

OAGS Invitation Day at New Zealand GC – 27th July 2019

For the inaugural OAGS “Invitation Day” we played the delightful New Zealand course near Woking. The Clubhouse is remarkably unspoilt and a unique feature is the changing room where lockers are allocated to new members by crossing out the name of a deceased former member!

It was a great opportunity to invite friends and family to a relaxed 36 holes of morning & afternoon foursomes with a splendid lunch. There were no fewer than 3 father/son pairings. Unfortunately our esteemed Captain, Alex Cuppage, had to withdraw having broken his wrist fishing in Iceland – some excuse! Simon Hardy had found the OAGS flag which was duly hoisted.

We met for a bacon roll and the day started our rather wet but cleared up after a few holes. The format was best handicap stableford & scratch score. There were some side bets as per usual...

The morning round was fiercely fought in tough, wet and windy conditions. Although the wet conditions, the course played beautifully and held its firmness throughout the morning. Sam Moon lead the morning round with a scratch round of 31 stableford points and 37 handicap stableford points followed closely by Will Thiele and Tanner Robb with a scratch round of 25 stableford points and a 31 scratch stableford point round.

The New Zealand Golf Club is renowned for their lunches and its fabulous wine cellar. The Old Amplefordians were not disappointed. A long lunch filled with tremendous food and fabulous wine set up for a wonderful afternoon of golf. The clouds cleared and the sun finally made an appearance.

With improved conditions the scores were noticeably improved; although the long lunch may have lifted spirits and most definitely had major influence on the afternoon round. Another tough round of golf followed but not for the likes of some of our lower handicappers who navigated the narrow heathland course with great skill and expertise. Some fabulous scoring from the partnerships of Martin Hattrell & Finbarr O'Connor and Chris Healy & Mark Healy resulted in trophies being collected by both partnerships. Martin Hattrell & Finbarr O'Connor collecting the Handicap Stableford trophy with a combined score of 68 points and Chris Healy & Mark Healy collecting the Scratch Stableford trophy with a combined score of 56 points.

Congratulations to both partnerships and we look forward to next year.

Pairings (AM):

Simon Hardy & <i>Alastair Hardy (G)</i>	with	Martin Hattrell & Finbarr O'Connor
Henry Rowan-Robinson & <i>George Comyn (G)</i>	with	Nick Price & <i>Adam Price (G)</i>
John Gibbs & <i>Richard Pennell (G)</i>	with	Rob Record & Nick North
Chris Healy & <i>Mark Healy (G)</i>	with	Will Theile & <i>Tanner Robb (G)</i>
William Frewen & Joe Ainscough	with	Sam Moon

Pairings (PM):

John Gibbs & <i>Richard Pennell (G)</i>	with	Simon Hardy & <i>Alastair Hardy (G)</i>
Rob Record & Nick North	with	Henry Rowan-Robinson & <i>George Comyn (G)</i>
Nick Price & <i>Adam Price (G)</i>	with	Chris Healy & <i>Mark Healy (G)</i>
Martin Hattrell & Finbarr O'Connor	with	William Frewen & Joe Ainscough
Will Theile & <i>Tanner Robb (G)</i>	with	Sam Moon

The results: Handicap – Martin Hattrell and Finbarr O'Connor
 Scratch – Chris Healy and Mark Healy

Our thanks to Sam Moon who organised a superb day and Alex Cuppage for supplying libation at the excellent lunch. It is hoped this will feature as an annual event on the OAGS calendar .