

**MARK PURSER**  
**Winner 2007 Carrus Tauranga Open**

The 2007 Carrus Tauranga Open provided Mark Purser with the chance to play a four round tournament. Since turning professional and failing to secure a tour card for the Australasian or Asian tours he was relying on one and two day pro-am events to continue his development and earn a few dollars.

After a slow start when shooting a par round of 71, Purser blitzed the Gate Pa course in 61 propelling him up the leaderboard and into contention. A third round 68 placed him seven shots adrift of Auckland's leading amateur Leighton James, but a fired up Purser charged late scoring an 8 under par 63 and winning by one shot.

On day three local amateur Kevin Smith shot 61 on his way to finishing third, and on the final day professional and 2002 NZ Stroke Play Champion Brad Shilton shot 61 to finish in a tie for seventh.

Only four women competed in the event however it allowed 15 year old Zoe-Beth Brake the opportunity to show her talent when scoring 72, 68, 68 and 72 to be the best women by 12 shots and finish in a tie for 34<sup>th</sup> overall.

1	Mark Purser (p)	-21	71	61	68	63	263
2	Leighton James	-20	63	67	63	71	264
3	Kevin Smith	-16	67	70	61	70	268
T4	Hamish Robertson (p)	-15	63	67	73	66	269
T4	Josh Carmichael (p)	-15	68	69	65	67	269
T4	Martin Pettigrew (p)	-15	66	68	69	66	269



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