

Bookie's Week in Review

September 27 - October 3, 2010



Ah, fall. That time of year when the leaves are turning, there's a nip in the air, the geese are honking southward, and Chef is preparing his favourite cuisine: goose!

Yes he cooked a lot of goose on the weekend. He not only added to his unbeaten Slammer streak (now at 33), he captured the A Division EG Championship at eQuinelle by twelve strokes! Like Ol' Man River, he just keeps rollin' along. (And if you're getting tired of my paeans to Chef, take him down and I'll write about you!)

But Chef wasn't the only Slammer making his/her mark on the EG Championships. Congrats go out to both Cuba and KaDaver for making a very exciting Senior event. After three rounds, they were tied at 239. In the fading sunlight, they went back out to the par 5 18th at eQuinelle, and Cuba prevailed to capture the Senior trophy. I loved his synopsis and thought I would share it with you:

"We were directed to play the 505 yard 18th hole into the wind in sudden death format and if tied still, play it again and again until dark or we run out of golf balls. We joked that no one would be watching except Stan Horton and Norm Bissell who came out to officiate and make sure we didn't get lost. There was no gallery around the 18th green when we got to the tee. Dave (KaDaver) won the coin toss to hit first, and he took the water long and left out of play and hit a perfect drive into the middle of the adjacent fairway. I attempted the same but caught the series of bunkers between the fairways.

He was about 220 from the pin and clearly had a really good chance to get on in two and have a possible eagle and almost sure birdie. I was fortunate to get a seven iron over the front lip of the bunker and get the ball to the middle of the fairway about 155 out. He pulled a fairway metal and went for the green in two but had a draw stance into the wind which resulted in the ball going long left into the water hazard which runs the length of the fairway.

Anyone who has played with KaDaver knows he is never out of a hole and a month earlier he had chipped in at eQuinelle to save a par after hitting water. At some point a gallery of hungry boisterous Slammers and EG members gathered around the green.

I took a hybrid to keep the ball low into the wind and so in a worst case scenario it would hit someone below the knee. It landed well past the pin but on. At PGA events the gallery goes nuts at a close approach. The gallery stopped talking almost in unison and chuckled. Some went back to the tent to get more beer.

Dave took a drop and had a poor angle at the hole but still ended up with a slightly shorter putt than mine.

Dinner was getting cold and the sun was setting as my putt rolled slowly downhill aimlessly and whimpered to a stop three feet short and right. Several in the gallery jeered and I was among them. Dave had to make the putt for five from a downhill side hill position and it just about caught the edge but rolled eight feet past. He was still away and missed the comebacker by a hair. A grey hair. The one by which I won."

Meanwhile, in the B, Sunny eked out a three-stroke victory over T.J. In the C, PizzaMan swept to an eleven-stroke triumph. In the D, BearCat made a good showing by capturing second place, just five strokes out. And in the Ladies, perennial winner Elsie Boudreau (non-Slammer) took the cup; but IronMaiden came within one-stroke of winning. Maybe next year, IronMaiden!

The eQuinelle event on Saturday was huge. It included 68 Slammers as well as many EG Members. It was billed as the EG Wind-Up and was a combo affair that included your normal Slammer set-up, the finals of the EG Championship, and a fun scramble for EG members. After play, there was a lively 19th hole and a catered dinner in a somewhat drafty tent. It was an opportunity for many of us to chill out, so to speak.

In earlier action, at Cedarhill, the Slammer Tour showed why it's such a great way to play golf. Duffy shot triple-digits, but under his average, went 3-0, and had a birdie that captured a skin. For his efforts he was rewarded with first-star honours. This is the nice thing about match play - everyone has a chance regardless of their skill-level. You often have an opportunity to compete with those at your same level. This makes things interesting and does wonders for self-esteem!

There was also an event at Talon, a ClubLink course that we don't often have an opportunity to play. Some 20 Slammers took that opportunity. And on a day of iffy weather, IttyBitty beats Steamer in the B TC class and now will face either Smitty or Chuckie for the trophy.

A few Slammers (five to be exact) also played the same day at Arnprior. Cuba continued his winning ways. But perhaps the most notable thing about the event was that out of six possible dogs, only one was won. C'mon Slammers!

And after the underwhelming response to my request last week, I'll try another request: What is your favourite or most mysterious nickname on the Tour? And why?

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