

Our 12th and final MNL match was at HOME against Howley Hall last night.

RESULT: **WON 6-0**

http://www.ldugc.co.uk/2014_scratch_league_1

The Moortown Mega Ingredients:

- A. **The Team Starring:**
 - 1) Dave 'Robbo' Robinson **WON**
 - 2) Matty 'Mustang' East **WON**
 - 3) Andy 'Boom Boom' Jones **WON**
- B. **Reserve Star:** Clive 'Could play a blinder' Bowyer **Could have WON**
- C. **Venue:** HOME
- D. **When:** Monday 18th August
- E. **Tee Time:** 5pm
- F. **Caddies:** Billy 'Bob' Mutch, & Judy Owens & Iain 'Command Central' Esplin
- G. **Spotters:** Pete Owens & El Capitano Duffers & Meerkat Lane & Clive 'When will I be picked' Bowyer, Vice Captain Jonty Naylor, Graham Ethrington, Captain's wife Karen and Antony Burrows.
- H. **Extreme Cuisine:** Stuart 'Beam me up' Scotty and Tassel free Cath, you knocked it out of the ball park last night - fantastic.

The Match:

Arriving at Moortown an hour before our first tee of and the weather was a nice sunny breezy 20 degree afternoon. By the time the first scratch player teed off it was plummeting towards 13 degrees and big black clouds were rolling in. The scene was setting for a big match ready to unfold. Autumn had just arrived, within the hour.

The big surprise of the season for me is **Matthew 'Mustang' East**, his nickname 'Mustang' has particular reference to nothing at all apart from terrible alliteration and the fact it sounds cool, just like the person that Matty is, one cool customer as his opponents have found out. In his 5 appearances Matty has won 3, drawn 1 and lost 1. A great debut record that sets him in very lofty company and a quality solid Moortown Scratch Team player. Well done Matty, you can be very proud of yourself, we are lucky to have you.

What do you get if you cross Tommy Two Gloves with Stewart Cink, you get **Dave 'Robbo' Robinson** along with their combined skills without any of Tommy's swing mechanics. This season Robbo has won 9 matches, drawn 4 and lost 1. Again, this is an amazing record from quite honestly an amazing golfer. If he's not eagling our 18th twice on the trot he's creating one of the best match play records on the planet. An example of this is finishing last night's match with a monster putt for birdie on 17 and then a 20 foot putt on the last to close his match out. Some player that with a steely nerve that makes any of his opponents shudder.

Finally, my hat goes off to the one and only **Andy 'Boom Boom' Jones**. Nicknamed Boom Boom because of his massive ventricles banging those colossal heart valves. A metaphor for his pure determination and sheer will power to win, keeping him moving forward with the momentum of Saturn's gigantic rings. Nothing is going to stop him, unless his head flies off into the bushes and explodes into a cloud of cigarette ash. Jose Miguel Jimenez said on TV a while back when asked "What do you do to prepare for a tournament?", he mumbles incoherently back, "I wake up, go to the bathroom, splash water onto my face and then I look up at the mirror, I point at the mirror" (pauses), "I say, today I am going to beat you!". Andy, you are no different to anyone else, except you are immensely talented at playing golf and eating jelly babies. You never once missed a tournament or match, I could count on you all of the time and that was while you were maintaining the incredible stratospheric heights of a current 3rd position in this year's Yorkshire Order of Merit. Well done Andy and thank you.

Unsung heroes:

When it comes to caddying we have some special stalwarts, these people are pillars, made of granite, that support our team, surprising really as in the case of **Iain 'Command Central' Esplin**, he legs are made of blancmange. Don't let that fool you though, if any of us aren't fully on the ball you will get the Command Central orders bellowed at you from across the valleys (he had special ops training from Beryl, Beryl bellows beautifully – it's that alliteration again) and he's always right, he doesn't miss a trick. The other unsung hero is **Bill 'Bo-Baggins' Mutch**, some of the adventures Andy has taken Bill on have had massive highs and humongous lows but Bill has been there for the team 100% of the time. Bill has amazing determination (and sense of humour) and drive to come out in horizontal rain, hale or hurricanes. Bill has had to developed hairy oversized hobbit feet, he would have lost his footing on reality long ago had it not been for his oversized furry metatarsals. Anyone lugging Andy's golf bag over hill and dale full of candy bars and edible anvils would drive anyone insane. Bill and Iain thank you for your tireless help over the last 3 years, you two make the team what it is, allowing the rest of us to perform at our best. **Judy Owens**, you were virtually at every match/tournament too and caddied for almost everyone, thank you very much, you are my heroine. **Captain Martyn Duffield**, as with all the previous Captains we end up working closely throughout the year and I have to say it has been an absolute pleasure supporting you this year via our scratch team activities. You have made the road this year that little bit easier to manage only because you put in 100% effective effort 100% of the time. I know everyone isn't the same, I don't have half your energy but it has certainly been a privilege to work with you. You made our last scratch match evening a very special one, I shall never forget it, thank you.

Other farewell thank you's go to:

Proshop: Martin Heggie, for putting up with me every week and tirelessly having to look at my swing. Also, providing the team with extremely smart uniforms and golf balls for each player for every match. You and your team work extremely hard for all us golfers. I know how much hard work you all (**Martin, Eddie, Jo & Tom**) put in behind the scenes, I for one never ever take it for granted and appreciate it fully. Thank you.

Peter Rishworth (and Lynn) for your support and answering my inane questions and requests. I timed one of your responses and it was 14 seconds for you to get back to me from my email, I responded back in 8 secs, you bettered it with 4 seconds, I gave up, couldn't beat it, I two finger type. (I do make all this stuff up you know).

Past Captains: Jamie Allison, Clive Bowyer, Jack Cook, David Powers, Richard Brown, Antony Burrows. What great people to spend any amount of time with.

Future Captain: Jonty Naylor, it's been a pleasure getting to know you this year, I'm in no doubt Moortown GC will continue to be in safe hands again next year. Good luck and thank you for your support this year.

The most frustrated scratch player award: Goes to Clive 'I could beat all of you' Bowyer, he asked to be pick every week, I had him down as a reserve, next year Clive, it will be your turn to tee it up.

Ball Spotters: John 'Meerket' Lane who lives up on the prairie mounds between the 12th and 13th holes, second mound on the left is Meerkat Manor. He scampers out and keeps an eagle eye on everyone's stray golf shots from his lofty lookouts. I've always seen John beside me but never have I seen him arrive. Graham Ethrington for your eternal support on and off the course. Clive Bowyer for your constant enthusiasm to play when most people would have given up you kept going. John Scarisbrick for your support via emails, thank you. The Stoddard's, Neil and Fiona, Fiona for bringing her senior professional tour caddying expertise to our team, thank you. Jim Tennant for being there all of the time.

Scratch players: you know who you are, you are all fantastic people, golfers and friends. Thank you for making our team have the strength it has today.

Scratch players who played this year: Stuart Santon, Scott Harrison, Paul Shires, Jack Kelley, Tom Gray, Andy Jones, Marcus Shepherd, Tom & Paddy Noble, Dave Robinson, Matthew East, David Houlding (good luck again this year David). Rob Treweek & Simon Stephens normally play for us but unfortunately missed out this year, better luck next year guys.

Bar Staff: Mark, Phil and Jamal for your attentive discreet friendly service.

After dinner fine dining: Stuart Scott and Cath producing out of this world highly skilled gastronomy which everyone knows is of an unbelievably high standard. Again, I must mention, Stuart and his team extend what Moortown Golf Club is all about, tradition, excellence and integrity. A thoroughbred in his foodie world which he generously shares with us, how lucky we are. Thank you Stuart & Cath, you knocked it out of the ball park last night - fantastic.

That's me finally done, I'm signing off for good as scratch team organiser. The Team is in as good a shape as I've ever known it, juniors are now very good scratch players, second strongest club scratch team in the area, the future looks bright, the future looks orange (quote for Richard Brown, he loves orange or was that so last year?).

Good bye and thank you for your support.

Regards,
Pete Owens
Moortown STO 2014