



PANNAL GOLF CLUB

HARROGATE ADVERTISER REPORT

Saturday saw autumn-like weather for The Pannal Trophy, one of the club's most prestigious Men's medal competitions. Normally this is a 36 hole event, but reduced to 18 holes this year. Whilst this made it easier on the joints, it was also much harder to win, as the field of over 160 players was nearly three times the normal size. Scoring was tough with less than 10% of the field beating par. Tom Page (14) came sixth, beaten on countback by Jon Mountford (2) whose gross 71 was the day's best, and Simon Fawcett (18) all on net 69. Christopher Blantern (5) came third with net 68. Thomas Booth (10) has had a great season so far and five birdies helped his net 67 to lead the competition for much of the day, also reducing his handicap to single figures for the first time. His score wasn't bettered, but it was equalled later in the day by Eugene McDonough (19), one of Pannal's stalwart senior members, who had seven pars in his back nine to win on the very tightest of countback calculations. Commiserations to Thomas, but congratulations to Eugene who at last sees his name on one of the club's honours boards after thirty years of trying.

Last Sunday, 36 members travelled up to Seaton Carew for the first of this year's Captain's Exchange Days. This classic links course presented a rather different challenge from Pannal's heathland/moorland layout which everyone tackled with relish. The winning combination on the day were Mike Rogers and Ian Webber with 41 points, beating second place Tim Burroughs and Mike Starkings by one point, with Simon Stalker and Jeremy Halliday claiming third place on count-back with 39 points.

This year's Junior Poyser Trophy was won by Oli Hunter (5) with 35 points, on countback from Jamie Hardcastle (5) whose "blob" on the 13th hole proved very costly. James Matthews (4) was third on 32 points.

There was some great scoring in the week's Open Stableford competitions. Last Sunday's was, won by Chris Hastings (4) with 44 points, a point ahead of Charles Murray (4), with Callum McNair (6) third on 43 points. Paul Addle (15) won Thursday's competition with 43 points, a point ahead of Simon Walker (4) in second place. Special mention to third placed Jason Taylor (1) who was 5 under par gross in his back nine helping him to 41 points overall and a return to scratch handicap.

At long last, two of last winter's pairs knockout competitions have reached their conclusions. In the Winter League final, Jonathan Honeysett and Andrew Ruffell overcame Ian Shay and Mike Rogers. In the final of the Winter Foursomes, Ian Davison and Simon Stalker triumphed against Jon Clayton and Russell Tanner.