



press release

17th September 2013

Scotland's SDGP win latest home international over Team DGA at The Shire

News article SCOTLAND 13.5 / ENGLAND 10.5

This year's 'Auld Enemies Cup', the only **pan-disabled Ryder Cup style match** in the World, between the disabled golfers of England/Wales and Scotland took place at the prestigious The Shire in Barnet, North London this year.

At the only Seve Ballesteros designed course in the UK, the disabled golfers of England/Wales and Scotland battled in 3 days of amazing golf and tension. The disabilities represented included amputees, one arm, blind/partially sighted, MS and blind golfers.

After 3 days Scotland won the trophy back and now the series is level at 2 matches each – strangely it's always been the Away side who have won so far – England won at Slaley Hall 2011, Scotland at Breadsall Priory 2012 and England at Kinross 2013.

The home international series now includes Wales - England won the Oldfield Trophy played out at The Wiltshire in a two-day event held over the August bank holiday weekend.

Results

Monday 15th September - 6 x Foursomes , Scotland 3.5 / England 2.5

Tuesday 16th September - 6 x Fourballs , Scotland 4.5 / England 1.5

Wednesday 17th September - 12 x Singles, England 6.5 / Scotland 5.5

Final Score Scotland 13.5 / England 10.5

Graeme Robertson, non-playing captain of the England/ Wales team said *"Many congratulations to Scotland on their well-deserved victory, we are disappointed to lose, but the matches were very close and I am very proud of my team for their efforts and sportsmanship.*

I put together a team from our season-long Order of Merit, that represents what the Disabled Golf association is all about different abilities/disabilities, ages and parts of the country joining together.

We have ex-serving service members, amputees, Parkinsons, MS, blind and stroke survivors all participating together.

Many thanks to the Menai-Davies family at The Shire for their continued support of disabled golf. it was great to play at the Seve Ballesteros course, a great test of golf made

for a matchplay event and enjoyed the camaraderie and to uphold the legacy of the Paralympics to show the power of the human mind to overcome adversity. Thanks also to Glenbrae for supplying kit for the event”.

Stevie Cunningham, Scots Captain *“Delighted to have the trophy back home for the next 2 years when we will defend it in Scotland. A massive congratulations to all of the team who played really well over the 3 days.*

Also well done to all involved with team England/Wales, but the real winner is disabled golf played at the highest level by all.

The overall score is now 2-2 and it is great for us to level the score & bring the trophy north of the border especially in the year the Ryder Cup is being played at Gleneagles.

We enjoyed making the journey to London & must say a big thanks to Virgin Trains who sponsored the travel costs for Team Scotland.”

DGA is a pan-disability, not-for-profit organization, membership is free. More information is at www.disabledgolfassociation.co.uk and www.sdgp.org.uk with events scheduled all over the country.

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Information for editors

About the Disabled Golf Association

Our main aims are to promote the game of golf as a pathway to a healthier lifestyle and greater social inclusion for those who are disabled, irrespective of age, gender or disability. This includes providing the means to make it easier for the disabled player to access the facilities both on and off the course. We aim to provide information about equipment to permit that increased accessibility, this can be done by means of single-seater buggies specifically designed for the disabled player, bespoke club and prosthetic adaptation as well as supplying professional coaching at events from those who have been trained to teach the sport. We aim to attract not only those who have played in the past prior to an illness or injury, but also those who have never played the sport but are seeking the unique benefits of a sport which can be played by anyone either alone against the course, or in teams against each other.

We look to provide a playing environment where the clubs are disabled friendly and accessible and the courses are pre-vetted to ensure that they are capable of being played by those with limited mobility. We are helping to assist in the launching of coaching academies and training sessions throughout the UK. Also from our base in Gloucestershire we aim to provide information on courses, equipment and holiday resorts for the disabled golfer. We hope to offer all of these benefits for our members and others but also employment for those in the area who are disabled and can join us.

All our members are kept aware of the activities of the association by a comprehensive web site and active facebook site, which attract new members on a daily basis. We also actively seek and need the feedback from our members on such diverse subjects as new events, holiday resorts, new equipment and opportunities to volunteer and assist in future

direction.

We interact with all of the governing bodies of the sport as well as some well known major suppliers and a wide cross-section of disability organisations such as The Papworth Trust, Leonard Cheshire Disability, The Stroke Association, The Cerebral Palsy Association and CP Sport, REMAP and DIAL.

In our first year in 2010 we achieved over 200 members with associates throughout Europe and have links with other disabled golfing organisations throughout the world. In 2010 we arranged or been involved with 12 events which is unique in the world of disabled golf, we have attracted a true cross section of disabilities and our members realise they can enjoy friendly and enjoyable experience.

In 2011 we increased our membership to 500 and introduced a series of events for newcomers as well as those requesting competition plus a unique series of par-3 events for those with limited mobility. In July 2011 we were featured in a 4-page centre spread in Motability Lifestyle magazine which led to 100 new members in just one week! We held 24 events in 2011. In August 2011 we received notification of our official registration as a shared-enterprise Community Interest Company.

By the close of the 2012 season (where we had 40 events) we had over 600 members, making us the largest pan-disabled not-for-profit golf organisation in the UK – and possibly the world! We took the opportunity to rebrand and change our name from Society to Association to reflect our national role in the UK.

In 2013 we have over 50 events planned throughout – England, Wales and Northern Ireland – and a whole series of taster sessions for those new to golf, supported by Sport England. At the start of the season, DGA has entered into agreement with Glenbrae as Official Apparel Supplier to DGA members with the new range of Pro V+ balls being donated as prizes for the entire season by Titleist. In addition for 2013, DGA have announced a partnership with the BGL group of golf courses in a “BGL Race to Burhill” with the final to be held in October.

DGA are delighted to announce in August 2013, a new partnership with the Motor Accident Solicitors Society (MASS) who have chosen DGA as their charity of choice on an ongoing basis bringing much needed funding to support the infrastructure of the organisation. On 5th September 2013 DGA were announced as the winners of the Sports Award by Disability Motoring UK.

About the Motor Accident Solicitors Society



MASS is a non-profit making national association of solicitors who specialise in road traffic accidents, representing the accident victim. Formed in 1991, MASS promotes the highest standards of legal services through education and representation in the pursuit of justice for the victims of road traffic accidents. MASS comprises 190 solicitor firms that employ over 2,000 legal staff, throughout the UK. Collectively member firms conduct in

excess of 600,000 road traffic accident personal injury claims each year.

The victim, and what is in their best interests, must remain at the centre of the debate. Our goal in this debate is to both protect the rights and interests of consumers who are victims of genuine road traffic accidents as our constitutional objective.