

Golf At Goodwood gunning for glory in Oliver Trophy

A Golf At Goodwood team will contest the final of the Sussex Inter-Club Scratch Matchplay Championship for the Oliver Trophy for the first time in the club's history. The final takes place at The Dyke Golf Club on Saturday 19 August and the Goodwood scratch team will be heading there having made impressive progress through the competition.

Victory against East Brighton Golf Club on Saturday 5 August secured Goodwood's place in the final and an impressive 9-3 win has left the team brimming with confidence. Goodwood has now won four straight matches against formidable opposition in the Oliver Trophy, three of which were played on away venues.

In the semi-final, Matt Lavington and 2017 club champion Leo Ruggieri led the team out against East Brighton and played very solid golf from tee to green, claiming the first foursome match 5&4. Brian Arnell and Paul Millard lost 4&3 in their match, before team Captain Nick Tull and Dave Porter stepped up to win 5&3. Golf At Goodwood General Manager Stuart Gillett and his playing partner Chris Kerr kept up the pressure in their match, meaning the Goodwood team finished the morning with a 3-1 lead.

Skipper Nick Tull had asked the players to focus on trying to win the afternoon singles sessions, something Goodwood had only done at home back in May, but the team duly rose to the occasion. Ruggieri, Porter, Millard, Kerr, Tull and Gillett all won their respective matches, with Millard's win being a particularly impressive 8&6.

The team is now greatly looking forward to facing favourites East Sussex National Golf Club at the weekend and although they will start the day as underdogs, the layout of The Dyke course could play into the hands of Goodwood, being similar in nature to The Downs course.

Gillett said; "To reach the final of the Oliver Trophy is testament to where we are going as a club, becoming ever more competitive and nurturing the real talent that we have in our membership. We are hugely looking forward to the challenge of facing East Sussex National in the final and we will make the most of this fantastic occasion."

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For more information on Golf At Goodwood, including details on the Academy, please visit <u>www.goodwood.com</u> or call the Golf team on 01243 755144.

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