

MATCH REPORT

South Kyme Rabbits 1.0 v 5.0 Boston Rabbits/C Team

9th June 2018 (Away)

On arrival we were met by none other than Dave Fensom at the bar and we started the day with an enjoyable Full English Breakfast.

The day was overcast but the rain kept away as did the winds.

Group 1: Myself (21) and Nick Milburn (17) played Captain Peter Keal (19) and Russ Delahoy (16), we took an early lead on the first hole from yours truly only for me to send my divot further than the ball on the second, fortunately Nick halved the hole and between us we stayed 1 up for the first 5 holes, halving the next 3 holes. Thereafter the wheels fell of the golf cart so to speak with Russ Delahoy showing his deadly short game skills and unfortunately Nick and I had nothing to offer thereafter as we both seemed to run out of energy early on, coupled with some bizarre shots off trees and stumps and a run of bad luck on the greens, that's golf for you.

We did however enjoy the company of Peter and Russ and had a good bit of banter throughout the match. This is one match that Nick and I will confine to distant memories and look to improve next time out. Especially having lost by 7 and 6, oh dear I think some training is called for!! Cheers Nick for your efforts as I know you were suffering with your foot.

Group 2: Alan Cowie (20) and Kim Williamson (23) played Steve Ash and Zak Watson (17). Alan and Kim lost the first hole to a five then went 3 down to pars at the next 2 holes. They won the next hole then drew the 5th only to lose the next hole to par. So they were 3 down after six holes and not looking good at all, Alan struggling to get the ball of the tee hitting 5 trees in 6 holes (I know the feeling well Alan, you're not alone).

The 7th hole Kim drives the ball just short of 225 yards, chips on and putts out for a birdie 3! They then lost the next hole and won the 9th, so 2 down at the turn.

On the 10th hole, once more Kim is driving well over 200 yards only for her chip into the bunker and draws the hole, once more another fabulous drive from Kim on the next 2 holes sees Kim level the match single handedly. The 13th and 14th holes we're halved and we lost the next hole, and once more Kim is keeping them in the game with a hard fought half on the 16th only to lose the match to a fantastic birdie on the 17th.

Despite our pair Losing the match 2 and 1 a great effort from Kim but let's not forget this was the lowest losing score. Well played guys.

Group 3: Mark Williamson (27) and Lorna Campbell (36) played Keith Kilburn (18) and Simon Woodcock (23). A par for the home team started them off well however a great net par on the par 3 second from Lorna had us all square. Mark finally woke up after spending most of the third on the beach and halved the 4th. With Boston playing very well and Simon in particular playing below his 23 handicap they were pleased to be only 1 down at the turn. The story continued with Boston taking 10, 12 and 13 with Mark matching Simon to halve 11, 14 and 15. We ran out of holes on 15 losing 4&3. A match that was much tighter than the score indicates and great banter from all.

Group 4: Andy Murton (26) and Yvonne Prior (32) played Shaun Stengal (18) and Will Britton (23). Andy Murton and Yvonne had a very enjoyable and friendly match against Shane and Will from Boston.

That man Will, playing off 23, had 10 pars along with 2 nett birdies. Apparently he's a footballer and only plays golf in the summer - and doesn't play many qualifiers sound familiar!

Andy and Yvonne both agreed that even if they had played their best possible golf, they still couldn't have won. After being 2 down after 9 holes they ended up losing 5 and 4. No problem guys well tried.

Group 5: Ian Pears (14) and Graeme Campbell (22) played Julian Miles (13) and Richard Thompson (21). Our boys started well with Ian halving the first hole, only to find themselves 1 down after the second, but the next three holes were tied.

The Boston pair pulled away on the 6th and 7th with a magnificent 2 on the par 4 - 7th by Julian. Ian and Graeme then managed to pull one back on the 9th. They were two down going into the back nine, and great play by Ian on the 10th allowed us to pull another shot back, taking it to 1 down.

Solid play by Boston saw them pull one back on the next hole, to push the SKGC pair back to 2 down. Ian and Graeme rallied over the next two holes, winning both to take the match to A/S on the 13th. Sadly, despite some fantastic play by Ian, Julian and Richard found their second wind and managed to win the next three holes giving them the 3 and 2 win. A thoroughly enjoyable days' golf with a good deal of banter and support flowing both ways. The Boston pair were in awe of

Ian's driving, and the battle between Ian and Julian was a pleasure to watch, but sadly on this occasion it was not quite enough to afford us the win. Brilliant effort guys against strong opposition.

Group 6: Okay bring in the A Team, the last grouping was Vice-Captain Dave Burrows (18) and Billy Campbell (16), who were playing John Gilchrist (19) and Mark Flinders (21).

It soon became apparent that both of their opponents had received 40 points whilst playing the previous day!!

Bill parred the first but Mark equalled his score, the first being Stroke Index-5, Mark had a shot; 1 down SK. A par on the second from Bill to level the match, Mark then made another PAR with a shot to win the third.

Things went off the boil on the 4th for Boston and Dave won the hole with a bogey 6 to go back all square. Two shared holes on par scores followed then by a Billy birdie on the 7th which put SK up 1. Mark then parred 8 to pull it back all square, we then halved 9 to remain even at the turn.

Bill and Mark both bogied the 10, but it was another shot hole for Mark; back to 1 down for SK. Bogey and Par halves followed then by Bill Par (Bill?) levelled the match once more, a halved par on 14 & 15 (15 was another shot hole for Mark) mean that the match was still all square at the 16th tee.

But Dave and Bill smashed their drives down the middle putting Boston under pressure, second shots went a little of course for Boston and Bill hit his second short of the green but down the middle; Dave then hit his 'shot of the day' to end up on the green in 2. Bill's 3rd hit the green and Dave putted up to leave a short 3 footer for a Birdie; Bill secured the hole with a 5 as the opposition were out of the hole. Dave birdied, for a SK 1 up. Boston were rattled and steady play from both SK players put additional pressure on Boston; both Bill and Dave parred the hole and they shook hands with a 2&1 win for SK. Of Marks 5 shots, he won them 3 and halved the other 2 of holes (I think there was reference to Marks 21 handicap my !)

What a result, this meant we didn't get whitewashed and I had great delight in having over £12 each to Dave and Bill, much to the consternation of the Boston Team!

Summary

We always knew this was going to be a difficult challenge for the Rabbits, so well done all a good team effort and especially to Dave and Bill. It will be interesting to see how the handicaps will be affected when the new system is introduced for playing harder courses.

We all had a lot of banter and enjoyed our rounds (despite most of the results),

Big thanks to the SK Team Captain Peter Keal and his team for their hospitality and company, and to Vice Captain Dave Burrows in more ways than one.

Let's see what our match against Gedney (Away) brings us next Saturday!

Many Thanks

Andy

Andy Davis

Rabbits Captain