



Sant Jordi Newsletter

WELCOME

Welcome to the March 2009 Newsletter

This third 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 MARCH EVENT

This was played over two magnificent days at Montanya Golf Club that was once again in fine condition thanks to the fine work done by Jordi and his staff to whom we give our thanks.

The event was primarily our match against the Hanslope Park Golf Society and this doubled up on Thursday with the monthly Sant Jordi event.

THE MATCH AGAINST HANSLOPE PARK G.S

Gary Peers (7 events), Fred Dominguez (7), Bob Gordon (7), Trevor Haigh (3), John Bennett (2), and Graham Day (0) formed the star studded team built around guile and cunning over the last 12 months by Gary and last year's captain Phil who was unfortunately unable to come over this time due to an unforeseen illness in the family. Best wishes go to Phil and his wife for a full and rapid recovery.

Some deep thought must have gone into the selection and it was pleasing to see that the teams were firing on all cylinders and raring to go off the daunting first tee at Montanya. Some excellent golf was produced over the two days and after a two all draw on day one the scene was set on a cool and crisp morning on day two for the individual head to head matches. Acting as 'ace photographer' on day one gave me the opportunity to snap some fine action for the web page presentation which is now available for viewing on www.santjordigolf.com. There were some fine displays of skill and on occasions some good looking poses in particular on the second tee.

After two days of golf combined with some succulent dining at the Montanya club, Viladrau afterwards was entertaining and a heavy loading of 'Pacharan' saw the visitors disadvantaged and

consequently a loss of form with only two of the days eight points going back across the channel. This left a final outcome of 8-4 in favour of the sterling team presented by Sant Jordi.

The Trophy will therefore remain in the Iberian Peninsula for another year pending more thought and planning for next year's assault which will be played on a rescheduled format later in the year.



Gary Peers Captain of the Hanslope Park Golf Society making the presentation of the Hanslope Trophy to Graham Nash, Captain of The Sant Jordi Golf Society. The score 8-4 to Sant Jordi.



The interesting left side of the lake on the first was surprisingly unvisited on day one.





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Rhodri, Graham, Bob and Juan



Hanslope Captain Gary Peers, Sheer determination



John, Graham, David and Ralph on day one.



Sant Jordi Captain in action on the short par 3 second, Go for it Graham!





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THE TWO CATEGORIES

Category A for the below 18 handicappers

Some interesting action here gave us a new winner and we were pleased to welcome Mario Riquelme to the top spot. Mario is a fine 6 handicap player and completed a gross score of 74 and 41 points. A scratch 36 on the front 9, while not the lowest first 9 in Sant Jordi History [still at 2 under par] this must be considered one of the finest global competition rounds in recent times. Mario gets a fine total of 150 plus 41 st. Points and 5 for the lunch bonus 196 in total.. Nice going Mario

In second place with a total of 28 points was David Coote. A steady round here with 8 pars, but unfortunately no birdies to bring the total up a tad. Still nice going David and some useful points for the order of Merit.

In third, just one point back we were delighted to see a back in form Anton Palau off his 6 handicap. Two birdies in the round kept Anton ahead of a marauding field comprised of Albert Sant, Dani Medina and another newcomer and 6 handicap, Marco Rossi all scoring more than 35 points.

All in all, a fine display from all the chaps and clearly the great conditions were to the liking of the lower handicap categories.

Category B for the below 18 and above handicappers

Category B was an exciting event with 7 players scoring par or better and the top 3 all in the 40s. Top spot went to Derrick Simes with a stunning 42 points off his 34 handicap. He was clearly showing the effects of 'Pacharan abstinence' and that effort which included a par on the stroke 1 hole well deserved the 150 + 42 + 5 bonus points for the O.O.M.

In second place with a sweet 40 points came one of this seasons on form shooters. Long hitting Richard Rose was creaming his drives and peppering the flag with his 21 handicap and 5 pars on the second nine.. A great effort on the day.

Third and losing out to Richard on handicap was last season's category B Order of Merit winner Roy Waters. Roy has come back from two 'lesser' months by his standards so it is good to see a return to form which promises to make the running order as exciting as last year.

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.

First 150 + st points

Second 100 + st points

Third 65 + st points

The present rankings are now published on the web. Don't forget the login is : members and the password: santjordi

The top 3 in each category are now:

Category A

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|------------|
| First Place | Ralph Griffin | 265 Points |
| Second Place | Simon Green | 237 Points |
| Third Place | Geoff Brown | 229 Points |

Category B

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------|------------|
| First Place | David Goss | 367 Points |
| Second Place | Derrick Simes | 324 Points |
| Third Place | Wolfgang Finkbeiner | 254 Points |





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THE NEXT EVENT

MAJOR EVENT TIME

The next event will be one of our MAJOR tournaments of which there are two each year. The Saint Jordi Trophy is the first and the St Andrews Trophy is the second. The Sant Jordi trophy is a stroke-play event and the St Andrews Stapleford. These events attract double place points totals for the under 18 handicappers of Category A. In the Sant Jordi trophy we do not add stapleford points so in April the same rule will apply for Category B which allows players to slip between categories without unjustly affecting the results.

The Sant Jordi trophy will be played on the 30th of April at Montanya and we look forward to a stellar performance from you all to reward the loyalty of our sponsors and their generosity in these difficult times.

A ROUND WITH ADRIAN

I did not play on Wednesday, but did meet a lonely Simon Green playing behind the main group so we teamed up for some well needed practice. This was quite entertaining and I completely destroyed Simon's confidence with some well timed 'chunking', 'topping' and general trash so no mention in despatches.

Needless to say what fun it was earlier bothering you all with my demon lens. Hopefully it did not upset too many of you and the results of this fine Art work are on the web in the gallery section. Feel free to download and display my work anywhere. But seriously, there were some quite good action shots of some of you in there and Photoshop can repair all ills so off you go!

Thursday was another day and with an ample dose of analgesics we hit the fairway, not strictly speaking, but metaphorically. The drugs gave me something like an 30 extra yards on my drives but didn't do much for the rest of the game. Anyway I went round with Geoff Brown (Our first time!) and Graham Day (ditto). Let us deal with them separately.

Geoff Brown:

Geoff is a great guy and plays to a quite tidy 14 handicap. He hits a long ball off the tee and has an excellent short game. Geoff recently went to see James Marshall our Associated Golf Pro. See the link on our web or direct to:

<http://www.jamesmarshallgolf.com>

This appears to have done him some serious good and I am sure Geoff would recommend James to all of you. His chipping and play around the green was spectacular and he had a tight match with Graham finishing on the last hole.

Graham Day:

Graham formed part of the team from Hanslope Park and put on a splendid display of tenacity and will power to challenge Geoff for the day's honours. Some nice mid to long iron play combined with some fine play near the greens kept the match alive until the last breath of Crisp Montanya air was exhaled on the 18th. Both deserved to win.

THE SPECIAL MENTION

We have not had a Special mention for some time so I thought it best to thank Jordi, Ivan, and the team at Montanya for preparing the course and leaving it in spectacular condition for the event. I know it was tight, fitting us all in on both days, but we finally managed it and a great time was had by all. The greens were not the fastest we have seen and they speeded up as the day wore on making them into little jewels. The fairways were firm and true and the rough was lush and crisp. I can vouch that there were also plenty of leaves in the woods! I had just one wish for the course which I think would benefit the course considerably. The B tee on the 9th (next to the water) needs levelling (Please) because the uphill (Mini Matagal) lie there does not help my attempted draw over the tree and makes an attempt at a drive over the corner unfeasible. Hopefully this work will be next on the agenda because the course needs this tee to be an integral part and at the moment it is not up to scratch.





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EVENT IMAGES

Just a few of the action shots (sorry guys)

I call this selection the Second tee wonders. Seriously there are some good poses so here goes:



The hole



The view



Juan in fine fettle



Oh, What style from Rhodri





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Sorry Bob, Too late on the exposure..We'll try again next year!



Graham left the ball just 10 feet away.



Difficult to say really! Graham a little over the top here.



John with a nice follow through





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Ralph with some impressive style



So we took two on the trot.



David English, The best to date.. The just oozes Class



Mark Mills...well balanced so far.





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Les just after impact. luv the action on the shaft!



Geoff just after impact



Kev givin it a tonk.. Good head down shot.



Nice one Gary





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A Fred Special.



David.. A breeze.. Liked the attire though.



Anton with a smooth controlled follow through



Trevor...Eye on ball.





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Chris.. Now I do like that follow through.



Roy. The shot was better than the expression! Late exposure again.



Richard. A powerhouse of energy..



Simon putting out on the 8th





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Classic Montanya.. The Church at El Brull



Mario Salamanca. Winner Category A



..and the clubhouse at dusk.



Derrick Simes. Winner category B

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.

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

WWW.SANTJORDIGOLF.COM

