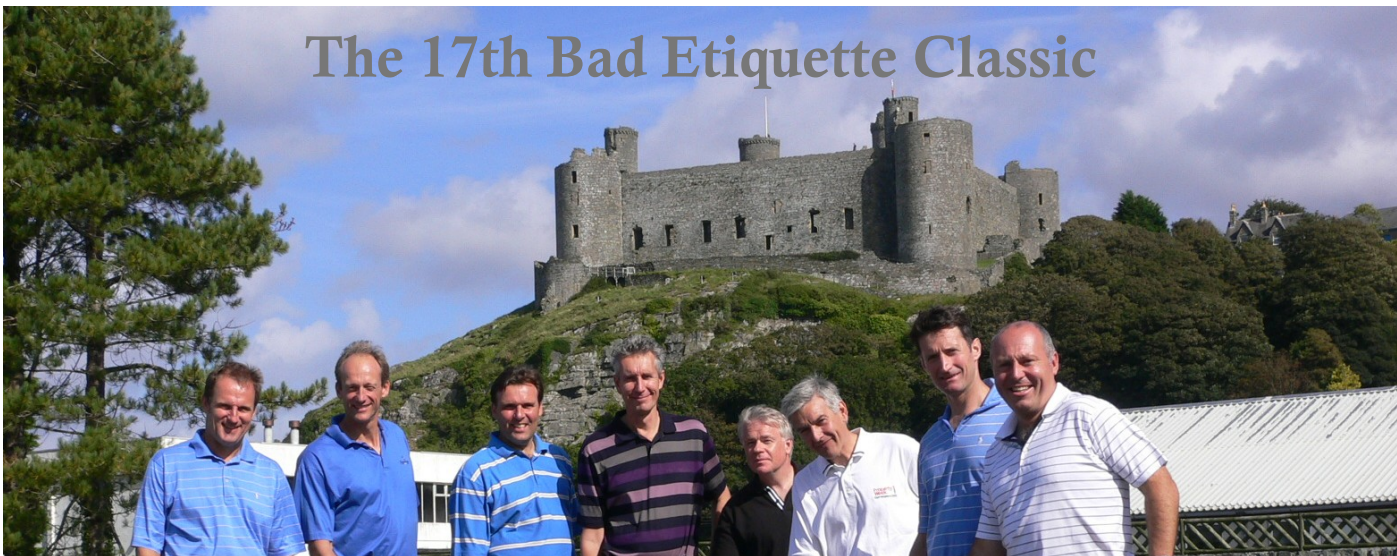


The 17th Bad Etiquette Classic



Gwynedd, Wales

September 2010



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Stat File <

1 BEC
17 years
680 rounds
2,413 miles
12,246 holes

The Big 4 <

The following major milestones were achieved during the 17th BEC:

- 400 longest drives
- 4,000 gross bogies
- 4,000,000 yards

As the 17th BEC statistics rolled smoothly off the printer back in October 2010, gathered onlookers (Lola the cat and Claire the cleaner) might momentarily have had high hopes for the fastest ever issue of the Bad Etiquette Classic write-up. Alas, eight months later, it's now clear to all that that opportunity was badly squandered. But poor productivity aside, what's the story?

Well, this year (or rather, last) we headed to Gwynedd, North Wales (pronounced 'Gwineth', not 'Gee Why Ned?' as perhaps disappointed American Ryder Cup hopefuls might enquire were Ned to be a wild card pick for the US team). There, we took on the majesty of Royal St David's, the lunacy of Nefyn & District and the tricky pronunciation of Llangollen and Porthmadog.

For once we endured no painful search for an 8th man with Mark Player (Mark II) joining us for the second year in succession thereby enabling an unchanged line-up for only the 2nd time in BEC history.

Accommodation this year was ably provided by the dormy house at Royal St David's (located a firm 4-

iron from the car park and requiring an able caddie for the carrying of one's bags across the railway), and less ably at the Royal Sportsman, Porthmadog, a hotel with an AA Rosette and a vacancy for a qualified accountant.

A new development this year was the introduction of the Side Bet Sweepstake (SBS), a bizarre, unethical and, in all likelihood, illegal form of gambling whereby each evening we merrily traded our best mates for others more likely to turn us a few quid. If you thought BEC scoring

was complicated, think again ... mere child's play compared to the SBS!

ROYAL SPORTSMAN HOTEL

131 High Street, Porthmadog, Gwynedd,
North Wales LL49 9HB

14th Sept 2010

Dear Mr Powderham,

I write regarding your recent stay at the Royal Sportsman Hotel. Regrettably the hotel failed to credit your £30 deposit, charged Mr Slamin and Mr Jacobs £66 instead of £81 and credited 2 other members of your party £30 instead of £15. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Regards

Kasia
Blaskiewicz
(Manager)



The Bad Etiquette Classic's famous Tea Pot and Pink Jacket are displayed along with the severed head of last year's Champion (a new custom) ahead of the 17th BEC prize ceremony

Vale of Llangollen

Day 1 - Vale of Llangollen Golf Club, a parkland course with a card modestly proclaiming 'Stunning location and wonderful golf'. The location did indeed look lovely we would see about the golf.

First up, Mark II & Dave G quickly



found themselves 3 up after 6 against Pete & Richard. But from there they loosened their grip on the game and found themselves back at all square (after 14) largely due to a couple of solid NB's from Pete and a less solid NP and 4 putts from Dave at the 158yds 14th. Unperturbed, Mark II & Dave G rallied for a deserved 2&1 match win.

Meanwhile, a very similar struggle was playing out in the match behind with

Andy & David L (up against Mark & Julian) also finding themselves 3 up after 6 and hauled back to all square (in this case after 16) thanks to pars from Mark at 12, 14 and 16. All square on the 18th tee (156yds, par 3) Mark & Julian applied yet more pressure with excellent iron shots to the green ☺ but Andy wasn't about to crumble. He found the putting surface too ☺, but left his first putt 8ft short ☹ appearing to give Julian 2 putts for the hole and match. Ah, if only! In a final double twist §§, Julian rushed his first putt 12ft passed the hole ☹, brilliantly holed the return ☺ and then watched in dismay as Andy bravely holed his 8 footer up the hill for the match half ☺ / ☹.

"On only his third BEC appearance, Mark II leads the Bad Etiquette Classic on £21 thanks to some fine ball striking, a 2&1 match win, 3 net birdies and a majestic birdie 2 NP NE at the 156yds 18th".

Royal St David's

Day 2 - two llops of the splendid Royal St David's Golf Club, a UK Top 50 course at the foot of Harlech Castle (see front page).

First up and teeing-off in fine sunshine that looked set for the day, Mark & Pete reached the turn 2 down against Richard & Julian, survived certain defeat at the 416yds 17th when Julian missed a 14 inch putt for the match (cue collective gasp) and then scrambled the match half at the 189yds 18th with a par 3 from Pete.

Out behind David L & Mark II trailed for much of their round against Andy & Dave G but hung on to win 15, 17 & 18 and steal the match 1up.

After only a brief respite, we were back out again, this time with the 2 Marks (lying 1st & 2nd on the leader-board) paired against Pete & David L in a match with a bizarre swing even by BEC player standards. The front 9 was dominated by an 'on fire' David L who notched up 3 NB's, an NE and 42 gross to put he

and Pete 2up at the turn only for David's fire to fizzle out on the back 9 enabling the Marks to dovetail their way to a 3&1 victory.

Harlech Highlights

Richard's adrenaline-assisted birdie putt at the 470yds 7th hits the back of the hole, leaps 10 inches and drops in for only the second Net Albatross in BEC history.

Julian fluffs his chip at 17 and in disgust chips his next in from 25yds without taking a stance or line.

Pete suffers the ignominy of having to climb over a fence and retrieve his ball from a field of bemused cows having lashed it there with his putter following a missed putt for NB at the 8th.

And last up the 'played 10, lost 9, won 1' Julian & Dave G combo against Andy & Richard with the latter pairing leading from the outset, reaching 5up at the turn and quashing some creditable resistance shown by Julian & Dave on the back 9 to prevail 2&1.

"Mark leads the BEC on £29 thanks to an impressive afternoon 3&1 match win and 7 positive extras including four NP par 3's at the 9th, 11th, 14th and 18th".

Your guide to Welsh pronunciation

DD - pronounced TH, as in 'thwack' eg. 'Wow Pete you really moddered ddat one'

LL - pronounced THL as in 'LLandudno' eg. 'Julian, that shot was complete bothlocks'

F - pronounced as a V as in 'victor' eg. 'Dafe, this is the sefenth hole, par fife, longest drife, take your drifer"

FF - pronounced as an F as in 'fade' eg. 'One hundred and ffifty quid green ffee! I'm not made of ff^@\$ing money!'

W - pronounced OO as in 'swoon' eg: 'Bothlocks, I twk the drifer and hwked my bathl into a ddicket'

(Sunday)

Nefyn & District

(Monday)



Over the years we've played many memorable courses, some in equally memorable conditions ... who can forget Ballycastle or Vale of Glamorgan? Well, we can now add Nefyn & District to that list having battled our way around the first 10 in howling wind and driving rain and then navigated the 8 spectacular holes of the peninsula in only marginally better conditions.

In the morning we were just grateful to survive as we struggled to take a stance, get a grip or swing the club for a succession of impossible shots along the cliff-tops and around the headland. Needless to say scoring was less than stellar with 94 the lowest gross and just 9

net birdies and one NP between us.

It was just one of those days; David L & Richard lost 5&4 to Andy & Pete in a match which saw Pete make just one par and 3 bogies, David L rack up 9 double bogies on the inward nine and Andy drop his trousers at the 12th to 'dry his boxers' (?).

Out behind, Mark & Dave G and Mark II & Julian contested one of the tightest BEC matches of all time with neither pair ever more than 1 up, the match returned to all square on 6 occasions and both nines and match ultimately halved!

There was drama at the 9th when Mark & Dave looked certain to take the nine only for Julian to hole from a greenside bunker to halve it, and more drama over the closing holes as Mark II three-putted his match winning chance into oblivion at 17 and Mark missed from 5ft for birdie, NE and the match at 18.

Given the 5 hours we'd taken for the first round, a further 18 holes PM might have meant playing the headland holes in night vision goggles as well as rain ... a combo unlikely to improve our scoring (although possibly not worsen it significantly). As a result, the democratic, if not unanimous, lunchtime vote was for just 9 afternoon holes.

Nefyn Highlights

Richard's second shot of the day fizzles over Andy & David's heads and his drive at the 12th makes a lasting impression on a steel signpost

Julian holes from the greenside bunker at the 9th for a sandy par 3, net birdie, chip-in, hole win ... it's not every day you see one of those!

Andy gives a Balcomie Linkesque master class, handling the wind better than anyone and pocketing £22 for a round and a half's work.

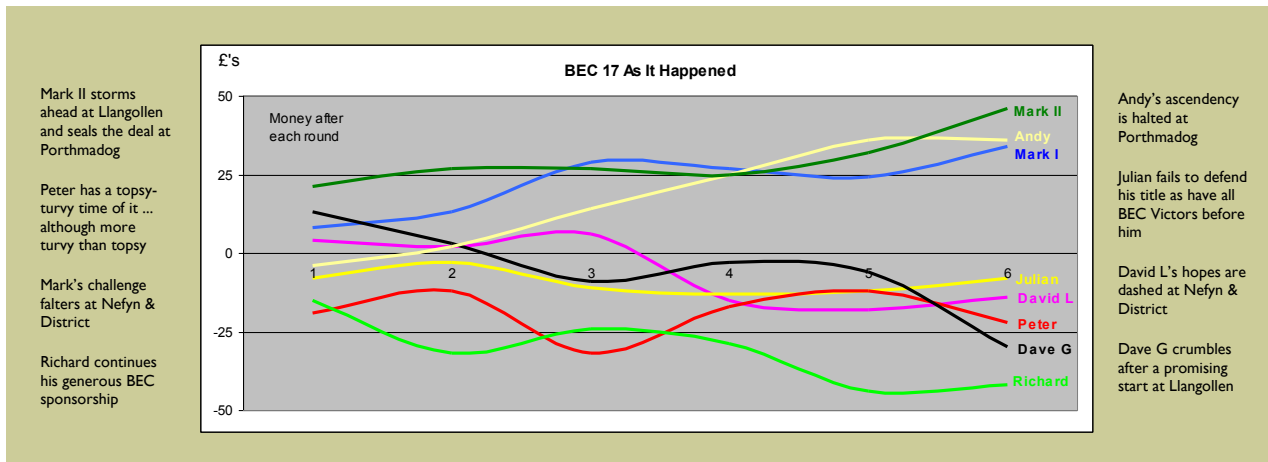
"Three different leaders in as many days - Andy leads the Bad Etiquette Classic on £36 having handled the conditions at Nefyn better than his rivals"



Nefyn & District survivors



Mark enjoys gale force winds on the 14th tee



The Side Bet Sweepstake ... wasn't life complicated enough?

Not content with the extreme stress caused by the BEC's already high stakes and scoring complexity, this year, the Tour's Head of Risk (Julian) introduced the Side Bet Sweepstake (SBS) to add further complexity.

How does it work?

Step I - Selection - each player draws the name of another player.

Step II - Auction - owners auction their players in turn; others can bid £2, £4, £6 etc.; if the owner accepts a bid they receive half and the other half goes in the kitty; if the owner doesn't accept, they pay half of the bid into the kitty to retain their player. Got that?

Step III - Golf - play golf; remember that business outside with the balls and clubs?

What happened?

Well in SBS Phase I (did I tell you about the phases?) at the end of day 2 and ahead of round 4, Julian bought Mark II from David L for £2 only to see Mark II. earn just £5 at Nefyn, not enough for Julian to win anything on the SBS. Meanwhile, Richard paid £2 to hold on to

Andy who won £22 thereby winning Richard £25, and Dave G won the £12 second prize thanks to Pete winning £20. Following this? And Mark won £5 because his player David L lost £20 (nothing like making a gain at the expense of someone else's pain!).

Then in SBS Phase 2 at the end of day 3 and ahead of round 6, Andy bought Julian from Mark II for £4 giving up Dave G who earned Mark II £5 thanks to his £24 losses at Porthmadog. Pete retained Andy for £5 only to see him make just £5 earning Pete nothing. Richard, who retained Mark II, won £28 (twice as much as Mark II won on the course!) and Dave G won £18 thanks to Mark's £10. There'll be a test on this later.

And the end result?

Well, Richard won the SBS with £53 net £38 after costs (what? ... there's gross and net SBS?) almost covering his golfing losses of £42, and Dave G came second on £19.

So, in short, an underhand & elaborate mechanism ensuring significant rebates for the BEC's primary sponsors ah, yes, SBS ... Subsidised BEC Sponsors.

Your personal Profit & Loss statement

Earnings (£'s)	Mark	Julian	Pete J	David L	Richard	Dave G	Andy
Matchplay - winnings	336	300	336	280	252	164	288
Matchplay - losses	(256)	(312)	(292)	(280)	(324)	(340)	(176)
Net albatross (NA)	0	0	0	0	18	0	0
Net eagles (NE)	102	138	168	96	162	180	144
Net birdies (NB)	780	771	771	744	564	540	651
Nearest pins (NP)	219	123	125	102	63	59	168
Furthest pins (FP)	(71)	(111)	(105)	(114)	(195)	(156)	(78)
Longest drives (LD)	177	159	198	135	93	81	177
Shortest drives (SD)	(18)	(57)	(42)	(39)	(83)	(92)	(20)
Sandy pars (SP)	42	30	30	27	3	3	18
Chip-ins (CI)	0	21	0	9	9	6	6
MLI bailouts	(20)	(20)	(6)	(4)	28	44	(16)
Extras of others	(977)	(1,038)	(972)	(969)	(955)	(933)	(778)
Total tour earnings	315	4	211	(13)	(364)	(444)	385

FINAL LEADERBOARD

Mark Player	93 88 94 95 44 89	£46
Andy Slamin	94 85 90 95 45 89	£36
Mark Powderham	91 93 91 94 44 93	£34
Julian Malton	100 92 98 100 51 100	(£8)
David Law	94 90 87 103 48 96	(£14)
Peter Jacobs	99 94 101 100 50 99	(£22)
David Grimbley	101 94 99 102 52 101	(£30)
Richard Reeves	98 101 96 103 52 101	(£42)

COURSES

Saturday	Vale of Llangollen
Sunday	Royal St Davids ³⁶
Monday	Nefyn and District ²⁷
Tuesday	Porthmadog

EVENT STATISTICS

Format	
Participants	8
Courses	4
Rounds	5.5
Holes	99
Yards	33,918
Gross	
Birdies	5
Pars	93
Bogies	262
Net	
Albatross	1
Eagles	4
Birdies	89
Pars	278
Matches	
4-balls (18 holes)	10
4-balls (9 holes)	2
Extras	
Nearest Pins	18
Longest Drives	19
Furthest Pins	30
Shortest Drives	9

Porthmadog

(Tuesday)

So, to Porthmadog for the final round and climax of the 17th Bad Etiquette Classic. Would Andy retain his overnight lead and secure a record 5th BEC title? Or would one of the Mark's wrestle the yellow cashmere from him?

Out first in the match that would decide who would keep the Tea Pot cosy, Andy partnering Dave G was up against the two Marks. From the outset Andy's strategy was clear ... play his own game and play it well. And that he did, making 4 pars, 3NB's and an NP on the front 9. Contrastingly, the opposition's strategy was to play as a team and focus on the match knowing that that a win would provide a £20 swing in their favour. And that they did too, with Mark II leading them to 2 up after 2 and Mark paring 7, 8 & 9 to retain the lead around the turn. On the back 9 it was 'glove off' as the teamwork was abandoned, both Andy and Mark faded, and Mark II raised his game for 4 bogies and 3 crucial par NB's that secured the match win and his maiden tour victory. Congratulations Mark!



Julian (with head reattached) presents the Tea Pot to Mark - winner of the 17th BEC - at CG Porthmadog

Mark Player



Having first appeared on the Tour in 2003 and taken 6 years to recover from the experience, Mark lifted the Tea Pot this year at the 3rd attempt. Lying in overall 4th position with career earnings of £73 and the BEC's highest win rate (0.73), Mark is clearly a worthy winner and occupant of the BEC's 8th berth.

17th BEC
Net Birdies 18
Match wins 4
Long Drives 1
Near Pins 3
Earnings £46
Position 1st

TOP CHUMPS ©

RECORDS SET AT THE 17TH
BAD ETIQUETTE CLASSIC

- Shortest ever putt missed for a match win - 14 inches, Julian, Royal St David's, 17th hole
- Most Furthest Pins (FP's) in a year - 9, Richard

Also noteworthy:

- David L did not make a par 3 or an NP in 24 attempts this year but he did make a birdie 3
- Mark now leads on NB's (260) for the first time since the end of the 1st BEC in 1994
- 6th position is only the second time Pete J has been outside the top 4 in 17 years
- Mark II won the Scarisbrick Trophy with a final round 89 net 72

See you later
this month
at the 18th
Bad Etiquette
Classic !