

Kevin Ward

Kevin Ward has enjoyed an excellent season that has seen improvement in both his GC and AC skills.

He is nominated here for the Most Improved Player Award – male GC.

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Kevin's DGrade has risen from 1422 to 1618 (and increase of +195).

- This from winning 34 of 53 ranking games, giving a winning rate of 64%.

Kevin's Handicap has reduced from 8 to 5 (index from 1339 to 1543, which is an increase of +204).

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Kevin started 2023 with a GC **handicap of 8** and, by the end of April, had earned the first of 3 AGS reductions.

He hit a purple patch in late April/early May when, in the space of 9 days he:

- **Won the Phyllis Court C-Level (7+) Series tournament**, was an early qualifier for the C-level Series National Final, earned a Bronze award, and had an AHS reduction to **handicap 7**.
- Won 5/6 games at the Watford C-level (7+) Series tournament and earned another AHS reduction, this time to **handicap 6**.
- **Won the Phyllis Court qualifier for the Area final of the All England Handicap** (Advantage)

More victories in internal Advantage and Level play competitions earned Kevin his 3rd AHS reduction of the season by the end of May, making him a **handicap 5**.

Kevin was promoted from the Phyllis Court 'C' team (playing in the SCF Advantage League) to the stiffer challenge of the 'Murphy Shield' team and 'B' teams (the latter playing in the SCF B (3+) League).

Despite Kevin's relatively high handicap, he won 3 out of 5 in the 'Murphy Shield' and 7 out of 9 in the B-league.

Kevin had been 9th reserve for the Phyllis Court B-Level (3+) Series but his keenness to step up a grade and his patience were rewarded with an 11th hour call-up to a starting position, which pleased the manager no end!

In his first B-Level, Kevin completely out-played his 16th seed position to finish a remarkable 3rd, only one game win behind the tournament winner.

At the end of the season, Kevin played in the C-Level (3+) Series National Final and won his first three games, but then faltered to lose some games that he should have won, managed 8 wins 13 and finished in the mid-filed.

All of the above was achieved whilst Kevin also improved his AC understanding and handicap from 20 to 14 during the year.

Kevin Ward is duly nominated for the Most Improved Player Award – male GC.

Chris Roberts
Chairman, Phyllis Court CC