

Match Report

BT v XBT

Date: 26 May 2011
Venue: Woodbridge
Format: Pairs match play

Traditionally scheduled during August John Hill and I agreed to pull forward to May to better fit the society's match schedule and avoid the August holidays. I had 19 definite's and 10 maybe's but at the end of the day could only muster 7 players, last minute work commitments were the principle cause. John had a similar story although more exotic excuses, Like hip replacements, baby sitting, holidays to Eastbourne etc etc. (Maybe I'll keep working at BT a few more years!). John could only get 7 so we decided to play one group of singles and three pairs.

Weather this year started overcast. The forecast indicated showers would skirt around Woodbridge with some sunny spells. And so it proved, showers did skirt around Woodbridge squarely hitting the golf course at exactly 15.10. We were on the 2nd tee at the time Dave Clark and I managed to get our drives off before the deluge, however Dave Leech and Brian Hamer had to hit their shots then run for cover (when I say run was more of a limp, they are both 65) without seeing where their ball had landed. As always happens in these situations Brian's bag came off the trolleys and spilled the contents on the ground, Brian then tested out his waterproof trousers in retrieving them. (the trousers are going back to Man at C&A next week). Meanwhile XBT captain deserted his team and headed for the clubhouse. The rain subsided after 5 minutes and we enjoyed a sunny round with two more occasional showers.

The Woodbridge course was in good condition in preparation for the Eastern Counties Comp on the coming Sunday. Fairways were very dry we had not seen rain since March. Greens were true however Woodbridge members were getting caught out with the slightly slower speed the raining had made to the greens.

The first group of two was Niels Peterson and Carl Stagg. Carl was in top form and found the course to his liking beating Niels fairly and squarely according the Niels. Next group was the aforementioned Leech, Hamer, Clark and Stokes. A very tight game which got very serious when Dave Leech took acception to my putting reminding me of the clause in my contract of not using his old putter against him, (shame he never put the contract to words). Anyway the scores were very tight with the result a draw. Next group Burke, Eaden, Beecroft and Joggin The BT team got off to a flying start when Paul Burke netted an Eagle on the first from off the fairway during the rainstorm (some feat). We had to dive for cover when a Beecroft shot on the 3rd sailed over our heads on the 4th tee, we still await an apology. Paul and Russell ended up winners by 1. Final group Hill, South, Buck and Hansen eventually got underway when the rain stopped. Erik and Trevor proved too good for the old boys and underlined a dominant performance from the BT team winning 3 and drawing 1.

It was agreed next year's event will be held during June to ensure all players have the opportunity to take part in what is seen as a popular event by both BT and XBT players.

Stephen Stokes
BT Captain of the Day

