Maddy Sweeney-Nash, Ben King, Emily Ingram, Ted Ross, Nathaniel Jackson, Phil Barrett, Amanda Chong, Gavin Bye, Paul Shipp, Issac Carter at the Gorge yesterday.
Pictures: PAUL SCAMBLER

Canoe polo debuts at Gorge

By JAMES BRADY

CATARACT Gorge's first basin was yesterday speckled with spectators as Tamar Canoe Club's debut open water canoe polo event was launched.

The sport, played on kayaks called polo bats, is an all-inclusive activity as games are played with no age or gender divide.

A-grade style, featuring push tackles, and beginner matches were paddled in a 35-metre by 23-metre outlined field, much to the intrigue of onlookers.

Tamar Canoe Club vice-commodore Adam Rolls said the non-competitive taster day was part of an attempt to grow the Tasmanian canoe polo community.

"We're hoping to get a couple new members, if we get three or four people to convert over to the winter season that'll be great," Rolls said.

"I reckon we might continue playing regularly, we're going to try and have it more often — maybe not at the Gorge all the time, maybe at Longford or Corra Linn."

Ben King and Issac Carter come up against each other yesterday at the Gorge.

Emily Ingram, Issac Carter and Nathaniel Jackson battle for possession.

He said the club boasted about 60 regular players, with about 20 more in Hobart and between 25 and 30 at Devonport.

"We have state championships once a year, we are looking to have a team go to the national championships, not this year but the next," Rolls said.

"Last season we had one school team, Scotch College had a team, but we're going to try and encourage a few other schools about the place to enter as well."

Rolls said people, or schools, interested in joining the sport could train with the club on Wednesday nights.

For more information about canoe polo, or Tamar Canoe Club, go to www.tamar.canoe.org.au

Minns claims second Singles Final

BOWLS NORTH SINGLES FINAL

By TONY BENNEWORTH

NORTH Launceston's David Minns won his second Bowls North Singles Final in three years yesterday, defeating clubmate Ray Boutcher at the Longford Bowls Club.

In conditions reminiscent of the Roaring Forties at Cape Grim, Minns handled the wind and fast green better than his opponent, running out winner by 11 shots, 25-14.

A three and then four on the 17th and 18th ends stole the game away from Boutcher. Both had played superb draw bowls and weighted bowls in quite unpleasant, hot gusty conditions, but Minns was never headed in the 21-end final.

In the final analysis, Minns handled the conditions better than his opponent. His upshots were deadly and his drawing at times exceptional.

Minns scraped into the final with a nail-biting three-shot 33-end win over 14-year-old Trevallyn junior Lock Sims, who is proving to be a brilliant young player, and a champion of the future.

Showing no signs of nerves against his more senior and experienced competition, Sims' last bowl narrowly missed a target that would have given him the game.

Boutcher's entry into the final came at the expense of East Launceston skip Will Springer in a tight 25-20 result.

Thirty-four players entered the prestigious event, but only a handful of spectators were at Longford yesterday to watch the finals, which frankly, deserved more.

SPORTS DETAILS

BOWLS

TAMAR VALLEY TRIPLES

Draw for Tuesday, February 11, 9am opening, 9.30 roll up — Round 1 — Rink 1: Beeton v Williams; rink 2: Budge v Eade; rink 3: Saunders v McDairmid; rink 4: King v Long; rink 5: Young v Lodge; rink 6: Roach v Dury; rink 7: Campbell v Foster; rink 8: Putnam v Hoffman; rink 9: G. Rice v Munting; rink 10: Hillier v A. Smith; rink 11: Bone v B. Smith; rink 12: Webb v Myler; rink 13: Murray v N. Rice.

Round 2 — Rink 1: Bone v Munting; rink 2: Webb v A. Smith; rink 3: Murray v B. Smith; rink 4: Beeton v Myler; rink 5: Budge v N. Rice; rink 6: Saunders v Williams; rink 7: King v Eade; rink 8: Young v McDairmid; rink 9: Roach v Long; rink 10: Campbell v Lodge; rink 11: Putnam v Dury; rink 12: G. Rice v Foster; rink 13: Hillier v Hoffman.

Round 3 — Rink 1: Putnam v Long; rink 2: G. Rice v Lodge; rink 3: Hillier v Dury; rink 4: Bone v Foster; rink 5: Webb v Hoffman; rink 6: Murray v Munting; rink 7: Beeton v A. Smith; rink 8: Budge v B. Smith; rink 9: Saunders v Myler; rink 10: King v N. Rice; rink 11: Young v Williams; rink 12: Roach v Eade; rink 13: Campbell v McDairmid.

Draw for Wednesday, February 12, 9.30 roll up —

Round 1 — Rink 1: Young v Myler; rink 2: Roach v N. Rice; rink 3: Campbell v Williams; rink 4: Putnam v Eade; rink 5: G. Rice v McDairmid; rink 6: Hillier v Long; rink 7: Bone v Lodge; rink 8: Webb v Dury; rink 9: Murray v Foster; rink 10: Beeton v Hoffman; rink 11: Budge v Munting; rink 12: Saunders v A. Smith; rink 13: King v B. Smith.

Round 2 — Rink 1: Budge v Foster; rink 2: Saunders v Hoffman; rink 3: King v Munting; rink 4: Young v A. Smith; rink 5: Roach v B. Smith; rink 6: Campbell v Myler; rink 7: Putnam v N. Rice; rink 8: G. Rice v Williams; rink 9: Hillier v Eade; rink 10: Bone v McDairmid; rink 11: Webb v Long; rink 12: Murray v Lodge; rink 13: Beeton v Dury.

GOLF

NORTH EAST VETERANS

Results Tam O'Shanter, February 6 — A grade: K. Dodge 43 points, Woodiwiss 38. B grade: N. Scott 41 points, T. Fletcher 40. C grade: G. Byard cb K. Leslie 44 points. 1st nine: L. Johnstone 22, 2nd nine: B. Triffitt cb W. Dabner 22 points. Please note game venue swap to George Town on February 20.

EXETER

Pro-Am, February 6 — Pro: P. Freeland 69 (equal course record), R. Backwell 70. Amateur: G. McLennan cb 40 points. Div 1: D. Cash 39 points, N. Daking 38. Div 2: W. Cuthbertson 40 points, J. Bain 35. Div 3: G. Johnson 38 points, D. Carey 35. Teams event: P. Freeland, T. Bown, G. McLellan, T. Dickins 92 points; P. Martin, B. Anderson, A. Moylan, C. Berechree 91, M. Brown, M. Hansen, N. Daking, M. Acquarola cb R. Power, J. Hatton, W. Cuthberton, A. Sydes 90.

Nearest Pin — 1st and 10th Amateur: R. Anderson, 3rd and 10th Amateur: I. Ok, 7th and 16th Amateur: G. McLennan, Professional: L. Frith. Longest drive — Amateur: C. Berechree, Professional: B. Gorham.

SEABROOK

Stableford, February 5: J. Arnold 44, Ron Philpott cb L. Yaxley 39, S. Kirkland cb J. Wescombe 38, D. Carter 37, D. Hoiberg cb W. Friedersdorff 36, D. Forrest cb G. Wood, T. Simpson 35.

Nearest Pin — 1st: S. Rubock, 6th: W. Friedersdorff, 13th: D. Hoiberg, pro pin 15th: M. Rubock. Coming events — Friday: Beat the pro. Saturday: 4BBB. Wednesday: Stableford (open).

EAST COAST VETERANS

Results Freycinet 4 man ambrose, February 6: P. Dentler, M. Willett, O. Kay, R. Scott 56⅝, J. Vincent, R. Whartom, B. Williams, D. Renshaw 57⅜, M. Hall, L. Hall, M. Pulford, R. Way 58⅜, J. Fenn-Smith, R. Bird, P. Flack, K. McWilliams 58¾.

Nearest Pin — 2nd and 1th: M. Lyne, 4th and 13th: S. Hardcastle, 8th and 17th: R. Field. Next game Malahide, February 20 (Summer cup).

LONGFORD VETERANS

Stroke and putting, February 6 — Medal: G. Johnstone 69. Div 1: D. Falkiner 70, D. Hammerstein 73, J. Borg, K. Clark, D. Hannan 74. Div 2: R. Sibbison 72, N. Maxwell cb R. Kidd 73, D. Peterson, R. Burness, P. Wilson, J. Ellis, L. Dobson 74. Div 3: S. Gotobed 69, T. Scott, D. Fordham 69, J. Taber 70, D. fell, D. Green 72, S. Peters 73.

Nearest Pin — 5th and 14th, Div 1: K. Clark, 4th and 13th, Div 2: R. Burness, 9th, Div 3: T. McCullagh (hole in one).

Next week: Stableford, Port Sorell to Longford.

ST HELENS

Chicken run, February 6: D. Smith, B. Walker 38⅔, B. White 39, J. Bryant 40, L. Cadzow 40⅔, D. Gameau, D. C. Williams 41⅓, B/ Cram, M. Lewis 43. Nearest Pin: Bob Cram.

DEVONPORT

Women's stroke, medal and putting, February 5 — Overall: V. Ferguson (37) 66. Div 1: M. Walton (24) 69, S. Bradley 71, W. Beaton, C. Roughley 74. Div 2: J. Floyed (30) 71, S. Robinson cb P. Mott 73. Div 3: V. Ferguson (37) 66, C. Ooi 68, B. Bailey, R. Stewart 72. 9-hole: A. Nicholls 18, A. Dodd 17. Best gross — Div 1: L. Proud 84. Div 2: P. Mott 99. Div 3: V. Ferguson 103. Putting: K. Morse cb J. Revell, M. Gower 29. Best nine: E. Bramich 33. Vets 18-hole: J. Floyed cb S. Bradley 71; 9-hole: E. Bramich 33. 9-hole putting: M. Healy. Nearest pin — 9th Div 1: M. Gower; Div 3: C. Ooi. Nearest pin — 10th Div 1: M. Walton; Div 3: H. Thompson, H. Lowry.

PROSPECT VALE

Members stableford, February 3 — D. Anderson cb A. Cashion 20, G. Dolbey, H. D. E. Ruyter 18, N. Curbishley, J. Rich, G. Dixon, T. Burrows 17. Coming event — Monday: Stableford, tee off by 8am.

Men's 9-hole stableford, February 5 — J. East 19, L. Sciulli, A. Howard, D. Hill 17, T. Burrows, P. Badcock, G. Dolbey 16. Coming event — Wednesday: Stroke.

Women's 9-hole stableford, February 5 — A. Archer 20, M. Wilkie, J. McMahon 18, J. Stearnes 13. Coming event — Wednesday: Stroke.

MOORINA

Women's 9-hole opener, February 5 — L. Mullins, D. Rattray 36, T. Thompson 37½, C. Krushka 38. Putting: T. Thompson, L. Mullins 17, C. Krushka 18, D. Rattray 19. Coming event — Next week: 1st round yearly events.

THIRLSTANE

Veterans medal stroke, February 5 — A grade: T. Coates (10), B. Dutton (12) 69, P. Stuart (17), P. Barker (18) 71, R. Brown (18), B. Harvey (17) 73, F. McConnon (12) 74. B grade: B. Page (24) 62, T. Browne (24), M. Shearer (24) 68, G. Clark (21), T. Vaughan (20) 70, G. Norris (21), D. Jenkins (20), P. Baggott (21) 73. C grade: S. Parsons (34) 66, T. Ryan (25) 67, T. Smith (29), N. Easter (33), B. Iles (25) 68, B. Hasan (25) 70, C. Brown (25), F. Kelly (25) 71. Eagle — P. Walden. Nearest pin — 2nd and 11th: R. Morris; 6th and 15th: D. French; pro pin: K. Jones. Putting: S. Parsons cb C. Brown, A. Williams, G. Boyd 28. Midweek: P. Barker 71. Gold medal: S. Parsons. Coming event — Wednesday: Perfect card, stableford.

Men's stroke, February 1 — A grade: R. Robinson (15), G. Boyd (10), P. Sadler (15) 68, W. Anthony (12) 69, S. Heathcote (13), T. Dagg (14) 70, B. Russell (14), D. Phipps (9) 72. B grade: M. Turner (17) 67, W. Viney (18) 69, M. Brown (20) 70, P. Richardson (17), D. Jenkins (20) 72, R. Clarke (18) 73, J. Blenkhorn (18) 74, G. Beaton (17) 75. C grade: C. Prouse (22) 67, G. Norris (22) 68, G. Bailey (36), C. Hinds (26) 69, R. Maxwell (25) 70, T. Clarke (24) 71, D. Addison (26), G. Clark (21) 72. Nearest pin — 2nd and 11th: D. Jenkins; 6th and 15th: R. Robinson; pro pin: B. Dutton. Longest drive — A grade: S. Mathew; B grade: R. Eadie; C grade: B. Hall. Women: J. Maxwell (36) 70, P. Archer (20) 71. Putting: K. Hall 29. Nearest pin — 6th and 15th: L. Viney; 2nd and 11th: L. Dutton. Chicken run: P. Skirving, A. T. Dick, M. Atkinson. Medal — A grade: Robert; B grade: W. Viney; C grade: C. Prouse.

Draw for women's foursome championships, February 11 —

9am: L. Smith-W. Beaton, S. Atkins-P. Archer, G. Mitchell-L. Clarke; 9.06: S. Sykes-A. Dixon, H. Richards-B. Sienesi, K. Hall-L. Viney; 9.12: G. MacDonald-L. Dutton-J. Robson-S. Boyes, J. Richardson-J. Maxwell; 9.18: J. Gamble-D. Williamson, M. Robson-L. Richardson.