## BCCS National Junior Golf Knockout Tournament 2025 Finals Weekend

Well, what an amazing weekend that was! The 2025 BCCS National Junior Golf Knockout Finals Weekend took place on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th September (yes, that's right, Ryder Cup weekend too!).

BCCS had the pleasure of hosting some of the finest junior golfing talent in the country as these teams had battled their way through regional and then national qualifying, and the massive initial entry was whittled down to just four clubs to contest the semi-finals (on Saturday) and the Final, and third and fourth play-off (on Sunday).

Winners - Foxhills Golf Club



Third place - Ellesmere Golf Club



Runners up - Saltford Golf Club



Fourth place - Collingtree Park



The four teams who had beaten every team they had been matched against since the first round in April and who won their way through to finals weekend were:

**Foxhills Golf Club:** Lucy Whittingham, Frankie Ashdown, Seb Bonner, Christian Meyer and Elliot Wells.

Saltford Golf Club: Rebekah Muncer, Annika Sward, Phoebe Whittock and Darcy Fry.

Ellesmere Golf Club: Ellis Carpenter, Jack Currie, Theo Seed, and George Styles.

Collingtree Park Golf Club: Charlie Bulliman, Jake Goldsmith, Harry Evans, and Zac Davidson.

There was a chill in the air during Saturday's semi-finals, but that did nothing to mar the excellent golf exhibited by all four teams. Additionally, the matches were conducted in the finest spirit - quite a different tone from how the Ryder Cup concluded!

So, Saturday afternoon saw Ellesmere take on Foxhills in Match 1, and Collingtree Park took on Saltford in Match 2.

Both matches were close, with some amazing putts holed, and, of course, some that just drifted by - as was ever thus with golf! In the end, with parents and spectators biting their nails, Match 1 was won by Foxhills and Match 2 was won by Saltford.

Straight off the course, a quick change and on to the Gala Dinner, hosted by BCCS. There was a great atmosphere from the 35+ players, spectators, supporters, and family members. The amazing prizes, donated by <a href="https://www.discountgolfstore.co.uk">www.discountgolfstore.co.uk</a> were on display, and what a display they made. It certainly gave the players extra encouragement – as if any were needed!

Then came Sunday, featuring the third and fourth place playoff between Ellesmere and Collingtree Park. The day concluded with the final, contested by Foxhills and the all-girls team from Saltford.

In the first match the two teams were incredibly evenly matched throughout, with barely more than a hole or two in it through 9 holes in both matches. It got tougher, as it always seems to do, on the back 9, and despite Collingtree Park winning Match 1, they could not repeat the trick in Match 2 and on aggregate Ellesmere ran out winners.

In the final, which saw Foxhills taking on the girls from Saltford, there was another extraordinary display of great golf under pressure. On aggregate, the girls were in the lead at the turn (all square and 2 up across the two matches) but they found it harder too to sustain that form and Foxhills surged into an unassailable lead in both matches as the afternoon wore on, after holing some extraordinary putts. Anyone who has played golf knows that, eventually, it all comes down to the putting, and when that putter goes cold, there is truly little that can be done! Of course, nothing is over until it's over, but as both games played the tricky 18<sup>th</sup>, the aggregate gap was just too much and Foxhills ran out winners on the day.

The adapted match play format was again the winner, with every player playing the full 18 holes on both Saturday and Sunday. What a day. What a weekend. What great teams. What great spirit and what a great formula.

Two notable highlights from Finals' Weekend deserve special mention. First, everyone - both competitors and spectators praised the exceptional standard of golf showcased throughout the event. Equally important, however, was the commendable spirit in which all the matches were played. Congratulations to all four teams and their Junior Organisers for making the weekend a memorable success.

We can't wait to do it all again next year and plans are already well advanced for next year's tournament with the finals being held towards the end September 2026.

Ian Restall Tournament Organiser