A Cold Spring Start to The 2008 Golf Season

Snow, Rain & Cold Cancels Opener

The 2008 Spring Scramble scheduled for April 26th was canceled due to snow, rain and extremely unseasonable cold weather which left the course and most of the participants in an “unplayable” condition.

A Cool and Windy Ice Breaker

May 3, 2008

A turnout of 170 golfers in seven flights had cool and windy conditions for the 2008 Ice Breaker Tourney. All the players were glad to be finally playing in a 2008 tournament. Ice was off the ponds (but just barely!).

First flight:
Randy Garber shot a red hot 71 to take Low Gross with John Berry following at 73. Great opening round Randy! Randy and John tied for Low Net at 70.

Second Flight:
Clint Parker and Dave Sajevic shot 80's to tie for Low Gross. Clint and Dave also tied for Low Net at 75.

Third Flight:
Low Gross went to Charley Schneider with an 81. Terry Cooper was a shot back at 82. Charley also took Low Net with a 72.

Fourth Flight:
David Chmielewski and Mark Henning tied for Low Gross at 84. David, Mark and Michael Roscher took Low Net honors at 74.

Fifth Flight:
Kevin McKoskey took Low Gross with an 85 followed by Mark Carlson at 87. Kevin and Mark tied for Low Net at 73.

Sixth Flight:
Matt McKoskey was a double winner taking Low Gross honors with an 88 and Low Net with a 70. Double winners all around for the McKoskeys!

Seventh Flight:
Kay Lockhart captured Low Gross with a 97 and Richard Graeff was a shot back at 98. Wade Schmelzer had a 76 for Low Net.

Nearies:
#2 Gary Irish 5'2", #5 Dave McElroy 15'4", #8 Dave Mitchell 6'9", #17 and Steve Date 2'1/2" - Oh, so close!

Notable Skins (all divisions):
Al Crandall birdie #12, Matt Berven birdie #15, Mike Ryan birdie #8, Dan Brink birdie #18, Michael Wade par #1, John Lund par #12 and Jim Hauschild with a par on #3

U 24 Man Team Wins 1st Round

Our 24 Man Team captained by John Piatkowski opened the 2008 season with a home and home match against Edinburgh. On May 4th the team played at Edinburgh and came away leading 22-14. On June 1st the rematch was held at the U, with our team continuing to pull away with 21-15 win for a two match total of 43-29. The 24 man team is made-up of the lowest handicap players in our club, generally no higher than a 4.5! The next match is versus Elk River (at Elk River) on July 13th.
Superintendent Update by Charlie Pooch

It has been an unusual 2008 to say the least. Now that June has arrived, the weather has warmed and our grass is finally growing! You will have noticed a couple of changes on the course. We have rebuilt and seeded the front practice putting green to take out some of the severe slope and enlarge the practice area. Obviously the weather has slowed the growth, but we are optimistic that, with decent weather, the new practice green will fill in nicely. We transferred the practice sod to some other greens, most notably the front of the hole #8. The past winter and fall we took out a number of trees around the greens that were blocking the morning sunlight, which was determined to be slowing their growth and not really coming into play. Speaking of greens, in late May after the Memorial Tourney, we “punched” the greens with small “tines” and put on fertilizer and light sand. They are responding very well and it appears that areas are finally beginning to fill-in. Some of the newer trees that we have planted over the past five years are beginning to grow and come into play, changing some of the character and strategy to play the course. And we are beginning to take down some of the green netting guards on the smaller trees, replacing them with a plastic “guard”.

And for those of you who have asked, the Gopher Team Practice Area behind the driving range and hole #13 is now coming along. It was seeded last fall, and with the warm weather it is beginning to fill-in like the practice green. It was built to provide the Gopher Players a practice area to reflect the different types of greens that they compete on around the US.

Tourney Help Needed:
Thank you to the volunteers that have stepped forward early in the season to help with the tournaments. We would like to thank Brett Mueller and Jim Hauschild for their help on both set-up and scoring. Also, a thank you to Moe Ankney, Dave L. Johnson and John Vosejka for their help in scoring. However, we need others to do the same. If you want to continue to have the number and type of tournaments (scoreboard, etc) then you need to volunteer to do your part to make this happen. We should not have to be dependent on a just a few volunteers to spend long hours, after and before their rounds. Follow the lead of Scott Stanley, Steve Stanley, Scott Ford and Doug Tomhave who formed a group and took over the scoring for the Net Team Tournament. Thanks guys! Do your share—volunteer for even a single tournament, or have your foresome form a group. It helps spread the workload, allows you meet other members that you might not normally play with, and permits us to have a large number of well run tournaments.

The 2008 Stableford Tournament

A cool breezy day greeted the 19 teams playing in the Stableford Tournament. The Stableford unique scoring system rewards individual and team play. Windy conditions contributed to slightly higher scores this year.

Team Results:
125 points-Skip Schultz-Dennis Van Norman-Mark Ryan-Paul Kuhnmuench
121 points-John Blanchard-Jim Arrell-Joel Rudloff-Richard Graeff
121 points-Don R. Johnson-Blind Draw-Dave Schuh-Dennis Smith
116 points-Ken Batts-Al Mueller-Jason Meggitt-Jim Hannigan
112 points-Suresh Hettiarachchi-Richard Pallhniuk-Matt McKoskey-Ron London

Individual Results:
Some great rounds were shot. Al Mueller & Paul Kuhnmuench tied for first with 39 points. Followed by Matt McKoskey with 38 points. Nine golfers tied for third place with 37 points (Brett Mueller, Dennis Van Norman, Jim Arrell, Jason Meggitt, Joel Rudloff, Matt Stone, Bob McIntosh, Scott Stanley and Trevor Overskei)

Nearies:
#2 Dave Okita 8'3", #5 Paul Kuhnmuench 12'4", #8 Dave L. Johnson 23'7", and #17 Tom Baldwin 3'3" Nice shot Tom!

Skins Highlights:
First Division: Brett Mueller birdie #11 and Moe Ankney birdie #18.
Second Division: Manfred Mielke birdie #10, Trevor Overskei birdie #11, John Greig par #12, Joel Rudloff birdie #16 and a pair of birdies for Dennis Van Norman on #6, #14. The birdie man! (Editors Note: His handicap better be going down or the Hole Truth plans to go into investigative reporting).
The 2008 Memorial Tourney (slick greens and a lot of wind)

A cloudy and breezy day greeted the 144 players in the first "major" of 2008. The **Championship Flight** was won by **Mike Skramstad** with a 75 and a shot behind was **John Piatkowski**. Only four shots separated the top finishers. The **First Flight** ended in a three way tie with **William Bell** winning the playoff and only two shots separating the top finishers. The **Fourth Flight** was also tight with **Dennis Smith** winning and a five way tie for second. Congratulations to all the players regardless of the scores! Remember you can see your own hole-by-hole score and any of the players on the Men's Golf Club web site (www.umn.edu/golfclub). Click on the results button and look under Memorial Tournament.

**Championship**:
Mike Skramstad-75 edged John Piatkowski-76 and Todd Baumgartner & Tom Kollodge-77

**1st Flight**:
William Bell(*wson sudden Death Playoff), Mike Farbelow, Bob Patient-80 followed by Al Crandall and Dave McIntosh-81

**2nd Flight**:
David Chmielewski-79 bested Charley Schneider-82

**3rd Flight**:
Kevin McKoskey-82 followed by webmaster Jeff Kalvik-84

**4th Flight**:
Dennis Smith-91 topped Philip Getts, Paul Hagen, Jim Hanson, Geoffrey Maruyama and Michael Wade-92

**5th Flight** (Net Only):
Earl Peterson-69 bested Scott Ford-72

**Nearies**:
#2 Jake Witham 8'5", #5 Dennis Van Norman 15', #8 Skip Schultz 17'6" and #17 Jack Reif 5'3"

**Skins**:
First Division: Steve Wyczawski eagle #7, Bob Kennedy eagle #9, Tom Kollodge birdie #11 and back-to-back birdies for John Piatkowski #15 & #16

Second Division: (All Birdies)
a double for David L. Johnson #2 & #12, Don R. Johnson #4, Michael Vennerstrom #8, and Paul Otto #15

Third Division:
pair of birdies for Milt Bellin #2 & #10, Dave Schuh eagle #3 (Nice 4 iron Prez!), Earl Peterson par #12 and Dan Flesher birdie #15

Net Team Championship

Twenty eight teams in two divisions had a partly cloudy day for the 2008 Net Team Championship tournament. The Net Team Championship uses the unique format of dividing a four man team into two "squads". The low net score for each "squad" is added together for the team score.

**First Flight** (team hcps. 21-49)
122-John Vosejpk-Skip Schultz-Dave Sajevic-Mike Ryan
127-Al Crandall-John Beetsch-Al Mueller-Brett Mueller
129-Bob McIntosh-Dave McIntosh-Kenneth Gay-Tim Gamboni
130-Mike Rode-Greg Petryszyn-Mike Skramstad-John Gerstner

**Second Flight** (team hcps. 52-84)
120-Scott Stanley-James Hannigan-Douglas Tomhave-Scott Ford
123-Tom Schuh-Dave Schuh-Jim Hauschild-Terry Cooper
   Jim Reineke-Dave Chmielewski-John Blanchard-Duane Blanchard
   Jon Kramer-Todd Kramer-Jim Schmidt-Jim Duethman

**Nearies**:
#2 Keith Piotrowski 16'4", #5 Jim Duethman 5', Bob Kennedy 10'3", and John Beetsch 4'11"

**Skins**:
First Division: (hcp. 0-9)
#1 birdie Marc Baumgartner, #11 birdie Joe Larson, #14 birdie Tim Gamboni, and #13 eagle & #15 birdie Todd Baumgartner (Nearly a Baumgartner Sweep!)

Second Division: (hcp. 10-14)
#3 birdie Mike Ryan, #4 birdie Don R. Johnson, #8 birdie Brad Seguin, #12 birdie John Gerstner, a pair of birdies on #13 & #15 Kevin Wickman, #16 birdie Mike Job and #18 birdie Kevin McKoskey

Third Division: (hcp. 15-33)
A pair of birdies on #9 & #15 Matt McKoskey and #16 par Dick Patten
Hello from the Pro Shop
We know that this year has been quite unusual, but we are predicting better weather ahead and hope that you can take a few moments and stop by the Pro Shop and say hello. We have a lot of new Gopher Merchandise on hand, as well as the latest in equipment and accessories. And if you don’t see what you are looking for, then just ask.

Certificates:
The program of having certificates and checks available the weekend after they have been won is working very well. If you have won something in the spring tournaments, please stop by and pick-up your certificate or check. And while we know many of you personally, we would ask that you make sure that you get your correct certificate or check so there are no mistakes.

Demo Clubs Available:
As we have done in past years, we will be having some clubs available to “demo” this year. Ask in the clubhouse about this program and “test drive” one of the new technology clubs.

Driving Range:
We have already had our first DEMO Day at the driving range where we have club rep’s come to the range with their demo clubs. We are currently hoping to have some additional dates. We will be posting information on this as soon as it is available. Look for signs at the Driving Range and information in the Club House.

Yardage Books:
We hope that you have been able to pick-up one of our new yardage books when you have played the course. Look for pin placement information on the first tee to determine what placement we are following.

Course Web Site:
For the most up-to-date information and specials that are being offered, just go to our web site at www.uofmgolf.com

Senior Notes;
Senior MGA Eight Man Update:
The Senior team captained by Skip Schultz decisively defeated Fountain Hills in their first match. They are trailing Hiawatha by three points with the next match at Les Bolstad on June 24. Good Luck on the 24th!

Minnesota Senior Golf Association Notes:
This league uses a medal play format. The University team won both matches against Oak Glen and Northfield. Currently they are in first place. Congrats to all the players!

Shootout Points*

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*Standing through Net Team Tournament