

DOUG HOLLOWAY
Winner 2006 Wairakei Open

A stunning venue and facility awaited the strong field for the fourth GTNZ event and the inaugural Wairakei Open, which concluded with new professional Doug Holloway defeating exciting amateur prospect Danny Lee in a play off.

In the previous year Holloway won the Olex Taranaki Open, and as an amateur he was unable to accept the winner's cheque, however now as a professional he was able to win and bank \$8,000.

The surprise leader after 36 holes was the countries leading women amateur Sarah Nicholson who returned rounds of 71 and 67. The course was set up to allow the women the opportunity to make birdies and was approximately 600m shorter than the men's course. An impressive second round 67 showed the massive potential of the long hitting Nicholson, however she faltered in the final rounds but still held on to finish in a tie for fourth.



The scene was set beautifully for the final day with Holloway two shots clear of Lee and the consistent Mark Purser, and three ahead of Nicholson. Difficult pin positions made scoring very tough with only two players breaking par. The lead for most of the day changed between Lee and Holloway and it was appropriate that the champion be decided in a play off. Sixteen year old Danny Lee found bunker trouble from the tee on the short par five 18th hole and a Holloway birdie secured his first four round tournament title as a professional.

1	Doug Holloway (p)	-6	71	69	69	73	282
2	Danny Lee	-6	74	67	70	71	282
3	Mark Purser	-1	68	71	72	76	287
T4	Sarah Nicholson	+2	71	67	74	78	290
T4	Christopher Judd (p)	+2	70	73	74	73	290
T4	Kevin Chun (p)	+2	70	71	76	73	290

*** Photograph courtesy of the New Zealand Golf Magazine**