

Gloucester and Somerset PGA Chairman David Haines (Brean) and Daryl Kelley (Filton) tied for top spot in the final G&S Pro Am of 2009 at Long Sutton in Somerset. They were the only two players to beat the par of 71 as 20 teams contested the longest running Pro Am on the G&S schedule. Although the date was almost a month later than usual the players found the course in excellent condition despite the recent heavy rain to hit the area. It is also very noticeable that each and every year we return that improvements have been made to the course and layout.

Haines, who also runs Burnham Golf Range, started from the 10th tee and after nine holes stood at two over par as three bogies and a solitary birdie showed on his card. Over the front nine holes it was a different story though as he took advantage of the birdie chances that the front nine affords. Birdies at the 3rd, 5th, 6th and 8th joined 5 pars to enable him to break 70 and put him in pole position in the clubhouse for much of the day. Kelley playing in the final group also started from the 10th tee and continued his recent good run of form. He like Haines turned at 2 over after bogies at his opening hole and the 17th. A birdie at the second was followed by an eagle at the 3rd as he moved under par. A shot was given back at the short but tricky par 4 5th hole before consecutive birdies at the 6th and 7th ensured he would get a share of first place on the day. Third place was also shared as the consistent Trevor Jones (Hambrook) matched par as did John Goymer (Wheathill) who didn't let his impending fatherhood affect his steady golf. Steve Ritchie (Farrington) was 5th on 72 whilst Andrew March (Brean) rounded out the top 6 on 73.



left to right, Andrew Hayes, David Haines with son Ben & Daryl Kelley

Haines also managed to lead home the winning team in what proved to be a successful day for the Brean contingent playing. A couple of late replacements were drafted in to complete the quartet but they dovetailed perfectly on the day to record a 14 under total of 128. Brean members Mike Porter, Tony Roper and Bob Champion were the men in form and they were accompanied by David's 6 year old son, Ben, on the way round who acted as the team caddy to good effect. In second place were a team from the home club and they only missed out on first place on countback over the back nine holes. Pete Burch, Nigel Phillips and Paul Watts were joined by Trevor Jones as they matched the 14 under total posted by the winners. Another countback was required to settle a tie for third place. Stuart Clark and his team from Orchardleigh just did enough on the homeward run to edge out Andrew March's team consisting of Long Sutton members Barry Harding, Alan Webber and Richard Bartin.



left to right, Hayes, Haines, Tony Roper & Ben, Mike Porter and Bob Champion

The G&S PGA are very grateful for the support that Long Sutton Golf Club show in hosting this event annually and they would like to thank Gareth Harding for this. Club Professional Andrew Hayes also deserves a Thank You as he did much of the organisation work for the event, whilst Jill Goble expertly ran it on the day for the G&S PGA. All involved hope the event will continue to grow and improve in 2010.