

HLCGA County Championship Week 14-18 May - Royal Jersey GC

Rowlands Castle RC Ladies have a great time in Jersey



The 2018 County Championship week, hosted by Royal Jersey Golf Club (RJGC), was last held there 16 years ago. The Hampshire Ladies Golf County Association (HLGCA) was pleased with the turnout of about 150 ladies from clubs in Jersey, Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight competing throughout the week.

Twelve members from Rowlands Castle GC Ladies Section took up the challenge of the Royal Jersey GC, a links course on the east of the island. It reminded many of the ladies of Hayling Island GC with the sea breezes playing a factor on most of the days!

In Division 1 (Championship - Handicaps + to 9) we had one competitor, **Debbie Tapply**. The 36 hole medal competition on the Wednesday was certainly tough especially as in Division 1 it's a scratch competition. Debbie did well to qualify for the match play stage of the competition. In the first round she met defending champion Kerry Smith from Waterlooville. With Kerry playing off +3 it was a difficult draw and Debbie lost. Kerry went on to be the 2018 County Champion.

Division 2 (Challenge Salver - Handicaps 10 to 15) was held on the Monday with very windy conditions. **Diana Littler** came in 2nd nett (2 below CSS) and progressed to the matchplay competition on the Wednesday. Diana won easily in the first round (5&3) against a RJGC lady and then had a tough quarter final, winning on the 21st hole. In the semi final she won 3&2. On Friday morning she met Debbie Burrell from Weybrook Park. It was a good match but it was not to be Diana's day and she lost 3&2. A good week for Diana being a very worthy runner-up.

In Division 3 (Challenge Bowl - Handicaps 16 to 20) **Janet Doel** made it through to the match play competition. She beat the top seed 2&1 in the first round, but lost narrowly (20th hole) in the quarter final.

Those RCGC ladies who didn't qualify managed to play some of the other lovely Jersey courses: Les Mielles, La Moye and St Clements. Les Mielles was a particular challenge as 15 holes featured water. One lady (who will remain nameless) was reduced to a range ball and scrappy Dunlop by the 17th hole! There was also a trip to the famous Jersey Zoo and wine tasting – so it wasn't all golf!

RJGC were excellent hosts and made everyone feel very welcome. The visiting ladies enjoyed a lovely dinner at the club (see photo) and the whole event was a great success. Next year's County Championship Week will be at Hockley GC and we hope to see many RCGC ladies enter in 2019. For full details of the results see the HLGCA website.