

Brand Putter League 2009 - 'How the league was won'

Match week 1

East Renfrewshire v Cathkin Braes

Played Thurs 30 April - East Renfrewshire got off to a winning start with a close fought game against visitors Cathkin Braes. On a sunny evening numerous birdies were flying around from both teams. Most games were closely contested with excellent victories for Craig Watson and Tim Hunter for East Renfrewshire and Gordon Sangster and Ben Sloan for Cathkin Braes. Thanks to all players for arriving early to ensure the match did not finish in the dark. Final score 5-3. Match report from Bruce Clarkson.

Haggs Castle v Eastwood

Played Fri 1st May - A good start to the Haggs Castle campaign with impressive wins from Graham Pascal and Graham Shaw. The rest of the matches were close, with the Haggs players squeezing through in the majority of the games. Thanks to both teams for getting to Haggs and starting the match early to allow play to complete. Final score 6.5-1.5. Match report from Neal Stewart.

Williamwood v Cowglen

Played Fri 1st May - Williamwood 5 Cowglen 3. It was a closely contested match although Williamwood had the first 4 games won. A nail biting finish for the remaining games made it exciting until John Forsyth, playing in his first Brand Putter match came through with a strong victory to clinch the points for the home side. Williamwood also had another recruit in Scott Ralston promoted from last years FWL and he had a fine 2&1 win. Thanks to Peter Buchanan for his match report.

Cathcart Castle v Fereneze

Played Fri 1st May - Cathcart Castle hosted the defending champions in the opening match of their respective Brand Putter seasons, and it was, as ever between these teams, a very close and hard fought match. Tony McGovern from Fereneze almost pitched his second shot at the 11th straight into the cup, and finished up 6" away from the hole. His opponent, Scott Coulter, immediately played an identical shot! Amazing to see. Gary Murray for the visitors had a superb 5/4 win to bring in the first point for Fereneze and thereafter it was nail biting stuff with Cathcart Castle winning the last 2 matches up the 17th to edge out their opponents by 5 and 3. Excellent match, played in a competitive but very friendly manner. Thanks to Stuart Robertson for his match report.

Match week 2

The weather in Scotland this week has made golfing conditions difficult, and on Wednesday the match between Cathkin Braes and Williamwood had to be abandoned due to the greens being waterlogged. That match has been re-arranged for Wed 1st July. The Eastwood v Cathcart Castle match was also postponed due to the conditions. Meanwhile Cowglen recorded their first win of the season and East Renfrewshire had a victory at Whitecraigs. Match reports below

Cowglen v Haggs Castle

Played Thurs 7th May - Cowglen played host to Haggs Castle on a blustery evening with Haggs Castle looking to build on their winning start of the previous week. Stephen Machin Snr lead the Cowglen team off with a 5&4 win over Graeme Belch and was followed sharply by strong wins from John Laurie & Chris Wedgeworth. However it was down to John Mathers, Sandy Stephen & Graeme Shaw to lead the fightback for Haggs Castle and with conditions deteriorating, scoring became more difficult for both teams. John Mathers & Sandy Stephen filed convincing wins for Haggs Castle, while John Mc Donald & Frank Drum posted the wins to give Cowglen the result. All and all a difficult night for both teams, and thankfully all play had completed before an extremely violent thunderstorm struck near the end. Final score Cowglen 5.5 Haggs Castle 2.5 Thanks to Les McLaughlin and Neal Stewart for reports from that match.

Whitecraigs v East Renfrewshire

Played Thurs 7th May - On an extremely windy evening Whitecraigs had their title hopes blown away as East Renfrewshire recorded a well deserved away win. Two early wins for Scott Hall and Gavin Hay gave Whitecraigs a solid start. Tim Hunter gave East Renfrewshire their first point and a Cameron Paul 5&3 win restored Whitecraig's advantage. Game of the evening was Gordon Stevenson against Craig Watson. Gordon fought back from being 3 down after five to 1 up through 12. Craig restored his lead with a birdie at the 16th only for Gordon to match this with a birdie at the 17th. A half at the last ended with a halved game. With the light fading and in heavy rain, East Renfrewshire took control of the match by winning the last three games. Wins for Crawford Weir and Gordon McGregor meant the result hinged on the last game which Richard Aitken won at the last after Jim Thomson's ball plugged in a bunker. Well done to East Renfrewshire and many thanks to Bruce Livingston for his match report. Final score Whitecraigs 3.5 East Renfrewshire 4.5

Match week 3

Despite a return to drier weather in the early part of the week, there have been some windy and cold conditions for the golfers to deal with. It's match week 3 and Cowglen notched up their second win this season with victory at Eastwood on Wednesday evening. Continuing their good form, East Renfrewshire won against Haggs Castle. Also this week a first win for Cathkin Braes, and there was an emphatic victory for Williamwood over Whitecraigs. Read our match reports below.

Eastwood v Cowglen

Played Wed 13th May - Eastwood played host to visitors Cowglen on their first home match of the season, the weather having cancelled their first scheduled home game with Cathcart Castle. Despite the biting cold wind, the scoring was excellent. In a closely fought contest 3 matches were halved with Cowglen edging 3 games late on. Final score Eastwood 2.5 Cowglen 5.5. Match report from Martin Glancey.

East Renfrewshire v Haggs Castle

Played Thurs 14th May - Played on a cold and windy evening East Renfrewshire continued their good run with a victory over Haggs Castle. With the strong wind and greens a bit bumpy scoring was difficult, however it favoured the East Renfrewshire team. Crawford Weir led from the front with a

comfortable victory over John Mathers, followed by Tim Hunter by 4&3 over Colin Turnbull. For Hags Castle their 2 victories came from experienced campaigners Graeme Shaw and Gus Lamond over Richard Aitken and Gordon McGregor. In a game of few halved holes, Gordon Young managed to beat Brian Hansen 3&2, played in a manner reflecting the true spirit of the Brand Putter League. Final score East Renfrewshire 5.5 Hags Castle 2.5. Match report from Bruce Clarkson.

Fereneze v Cathkin Braes

Played Thurs 14th May - A superb result for Cathkin Braes to snatch an away win at Fereneze. The match was too close to call right to the end. There was some wonderful golf played in very blustery conditions. Mark Carlton was 2 under in his 1up victory against Craig Haugh. Similarly Roy Vallance of Cathkin was 3 under in his defeat of Gordon Black by 2/1. Ritchie Elrick of Fereneze who was 1 up with 2 to go birdied the 17th expecting a 2/1 win and a draw for the home side, only to see his opponent Peter Jamieson follow him in from 20 feet to keep the match alive. He then followed up with a win down the last to give the away team a well deserved victory. Final score Fereneze 3.5 Cathkin Braes 4.5. Thanks again to Anand Podder for his match report.

Williamwood v Whitecraigs

Played Fri 15th May - Despite dreadful weather conditions the match took place and all matches has started before 6.10pm, with every chance they would complete in daylight. Williamwood were almost at full strength compared with Whitecraigs who were without one or two of their key players. The score was actually flattering to Williamwood as seven out of the eight games were concluded at the 17th or 18th green. The greatest performance from a Williamwood point of view was Gary Hopkirk, who from being 3 down with 5 holes to play, managed to win 3 holes in the back five to secure a very commendable halved match. Final score Williamwood 7.5 Whitecraigs 0.5 Thanks to Peter Buchanan for the match report.

Match week 4

It's match week 4 in the BPL and some teams still do not have a win. Two of those teams Whitecraigs and Fereneze produced a draw when they met this week. In a change of fortunes, league leaders East Renfrewshire suffered a crushing defeat at Cowglen. Meanwhile Cathcart and Hags shared the points in an exciting encounter on Friday evening. Williamwood had a comfortable win over Eastwood at home leaving them stranded at the bottom of the table without points.

Whitecraigs v Fereneze

Played Thurs 21st May - On a perfect evening for golf, Whitecraigs and Fereneze fought out a drawn game leaving the home team still without a victory to their name. The first four matches provided two wins apiece with Gavin Hay and Scott Hall winning for the home team and Gorgon Black and Jim Coleman registering for Fereneze. Good wins for Jim Thomson and Cameron Paul put Whitecraigs in pole position but Fereneze fought back with wins for Ian McMillan and John Davie to secure three away points. Special mention for John Davie who is the Fereneze Captain who was making a rare appearance for his club. He won his game but thanks to his stand in, still had to hand over a ball! Final score Whitecraigs 4 Fereneze 4. Thanks to Bruce Livingston for the match report.

Cowglen v East Renfrewshire

Played Thurs 21st May - Cowglen welcomed league leaders East Renfrewshire for a top of the table clash with both teams displaying a full squad of players. Veteran John Macdonald was the early leader with a convincing 7/6 win setting the tone of the evening. Strong wins from Stephen Machin & John Laurie were followed home with 14 year old Calumn McLean bringing in the final result. Final result Cowglen 7.5 East Renfrewshire 0.5 Thanks to Les McLaughlin for the match report.

Cathcart Castle v Haggs Castle

Played Fri 22nd May - In perfect conditions for golf, Cathcart and Haggs fought out an honourable draw. Graeme Belch won the top match for Haggs 2&1 while Alan Johnston did likewise for Cathcart in the second match. Roy Alexander was in control of his game early on winning 4&3 and Ian Montgomerie won the battle of the "older heads" against Graeme Shaw by a similar scoreline. The remaining games were all tight finishing on the 17th. Stuart Henderson from the home team shared a birdie at the 18th hole to edge out Gus Lamond by 1 hole, thus ensuring the match ended all square. A superbly contested match played in excellent conditions which went to the wire. Final result Cathcart Castle 4 Haggs Castle 4 Thanks to Stuart Robertson and Neal Stewart for those match reports.

Williamwood v Eastwood

Played Fri 22nd May - Williamwood played host to visitors Eastwood. The visitors arrived with a team of new faces, some who had not played Williamwood for some time. It is a result that is a bit flattering to Williamwood, as nearly all of the close matches were won by the home side either on the 17th or 18th green with one match being all square. The match was always in Williamwood's favour as 2 matches were finished early and Eastwood's Tommy Webster had to concede his match after damaging his wrist at the 10th hole. A further win and half match had the game won irrespective of the matches to follow. Williamwood now embark on 3 away matches which will make or break their chances of competing at the top end of the league. Final score Williamwood 6.5 Eastwood 1.5 Thanks to Peter Buchanan for his match report.

Match week 5

We've now reached the midpoint of the season and on Thursday evening Cathcart Castle and East Renfrewshire had a halved match. Fereneze had their first victory of the season. Haggs Castle had a good home victory and Cathkin Braes also had a home victory against Whitecraigs. So after match week 5 it's East Renfrewshire who are our current league leaders. Out in front on the individual points table is currently Stephen Machin of Cowglen.

East Renfrewshire v Cathcart Castle

Played Thurs 28th May - Despite the threat of poor weather the evening turned out warm and fair. A good friendly spirit prevailed and early on it looked like a home win was on the cards. However as the evening progressed Cathcart managed a fightback and put the points on the board early ensuring a tight and nail biting finish which went to the last match. Overall a halved match was a fair outcome. Special mention has to be made of East Ren's Gordon Young who closed out his game on

the 11th hole at 2 under par. Final score East Renfrewshire 4 Cathcart Castle 4. Thanks to Alistair McGregor for the match report.

Fereneze v Cowglen

Played Thurs 28th May - Fereneze got their first win of the season on a glorious sunny evening. At the turn the matches all seemed to be going the home sides way being up in 7 of the 8 matches. However a fight back from Cowglen looked to be on the cards as they ground out victories in the top 2 matches. Richie Elrick got one back for the home side in game 3, Gordon Black in game 4 looked like getting the two sides on level terms being dormie 4 up, however Chris Wedgeworth his opponent fought back to square their match and give Cowglen the lead again. The last 4 matches all went the home sides way, the pick which was Jim Coleman's match against 15 year old Calum McLean. Calum 2 down at the 12th flew his 2nd shot straight into the cup only to see it bounce out to 6 in from the hole. Jim went on to win by 3&2 in sub par figures. Final score Fereneze 5.5 Cowglen 2.5 Thanks to Anand Poddar for his match report.

Haggs Castle v Williamwood

Played Fri 29th May - In excellent conditions for golf a very tight match ensued with big wins for Haggs at the bottom end of the order with John Mathers, Colin Turnbull, Sandy Steven and young David Shields all winning well. Gary Hopkirk and Colin Gailey replied for the Williamwood team and with George Crawford winning the top match it came down to Roy Alexander v Allan Syme to decide the overall outcome of the match. Allan birdied 15 to get back to 1 down but then unfortunately lost a ball from his tee shot at 16 which left Roy dormie. Roy held his game together to get the necessary half at 17 and end the match in Haggs favour. Final score Haggs Castle 5 Williamwood 3 Thanks to Neal Stewart for his match report.

Match week 6

This week Eastwood's home match against Fereneze ended in defeat, which leaves them still looking for a win this season. They are now favourites for the wooden spoon. Cathkin Braes had their second win in a row, this time against visitors Haggs Castle. Whitecraigs finally got their first victory and Cathcart Castle continued their fine home record and remain unbeaten so far this year. So at match week 6 the league leaders are still East Renfrewshire, with Cowglen a close second. Golfer of the year leader is Stephen Machin with the pack closing in not far behind.

Cathkin Braes v Haggs Castle

Played Wed 3rd June - A hard fought match with a very solid performance from the Cathkin team resulted in an excellent 6 - 2 win for the home team. Strong performances from Gordon Sangster and John Mathers in the top two games followed by wins for Roy Vallance and Roy Alexander in the next two games left the match tied at 2 - 2 after the first 4 games. Cathkin's players came through strongly to win the next 4 games. Special mention should be made of Ben Sloan who, in defeating Colin Turnbull, holed 2 bunker shots and a chip shot. Colin fought hard but went down the last 1 down which Ben played perfectly to record a birdie and a fine 2 hole win. Final score Cathkin Braes 6 Haggs Castle 2 Thanks to Neal Stewart for his match report.

Eastwood v Fereneze

Played Wed 3rd June - Eastwood played hosts to Fereneze on a perfect evening for golf, weather wise. Unfortunately the still conditions gave rise to the midgies but that didn't spoil the quality of the golf with most games going right down to the wire. Home wins were recorded by Willie Macmillan at the top of the order and Tommy Webster, but the visitors levelled with Ross Connolly winning comfortably and Gary Murray taking a narrow 1 up win. With two middle-order games being halved, wins in the bottom two games by Jim Coleman and Club Captain John Davie gave the visitors the victory. Final score Eastwood 3 Fereneze 5 Thanks to Rob Crusher for his match report.

Whitecraigs v Cowglen

Played Thurs 4th June - Finally after their fifth match the Whitecraigs captain was able to make use of his 'winning' speech! On a perfect night for golf Whitecraigs took an early lead with good wins from Gordon Stevenson and Gavin Hay. Cowglen countered with a win from John McDonald but the home team regained their advantage when Paul McDonald 'fell' over the winning line 2&1 after being dormie 4 up. The crucial match was Chris Rossi up against the previously undefeated Stevie Machin. A very close game arrived at the 18th all square but Chris hit a drive and four iron to twelve feet and his two putt birdie secured a win for Whitecraigs. Les McLaughlin won for Cowglen and this was followed by home halves from Cameron Paul and Jim Thomson who both lost the 18th to give Whitecraigs a well deserved victory. Final score Whitecraigs 5 Cowglen 3 Thanks to Bruce Livingston for his match report

Cathcart Castle v Williamwood

Played Fri 5th June - Match played in fine conditions. There were big wins for the bottom order of the home team, Ian Montgomerie recording an excellent 6/5 win over Colin Gailey. Crawford Burns replied for the visitors with a fine 3/2 victory, and with Alan Syme and George Crawford also winning, a tight finish ensued, which saw the home team come out on top. Final score Cathcart Castle 5 Williamwood 3 Thanks to Stuart Robertson for his match report.

Match week 7

It's match week 7 in the BPL and we are now at the business end of the season. Cowglen bounced back from last week to score a fine home win against visitors Cathkin Braes. Current leaders East Renfrewshire continued to show they are strong contenders when they overwhelmed Eastwood in their local derby. Fereneze and Williamwood had the closest match this week with Fereneze just edging out their visitors and Cathcart Castle continue to go along nicely with a super home win against their near neighbours Whitecraigs. So after this week's results the league remains tight, with several teams still having the opportunity to win this year's title. Also this week we may have a new record for the Brand Putter league with 14yr old Stephen Machin Jnr and 65yr old Willie Craig both representing the Cowglen Golf Club team (51 year age gap). In the Fields in Trust league, Cowglen have opened a 10 point lead at the top and now look like clear favourites with one game left to play.

Cowglen v Cathkin Braes

Played Thurs 11th June - Cathkin Braes were the visitors to Cowglen on a sunny but windy evening. Stephen Machin continued his winning form & with one home game remaining leads the individual

scoreboard. Convincing wins from John Laurie, Frank Drum & John Laurie were over shadowed by 65 year old Willie Craig returning to the Brand Putter team after a 15 year absence. Veteran Willie stepped in to a team decimated by illness & work commitments & brought home the winning result. For Cathkin Braes Gordon Sangster & Ben Sloan provided the winning slots to avoid a white wash. Final score Cowglen 6 Cathkin Braes 2 Thanks to Les McLaughlin for the match report.

East Renfrewshire v Eastwood

Played Thurs 11th June - East Renfrewshire secured victory over their near neighbours with a result that did not reflect how close some of the games were. East Renfrewshire won the first 5 games on the course to ease over the line. Gordon Young kept up his good form with a comfortable 4&3 victory over David McNeil and despite 6 birdies Colin Farquhar was defeated 3&1 by Colin Thomson. Eastwood's first points cannot be far away given the fine golf played by many of their team. Final score East Renfrewshire 7 Eastwood 1. Thanks to Bruce Clarkson for the match report.

Fereneze v Williamwood

Played Thurs 11th June - A very close contest which was impossible to call to the end. There were comfortable wins for Ritchie Elrick and Mark Carlton of Fereneze against Crawford Burns and Gary Hopkirk. Alistair McMillan of Williamwood in his 5th decade of playing in the Brand Putter had a 3&2 victory over John Davie. Alan Syme of Williamwood had 6 birdies in his match against Gordon Black winning by 2&1 to make it two games each. Gary Murray edged the home team ahead again with a 2&1 win over Colin Gailey. In the top match George Crawford of the away team got the better of the Fereneze champ Ian McMillan by 2up to level the matches at three each. In the final two matches Ross Connolly of the home team birdied the last to edge out Glen Ballantyne and Jim Coleman of the home team squared his match against John Forsyth after being 1 down with 2 to play to give Fereneze the vital half point required for victory. An excellent match with the final score Fereneze 4.5 Williamwood 3.5 Thanks to Anand Poddar for the match report.

Cathcart Castle v Whitecraigs

Played Fri 12th June - Match played in ideal conditions for golf, and early wins by Alan Johnston and Stuart Miller put the home team on the way to a resounding win. The next 3 matches also went the way of the home team before Bruce Livingstone replied for Whitecraigs. Ian Montgomerie beat Cameron Paul on the last hole to win his match, and in the top game, Gary Murphy came out victorious against Jonny McLeish, making the final result 6 games to 2 in favour of the home team. Final score Cathcart Castle 6 Whitecraigs 2. Thanks to Stuart Robertson for the match report.

Match week 8

This is match week 8 and with only 1 more week left on the fixture card the importance of getting results is evident. Cathkin Braes got those points in style with an excellent victory against previously unbeaten Cathcart Castle. Whitecraigs ensured they would not be receiving the wooden spoon with their win against Eastwood. Higgs Castle had a close encounter with visitors Fereneze, and East Renfrewshire's title hopes were dented when they suffered a heavy defeat at Williamwood. With the gap at the top of the league now only 2 points between the top 5 teams, the league title is very finely balanced going into the final week. The 2 postponed ties from match week 2 may yet have a

part to play in deciding the destination of this year's BPL title. Also this week there is now a 3 way challenge for golfer of the year with more players not far behind. Cowglen remain top of the Fields in Trust league table and only need a draw in their last match to be certain of winning the league.

Cathkin Braes v Cathcart Castle

Played Wed 17th June - On a bright, windy and cold evening things were looking ominous for Cathcart when Cathkin won the first 6 matches and were 2 up and 1 up with 2 to go in the remaining matches. However Ian Montgomerie and Scott Coulter managed to halve their games with Raymond Donnelly and Gerry Bruen respectively. Gordon Sangster continued his unbeaten run. Final score Cathkin Braes 7 Cathcart Castle 1. Thanks to Mark Lironi for his match report.

Whitecraigs v Eastwood

Played Thurs 18th June - A blustery and showery evening but Whitecraigs managed to secure a victory that saw the Wooden Spoon going to Eastwood GC. The first four games finished with wins for Gary Murphy, Gordon Stevenson, Colin Bell and Scott Hall and put the home team in a strong position. Eastwood countered with wins from Colin Farquhar and David Dickson to ensure a tense finish. Chris Rossi and William McMillan came to the 18th all square and when Chris two putted for a birdie it was enough to secure the half point the home team needed for a win. Jim Thomson completed the score winning the final game for Whitecraigs. Final score Whitecraigs 5.5 Eastwood 2.5 Thanks to Bruce Livingston for the match report.

Haggs Castle v Fereneze

Played Fri 19th June - Haggs and Fereneze had a close fought encounter which resulted in a tense evening for the respective team managers. Graham Pascal, Thomas Martin, Graeme Shaw and debutant Kris Clelland had wins for Haggs with John Davie, Jim Coleman and Willie McGuire (who won his game on the last holing a 35 foot putt to edge out Colin Turnbull) replying for Fereneze. The last match Gus Lamond v Mark Carlton held the key and Gus had looked to be comfortable when 4 up at the turn. Mark kept plugging away and had got back to square after 15. Gus left himself a 5 foot putt on 17 to remain square which he holed and both players were on in two at the last. Gus putted first and ran it about 5 foot past while Mark's putt was close enough to be conceded for the 4. Gus manfully holed his 5 footer to have a halved game with Mark and to edge the match result in favour of Haggs. Final score Haggs Castle 4.5 Fereneze 3.5 Thanks to Neal Stewart for the match report.

Williamwood v East Renfrewshire

Played Fri 19th June - On a cold and windy evening the conditions caused a few problems to the players in keeping the ball under control. However there was some wonderful golf played and a credit to the quality of players on both sides. The final score seemed unlikely through the halfway point of the evening. Two matches finished early but the rest all went to the seventeenth with the Williamwood team edging out in four of the five games played thereby giving the home side what looked like a cosy victory but to those watching the outcome was never sure which way it would go. Full marks to supporters of both sides for turning out to watch in conditions which were far from ideal. Final score Williamwood 6.5 East Renfrewshire 1.5 Thanks to Peter Buchanan for the match report.

Match week 9

Congratulations to Team Manager Mark Lironi and the Cathkin Braes team who are winners of this year's BPL. Their win at Eastwood ends a twelve year drought and takes the title home to Cathkin. It was back in 1996 when they last won the league and by coincidence Eastwood were also the recipients of the wooden spoon in that year. With a spare home match still to play, they can now relax and enjoy their championship win. Cathkin Braes now go forward to represent the BPL in the Boundary Bell match against Hayston in September. Further details on this soon. In the other matches played this week, Fereneze had a good win against East Renfrewshire to finish their campaign in style and Hags Castle also had a home win against Whitecraigs. Cowglen completed a trio of home wins with a victory over Cathcart Castle. There are now just 2 matches left to complete on this year's fixture list which are scheduled for this week. Competition for Golfer of the Year is red hot with Stephen Machin of Cowglen currently leading by 1 point but being pursued by Gordon Sangster and George Crawford who both have opportunities this week in their final match to collect more points. In the Fields in Trust league, congratulations to the Cowglen team whose victory this week secured their title win.

Eastwood v Cathkin Braes

Played Wed 24th June - In a tightly fought match Eastwood looked to have the upper hand with only a few holes to go. However in all four games which went to the last Cathkin won, resulting in what at one stage looked a most unlikely victory. Roy Vallance had a hole in one at the 11th on his way to a 3&2 win over David Dickson and Gordon Sangster continued his unbeaten run with a halved match against Gavin Cochrane. Final score Eastwood 3 Cathkin Braes 5. Thanks to Mark Lironi for his match report.

Fereneze v East Renfrewshire

Played Thurs 25th June - Fereneze got the home win against long time league leaders East Renfrewshire in the final game of the season. At the turn both the teams were up in three matches with two all square. Craig Watson of East Ren was six under in his defeat of Willie McGuire, Gary Murray of the home team 4 down at the turn played stunning golf thereafter to get the better of Tim Hunter by 2&1, Ritchie Elrick 2 down with 3 to play squared his match against Richard Aitken of East Ren and in the battle of the young guns Ryan McCaffrey of Fereneze got the better of 16 year John Scott by 2&1. Final score Cowglen 5.5 East Renfrewshire 2.5 Thanks to Anand Poddar for the match report.

Hags Castle v Whitecraigs

Played Fri 26th June - On a windy night which turned dull early on there was some extremely good scoring in the top match in which Graeme Belch recorded a good win over Gary Murphy. Thomas Martin overcame Chris Rossi in match 2 with Colin Bell countering for Whitecraigs in the next game. Hags strung 4 wins together in the middle order with 4 birdies in 9 holes from Graeme Shaw enabling him to overcome Paul McDonald 5&4. Bruce Livingston won the last match for Whitecraigs. Final score Hags Castle 6 Whitecraigs 2. Thanks to Neal Stewart for the match report.

Cowglen v Cathcart Castle

Played Thurs 25th June - Cathcart Castle were the visitors for Cowglen's final game of the year and needed to secure full points to keep astride of Cathkin Braes in the pursuit of the title. A keenly contested match was to be expected, however call-offs from both teams forced changes to team selection. Cowglen's Stephen Machin closed his season with another win but was made to fight all the way and solid wins from Calumn McLean & Frank Drum were followed home by Les McLaughlin & Neil Mc Bride. Cathcart Castle's Stuart Roberts produced the solo win and the other matches were halved. Thanks to all players and officials for their efforts this year and congratulations to Cathkin Braes in winning the BPL. Final score Cowglen 6 Cathcart Castle 2. Thanks to Les McLaughlin for the match report.

Headlines on Friday 3rd July

It was business as usual at Cathkin this week as the team continued their impressive form with a fine win over Williamwood to finish their season in style. Team Manager Mark Lironi describes the action in his match report below. Golfer of the year went down to the wire with Gordon Sangster and George Crawford halving their match to leave Gordon one point clear of long time leader Stephen Machin. Gordon's total of 35 points is just one less than last year's winner Craig Watson. It is worth noting there were two 100% records by John Laurie of Cowglen and Ben Sloan of Cathkin Braes, but only 24 points were scored over five games played. The final decision on the winner of golfer of the year is expected shortly from President Cameron Greer. The Eastwood v Cathcart Castle game is now fixed for Wednesday 8 July at Eastwood. The only effect to the league table arising out of that match is whether or not Eastwood will be the first team ever to go through a whole season losing all eight matches. We suspect that they will be trying exceptionally hard not to do so. In the junior league it's congratulations to Williamwood Golf club on winning this year's Fleming Watson league trophy.

Cathkin Braes v Williamwood

Played Wed 1st July - With early play greatly favouring the home team the main point of interest was the game between Gordon Sangster and George Crawford to determine the winner of the player of the year award. George had to win and Gordon required a half match. Gordon was 2 up with 3 to play, went out of bounds at 16 and George had a brilliant birdie at 17 to square the game. Gordon required a penalty drop at 18 after George put his second shot to 12ft. George very sportingly allowed Gordon a second drop after he wrongly thought that his ball had rolled outwith the permitted zone whereupon Gordon knocked his 3rd shot from 150 yds to 2 inches. George's putt lipped out, to leave the match halved. Final score Cathkin Braes 6.5 Williamwood 1.5 Thanks to Mark Lironi for his match report.

Headlines on 10th July

Eastwood went into the final match of the season knowing they would create history as the only team ever to go through a whole season losing all eight matches. Knowing what was at stake the team turned in a superb performance against visitors Cathcart Castle and history will have to wait. The result gives Eastwood their first win of the season in their very last match, but unfortunately they do not avoid this year's wooden spoon.

Looking back on yet another successful BPL season the honours are as follows -

Winners of the 63rd Brand Putter League - Cathkin Braes Golf Club

Runners-up - Cowglen Golf Club

Wooden Spoon winners - Eastwood Golf Club

Fields in Trust league winners - Cowglen Golf Club

Runners-up - Eastwood Golf Club

Golfer of the Year - current leader is Gordon Sangster of Cathkin Braes Golf Club.

Eastwood v Cathcart Castle

Played Wed 8th July - Champagne corks were popping at Eastwood as they recorded their first victory denying themselves an unenviable record. Lead by Willie MacMillan who completed a fine season by defeating Johnny McLeish 4&3, Eastwood enjoyed a comfortable victory. Final score Eastwood 6 Cathcart Castle 2. Thanks to Martin Glancey for the match report.

Headlines on Monday 7th September

Success for Cathkin Braes in the Boundary Bell. After a memorable season in this year's BPL, Cathkin Braes had another reason to celebrate when they won the Boundary Bell match against Hayston on Sunday 6th September. The match played at Balmore Golf Club during some wet and windy conditions went to Cathkin Braes by a winning margin of 5-3. Hayston, who had all the early play finished as runners-up for the second year in a row. Team manager Mark Lironi was delighted with his team's performance and is now looking forward to the matches against the winners of the Edinburgh Summer league who they will meet next April for the Inter Cities Cup. Congratulations to all at Cathkin Braes, Mark's match report can be read below.

Cathkin Braes v Hayston - Sunday 6th September.

Final score: Cathkin Braes 5 - Hayston 3.

The individual player results were as follows (Cathkin first)

Gordon Sangster lost to John Fowler 5&4

Martin McCrory lost to Grant Minnes 1 hole

Roy Vallance beat James Paterson 1 hole

Raymond Donnelly beat Kevin Scott 2 holes

Gordon Rennie beat Kevin Caldwell 2&1

Gerry Bruen beat John Paul Linning 7&6

Walter Rutherford beat John Paton 4&3

Craig Haugh lost to Bob Burrows 4&3

On a miserable wet Sunday at Balmore Golf Club, Cathkin managed to come out on top despite losing the two top games and being 4 down in the 3rd game after only 6 holes. Almost veteran Roy Vallance however pulled his game around and the rest of the team performed steadily to record a good victory on a course unknown to most of the them. Due to the persistent rain recently, preferred lies were in play but the course was in excellent condition and stood up well. The after match meal was outstanding and thoroughly enjoyed by all attending. Many thanks to Balmore for hosting an excellent event.