

ROUTE 66 WINS SCOTTISH NATIONAL

This year's Scottish National Tournament was hosted by Largs Golf Club on Thursday 13 June and drew an excellent 62 competitors from all over Scotland who benefitted from glorious sunshine throughout the day.

A parkland course, it was originally designed as a 9-hole course before becoming a full 18-holer in 1953. Playing to its full length from medal tees it covers some 6150 yards with a par of 70 and a CSS of 71.

This year, we had our own version of Ivor Robson on the first tee to announce each player. John Sneddon has worked with the PGA on a number of their events and kindly agreed to participate adding a touch of class to proceedings. First on tee at 11.15am was a guest, Gordon Clarke from West Kilbride Golf Club. Subsequent games then teed off every 9 minutes until the very last game at 2.15pm comprising an East/West combination of Gregor Wilson (Turnberry) and Robbie Murdoch (Dundas Park).

The standard of golfer taking part was very high with more than half the field being single handicappers. Indeed it proved to be one of our lowest handicappers that turned in the performance of the day to win the Championship trophy. Gordon Sangster from Cathkin Braes Golf Club produced a magnificent gross score of 66 that included an eagle, 4 birdies and only 2 bogies. Gordon managed to get to the turn in only 29 blows narrowly missing out on a short putt for the 28.

Not to be completely overshadowed by Gordon, Iain MacDonald on his home course recorded a great score of 68 gross and less his 2 handicap won our Friendship Trophy with a nett 66. In addition to winning the trophies, Gordon and Iain will have their entries to the BIGGA National Tournament at Frilford Heath paid for them and will receive expenses towards travel and accommodation.

There was one common theme shared by all competitors on the day, their unequivocal praise of the golf course condition. Our whole-hearted congratulations are reserved for Iain Barr, Course Manager and his team for producing an excellent facility for the competition. Even the tricky position of the 18th flag,



Iain MacDonald

thanks to George Morrison for that one, didn't diminish the players' admiration of the course.

Throughout our day we were treated to a very warm welcome by Keith Howie (Secretary), Andy Fullen (Professional) and the other members of the team.

Andy O'Hara, Scottish Chairman, was on hand at the end of the day to thank the captain Brian Fulton, the committee, Keith and everyone else for the tremendous hospitality that was received and presented a Quaich to the club as a thank you for the courtesy of the course and clubhouse. Keith thanked Andy and reaffirmed the club's delight at hosting this event and for the hard work of all greenkeeping staff required at golf courses throughout the country.

Congratulations to all who took part and we hope to see everyone at next year's championship at Renfrew Golf Club on Thursday 12 June.

John Young



Gordon Sangster

PRIZE LIST

SGGA CHALLENGE CUP (SCRATCH CHAMPION)

Gordon Sangster Cathkin Braes 66

FRIENDSHIP TROPHY (NET CHAMPION)

Iain MacDonald Largs 68 2 66

RANSOMES TROPHY – 1st CLASS

1. Kenneth Mitchell St Andrews Links 77 5 72
2. Dougie McIntosh Cathkin Braes 77 2 75
3. Gary Tough Letham Grange 73 +2 75

PATTISON TROPHY – 2nd CLASS

1. Martin Lothian Turnberry 82 12 70
2. John Watson Downfield 86 12 74
3. Iain Barr Largs 85 10 75

STRI TROPHY (St. IVES JUBILEE) – 3rd CLASS

1. John Barr Cardross 90 16 74
2. John Wilson Irvine Bogside 94 18 76
3. Michael Maxton East Kilbride 98 22 76

DICK AITKEN TROPHY – BEST HEAD GREENKEEPER

Derek Wilson Irvine Bogside 81 8 73

M & M TROPHY – BEST ASSISTANT

David Simpson Crieff 71 +1 72

SIGGA TROPHY – BEST VETERAN

Archie Dunn Auchterarder 79 5 74

ST MUNGO TROPHY – AYRSHIRE SECTION

Iain McDonald Largs 66
Martin Lothian Turnberry 70
David Nelson Trade 72
Derek Wilson Irvine Bogside 73
TOTAL 281

QUAICH – TRADE PRIZE

David Nelson Nelson Vecchio 77 5 72

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIERS

Scratch: Gordon Sangster, Cathkin Braes Golf Club
Net: Iain McDonald, Largs Golf Club