

## **SO NEAR – AND THEN A LAST MINUTE REPRIEVE .....**

**Test Valley, near Overton and just off the A303 before its junction with the M3, was the venue for our match against Hampshire Past Captains on Wednesday 13 July.**

**An absolutely glorious day – maybe a bit humid but with a touch of breeze at times.**

**This was in the middle of the July heatwave and Test Valley was a new venue for many of us.**

**The clubhouse was beautifully airy and we were greeted at lunch by the Test Valley Captain, John Wotherspoon, before the respective team captains – George Harris and Jim Donald announced the teams.**

**Duly refreshed, our Captain led his troops onto the first tee determined to wrest the shield back from our hosts after a tie last year.**

**Test Valley is a lovely undulating course built in early 1990s. The fairways were admittedly a bit parched but the greens were very good and true. And bar, the passing trains on the main London rail line, it is a beautifully quiet setting in some glorious Hampshire countryside.**

**Our Captain and his teammate were the perfect guests bowing out gracefully to their hosts, before a run of three wins in the following four matches, gave the Wiltshire team an early lead.**

**But, as our Captain was beginning to write his winning speech, regretfully it all began to go downhill.**

**Never count your chickens is the old motto and this proved to be so true as our next three matches all went down to some comfortable defeats.**

**So, it was all down to the final match and John Charles and Pete Russell came home in triumph to ensure the match day spoils were shared.**

**Thus it was that Hampshire Past Captains retain the trophy but, a half away from home is always a good result. Congratulations to Hampshire and we will be looking to regain the winning position in 2023.**

**A shower and a change, a much needed drink or two and then it was through to the club dining room for a lovely and very filling two course meal – steak pie with all the trimmings and blackberry and apple crumble. Generous portions and great service.**

**Toasts to each team were given, and photographs taken before the two Captains addressed the assembled players. As ever, a great day, with golf played in the very best of friendships – and, as they say – 'it's the taking part that counts'.**

**Then it was farewell to our Hampshire friends and back to the car for a return trip to Wiltshire.**

**My thanks to all who played and to nearly getting us home to a victory. Next year!!**

**Jim Murdoch  
Match Secretary**

# Hampshire Golf Captains v Wiltshire Golf Captains

## Order of Play

**Date: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022 Venue: Test Valley G C**

Match	Hampshire G C	Wiltshire G C	WGC Result
1	<b>George Harris 10.9</b> Weybrook Park GC Hampshire Captain	<b>Jim Donald 10.9</b> Kingsdown GC WGC Captain	L 5/3
	<b>John Wotherspoon 8.2</b> Captain Test Valley GC	<b>Andy Holyoake 16.9</b> Cumberwell Park GC	
2	<b>Brian Homersham 25.5</b> Sandford Springs GC President, Hampshire Captains	<b>Neil Timbrell 7.1</b> The Wiltshire GC	W 2/1
	<b>Paul Child 16.0</b> Burley GC	<b>Gary Leighfield 14.4</b> Ogbourne Downs GC	
3	<b>David Dyson 28.0</b> Hampshire Match Manager Royal Winchester GC	<b>Jim Murdoch 9.1</b> High Post GC Match Secretary	W 2/1
	<b>Trevor Sharp 13.1</b> Lee-on-the-Solent GC	<b>Ray Smith 18.3</b> The Wiltshire GC	
4	<b>Roger Corkill 25.5</b> Dummer GC Vice Captain, Hampshire Captains	<b>John Hawley 18.7</b> Hamptworth GC	W 2/1
	<b>John Smythe 14.8</b> Test Valley GC	<b>Paul Ford 11.0</b> Salisbury & South Wilts GC	
5	<b>Andy Houlst 5.4</b> Stoneham GC	<b>Robin Kingston 7.1</b> Upavon Park GC	L 5/4
	<b>John Pope 20.4</b> Oak Park GC	<b>Steve Powers 19.1</b> Wrag Barn GC	
6	<b>Mike Kelly 15.4</b> Hockley GC	<b>Dave Ruffett 16.3</b> Erlestoke GC	L 8/7
	<b>Eamonn O'Rourke 22.9</b> The Army GC	<b>Steve Smith 3.7</b> The Wiltshire GC	
7	<b>Ken Jones 11.6</b> Royal Winchester GC	<b>Ian Vincent 16.7</b> Upavon GC	L 6/4
	<b>Eamonn Shiels 37.1</b> Weybrook Park GC	<b>Geoff Titt 12.7</b> West Wilts GC Vice President WGC	
8	<b>Tom Smith 24.1</b> Andover GC	<b>John Charles 19.8</b> Hamptworth GC	W 3/2
	<b>Phil Bryant 25.7</b> Bramshaw GC	<b>Pete Russell 18.0</b> Chippenham GC	

**Hampshire GC 4 v 4 Wiltshire GC**



