

MATCH REPORT

South Kyme Rabbits 3.5 v 2.5 Sleaford C Team

18th July 2018 (Away)

This was the return fixture for the Rabbits against Sleaford C Team as is the norm at the moment the weather was very hot and the prolonged hot spell had taken its toll on Sleaford's Course with the entire course looking like something out of the Wild West in fact it was difficult to define the fairways from the rough as it all melded into a brown seamless barren landscape. It is amazing to see the difference between our course which has a lot of green still on and around the fairways and Sleaford's!

Group 1: Myself (21) and our illustrious Club Captain Gary (16) played Captain Al Pearson (20) and Bryan Smith (16).

We started our round by going 1 down at the first hole even though both Gary and I parred the hole! I then parred the 2nd hole for a net Birdie to bring us back to all square. We lost the next two holes and at the 5th I managed to Par the hole but could only manage to halve the hole. We then lost the next two holes and then on to the Par 5, 8th hole where I parred the hole until our Club Captain showed me how to Birdie it! This feat was to be recalled several times over the next 5 hours or so, it was a good Birdie though.

At the turn we were 4 down and despite Gary having won the 10th and 14th we finally succumbed to a 4 and 2 loss, but fair play to our partners who had the local knowledge and played better on the day, many thanks Gary and our Partners for an enjoyable round.

Group 2: Ian Prior and Nino Vacca played Mark Kierstan and Tim Sutton. who were both astonished at the ability Nino showed playing off 25, which did a great job of winding them up! It was a very enjoyable and very competitive round, with Ian and Nino eventually winning 3 & 2. Ian also played a supporting role to our Captain Andy, picking up first his hat and then a head cover. They assumed Andy was leaving a trail so they wouldn't get lost! (That's why I struggled Guys wandering around the desert without a hat!)

Good win guys and that's now 3 wins on the trot for Nino!

Group 3: Mark Williamson (28) and Helen Kirschner (32) played Lee Porterfield (11) and Mike Whitwham (16). Our duo had the benefit of a large haul of shots over Lee and Mike but could not be complacent. After losing the first hole, Helen made the most of her two shots on the second to nett par the hole and bring us back to all square. It remained all square with Mark halving 3 and 4 before Helen extended our lead to 2 up with a nett birdie on 5 and nett par on 6. Sleaford managed to pull one back on 7 before Mark got us back to 2 up at the turn with a halve on 8 and nett birdie on 9.

Mike and Lee dug deep and won the next 3 holes to put them 1 up for the first time since the first hole, a comeback was on from the home team, but a nett par from Helen on 13 and a nett par from Mark on 14 followed by a nett birdie from Mark on 15 left us 2 up with two to play. A nett par from Helen on 17 sealed the victory.

Lee and Mike were great company for the entire round and they had some great laughs. Well done the both of you on a good win.

Group 4: Kimberley Williamson and Yvonne Prior played Richard Brown and Roy Hunter.

Yvonne and Kimberley played a strong match against Roy and Richard, winning 4 & 3 and managing to upset Ian and Nino by beating them to the prize fund!

Well done to both of you on an excellent win.

Group 5: Bill Campbell and Jody Kirschner played Tony Cook and Gavin Hutson and following a fraught match the home team emerged the eventual winners by 3 and 2.

Well played guys.

Group 6: The last grouping was Vice-Captain Dave Burrows and Dave Dickinson who played Keith Simpson and John Norrington

DD hit a tee low and right and as a result was on the green for 3 DB hit a cracking tee shot but well short of the green, on for two leaving a long putt narrowly missing and cleaning up for a par. John was the lowest to the green in 3 Keith having already lost his ball in the trees; John holed a 25 feet putt to half the hole.

Terrible 2nd for DB & DD losing comfortably to a John bogey 5. DB parred 3 to get back to all square and joint bogies on 6 kept the match all square. A good par on the 5th saw John and Keith one up.

The remainder of the front 9 were halved with a par (6), net bogey (7), net birdie (8); fantastic play by DD, and another par on the 9th.
What else could we do to win a hole!

A Par Win on 5 saw Dx2 at all square, net par equalled 11, and bogey on 12 saw Sleaford 1 up (hooray!), Par from Keith and we were back to all square. Birdie 4 from John and back to 1 down; par on 15 from DB once again levelled the match.

Shared bogie, par, par on the final 3 holes saw the match all square at the close. Hard graft to hang on to the Sleaford paring.

What a result Guys, well done that tenacity to halve the match meant a overall win to SKGC of 3.5 – 2.5

In Summary

Playing Sleaford's with so many low handicappers was always going to be a difficult challenge for our Rabbits and I was not expecting us to win at their place especially given the course conditions, but won we did (again) and thanks to some gritty and gutsy performances and a superb overall team effort. Who would have thought we would have won the double over Sleaford's C Team?

Well done to Kimberley and Yvonne for winning the 'highest winning pairs' and thanks to everyone for putting themselves forward to play.

The result aside, we all had a lot of banter with the Sleaford Team, throughout our rounds and during the meal after the match and it was a pleasure to be in their company, this is what match play is all about.

Thanks go to Captain Al Pearson and his team for their hospitality and to my Vice Captain Dave Burrows and VVC Mark Williamson for their help and support during the day.

Many Thanks

Andy

Andy Davis

Rabbits Captain