

## Report on BFBi Midland Section Golf Day 2021

The BFBi Midland Section Golf Day was held at the Branston Golf and Country Club on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

After a hearty breakfast roll and coffee, 17 teams of 4 and 1 team of 3 took part on, once again, a very pleasant, warm and mainly sunny day. The course was in very good condition and the heavy rain earlier in the week had freshened up the surface.

9 teams teed off on the 1<sup>st</sup> hole and 9 off the 10<sup>th</sup> in the first two tee start in the history of the event, playing in accordance with the Stableford format against 7/8 handicap. The new World Handicap System and Course Slope Rating, introduced since the 2020 event, were also incorporated in determining shots received.

Following the 18 holes, the players returned either to the terrace overlooking the 18<sup>th</sup> hole, or their designated tables in the Pavilion and all enjoyed a few well deserved beers. These were followed by a welcome two course meal in the Pavilion, leading up to the prize giving.

*The prize winners were as follows:*

Individual Winner Overall:	Darren Debney
Best Gross Score:	Ian Bowman
Individual Winner Division 1:	Ian Bowman
Runner-up Division 1:	Mike Handy
Individual Winner Division 2:	Daryl Payne
Runner-up Division 2:	Sam Blakemore
Team Winner:	Envirogen
Team Runner-up:	Celli UK / T & J Installations
Team Third Place	Skinny Brands
Nearest Pin 10 <sup>th</sup> Hole:	Marc Suffolk
Nearest Pin (2 <sup>nd</sup> shot) 18 <sup>th</sup> Hole:	Ian Bowman
Longest Drive 16 <sup>th</sup> Hole:	Sam Blakemore

The overall standard of golf was very good in the ideal golfing conditions, but there are a couple of highlights of the day that must get a mention:

-The best gross score of the day was by Ian Bowman (4.5 handicap), with a fabulous 3 over par 75.

-The longest drive award was won by Sam Blakemore (15 handicap), with a Tour Standard distance of 320 yards!

As always, a huge thank you to all teams taking part and a very special thank you to those teams kindly donating prizes. Not only BFBi Members, but also their guests including Limestone Brewery, Silhill Brewery and Vocation Brewery, who generously donated beers to the prize fund.

Thanks to Anthony Carpenter at Skinny Brands and Nick Hill at Harry Mason for providing very welcome refreshments at the Half Way House. The excellent Town Crier ale was generously donated by Hobson's Brewery.

Particular welcome to first timers at the event, namely: Ecolab, ForFarmers and TVS. It was also great to see Briggs of Burton back with us again after several years.

Special thanks to Teams sponsoring specialist holes: TVS for holes 10 (Nearest Pin) and 16 (Longest Drive) and Bevex for hole 18 (Nearest the Pin in 2 shots)

Special thanks also to Ian Jones of Celli UK / T & J Installations for sponsoring an engraved Glass Decanter to the Longest Drive Winner.

And of course, very special thanks to our recently appointed Midland Section Chairman, Charlie Gorham of Charles Faram, who kindly donated an engraved glass Claret Jug for the Overall Winner of the day, presented the prizes and proved a valuable assistant throughout the day.

As always, thanks to all concerned at Branston Golf and Country Club, especially the efforts made by the golfing staff under Golf Director Simon Joyce and Golf Lodge Manager Helen Robson, plus the Pavilion staff under Managers Matt Hall and Sammie Kempton. The food was once again excellent and the general hospitality and service throughout the day was again superb.

The provisional date for the 2022 event is Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September and venue probably BG&CC again, but this will be confirmed shortly.

Finally, a special thanks once again to Mick Pain for his much valued assistance throughout the day and to Gary Lyons for helping sort out scorecards on completion of the rounds.

Dave Munday  
BFBi Midland Section, Golf Organiser.

20<sup>th</sup> September 2021.