

SCOTLAND NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

CHAIRMAN TRIUMPHS AT RATHO PARK GC

John Young, BIGGA's recently appointed RA for Scotland, reports from the Scottish National Tournament 2012



The 2012 Scottish National Tournament took place at Ratho Park Golf Club on Wednesday, 20th June.

Ratho Park, situated 30 minutes from Edinburgh city centre, provided an excellent setting for the competition. The parkland golf course, designed by James Braid was first established in 1928, although the history of the club can be traced back to the turn of the 19th Century through a merger with Corstorphine Golf Club on land that is now part of Edinburgh Zoo.

In 1955, the club purchased the estate of Ratho Park with the mansion house transformed into a magnificent clubhouse.

Playing conditions were excellent for competitors considering June's inclement weather.

The course was actually unplayable over the previous weekend, and Billy Hudson and his team are to be congratulated for producing a course in superb condition for the tournament.

As with all golf tournaments, the weather plays a significant role in competition scoring and the enjoyment for players. With the exception of a couple of light showers in the afternoon, the weather was excellent and very much welcomed by all.

Although playing numbers were down on the previous year, a very competitive field assembled for the tournament. This was highlighted by an extremely close and hard-fought duel between 3 times winner David Simpson of Crieff Golf Club and Scottish Regional Chairman, Stuart Taylor of Glasgow Golf Club for the Scottish Championship. Both returned an excellent one under par score of 68 with the Chairman prevailing on count back over the last nine holes. Kenneth Mitchell from St Andrews Links Trust won the Friendship Trophy for the best nett score of 67 using his handicap of 5 to good effect.

After receiving the Scottish Challenge Cup, Stuart Taylor thanked Vice Captain John Dea, the committee and members of Ratho Park for their hospitality and for the courtesy offered to players.

A Quaich was presented to the Vice Captain, who then paid tribute to the hard work of all greenkeeping staff and remarked that the club was delighted to host the tournament.

Congratulations to all who took part and we hope to see everyone next year at Largs Golf Course for the 2013 tournament.

THE 2012 SCOTTISH NATIONAL TOURNAMENT PRIZE LIST

SGGA CHALLENGE CUP (SCRATCH CHAMPION)
Stuart Taylor, Glasgow GC 68

FRIENDSHIP TROPHY (NET CHAMPION)
Kenneth Mitchell, St Andrews Links Trust 72 5 67

RANSOMES TROPHY - 1st CLASS
1. David Simpson, Crieff GC 68 +1 69
2. Paul Murphy, Fife Golf Trust 78 5 73
3. Gavin Neill, St Andrews Links Trust 81 6 75

PATTISON TROPHY - 2nd CLASS
1. Graeme Bolton, G West 78 9 69
2. Ian MacLeod, Tain 78 7 71
3. Thomas Adams, Crieff GC 83 12 71

STRI TROPHY (St. IVES JUBILEE) - 3rd CLASS
1. Dale Robertson, Newmacher GC 83 15 68
2. Gerard Broadley, Glasgow GC 94 17 77
3. Bryan Ramsey, Glasgow GC 94 16 78

DICK AITKEN TROPHY - BEST HEAD GREENKEEPER
Euan Grant, Turnberry Golf Courses 83 14 69

M & M TROPHY - BEST ASSISTANT
Craig Berry, Leven 77 7 70

SIGGA TROPHY - BEST VETERAN
Charles MacDonald, Crieff GC 73 3 70

ST MUNGO TROPHY - SECTION TEAM WINNERS - Central Section
Kenneth Mitchell, St Andrews 67
David Simpson, Crieff 69
Graeme Bolton, G-West 69
Charles MacDonald, Crieff 70
TOTAL 275

QUAICH - TRADE PRIZE
Kevin Brunton, Greentech 74 0 74

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIERS
Scratch, Stuart Taylor, Glasgow GC
Nett, Kenneth Mitchell, St Andrews Links Trust

SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES

Southwood and Brockenhurst Taste Victory

The first of the South West and South Wales Region's Golf Management Competitions, sponsored by Tacit, have taken place and two clubs have secured their places in the finals of the event.

The South Coast Section event was recently held at Liphook GC where the winning team from Southwood GC came in with 82 points. In second place was the team from Brockenhurst GC with 81 points. Both teams have won a place through to the final which is taking place later in the year at Frilford Heath GC. Just missing out on a place in the finals were Wareham GC in third place on 80 points and Test Valley GC in fourth place on 79 points. The nearest the pin competition was won by Paul Cooper from Wareham GC and the longest drive competition was won by Chris Hudson from Southwood GC.

BIGGA South West and South Wales Region would like to thank Tim Webb and Tacit for their support of the region in sponsoring these events.