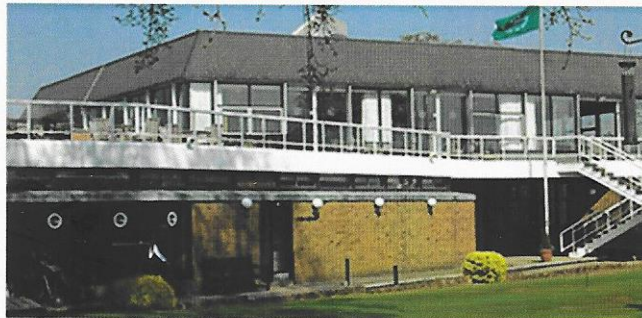




**Warwickshire Golf Captains
V
Worcestershire Golf Captains
On
Wednesday 15th May 2019**

Event location: Coventry Golf Club



Warwickshire v Worcestershire at Coventry Golf Club



Tony Ranger

John Loynton would always be a hard act to follow but we are fortunate that Tony Ranger has already demonstrated to us that we have nothing to fear – the new Match Secretary is totally in control and his IT communications are a revelation!

With Aston Villa getting to the play off this week with Derby for Premier promotion, Our Captain Rick made sure everyone was aware of his affiliations!

Finham is always a popular venue and today, with perfect weather for golf, we were able to entertain Worcestershire players to a very pleasant day of golf, food and drinks in a superb ambience.

Warwickshire v Worcestershire at Coventry Golf Club



Our Captain welcoming Worcestershire to Coventry Golf Club and introducing Coventry Golf Club “Stand In Captain of the Day”, John Chandy



John reiterates the Welcome and expresses the hope that all will enjoy the course and clubhouse.

Warwickshire v Worcestershire at Coventry Golf Club



Tony and his Worcestershire counterpart deliver the pairings and start times for the match

Warwickshire v Worcestershire at Coventry Golf Club



The players listen to their fates!



Relaxing in the Bar after play!

Warwickshire v Worcestershire at Coventry Golf Club



Gary (Handsworth Captain) and Peter



Rick is trying to put a positive spin on the result – but has to revert to Aston Villa's success

Warwickshire v Worcestershire at Coventry Golf Club



The Worcestershire Captain is delighted with his teams' efforts and praises Rick for conceding a half on the 18th tee!



After a splendid day on the course, what better than a good meal in great company!

Warwickshire v Worcestershire at Coventry Golf Club



Worcestershire retain the Trophy for the 2nd Year

Warwickshire v Worcestershire at Coventry Golf Club

The origins of the Bogey came from Coventry Golf Club – Dudley Taylor writes:

According to the Kenilworth Advertiser, one evening in April 1890 fourteen members of a very remarkable family attended the Annual Golf Club Ball at the Drapers' Hall in Coventry, nine men and five women. ⁱ That all but one were playing members of the club is remarkable in itself, that at least six had single figure handicaps would be unusual in any other family, but that four of the men also played cricket for Warwickshire, one of them as captain, surely made them unique. The head of the family, Alec Rotherham, was a founder member of the golf club ⁱⁱ and his son, Hugh Rotherham, one of the four cricketing brothers, was considered the best amateur fast bowler of his day, captaining Warwickshire County Cricket Club from 1884-86. ⁱⁱⁱ Years later, in 1906, W.H. Bainbridge and Rotherham, two of Coventry's leading golfers, took part in the first Cricketers' Inter-County Golf Tournament. This event was open to county cricketers or former county players. The Rugby Advertiser commented: 'Thanks to the excellent play of Mr. H.W. Bainbridge and Mr. H. Rotherham, Warwickshire have qualified for the second round of the tournament. Mr. Bainbridge, receiving a stroke, was three down to Mr. Butler of Leicestershire at the seventeenth hole but he did the last nine holes at Coventry in an average of fours and won by 3 and 1. Mr. Rotherham gained a similar victory over Mr. B. Lorrimer. In the next match it is expected that Warwickshire will have the assistance of Mr. J.E. Hill, who played cricket for his county some twelve years ago and made a century against Nottinghamshire in 1894.' ^{iv}

The glittering promise of youth

When Hugh Rotherham was at Uppingham School he was generally considered not only a brilliant rugby three-quarter, an excellent cricket captain and one of the greatest school bowlers of all time. By 1879 he was dominating public school cricket and, despite one of the wettest summers on record, took ninety-eight wickets at an average of 4.38. In his first summer after leaving school and barely nineteen, he played for the Gentlemen against the Players at Lords and at his first attempt took 5 wickets for 41, all England players. ^v He clean bowled them all and took another three wickets in the second innings. Hugh played regularly for the Gentlemen and was prominent in a tied match in 1883, this time taking six wickets for 41. Playing for the Gentlemen of England against Oxford University in 1884, Rotherham took fourteen wickets for only 150 runs. Over six feet in height, Rotherham was an exceedingly fast bowler but, sadly, his bowling action was eventually deemed to be suspect and the glittering promise of youth was not entirely fulfilled. However he played in first class cricket for various gentlemen's teams from 1880 and, with Herbert Bainbridge, toured North America with E.J. Sander's XI six years later. According to an article in *Golf Illustrated* in 1899 'he was a very dangerous bowler as he is over six feet in height and used to deliver the ball after a long run right over his head at a great pace.' The writer then asked 'when Mr. Rotherham found his arm was getting lower and the pace of his bowling diminishing, what form of amusement and exercise was it more natural for him to take up than golf?' He seems to have taken the game up around 1890 and according to the magazine as he lived close to the course on Whitley Common, Coventry 'he can often get away for an hour or two from his business for a round. At present he holds the record for the best medal round of this course of 78. His handicap varies from two to four at the various [local] clubs.' During an interview in 1912 with the editor of the magazine *The Midland Golfer*, Harold Smith, Coventry's secretary, said 'I knew Hugh Rotherham only too well. I've fielded against him many a time, when he has been in the humour for making runs.' ^{vi} Hugh played rugby football for Coventry, cricket for Coventry and North Warwickshire, was captain of Coventry Golf Club, a member of the Warwickshire and the Great Yarmouth & Caister Golf Club.

The modern Rule 32 of the R&A Rules of Golf defines the play of 'Bogey, Par and Stableford Competitions.' Bogey competitions are played by golfers the world over but the origins are perhaps less well known. In fact the original rules were devised not by the game's governing body, but by Hugh Rotherham in 1891. The *Birmingham Gazette* provided the details: 'Coventry [Golf Club] is the birthplace of a phantom whose prowess has startled golfers all over the country. He holds pretty near the record on every course, and it has been the aim of players to equal his marvellous dexterity. Some have succeeded, most have not. Occasionally a beginner snatches a hole from his doughty opponent and mentally congratulates himself on his scratch play. Thus he beats all the Vardons and Herds and Braids who ever handled a club. Golfers need scarcely be told that the mysterious adept is "Colonel Bogey." He was created by a Coventry golfer, Mr. Hugh Rotherham, who conceived the brilliant idea of playing against a model score and christening the supposed maker of it the Colonel. So every golfer has played under his shadow! The Colonel has just entered his teens, having first made a record in 1890. His existence alone would justify enthusiastic golf at Coventry. Mr. Rotherham is no mean opponent for his creation.' ^{vii}

The Bogey Man

The Kenilworth Advertiser explained how the name ‘Bogey’ came to be used: ‘several members of the Coventry Club visited Yarmouth and explained Mr. Rotherham’s idea to Dr. Thomas Browne, RN the honorary secretary of the club. One day Dr. Browne went out to play against a friend, Major Charles A. Wellman, and they agreed to play against the ground score and decide their match accordingly. The “Bogey Man” song then was popular, the chorus of which was:

‘Hush! Hush! Hush!
Here comes the Bogey Man!
So hide your head beneath the clothes,
He’ll catch you if he can.’

The “bogey” similarity flashed across the mind of Major Wellman when playing and was getting “caught” by the ground score. Why, said he to Browne, this player of yours is a regular bogey man! Thus was history made.’
viii

Dr. Browne ‘was impressed with its possibilities and advantages as a means of finishing a match competition in one day, besides giving some relief and variety from the tiresome medal play, where one piece of ill luck in the early stage was apt to take the heart out of the player for the rest of the round.’^{ix}

It appears that Browne took the matter up with Horace Hutchinson and other leading golfers – describing Rotherham’s principle of The Ground Score – and asked their opinion. They expressed approval and gave it their blessing. The first bogey competition was played at Coventry on May 13 1891^x although it was not until 1910 that the R&A recognized the term and framed the official rules for bogey competitions. Coventry Golf Club’s own name for Bogey was the ‘Fixed Ground Score.’ By 1899 the magazine *Golf* commented ‘Bogey is now almost as popular a personage as Santa Claus and he has become an indispensable part of the golfing cosmos.’^{xi} Meanwhile, the special set of rules for Bogey Play which had been in general use since 1899 had been published by *Golf Illustrated* for 1s.0d.^{xii}

ⁱ *Kenilworth Advertiser*, April 19, 1890.

ⁱⁱ *The Midland Golfer*, ii, No.10, December 1912, 9.

ⁱⁱⁱ H.S. Altham and E.W. Swanton, *A History of Cricket*, London, 1948, 190.

^{iv} *Rugby Advertiser*, January 27, 1906.

^v Altham and Swanton, *ibid.*

^{vi} *The Midland Golfer*, ii, No.10, December 1912, 10.

^{vii} *Leamington Courier*, August 30, 1912.

^{viii} *Kenilworth Advertiser*, June 17, 1905.

^{ix} Peter Fry, *How Bogey came to Golf, Through the Green*, March 2001, 12-13.

^x *Leamington Courier*, *op.cit.*

^{xi} *Golf*, January 6, 1899.

^{xii} *Golf Illustrated*, January 5, 1912.