NEWS Round-up



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TWICE RUNNING

As the early mist on an October morning cleared from the famous links courses at St. Andrews, a thought uppermost in the minds of competitors taking part in Ransomes 5th International Tournament was 'Could the Canadians win the Challenge Trophy again?'

A record entry with teams of four players from thirteen different countries took part in a stableford competition over 36 holes.

At 8.30 a.m. the Welsh were the first to tee-off and at the end of the first round only one point separated the two leaders - Scotland with 45 and the Canadians on 44. Breathing down the Canadian's necks, one point behind, were the Dutch, Northern Irish and Swedes. Only three of the thirteen teams were under 40 points after the morning round, with every prospect of an exciting tussle in the afternoon.

Nature intervened during the afternoon with a wind gusting up to 30 mph which the competitors blamed for their frequent exclamations of anguish. The wind proved disastrous for the Swedes who dropped right out of contention, but the two teams from across the Atlantic proved to be masters of the wind. The Canadians returning a superb 47 points and the USA team 46.

The German team, lying eleventh at lunch-time, scored 45 points in the second round to be placed sixth overall. Alas, the Scots who led after 18 holes recorded one less in the afternoon, but took second place.

So the Canadians won the Ransomes Challenge Trophy for the second time with a total of 91 points. Scotland were second and USA third.

Only four points separated the first four places. Northern Ireland were fourth, and three teams, Holland, West Germany and Spain, tied for fifth place.

Following the tournament, the traditional Ransomes Banquet was attended by 150 guests at the Rusack's Marine Hotel where Mr. Keith Mackenzie, the Past Secretary of the R & A was guest speaker. He described how the game of golf was played at St. Andrews in the past and said how much he enjoyed being present at such an international occasion.

Receiving the Ransomes Challenge Trophy, the Captain of the Canadian Team, Mr. Bob Heron said: "It had been a wonderful occasion and a privilege to play the Old Course".

Ransomes Sales Director, Mr. Guy Catchpole thanked the Links Management Committee for making it possible to play the tournament at St. Andrews. "It was appropriate for it to have been played on the Old Course", he said, "because the Ransomes Tournaments started because the Greenkeepers in Scotland wanted to challenge Greenkeeper members in England to a game of golf.



Pictured with their Scorer on the first tee of St. Andrews' Old Course waiting to drive off is the Canadian team, winners of Ransomes 5th International Greenkeepers and Superintendents Golf Tournament. The members of the Canadian team are (left to right) Bob Heron, Doug Meyer, Lockie Shaw and Kimmo Soloman.