



[The story of the 2021 Red Hoffman Cup Matches follows, based heavily on the content presented during the event on www.hoffmancup.org. The article below covers the Finals, then jumps to a chronological description of what happened in the 2021 Matches leading up to the Final.]

Arcola Reclaims the Hoffman Cup

Arcola Country Club reminded the other 35 clubs in the 2021 Red Hoffman Cup Matches who's boss. The Paramus club has had a reputation for excellence in the Matches, with now five championships in the past seven years.



The 2021 Red Hoffman Cup Champions, from Arcola CC (L to R): Lucas Farmer, Chris DeJohn, Adam Cutler, Grant Sturgeon, HCM Director Kevin Casey, Captain Xavier Dailly, Mike O'Connell, Trevor Randolph and Will Celiberti

However, after a one-shot loss to Hamilton Farm Golf Club in the 2020 medal-play finals, some suspected the fire in the squad's belly was cooling.

Arcola silenced the doubters with the Hoffman Cup finals' most dominant performance ever, a 19-under-par masterpiece painted on among the finest of canvases, Somerset Hills Country Club. Arcola's 265 bested second-place finalist Rumson Country Club by a thumping 16 shots.

Arcola's captain Xavier Dailly and partner Michael O'Connell were in early, setting the tone with a 66, a score bested later only by teammates Trevor Randolph and Luke Farmer, who carded a brilliant 65. This impressive show was nearly matched by fellow-Arcolans Grant Sturgeon / Will Celiberti (66) and Chris DeJohn / Adam Cutler (68).

In a clear understatement, a smiling Dailly said, "We came ready to play."

The four Arcola sides' consistent excellence was pronounced, as though only Arcola was playing the forward tees and no one noticed. While nine sides broke Somerset Hills' par of 71, no duo could top 68, and no club sniffed Arcola's four-scores-out-of-the-top-five consistency.

Rumson came closest, with an otherwise solid performance on the challenging A.W. Tillinghast track. Its three-under 281 total included a 68 by the side of John Edler / Doug DePietro and 69 from Chris Gotterup / Dave Iwan. Then, in a fine defense of its 2020 title, came Hamilton Farm at 282, led by captain Drew Jordan / Erik Stevens (69).

Essex County Country Club, which won the event's most points in preliminary match play, came in fourth at 289, while Liberty National Golf Club, playing its first-ever Finals, completed the day with a 298 total.

The win was Arcola's fifth Hoffman Cup championship, tying it with Montclair Golf Club for the most titles. The 265 total is a record finals tally.

The Red Hoffman Cup Matches were created in 2005 to foster interaction and friendly competition among New Jersey golf clubs. Named in honor of Arthur K. "Red" Hoffman, the legendary New Jersey golf writer, each spring, the Matches engage more than 500 leading New Jersey amateurs and professionals in a no-handicap, four-ball competition designed to effectively identify the strongest cohort of players in the region.

2021 Finals at Somerset Hills CC

2021 Red Hoffman Cup Matches -- Finals Saturday, June 5 Somerset Hills Country Club

Hole	Club; Team #	Players	Score
1	Essex County CC #1	Ryan Fennelly* / Owen Durkin	69
	Liberty National GC #1	Tom Guy / Bobby Moriarty	73
1b	Hamilton Farm GC #1	Drew Jordan* / Erik Stevens	69
	Arcola CC #1	Grant Sturgeon / Will Celiberti	66
2	Rumson CC #1	Chris Gotterup / Dave Iwan	69
	Essex County CC #2	Kieran Purcell / John Probst	68
3	Liberty National GC #2	David Rogers / Jacob Cohl	78
	Hamilton Farm GC #2	Chester Patterson / Peter Jaeckle	72
4	Arcola CC #2	Trevor Randolph / Lucas Farmer	65
	Rumson CC #2	Jack Skirkanich / Jimmy Dengler	71
5	Essex County CC #3	Alex Hoyos / Pat Ryan	78
	Liberty National GC#3	Dan Schleichert* / Josh Blaney	75
6	Hamilton Farm GC #3	Ira Flood / Jackson Kramer	70
	Arcola CC #3	Chris DeJohn / Adam Cutler	68
7	Rumson CC #3	John Edler / Doug DePietro	68
	Essex County CC #4	Chris Blake / Scot Pasquale	74
8l	Liberty National GC #4	Anthony Figlia / Michael Broda	72
	Hamilton Farm GC #4	Zach Koerbel / Erik Davis	71
9	Arcola CC #4	Xavier Dailly* / Michael O'Connell	66
	Rumson CC #4	Morten Gotterup* / Chuck Anttonen	73

*Team Captains

Totals

Arcola Country Club -- 265

Rumson Country -- 281

Hamilton Farm Golf Club -- 282

Essex County Country Club -- 289

Liberty National Golf Club -- 298

***The 2021 Red Hoffman Cup Matches Champion Club is
Arcola Country Club***



2021 Red Hoffman Cup Matches – Intragroup Play

The 2021 Hoffman Cup Groups were:

Group A	Group B	Group C
Hamilton Farm GC	Arcola CC	Montclair GC
Plainfield CC	Rockaway River CC	Echo Lake CC
Navesink CC	Mendham G&TC	Canoe Brook CC
Morris County GC	Mountain Ridge CC	Bayonne GC

Group D	Group E	Group F
Manasquan River GC	Fairmount CC	Baltusrol GC
Essex County CC	Deal G&CC	Rumson CC
Spring Lake GC	Metedeconk National GC	Fiddler's Elbow CC
Roxiticus GC	Upper Montclair CC	Hackensack GC

Group G	Group H	Group I
Ridgewood CC	Black Oak GC	Forest Hill FC
Bedens Brook CC	Somerset Hills CC	Hollywood GC
Knickerbocker CC	Trump National GC - Bedminster	North Jersey CC
Essex Fells CC	Spring Brook CC	Liberty National GC

Scheduled Matches, Saturday, May 1

	Matches
Group A	Hamilton Farm (7) vs Morris County (5) Plainfield (4.5) vs Navesink (7.5)
Group B	Arcola (8) vs Mountain Ridge (4) Rockaway River (5) vs Mendham (7)
Group C	Montclair (9.5) vs Bayonne (2.5) Echo Lake (6) vs Canoe Brook (6)
Group D	Manasquan River (11.5) vs Roxiticus (.5) Essex County (12) vs Spring Lake (0)
Group E	Fairmount (7.5) vs Upper Montclair (4.5) Deal (10.5) vs Metedeconk National (1.5)
Group F	Baltusrol (5.5) vs Hackensack (6.5) Rumson (5.5) vs Fiddler's Elbow (6.5)
Group G	Ridgewood (9) vs Essex Fells (3) Bedens Brook (6.5) vs Knickerbocker (5.5)
Group H	Black Oak (8.5) vs Spring Brook (3.5) Somerset Hills (9.5) vs Trump National (2.5)
Group I	Forest Hill (1.5) vs Liberty National (10.5) Hollywood (4.5) vs North Jersey (7.5)

Scheduled Matches, Sunday, May 2

	Matches
Group A	Hamilton Farm (11.5) vs Navesink (.5) Plainfield (6.5) vs Morris County (5.5)
Group B	Arcola (8) vs Mendham (4) Rockaway River (6.5) vs Mountain Ridge (5.5)
Group C	Montclair (8) vs Canoe Brook (4) Echo Lake (TBD) vs Bayonne (TBD)
Group D	Manasquan River (6) vs Spring Lake (6) Essex County (12) vs Roxiticus (0)
Group E	Fairmount (10.5) vs Metedeconk (1.5) Deal (10.5) vs Upper Montclair (1.5)
Group F	Baltusrol (8.5) vs Fiddler's Elbow (3.5) Rumson (7.5) vs Hackensack (4.5)

Group G	Ridgewood (6) vs Knickerbocker (6) Bedens Brook (7) vs Essex Fells (5)
Group H	Black Oak (9) vs Trump National (3) Somerset Hills (3.5) vs Spring Brook (8.5)
Group I	Forest Hill (3.5) vs North Jersey (8.5) Hollywood (2.5) vs Liberty National (9.5)

Scheduled Matches, Saturday, May 8

	Matches
Group A	Hamilton Farm (6) vs Plainfield (6) Navesink (1) vs Morris County (11)
Group B	Arcola (6.5) vs Rockaway River (5.5) Mendham (8.5) vs Mountain Ridge (3.5)
Group C	Montclair (6.5) vs Echo Lake (5.5) Canoe Brook (8) vs Bayonne (4)
Group D	Manasquan River (4) vs Essex County (8) Spring Lake (11.5) vs Roxiticus (.5)
Group E	Fairmont (3) vs Deal (9) Metedeconk National (7.5) vs Upper Montclair (4.5)
Group F	Baltusrol (4) vs Rumson (8) Fiddler's Elbow (6) vs Hackensack (6)
Group G	Ridgewood (1.5) vs Bedens Brook (10.5) Knickerbocker (9) vs Essex Fells (3)
Group H	Black Oak (10.5) vs Somerset Hills (1.5) Trump National (2.5) vs Spring Brook (9.5)
Group I	Forest Hill (6.5) vs Hollywood (5.5) North Jersey (5.5) vs Liberty National (6.5)

Hoffman Cup Matches Intragroup Final Results:

Group A: Hamilton Farm -24.5*; Morris County - 21.5; Plainfield -17; Navesink - 9
 Group B: Arcola - 22.5*; Mendham - 19.5; Rockaway River - 17; Mountain Ridge - 13
 Group C: Montclair - 24*; Canoe Brook - 18; Echo Lake - 15.5; Bayonne - 14.5
 Group D: Essex County - 32*; Manasquan River - 21.5; Spring Lake - 17.5; Roxiticus - 1
 Group E: Deal - 30*; Fairmount - 21; Metedeconk - 10.5; Upper Montclair - 10.5
 Group F: Rumson - 21*; Baltusrol - 18; Hackensack - 17; Fiddler's Elbow - 16
 Group G: Bedens Brook - 24*; Knickerbocker - 20.5; Ridgewood - 16.5; Essex Fells - 11
 Group H: Black Oak - 28*; Spring Brook - 21.5; Somerset Hills - 14.5; Trump National - 8
 Group I: Liberty National - 26.5*; North Jersey - 21.5 ; Hollywood - 12.5; Forest Hill - 11.5

Hoffman Cup Matches Semifinals (Sat, May 22 and Sun, May 23):

Semifinal seeding is determined by total points earned in group play. The 2021 Bye Team was Essex County, which earned the right to go directly to the Finals at Somerset Hills.

Deal G&CC (4.5) v. Rumson CC (7.5)
Black Oak GC (4.5) v. Arcola CC (7.5)
Liberty National GC (9) v. Montclair GC (3)
Hamilton Farm GC (8) v. Bedens Brook C (4)

Finalists:

Arcola Country Club
Essex County Country Club
Hamilton Farm Golf Club
Liberty National GC
Rumson Country Club
