

Senior Men's Golf Chair's Report – 13th March 2025



Welcome back to a number of our friends who have been wintering or holidaying in warmer climes.

February and March results

As can be seen from the photo, the Grail was won last month by a serial champion Brian Hall with 40 points. Well done Brian. The other prize winners were second (for the second month running) Russell Gooding with 39 points (countback), third Suresh Vara with 39 points and fourth Richard Lurcott with 38 points. The scoring was much better this month. Perhaps spring has sprung.

For the first time in a long time all 40 slots were taken on 5th March. The weather was lovely and 10 fourballs sought to beat par in the ever-popular format of Texas Scramble.



Congratulations to Geoff Bradford, Raj Vara, Julian Bass and Peter Barrett winning with a nett 57. The runners up on countback were Suresh Vara, Tim Dennis, Neil Hemsall and Peter Bateman with a nett 59. As there were three groups with 59 strokes, I was glad to have the wise counsel of David Bouch to guide me through the calculations.

On 12th March Geoff Bradford kindly ran the Yellow Ball Competition for reasons that will become apparent. With the fairways running and faster greens the course played very well. The winners with an extraordinarily impressive score (it was double-checked) were Tim Russell, Ken Pratt and Peter Sabine with 117 points. The runners up were John Cardwell, Chris Cowan and Tim Dennis with 108 points.

I have had the pleasure of partnering, or rather being carried around by, Gilbert Ellacombe in four rounds of the Senior Winter Foursomes. We came up against the in-form Suresh Vara and Ian Taylor-Restell with his improved vision in the final on the afternoon of 12th March. It was a tense match until the 12th. Two superb tee shots on 13 and 14 followed by killer

putts on 15 and 16 saw Suresh and Ian home as worthy winners 3/2. A happy afternoon as shown in the photos.



Forthcoming events

Our first match takes place at the end of this month. We have a splendid fixture list. I have shared out captaincy duties to all Members of the Committee. We will try to ensure that everyone gets a chance to represent us.

It may seem a long way away but I should mention our Invitation Day on Wednesday 11th June. We are encouraged to invite a senior to play and lunch with us. It is a shotgun start. There will be decent prizes too.

Talking of shotgun starts there was a request at the AGM for another such event. Matt is hoping to allow us to have a shotgun start for a Grail later in the year perhaps in May.

In case you missed Simon Baker's recent email, work has started on the balcony. The path from the 18th has been blocked off as a result. Please be careful when crossing in front of the first tee and when driving off.

Nicholas Brown, Senior Men's Golf Chair