



Society of Hertfordshire Golf Captains

Captain Brian McDonald (2023-2024)

Hon Secretary Eric Diment

Issue 2 June 2023

Captain's Day and AGM

This years Captain's Day was held at Essendon Golf Club on the New Course, The membership was welcomed by Simon Tansley who hosted the day and ensured that all were fed and well watered. He assisted in Mollies, the halfway hut, and encouraged all those who took part to enjoy the day despite the unfortunate weather which held off until later in the afternoon. The competition was won by George Campbell on 41 points from Keith Davies on 40.

Nearest the pins were won by Stuart Leigh, Allan Gray, Keith Davies and Neill Hewitt.

The AGM followed the completion of Captain's Day and Simon Tansley handed over the Captaincy to Brian Macdonald. In addition John Saunders handed over the Presidency to Don Bailey. We trust that they will both have a happy year.



1st Fixture of the year.

The 1st fixture of the year with the County Under 14 Boys was to be held at Essendon Golf Club but unfortunately due to the poor weather in March had to be postponed as the course was too wet to be played.

1st Match of the Year

The eagerly awaited first match of the season on 9th May saw Hertfordshire host London at Welwyn Garden City. Several old friends met up and the fourballs set off on time hopeful of a close match, with a home win and more importantly that the predicted thunderstorms stayed away until we had finished. Well, that didn't quite go to plan !

Although the Captains and a few of the matches finished the rest of the field were caught out at the furthest point from the clubhouse when the downpour arrived. Thunder and lightning meant that play had to stop and then we had the hailstones the size of peas that initially made the greens white and by the time we arrived back at the clubhouse the course was flooded.

So, we started in decent golf conditions and there was some great golf being played before the deluge that sunk all. My thanks to the caterers at the club who managed to bring forward the meal which was warmly welcomed by everyone. As always the match was played in the right spirit with plenty of banter, good natured and friendly. The Captains rose to make their speeches at the end and thanks were duly offered and dependent on your viewpoint the match when suspended means an honourable draw due to the inclement weather or as it stood 7 ½ - 2 ½ to Hertfordshire, I will let the membership decide that one'



Match against Buckinghamshire

‘On a very sunny day we made our way to Ellesborough GC, a course that the majority of the team had never played, with hope more than expectation as we knew the course was undulating and the greens very tricky. Well once we set off we found that you could add, blind shots off the tee and onto some of the greens to that scenario. We were also correct as the greens were lightening fast and full of slopes.

After an interesting round and many ups and downs we settled down to enjoy a good meal with our friends, relieved that the missing Harleyford Trophy was actually at the club to be presented to the winners. After drawing at home last year due to one match being played as a half due to illness we hoped for better things. Well, our wishes were met as we managed to prevail and win the match with a 4 ½ -3 ½ victory, always pleasing away from home. Congratulations to the team who made the journey.’



Captain Brian receiving the Harleyford Trophy from
Captain Tony Jeffries of Bucks



Triangular Match at Knebworth GC

The annual Triangular match against Essex and Cambridge was held this year at Knebworth GC on the 30th May.

‘It was our turn to host this event against Essex and Cambridgeshire and as the holders of the wooden spoon we were determined to go one better than last year in the rain at St. Neots. Well, first of all we avoided the rain but we also missed the sun as it was a chilly May afternoon when we all set off to enjoy Knebworth which was looking in excellent condition. Essex, had to rejig their line up due to a fire on the M25 and road closure left several of their team running late but we were all relieved that everyone did safely make it eventually.

Thankfully, back to a 2 tee start this year saw everyone round in a sensible time and we sat down for an excellent meal in good company as the scores were counted up. This is always a tight affair with all 15 scores from the members playing counting along with the professional from the society captains home club. Whether it was a good omen or not but our professional Rob Leonard managed to beat his playing partners by 9 points. As the final totals were added up, Cambridgeshire scored a good 497 points, which left Essex and Hertfordshire wondering who was heading for the wooden spoon and who was going to regain The Herve Cup. Well, the wait was over and Essex on 476 now hold the spoon and The Herve Cup is back in Hertfordshire with a total of 519. Another great performance from the society team, well done.’



Brian receiving the Cup from
Cambridge Captain Stuart Watson



Brian presenting the Wooden Spoon
to Essex Captain Kevin Smith



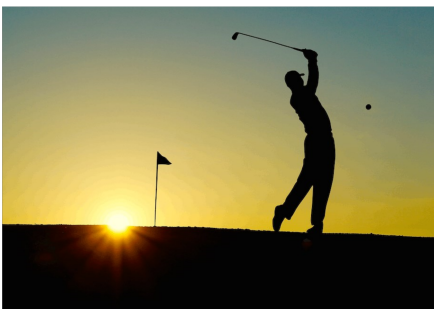
Cambridge Captain, Stuart Watson

The Winning Hertfordshire Team



Fixtures 2023

Tuesday 4th April	County Boys (Under 14's)	Abandoned
Thursday 27th April	Captains Day & AGM	Won George Campbell
Tuesday 2nd May	Inter-Club L/Officers	Moor Park WD3 1QN
Sunday 7th May	Herts Salver	Harpenden Common AL5 1BL
Tuesday 9th May	London Captain	7 ½ - 2 ½ when Abandoned
Wednesday 24th May	Buckinghamshire	Won 4 ½ - 3 ½
Tuesday 30th May	Triangular	Won 519/497/476
Thursday 8th June	Suffolk Captains	Lost 4 ½ - 3 ½
Monday 19th June	Vice Captains Day	West Herts WD3 3RL
Sun-Tuesday 9-11th July	Mixed Away	Greetham Valley LE15 7SN
Wednesday 19th July	Presidents Day	Hadley Wood EN4 0JJ
Monday 24th July	v Captains Club	Harpenden Common AL5 1BL
Thursday 10th Aug	Centenary Match	Welwyn Garden City AL8 7BP
Thursday 17th Aug	Four Counties	Buckingham MK18 4AE
Wednesday 30th Aug	Mixed Invitation Mtg	Brookmans Park AL9 7AT
Tuesday 5th Sept	With Herts Lady Captains	Hadley Wood EN4 0JJ
Wednesday 13th Sept	v Bedfordshire	Old Fold Manor EN5 4QN
Monday 18th Sept	v Northamptonshire	Collingtree Park GC NN4 0XN
Thursday 28th Sept	Mixed v Norfolk	Heacham Manor GC PE31 7JX
Friday 5th Oct	Autumn Meeting & Crameri Cup Final	East Herts SG9 9NB
Wednesday 25th Oct	County Boys (Under 16)	Chestfield Downs SG4 7EQ
Friday 1st Dec	Xmas Fayre	Harpenden Common AL5 1BL



If you wish to take part in any of the meetings/matches then please contact our
Hon Secretary Eric Diment email sohgc@yahoo.com