



Press Golfing Society

OCTOBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

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PREMIER CREW Captain
Colin's PGS battlers



CAPTAINS FANTASTIC
Colin and Damien

French vin at Medoc

A battling team display and some outstanding individual performances couldn't retain the Wryter Cup for the PGS against a powerful French APG side at Golf du Medoc. The APG won each of the three sessions, taking a 10-6 overnight lead after foursomes and fourballs and completing a 22-10 victory at the conclusion of the singles. Congratulations to APG captain Damien Houles and his team. Full details of the match in the next newsletter.



FORMIDABLE! The victorious APG team

Pictures: NICOLAS DOUCET

Andy doubles it with Murray

ANDY GLEN blitzed the Red and Blue for a combined 89 points to claim a stunning double victory at The Berkshire.

First, the Beeb's man from Bearwood Lakes took the Sun Challenge Trophy with a superb 41pts on Berkshire's beautiful Blue course. Glen's round of two over gross just pipped Jonny Bramley, last year's winner, who put up a magnificent defence of his trophy with 40 points. Former Express Editor Hugh Whittow took third in Division 1 with 37.

"I started with a bogey, made lots of boring pars and holed nothing - apart from on 13" said Glen, modestly, "and just scrambled to 73".

In Division 2, the in-form Evan Samuel swept to victory with an excellent 39pts, six clear of former Sky, now ITN, correspondent Ian Woods on 33pts with John Quinn one further behind in third.

Then, after a fine Berkshire lunch and on a perfect day for golf, Glen and Jim Murray blew the field away in the afternoon greensomes, taking the Sir George Sutton Salver with a remarkable 48pts, the second highest PGS greensomes score in living memory. Former PGS captains Dylan Dronfield and Ian Woods might have expected to win with their 41pts, but had to settle for second, and the Maidenhead pairing of Jono Baker and Rick Evans claimed third, two under handicap with 38pts.

But the Berkshire belonged to double-champion Andy Glen:

"I just hit solid shots all day - a few helpful



GAME, SET AND MATCH
Andy Glen, Evan Samuel
and, inset, Jim Murray

Picture: PAOLO MINOLI

bounces and 3 Peronis at lunchtime always helps.

"Jim played some remarkable golf, smashing drives miles and hitting second shots stiff, all I had to do was chip the ball around the course.

"I've been in terrible form for a long time so it was a more unlikely double than Spurs doing it in a year ending in anything other than a 1." (Editor's note for younger readers: this refers back to an era in which Spurs occasionally won significant trophies.)

THE BERKSHIRE RESULTS

Division One 1st Andy Glen, 41pts, wins The Sun Challenge Trophy, 2nd Jonny Bramley, 40, 3rd Hugh Whittow, 37. **Div Two** 1st Evan Samuel, 39pts, 2nd Ian Woods, 33, 3rd John Quinn 32. **Greensomes** 1st Andy Glen & Jim Murray win the Sir George Sutton Salver with 48pts, 2nd Dylan Dronfield & Ian Woods, 41, 3rd Jono Baker & Rick Evans, 38 on countback.

JOHN GORDON PUTTER

Places after 7 qualifiers.	PGS HCPS			
Nic Brook	4	1	7	12
Nevil Appleton	4	5	4	13
Jonathan Bramley	7	4	2	13
Dylan Dronfield	2	4	8	14
Evan Samuel	9	4	7	14
Hugh Whittow	5	6	5	16
Andy Glen	6	11	1	18
Mark Lomas	3	16	2	21
Rob Hewer	9	11	2	22
Ian Woods	5	8	9	22
Jonathan Baker	15	1	7	23
Christian Fraser	1	13	10	24
Nick Cherrie	17	1	8	26
John Quinn	11	12	3	26
Philip Clothier	8	3	18	29
Nick Jones	20	8	6	34
Andrew Porter	2	18	16	36
Mike Waker	6	22	10	38
Nick Toksvig	20	6	12	38
Dean Scoggins	2	3	-	5
Keith Ging	3	12	-	15

THE race for the John Gordon Golden Putter will reach the final furlong at Swinley Forest this week, and it's one of the most open in years. PGS vice-president Nic Brook still heads the field, but he has four challengers within two points, all of whom are in some of the best form of their lives. In fact, at least nine players are in with a chance of snatching the Golden Putter in this, the last regular event of the season.

The very best of fortune to all.

Annual dinner

CHRISTMAS will come early for the PGS this winter as the Captain's dinner moves into December.

Members can now reserve their tickets for this celebration of the Society's year, to be held on **Friday December 2nd** at the Royal Horseguards Hotel in Whitehall.

Just email secretary Tim pgssecretary@gmail.com to book your place at £85 per head, including wine: and, as ever, partners are very welcome indeed.

Captain 2024

TONY SMITH is to be the 2024 PGS captain. Rob Hewer, who takes over the captaincy this December, has nominated the former Mirror man as his vice-captain and the AGM unanimously confirmed his appointment.

Smith is currently applying to join Royal Ashdown Forest. PGS Secretary Tim Allan was unavailable for comment regarding a third successive captain's day at his favourite Sussex club.

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KNIGHTS OF ST GEORGE
LSGS captain James Furber
with match skip Tom Crone

Lunchtime legal challenge as we clinch quaiach

THE PGS once again proved themselves a law unto themselves as they drew the annual match against the London Solicitors at Royal St George's.

In perfect conditions for links golf the Press raced into a 3-1 lead at lunch with victories for the pairings of Tom Crone and Nick Jones, Nick Buckley and Neil White and Tim Allan with Nic Brook.

But the wily lawyers spotted our weak point, the Open venue's famous hospitality kicked in and the well-lubricated hacks crumbled under cross-examination in the afternoon.

Only Allan and Jonny Bramley managed to put a point on the board as the match finished level at 4-4. It was a repeat of last year's result and means captain Crone's team retains the Centenary Quaiach.



An autumn return to Swinley

THE PGS returns to the sublime Swinley Forest this week.

The 17th Earl of Derby financed Swinley after becoming disillusioned with the politics of Sunningdale, a club he'd co-founded. King Edward VII rented him the land from Windsor Great Park and Harry Colt designed what many

consider one of the very finest inland courses in Britain.

Opened in 1909, Swinley only brought in scorecards and allocated pars to holes nearly ninety years later and it retains a unique air, on and off the course.

The holes flow effortlessly through heather and pines, the

changes in elevation and subtle green complexes testing every approach. Swinley is not just one of the most classically beautiful places in which to play golf, it's also a truly great course.

The PGS is subsidising the day by £15 a head to give as many as possible the chance to experience this slice of Colt's genius.

EIGHTH MEETING: TUESDAY, 18th OCTOBER

COMPETITION

MORNING: From 8am. Singles Stableford in threeballs. John Quinn defends The Peggy White Vase.
AFTERNOON: Foursomes from 2pm.

DRESS CODE

Golf attire may be worn in the Clubhouse except in the dining room.
• Golf shoes are not permitted in the lounge. • A jacket is required for Lunch in the dining room, ties are optional. • Tailored shorts and visible socks are permitted on the course.

• Shorts are not permitted in the dining room.

PRIZES

First three in Divisions 1&2, first three pairs in the afternoon.

TELEPHONE

Messages can be left at reception on 01344 620197.

HOW TO GET THERE

Swinley Forest Golf Club is at the end of Bodens Ride, a small road off

Coronation Road. The turning into Bodens Ride is easy to miss - the tip is to look out for a red post box on the side of Coronation Road.

By Car

If you are travelling from London or the West, the best approach is via the A30, turning off by the Windmill Pub onto the B3020 Bagshot road and then 900m later taking the first left into Coronation Road. Go down for approximately 900m and Bodens Ride is on the left hand side. Go

SWINLEY FOREST

along Bodens Ride, cross the railway line and you will have arrived.

By Train

The closest stations are Ascot (1.5 m) and Sunningdale (3m). There is a good local taxi service, Ascot Cars. 01344 297297.

POSTCODE for satnavs
SL5 9LE