

The end of the long winter haul

THIS weekend saw the climax of both the ladies and men's winter league competitions.

Tina goes so close

The ladies' competition was the first to be completed when Round 13 was played on Saturday morning. The result is calculated from the best five of the 13 individual stableford scores and in last week's edition we pointed out that after 12 rounds Jane Brackenbury was leading the way with 162 points followed by Gale McAuley with 154 and Tina Mulford on 150 and that somebody would have to play really well in the final round to wrest the title from Jane.

Tina Mulford so nearly did it scoring 38 points, seven shots clear of Sian Soanes who took second place on the day.

With only 29 points Jane did not add to her total of 162 but Tina took her score to 160 so missing out on the title by just

two points. Gale scored 31 points on Saturday to earn third place on the day and in the overall competition.

The final scores were: Jane Brackenbury 162 points, Tina Mulford 160 and Gale McAuley 157. Just five points covering the top three after 13 rounds that's some comp ladies.

Kevin and Chopper take men's title

The men's competition was finished in summer-like weather on Sunday when they played a dreaded multiplier.

This is a format that exaggerates a good and bad round to an extent that it can make a mockery of a leader board and the result of the six round competition is invariably in doubt until the final Sunday.

Going into the last round, Kevin Hopwood and John (Chopper) Harris with 235

points held a seven point lead over Mark Ramos and Degga Smith with Tony Athawes and Luke Prestoe on 227 and Jason Kendal and Garry Postlethwaite a further shot back in fourth spot.

Garry Dixon and Kevin Holland won on Sunday with 85 points followed by Dan Taylor and Lloyd Ponsford who returned 81 points.

Our overall leaders however came third with 78 for a total of 313 points while Mark and

Degga's finish on 64 was enough to secure runners-up spot with 292.

There was a tie for third place just one shot behind between Jason Kendal and Garry Postlethwaite and Dan Taylor and Lloyd Ponsford with Dan and Lloyd rewarded for a great knock on Sunday to climb from 14th position to claim third spot overall.

Congratulations to our prizewinners and all those who played throughout the winter.



Winter winners: Tina, Jane and Gale



Winter League winners Kevin and Chopper who chooses an unusually conservative shirt for the pic.

*On TTNB Page 2 this week:
An update on M4 Winter League
What's on at West Berks
Tina claims photography prize*

Many thanks to the Hopwood Ash Financial Planning Consultancy for printing this bulletin

Please send items that you would like to be considered for the bulletin to Dave Ware at: ttnb.wbgc@gmail.com
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M4 Winter League Update

WBGC one win away from extending its impressive record in this fast growing competition

OUR SENIORS gained a half away at Donnington Grove in the M4 Seniors Winter League yesterday, February 25, and as Sand Martins lost at Calcot Park it means that a win against Sanford Springs at home next Monday will clinch top spot in the Nonsuch division.

It's worth taking stock and considering the remarkable growth of the league and the impressive part that West Berks has played in its short history.

The league was formed in 2013/2014 with ten member clubs forming two divisions. WBGC was a founder member coming second in our league that year.

In its second year, 2014/2015, the league doubled in size with 20 clubs forming four divisions. Under the leadership of Brian Davis, who was the driving force in us joining the competition, we became champions.

We were unbeaten throughout a ten-match campaign and then beat Badgemore Park in the final at Calcot Park in April 2015. It was a close run thing with our last pairing of Tony Coventry and Bob Patten winning their match 4 and 3 to half

the tie 2-2. Tony's par on the first extra hole clinched the win and the trophy.

The following year, 2015/2016, we again won our division but lost in the semi-final away to Castle Royale. We were back to winning ways in 2016/17 however when we became the first and, to date, only club to win the trophy twice.

Led by Malcolm Thwaites, the final was a tense affair against West Middlesex at Richings Park when Rob Bridgeman, playing with Ray Pithers in the last match, putted dead from the fringe of the 18th green, a feat that could not be matched by their rivals and so the match was won 2½ to 1½.

We made it to the semi-final again in 2017/2018 when, with Dave Gentleman now captain, we lost to Badgemore Park on the first extra hole of the final game.

The league has continued to grow each year and now boasts a membership of 48 clubs in eight divisions.

Let's hope we can add to our impressive record this year starting with Sandford Springs on Monday next.

Coming up at West Berks

February

Wed 27 Men: Midweek Stableford

March

Sat 2 Men: Stableford

Ladies: Monthly Medal

Sun 3 Men: Monthly Medal

Mon 4 M4 League v Sandford Springs (H)

Tue 5 Ladies: Monthly Stableford

Thu 7 Men: Midweek Medal

Sat 9 Ladies: Spring Stableford

Sun 10 Men: Spring Competition

Tue 12 Men: Midweek Stableford

Ladies: Midweek Medal

Sat 16 Men: Stableford

Mixed: Chappell Cup

Sun 17 Men: Spring Competition

Wed 20 Men: Midweek Stableford

Sat 23 Winter League away weekend

Mixed: Chappell Cup

Sun 24 Winter League away weekend

Men & Ladies: Fun Competition



Tina Mulford, winner of the TTNB Autumn Glory photographic competition is presented with a bottle of fine wine, sponsored by Hopwood Ash Financial Planning Consultancy and presented by Kevin Hopwood. Well done Tina and many thanks to all participants.

We intend to make it an annual event with a different topic each year.