

MATCH REPORT

South Kyme Rabbits 3.0 v 4.0 Gedney Hill

12th May 2018 (Home)

It is always a pleasure to entertain and play the 'hard to beat' Gedney Hill Team and prior to the match we were treated to a wonderful breakfast by Janet and her staff. The weather was very kind to us and we had a glorious sunny day to play.

Group 1: Myself and Billy Campbell played Captain Mo Parling and Chrissie Bennet and we had an hilarious round with laughter all the way round. For a change I largely held the fort in the front nine keeping it all square at the turn while Bill was honing his skills for the killer punch in the back 9. Mo was consistently scoring back to back pars and Chrissie was using divine intervention to bounce her wayward shots of all the trees! Despite this Bill and I then won 4 holes from the 11th to the 15th to seal a 3 and 2 win on the 16th. In true Billy Campbell form he birdied the 14th and left the ball a few inches from the pin with his fourth shot on the 15th to make it 3 up leaving me to par the 16th for a half and the win.

On the usual handshakes after the win I feigned a kiss on the cheek to Mo and his face was a picture to see and we all cracked up! We then played around on the last 2 holes with Chrissie and I attempting synchronised putting on the 17th only for them to crossover one another and both miss, then on the 18th I was giving a guard of honour with 3 pairs of shoes and a club shaft around the hole and I still missed!!

A big thanks to my playing partners (especially Bill) for a very enjoyable and memorable round.

Group 2: Andy Murton and Helen Kirschner played Neil Sargent and Pete Orbine and they stormed into a 4-hole lead after 5 holes, however the Gedney pairing managed to reduce this lead and the remaining holes were closely contested however our pairing had outstanding games with Andy sinking putts left, right and centre and in-form Helen clearing the rest with the match finishing 3 and 2 for South Kyme.

Well done guys for a superb round.

Group 3: Ian (Bionic) Pears and Mark Williamson played John Venters and Adrian Bishop, John was not a big hitter but a demon on and around the green. Adrian provided their firepower and together were a tough team to beat (aren't they all!).

Good banter was had by all and as usual Mark took flack on his handicap! The front 9 was evenly matched swinging either way and our boys were 1 down at the turn.

Fortified by the halfway house Ian was on a charge (he needed to get away early) and they soon took the initiative although still tight and they had turned it around to 1 up by the 15th, a birdie from Ian and a nett Eagle from Mark meant the worst result was a draw. They tried to throw the 17th away with two duff tee shots but again Ian pulled it out to save the half leaving our guys eventual winners at 2 and 1. Well done you two.

Meanwhile back at the Ranch and at 3 games up with 4 to go I am in the corner of the Club Office fist pumping and mouthing bring it on, oh dear.....! Talk about a False Dawn

Group 4: Pete Sivill and Steve Bailey played Roy Bennet and Tom Penning and according to Steve Pete played his heart out whilst he contributed in an advisory capacity utilising his motivational talents. I have pulled out a few snippets from Steve's 10 paragraph summary (similar style to Mark Harbin's and I thought I could yap lol! I will email everyone the full script, it's worth a read and a good laugh).

Our boys fell apart a bit at the end of the front 9! Going 3 down. Due to the lure of the Sausage Rolls and Pete's cake having turned their heads. Following the halfway house and said toilet (no more about that) they then set out to try and turn it around and Steve won the 12th and Pete had his crowning glory by birdieing the 14th.

Alas it went downhill thereafter and I will let you read the unabridged version of Steve's Documentary in due course!

Gedney eventually ran out winners 4 and 2 and despite the score line Steve and Pete had a whale of a time with Tom and Roy (or Tonto and Roy). Well played guys, all I can say is that I wish I was there as a spectator.

Group 5: Josef Kirschner and Yvonne Prior played Chris Hills (next year's Captain) and Ralph Ragosa which was a very friendly match. Chris played off 25 alongside Josef and Ralf played off 28 (that's a Gedney 28 if you get my gist!) and it was Ralf that won most of their holes and on the 5th his third shot went straight in the hole for a net 2!!! There's not much you can do against that! Josef and Yvonne were looking backwards searching for his 'Horse and Stetson'!

Gedney had a gross 44 on the front 9 and we kept it to a respectable 1 down however they continued their banditry on the back 9 and despite their best efforts Gedney won the match 4 and 3, well tried you two.

Group 6: Eric Woods and Nick Milburn played father and son pairing Dave Roberts and Kristian Roberts the latter of which I forewarned Eric and Nick about his handicap is 28 and he can play off 18 when in form!!

As was to be expected Eric and Nick at one point were 3 down and turned it around to 1 up but in the end their handicaps Both 28!!) ground them down and Gedney won the match 2 and 1 which was quite respectable given their abilities. As with everyone else their match was full of good banter and golf. Well played guys.

Group 7: The last grouping was Vice-Captain Dave Burrows and Paul Dudman who were playing Graham East and Andy (the Postman) Brereton). Our boys went 1 down on the first courtesy of a 25-foot par from Graham East, after going 2 Down Dave and Paul reversed the score to 3 up and Gedney then pulled 2 shots back to make it 1 up to SK on the 17th hole, unfortunately Paul had a blonde moment and left his putt short and failed to make the half (we've all done it).

It was all down to the 18th and despite a superb putt by Dave Burrows Gedney took the hole and won the match 1 up. Been there, done it and had the frustration!

Despite the result the guys enjoyed the banter and were unlucky, at least the score went to the wire, well fought match.

As always this was another difficult challenge for the Rabbits as we knew we would be up against it with Gedney So overall a very respectful result against strong opposition, so well done all a good team effort. In fact, Gedney asked us to add an additional pairing which we did and it made the difference for them, had we of played the 6 pairings the result would have been 3 – 3 (I am clutching at straws lol). However, I found out the secret to Gedney's recent success, they have a wager on their opponents by all putting in £2 per head and the highest winning margin(s) share the pot!!! Well guess what is going to happen at our return match at Gedney on June 16th! Game On!

The result aside, we all had a lot of banter with the Gedney Team and enjoyed our rounds (despite some of the results), especially given the glorious weather we were treated to.

We had a lot of favourable comments about the course and the greens are looking in good condition although they were certainly running quick.

A big thanks to Janet and her staff for a lovely breakfast and to Helen for organising the Halfway House (and Josef for his support), also to Pete and Jane Sivill for that delicious cake.

Last but not least as always my Vice Captain Dave Burrows for all his help and support and for organising all the Score Cards, cheers Dave and I am sorry I didn't give you the due credit in the Bar.

Many Thanks

Andy

Andy Davis

Rabbits Captain