

Sant Jordi Golf Society

WELCOME

Welcome to the new format Newsletter for 2009.

This first edition of the new season will hopefully bring you closer to the recent events and issues in the Society and still be an enjoyable read.

THE JANUARY EVENT

This was played at Vilalba Golf Club in what developed into really great golfing conditions. All those present had a great time and there is an ample selection of the photos from the event on the web page in the 'Gallery Heading'. Some very interesting poses are therein! These poses led to some interesting scores and it is interesting to note that nobody appears to 'rip the course apart' at Vilalba which is a testament to the difficulty of this apparently benign layout. The greens were true but I am assured quite hard and unreceptive and I did witness some very long putts on the 17th green which had an 'evil' kick next to the hole.

THE TWO CATEGORIES

Category A for the below 18 handicappers was a very close affair with the top 5 all within 5 points, but one of these, Simon Green put in a 'Stellar' performance scoring 35 points off his 15 handicap 5 pars and everything else just one over. This gave Simon the 150 points for winning plus his 35 points and 5 for attending lunch towards the Order of Merit (This together with some Historic memories of the event on the web). Simon is also heading for a place in the Sant Jordi Hall of Fame (He needs one more win). Second and clearly 'making hay while the sun shines' was a delighted Geoff Brown who knocked in a fine 33 points including a birdie on the 7th. Geoff is a relatively new member and it was great to see him at the top end of the leader board in his first event at Vilalba. Third, missing out on second only by the scoring less birdies was Gareth Bean. There is a fine photo of Gareth on the tee and this highlights his great swing which provided him with some steady scoring over the 'mighty links'. Gareth will rue not scoring on the 3rd, because those two extra points could have taken the victory. Elsewhere there were 7 pars. Well done to all three and also to Ralph Griffin and Michael Robson for their 'top end' placing.

Category B was an even closer event with only 3 points dividing the top 5. Fresh from 'life on the ocean waves' came Ian Robertson, who I suspect (although he is saying nothing) was 'honing' his swing in the Caribbean for the last two months while we were all enduring the 'hostile' Spanish winter. Ian Scored a magnificent 35 with a birdie on the 5th and pars on 4 more to give him an 'honest' workmanlike total, plus 150, 35 & 5 for a total of 190 for the Order of Merit. Nice going Ian. Second, losing out by virtue of no birdies but with 6 pars, came one of our long term members, David Goss. I followed David over the last two holes and he did putt very well, knocking in those difficult 4 footers with dashing style. A nice finish on the tricky 18th brought 35 points and some deserved OOM points. Third by just one point with 34 was Simon Gordon. Simon 'no scored' on two holes and could have taken home the bacon in his second outing with Sant Jordi. He had a birdie and three pars for his participation and with my old driver next month, 'Look Out' for some fireworks. Some steady work from Wolfgang Finkbeiner and Derrick Simes, both with 32 brought in the top 5. Well done to all of you and we look forward to the next event at Costa Brava.

THE NEXT EVENT

The next event will be one of our favorites on the Sant Jordi Calendar. This will be our annual match against Steve Watson and his team from the stunning Costa Brava Course. We will play two events in one. The first will be the match against Steve's selection and the other the standard Sant Jordi event. Our Honor is in play here so we need all you guys in form and raring to go on Tuesday 24th February. Get your names to Graham or me asap to ensure your participation.

Don't forget that all the latest information is on the web

WWW.SANTJORDIGOLF.COM



THE ORDER OF MERIT 2009

The changes in the Order of Merit are designed to give more people a chance of getting to the top. To do this we have decided to count the top 80% of the scores for the year. In 2009 – 2010 we will have 16 qualifying events so the top 10 best scores will count towards the final score. The idea behind this was viewed by several of you and agreed by the majority as allowing you to still figure in the rankings and take into account holidays, meetings , illness etc. We think it is a fairer system and look forward to seeing how this develops. We also have increased the differential for the top places. Winning should be acknowledged and greater rewards offered for higher placing in the Order of Merit.



THE SANT JORDI MAJOR TOURNAMENTS

(Awards Double Points)

We now have two very traditional events , The Sant Jordi Trophy and the Saint Andrews Day Event. We rely heavily on the donations from our members and above all our Sponsors for these events have they have been hugely successful thanks to their support which culminated in November this year with the Saint Andrews Tournament. Graham Nash, Mike Thom and you our sponsors have been integral in turning these events into something special and we have decided to raise these events to Major Status and look forward to some serious press coverage for both events in 2009.



The present standings are as follows:

Category A

Simon Green	190
Geoff Brown	138
Gareth Bean	103
Ralph Griffin	86
Michael Robson	75

Category B

Ian Robertson	190
David Goss	140
Simon Gordon	104
Wolfgang Finkbeiner	87
Derrick Simes	77

FINALLY

Please don't wait to be called, Graham and I would love to get a call from you to confirm your assistance at our events. This makes planning easier for all. You will get a mail from me in any case, so keep your eyes out for the Sant Jordi mail a week before the event. If you have not sent me your e-mail, please do so asap. Adrian

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