

On the Opening Day of the 2023 season, Kaiapoi Golf Club made a presentation to Amelia Garvey to acknowledge her achievements in representing New Zealand between 2013 and 2017. Amelia came runner up in the 2019 British Amateur and has played the hallowed fairways of Augusta National.

Amelia Garvey and Lydia Ko are the two New Zealand female golfers playing on professional circuits in America. Lydia Ko is the current number one player in the world, Amelia is playing on the Epson Tour.

Amelia joined Kaiapoi Golf Club at the age of six, mentored by Tom Whitaker, she went through the junior programme and won the Clubs Senior Women's title at the age of thirteen. She then went through the local golf ranks representing Canterbury and New Zealand, in an impressive display of teams over her amateur career.



In 2018 she won a golfing scholarship from the University of Southern California. In 2021 Amelia played her first Women's Amateur Championship at Augusta National, finished second at the Pac 12 Championship, moved up to 21st in the WAGR ranking (World Amateur Golf Rankings), graduated with a B. A. in Communications, turned professional, made her Pro debut at the US Women's Open, competed in her first Q-school and secured Symetra Tour status for 2022. Success for a young, successful sports person comes with a price. Amelia was on her own and achieving big milestones while 10,771 km from home, away from family and life-long friends, her competitive sporting lifestyle often required her to 'house hop' from week to week but she was proud of the way she managed so much uncertainty and Kaiapoi is equally proud of their young star.

The presentation is being made to Amelia by The Kaiapoi Patron Janice Cattermole

Last year Amelia competed on the LPGA Epsom Tour and after making the first cut missed out on qualifying for the LPGA Tour. This year she hopes to be in the top ten of the money list which will give her an LPGA card for 2024.

Amelia never misses a beat and every time she is back in New Zealand she plays with both club members and attends junior coaching at Kaiapoi Golf Club, helping pave the way for future professionals and club members alike. She is quite the inspiration.

Seán Regan  
Club Captain