Winning team from Branxton Golf Club, Australia.

Worfield Golfers and Ireland in US

Worfield Golf Club, from Shropshire, represented Great Britain and Ireland in the World Finals of the 2004 John Deere Team Championship, held in November in Arizona.

31 teams from six nations took part in two days of competition at the world renowned Grayhawk Golf Club, in Scottsdale, playing on the prestigious Raptor and Talon courses.

Worfield's overall score of 114 put them in a very respectable equal tenth place, eleventh on countback.

The John Deere Team Championship title went to the Australian team, who finished on 103, narrowly beating the American team, from Hesperia, California, with a total score of 104. This is the first time a team outside North America has won the Championship.

The competition got off to a great start for the Worfield team - made up of Club Chairman, Trevor Williams; Secretary, William Weaver; Professional, Steve Russell; Course Manager, Mike Fowkes and John Deere dealer salesman, Pete Worthy, of John Osman Groundcare, Oswestry, Shropshire - with a first day score of 16 under par.

"Then on the second day we were absolutely flying round, and after nine holes found ourselves 12 under," said William.

"Unfortunately the back nine weren't so good and we finished the day two 14 under. It was very tight towards the end, which made for an exciting competition, and well done to the Australian boys who got the title and the trophy."

Asked for his view of the trip, William simply replied, "Awesome. This was a once in a lifetime trip and we were determined to make the most of it. In the end we played six days of golf altogether."

In addition to the two days of practice and two days of competition at the John Deere World Championship, the team managed to squeeze in a day at Troon North on their first day in Arizona and...
fly the flag for Britain
finals

finished their trip
with a round at TPC,
Scottsdale before,
catching the flight
home.

The team was accompanied to America
by BIGGA Chairman, Andy Campbell, and
by Eddie Donlon, President of the Golf
Course Superintendents Association of
Ireland (GCSAI).

Both organisations were presented
with donations from John Deere Limited at
the World Finals, in support of BIGGA’s
and GCSAI’s educational activities.

John Deere Limited contributes £25 for
every team that enters the competition
and, with 426 teams taking part this year
in Great Britain and Ireland, this amounted
to a total of £10,650.

In Britain, this funding will be used to
support BIGGA’s Continue to Learn
workshops at Harrogate in January, and
the Turf Managers’ Conference at
Staverton Park, Northamptonshire in
March.