

Dear EGC Seasoned Golfers,

We continued our use of the Hooge Rotterdamsche for our organization of the EGC Spring Seasonal Tournament for 2016, the 5th year running.

This year's Spring Tournament took place a little later than previous years with the hope of ensuring reasonable weather and guaranteeing the use of buggies for the less able of our group. As it happened the weather started OK but with humidity and low clouds threatening a shower or two, but developed into a fine semi-sunny afternoon with little wind. We were able to enjoy the after-round drink sitting outside on the terrace.

The condition of the course was generally good with medium-speed greens with little patchy signs and only a few patches of wetness resulting from a downpour earlier in the day. Buggies were requested to keep to the buggy paths on holes 8 and 12, which have been extended making the course easier to navigate.

The scoring was good for this tightly rated course with the winner Andrew Murrell returning 36 Stableford points. Trailing on 32 points were Nico Dettman (2nd) and Vincent Regis (3rd) on 32 points with Vincent 15 points on the back nine and Nico 16 points. The "mode score" – the most often scored score was 25 Stableford points. The full details of the results are shown in the attachment.

This year we decided not to ask for a competition fee but to allocate the prizes to the players who stayed for the very pleasant dinner after the match. Unfortunately the two best scores could not attend the dinner so their prizes were carried forward to the next able scorers. This must be irritating to the prize-less winner(s) but the events during the dinner are announcing the results and the giving of prizes with congratulations to the winners. Our decision to do it this way is a compromise since non-diners are also welcome in this competition.

Another new innovation is to recognize that men may also like to play off the Red Tees as now allowed by the EGA. Longest Drives now have two choices 1) from the yellow tees or the red tees or 2) Longest Drive Men and Longest Drive Ladies, independently from which tees were used. We chose this time for the latter. Perhaps in the future we can emulate the EGC monthly and have Mens and Ladies fairway nearies, also independently of tees used. Let me know what you think!

The club functioned well, with the catering staff performing well and earning their tip. The food was delicious if a little ordinary. A little nag from the organizers for the club is that they did not support us as well as in previous years, not preparing cards and not having a menu and list for the sign up process and we did it all ourselves, sometimes a little stress-full since we like to play as well. We can of course do all this but it should be clear we have to perform tasks previously supported by the club.

Notwithstanding the minor quibbles we had a very pleasant day out and we extend our gratitude to the club for their hospitality.

Rod Allen