

**2016 Green Tour
Year in Review**

Welcome



Gentlemen – welcome to a belated 2016 Green Tour in Review! First things first, a hearty congratulations to two-time Champion **Ian Murdock** on his nail-biting victory in the Green Jacket race! What a thrilling finale it was, with our first play-off in the history of the Green Tour. Commiserations to **Colm Reilly** for a well fought battle and his grace in defeat. Read on for a full recap of all competitions, commentary and a recap on our mission and focus. You can review all the photographs from the year (and previous years, thanks **Martin McDonnell**) on the Green Tour website [here](#).

First a few words from our hard-working Chairman.



Chairman's Cúpla Focal

Many thanks to everyone for making 2016 another great year for the Green Tour. We had multiple Green Tour winners with **Paul Valentine, Jim O'Sullivan** and **Colm Reilly** winning their respective divisions.

Our favorite green tour bookie, **Ciaran Morris** returned to the winners circle by holding off the lowest handicap player on the Green Tour, Offaly's **Brian Boland**. Despite numerous back surgeries, **Peter Casey**, was the man to beat in the team match-play.

The final round of The Green Tour returned to the historic Druid Hills, where we witnessed the first ever, sudden death playoff, between **Ian Murdock** and **Colm Reilly**. Ian, drawing on his experience of having won the Green Jacket in 2012, emerged victorious by paring the second hole of the playoff. Colm, having won the 2015 individual match-play, was unlucky not to secure his first jacket, but it is only a matter of time before he will be trying it on. Congratulations to Ian for a victory well earned.

I would also like to thank **Michael** and **Maureen Lynch**, for hosting the year-end party. Nowhere is the spirit of the Green Tour more evident, as we celebrate the year, with our friends, partners, wives or significant others.

Thanks to everyone for their continued support of The Green Tour. In particular, I would like to give thanks to my hard working committee members - **Chalky GTI White, Fergal Kearns, Martin McDonnell** and **Stephen Colman**. I would also like to give a special thanks to **Fergal**, who will be rolling off the committee this year and welcome **Michael O'Driscoll** to the team. It really is a team effort that makes the Green Tour run so smoothly. As we enter, our 15th year of The Green Tour, I look forward to the many more years ahead.

Overall Standings in Green Jacket Race

It was another high-scoring year with some great golf played on some marvelous courses. Congratulations to all the winners throughout the year – if you didn't make the cut this year, there's always 2017!

GREEN TOUR 2016

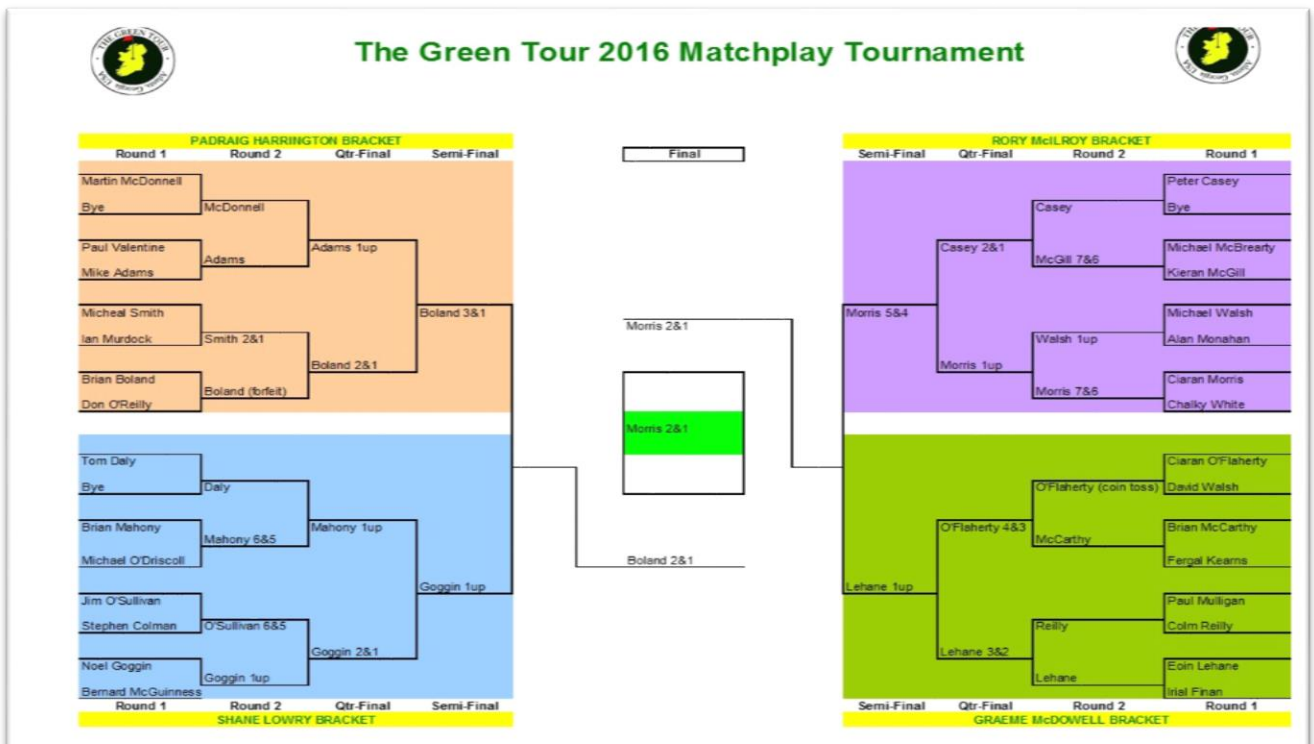
PLAYERS	16 - Apr Results	21 - May Results	20 - Aug Results	Best 2/3	22 - Oct Results	22 - Oct Results	Best 4/5	Current Ranking
Murdock	31	34	35	69	33	33	135	1st
Reilly	35	39	31	74	30	30	135	1st
Valentine	30	31	28	61	36	36	133	3rd
McDonnell	30	35	32	67	33	33	133	3rd
McGill	-	27	35	62	35	35	132	5th
O'Sullivan	32	31	28	63	34	34	131	6th
Morris	-	38	34	72	29	29	130	7th
O'Reilly	33	37	31	70	27	27	128	8th
Monaghan	24	33	24	57	35	35	127	9th
Daly	23	33	31	64	31	31	126	10th
Lynch D	29	30	32	62	31	31	124	11th
Smith	24	26	30	56	34	34	124	11th
Walsh M	25	38	36	74	23	23	122	13th
McCarthy	28	33	30	63	29	29	121	14th
Goggin	30	22	35	65	28	28	121	14th
O'Malley	28	39	23	67	25	25	117	16th
White	29	33	25	62	27	27	116	17th
O'Flaherty	20	25	29	54	30	30	114	18th
Kearns	26	26	28	54	28	28	110	19th
Mahony	29	21	24	53	25	25	103	20th
McGuinness	-	30	24	54	22	22	98	21st
Walsh D	22	27	19	49	24	24	97	22nd
Lynch M	32	34	30	66	-	-	96	23rd
Colman	27	24	36	63	-	-	87	24th
Lehane	27	28	28	56	-	-	83	25th
Casey	-	34	27	61	-	-	61	26th
Finan	21	33	-	54	32	32	54	27th
Mulligan	-	31	-	31	24	24	31	28th
Boland	-	31	-	31	33	33	31	28th
O'Driscoll	-	23	-	23	31	31	23	30th
McBrearity	24	-	7	31	-	-	24	31st
Adams	25	30	-	55	-	-	55	32nd

Match Play Recap of 2016

Congratulations to **Ciaran Morris** in winning the 2016 match play. Thanks to the runner-up, **Brian Boland** for penning this little ditty.

*It was East Lake on Sunday
 In the beautiful fall sunshine
 The matchplay final between Morris & Boland
 In the company from Finan and Valentine
 The match started scrappily
 Boland with a slight frown
 Morris going 2 up after 2 holes
 With some excellent up and downs
 The first 9 went quickly
 Back and forth all the way
 Morris with a slender 1 up lead
 Was it going to be his day
 Ciaran was superb on the back side
 Going 3 up with 5 to go
 Boland needed to rally quickly
 And find some serious flow
 Then two wins on the spin
 And the game was really on
 Irial and Paul went quiet
 A serious battle called upon
 On 16 Ciaran stopped the momentum
 With 1 of his strokes in play
 Six foot pressure putt down the hill
 In the middle all the way*

*Boland smashed a drive down 17
 Beside the green in really great shape
 Then Morris hits his second into 4 feet
 For me there was no more escape
 All over on the penultimate hole
 Where both men finally shook hands
 Just like the FedEx in September
 Where there were many in the stands
 37 on the back nine from Boland
 Would have won most a match
 But Morris was the better man today
 Just too hard to catch
 For Ciaran it was a sweet victory
 Shooting 78 in the East Lake sunshine
 I'm sure he's at home right now
 Celebrating with some of the finest wine
 So Boland fails in his attempt
 For a second matchplay title of the year
 He will console himself tonight
 With an ice cold beer
 Many thanks to the Dubliner
 For a fabulous day in the sun
 For even though I lost the match
 The Green Tour always brings so much fun*



Event Results

First of all, a big thanks to **Stephen Colman**, who every year, impeccably collects and calculates all the combinations of results so we can seamlessly track standings, allocate prizes, and follow the money!



	Berkely Hills		Horseshoe Bend		Golf Club of Georgia		Druid Hills		Overall
Overall	Colm Reilly	35	Colm Reilly	39	Michael Walsh	36	Paul Valentine	36	Murdock
Bowl	Don O'Reilly	33	Ciaran Morris	38	Noel Goggin	35	Alan Monaghan	35	Reilly
Plate	Jim O'Sullivan	32	Ian Murdock	34	Stephen Colman	36	Jim O'Sullivan	34	O'Sullivan
Shield	Paul Valentine	30	Garrett O'Malley	39	Kieran McGill	35	Kieran McGill	35	Valentine
Back 9	Danny Lynch	18	Peter Casey	23	Ciaran Morris	19	Martin McDonnell	17	
Nearest the Pin	Peter Green	4th	Micheal Smith	2nd	Bernard McGuinn	3rd	Ciaran O'Flaherty	6th	
	Chalky White	11th	Michael Walsh	11th	Dave Carty	17th	Paul Valentine	13th	

2016 Flight Results

Congratulations to **Colm Reilly** who becomes 2016's Bowl winner. **Martin McDonnell** and **Ciaran Morris** are again the bridesmaids finishing in the same places as last year. While the race was close this year it reconfirms **Michael Walsh's** 150 points (and 13 point winning margin) last year was incredibly impressive.

PLAYERS	16 - Apr Results	21 - May Results	20 - Aug Results	Best 2/3	22 - Oct Results	22 - Oct Results	Best 4/5	Current Ranking
Reilly	35	39	31	74	30	30	135	1st
McDonnell	30	35	32	67	33	33	133	2nd
Morris	-	38	34	72	29	29	130	3rd
O'Reilly	33	37	31	70	27	27	128	4th
Monaghan	24	33	24	57	35	35	127	5th
Smith	24	26	30	56	34	34	124	6th
Walsh M	25	38	36	74	23	23	122	7th
Goggin	30	22	35	65	28	28	121	8th
White	29	33	25	62	27	27	116	9th
Lynch M	32	34	30	66	0	0	96	10th
Boland	-	31	-	31	33	33	31	11th



In the plate, it was **Jim O Sullivan** who took the honors this year. Congratulations Jim. Again, the scoring this year did match last year's impressive 150 points from **Tom Daly**. Indeed, Jim's winning score this year would have gotten him joint fourth place last year.

PLAYERS	16 - Apr Results	21 - May Results	20 - Aug Results	Best 2/3	22 - Oct Results	22 - Oct Results	Best 4/5	Current Ranking
Murdock	31	34	35	69	33	33	135	1st
O'Sullivan	32	31	28	63	34	34	131	2nd
Daly	23	33	31	64	31	31	126	3rd
Lynch D	29	30	32	62	31	31	124	4th
McCarthy	28	33	30	63	29	29	121	5th
O'Flaherty	20	25	29	54	30	30	114	6th
Mahony	29	21	24	53	25	25	103	7th
Colman	27	24	36	63	0	0	87	8th
Lehane	27	28	28	56	0	0	83	9th
Adams	25	30	-	55	0	0	55	10th
Finan	21	33	-	54	32	32	54	11th



In the veritable skill-fest that is the **Shield** – it was **Paul Valentine** yet again who came out on top just ahead of previous Green Tour Champion, **Kieran McGill**. Congratulations Paul!

PLAYERS	16 - Apr Results	21 - May Results	20 - Aug Results	Best 2/3	22 - Oct Results	22 - Oct Results	Best 4/5	Current Ranking
Valentine	30	31	28	61	36	36	133	1st
McGill	-	27	35	62	35	35	132	2nd
O'Malley	28	39	23	67	25	25	117	3rd
Kearns	26	26	28	54	28	28	110	4th
McGuinness	-	30	24	54	22	22	98	5th
Walsh D	22	27	19	49	24	24	97	6th
O'Driscoll	0	23	0	23	31	31	85	7th
Mulligan	-	31	0	31	24	24	79	8th
Casey	-	34	27	61	0	0	61	9th
McBrearity	24	0	7	31	0	0	31	10th

Two-man Match-play



Our congratulations to **Michael Walsh** and **Peter Casey** for coming through, from very unwanted positions to claim the 2016 Two-man Match-play competition. They managed to overcome the very talented, and highly favored, team of **Micheal Smith** and **Fergal Kearns** in the final. To see **Peter Casey** as the winner is to be reminded of the biblical verse "the stone that the builders rejected ----" as Peter was definitely that stone and the humble Kerry man was the builder!!!!

It has been decided to allow the current champions to defend their title in 2017. The champions will also have the option of rejecting their partner in 2017, knowing that the rejection money is how we can pay out such grand prizes. Given the fact that Peter is recovering from back surgery, having carried Walshie throughout the whole season, I would not be surprised to see a rejection among the defending champions. The word on the street is that Peter would prefer to be a jockey in 2017 rather than a mule!!!

Given the selection process that happened in 2016 Peter may have to pay big bucks to be a jockey!!! The belated 2015 champions of Messrs **Brian Boland** and **Michael O'Driscoll** will also be allowed to play together as defending champions in 2017 and the chances of a rejection in this team is pretty slim. We will start picking our jockeys and mules at the first outing of 2017.

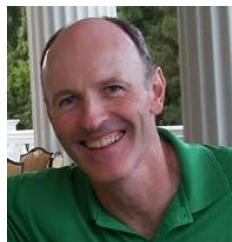
Most Improved Player for 2016

Congratulations to multiple Tour Champion, **Don O Reilly** for the attaining the coveted most improved player of the year award. It does come with monetary reward but the satisfaction of knowing you suck slightly less than you did the year before. Well done to Don and the rest on the list for moving in the right direction.

USGA Index USGA Index
10/15/2015 10/15/2016

Don O'Reilly	12.6	9.1	1.166
Tom Daly	12.8	10.5	1.102
Ciaran Morris	7.3	6.0	1.072
David Walsh	15.9	14.3	1.061

Low Gross Leaderboard



Last year, it was **Michael Walsh** who became the first golfer, in at least three years, to break 80 as an average. He's the now the only one in at least four years – having dropped exactly seven shots on average in 2016. This year's low gross average leader is Ciaran Morris with an average score of 83.0

(exactly one shot better than his last year's average). Well done Ciaran. Well done also to **Michael Walsh, Noel Goggin, Colm Reilly, Martin McDonnell,**

and **Don O Reilly** for being the only golfers to make it **four** years in a row in the Top 10!

Commiserations to **Chalky White, Tom Daly,** and **Jim O Sullivan** who dropped out of the Top 10 this year and congratulations to **Alan Monaghan, Micheal Smith,** and **Michael Lynch** for making it into the limelight!

PLAYERS	16 - Apr Results	21 - May Results	20 - Aug Results	Best 2/3	22 - Oct Results	22 - Oct Results	Best 4/5	Current Ranking	Avg
Morris	100	79	81	160	86	86	332	1st	83.0
Reilly	82	78	86	160	87	87	333	1st	83.3
Goggin	85	94	80	165	87	87	339	3rd	84.8
McDonnell	88	84	86	170	86	86	342	4th	85.5
Boland	100	83	100	183	80	80	343	5th	85.8
Walsh M	92	80	80	160	94	94	346	6th	86.5
Lynch M	84	82	86	166	100	100	352	7th	88.0
O'Reilly	87	83	90	170	92	92	352	8th	88.0
Smith	95	93	91	184	85	85	354	9th	88.5
Monaghan	97	87	97	184	85	85	354	9th	88.5

Skins Results

Ah, the skins. The perennial bellwether of how screwed are the low-handicappers – two shot “**Michael O Driscoll**” rule or not! The ginormous winner the previous year of course was **Tom Daly** who brought home an almighty \$960 followed by **Don O Reilly** (\$480) and **Brian Mahony** (\$410). In 2016, the big winner was, the Shield’s very own **Paul Valentine**, winning the handsome sum of \$605. **Brian McCarthy** was the single biggest day-winner in the year with a princely sum of \$450 in round two. Well done Paul and Brian and the other big winners in 2016.

Skins Winners	4/16/2016	5/21/2016	8/20/2016	10/22/2016	Total
Paul Valentine	\$ 200		\$ 405		\$ 605
Brian McCarthy		\$ 450			\$ 450
Mike Adams	\$ 320				\$ 320
Peter Casey		\$ 200			\$ 200
Fergal Kearns		\$ 150			\$ 150
Kieran McGill			\$ 135	\$ 80	\$ 215
Michael McBrearary			\$ 90		\$ 90
Danny Lynch			\$ 90		\$ 90
Colm Reilly	\$ 80			\$ 160	\$ 240
Bernard McGuinness			\$ 45		\$ 45
Don O'Reilly	\$ 40			\$ 55	\$ 95
Tom Daly				\$ 280	\$ 280
Brian Mahony					\$ -
Jim O'Sullivan					\$ -
Paul White				\$ 55	\$ 55
Michael Walsh					\$ -
Alan Monaghan					\$ -
Ciaran Morris				\$ 55	\$ 55
Martin McDonnell					\$ -
Micheal Smith				\$ 55	\$ 55
Ian Murdock				\$ 175	\$ 175
Michael O'Driscoll					\$ -
Irial Finan					\$ -
Paul Mulligan				\$ 55	\$ 55
Ciaran O'Flaherty				\$ 95	\$ 95
Carry Over	\$ 170	\$ 160	\$ 105	\$ 90	\$ 525
	\$ 810	\$ 960	\$ 870	\$ 1,155	\$ 3,795

A Reminder on our Mission and Core Values



As a Green Tour member, we are all expected to embody the mission and values of our close-knit organization. In its essence, the Green Tour is a small gathering of Irishmen united by a love for golf and a desire to grow and cement our relationships with each other, our partners and families, and the wider Irish-Atlanta community.

As a reminder, our stated mission and core values are outlined below. The continued value and longevity of the Green Tour is reliant on each of us agreeing to and upholding a common set of values that provide the foundation of our mutual commitment and enjoyment. As a member of the Green Tour we ask you to keep this values front in center.

Our Mission

It is the mission of the Green Tour that members celebrate a common Irish heritage, build lasting bonds of friendship, and enliven the Atlanta-Irish community, through a unique golfing and social experience.

Our Values and Code of Conduct

- **Respect:** We ask that members play their part to participate in a society that is well organized, respected, and welcomed in the best golfing and social establishments in the state. This includes respecting your hosting member(s), club members, and fellow guests by strictly observing the rules of golf and etiquette when you play, arriving on time for events, keeping up a reasonable pace of play, and wearing our team colors at events.
- **Fair Competition:** We expect members to follow the golfing creed of integrity, fairness, and propriety in everything they do on and off the course. This includes keeping your GHIN up to date and taking seriously our Green Tour rules and committee instructions, recording your scores accurately and completely, and following the rules of golf.
- **Fun:** We strongly encourage members to engage in the competitive side of the Tour but don't forget to enjoy your golf. We also expect you to participate in the social sessions after each event. As a green tour member, we want you not just to sign up for the golf but the social element as well. This includes contributing to the written and visual recording of events, the online craic and participating in the skins/bookie's book.
- **Friendship:** We ask that members use the opportunity the Green Tour presents to get to know all of our fellow members better personally and professionally. For this reason, we encourage members to reach out to other members they don't know, make new members feel welcome, and join as many of the competitions that they can.

- **Family:** We are privileged to be able to spend time away from our families to enjoy each other's company over competitive games of golf on world-class courses. For this reason, it is important to recognize the role our families play in our support and why informal gatherings and participation in the annual gala event are family-affairs.
- **Leadership through Service:** Green Tour members are encouraged to participate in activities representing members and sponsors of the Green Tour in our community. We look forward to supporting the causes of our members like St. Baldricks, Clan na Gael, the Irish consulate, Irish Chamber, etc..