

Week 1 – Opening Day Classic at Mercer Oaks West

GoTT,

Well it was a most interesting first week in the 2011 YGS Order of Merit Season. We had our largest block ever for an opener and with 24 guys on the course a fantastic (if more for the camaraderie than for the quality of play) day at The Old Course (MOW). Conditions were as expected a bit brisk, but turn back the clock 24 hours and we would have had many guys thinking about taking a 2 point no show in week one!!!

I think what I loved the most about the event is that I had enough beer in me to not care who won the event (not my usual MO - well the not caring part anyway) so watching everyone try to figure out if anyone had beaten XLP's net 72 was kinda fun. Turns out nobody did. Surprisingly however someone did manage to tie it. Both The Skipper and XLP managed to just shoot even par net 72's, which given the wind probably can be considered OK, but we all know that net ain't cutting it with this many guys out any other time this year, so enjoy it while you can boys. Congrats to the 2 veterans of many a YGS Season as they stand atop the podium 4 points clear of the field after week one.

The podium had 2 other visitors this week as both Eduardo (on the strength of his 43 on the front side) and the ever hot and cold Dave McC whose 111 gross was hot enough to meet up with Eddie's net 74 tied for third place. 2 over par net gets them each the 2 big bonus points out there for 3rd and the title of luckiest men of the season thus far.

We'd be remiss this week if we did not acknowledge the strong first day the rookies had as well. "The Dyke" came in with a very strong performance with a 98 net 72 of his own and Rainman playing in early morning obscurity (just the way he likes it) posted an 88 net 74. As associates they don't get bonus points (that day will come), but they do get our admiration for turning in some nice opening day numbers. It should also be noted that 6 of the 8 rookies made the opening day classic event, also an all time high. Good show men!

OK, before we go its time to tear a couple of guys down. Now CFD tore himself down immediately following the event, announcing to anyone who would listen that he, the new Minister of Standards Decency and Ethics after all, was living up to his title by admitting publicly that he shot 61 on the front and finished with a 110 net 94. This is the stuff of legends for sure and its hard to live that one down when it happens in the opener, but there was no lack of excuses available to him... some of which seem to indicate he is very vulnerable in match play right now. Take note bracket mates!!! The other guy to take some heat here is Dos Equis who, while he can write a great bio, and may in fact be the most interesting man in the world, had a scorecard for this week that was anything but interesting! While averaging 7 strokes a hole over a round is not anything new to a few of our more notorious masters of the blow up disaster, that has to be tough to carry around with you after pitching yourself as such an icon of humanity. Stay thirsty indeed Dos Equis, you keep playing like that and you will need it to drown your sorrows!!!

We all shared the pain this week though as our average gross score of 104 and average net of 79.8 are the worst I have been able to find for an opening day... ouch!

Alright boys, that's all for week 1. Start getting some matches in, and look for an e-mail in the next couple of days on an exciting new team matchplay event that the EC has decided to add to this year's festivities.

Good luck to all in week 2,

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Opening day results:

Name	Course Handicap	Gross Net		OOM Points
Paul O'	21	93	72	8
Bob C	28	100	72	8
Ed M	18	92	74	4
Dave Mc	37	111	74	4
John P	23	99	76	2
Pete S	26	103	77	2
Scott L	41	118	77	2
Chris DiCo	17	95	78	2
Paul M	31	109	78	2
Joe C	17	96	79	2
David L	19	98	79	2
Bob S	28	108	80	2
Carlos B	13	94	81	2
Tony C	20	101	81	2
Jim N	31	113	82	2
Ed L	36	118	82	2
Mike C	35	119	84	2
Chris D	16	110	94	2
Walter B	31	126	95	2
Associates / Rookies				
Keith D (A)	26	98	72	2
John T (A)	14	88	74	2
Don S (A)	16	95	79	2
Muthu G (A)	16	99	83	2
Tom W(A)	20	112	92	2