

Warwickshire vs Leicestershire and Rutland at Shirley Golf Club

This match fell in the middle of the heat wave so players arrived at the club with plenty of water and sun cream underneath the clear blue sky. They gathered for a sausage bap and coffee at 10:30 prior to the 11:30 start for the matches.

Following the late breakfast Mike Edwards welcomed the visitors to Warwickshire and introduced Marc Butler – the Shirley Golf Club Chairman. Marc added his welcome to all the players to the club and provided a brief history of the club following which the pairs were announced and introduced to each other.

We were able to have a 2 tee start with games going off from the 1st and 5th tees so members had to have their wits about them when their games were announced.

The course was in great condition and the beauty of the course was enhanced by the sunlight and blue skies. The hard ground provided plenty of roll which flattered any straight drive and helped to bring the longer holes to a slightly more manageable level. With water coming into play on several holes and trees seeming to get in the way on most holes the course provided a challenging and very enjoyable round of golf.

Following the games a number of players chose to relax in the cool of the clubhouse with their pre-prandial drink although some sat outside on the patio and continued to enjoy the heat of the sun.

After the dinner had been enjoyed the traditional toasts and talks from the Captains of the 2 sides took place although both kept their talk fairly brief. WGC Captain Mike Edwards took advantage of the presence of Rod Williams to delegate the telling of a joke or two to him. In the usual way, L & R GC President Andy Vernon was left to announce the results of the games which turned out to be 3 wins apiece and 4 halved matches. The draw meant that Warwickshire retained the trophy having won it last year.



Andy Vernon announced the result and presented the trophy to Mike Edwards to retain for another year



Game 1 : Warwickshire Captain Mike Edwards and Shirley Chairman Marc Butler with L & R President Andy Vernon and Gerry McIntyre



Game 2 : David Middleton and David Williams flanked David Jennaway and Len Cross



Game 3 : Charles Leggitt and Rod Williams with Eric Cooper and Gerald Barwood



Game 4 : Rob Stokes and Dennis Pick either side of Keith Groom and Bill Bowley



Game 5 : Robert Kemp and Patrick Murphy took on Allan Crowson and Deggie Palmer



Game 6 : Ron Saywell and Mark Draper with David Waddell and Kanti Patel



Game 7 : Mike Gregory and Ivor Ford with Charles Geary ad Brian Cole



Game 8 : Keith Lindsay and Barry Hallam took on Norman Ellis and Chris Jones



Game 9 : Ian Phipps and Frank Barton with Nazar Kullar and David Stott



Game 10 : JJ Pritchard and Tony Ranger mixed it with Paul Clarke and Owen Cook





Rod Williams in full flow