

Reigning G&S PGA Strokeplay Champion warmed up for the defence of his title by winning the final 18 hole Medal of the season at the Isle of Wedmore. It was the first ever G&S PGA event to be hosted by the club and Kelley struggled to find the venue after following the commands of his sat nav which took him on a scenic route through the Somerset countryside. Once he had found the golf course there was no stopping him as he recorded a 4 under par 66 to win by 3 strokes from Mark Sanders.

Unfortunately due to PGA exams and various other commitments the field was the smallest of the season for the inaugural Medal at the club. The club members did however take interest in the event and they saw some spectacular shots played by the Pros. It is hoped that when they return next season that the field will be larger and even stronger. The course was presented in good condition for the time of year especially considering the lack of rain recently in Somerset. The greens ran well which reflected in the sub par scoring that was produced as the leading players found them to their liking.

Kelley was in the opening group of the day and didn't take advantage of the opening par 5 but did move under par with the first of his 6 birdies at the short 2nd. A bogey followed though at the tricky 3rd before a run of three pars was broken by back to back birdies at the 7th and 8th. Par figures were recorded until he reached Wedmore's trio of par 5 holes on the back nine. All three of these succumbed to Kelley's excellent play as he reached 5 under. Another bogey did follow at the 16th but that was still good enough to ensure a comfortable victory for him. He also claimed the birdie sweep mainly thanks to him reverting to the putter he had used to win the Strokeplay almost 12 months ago. The result also saw him move up into contention for a top 4 slot in the Order of Merit with the double points in the Championship meaning any one of 5 players can fill those positions in the final standings.

Runner up yet again was Mark Sanders after his one under par round on his first visit to the course. A typically steady round was carded by him showing four birdies and three bogies as he extended his unassailable lead at the head of the Order of Merit. Third place went to last week's winner David Haines who was not quite at his best on the day as he posted a 1 over par 71 but he relegated his Brean colleague Andrew March to fourth. March had looked like challenging the leaders for most of the day but suffered a poor finish as he dropped 5 shots in the final 5 holes.

The G&S PGA would like to thank the club for the warm welcome they received and look forward to returning in the future. All eyes now turn to the finale to the G&S Season as the coveted Strokeplay Championship is contested over 36 holes at The Players Club in Bristol next Wednesday where Daryl Kelley is hoping his good form continues as he defends his crown.