Briers; Purdy's, L. Purdy.

The next golf tournament is at Coo Moor or September 25 and the first winter lecture on October 5.

RonalD ullathorne

sussex

On the premise that “no news is good news” Sussex must be doing very well. However, things have been happening in the section with our spring meeting at the Nevill GC in April at which Bruce Cruickshank educated us on the many and varied uses of hollow cores on the course. And they say the Scots are mean! The winners in the morning were Matt Saunders, Chris Reed and Carl Whyborne with Alan Wickens taking the Guest Prize. The afternoon winner were Chris Allen and Raymond Day with Sean Starrock as Guest winner. Thanks are offered to the sponsors of the day, Culverwells and Rigby Taylor. Congratulations also go to those who qualified for the next round of the Hayter Challenge but more especially to Chris Allen and Raymond Day who have made it through to the Final — good luck!

Summer found us at Ilfield on a blisteringly hot day. Thanks must be given to Alistair Cave and his team for their efforts in preparing the course for us — pity about the pin placements! The winners in the morning were Jon Hall, Raymond Day and Colin Martin with Gary Ogilvie taking the Trade prize. The afternoon winners were Andy Paynter, Lawrie Tremlett and Duncan Haste with Norman Kennard and Peter Stuart collecting the Guest prize. Thanks again to the sponsors, Farmura and John Shaw (Machinery) Ltd.

Special thanks must go to both clubs and their catering teams for looking after us so well.

While handing out the accolades, I would like to thank the Steering Committee of the Southturf Show for putting on another great event. However, one has to wonder at how sincere the support is for the Association when two of the South East Region manufacturers were not only absent but held private display days on either side of the show. It has been noted who they are. On the other hand support from Head Office was outstanding and I personally noted some “heavyweights” among the crowd.

And now to the future. The autumn meeting takes place on September 27 at Worthing GC. Are you ready for us, Rob? Please don’t forget that if you have been unable to attend the last two meetings this is your last chance to be eligible for the Show.

Southern Irish Section

The Glasson Golf and Country Club in Athlone Co Westmeath was the venue for the Southern Irish Section of the Hayter/BIGGA Challenge.

Fine weather greeted the protagonists who managed to record some very healthy scoring. The event was contested by 48 players, which reflects a substantial increase in numbers from last year. Everyone agreed that the Glasson Golf and Country Club was a perfect venue being in the heart of Ireland and therefore within reach of all participants. The course itself provided a mix of challenging holes and superb scenery although not everyone enjoyed the 15th hole were both tee and green were islands on Loch Ree which adjoins the course.

Stan Mitchell of Dublin Grass Machinery played as a guest and his score of 70 would have equaled that of the winner.

The event was a great success for all concerned, particularly Hayter, whose new FM514 was demonstrated cutting the last six fairways. Earlier in the week Thomas Spratt, greenkeeper of West Waterford GC had placed an order for the new Hayter T93 following a successful demonstration organised via John O’Flynn/ Paddy Geary.

Results: Cat 1. 1. Des Murtagh, Tramore GC, 70; 2. David Cashman, Athy GC, 71; 3. Oliver English, Dun- dalk GC, 71. Reserve, David Behan, Killeen GC.

Cat 2. 1. Diarn Gorman, Hermitage GC, 71; 2. Eddie Gilson, Skerries GC, 71; 3. David Molloy, Royal Dublin GC, 72. Reserve, Thomas Dorran, West-manstown GC.


Northern Region

The Northern Regional final of the Hayter Challenge was held at the Middlesbrough GC in early July.

Thanks to Hayter for its generous sponsorship and especially Kim and Hamlish Macfie for their help on the day. Thanks also to Bert Cross for starting and driving the mini bus, Howard McAddey and Ian Holoran for their help with the scoring and everyone at Middlesbrough GC for making the event such a success.


Cat 2. 1. P. Harley, North West; 66; 2. R. Johnson, Northern, 66; 3. M. Broughton, North West, 68.

Cat 3. 1. C. Powley, Cleveland, 68; 2. K. Bush, Cleveland, 68; 3. D. Cockburn, Northern, 69.

Midland Regional Final

The Midland Regional final was held on July 5 at The Erewash Valley GC, Stanton by Dale, Derby.

Our thanks go to the Captain and Committee of Erewash for allowing us to stage the event and to Graham Arnold and his staff for getting the course in such superb condition under very trying weather conditions and to Doreen and her inside staff or an excellent meal.

Some very good scores emerged and as we know in the East Midlands we were Bindleyed again. It was nice to see Neil Thomas and Barry Heaney attend our event.

Special thanks go to Hayter for sponsoring the event (long may they do so) and to Kim Macfie and his entourage for all their help on the day.

Can I say well done to all the boys who took part in the Hayter Qualifier at Middlesbrough and please get in touch with me and I will do all I can to help.

Can I say well done to all the boys who took part in the Hayter Qualifer at Middlesbrough and my congratulations to Darren Davies of Flint and Ian Buckley of Northop Country Park who I believe got through to the Final.

Congratulations to Haydn Jones and Richard Taylor of Chirk GC in passing their Level 2 Greenkeeping this month. There goes the myth that you can’t teach an old dog new tricks. Well done to both of you.

T.P. Evans