

Match v Somerset at Enmore Park Golf Club 11th June 2018

A quick jaunt down the M5 saw 16 fine Past Captains assemble at sunny Enmore Park GC amidst the rolling countryside immediately south of the traffic jam that was Bridgewater. The Club House was recently refurbished so we benefitted from a light and airy room and new patio overlooking the 1st, 9th and 18th Greens and fairways.

Sandwiches and chips were consumed al fresco and were so good that many returned for "seconds". We were summoned by Tour Manager John Loynton and his Somerset counterpart to "Stand By" whilst the pairings were read out. Some interesting combinations ensued and Captain JJ had the pleasure of North Warks` Ivor Ford.

Robert "The Kit" Kemp of Stratford U Avon brought up the rear with John Loynton and as there was but one starting Tee it was anticipated that there would be a "longish" wait before dinner. The course was presented extremely well but those few of us who found the Rough far too often were of the opinion that it was a tad too deep and occasionally held up play. This was relayed to the Club through the Past Captain representing the current Captain who was elsewhere on the Course with his fellow Police Officers – in a sporting rather than professional exploit!

The slopes on some Holes required Marker posts and the quip that it had been designed by Stevie Wonder was received with mirth. The generously sized Greens were excellent and where skills enabled it, took spin on the ball as it landed. We were able to proceed without hold ups and thus the Round was not unduly long.

There was a prize for each team with a NTP on the 18th in 3. This par 5 downhill (again past a Marker Post) was in parts quite steep and few second shots were off a flat lie. To his delight our "Virgin" Gary Thompson was the first and only name on our sheet and he gratefully accepted the rather nice bottle of wine as a reward for his "skills??" . He knows the area well as he has customers locally – local knowledge??

The pre prandial period was not as long as feared as all groups had played quite quickly. We sat for a most enjoyable Chicken Curry, rice and chips as well as a Popadom each. Dessert was a lovely Cheesecake and wine was provided as usual.

The Captains gave a Report from their perspectives and all necessary "Thanks" were given. The usual jokes were delivered and well received.

It is the custom for this match to feature a trophy and as we were the current Holders our Manager brought it along.

Thankfully we retained it with a well deserved 5 – 3 victory