



## RGBB Retains the Ryder Cup as the Americans do the loser dance

The busy sports programme for 2009/10 was completed when the RGBB competed against the American Business Group (ABGR) in their annual Ryder Cup challenge, which took place at Dirab Golf and Country Club on 25<sup>th</sup> February.

A record 72 players took part in this event, with both teams fielding 18 pairs in a Texas scramble format. As usual the RGBB Captain Gary Richardson insisted on professional pre-match preparations, these included;

- Not going to bed before 3am the night before the game.
- Having a large curry, kebab or swarma the night before.
- Banning all players from eating more than 2 of their "5-a-day" in terms of fruit and vegetables within 24 hours of the event.

With the same light hearted approach adopted by the American team the entire event was guaranteed to be played in a friendly and some what boisterous atmosphere.

Each team competed against their counterparts in the quest of 1 point for a win or ½ point for a drawn match.

As the Americans held the cup after their comprehensive win last time out the RGBB team needed a minimum of 9 ½ points to win the trophy back and draw the overall score at 2-2 for the four years that this event has been played.

After an extremely tight match the total score was RGBB 9 ½ v ABGR 8 ½. Both captains generously donated numerous items so that many other prizes could be awarded, they were;

Nearest to the pin on hole 4 - David Treadgold  
 Nearest to the pin on hole 7 – Rob Stacey  
 Nearest to the pin on hole 11 – Bob Barnden  
 Nearest to the pin on hole 16 – Marty Cowal  
 Ladies longest drive – Madalay Burger  
 Men's longest drive – Werner Van Ravensteyn  
 Longest putt – Scott Cummings and Bob Mordan

Over the tasty after-match meal provided by French Corner the friendly atmosphere continued, especially when the entire American team did the "loser dance" led by Captain Waters.

After this RGBB Captain Gary presented his entire team with a towel bag that had generously been donated by Bouchaib Al Jaidani, the manager of Dirab Golf and Country Club.

On receiving the huge new trophy Gary said "I would like to thank every one for participating today, I have had numerous people already tell me how much fun they had today and that they had made lots of new friends."

He went on to thank Sheikh Khalid, Bouchaib and all of the team at Dirab Golf and Country Club for the use of their facilities as well as congratulating them on the amazing condition of the course. He also thanked the team from French Corner for staying late and providing the food for all of the players. He also thanked Tommy and the ABGR team as well as his team who he congratulated on their winning performance.

