



OSGC vs SHSB Match Report 2026

Captain: Karl Wingfield
Vice Captain: Dr Paul Husselbee
Secretary: Steve Clarke

We rebooted the annual OSGC vs SHSB golf match on Wednesday 29th April 2026 at Thorpe Hall GC with the kind help of Rich Casey at the school. Things were all a bit last minute but we got 2 sides of 12 competitors, plus fellow teacher Ben Brower who was inaugurated into the OSGC team.

This annual event started in the year 2000 and is normally played for the Millennium Cup. The last match was pre-Covid and sadly it appeared that the cup had been "lost". However, THGC had arranged a starter for the match: Dave Neale (known as Grim and also a fellow Old Southendian), and Dave/Grim upon hearing of the lost cup smiled (yes smiled!) and said he thought he knew where it was. 10 minutes later he returned with the cup, a bit bruised but still intact. It appears Dan Garside, the previous event organiser, must have stored at THGC as the last winners were OSGC - though Dan could not remember the result nor storing it at THGC.

So now we had a Cup to play for, as well as the NP prizes kindly donated by the 2026 OSGC Captain: Karl Wingfield (Pro 1 balls - Thank You!) and OSGC itself (embroidered golf towels).

The OSGC team started gathering at noon, enjoying drinks and lunches, and the usual "Old Boy banter". The School team arrived 1.15pm and we gathered in THGC's Presidents room to meet and face off the pairs ready for battle. Both sides looked confident, but the boys certainly looked to have more swagger, ready to take the "old gits" down. Perhaps because of Rich and Ben's late changes to their team, bringing in even more 3 handicappers, with one of those at just 12yrs old!

Battle commenced at 2pm with 6 teams playing 4BBB match play. The boys tee'd off first and every one of them went to use the "wind-with" and smash the ball as far they could. One lad even got his ball pin high from the tee – some drive of 340+ yds! The Old Boys (gits) remained unfazed and stuck to their game to use the numerous shots given. Clive Shiret even topped his drive 40yds into the left hand trees to give the boys a false sense of security that their game would be easy. The grey haired and bearded Clive then shared a knowing smile with his younger partner Rob Osborne....

And so the 6 groups got away smartly and quickly. The THGC course was in great condition, the greens running fast and tricky. The weather was warmish with lots of sunshine, but a vicious wind from the north-east was going to make shots tricky. I re-joined the teams on holes 12/13 some 2.5hrs later to track the state of play, along with Mrs Worth (School Headteacher) and Rich Casey. It was all very tight indeed with the boys 1up in one match or 1 down in another until Clive and Rob showed up and they were leading 4up. Clearly their tactics were paying off, the boys light heartedly claiming they were bandits (one of these being the lad who drove the 1st green).

Mrs Worth and I then rejoined to the THGC terrace for drinks and to watch the groups come in on the 18th. OSGC then got drinks for everyone as they came in and we then moved indoors for Sandwiches and Chips, and prize giving.

So to the results....

	OSGC					SHSB	
	Karl Wingfield Ben Brower	2	Vs	3	George White George Kirby	1	
1	Rob Osborne Clive Shiret	3	Vs	2	Theo Windsor Thomas Dye		
	Alan Ditton John Milroy		Vs	1up	Ethan Firth Albert Adams	1	
1	Rob McKelvie Garry Clark	4	Vs	3	Sean McCarthy Henry Tokley		
1	John Ruppert Austin Whitehouse	3	Vs	2	Josh Haylock Hayden Apps		
1/2	Andy Metcalf Brant Chapman	0	Vs	0	Max Gregor Stanley Carswell-Jones	1/2	
3 & 1/2		Result: OSGC Win				2 & 1/2	

The NP prizes were shared across OSGC and SHSB, though no-one got on the very difficult 5th green. As such this became a "Captain's" prize and he awarded to his SHSB playing opposition.

I believe everyone had a very enjoyable afternoon/evening. The boys were an absolute credit to the School, they smiled and laughed at all times and appeared to be totally relaxed and up for the match. And the feedback I have from OSGC was that they really enjoyed their matches and their company. They are very much looking forward to the rematch next year.

My huge thanks go out to Mr Rich Casey and Mr Ben Brower for getting the SHSB team together. The boys were fantastic golfers, just beaten on the day by the wiles of age and experience in such blustery conditions.

Thanks to everyone for making this event so successful, and roll-on to 2027!

Best regards,

Steve
OSGC Secretary