

ESSEX COUNTY NEWS
28 April 2008

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SPRING has SPRUNG AT LAST!

Kent versus Essex played at Walmer and Kingsdown Golf Club on Saturday, 26th April 2008.
Result: Kent 6 Essex 9.

The Kingdown Golf Club celebrates its centenary in 2009 and boasts a course on which the sea can be seen from every tee. Situated a top the white cliffs of Dover, for the first time this year the sun shone and the breeze was gentle and warm. At last it was a pleasure to be out on the course.

Mike Spall, team manager, reports:

The annual friendly against Kent was held at the picturesque setting of Walmer & Kingsdown Golf Club overlooking the English Channel just above Deal. Although not the most fashionable Golf Club in the area this provided a stern test for the Essex Team who spent the morning foursomes coming to terms with the sloping fairways and the greens which were cut in the side of the hills.

The morning foursomes was a tale of local knowledge making the difference for in the first game Jack Clarke and Tom Ogan were up against a local Member in Ed Cannons and this proved the decisive element to this game. The Essex management were reasonably satisfied that they were only 3 games to 2 down at lunch with all to play for in the singles.

The afternoon was a closely fought affair with the Essex Team gradually pulling clear of the inexperienced Kent side. For most of the afternoon Essex were ahead or level in all games with Jack Winer in commanding form in the last game. As it came towards the close Jack Clarke ran out a winner over the local player and Andy May was playing fine golf and was 5 under par when he concluded his game at the 15th green. Many of the matches seemed to go to the 18th where the Kent boys felt the pressure and pushed their balls out of bounds on the right of the fairway. Jack Winer concluded his game with a 6 up and 5 holes to play victor and both he and Ross Spurgeon were the only two players to win both games. New boy Dan White, winner of the Keating Trophy managed a highly respectable 2 halves in his first game for the Full County side.

KENT versus ESSEX
played at
WALMER & KINGSDOWN GOLF CLUB – 26th April 2008

Morning Round – Foursomes

KENT	Points	Score	Points	ESSEX
Ed Cannons & Dan Brown	1	5&3	-	Jack Clarke & Tom Ogan
Darren Timms & Ryan Boynes	½	a/s	½	Adam Burwood & Daniel White
Billy Britton & Liam Harper	-	2&1	1	Ross Spurgeon & Jack Winer
Michael Saunders & Jordan Godwin	½	a/s	½	Martin Blake & Andy May
Jack Colegate & Charlie Wilson	1	3&2	-	Matt Southgate & Joe Galbraith
	3		2	

Afternoon Round - Singles

Ed Cannons	-	2&1	1	Jack Clarke (Chelmsford)
Dan Brown	-	4&3	1	Andy May (Boyce Hill)
Darren Timms	½	a/s	½	Daniel White (Chigwell)
Ryan Boynes	-	1 up	1	Ross Spurgeon (West Essex)
Billy Britton	1	2 up	-	Adam Burwood (Harwich & D'Court)
Liam Harper	½	a/s	½	Martin Blake (Thorpe Hall)
Jack Colegate	-	3&2	1	Matt Southgate (Thorpe Hall)
Charlie Wilson	-	2 up	1	Joe Galbraith (Rochford Hundred)
Michael Saunders	1	2&1	-	Tom Ogan (Braintree)
Jordon Godwin	-	6&5	1	Jack Winer (Woolston Manor)
Total Singles	3		7	
Total Foursomes	3		2	
MATCH TOTAL	6		9	

MIKE WINS ANOTHER NATIONAL AWARD

Colchester golfer Michael Hart, a life long Chelsea supporter and season ticket holder at Stanford Bridge will not be going to Moscow to see his team play in the European Cup Final on May 21st, instead he will be at Wentworth Golf Club to receive the annual Gallacher Award of the Golf Foundation for voluntary work at grass roots level for junior golf.

In March Mike received a similar award from the England Golf Partnership, and the Gallacher Award is the most prestigious presented to volunteers by the Golf Foundation – a charitable organisation set up many years ago to support young golfers in England.

The presentation will take place during the Pro-Am day of the BMW PGA Championship at the Wentworth club.

In congratulating Mike on his achievement, the President of the Essex Golf Union remarked: "Great news! As I have said before it couldn't have gone to a more deserving person. Mike's initiatives at grass roots level have been outstanding. The work he has done with schools and tri-golf have put him in the unique position for which this award has been granted.

"Essex golf in particular has benefited from all his work and since people outside of Essex tend to copy us I am sure the rest of English golf can watch and learn. The present award emphasises that significance."

ORDER OF MERIT

Key competitions in the County count towards the season's Order of Merit award and following the first competition, the Keating Qualifying and Knockout, the table is headed by **Martin Blake of Thorpe Hall with 36 points**. **Reece Phillips of West Essex** is second with 31 points and the Keating Trophy winner, **Daniel White of Chigwell** is third with 30 points. **Owen Pearl** of Colchester is lying in fourth position (29 points) and is followed by last year's Order of Merit Winner, **Ross Spurgeon** (West Essex) with 25 points.

ESSEX BOYS Under 18s versus The WARREN GC

Played at the Warren on Sunday 20th April 2008.

Result: Essex 15½ The Warren 2½

The County are always grateful to clubs who give their course to our County teams and provide practice under match conditions. The Warren golfers should not be too disappointed with the result since they were playing a group of boys who started their training in Spain in early March and who are being 'honed' into a team to challenge for the regional championship at Rookery Park at the end of May.

Steve Morrison, team manger, reports:

On a foggy morning at the Warren Golf Club the Essex U18 team took on the Warren Thornton Cup team in an annual fixture for the Warren Trophy. With The Warren having a number of their normal team away on holiday it was a chance for them to try some younger players and although putting up a spirited performance in the morning foursomes they could not match the much lower handicapped Essex Boys, finishing 6 - 0 to Essex. The afternoon singles continued in the same manner for Essex with good scoring from James Webber (Channels) (-3), Jay Beisser (Rochford) (-2) and Harry Eden (West Essex) (-1) being the pick of the performances. For The Warren there were notable wins for Andy Morrison and Will Dunn, with Jon Phillips gaining a half. The Final score was a 15 - 2 victory for Essex. At the presentation The Warren were thanked for hosting the match and for all the continued help they give to the county throughout the year.

CLUB TEAM COMPETITION RESULTS –

Leslie F Wood – 1st round results and 2nd round draw

Essex Seniors – 1st round results and 2nd round draw

Norman Plum Trophy – 1st round results and 2nd round draw

Thornton Cup – 1st round draw to be played, Sunday, May 4th

All the above are available on the County website (www.essexgolfunion.org)

COMING EVENTS

Day	Date	Event	Venue	Category
Sun	4 May	Thornton Cup – 1st Round		Club-team
Frid	9 “	Threadgill Trophy	Orsett GC	Order of Merit
Sun	11 “	Essex Colts v Middlesex Colts	Blakes	Colts SE League
Mon	12 “	Essex Seniors v Middlesex	Wanstead	SE League
Sat/S	17/18	Eastern Counties Foursomes	Seacroft	
Sun	18 May	LF Wood – 2nd round		Club-team
w/c	19 May	Essex Seniors team championships 2nd round		Club-team
w/c	19 May	Norman Plum Trophy – Round 2		Club-team
Sat	24 May	Chigwell Bowl & Colts Championship	Chigwell	Under 21s & U25s
Sun	25 May	Essex versus BB&O	Bentley	SE League
Mon	26 May	Under 16s Boys versus Norfolk	Lexden Wood	Boys County
Tues	27 May	Under 14s Boys v Beds/Norfolk/Suffolk	Western Park	Boys County
Frid	30 May	English Golf Union SE Group Boys qualifying	Rookery Park	SE Boys
Frid	30 May	Under 14s Boys versus Herts	Rochford	Boys County