

Shootout Report: 2022

Another miserable day greeted the 19 finalists on the 13th November for the 2022 shootout final, however it was nowhere near as bad as the scheduled day a week earlier which necessitated a postponement to the 13th. Top qualifier, Alex Stansfield, had the honour of getting the competition underway in persistent, but not too heavy, drizzle. Unfortunately, this was the template for the entire day which made for heavy rough and damp greens.

Mel Coldicutt had the dubious honour of receiving the award for the “walk of shame” after not completing the first hole due to forgetting how to putt. There was a huge sigh of relief from the other 18 players as well as some sympathy, particularly from Murray Fraser who we all remember had the honour last year.

Mark Bryant was next to go after having a “Hitler” (2 shots in the bunker) and then a 3 putt. After muttering several profanities, mostly aimed at big Dave Campbell, he skulked his way back to the clubhouse.

On the 3rd, Frank the goalie, didn't get much help from the wood work this time around and was eliminated after spending too much time in the trees. An ironic exit really as several people noted that during his football career the crossbar made more saves than he did.

Matu exited on 4, after losing a 7-way chip-off and big Dave was a goner on 5 after his rough golf was found wanting in the rough...he had had anuff and was off

John Drent lost another 7-way chip-off on 6 and severely chastised himself for not even making the green with his chip. Greg Bundle bit the dust on 7 after visiting all of the trees and rough down the fairway and was quite deservedly gone.

Our top qualifier Alex S was next to go after visiting Eva, Hitler had already gone ...in the bunker and just making it out. His subsequent chip and 3 putts earned him a red card and he had to sit the rest of the game out. On 9 Parky

was a gone burger after getting on the wrong side of a 4-way chip-off and Mark Tomsett was next to go after taking some rather dubious advice from his even more dubious caddy.

Wayne Brierly was next to go in a much-improved performance from last year with many observers agreeing that the meditation recordings that Wayne has been listening to have certainly helped.

Big swinging Damien Dunlop was next to go after having far too many shots on 12 and Terry 'Dactile' Gerbich succumbed on 13 after his putter let him down.

"Ritchie Rich" Taitoko was eliminated in 14 after marching his way up the green (left, right, left, right and left). The 15th finally saw David P's luck come to an end when he lost a chip off and was very aggrieved that he was too far out to use his putter.

So down to the final 4 players and it was a surprise to many that the lowest handicapper in the field lost in a chip off on 16. Murray Fraser's attempt was, (by his own admission) pathetically short and he bit the dust.

On 17, Chris Pilmer was next to go, after getting 2 holes closer to the end than last year. He certainly paid the price for not having a shot on the hole.

That left Chris Hale and Russell Dewey to fight it out down the last. With both players receiving a shot on this hole it was down to who could hold their nerve. 2 good drives and 2 second shots that came up short, Russell in the bunker and Chris just short of it meant that there was work to do. Both subsequent shots again failed to make the green and Russell's next went long. Chris did the same which left tricky putts for victory.

Russell was unable to sink his and Halesy calmly stepped up and nailed his.

The 2022 shootout Champion: Chris Hale