

The G&S PGA team suffered a defeat in its first ever match against their Devon counterparts at Royal North Devon. The side captained by John Goymer went down by the score of 9 ½ to 5 ½ to a strong Devon team who took full advantage of playing on their home turf.

As expected with the quality of the players in both sides, good golf was in abundance throughout the day. The morning's matches were played in the foursomes format with G&S PGA ending the session 3-2 down. The G&S points came from David Haines and George Ryall who had a one hole victory over RND Pro Iain Parker and Ashley Moon and also from Steve Ritchie and Trevor Jones. They won by a margin of 3 and 1 over their opponents.

Being one behind at the mid way point G&S really needed to get off to a fast start in the afternoon singles. Unfortunately this was not to be the case and the top three matches all went Devon's way taking them to the brink of victory. David Haines completed an unbeaten day for him in the fourth match with a 2&1 victory over Barry Austin to raise hopes of a fightback but the next two matches both went to Devon meaning they had secured the win on the day. The winning point for them came in the battle of the Captains as Andy Norman edged out Goymer on the last. This was one of 5 matches which were decided on the final hole throughout the day with unfortunately the majority of them going Devon's way. The final few matches made the scoreline more respectable as Kevin Pitts gained a half before comfortable wins for Giuseppe Licata and Russ Berry but the bottom match gained another Devon point leaving the final score at 9 ½ to 5 ½ . The match was very competitive but played in a good spirit and hosted superbly by Royal North Devon Golf Club in what is hoped will now become an annual event. The players all enjoyed the post match meal where the planning for the return fixture in 2010 started. After the Captains' speeches a cheque for £500 was handed over to the Devon PGA as their reward for the day, although it was stated that it was only a loan until next year!

G&SPGA Team



Results (G&S PGA first)

Foursomes

Goodwin/Goymer lost to Mason/Milne 4&3
Ryall/Haines bt Parker/Moon 1 hole
Berry/March lost to Austin/Norman 1hole
Pitts/Licata lost to Holman/Hendriksen 2&1
Ritchie/Jones bt Curl/Arnold 3&1

Singles

Ryall lost to Mason 1 hole
Jones lost to Moon 2&1
March lost to Milne 5&4
Haines bt Austin 2&1
Goodwin lost to Parker 3&2
Goymer lost to Norman 1hole
Pitts halved with Hendriksen
Licata bt Holman 4&2
Berry bt Curl 3&2
Ritchie lost to Arnold 6&5