

WATSON WINS AGAIN AT FARRINGTON

Course record holder Michael Watson turned on the style once again to win Farrington pro-am for the fourth time in a row.

"I love playing here and would like to play here all the time," was his predictable comment at the prize-giving.

This time he shot four-under-par 68 – five shots higher than his remarkable round in 2007 – but it was enough to earn a one-stroke advantage over Ian Brown (Newent) with Mark Sanders (Stockwood Vale) and Ross Langdon (Gloucester) a further stroke back.

The Wessex Golf Centre professional from Weymouth, who always guests in the Gloucester and Somerset PGA event, has become a course specialist.

After his success he said: "I like the lay-out and was delighted with the high quality of the greens although there are many tricky slopes and borrows to make you think. The course gets better every year and I always enjoy the good company."

Yet Watson made the worst possible start by dropping a shot at each of the opening two holes. But he swiftly made amends with birdies at 4, 5 and 7 followed by an eagle three at the ninth. He added further birdies on the 11th and 18th.

West Region PGA champion Brown posted a similar three-under opening nine of three-under 33 with birdies at 1,4,7 and 9 with a bogey at the long par-four sixth. He also lapsed on the par-five 13th but regained the shot at the short par-four 14th

But Watson could only take the second place in the team section this time – helped by Somerset's 15-year-old county champion Michaela Chivers and his team regulars Steve Coles and Paul Cummings.

Gloucester's Ross Langdon led Dave Millington, James Allen and Andy Vaughan into top spot.

Farrington director of golf Jonathan Cowgill shot 74 and led his regular team of Simon Wellington, John Gregory and George Hobbs into third place.

He said: "It was another excellent day for the club and it was heartening for us all to hear so many favourable comments about the course and the many improvements we are making."

Pro individual result:

68 -4 Michael Watson (Wessex Golf Centre) £343

69 Ian Brown (Newent) £271

70 Mark Sanders (Stockwood Vale), Ross Langdon (Gloucester) £190

72 Russell Berry (Cleeve Hill), Kevin Pitts (Mendip) £135

73 Nick Mills (Woodspring), Andrew March (Brean) £99

74 Jonathan Cowgill (Farrington) £72

75 Ross Jones (Bath), Paul Deeprose (Windwhistle) £58

76 John Goymer (Mendip), Daniel White (Players),Daryl Kelley (Filton)

Team:

126 -18 Ross Langdon (Gloucester, £75), Dave Millington, handicap 12, James Allen 15, Andy Vaughan 10,

128 Michael Watson (Wessex Golf Centre, £63), Steve Coles 10, Michaela Chivers 3, Paul Cummings 5,

129 Jonathan Cowgill (Farrington, £50), Simon Wellington 10, John Gregory 20, George Hobbs 6,

131 Daryl Kelley (Filton), James Parker 4, Norman Burrows 10, Peter Peachey 15.