

LADBROOK PARK

NEVILLE GREEN PLATE 2021

Some will remember “Moseley Mayhem” when an ex-member caused havoc and another member ended up losing out. Now we have “Ladbroke Lash up.”

Ladbroke Park, a first timer for PGS, following on from the Monmouth monsoon, the course and the weather could not have been further apart. Set in a parkland area of mature trees, with stunning properties surrounding, it was a good test with drainage ditches criss-crossing and several water hazards.



We were sent off the 1st, a par 5, by a likeness of the ex-member involved in the “Mayhem” lurking at the back of the tee, did this have any bearing on what unfolded later?

Due to some no shows, for different reasons, two groups of 3 were first out, with Pricey giving his “have to leave early” letter another outing, along with his fellow Wolves supporter Simon.

A ditch ran across the 1st at about 250 yards but as far as I know no one reached it off the tee, although several did with the 2nd shot. Meady, Tony Soper and Killer to name a few, Terry resulting in an opening 9.

My group included both Killer and Tony, together with expectant father Clive, which was his excuse for having his phone on and ringing on one hole.

Thanks to the ditches and our penchant for visiting them, the ball retriever also had a day out, however, it was of no use when I decided to ruin my steady start by launching one OB on 7, into the adjacent horse field, resulting in a 9, where on the same hole Tony Poyner picked up for a 10 while still 200 yards from the green.

There was a halfway house at the turn, selling rolls, drinks and chocolate and the Whitehead, Ciric, Poyner and Mead group decided to partake. “I’ll get them” says Tony, only to find they only accept cash of which he had none. Up steps JW with some cash and £15 later had to be given oxygen to bring him round!

In our group Clive made a similar offer, although he was the only one, and ended up with a freebee as the guy had no change, although he did pay when he got back to the clubhouse.

Clive had been driving the ball beautifully, a high shot with a small fade. Fairway after fairway he hit until we came to 11, which was nearest the pin in 2. On this one he produced a draw, which ended up the wrong side of some large pine trees and a big number ensued.

This hole is called “Eveson’s Spinney” and I, for one would like to thank Eve’s son. Hitting a poor drive right I had a clear shot from the rough to the green, with the spinney way to the right. I hit the same fade/slice, which headed into said trees, only to re-appear on the green 10 feet from the pin and get my name on the board. Unfortunately, it was later beaten by a proper shot.

Killer had had enough of going in the ditches so used the bridge on 16 to make the fairway, Tony on the other hand, found another one on 17 and tweaked his back getting his ball out. Not to be outdone and looking for sympathy, Jerry came in limping, blaming the shrapnel from WW1.

So, to the “Lash up!”

As I came in Simon, who I had in the sweep was just leaving and raised my hopes by telling me he had a 70, only to dash them in the next breath to say that Robin Eaton, had done him on countback. “No” says the captain, “Simon is in the lead.”

Last group in was Robin Proctor, JV, McD and Redge. Three of them had nothing to offer, apart from a big number, but JV posts a 70 and is announced the winner, trophy, photo, winner’s cheque the lot, with Simon 2nd and Robin 3rd.

Robin, who had earlier been smashing glasses on the patio, then raises a protest and demands a recount...a few red faces and a recalculation ended up with the following.

- N.P – Keith Taylor
- N.P in 2 – Chris Jolley
- 3rd – Simon – 70
- 2nd – JV - 70
- 1st – Robin - 70

Once again, just like Moseley, JV has victory snatched away, although this time for purely administrative reasons. Was that the “likeness” on the 1st I heard chuckling?

Next up THE TOUR...



Not the winner



Winner!