



Callum beats Long Odds to Triumph

A promising teenage greenkeeper helped his club scoop a coveted trophy – after being called away from repairing a bunker to play a crucial round.

Trainee Callum Long, 17, had to race to the first tee to compete in the St Ives Junior Cup final after a player dropped out at the last minute. Despite still wearing his work clothes, he held his nerve together with teammate Michael Cato to win the cup in a dramatic sudden death play-off.

Callum, who plays off 12, is currently studying for a diploma in greenkeeping while working at St Ives Golf Club, Cambridgeshire, as part of his work-based training.

He said: “I was repairing a bunker when the junior organizer came over to tell me someone had dropped out, and asked if I could

play in the Junior Cup Final.

“It was a bit of a surprise to say the least, but luckily I had my golf shoes at the club. Before I knew it I was in a golf cart heading to the first tee. I still had my work clothes on. It was tiring because I had got up that morning at 5.30am to start work, and because it went to a play-off I didn’t finish until about 6.30pm, but I knew I had to keep my concentration because it was an important competition.

“It just goes to show that maybe you don’t need to do too much preparation, my partner and I played some good golf on the day and I was very pleased to help us win the cup.”

Callum was delighted by his success as was everyone at the club, particularly Course Manager Phil Gates.



SOUTH COAST DEFEAT SECRETARIES IN CARE CUP

South Coast Greenkeepers achieved a notable victory in the 16th Annual Course Care Cup.

Held at Rushmoor Golf Club, the Wessex Secretaries were keen to reverse last year’s close defeat in fine weather. The match was again hard-fought and extremely close, with the result coming down to the final two holes of the day – and the greenkeepers prevailed winning by three matches to two.

An excellent meal followed and thanks from all were extended to Highspeed Group for sponsoring the event.

PICTURE: Highspeed Group’s Area Manager, Paul Dyter is shown presenting the trophy to Tony Gadd, Chairman of BIGGA South Coast Section.

HOME COMFORTS FOR VERULAM

Verulam Golf Club took full advantage of hosting the BIGGA Golf Management Trophy by winning the competition on home turf. The event, sponsored by Tacit, provided an excellent prize table.

The Verulam team of Robin Farrer, Chris Carpenter, Don Longarvie and Neville Custance triumphed with 85 points. Second place went to Buckingham Golf Club with 81 points, the team included Brian Piggott, Peter Frost, David Barnes and Chris Wilkes. Third place went to John O’Gaunt Golf Club with 77 points on count back.

The format was a stableford, four ball better ball with the best two scores on each hole to count.

Nearest The Pin was won by Paul Toyer from St Neots Golf Club and the Longest Drive winner was Simon Woolley from Brickenden Grange Golf Club. Thanks to all who attended.

Attention BIGGA Members

Have you got anything that you think might be of interest to other BIGGA members reading these pages? We are always on the lookout for news, stories and goings-on within our membership.

Also, if you are doing something outside of your day-to-day greenkeeping role, let us know about it. Maybe a fun activity or a sponsored run? Please feel free to get in touch with our new Communications Executive, Steve Castle on 01347 833800 ext 510 or email steve.castle@bigga.co.uk with your news (and photographs!)