

# Shropshire & Herefordshire Golf Captains v Wiltshire Golf Captains

## Order of Play

**Date: Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018      Venue: Kington G C**

Match	Team: Shropshire & Herefordshire G C	H/cap	Team: Wiltshire GC	H/cap	WGC Result
1	<b>David Barlass</b> Market Drayton <i>Captain S &amp; H</i>	10	<b>Andy Hatter</b> Ogbourne Downs <i>Captain WGC</i>	11	<b>L</b> 2/1
	<b>Amrit Singh</b> Arscott G C	13	<b>Stuart Knight</b> Upavon	15	
2	<b>John Devereux</b> Herefordshire	14	<b>Ian Lund</b> Kingsdown	15	<b>W</b> 1 up
	<b>Brian Dando</b> Mile End	15	<b>Hemant Patel</b> Wrag Barn	17	
3	<b>Fred Crouch</b> Mile End <i>Match Secretary</i>	11	<b>Jim Murdoch</b> High Post <i>Match Secretary</i>	7	<b>L</b> 4/2
	<b>Melvyn Lea</b> Herefordshire	13	<b>Wally Bryson</b> Wrag Barn	17	
4	<b>Mike Kavanagh</b> Market Drayton	18	<b>Ian Mitchell</b> The Wiltshire	10	<b>W</b> 5/4
	<b>Chris Griffiths</b> Shrewsbury	14	<b>Barrie Reardon-Smith</b> Marlborough	18	
5	<b>Martin Statham</b> Bridgnorth	17	<b>June Poffley</b> North Wilts	16	<b>W</b> 8/7
	<b>Wref Digings</b> Belmont	16	<b>Neil Patch</b> Marlborough	6	
6	<b>Clive Jones</b> Hill Valley	24	<b>Robin Kingston</b> Upavon	7	<b>W</b> 2/1
	<b>Alan Lewis</b> Market Drayton	9	<b>Ian Pearson</b> Wrag Barn	20	
7	<b>Bob Goff</b> Oswestry	21	<b>Gordon Blagborough</b> Upavon	22	<b>L</b> 5/3
	<b>Roy Fox</b> Kington	18	<b>Tony Leach</b> Marlborough	22	
8	<b>Alan Standring</b> Belmont	21	<b>Tony Whittaker</b> Ogbourne Downs	19	<b>L</b> 2/1
	<b>Peter Turner</b> Oswestry	15	<b>Howard Thompson</b> Kingsdown	12	

**Shropshire & Herefordshire GC    4    v    4    Wiltshire GC**

**Match Secretaries:    Fred Crouch**

**Jim Murdoch**

**We were told it is the highest course in England, and certainly as we drove up, and up and up the single track road to the clubhouse and course, you got the impression that this was going to be true.**

**This was emphasised even more so when we were looking out of the lounge window at the first hole which seemed to be straight on up the hill again. Reassuringly there were no signs of oxygen masks on the tee!**

**Kington Golf Club was the venue for our match against Shropshire & Herefordshire on Thursday 10 May and it was, I think, a new venue for all of us from down south.**

**Firstly I must thank all of the WGC team. I have been a Club Rep for 15 years and I think this is the first time that all 16 players selected at outset, actually played on the day – not one call off – making my life much easier.**

**After a nice welcome and lunch of soup and sandwiches and the introduction of the players for each match, it was off to the 1<sup>st</sup> tee to watch the progress of Captain Andy and Stuart Knight leading the way alongside David Barlass, the S&H Captain and his partner Amrit Singh.**

**Fortunately, the day was bright and breezy – probably difficult not to be breezy up there. But, the views were absolutely stunning. I was told that on a very clear day, you could see the Severn Bridge. It wasn't quite clear enough, but you really could see for miles – and the Welsh border was just down the valley.**

**The land is owned by The National Trust and is populated by sheep, and badgers. We saw plenty of the first, and evidence of the second.**

**Once you have got over the altitude sickness on the 1<sup>st</sup> green, you have mostly reached the summit of the course and there were some very good and testing holes, with the wind always a significant factor.**

**The fairways were tight (sheep cropped) and, although the greens were firm and fast, they seemed to putt fairly smoothly. Local knowledge is more than an advantage up there.**

**As for the match, after two early losses, things were not looking promising, but then WGC won three matches in a row to take the lead only for the remaining two matches to succumb.**

**So honours all square, with the trophy remaining in WGC hands, as the holders. Next year's return match is at High Post G C on Tuesday 14 May.**

**After the customary glasses of red, white or amber liquids, we were all treated to a lovely meal in the dining room which overlooks the 18<sup>th</sup> green – which is driveable down hill par 4, as Robin Kingston demonstrated. I suspect there have been a few broken windows over the years.**

**Speeches and thanks were given with Andy proudly stating that, as Captain, he had yet to play in bad weather and, that he had yet to win – both as the team Captain and as first match. No worries there, Andy – the only way is up!**

**Overall, a great day on a course that I think we all enjoyed and was not actually too tiring – but maybe not one to rush off to on a cold winter's day.**

**Jim Murdoch**  
**Match Secretary**

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