

ORKNEY GOLF CLUB REGAIN THE WILSON CUP

Orkney Golf Club's Wilson Cup team, made up of the top four players throughout this season, comprehensively regained the Wilson Cup which was played for over Saturday and Sunday at Dale Golf Club in Shetland.

The team of Michael Schinkel, Steven Rendall, Lee Findlay and Steven Walls did the club proud over the weekend. Drawn in a tough group with Stromness, Thurso and Shetland golf clubs, the Orkney lads played some stunning golf on Saturday defeating the auld enemy Stromness, by 12 holes in the morning. This was followed up by an excellent victory over Thurso by 15 holes

This set up a "winner takes all" final group game on Sunday morning against the hosts Shetland. In a much tighter match, the Orkney lads sneaked home by two holes to set up a final against Lybster Golf Club, who themselves had stunned defending champions Reay in their final group match to make the final.

The final itself was another tight affair but both the pairings from Kirkwall eventually came out on top with Steven Rendall and Lee Findlay winning two up and Michael Schinkel and Steven Walls going one better, winning three up for a final victory by five shots.

The Orkney Golf Club boys did the club and themselves proud and would like to thank all the other clubs for making this such a special competition. Especially thanks to hosts, Shetland Golf Club for their excellent hospitality over the weekend.

Nearer home, last Monday saw the July seniors medal played. Eighteen player's took part. Andy Kemp was third with 31 stableford points, second was Stephen Hagan on 33, but winning the medal on a steady 36 points, was Bruce Sutherland.

Wednesday then saw the first round of the Flotilla Cup played in very average weather with a strong south westerly and some heavy rain. Thirty nine played, all looking for a decent first round in pursuit of one of the most sought after internal cups.

Darren Tait and Robbie Norquoy led the way with nett 67s, with Pete McKinlay and Stevie Linklater a further shot behind on 68s. A further 10 player's were also within five shots.

Saturday's second round had 33 playing in improving weather with less wind and only light showers.

Keith Nicol secured third spot with a total of 138, just pipping Pete McKinlay on countback, while Gordon Mulrairie's stunning run of six three's in a row from the second hole, saw him shoot up the leaderboard into second spot with 136 and the best round of 65 on the day

But winning by two clear shots on 134, with an excellent second round of 66 nett to follow up his 68 and secure his first trophy in 8 years, was Stevie Linklater. Stevie's wins are so far between, he seemed to forget all about his winners speech! Hopefully he will get some more practice in the near future.

Sunday then saw the Centenary Cup up for grabs with 38 gents taking part in, once again, decent conditions with only a few light showers.

Pete McKinlay took third spot with a superb low gross 70 nett 67. Willie Marwick was left kicking himself as he missed a good chance for par on the last, for a gross 74 nett 64. This was pipped on countback by Dave Kirkpatrick, who's excellent gross 76 nett 64 (which included a birdie on the 2nd and 10 pars over the round) saw him lift the trophy.

Thankfully Dave remembered how a presentation goes and thanked everyone involved including Vice Captain Derek Robb, the bar staff and greenstaff.

This week coming sees the July medal played on Wednesday 10th and a sweep on Friday 12th. This is followed by another sweep on Wednesday 17th and the Low's Open on Saturday the 20th.

Entries are also open for the main event of the year the 36 hole Kirkwall Open which is played on Saturday 27th of July.

PD HOOK