

Shires Junior Golf Tour



**Magazine
2015 Grand Final**

Shires Junior Golf Tour



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Shires Junior Golf Tour - Intro

You can't beat a bit of Bully!!!

SHIRES Junior Golf Tour's Paul Bull says: "Thirteen events completed on 2015 Shires Junior Golf Tour. Are you ready for the big one?... It's The Grand Final!

"Before I go into a few more details of the closing event, I just want to say a massive thank you to everyone for your support this year. After a good first season, the progress we have made over the last few months is simply incredible.

"Mark, Steve, Rob and his wife have all been involved on competition day, while Tracey, Kerry, Terry and various parents have provided invaluable assistance.

"A significant influence has been 2015 sponsor Apprentice Supermarket, who are giving away the first prize of a self-catering holiday to Gran Canaria in the Grand Final at Beds and County Golf Club on Monday, October 26. Thanks to Andy Kunman, Leigh Woodward and Brian Mudge, who were involved in the coaching.

"Wilson provided prizes for the first six events and the 2015 Order of Merit top prizes of custom-fitted golf clubs, while Ashby Lowery, Kiwi en France and Keystone Roofing are amongst a number of sponsors to help out.

"But without doubt the biggest thanks has to go to you, the players. Because as long as you are happy, then so are we. You are our inspiration. Thank you.

"So, what's going to happen in the Grand Final? The 18-holers are playing from the same tees and will be sent out in fourballs, featuring golfers of all handicaps. The destiny of the holiday will therefore not be known until the last group comes in!

"The nine-hole players will tee off after them. Although they cannot win the holiday there are still a host of magnificent prizes to be claimed. There are a few other surprises on the day, which will hopefully be of interest to the players and parents.

"Afterwards we will all sit down for a meal when the 2015 presentations will take place. It promises to be a special day. It will be... super, smashing, great!!"



GLENMUIR

1891



Shires Junior Golf Tour - Grand Final Preview

Bedford & County on Monday, October 26

THE club was established in 1912 and is one of the best courses in the county.

A hilly track, which has remained largely unchanged over the years, with the exception of the occasional tree or two being taken out.

It offers two memorable tee shots on the par five sixth hole and the par three 16th hole (pictured right) as a player needs to clear a set of large trees just to hit the fairway or the putting surface.

It's not the only hole on the course with similarly unusual challenges. Slopes are a constant factor throughout the round, a brook comes into play on four of the holes, but bunkers aren't a major issue.

When Shires Junior Golf Tour organiser Steve Jackson played the course in early September, his partner Neil Hodgkins (pictured right) carded a hole-in-one on the fifth hole.

Can anyone repeat that achievement in the Grand Final? That would be a fitting finale to a record-breaking 2015 Shires Junior Golf Tour.

The image features a young golfer on the left, wearing a blue polo shirt and a dark baseball cap with a logo. To the right of the golfer is the large, red, stylized 'Wilson' logo. Below the logo, the text 'Prizes Sponsor' on 2015 Shires Junior Golf Tour is written in white. The background is a blurred green golf course.

Wilson

**'Prizes Sponsor' on
2015 Shires Junior Golf Tour**

2015 Shires Junior Golf Tour

Competitions on Shires Junior Golf Tour

Golf Coaching

Round 1

The Bedford



Ben Lavender
(Northampton)

Round 2

Kibworth



Joseph Hyde
(Kettering)

Round 3

Wellingborough



Andrew Watson
(Overstone)

Round 4

Brampton Heath



Frazer Jones
(Forest Hill)

Video Swing

Wellingborough



With James Whittemore

Round 5

Kingsthorpe



Dillon Basi
(The Bedford)

Round 6

Kilworth Springs



Natasha
Ainsley-Thomas
(Whittlebury)

Round 7

Kettering



Manato Nakatini
(Hendon)

Round 8

Bedfordshire



Elijah Woodward
(Kingsthorpe)

Putting Studio

Northampton



With Nick Soto &
Andrew Myers

Round 9

Glen Gorse



Matt Goode
(Priors Hall)

Round 10

Peterborough Milton



Ben Morris
(P'boro Milton)

Round 11

Pavenham Park



Cameron George
(The Bedford)

Round 12

Cosby



Ben Atherton
(Kettering)

ASGA

Coaching



With Brian Mudge

The Grand Final - Bedford and County Golf Club



Monday, October 26

Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 1 & 2

BEN Lavender (pictured right) enjoyed competing in the first two events in 2015 Shires Junior Golf Tour as the 13-year-old bagged the leading score in both competitions in March.

With boys and girls of all ages competing, the Northampton member's winter practice paid off as he triumphed with 42 points at The Bedford, before shooting an excellent score of 44 points a fortnight later at Kibworth in Leicestershire.

Josh Loakes (Kingsthorpe) took second at The Bedford in the Bronze, while the Silver Division went to Kingsthorpe's Owen Watts (pictured below with Shires Junior Golf Tour's Mark Faulkner) as a tally of 39 points edged him ahead of Callum Gant (Rushden) and Tour debutante Jake Sheridan (Priors Hall).

Bedford and County members completed a clean sweep of the prizes in the top section as Elliott Smith (41 points) won by five from runner-up Tom Mead and Ben Jones, who hit the longest drive.

In the Copper Division, home club member Kai Williams (39) took full advantage of local knowledge as he finished ahead of Tour newcomer Jadon Pham (Kingsthorpe). Glen Gorse's Hursh Popat claimed the third prize.

Joseph Hyde (Kettering) was outstanding in the Copper section at Kibworth as he fired a superb total of 38 points to finish six ahead of Amelia Humphries, Ethan La Porta (both Brampton Heath) and Ashleigh Critchley (Kettering).

Finlay Cummings (Bedford and County) and Daniel Cichuta (Northampton) finished second and third respectively in the Bronze category with 36 points apiece.

Forty points was the best score in the Silver Division as in-form Gant held off home club member Stephen Hebborn by one, with Peterborough Milton's Jacob Williams in third on 38 points.

Both the leading two Gold players shot gross level par rounds as Overstone's Luke Barney (40) got the better of Northants County's Charlie Salter (pictured right) by two points. Third position went to Peterborough Milton's Ben Chance (37).



Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 3 & 4

THE number of golfers to play on 2015 Shires Junior Golf Tour passed the 100-mark in April as record fields competed at Wellingborough and Brampton Heath.

Both Northants venues witnessed some superb rounds as the main prizes in the four divisions were shared amongst members from 15 different golf clubs.

Joe Tyler (pictured right) claimed the overall prize in the third event at Wellingborough as the Luffenham Heath golfer grabbed 38 points. Millie Billson (Northants County) carded the same mark to clinch the Silver Division by one from Natasha Ainsley-Thomas (Whittlebury) and Owen Watts (Kingsthorpe).



The Bronze category went to Fabien Clark as the Staverton member's tally of 35 points lifted him two clear of Finlay Cummings (Bedford and County).

Andrew Watson (Overstone) won the Gold Division as a total of 35 points nudged him one ahead of the Bedford and County duo of Tom Mead and Elliot Smith.

Thirty points sealed the Copper plaudits for Kettering's Ashleigh Critchley, who is pictured centre right with other nine-hole prize winners Katie Amos (Northants

County), Amelia Humphries (Brampton Heath) and Kai Williams (The Bedford).

With a record field of 80 competing at Brampton Heath three weeks later, Northampton's Ellis Whittles carded a stunning round of 48 points.

Six points behind in the Bronze Division was Northants County's Katie Amos, who was competing over 18 holes for the first time, while Tour debutante Jack Moon (Priors Hall) took third.

Kingsthorpe's Dan Blackmore was in devastating form in the Silver Division as the 12-handicapper fired a magnificent tally of 45 points to finish four ahead of Stephen Hebborn (Kibworth). Glen Gorse's Dev Popat marked a welcome return to action following a foot operation by taking third prize on countback with 38 points.

Countback was also needed in the top section as Sam Gilkes (Northampton) edged out Oliver Saunders (Bedford and County) after both shot 38 points. Home club member Alec Francis grabbed third on 36.

The Copper event, which was played over 18 holes on the short course, went to Forest Hill's Frazer Jones from Kettering's Joseph Hyde and Amelia Humphries.

Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 5 & 6

GEORGE Elderton (pictured right) earned the chance to represent Shires Junior Golf Tour in the Ian Poulter Invitational at Woburn in July after winning the qualifying competition at Kingsthorpe.

The Northants County member, who won the first ever Shires event at Kingsthorpe last year, continued his affinity with the Northamptonshire course as he bagged an exceptional tally of 41 points in the fifth round.

Bedford and County's Ben Jones won the Gold Division on countback from club-mate Oliver Saunders with 39. The day's long drive winner Ben Chance (Peterborough Milton) finished third on 36.

Countback was needed in the Silver category as Ben Lavender (Northampton) beat Owen Watts, who was playing his own course, with 38 points.

James Bates (Kingsthorpe) scored a superb 42 points to take the Bronze Division, just ahead of Hendon's Manato Nakatini and another home club member Josh Loakes.

The Bates brothers (pictured below) were denied a fairytale double with younger brother Thomas losing out in the Copper section by three to Dillon Basi (The Bedford), who shot a brilliant tally of 35 points.

Third placed Fraser Jones (Forest Hill) was back in the prizes two weeks later in the sixth round at Kilworth Springs in Leicestershire as he claimed top spot ahead of Ethan La Porta (Brampton Heath) and Connor Tallentire (The Bedford).

Cameron Halsall's sensational debut total of 49 points grabbed the plaudits in the Bronze Division as the Bedfordshire member finished six clear of in-form Loakes.



Dan Blackmore moved a step closer to promotion into the top flight as the Kingsthorpe lad shot 44 points to finish one clear of Rushden's Callum Gant in the Silver Division. Abbey Hill's Jamie Greenhalgh (39) was third. Natasha Ainsley-Thomas, whose handicap dropped into single figures a few days earlier, celebrated by becoming the first girl to clinch the Gold Division this year.

The Whittlebury Park golfer carded 40 points to nudge one ahead of Brampton Heath's Dean Montgomery, with Chance in third again.



Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 7 & 8



BEDFORD and County's Oliver Saunders (pictured left) became the first player to bag a hole-in-one in a Shires Junior Golf Tour event when he aced Kettering's 12th hole in the seventh round. Matthew Green (Aspley Guise and Woburn Sands) clinched the top section as he finished three ahead of Collingtree's Liam McNeela after shooting 39 points.

Just one point was the margin of success in the Silver category as Abbey Hill's Jamie Greenhalgh (37) got the better of Elijah Woodward (Kingsthorpe).

The round of the day over 18 holes came from Manato Nakatani as the Hendon golfer led the high-handicap division with a total of 45 points. Priors Hall's Adam O'Brien (39) was second.

The nine-hole comp saw Frazer Jones (Forest Hill) bag his third win of the year with 33 points.

On a day when Charley Hull's original coach Kevin Theobald took part in a Q&A session with the parents beforehand, every player received a signed photo from the Ladies European Tour number one. It was therefore perhaps fitting that the next two

prizes went to girls as Hannah Talbot (Rushden) grabbed second on countback from Amelia Humphries (Brampton Heath) with 31 points apiece.

Two Kingsthorpe members fired brilliant winning scores in round eight at a windy Bedfordshire as Elijah Woodward and Jadon Pham took the plaudits on the two different 18-hole courses.

Woodward smashed 47 points on the main track to clinch the Silver Division by six from Callum Gant (Rushden), with Ed Keech (Kettering) in third on 39.

In the high-handicap comp on the short course, Pham carded a total of 69 points to finish three clear of Jones, with Brampton Heath's Ethan La Porta (62) in third.

Natasha Ainsley-Thomas (pictured right) completed a hat-trick in the top section as the Whittlebury Park member struck the longest drive, bagged the nearest the pin and also shot the best score of 37 points.

The Bronze Division also saw a girl secure the honours as Kettering's Ashleigh Critchley beat Corey Neville (Brampton Heath) on countback with 40 points.



Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 9 & 10

MATT Goode was in magnificent form in the ninth round of the Shires Junior Golf Tour at Glen Gorse in Leicestershire as he smashed a winning score of 47 points.

The 17-year-old finished 11 points clear of Stephen Hughes (Kettering) in the Silver Division, with home club member Dev Popat in third on 35.

Northants County's Katie Amos led the way in the Bronze Division as she finished one ahead of club-mate Jack Peters after shooting 44

points. Adam O'Brien (Priors Hall) and Joseph Hyde (Kettering) were next on 41 apiece.

Forty two points was the best score in the top division as Peterborough Milton's Ben Chance (pictured left) beat Jason McGuinness (Kingsthorpe) by two, with Oliver Saunders (Bedford and

County) in third on 37.

In the nine-hole comp, where Thorpe Wood four-year-old Bobby Moore (pictured right) attracted a lot of attention for his ball striking, Dillon Basi was successful by a single point from The Bedford club-mate Connor Tallentire.

The last event before the summer break witnessed a stunning debut in an 18-hole competition on Shires Junior Golf Tour from Noah Woodward

as he won the Bronze Division at Peterborough Milton with 45 points. Kingsthorpe team-mate Harry Withrington (41) finished runner-up.

Matthew Reed edged out home club-mate Adam Long (both 41 points) in the Silver Division, while Milton's Ben Morris (36) won the top section from Kingsthorpe's Dan Blackmore and Jason McGuinness (all pictured left).

Kai Williams (The Bedford) was the player to beat over nine holes as he won the Copper Division by three points from Kingsthorpe's Thomas Bates and Connor Tallentire.



JORDAN Darnell (Kettering) combined with Corey Neville (Brampton Heath), Thomas Freeman (Kingsthorpe) and Frazer Jones (Forest Hill) to win the 2015 Thomas-Gasking Team Trophy with a score of 137 points at Nailcote Hall GC in Warwickshire.

Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 11 & 12

SHIRES Junior Golf Tour history was made in the penultimate event as Beth Healey (Bedford and County) became the first player to shoot a course record as she fired a two-under-par 70 at Pavenham Park.

The five-handicapper (pictured right) was in sensational form as she bagged 43 points to win the Gold Division by six from Natasha Ainsley-Thomas (Whittlebury). Northampton's Ollie Salter (36) was third on countback.



Scoring was equally impressive in the Silver category as Hendon's Manato Nakatani beat Tour newcomer Ewan Cadle (Staverton) on countback after both shot 44 points. Paul Smith, from John O'Gaunt, finished third on 38.

Kingsthorpe's Thomas Freeman took the plaudits in the Bronze section as his tally of 37 points lifted him two ahead of Jade Roberts (Peterborough Milton).

With the nine-hole competition split into two categories, Connor Tallentire (The Bedford) relished the challenge of playing off the red tees for the first time. The eight-year-old carded a Copper One winning score of 16 points.

Tour debutante Cameron George (The Bedford) enjoyed competing off the forward tees as his tally of 29 points clinched Copper Two by four from Kingsthorpe's Sam Dunkley. Bobby Moore (Thorpe Wood) was on the podium for the first time as he took third prize with 21 points.

In the final event at Cosby, Matthew Green was the leading player in the Gold Division as the Aspley Guise and Woburn Sands member finished two ahead of Matt Goode (Priors Hall) after posting 37 points.

Manato Nakatani and Thomas Freeman maintained their excellent form as they came out on top in the Silver and Bronze sections for the second successive competition with 36 and 38 points respectively.

Frazer Jones (pictured left) was another familiar face in the winner's circle as the Forest Hill player enjoyed a brilliant chip-in birdie on the seventh hole to take the Cooper One plaudits with 21 points. The Bedford's Dillon Basi and Kai Williams were next.

Kettering's Ben Atherton was also in fine touch in the Copper Division Two event as a tally of 22 points lifted him four ahead of Kingsthorpe duo Sam Dunkley and Tyla Field, who was making his Tour debut.



Shires Junior Golf Tour - 2015 Results

Round 1 - The Bedford (March 8):

Gold Division: 1 Elliott Smith - Bedford and County (41 points), 2 Tom Mead - Bedford and County (36), 3 Ben Jones - Bedford and County (36).

Silver Division: 1 Owen Watts - Kingsthorpe (39 points), 2 Jake Sheridan - Priors Hall (38), 3 Callum Gant - Rushden (38).

Bronze Division: 1 Ben Lavender - Northampton (41 points), 2 Josh Loakes - Kingsthorpe (36), 3 Daniel Cichuta - Northampton (35).

Copper Division: 1 Kai Williams - The Bedford (39 points), 2 Jadon Pham - Overstone (37), 3 Hursh Popat - Glen Gorse (35).

Round 2 - Kibworth (March 22):

Gold Division: 1 Luke Barney - Overstone (40 points), 2 Charlie Salter - Northants County (38), 3 Ben Chance - Peterborough Milton (37).

Silver Division: 1 Callum Gant - Rushden (40 points), 2 Stephen Hebborn - Kibworth (39), 3 Jacob Williams - Peterborough Milton (38).

Bronze Division: 1 Ben Lavender - Northampton (44 points), 2 Finlay Cummings - Bedford and County (36), 3 Daniel Cichuta - Northampton (36).

Copper Division: 1 Joseph Hyde - Kettering (38 points), 2 Amelia Humphries - Brampton Heath (32), 3 Ethan La Porta - Brampton Heath (32), 4 Ashleigh Critchley - Kettering (32).

Round 3 - Wellingborough (April 5):

Overall winner: Joe Tyler - Luffenham Heath (38 points).

Gold Division: 1 Andrew Watson - Overstone (35 points), 2 Elliott Smith - Bedford and County (34), 3 Tom Mead - Bedford and County (34).

Silver Division: 1 Millie Billson - Northants County (38 points), 2 Natasha Ainsley-Thomas - Whittlebury (37), 3 Owen Watts - Kingsthorpe (37).

Bronze Division: 1 Fabien Clark - Staverton (35 points), 2 Finlay Cummings - Bedford and County (33), 3 Ellis Whittles - Northampton (31).

Copper Division: 1 Ashleigh Critchley - Kettering (30 points), 2 Amelia Humphries - Brampton Heath (28), 3 Kai Williams - The Bedford (25).

Round 4 - Brampton Heath (April 26):

Gold Division: 1 Sam Gilkes - Northampton (38 points), 2 Oliver Saunders - Bedford and County (38), 3 Alec Francis - Brampton Heath (36).

Silver Division: 1 Dan Blackmore - Kingsthorpe (45 points), 2 Stephen Hebborn - Kibworth (41), 3 Dev Popat - Glen Gorse (38).

Bronze Division: 1 Ellis Whittles - Northampton (48 points), 2 Katie Amos - Northants County (42), 3 Jack Moon - Priors Hall (42).

Copper Division: 1 Frazer Jones - Forest Hill, 2 Joseph Hyde - Kettering, 3 Amelia Humphries - Brampton Heath.

Shires Junior Golf Tour - 2015 Results

Round 5 - Kingsthorpe (May 10):

Gold Division: 1 Ben Jones - Bedford and County (39 points), 2 Oliver Saunders - Bedford and County (39), 3 Ben Chance - Peterborough Milton (36).

Silver Division: 1 Ben Lavender - Northampton (38 points), 2 Owen Watts - Kingsthorpe (38), 3 Dan Blackmore - Kingsthorpe (36).

Bronze Division: 1 James Bates - Kingsthorpe (42 points), 2 Manato Nakatani - Hendon (40), 3 Josh Loakes - Kingsthorpe (39).

Copper Division: 1 Dillon Basi - The Bedford (35 points), 2 Thomas Bates - Kingsthorpe (32), 3 Frazer Jones - Forest Hill (31).

Round 6 - Kilworth Springs (May 24):

Gold Division: 1 Natasha Ainsley-Thomas - Whittlebury (40 points), 2 Dean Montgomery - Brampton Heath (39), 3 Ben Chance - Peterborough Milton (39).

Silver Division: 1 Dan Blackmore - Kingsthorpe (44 points), 2 Callum Gant - Rushden (43), 3 Jamie Greenhalgh - Abbey Hill (39).

Bronze Division: 1 Cameron Halsall - Bedfordshire (49 points), 2 Josh Loakes - Kingsthorpe (43), 3 James Bates - Kingsthorpe (39 points).

Copper Division: 1 Frazer Jones - Forest Hill (39 points), 2 Ethan La Porta - Brampton Heath (28), 3 Connor Tallentire - The Bedford (27).

Round 7 - Kettering (June 14):

Gold Division: 1 Matthew Green - Aspley Guise and Woburn Sands (39 points), 2 Liam McNeela - Collingtree Park (36), 3 Dean Montgomery - Brampton Heath (36).

Silver Division: 1 Jamie Greenhalgh - Abbey Hill (37 points), 2 Elijah Woodward - Kingsthorpe (36), 3 Callum Gant - Rushden (35).

Bronze Division: 1 Manato Nakatani - Hendon (45 points), 2 Adam O'Brien - Priors Hall (39), 3 Ashleigh Critchley - Kettering (38).

Copper Division: 1 Frazer Jones - Forest Hill (33 points), 2 Hannah Talbot - Rushden (31), 3 Amelia Humphries - Brampton Heath (31).

Round 8 - The Bedfordshire (June 21):

Gold Division: 1 Natasha Ainsley-Thomas - Whittlebury (37 points), 2 Jordan Darnell - Kettering (34), 3 Liam McNeela - Collingtree Park (32).

Silver Division: 1 Elijah Woodward - Kingsthorpe (47 points), 2 Callum Gant - Rushden (41), 3 Ed Keech - Kettering (39).

Bronze Division: 1 Ashleigh Critchley - Kettering (40 points), 2 Corey Neville - Brampton Heath (40), 3 James Bates - Kingsthorpe (39).

Copper Division: 1 Jadon Pham - Kingsthorpe (69 points), 2 Frazer Jones - Forest Hill (66), 3 Ethan La Porta - Brampton Heath (62).

Shires Junior Golf Tour - 2015 Results

Round 9 - Glen Gorse (July 12):

Gold Division: 1 Ben Chance - Peterborough Milton (42 points), 2 Jason McGuinness - Kingsthorpe (40), 3 Oliver Saunders - Beds & County (37).

Silver Division: 1 Matthew Goode - Priors Hall (47), 2 Spencer Hughes - Kettering (36), 3 Dev Popat - Glen Gorse (35).

Bronze Division: 1 Katie Amos - Northants County (44), 2 Jack Peters - Northants County (43), 3 Adam O'Brien - Priors Hall (41).

Copper Division: 1 Dillon Basi - The Bedford (37), 2 Connor Tallentire - The Bedford (36), 3 Elise Warden - Overstone (34).

Round 10 - Peterborough Milton (July 27):

Gold Division: 1 Ben Morris - Peterborough Milton (36 points), 2 Dan Blackmore - Kingsthorpe (35), 3 Jason McGuinness - Kingsthorpe (34).

Silver Division: 1 Matthew Reed - Peterborough Milton (41), 2 Adam Long - Peterborough Milton (41), 3 Sam Balaam - Peterborough Milton (38).

Bronze Division: 1 Noah Woodward - Kingsthorpe (45), 2 Harry Withrington - Kingsthorpe (41), 3 Charlotte Gilkes - Northampton (37).

Copper Division: 1 Kai Williams - The Bedford (32), 2 Thomas Bates - Kingsthorpe (29), 3 Connor Tallentire - The Bedford (29).

Round 11 - Pavenham (September 13):

Gold Division: 1 Beth Healey - Beds & County (43 points), 2 Natasha Ainsley-Thomas - Whittlebury (37), 3 Ollie Salter - Northampton (36).

Silver Division: 1 Manato Nakatani - Hendon (44), 2 Ewan Cadle - Staverton (44), 3 Paul Smith - John O'Gaunt (38).

Bronze Division: 1 Thomas Freeman - Kingsthorpe (37), 2 Jade Roberts - Peterborough Milton (35), 3 Ellis Whittles - Northampton (34).

Copper Division I: 1 Connor Tallentire - The Bedford (16), 2 Frazer Jones - Forest Hill (14), 3 Kai Williams - The Bedford (12).

Copper Division II: 1 Cameron George - The Bedford (29), 2 Sam Dunkley - Kingsthorpe (25), 3 Bobby Moore - Thorpe Wood (21).

Round 12 - Cosby (September 27):

Gold Division: 1 Matthew Green - Aspley Guise & Woburn Sands (37 points), 2 Matthew Goode - Prior Hall (35), 3 Ben Chance - Peterborough Milton (34).

Silver Division: 1 Manato Nakatani - Hendon (36), 2 Corey Neville - Brampton Heath (34), 3 Elijah Woodward - Kingsthorpe (32).

Bronze Division: 1 Thomas Freeman - Kingsthorpe (38), 2 Ellis Whittles - Northampton (30), 3 Lisa Johnston - Peterborough Milton (29).

Copper Division I: 1 Frazer Jones - Forest Hill (21), 2 Dillon Basi - The Bedford (17), 3 Kai Williams - The Bedford (13).

Copper Division II: 1 Ben Atherton - Kettering (22), 2 Sam Dunkley - Kingsthorpe (18), 3 Tyla Field - Kingsthorpe (18).

Shires Junior Golf Tour - 2015 Order of Merit

Gold Division*

- 1 Ben Chance - Peterborough Milton (254 points)
- 2 Daniel Blackmore - Kingsthorpe (253)
- 3 Natasha Ainsley-Thomas - Whittlebury (251)
- 4 Oliver Saunders - Beds & County (244)
- 5 Charlie Salter - Northants County (243)
- 6 George Elderton - Northants County (235)
- 7 Ben Jones - Beds & County (233)
- 8 Jordan Darnell - Kettering (231)
- 9 Andrew Watson - Overstone (219)
- 10 Jason McGuinness - Kingsthorpe (217)
- 11= Max Faulkner - Wellingborough (216)
- 11= Liam McNeela - Collingtree (216)
- 13 Sam Gilkes - Northampton (215)
- 14 Jack Manley - Beds & County (211)
- 15 Sam Digby - Wellingborough (203)

*Best seven scores

Silver Division*

- 1 Callum Gant - Rushden (264 points)
- 2 Elijah Woodward - Kingsthorpe (261)
- 3 Ben Lavender - Northampton (260)
- 4 Josh Loakes - Kingsthorpe (251)
- 5 Owen Watts - Kingsthorpe (249)
- 6= Sam Balaam - Peterborough Milton (245)
- 6= Matthew Goode - Priors Hall (245)
- 8 Jacob Williams - Peterborough Milton (242)
- 9 Jake Sheridan - Priors Hall (225)
- 10 Daniel Cichuta - Northampton (206)
- 11 Stephen Hebborn - Kibworth (205)
- 12 Baylie Pyke - Overstone (175)
- 13 Sam Haynes-Coote - Kibworth (159)
- 14 Rayner Edwards - Whittlebury (153)
- 15 Dev Popat - Glen Gorse (140)

*Best seven scores

Bronze Division*

- 1 Manato Nakatani - Hendon (269 points)
- 2 Katie Amos - Northants County (256)
- 3 Corey Neville - Brampton Heath (248)
- 4= Ashleigh Critchley - Kettering (243)
- 4= Ellis Whittles - Northampton (243)
- 6 James Bates - Kingsthorpe (240)
- 7 Tyler Crosta - Woburn (237)
- 8 Harry Withrington - Kingsthorpe (233)
- 9= Ed Keech - Kettering (230)
- 9= Adam O'Brien - Priors Hall (230)
- 11 Finlay Cummings - Beds & County (229)
- 12 Jack Peters - Northants County (219)
- 13 Joseph Hyde - Kettering (201)
- 14 Fabien Clark - Staverton (191)
- 15 Thomas Freeman - Kingsthorpe (168)

*Best seven scores

Copper Division*

- 1 Frazer Jones - Forest Hill (49 points)
- 2 Kai Williams - The Bedford (44)
- 3 Connor Tallentire - The Bedford (43)
- 4 Dillon Basi - The Bedford (42)
- 5 Amelia Humphries - Brampton Heath (41)
- 6 Ethan La Porta - Brampton Heath (40)
- 7 Jadon Pham - Overstone (37)
- 8 Thomas Bates - Kingsthorpe (36)
- 9= Elliot Strickland - Northampton (28)
- 9= Elise Warden - Overstone (28)
- 11 Ben Atherton - Kettering (27)
- 12 Hursh Popat - Glen Gorse (26)
- 13 Sam Dunkley - Kingsthorpe (25)
- 14= Mya Darnell - Wellingborough (19)
- 14= Hannah Talbot - Rushden (19)

*Best five finishes (10 points for a win)



Thank





you!

Shires Junior Golf Tour - Members

More success for Frazer Sign of things to come?

FRAZER Jones capped a fine season by being named 2015 Young Player of the Year at Forest Hill Golf Club in Leicestershire.

The 10-year-old, who also won the prize at his home club in 2014, has enjoyed a fabulous debut season on Shires Junior



Golf Tour as he won four events on the way to topping the 2015 Order of Merit in the Copper Division.

He also formed part of the winning quartet in the Thomas-Gasking Trophy at Nailcote Hall in late August.

SHIRES Junior Golf Tour member Liam McNeela got his hands on the most famous piece of silverware in world golf when the Claret Jug visited his home club of Collingtree Park.

With the Northants club holding Round One of European Tour Qualifying School in late 2015, a request for the Open Championship trophy to drop by was met with a positive response, much to the delight of the members.

The 21-year-old didn't waste the opportunity to hold the trophy, which was first played for in 1872, as he got his photo taken (right) whilst proudly wearing his Shires Junior Golf Tour shirt.



October (age):

- 3rd - Fred Couples
- 3rd - Ruth Brooke (12)
- 5th - Laura Davies
- 9th - Amelia Humphries (12)
- 9th - Annika Sorenstam
- 10th - Sam Dunkley (10)
- 11th - Beth Healey (18)
- 11th - Michelle Wie
- 12th - Connor Tallentire (9)
- 12th - Cristie Kerr
- 17th - Ellie Darnell (15)
- 17th - Ernie Els
- 19th - Louis Oosthuizen
- 21st - Ruby Smith (10)
- 23rd - Sam Balaam (14)
- 28th - Elliott Strickland (10)

★ HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ★

November (age):

- 1st - Gary Player
- 1st - Stephen Gallacher
- 1st - Joe Tyler (17)
- 1st - Callum Gant (15)
- 4th - Max Faulkner (12)
- 5th - Bubba Watson
- 8th - Dev Popat (15)
- 12th - Jason Day (pictured)
- 20th - Jason McGuinness (18)
- 24th - Jade Potter (11)
- 27th - Stephen Field (17)
- 28th - Tom Mead (18)



Shires Junior Golf Tour - Meet The Stars

AFTER receiving a tweet from Ian Poulter to say well done on his victory in a recent Shires Junior Golf Tour event, Connor Tallentire had the chance to meet the Ryder Cup star during the British Masters at Woburn GC in October.

But he wasn't the only Shires member to take advantage of this great opportunity to meet some of the best players in the world as several of our players got autographs from the top European Tour golfers, including Graeme McDowall and eventual winner Matthew Fitzpatrick.

Some Shires members even appeared on Sky Sports television to discuss why they had come to the event. This is a sample of the photos taken during the week.



Shires Junior Golf Tour - Front Nine

OVER the season, Shires Junior Golf Tour Magazine has been finding out more about the youngsters who play in our events in the Front Nine and Back Nine features. We will do more profile pieces again in the 2016 season. But for the next two editions, we are going to chat with some of the people who help run the Tour - starting with co-founders Paul Bull and Mark Faulkner.

1

Where was your first round?

Paul Bull: Abbey Hill in Buckinghamshire.
Mark Faulkner: Aspley Guise & Woburn Sands on Beds/Bucks border.

2

Who would be in your perfect fourball?

PB: Seve Ballesteros, Tom Watson, Jack Nicklaus and myself.

MF: Seve Ballesteros, Greg Norman, my son Max and myself.

3

Best Golf Course played?

PB: Monte Rei.

MF: PGA Catalunya.

4

Favourite club in the bag?

PB: Driver.

MF: Seven iron.

5

Best shot ever played?

PB: I holed out from 160 yards after drawing the ball around the trees.

MF: A hole-in-one twice.

6

Luckiest shot ever played?

PB: I hit a shot towards out of bounds but it bounced off the path and then onto the green.

MF: I bounced a shot off the roof on the eighth hole at The Bedford.

7

Worst shot ever played!?

PB: I flushed a four iron through a window of the clubhouse at Kingsthorpe.

MF: Plenty!

8

Who will win the four majors in 2016?

PB: Jordan Spieth, Jason Day, Dustin Johnson and Justin Rose.

MF: Rory McIlroy, Dustin Johnson, Justin Rose and Jason Day.

9

Why do you enjoy playing golf?

PB: I enjoy socialising, the banter and playing new courses.

MF: It's great to meet and play with different golfers.

Name: Paul Bull

Age: 48

Handicap: 7

Achievements: Seven hole-in-ones. County Scratch Foursomes Runner-up, County Boys Runner-up. County Boys Triangular Winner.



Shires Junior Golf Tour - Back Nine



Name: Mark Faulkner

Age: 55

Handicap: 11

Achievements: International Fairway Team Event Winner in Spain.

10

Best golfer you have seen play?

PB: Seve Ballesteros (pictured right).

MF: Padraig Harrington.

11

Best round?

PB: Gross 65 on the old course at Northampton Golf Club.

MF: 68.

12

Best golf hole played?

PB: 14th hole at La Quinta South.

MF: 14th hole at Valderrama.

13

Golf course you want to play?

PB: Augusta National.

MF: Turnberry.

14

What is the funniest thing you have seen in golf?

PB: A shot hitting the clubhouse and bouncing onto the green, just three feet from the hole.

MF: Lots of my playing partners have had me in stitches.

15

What is your longest drive?

PB: 345 yards.

MF: 360 yards.

16

Have you ever had a hole-in-one?

PB: Yes, seven!

MF: Yes, two.

17

Best golf coaching tip you have received?

PB: Don't take it too seriously, otherwise you might be better off to pack it in.

MF: Lee Scarbrow has given me lots of good tips.

18

Why did you join Shires Junior Golf Tour?

PB: A passion for junior golf. I want to introduce new players to the game and retain the existing players.

MF: To help kids in the area have a chance to meet and play with different players and enjoy themselves.



Shires Junior Golf Tour - 2016 Season

SHIRES Junior Golf Tour has five different handicap categories for the boy and girl golfers to take part in during the 2016 season. A player's handicap for most of the season determines their Order or Merit category for 2016. But they will always use their current handicap and therefore compete for prizes in their relevant handicap category at all other events, including the Grand Final.

Handicap categories (boys and girls)

Gold (18 holes) - Handicaps +5 to 9.4.

Silver (18 holes) - Handicaps 9.5 to 21.4.

Bronze (18 holes) - Handicaps 21.5 to 36.

Copper 1 (nine holes) - Handicaps 36 to 53.

Copper 2 (nine holes) - Handicaps of 54.



Order of Merit

COMPETITIONS will be staged at the 12 venues on a stableford format.

To qualify for the Order of Merit, a player must play in at least five events (three events for nine-hole competitions).

The seven best points totals out of the 12 events will be added together.

The golfer in each handicap category with the most points will be the 2015 Order of Merit winner.

Grand Final

PLAYERS in the 18-hole competitions must play seven of the 12 events to guarantee an invite to the 2016 Grand Final. The nine-hole players must have competed in three events.

The 2016 Grand Final will see golfers in each of the handicap categories play in a one-off competition.

The player with the most points will be the 2016 Grand Final winner.

Master Scoreboard

COMPETITION results and the Order of Merit are published after each event on Master Scoreboard.

To obtain a password please contact Paul Bull on 07824 666480 or email paul@shiresjuniorgolftour.co.uk.

Prizes

THE Order of Merit divisional prizes and the Grand Final top prize have yet to be confirmed, but Shires Junior Golf Tour are in talks with various major organisations about the 2016 season.

Trust us, you will not be disappointed!



2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour

Interested in playing?

Interesting in sponsoring?

Interesting in advertising?

Contact Paul Bull on
















paul@shiresjuniorgolftour.co.uk

07824 666480

Shires Junior Golf Tour - 2016 Schedule

Competitions on 2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour

Unless stated, ALL events are CONGU handicap qualifiers.

Round 1 Kilworth Springs  Sunday, March 13 Tee Time: TBC	Round 2 The Bedford  Monday, March 28 Tee Time: TBC	Round 3 Northampton  Monday, April 4 Tee Time: 10:30	Round 4 Collingtree  Sunday, April 24 Tee Time: TBC
Round 5 Glen Gorse  Monday, May 2 Tee Time: TBC	Round 6 Bedfordshire  Sunday, May 8 Tee Time: TBC	Round 7 Oundle  Monday, May 30 Tee Time: TBC	Round 8 Kirby Muxloe  Sunday, June 19 Tee Time: TBC
Round 9 Kettering  Sunday, July 10 Tee Time: TBC	Round 10 John O'Gaunt  Monday, July 25 Tee Time: TBC	Round 11 Aspley Guise  Sunday, Sept 11 Tee Time: TBC	Round 12 Market Harborough  Sunday, Sept 25 Tee Time: TBC
Pro-Am TBC  Sunday, May 22 Tee Time: TBC	Team Event TBC  Sunday, Aug 21 Tee Time: TBC	Grand Final The Leicestershire  Sunday, October 23 Tee Time: TBC	

2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 1 & 2

Kilworth Springs on Sunday, March 13

THE 2016 season tees off with one of the most popular venues over the last two years as we re-visit this undulating course in south Leicestershire.

A variety of different types of holes face the competitors as they try to avoid a collection of large bunkers and water hazards, especially over the closing stretch.

For those who fancy their chances of winning a nearest the pin prize, the short holes are some of the best in the region, with two of the most challenging on the course being the sixth and 18th holes.

Please be aware, the clocks won't have gone forward to BST, so the number of tee times could be restricted to ensure everyone completes the course before it gets dark.



The Bedford on Monday, March 28

ARGUABLY the best all-weather course in the three counties is the destination for the second round as we play on Easter Monday.

This spectacular 18 hole course is situated within the exclusive new golf village at Great Denham just two miles west of Bedford on the A428 towards Milton Keynes.

It boasts well-manicured fairways, 89 American style bunkers, eight lakes and some slick undulating putting surfaces. With the clocks having changed the previous day, there will be more tee times available but light could still be an issue for some of the later starters.



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2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 3 & 4

Northampton on Monday, April 4

A WELCOME return to the venue of the 2014 Grand Final is on the agenda for the next round as the competitors play over the Easter break for the second time.

Feature holes come thick and fast, from the picturesque short second over a pond, to the par five third, where a player needs to contend with water, a sloping fairway, trees and then a ditch.

The outward stretch has lots of variety, while the big hitters will enjoy the two long par fives towards the start of the back nine - the 12th being the longest in Northants. Anyone with a good scorecard needs to be at their best over the closing quartet of holes, as they face a long par four, a par three over water (pictured above), a dogleg to the right and a knee trembling tee shot back across the pond to the 18th. And then there's the clubhouse. If there was a competition for the best views in the county of Northamptonshire, this would be a strong contender for the top prize.



Collingtree Park on Sunday, April 24



THE first of seven new courses on 2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour sees the youngsters play a venue which was the home of the British Masters on the European Tour twice. This Northamptonshire club, which opened in 1990 and was also the host for the first round of European Tour qualifying in 2015, is ideally located just off M1 junction 15.

Water comes into sight on the majority of the holes from the fourth onwards, but the course is not ridiculously long and the fairways are usually quite generous, so all standards of player will enjoy the 18 holes.

Arguably the biggest test comes at the end as the players attempt to hit the island green (pictured right) on the par five 18th in two.

Could someone win a Shires Junior Golf Tour event with an eagle on the last hole for the first time? The challenge has been set!



Cleveland
GOLF

SRIXON

2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 5 & 6

Glen Gorse on Monday, May 2

EARLY May Bank Holiday Monday is the date for round five as the youngsters visit Glen Gorse on the outskirts of Leicestershire.

If the 2015 Shires Junior Golf Tour event at the same course is a guide, this could be the perfect opportunity for a player to surge up the leaderboard in the Order of Merit, since big points scores are possible.

The Gold, Silver and Bronze Divisions were claimed with 42, 47 and 44 points respectively, while many of the nine-hole players came in with totals that would be acceptable over a full round.

But, beware, on a picturesque course which had the greenest putting surfaces of any Shires Junior Golf Tour venue last year, the final four holes are all card killers.



Bedfordshire on Sunday, May 8

SIX days later is the only event during the regular season that sees the nine-holers split from the three main sections.

The 18-hole course is arguably the closest a player will get to a links as they play an undulating and open layout, where the wind usually plays a significant role in club selection on each hole.

It also offers one of the toughest closing stretch in the region. Although the final three holes are all par four holes measuring around the 400 yard mark, if the wind is blowing in its normal direction they play a lot longer.

A different challenge awaits the Copper Division as they compete over 18 holes on the Academy course, which has eight par threes and a lone par four. This has become one of the most popular venues on the Shires Junior Golf Tour rota.



BRIDGESTONE
GOLF

2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 7 & 8

Oundle on Monday, May 30

SPRING Bank Holiday Monday is the date for the seventh round as Shires Junior Golf Tour visits the first of the three county courses to host the 2015 Men's Strokeplay Championships in our region.

Playing at this new venue should bring back positive memories for Tour members Jack Brown (pictured right) and Charlie Salter as they won the gross and net prizes respectively in the Northamptonshire event.

In fact, this par 72 brings out the best in the best as the only other man to win the Northants crown there was 2007 champ Ryan Evans, who is now playing on the main European Tour.

This course is not especially long, with some of the single figure handicappers capable of reaching three of the par four holes with a drive, but it would be wrong to think this is a pushover.

The two par fours in the middle of the front nine are tough, the short holes at nine and 13 are very tricky, while the par five at the 16th hole is not reachable in two.



Kirby Muxloe on Sunday, June 19

ANOTHER host venue for the 2015 Men's County Strokeplay Championships and another debutante on Shires Junior Golf Tour is the destination for round eight.

This Leicestershire club has a good habit of producing some of the best golfers in the county, with several members boasting plus handicaps.

It's not difficult to see why as they have the opportunity to compete on a stunning parkland course, where an ability to drive the ball well is an absolute must.

The opening half has eight par four holes and a lone short hole, while the closing half has a more diverse mix.

Although a stream runs through the centre, water is only a major issue in the closing holes when a small lake can gobble up anything off line.

A golfer will face all the different tests, like trying to avoid trees, bunkers, water hazards and out of bounds, attempting to hit off hanging lies on the fairways, before putting on undulating greens.



2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 9 & 10

Kettering on Sunday, July 10

AFTER hosting a successful Shires Junior Golf Tour event, a return to the oldest club in Northamptonshire was a must, particularly as they will be celebrating their 125th anniversary in 2016.

As the home club to the best ladies professional golfer in this country, there could be some more Charley Hull (pictured right) prizes coming for the leading players - everyone received something in 2015! To achieve a good score, a player needs to keep out of the woods, which is easily said than done since all the holes are tree-lined and many of them are doglegs. But one thing you can almost guarantee at Kettering in July is magnificent putting surfaces, so if a player starts hitting those greens in regulation, they will face true putts on every hole.

Oh, we almost forgot to mention, the kids get ice cream with their meals - yummy!



John O'Gaunt on Monday, July 25

THE last four venues in the 2016 season are all new destinations on Shires Junior Golf Tour, with the final event before the summer break being held at arguably the best of the lot.

With two stunning 18-hole layouts at John O'Gaunt and a beautiful clubhouse, all the youngsters will compete on the Cartagena course. Featuring five short holes and measuring less than 5,800 yards off the back tees, this par 69 doesn't appear to be too difficult to master. Don't be fooled, this will test all aspects of a player's game.

The undulating tree-lined fairways and well positioned sand traps mean the tee shots need to be accurate and, although the greens are relatively big, three-putts are not uncommon.

The club hosted the 2015 Bedfordshire County Strokeplay Championships, when Shires Junior Golf Tour member Tom Mead (pictured above) clinched the Colts title.



2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour - Rounds 11 & 12

Aspley Guise & Woburn Sands on Sunday, Sept 11

DID you enjoy the summer break? because now it's time to get down to the 'nitty gritty' of trying to win the 2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour Order of Merits, starting with the penultimate round.

Bordering Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire, this par 71 has the ideal blend of good looking and challenging holes on two different loops of nine.



After a slightly quirky opening hole, where the wisdom of reaching for the driver on this short par four brings more risk than reward, an ability to hit a straight ball becomes apparent.

The lower ground in the middle of the outward run brings the first sight of water, before a player climbs back up the hill for the back nine.

The par three holes at 10 (pictured above) and 15 are arguably the two best, but it would be unfair to single out any holes as weak because this is a fair test. Good golf will be rewarded and bad golf will be punished - and that's the way it should be.

Market Harborough on Sunday, Sept 25

THE last Shires Junior Golf Tour comp in the regular season during 2016 involves a trip to the border between Leicestershire and Northants and an undulating course that gets better the longer the round continues.

At just over 6,000 yards off the back tees, it's not the longest track but several holes involve uphill shots so club selection is vital to have any chance of a birdie or two.



Water only comes into play once in the opening 15 holes, on the downhill par four ninth, but getting wet is a massive problem on the closing stretch.

A good round of golf can be ruined on the longish par fours at 16 and 18 holes (pictured left), while the short 17th can be an intimidating tee shot over a pond.

Points are at stake, prizes are at stake, so this picturesque venue is the perfect location to discover who will win the various divisions in the 2016 Order of Merit?

This is your last opportunity to grab a podium finish, so make the most of it.

2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour - Grand Final

The Leicestershire on Sunday, October 23

TO be the best, you need to play the best. And the young golfer who wins the 2016 Shires Junior Golf Tour Grand Final will definitely need to find their very best on arguably the toughest course in the region.

After celebrating its 125th birthday last year, the Leicestershire club continues to provide a stiff test of golf for players of all ages and abilities.



On a par 68, which measures 6,329 yards off the white pegs, male golfers cannot rely on par fives for birdie opportunities, since this course only has par three and par four holes. The ladies have three par fives to contend with.

With holes shaping in both directions, an ability to move the ball both ways is useful but with several holes having elevated greens, a good long game will also be needed to set up birdie opportunities.

Prizes at stake already in 2016 include a short family break to Cornwall, where the winner will stay at Trevose Golf & Country Club and have the opportunity to a full day's golf on their superb 36 holes.

Another free day's golf is included at nearby St. Enodoc, which is ranked amongst the world's best 100 courses. Full reviews of both courses will follow in Shires Junior Golf Tour Magazine next year.



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Shires Junior Golf Tour - Join the 2016 Tour

Why join?

SHIRES Junior Golf Tour love to see new faces at each competition. All golfers aged between four and 21 years old with a CONGU handicap are welcome to play.

Reasons to join;

- Twelve individual competitions.
- Five Order of Merit divisions.
- End-of-season Grand Final.
- Team competition.
- Pro-Am (TBC).
- Monthly magazine.
- Free golf coaching.
- Make lots of new friends.
- It's great fun!!



Cost

SHIRES Junior Golf Tour are a non-profit making organisation, with all income re-invested into junior golf. The competition prices for the 2016 season reflect this policy.

How much to play;

18 holes = £15, including food.

Nine holes = £10, including food.

Entry into the 2016 Grand Final is expected to cost slightly more, but it will have a significantly larger prize fund.

Media and Promotion

SHIRES Junior Golf Tour and Apprentice Supermarket Golf Academy enjoy continuous links with the local, regional, national and international media.



*Monthly PDF magazine, distributed to all Golf Clubs in the three counties.

Advertise or Sponsor

SHIRES Junior Golf Tour are looking for help from local and national advertisers and sponsors as they continue to invest in junior golf for several years to come.

Packages are now available to sponsor prizes in the individual categories, nearest-the-pins and longest drives at all the events, the handicap divisions, the Order of Merit and the Grand Final, plus any coaching that takes place during the season.



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