

He came, he saw, he practiced for the day, he conquered.... a report on the CEMGC Open by Mark Wood

As he strode through the mist of the Dunton Hills Car Park, a collective 'sigh' could be heard from twenty seven competitors, as that shadowy figure became clear. It was true, **Michael Smith** was going to enter.

And so it came to be that the one man minigolfing machine that is Michael Smith entered and won his 6th BMGA Tour event of the season. In the other two events, Michael came second, with only Adam Kelly and Nuno Cunha knowing what it feels like to finish ahead of Michael in 2015.

Having shot a course record 39 in rd2, Michael had a 4 shot lead over **Steve Lovell** and **Mark Wood** going in to the final rd, and although Steve managed to reduce the lead to 2 shots by hole 8, Michael was too consistent and when he did appear to falter, managed to recover with superb par saving putts.

In the end, Michael finished on +15, 6 shots ahead of Steve +21 who finished 3 shots ahead of Nuno and Mark on +24. Nuno then secured the final podium spot winning the sudden death play off on the 5th extra hole.

Notable top 10 finishes were **Andy Wilde** (Wasps) continuing his outstanding 2015 form and **Dave Hartley** (PHCGC).

Andy Wilde also secured the cat 2 prize with the Midlands **Richard Gottfried** taking 2nd place.

Cat 3/4 was an all Planet Hastings affair with **Dave Hartley** edging out the top **Exall, Terry** by a

shot. Terry beat

Keith Kellard

, of the CEMGC, in a sudden death play off to secure 2nd place.

In the Mystery Pairs Competition Andy Wilde and Mark Wood were the winners.

With 4 aces, **Paul Preston** (Wasps) won the Aces prize, in addition to three of the Aces 'spot prizes'

Other spot prize winners **Chris Wood** (CEMGC), **Scott Lancley** (Kent), **Dave Gomm** (PHCGC),

Chris Smith

(Midlands),

Will Donnelly

(Midlands).

There were also prizes for each clubs top player, not to have won a cash prize.

Martin Greenhead took the top Kent player award after finishing a creditable 11th

Chris Smith (Midlands), **John McIver** (PHCGC) and **Derek Bentall** (Wasps) took the remaining club awards.

CEMGC captain **James Rutherford** commented afterwards " We would like to thank all of the players for supporting our first Open and I hope you all enjoyed the day?

I'd also like to thank my fellow m CEMGC'ers

for their hard work in putting this event together, until next year.

ATB"

Photos from the day...

The podium

<https://www.facebook.com/180154248764830/photos/pb.180154248764830.-2207520000.1444655794./844955555618026/?type=3&theater>

The winners

<https://www.facebook.com/180154248764830/photos/pb.180154248764830.-2207520000.1444655794./844955432284705/?type=3&theater>

The field

<https://www.facebook.com/180154248764830/photos/pb.180154248764830.-2207520000.1444655794./844955275618054/?type=3&theater>

Link to results

<http://www.bmga.co.uk/CEMGCO2015/result.htm>