

EAGLES GOLFING SOCIETY of NZ
YOUNG GOLFER OF THE YEAR 2025
THOMAS CLAYSON (AORANGI)



Thomas, or TJ, fell in love with golf over Covid times whilst living onsite at Waihi Prep School within the space of 65 acres. He then became a member at Geraldine Golf Club and they continued to inspire him. He spent hours at the course aged 11 to 13 and found he had a talent to go with his undoubted passion. Tom Wilson was, and still is TJ's idol, and it was Tom that spent the time in realising TJ's potential.

TJ then moved to boarding school and simply loves Christ's College. He has slowly achieved more in Aorangi, Canterbury and nationally, participating in as many tournaments as possible, putting himself in situations that will make him a better person and golfer in the evenings

A real turning point was December 2024 at the Men's Interprovincials where he won 4 and a half of his 6 matches aged 15. 2025 has then proved to be a superb year for TJ. He has continued to get the Metro bus across Christchurch to train in the evenings, whilst balancing his studies and some time out of lessons.

Some golfing highlights in 2025 include
Unbeaten for Aorangi U19 at the Junior Interprovincials- winning 4 and halving 2 games
6th in National Age Groups
Won Pleasant Point Junior Open
Won Tinwald Junior Open
Qualified finishing in 16th place after stroke play rounds in the National Amateur Championship to play in the matchplay knockouts. Lost in the last 16 to eventual winner and NZ Golf Rep.
Lost in semi final of Canterbury Matchplay
Finished 3rd at National U17 Eagles Tournament
Thomas is a worthy recipient of the NZ Eagles Young Golfer of the Year for 2025, and we wish him well for the future.