



THE OLD CLIFTONIAN SOCIETY CLIFTON COLLEGE

Old Cliftonian Golf Society – competition updates

Wimbledon Putter Competition: 6th – 9th June 2022

Unfortunately, the Clifton team had a last minute dropout and were unable to get a replacement in time and so went to the event with a team one short. The team comprised of Chris Carney, Jack Mann, and Will Evans. The Wimbledon Putter qualifier consists of 8 teams, with the top 2 teams going onto the final and the bottom 2 teams relegated for 2 yrs. The format is 18 holes individual putting competition against each school participating.

Given the team was one short, it was going to be an uphill task in order to not get relegated. With one game remaining, it looked like Clifton were going to scrape through and finish in 6th place, however, Downside defeated Millfield, which meant Clifton was tied in Joint 7th with Downside. This meant a Sudden Death playoff between Clifton and Downside was required to decide on the team to get relegated. Luckily, Clifton managed to win on the 7th extra hole!

Apparently, this is the first time ever a school has managed to stay up with only 3 people in the side.... Well done Clifton!

Round	Match	Score	Player	Score	Player	Score	Player	Score	Player	Score	Player	Score	Player	Score	Player	Score	Player
1st Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
2nd Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
3rd Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
4th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
5th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
6th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
7th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
8th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
9th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
10th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
11th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
12th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
13th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
14th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
15th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's
16th Round	1	1-2	Clifton	2-1	Downside	3-2	Millfield	4-3	St Albans	5-4	St Paul's	6-5	St George's	7-6	St Andrew's	8-7	St David's



Jack Mann

Veteran Darwin – 15th June 2022

Two foursomes teams represented Clifton in the Vet Darwin at Woking GC this year. As basically a scratch foursome competition, it was quite tough but all four members, Alan Mann, Geoff Clements, John Cottrell & Jeremy Bard had a splendid lunch and an enjoyable afternoons golf in perfect weather. Jeremy playing in his first competitive match for the OCs. Marlborough won the Cup & next year, hopefully we will do better!

Alan Mann

Senior Darwin 2022 - 30th June 2022

Of the 2021 team which lost in the Final, Robert Dyson was the one player who survived to 2022 and even he had feared the worst when admitted to Southmead Hospital, Bristol, in July 2021. Illness prevented Stephen Lapage (SH 1968) and John Willcocks (WaH 1971) from attending. Quentin Robey (WiH 1967) was injured and unable to play due to the “no buggy” rule. Family illnesses accounted for John Capper (WaH 1968) and John Dyson (SH 1966).

To all those who could not attend we wish them well.

We were, as a result, sadly unable to find the necessary 6 players to complete the team. The organisers were anxious, nevertheless, for us to take part so we fielded 2 pairs. Many thanks are owed to David Rowe who has taken on the challenging task of identifying and selecting the Clifton team.

First pair was Robert Dyson (SH 1968) Captain of Fives; and Michael Barry (BH 1974) whose father and grandfather had both been on the teaching staff at Clifton and who spent his holidays at Glenalmond School where his father was subsequently a housemaster. Michael was understandably nervous on his debut for Clifton but had the comfort of playing with a set of clubs he had performed with since his youth. His 3 wood had a wooden face, the shaft of which had spent many hours being lovingly attended to in A & E.

Second Pair was Chris Symons QC (SH 1967) Captain of Tennis, Rackets and Rugby in 1966/7 and still working as an arbitrator; and Martin Lockyer (ET 1971) who was in the unbeaten Rugby XV of 1970 and Captain of Cricket in 1970 and 1971, but no great aficionado of foursomes golf and still working as a GP. The Senior Darwin being a scratch competition they received no shots, when otherwise they would have received at least 10.

The course at Woking was in excellent condition and much enjoyed by Barry and Lockyer, both playing it for the first time. The pin positions could not have been more challenging, though mercifully someone had had the common sense to raise the height of cut of the mowers. Highgate's opening drive on a short par 4 ended up on the green about 15 feet away from the hole. That set the tone for the day and Clifton never looked like making a contest of it. Apart from being outclassed it was an enjoyable, hot and sunny day (24C).

Robert Dyson

Bernard Darwin – 30th June 2022

On another lovely day at Woking Golf Club, we played Harrow, who we last played in the final in 2016. Our team was made up of Simon Brewer and Chris Trembath off top, Robert and Peter Dyson at second pair and bringing up the rear Michael Barry and David Rowe.

This is a scratch foursomes' competition, and we were due on average at least 5 strokes per game. Whilst the result seemed likely to be academic in fact it proved to be closer with Simon and Chris losing 3/2 their opponents having to hole several 15 footers to win holes; Robert not quite managing to extract revenge after being distracted by having to hole out from 1 foot putt at the first and David and Michael about to go one up with 3 to play and offering a half as the overall match was lost and it had started to rain.

As ever we saw a lot of old friends and made some new ones. Over a very good lunch we had a lot of things to reminisce about, both re Clifton and with other schools. The plate competition was played in glorious sunshine and was enjoyed by all, and we look forward to next year doing better and, hopefully, not to be scrabbling around for a team at the last moment.

My thanks to Robert and Peter for standing in and wishing those who were off games for the event a speedy recovery.

David Rowe



Below, from left:

Michael Barry BH, Simon Brewer ET, Chris Trembath ST, David Rowe OH, Peter Dyson SH, Robert Dyson SH