



AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER

Press Golfing Society

www.pressgs.co.uk

BAKING WITH SUNSHINE

Ashridge winners Jon Jones, captain Colin Hancock, Jono Baker and Graham Marsden

Pictures: PAOLO MINOLI & EVAN SAMUEL

Jono rises as Ashridge bakes

Don't miss
CAPTAIN'S DAY
Monday, 15th Aug, at
Royal Ashdown Forest

JONATHAN BAKER proved too hot to handle on a record-breaking day for the PGS at Ashridge.

The former Beeb editor kept his cool as the mercury rose to heights never before seen at a PGS meeting. Matching the thermometer, point for degree celsius, Baker claimed the PGS memorial salver with a superb 38 points.

"I chose the hottest day in history to have my hottest round in years", said Maidenhead's Baker of his blistering performance. "The ultimate fair weather golfer."

Not that the fabulous Baker boy made toast of the field. Graham Marsden, Pip Clothier and Evan Samuel all finished just a point behind with 37, taking first, second and third respectively in Division Two.

Former PGS Secretary

Paolo Minoli claimed second in Division One with 34, followed in third by Nic Brook on 31.

A fine lunch sorted the wheat from the chaff and seven pairs headed back out into the bleached Ashridge heat to challenge for the Sir Harry Brittain Coronation Trophy.

The afternoon greensomes was reduced to

nine holes as a concession to the intense heat, although strangely the effects seemed most marked on those remaining behind at the bar.

As the sun, if not the temperature, began to dip, it was the in-form Graham Marsden and Jon Jones who returned from the parched Hertfordshire prairies with the title, edging out

Evan Samuel and Colin Hancock on countback.

Yet again Ashridge delivered a superb day on a wonderful golf course. The victorious, oven-ready, heat-specialist Baker, surveying the sunburnt fairways from the balcony, reflected: "I guess I'll now have to wait another couple of millennia before I manage it again." Given the current state of things, a successful defence in 2023 seems well within the realms of possibility.



ASHRIDGE RESULTS

Division One 1st Jono Baker, 38pts, wins The PGS Memorial Salver, 2nd Paolo Minoli, 34, 3rd Nic Brook, 31. **Div Two** 1st Graham Marsden, 37pts, 2nd Pip Clothier, 37, on countback, 3rd Evan Samuel, 37 (on cb)

GREENSOMES 1st Graham Marsden & Jon Jones, 20pts, win the Sir Harry Brittain Coronation Trophy, on countback, 2nd Evan Samuel & Colin Hancock.

SIR EMSLEY CARR MEMORIAL TROPHY

Andrew Porter
v Nic Brook

Andrew Porter 7&6

Pat Mooney
v Jeremy Thompson

Jeremy Thompson w/o

Colin Hancock
v Rob Hewer

Colin Hancock 4&3

Mike Waker
v Ross Slater

Ross Slater 3&1

Lee Smith
v Nev Appleton

Lee Smith w/o

Ian McIlgorm
v Bruce McKellar

Ian McIlgorm 2&1

Paul Kelso
v Nick Cherrie

Nick Cherrie 2&1

Hugh Whitlow
v Peter Solomons

Peter Solomons 4&3

Andrew Porter 2up

Colin Hancock 4&2

Ian McIlgorm 2&1

Peter Solomons 2&1

Andrew
Porter
7&5

Ian
McIlgorm



DEFENDING Emsley Carr champion Andrew Porter eased into this year's final with a comfortable victory over PGS captain Colin Hancock at Sunningdale.

On a glorious morning on the Old, matchplay machine Porter barely had to move out of second gear to record a crushing 7&5 win. Brunswick's Porter, formerly of the Daily Telegraph, will now play the Mail on Sunday's star snapper, Ian McIlgorm, in the final as he seeks back-to-back Emsley titles. It's more than 40 years since anyone's achieved the feat: that was Jeremy Chapman back in 1979/80.

JOHN GORDON PUTTER

Places after 5 qualifiers.

PGS HCPS

| | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Nic Brook | 4 | 1 | 7 | 12 |
| Dylan Dronfield | 14 | 2 | 4 | 20 |
| Mark Lomas | 3 | 16 | 2 | 21 |
| Nevil Appleton | 4 | 10 | 10 | 24 |
| Nick Cherrie | 17 | 1 | 8 | 26 |
| Ian Woods | 14 | 5 | 8 | 46 |
| Hugh Whitlow | 5 | 10 | 15 | 30 |
| Rob Hewer | 9 | 13 | 11 | 33 |
| Jonathan Bramley | 7 | 4 | 23 | 34 |
| Christian Fraser | 1 | 20 | 13 | 34 |
| Nick Jones | 20 | 8 | 6 | 34 |
| Evan Samuel | 21 | 9 | 4 | 34 |
| Mike Waker | 6 | 22 | 10 | 38 |
| Tim Allan | 19 | 7 | 15 | 41 |
| Andy Glen | 22 | 6 | 14 | 42 |
| Dean Scoggins | 2 | 3 | - | 5 |
| Philip Clothier | 8 | 3 | - | 11 |
| Keith Ging | 3 | 12 | - | 15 |
| Philippa Kennedy | 3 | 13 | - | 16 |
| Andrew Porter | 2 | 18 | - | 20 |
| Lee Smith | 14 | 11 | - | 25 |
| Nick Toksvig | 20 | 6 | - | 26 |

PGS Vice-President Nic Brook has moved into a commanding lead in the standings for the Sir John Gordon Golden Putter.

With just three qualifying meetings left (Royal Ashdown Forest, The Berkshire and Swinley Forest), Brooky has an eight point advantage over last year's captain, Dylan Dronfield, with Mark Lomas just a point further back.

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WRYTER CUP

Places after 5 qualifiers. Club hcps

FULL RESULTS: www.pressgs.co.uk

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Jonathan Bramley | 1 | 5 | 3 | 9 | Christian Fraser | 1 | 19 | 12 | 32 |
| Nevil Appleton | 2 | 4 | 5 | 11 | Ian Woods | 18 | 7 | 7 | 32 |
| Dylan Dronfield | 5 | 2 | 4 | 11 | Andy Glen | 11 | 7 | 15 | 33 |
| Nic Brook | 4 | 1 | 9 | 14 | Evan Samuel | 22 | 10 | 4 | 36 |
| Mark Lomas | 3 | 14 | 2 | 19 | Mike Waker | 14 | 10 | 12 | 36 |
| Andrew Porter | 6 | 1 | 12 | 19 | Philippa Kennedy | 22 | 4 | 11 | 37 |
| Dean Scoggins | 16 | 1 | 3 | 20 | Duncan Farmer | 20 | 6 | 16 | 42 |
| Tim Allan (Q) | 3 | 5 | 13 | 21 | John Quinn | 26 | 8 | 11 | 45 |
| Nick Jones | 10 | 7 | 5 | 22 | Chris Stevens | 19 | 8 | 19 | 46 |
| Khalid Javed | 4 | 9 | 10 | 33 | Ian McIlgorm | 18 | 13 | 16 | 47 |
| Nick Cherrie | 17 | 1 | 6 | 24 | Keith Ging | 3 | 11 | - | 14 |
| Philip Clothier | 13 | 9 | 3 | 25 | Jon Jones | 7 | 17 | - | 24 |
| Jonathan Baker | 12 | 15 | 1 | 28 | Lee Smith | 14 | 14 | - | 28 |
| Hugh Whitlow | 9 | 8 | 11 | 28 | Nick Toksvig | 20 | 8 | - | 28 |

ROYAL Ashdown Forest will host a race to the Wryter Cup for those on the fringes of the PGS team for Bordeaux.

Pip Clothier, Hugh Whitlow, Evan Samuel, John Quinn and Andy Glen are among those already entered for captain's day and in with a good chance of qualifying for our annual match against the French.

It's already looking like a very strong PGS team, with a solid core of proven matchplay winners booked for the trip to Golf du Médoc. Former captain and veteran Wryter player 'Bubbles' Bramley still heads the table, closely followed by Nev. Appleton and last year's victorious captain, Dylan Dronfield.

Support Captain's Day!

THE PGS returns to glorious Royal Ashdown Forest next week for captain's day, part deux.

Way back in the mists of time (2020), Covid stalked the land, the economy teetered on the edge of catastrophe and PGS captain Colin Hancock and his wife Lisa handed out home-made breakfast rolls in the car park. How things have moved on: this year there'll be breakfast inside the clubhouse and lunch in the dining room.

Golf World described Royal Ashdown Forest as England's most unspoilt course, and it is indeed a wonderfully tranquil and natural setting for golf. Famously there are no bunkers, but the trees, heather, hollows and streams provide plenty of traps for the wayward shot. Even so, Bernard Darwin noted

that, "I never knew anyone who played on it and was not fond of it." The views alone are magnificent.

We'll be playing singles in the morning on the Old course, then after a cracking lunch there'll be a scramble on a special 11-hole routing of the West, taking in some of the finest holes either course has to offer.

Our captain will be providing half-way refreshments, wine with lunch, an afternoon complimentary drinks buggy (the more astute may spot a theme here) and prizes for two divisions, the scramble, nearest the pin and longest drive.

All that plus the final chance to qualify for our Wryter Cup team for Bordeaux. Sign up via the PGS website and enjoy a wonderful day's golf in a glorious part of the world.



Stymied at the Heath



"WE SHALL FIGHT THEM IN THE BUNKERS..."
Nick Jones
undaunted

AFTER three straight PGS wins, the British Golf Collectors' Society and Royal Blackheath came up with wonderfully cunning ploys worthy of PG Wodehouse's 'Wrecking Crew' to thwart our gallant hickory players this year.

The Collectors changed the format of the annual Triangular match at Blackheath, so that we played threeball sixsomes, knowing this would contrive to befuddle us. Royal Blackheath, meanwhile, installed both Guinness and Pimms on draught at the hut and insisted on two stops (after seven, then again after twelve), confounding us more.

Their dastardly plots worked brilliantly, and so the Collectors prevailed, with the noble Press a brave second, while Royal Blackheath shanked their way to a miserable third place.

Thanks to Nick Jones, Roderick Easdale, Paolo Minoli, Khalid Javed, Nick Buckley, Charles Collier-Wright, John Quinn and Nic Brook for polishing their mashie niblicks so well. Gratitude also to Royal Blackheath and the BGCS for such a fabulous day. -NB

SIXTH MEETING: MONDAY, 15th AUGUST

ROYAL ASHDOWN FOREST

COMPETITIONS

AM From 9.00am - Stableford singles, in threes, on the Old Course from 09.04 for the captain's prize. Felix Duckworth defends the Billennium Bowl. PM 11-hole scramble on the West course from 14.30.

ENTRIES

Please enter via our website, pressgs.co.uk using the link on the right-hand side of the home page. Any problems, email Tim at: pgssecretary@gmail.com

COST

£120 per golfer for AM singles, PM Scramble, breakfast roll on arrival, 3-course carvery lunch and complimentary drinks and snacks through the day. Please pay in advance online, **Press Golfing Society account 40749648 sort code 204141.**

PRIZES

AM: First three in Division 1, first three in Division 2, first three scramble teams in the afternoon, longest drive and nearest the pin.

DRESS CODE

Change of shoes when in the clubhouse, but clean golf-wear / casual fine. Jackets for afternoon / evening and ties, please, for photographs.

TELEPHONE

Messages can be left at the club on 01432 822018.

HOW TO GET THERE

By Car

The club is on Chapel Lane, just off the B2110. Coming off the M25 at junction 6, head south on the A22. In Forest Row, turn onto the B2110 and then soon after turn right into Chapel Lane.

By Train

East Grinstead is the closest main station. A taxi from there to the club should take approximately 10 minutes.

POSTCODE for satnavs

RH18 5LR