

Hole-in-one triumph misses the \$ million



■ Stephen and the 14th hole at Machrihanish.

A GOLFER sank a hole in one — before being told the club is offering \$1 million to players who can do the same thing.

Stephen Sandilands, pictured left, was delighted when his tee shot at the 14th hole at Machrihanish Dunes dropped in the hole.

But when he went back to the clubhouse to buy everyone a drink, as is customary on such occasions, he found out about the club's Mach Dunes Million competition.

Golfers who play 18 holes at the course between now and October 15 will be entered into a prize draw that will select four finalists for the contest on October 26.

If any of them sink a hole-in-one at the 14th hole on that day they'll win the \$1 million (£655,200) prize.

Stephen has been entered into the

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draw so there's still a chance. It won't be easy though, given it was the three-handicapper's first hole in one, despite playing golf for 33 years.

The hole, a short par 3, measuring just 167 yards with an elevated tee and the ocean in the background is said to be the course's "signature hole".

Head Greenkeeper Kevin Smith said: "Stephen was delighted when he got the hole in one.

"There were about 20 people in the bar and he bought them all a drink.

"We're going to send him out a flag with the number 14 on it as a memento.

"He's also been entered into the prize draw so he could win the money if he gets picked and can do it again."