

Kent Pearson Trophy Finals Day Report

Cherry Lodge Golf Club Thursday 20th June 2024



The sun was already shining for us at Cherry Lodge Golf Club as the teams arrived. The course looked amazing and was topped off with the Pearson Flags on each green.

Everyone started off the day with bacon/egg rolls with the captains busy swapping team lists so cards could be completed.

The 4 semi-finalists teeing off alternately from 8am were Birchwood Park v Shooters Hill and West Malling v Sene Valley.

Past Captain Richard Watson was our starter for the morning ably assisted by his wife, past Ladies Captain and Vice Captain Jo Dourof. Each player was then given a Cherry Lodge bag tag as a memento for the day.



The scores were recorded after the 8th hole with Shooters Hill taking an early lead being 4 matches up against Birchwood Park but with everything to play for. Whereas Sene Valley were only 2 matches up against West Malling with 4 other matches being all square.

Birchwood Park were the first to have matches to a conclusion with 2 wins, but then there was a win for Shooters Hill. Birchwood then came back with another win meaning they were now leading 3 matches to 1. Shooters Hill continued to battle it out with another win with the next match. This semi-final was brought to a conclusion with Birchwood Park winning another match giving them the 4 wins required to go through to the final.



Shooters Hill

In the other semi-final, Sene Valley took an early lead with wins for the first 3 matches, but West Malling had the next win. The majority of the matches were going down the 16th and 17th holes so a real battle was being fought. However, Sene Valley dug in and managed their 4th win to bring it to a conclusion.



West Malling



Cherry Lodge provided an excellent buffet lunch which was enjoyed by players, caddies, supporters and officials.

It was now time for the Final with Birchwood Park v Sene Valley.

Birchwood took an early lead being 5 matches up after the 8th hole. The majority of the games were very close which made for a very exciting final.

The first result arrived with a win to Birchwood closely followed with a win to Sene Valley. Updates on the scores were then coming in fast and furious as match 3 was all square after the 15th, match 4 all square after the 13th, match 7 all square after the 12th.

Was it now time for another result with match 3 going down the 18th with Birchwood being 1 up? Yes, Birchwood held their nerve winning that match but it was closely followed by match 4 with a win for Sene Valley.

So now both teams had 2 wins and the tension was beginning to build. Matches 5 and 6 both teed off the 18th, again with Birchwood being 1 up while match 7 was brought to a finish on the 17th with a win to Birchwood.

Match 6 brought the battle to a conclusion with Birchwood holding their nerve resulting in the last win that they required to win the Trophy.

It truly was a very exciting Final and congratulations to both teams in getting this far.



Sene Valley



Birchwood Park

We would like to thank Jon Vail and Cheryl Power from the team of Kent Golf Referees for giving up their time, being on hand all day assisting and advising with rulings.

We would also like to thank Anne Mills, Chair of the Inter Counties Committee for attending and presenting the trophies.

I would personally like to thank Karen Taylor (previous Kent Manager) and Sally Cooper-Parry (Surrey Pearson Manager) for supporting Lynn to enable me to play for Shooters Hill in the Semi-Finals.

Cherry Lodge were the perfect hosts presenting an excellent course and facility with Brian and Marisa ensuring everything went to plan.

We look forward to the Pearson Inter Counties Finals at Hindhead Golf Club on Thursday 18th July where Kent will be represented by Birchwood Park.

We are sure they will do their utmost to bring the Pearson Trophy back to Kent, and of course all supporters will be very welcome.

Thank you all for your continued support in the Pearson Trophy which only can exist with you all taking part.

Helen and Lynn



CONGRATULATIONS! Team Birchwood Park: Kent Pearson Trophy Winners
2023/24