

Thursday, 17 April 2008



Division One							
Club	Matches Played	Games Won	Games Halved	Games Lost	Bonus Points	Total Points	Holes Up/Down
Marlborough	6	13	3	8	8.0	22.5	32
Broome Manor	6	12	1	11	6.5	19.0	-14
Cumberwell Park	6	10	1	13	5.0	15.5	-7
Wrag Barn	6	9	3	12	4.5	15.0	-11
Bowood	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0
High Post	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0

LAST YEAR'S FINAL PLACINGS

Champions Make Winning Start

The Marlborough scratch team made a great start to 2008 at the weekend with a cracking home win against West Wilts. Captained by David Bauer, the side won all 4 pairings by an aggregate 15 holes up to score a maximum 6 points!

The team has had an outstanding two years in 06 and 07, winning promotion from Division 2 followed by taking the Division 1 title in 2007. The format this year has changed from foursomes to 4 ball better ball with 4 pairings playing. 1 bonus point is awarded for the overall match result and another for aggregate holes up. Paul Green and Mike Bolt won 3 up, Jack Hiscock and Stuart Ross won 5 up, Dave Bauer and Steve Mathai won 4 up and Mark Sadler and Ian Miller won 3 up.

Success in the Wiltshire League brings great prestige to the Club so please support the team if you see them on the course.

We will report progress through the season through the Newsletter but the League is also hosted on the North Wilts website on:

<http://www.northwiltsgolf.com/league>

SIGHTS YOU DON'T OFTEN SEE



NUMBER 1: RAY FORD MISSES A PUTT

Goodbye and Thank You!

Frank Nicholls said goodbye and thank you at the Captain's Supper to mark the end of his year.

A cheque for £5000 will be presented to Frank's charity The Prospect Hospice with a little left over to make a nice donation to the Juniors.

Richard Pickles recalled scenes from Frank's life as a child prodigy, successful businessman and one-time handy golfer! He claimed to have a poem written by Andrew Motion in Frank's honour, though many doubt that the Poet Laureate would have penned an ode commencing "Mr Nicholls there is no one Franker..."

The guest speaker said some nice things about Frank but appeared to have been fed slanderous information about our chairman's speed of play.

A fun night. Thank you Frank.



Junior Fun Day

Paul Mapson and his team organised an early season fun day for the juniors last week.

Twenty players turned up for a mixture of stableford competition, target golf and a barbecue.

Outstanding performances on the day were from the Bens, Paul's son Ben shot 39 points off white tees but Ben Amor went even better shooting 42 points, not bad off a handicap of 9! Paula tells me the talent runs in the family. Her side obviously.

Matthew Scott won the over 28 handicap, 9 hole stableford with 26 points and winners of the target competitions were Alex Ballard, Jack Deane and Jamie Amor.

Junior League

The juniors opened their Wiltshire League programme with a tough fixture away at North Wilts, last year's champions. They went agonisingly close, losing by the narrowest of margins 2¹/₂ to 3¹/₂.

Leading from the front, Dan Jones our junior captain beat the 2 handicap home captain 2 and 1. Ben Mapson also had a good win but Ben Amor, despite playing 5 under his handicap, could only get a half. Tough school!

This was a very good performance against the toughest of opposition on their own track. Don't be too disappointed boys, we're proud of you!

JACK IN TOP FORM

Jack Hiscock won both Saturday and Sunday Division 1 scoring gross 73 and 69 respectively and getting his handicap down to 0.7.

We don't intend to report on all competition results in Thistle Newsletter but this weekend was a bit special!

As reported in an earlier edition, Jack will be off to take up a golf scholarship in the USA in the summer and it is great to see him in such good form.

Mixed Texas Scramble

Ladies and seniors sections joined forces for a teams of four Texas Scramble on Thursday. Despite the occasional hailstorm most teams finished, though not Captain Slog's who retired to the bar! The winners with a net 65.6 were Sheila Hubie, Kay Tyler, Roger Henry and Brian Alford.

CAPTAINS' DINNER on 2nd May

Lots of fun and a chance to meet Captain Slog and his three fellow captains!

An easy quiz, four short but sparkling speeches and a nice dinner. Names on the notice board please or email me on richard.pickles@waitrose.com

Bring and Win

On one of the best days of the year last Wednesday, 21 ladies turned out and had a great game of golf. Everyone brought a prize so everyone won - the best

player getting first choice! Sheila Hubie came first, Elaine Clegg second and Ruth Hodgson third. It was great to have such a good turnout and everyone enjoyed their cup of tea (and some a little stronger beverage) afterwards.

A WIN FOR JAMIE!



On Tuesday the under 15's competed for a handsome silver cup donated by (who else?) Freddie Boardman. Coming out on top was young Jamie Amor playing off 27.

His playing partner on the day, Ben Mapson (12) was second, the winning scores being net 70's separated on countback in Jamie's favour. As it happened, I was entertaining Roger Hughes the captain at Burford and we followed Jamie and Ben round as they were last in the field. We

approached the 12th green and I crossed into the rough on the right to play my ball. We had a quick chat: "How are you doing Jamie?" I asked. "Oh not very well. "How about you Ben?" "No, I'm one over par" I looked at Roger "Blimey!" he said. Yes, that said it all really. Anyway, well done Ben Mapson who came so close and congratulations to Jamie - I think he may have his name on a few more trophies in the next year or two. *Captain Slog*