



# THE CHAMPIONSHIP DETAILS

THORPENESS

## DESCRIPTION

The Golf Club Secretary, 23rd Open Championship is open to the Secretaries/Managers of all Clubs subscribing to The Golf Club Secretary and to contributors to the newsletter.

There will be ten Regional Qualifying Tournaments with up to 20% of the field at each Tournament going forward to the Final. Each Tournament will be an 18 hole Stableford, with a maximum handicap of 54 for both genders. Full handicap allowance will be given. The results will be determined under the CONGU 2008 guidelines Appendix O for Mixed Golf.

There will be a card play-off for any scores that tie, based on the last nine holes on each scorecard, including events that have two tee or shotgun starts. Play will usually be in three balls.

There are no restrictions as to the number of events that an individual can enter.

At each of the Regional Tournaments and at the Final there will be a meal followed by the prize giving.

A full itinerary/draw will be emailed after the closing date and prior to each Tournament.

The field for each Regional Qualifying Tournament will be limited to a maximum of 60. If more than that number of entries is received, they will be accepted in receipt order.

## PRIZES

The competitor returning the best Stableford score in the Final will hold the Championship trophy for one year. Prizes will also be awarded to the 2nd, 3rd and 4th best scores.

Prizes will be awarded at each of the ten Regional Tournaments.

## MAILING ADDRESS

Send to P.O. Box 72 72, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex CO13 0BP

## ENTRY FEE

The entry fee is £50 inc. VAT. BACS details are set out below or please make cheques payable to Broadside Publishing Ltd. An email will be sent to each competitor confirming their entry.

## ENQUIRIES

Any further enquiries should be made to:

Michael Coffey, on **01255 676727**

E-mail: [info@golfclubsec.co.uk](mailto:info@golfclubsec.co.uk)

## THE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

The Final returns to Ganton for the third time. In 2005 the 11th Open was won for the second time by Bob Blower, repeating his victory in the 3rd Open at Royal Liverpool. Matthew Bowman became the Champion in 2011. In 2019, the foursomes being played over the course on Sunday 19th May, will be followed by the Championship dinner to be held at the Club. Numbers will be restricted to 70. The Final is to be played on Monday 20th with the customary two tee start.

## THE 23<sup>RD</sup> OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

To enter, please email details of the following to [info@golfclubsec.co.uk](mailto:info@golfclubsec.co.uk)

- Name
- Club
- Handicap
- Mobile
- Venue
- Date

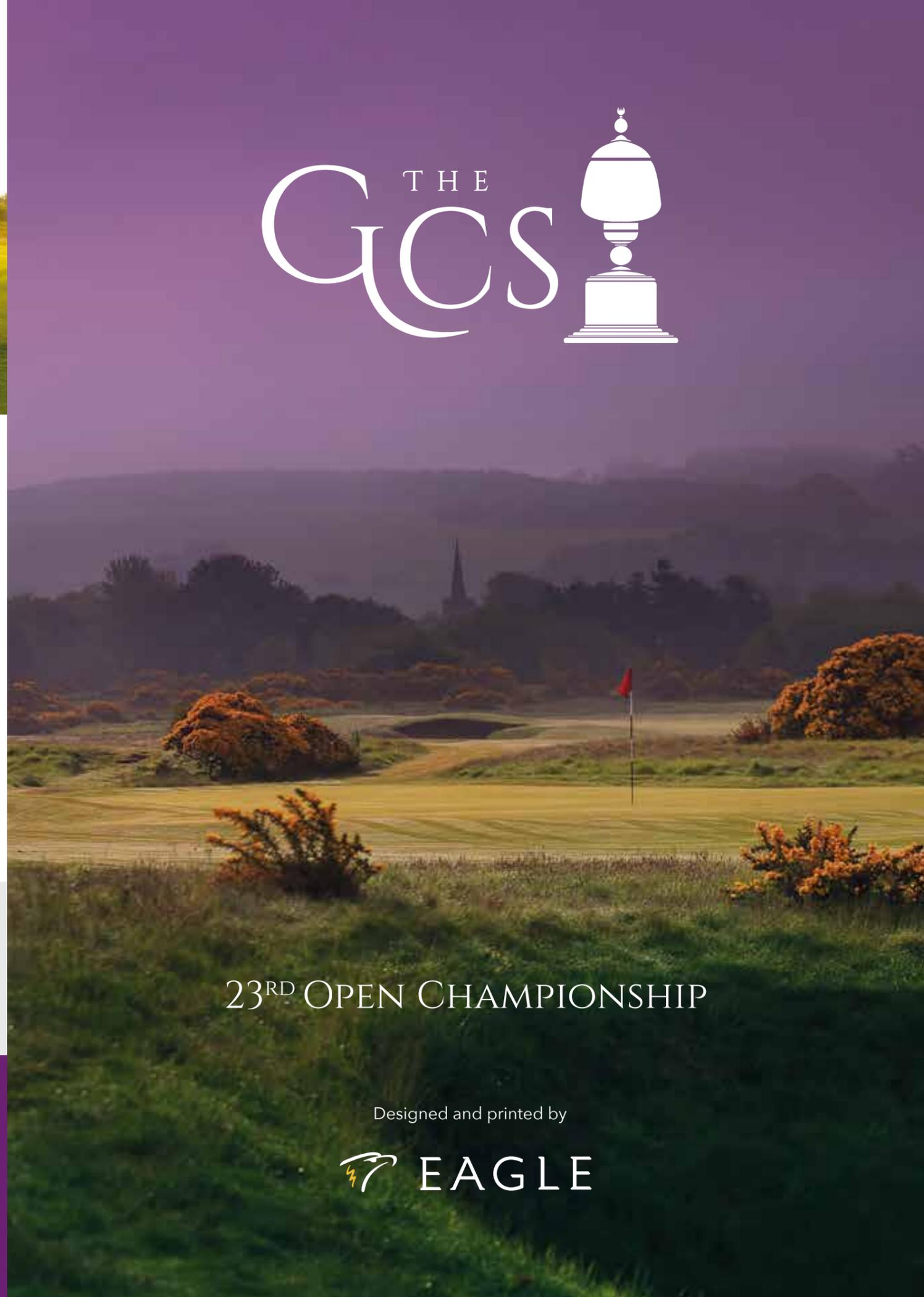


Entry Fee Of **£50.00**

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No. **92830080** Sort Code **60-05-33**  
Quoting your surname as a reference

Or payment by cheque to:

The Golf Club Secretary, 23rd Open Championship,  
P.O. Box 72 72, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex CO13 0BP



## 23<sup>RD</sup> OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Designed and printed by



## THE BERKSHIRE

# THE QUALIFYING ROUNDS

## WORPLESDON GC

Surrey | Friday, 27th July 2018  
[www.worplesdongc.co.uk](http://www.worplesdongc.co.uk)



Laid out in 1908 by the celebrated golf architect, J F Abercromby, and with greens and bunkers designed by Willie Park Junior, Worpleston is one of the classic Surrey heathland courses. The "signature" 10th hole, a short Par 3 requiring a drive across Bridley Pond is a delight, particularly when the rhododendrons are in full bloom!

## LADYBANK GC

Fife | Friday, 28th September 2018  
[www.ladybankgolf.co.uk](http://www.ladybankgolf.co.uk)



Originally laid out by Old Tom Morris as a 6-hole course in 1879, an extended 9 holes was played from 1910 and, with an addition of a further 9, the current 18-hole layout was opened in 1962. The new Clubhouse was opened in 1971 and Ladybank was accorded Final Open Qualifying status in 1978. The club has hosted a number of celebrated exhibition matches, not least of which in 1983, when two honorary members, Jack Nicklaus and Seve Ballesteros, played in glorious sunshine - "weather fit for gods".

## BAMBURGH CASTLE GC

Northumberland | Monday, 1st October 2018  
[www.bamburghcastlegolfclub.co.uk](http://www.bamburghcastlegolfclub.co.uk)



With views of Lindisfarne, the Farne Islands, the Cheviots and of Bamburgh Castle itself, the course has often been quoted, with good reason, as one of the most scenic in the whole of Britain. Bamburgh Castle Golf Club certainly offers one of the truest links courses in England and visiting players will enjoy an unforgettable golfing experience!

## THE BERKSHIRE GC

Berkshire | Tuesday, 9th October 2018  
[www.theberkshire.co.uk](http://www.theberkshire.co.uk)



The Berkshire boasts two magnificent courses laid out by Herbert Fowler for the Office of Crown Lands in 1928. In the Club's original handbook of 1930, Bernard Darwin observed that "Mr Fowler had laid out many fine courses in his time and that his art, having mellowed with experience, had gained in variety, in subtlety and in picturesqueness such that he has added two more to the select number of unquestionably first class inland Courses."

## PILTDOWN GC

East Sussex | Monday, 15th October 2018  
[www.piltdowngolfclub.co.uk](http://www.piltdowngolfclub.co.uk)



The building of the course on Piltdown was originally instigated by a German aristocrat, Count Munster, who lived in nearby Maresfield Park. He leased the land and commissioned a tenant farmer, George Varnum, to carve a course out of the wild gorse and heather. In just a few months, Varnum had prepared a 10-hole course and, such was its success, that J H Taylor was commissioned to add a further 8 holes. In 1938 the Club bought the freehold of the whole common, including the delightful Piltdown Pond. The course is devoid of any sand bunkers, as the heather is considered to offer more than sufficient defence!

## DELAMERE FOREST GC

Cheshire | Thursday, 25th October 2018  
[www.delameregolf.co.uk](http://www.delameregolf.co.uk)



Founded in 1910, and yet another fine example of a Herbert Fowler design, Delamere Forest Golf Club is widely regarded as one of the finest traditional heathland courses in England. The rolling fairways are interspersed with heather and gorse, crowned by fast, subtle greens typical of Fowler's early designs. As a result, the course offers a fair but tough challenge..... rated as the best inland course in Cheshire, Delamere is a true "hidden gem"!

## SHERWOOD FOREST GC

Nottinghamshire | Wednesday, 31st October 2018  
[www.sherwoodforestgolfclub.co.uk](http://www.sherwoodforestgolfclub.co.uk)



Originally designed by Harry Colt and subsequently enhanced by James Braid, the golf course is one of the oldest and finest heathland examples in Great Britain. Set among the pines, silver birch and oak trees of Clipstone Woods, within the legendary Sherwood Forest itself, England Golf, when staging the 2006 England Boys' Amateur Strokeplay Championships described Sherwood Forest Golf Club as being "in a league of its own". The Club has also hosted many other national competitions over the years, including the British and English Seniors.

## THE GOLF CLUB SECRETARY

## THORPENESS GC

Suffolk | Sunday, 31st March 2019  
[www.thorpeness.co.uk](http://www.thorpeness.co.uk)



Thorpeness was the brainchild of one Glencairn Stuart Ogilvie, a Scottish barrister and architect, who inherited the Suffolk Sizewell estate in 1908 and made it home, building a model holiday village with all of the accoutrements, including a golf course. James Braid was engaged to set out the golf course on what was then barren heathland, but Ogilvie added nearly a million trees across the estate to further enhance the natural environment. Requisitioned as a military hospital, tank training ground and for ack-ack gun emplacements during WWII, the greens were still maintained in the hope that golf would be resumed in peacetime - fortunately it was in 1945!

## MIXED FOURSOMES

## ALDEBURGH GC

Suffolk | Monday, 1st April 2019  
[www.aldeburghgolfclub.co.uk](http://www.aldeburghgolfclub.co.uk)



Founded in 1884, Aldeburgh Golf Club is England's second oldest heathland course and amongst the oldest 18-hole courses in the world, still on its original golfing ground. Skelton Anderson recognized the potential of the open heath adjacent to Aldeburgh station and commissioned John Thomson and Willie Fernie to lay out the original course. It was the influence of his wife, Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, the country's first female doctor and mayor, and of Millicent Fawcett, both of whom were members, which ensured that Aldeburgh was probably the first golf club in the world where women have always had equal membership and playing rights with the men. Perhaps in recognition, the English Ladies Amateur Championship has been played five times at Aldeburgh.

## THURLESTONE GC

South Devon | Monday, 8th April 2019  
[www.thurlestonegolfclub.co.uk](http://www.thurlestonegolfclub.co.uk)



Making full use of the stunning coastline of Bigbury Bay, the Harry Colt designed course at Thurlestone affords a testing mix of links and cliff-top holes, with the latter providing breath-taking views of Thurlestone Rock to the East and the beautiful Avon Estuary and Burgh Island to the West. In the late 1960s more land was acquired which allowed the course to expand inland, to incorporate the present 15th & 16th holes, Hawtree & Sons overseeing the re-design work in 1971; little has required change since then. Situated in an "Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty", with rocky seascapes set above coves once frequented by smugglers, golf at Thurlestone is always an exhilarating experience, particularly so when the wind is blowing with a vengeance!

## LITTLESTONE GC

Kent | Monday, 15th April 2019  
[www.littlestonegolfclub.org.uk](http://www.littlestonegolfclub.org.uk)



In the early days, Littlestone Golf Club was a focal point for parliamentarians and barristers and on one occasion was in the unique position of having the Prime Minister (Asquith) and the Leader of the Opposition (Balfour) as Captain and President respectively! Originally designed by Laidlaw Purves in 1888, continual improvements over the years by such as James Braid, Alister MacKenzie, Frank Pennink, Donald Steel and Peter Alliss, have provided a delightful links layout set on the fringes of the Romney Marshes. The course plays across fairly flat land, but with fast greens, numerous bunkers and three closing holes that are amongst the toughest around, provides a great test of golf!



## GANTON GOLF CLUB

Yorkshire | Sunday, 19th May & Monday, 20th May 2019

[www.gantongolfclub.com](http://www.gantongolfclub.com)

Adjacent to the old North Eastern Railway and with a natural sandy subsoil, the Ganton Estate was perfectly situated for a Golf Course. Accordingly, one was laid out in 1891 by Tom Chisholm of St Andrews with the able assistance of Robert Bird, the Club's first professional and head greenkeeper.

Ganton was soon established as a course where history was to be made. Harry Vardon came as professional from 1896 - 1903 and it was during this period that he won the first three of his six Open Championships and the 1900 US Championship Trophy. Subsequently, Ted Ray, another Open and US Open Champion, was appointed as professional from 1903 - 1912

and, in 1905, Vardon, Ray, James Braid and JH Taylor colluded to produce a major redesign of the course. Over the years, many other architects including Harry Colt, Alister MacKenzie, Tom Simpson and CK Cotton have added to the continuing programme of improvements.

The scene of several great challenge matches in the early years, Ganton was selected as the venue for the 1949 Ryder Cup and has also hosted the Amateur Championships, the Curtis Cup and the Walker Cup. With its deep and prolific bunkers, savage rough and impenetrable gorse, the course at Ganton has always provided a searching examination of the game's best players.