

SAUNTON SALVER REPORT 2019

The twelve Warwickshire players travelled down the M5 in pleasant sunny conditions arriving at Mullacott Park, during the afternoon for a three-night stay. The accommodation, arranged by our Hon. Sec. Mike Gregory, was excellent value with a café and pub on site. All within 200 yds!

Our Warwickshire team were allocated times from 12:30 to 12:50 to play for the Saunton Salver. Three pairs on the West Course and three pairs on the formidable East Course. All was well for the first few holes until the skies darkened and then the wind increased in intensity with heavy horizontal rain coupled with hail and to top it all a significant drop in temperature.

Despite being soaked including the items in our bags we all managed to finish the round but Oh for a waterproof golf bag and golf wear that keeps out the rain!

After a good meal, eaten in our playing groups, we returned to our well-appointed lodges for a cuppa and later with an element of reluctance went to the onsite pub. Others in the group went by bus down to Ilfracombe to eat and drink.

The second day was infinitely better weather wise with mild, sunny at times, conditions. We had earlier tee times 09:30 to 10:10 so we played in the dry whilst teams with later times were caught in the rain although nowhere near the heavy rain that we had experienced the day before. The courses played much better with all teams managing better scores.

For the Presentation meal We were all seated in our county teams decked out in our blazers and badges with some wearing chains of office. We were treated to a fine meal which was quickly delivered to the table. The presentations took place immediately after the meal so those who were travelling home that evening could get away quickly.

The Warwickshire Team amassed 291 pts whilst Dorset came in with 344pts to win the trophy.

The whole event was superbly organised by Liz Cann and the Saunton Club.

The 2020 competition will take place on 7th and 8th October.

Rick Waddington 12/10/19



