

Bookie's Week in Review

April 2-10, 2011



It's that time of year again when the bears come out of hibernation, the groundhogs, shadow or nor shadow, scurry along Colonel By Drive, and the Slammers start their quest for dogs, skins and 3-0 records.

This year it began with great fanfare at Prescott. About a thousand people gathered at the first tee. The Mounties in all their red-serge best were there and everyone sang "O Canada" and then Mike Weir hit the ceremonial first shot of the season. And then... woops – guess I got carried away. Well maybe next year.

It was true, though, that it all began at Prescott on Saturday, April 2, as the snow had receded enough for golf to be played. But there was plenty of wind to remind everyone that at any moment the season could still revert to cold and snow.

All the usual suspects showed up: Ticklar, Grumpy, PointZero, IronMaiden, Wilford, Eeyore, et al. In his customary fashion, Mr. T picked off two dogs right off the bat. But not to be outdone, PZ picked up two of his own. At least with six par-3s now at Prescott, they didn't sweep them all: Bubba65 and Shades managed one each as well.

The following day 16 Slammers braved a rather cold and windy Casselview. At times it was a bit of a challenge dancing among the mud and the puddles but it would take more than weather to keep this hardy bunch from their appointed Eighteen. Lenny, newcomer Monty, C-Lang, and PizzaMan all led the way with perfect records. And not only did Lenny and PM go 3-0, they also each took two dogs. The play of PM was just a precursor of what was to be a remarkable week for the guy who usually starts out slowly.

Actually, the fate of PizzaMan this week was an indication of just how volatile the rankings are right now. For in the very next event, again at Casselview, Hacker rose for the first time in his Slammer career to the rarefied air of Number-one-ness, taking down the mighty Malone on the 17th. And while he was at it, he made short work of Ticklar on the 14th and Burnsy on the 16th. He was also the only one to come in under four twenties (as the French would say). Outstanding job, Hacker! Congratulations. Don't you think it's time for a nickname change? Schwartzel anyone?

Ah, but how fleeting is glory on the Slammer Tour! I'm afraid it lasts not much longer than a full bottle of Corona in Chilly's hands. Just three days in this case. For once again at Casselview on Saturday, Number One changed hands again. It was PizzaMan who did the deed and did it with a nifty double hockey-sticks, again the lowest score of the day. Congrats, PM!

Not resting on his laurels, PM heads out the very next day on to a very wet Mountain Creek to defend. And does he defend? Sadly, no. Once again, the Number One changes hands. And who now sits atop the Slammer heap? None other than Steamer. Congrats to you, sir! So in the very first week of Slammer golf on Canadian soil in 2011, we've had four different players at Number One. It presages an interesting year, I believe.

Also of note is the fact that IronMaiden defeated her other half, PizzaMan, and now they reside at the numbers 3 and 4 spots. Is this a first?

Besides the tussle for the top spot, I should mention that there was some other good play going on. Perfect 3-0 days were turned in by The Game, Smitty, PingMan, Shades, Stymie, Stevie Ray, and of course, Ticklar!

Should be a great season. See you on the links!



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