



2023 Red Hoffman Cup: Arcola Overcomes Adversity to Remain on Top

If there were a scenario that would lead to a dethroning of Arcola Country Club, the defending champion club and winner of six of the last eight Red Hoffman Cup Matches, it was this one.

Arcola was hosting its big member/guest the same weekend, sapping the team of its professional, Grant Sturgeon; and two foundational members of the team, including captain Chris DeJohn and Trevor Randolph, who were unavailable because they were still alive in the Anderson Memorial, one of the nation's most important amateur events.

The four other finalist clubs were quietly licking their chops, but they were unable to pounce on either the defending champs or Montclair Golf Club's stunningly tough Second and Third Nines.

Arcola did it again, led by the impressive play of Xavier Dailly and Paul Genova, who carded the day's low round of 67. "I carried Xavier on two holes," smirked Genova, a first-time finalist who was largely relegated to watching Dailly's great play. Arcola's side of captain Brian Celiberti and Adam Cutler contributed a fine, one-over 71; Jake Lindsay and Danny Macdonald threw in a strong 72; while Brendan Jonlan and Charlie Cummings plowed through adversity to shoot a fine 73.

The three-over total 283 was eight shots ahead of former champion Hamilton Farm Golf Club and Fiddler's Elbow Country Club, in its first-ever Hoffman Cup finals.

Baltusrol Golf Club was just one shot behind at 292, followed by another finals rookie, Hollywood Golf Club, which also suffered from a competing home member/guest that resulted in a huge player drain and came in fifth at 322.

Besides the tremendous depth exhibited by Arcola, the story was the recently renovated Second and Third Nines. The massive redesign is mind-boggling to those of us who had seen what was in place before. The vistas are spectacular and the speedy greens remained the Hoffman Cup players' main topic of conversation.

Montclair has engineered an impressive improvement, one of which they should be proud. Every good player in the area should jump at any opportunity to play the new Montclair!

Thank you to Montclair's membership, represented at our event by their club president David Stith, for allowing us the opportunity to compete on its recently renovated nines, despite what is surely high demand on a June weekend. It was awesome!

2023 Finals Results

2023 Red Hoffman Cup Matches			
Finals			
Saturday, June 10, 1pm			
Montclair Golf Club			
Hole	Club; Team #	Players	Score
Nine #2, Hole#1	Hamilton Farm #1	Pat Wilson / Mark Kunesch	71
	Baltusrol #1	Jamie Pierson / Max Bichsel	72
Nine #2, Hole#3	Arcola #1	Jake Lindsay / Dan Macdonald	72
	Fiddler's Elbow #1	Chris Marzoli* / Edmund Broderick	70
Nine #2, Hole#5	Hollywood #1	James Mott / Jamie Zimmel	82
	Hamilton Farm #2	Joe Manganiello / Cody Sumpter	76
Nine #2, Hole#7	Baltusrol #2	Nick Desai* / Roddy McRae*	73
	Arcola #2	Xavier Dailly* / Paul Genova	67
Nine #2, Hole#9	Fiddler's Elbow #2	Danny Harcourt / Jay Kreikemeier	71
	Hollywood #2	Jason Zimmel / Corey Zimmel	82
Nine #3, Hole#1	Hamilton Farm #3	Chester Patterson / Jeff Fortunato	69
	Baltusrol #3	Gregg Angelillo / Darrell Gustafson	73

Nine #3, Hole#3	Arcola #3	Charlie Cummings / Brendan Jonland	73
	Fiddler's Elbow #3	Brian Davis / Charles Ho	76
Nine #3, Hole#5	Hollywood #3	Sam Landers / Dave Orlofsky	78
	Hamilton Farm #4	Drew Jordan* / Erik Stevens	75
Nine #3, Hole#7	Baltusrol #4	Jeff Werring / Stephen Wentz	74
	Arcola #4	Brian Celiberti* / Adam Cutler	71
Nine#3, Hole#9	Fiddler's Elbow #4	Scott Findlay* / Jeff Yannaccone	74
	Hollywood #4	Matt Cruz / Pete Guastella	79
*Team Captains			

Totals:

1st -- Arcola CC -- 283

T-2 -- Fiddler's Elbow GC -- 291

T-2 -- Hamilton Farm GC -- 291

3 -- Baltusrol GC -- 292

4 -- Hollywood GC -- 322

***The 2023 Red Hoffman Cup Matches Champion Club is
Arcola Country Club***

The 2023 Hoffman Cup Groups

Group A	Group B	Group C
Arcola Country Club	Baltusrol Golf Club	Deal Golf & Country Club
Spring Brook Country Club	Plainfield Country Club	Somerset Hills Country Club
Ridgewood Country Club	Rockaway River Country Club	Hackensack Golf Club
Upper Montclair Country Club	Maplewood Country Club	Spring Lake Golf Club

Group D	Group E	Group F
Knickerbocker Country Club	Bedens Brook Club	Montclair Golf Club
Morris County Golf Club	Hamilton Farm Golf Club	Manasquan River Golf Club
Hollywood Golf Club	Mendham Golf & Tennis Club	North Jersey Country Club
Forest Hill Field Club	Bayonne Golf Club	Mountain Ridge Country Club

Group G	Group H	Group I
Black Oak Golf Club	Rumson Country Club	Canoe Brook Country Club
Essex County Country Club	Liberty National Golf Club	Fairmount Country club
Metedeconk National Golf Club	Navesink Country Club	Fiddler's Elbow Golf Club
Essex Fells Country Club	Echo Lake Country Club	Trump National Golf Club - Bedminster

Scheduled Matches, Saturday, April 29 / Results

	Matches
Group A	Arcola (9) v Upper Montclair (3) Spring Brook (2.5) v Ridgewood (9.5)
Group B	Baltusrol (12) v Maplewood (0) Plainfield (7.5) v Rockaway River (4.5)
Group C	Deal (5.5) v Spring Lake (6.5) Somerset Hills (3.5) v Hackensack (8.5)
Group D	Knickerbocker (9) v Forest Hill (3) Morris County (6.5) v Hollywood (5.5)
Group E	Bedens Brook v Bayonne Hamilton Farm (11.5) v Mendham (.5)
Group F	Montclair (10) v Mountain Ridge (2) Manasquan River (4.5) v North Jersey (7.5)
Group G	Black Oak (10.5) v Essex Fells (1.5) Essex County (7) v Metedeconk (5)

Group H	Rumson (8) v Echo Lake (4) Liberty (1.5) v Navesink (10.5)
Group I	Canoe Brook (8.5) v Trump (3.5) Fairmount (4) v Fiddler's Elbow (8)

Scheduled Matches, Sunday, April 30 / Results

	Matches
Group A	Arcola (5.5) v Ridgewood (6.5) Spring Brook (4.5) v Upper Montclair (7.5)
Group B	Baltusrol (9) v Rockaway River (3) Plainfield (12) v Maplewood (0)
Group C	Deal (10) v Hackensack (2) Somerset Hills (5) v Spring Lake (7)
Group D	Knickerbocker (2.5) v Hollywood (9.5) Morris County (5) v Forest Hill (7)
Group E	Bedens Brook (4.5) v Mendham (7.5) Hamilton Farm (8) v Bayonne (4)
Group F	Montclair (5) v North Jersey (7) Manasquan River (6) v Mountain Ridge (6)
Group G	Black Oak (7.5) v Metedeconk (4.5) Essex County (7) v Essex Fells (5)
Group H	Rumson (6.5) v Navesink (5.5) Liberty (6.5) v Echo Lake (5.5)
Group I	Canoe Brook (6) v Fiddler's Elbow (6) Fairmount (5.5) v Trump (6.5)

Scheduled Matches, Saturday, May 6 / Results

	Matches
Group A	Arcola (9) v Spring Brook (3) Ridgewood (7) v Upper Montclair (5)
Group B	Baltusrol (5.5) v Plainfield (6.5) Rockaway River (12) v Maplewood(0)
Group C	Deal (2.5) v Somerset Hills (9.5) Hackensack (8) v Spring Lake (4)

Group D	Knickerbocker (6.5) v Morris County (5.5) Hollywood (7.5) v Forest Hill (4.5)
Group E	Bedens Brook (4.5) v Hamilton Farm (7.5) Mendham (9.5) v Bayonne (2.5)
Group F	Montclair (10) v Manasquan River (2) North Jersey (8) v Mountain Ridge (4)
Group G	Black Oak (7.5) v Essex County (4.5) Metedeconk (9.5) v Essex Fells (2.5)
Group H	Rumson (7.5) v Liberty (4.5) Navesink (.5) v Echo Lake (11.5)
Group I	Canoe Brook (3.5) v Fairmount (8.5) Fiddler's Elbow (11.5) v Trump (.5)

Hoffman Cup Matches Standings, at the end of Intragroup Play:

Group A: Arcola - 23.5*; Ridgewood - 23; Upper Montclair -15.5; Spring Brook - 10
Group B: Baltusrol - 26.5*; Plainfield - 26; Rockaway River - 19.5; Maplewood - 0
Group C: Hackensack - 18.5*; Deal - 18; Somerset Hills - 18; Spring Lake 17.5
Group D: Hollywood - 22.5*; Knickerbocker - 18; Morris County - 17; Forest Hill - 14.5
Group E: Hamilton - 27*; Mendham - 17.5; Bedens Brook - 9; Bayonne - 6.5
Group F: Montclair - 25*; North Jersey - 22.5; Manasquan River - 12.5; Mountain Ridge - 12
Group G: Black Oak - 25.5*; Metedeconk - 19; Essex County - 18.5; Essex Fells - 9
Group H: Rumson - 22*; Echo Lake -21; Navesink - 16.5; Liberty National - 12.5
Group I: Fiddler's Elbow - 25.5*; Fairmount - 18; Canoe Brook - 18; Trump - 10.5

* - Has secured the group win; **Bold** - Has completed all three intragroup matches

Semifinals (Sat, June 3 and Sun, June 4):

Semifinal seeding is determined by total points earned in group play. The 2023 Bye Team earned the most points in intragroup play and the right to skip the semifinals and go directly to the Finals at **Montclair GC**.

The 2023 BYE team, by virtue of its 27 total group points was **Hamilton Farm GC**.

Baltusrol GC (8) v Hackensack GC (4)
 Fiddler's Elbow GC (5)* v **Rumson CC (7)***
 Black Oak GC (5) v **Hollywood GC (7)**
 Montclair GC (3) v **Arcola CC (9)**

* Rumson GC could not field a squad in the Finals, therefore Fiddler's Elbow CC advanced