Club), Peter Jans (Sanctuary Lakes Golf Club), Steve Lo Iocono (Coves Golf Club) and Red Jacket holder Colin Cowden (Rossdale Golf Club) staved off the challenge of defending champions NSW and Western Australia to win Victoria's first ever teams title. Jans capped off a superb day for the Vics by winning the stableford trophy with 38 points.

For superintendents competing in the 2004 AGCSA Golf Championships, there will be the Toro Golf Champions function held at the Telstra Dome the night before the tournament, which this year will be held on the Monday (21 June).

#### AGCSA Corporate Cup

A large contingent is expected for the Corporate Cup which will be played at the Commonwealth Golf Club (superintendent Mark Prosser).

With the inclusion of the bowling greenkeepers, turf mechanics and sportsfield management streams at this year's conference, the Corporate Cup gives all conference delegates (including those exhibiting at the tradeshow)

the opportunity to have a round of golf at one of Melbourne's top sand belt courses.

The Corporate Cup was held for the first time last year with the honour going to a Kiwi – Andrew Combe from the Nelson Bays Golf Club – who finished one point ahead of Wes Giddings from the Dubbo Golf Club.

For those wanting to play in either the AGCSA Golf Championships or AGCSA Corporate Cup, complete the relevant sections in the conference registration brochure or contact the AGCSA on (03) 9548 8600. 🏌️



Who will be wearing the Red Jacket?

#### HOLE BY HOLE - Metropolitan and Commonwealth

Hole	Metropolitan	Par	Commonwealth	Par
1	380m	4	303m	4
2	138m	3	466m	5
3	387m	4	390m	4
4	472m	5	348m	4
5	382m	4	376m	4
6	469m	5	531m	5
7	201m	3	182m	3
8	476m	5	376m	4
9	395m	4	131m	3
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OUT	3300m	37	3105m	36
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10	418m	4	503m	5
11	154m	3	373m	4
12	360m	4	408m	4
13	180m	3	444m	5
14	476m	5	325m	4
15	427m	4	147m	3
16	319m	4	364m	4
17	393m	4	307m	4
18	433m	4	404m	4
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IN	3160m	35	3275m	37
OUT	3300m	37	3105m	36
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Total	6460m	72	6380m	73