## Bookie's Week in Review

September 20-26, 2010



This week there were fewer events yet many more Slammers than usual playing. How is this so? Well, it was because of the EG Championships. The Slammers played alongside all those EG members who wanted to prove themselves in three events -- at Casselview, Mountain Creek, and eQuinelle. This is a stroke-play competition that players can enter in nine different divisions. It seems that a slew of match-play Slammers wanted to try their hand at stroke play. The events at Casselview and Mountain Creek this past weekend required Slammers to multi-task and keep the right brain from the left. Two-footers were gimmees for the Slammer competition but for the EG championship, these knee-knockers were de rigeur. Slammie Maxes, okay. Well, no. Yes. Get the picture? No? You had to be there!

But let's not get ahead of ourselves. The week began at Stonebridge where four TC matches were played. In a TC B quarterfinal Steamer took out NoCents. Now it's down to IttyBitty, Steamer, Smitty, and Chuckie to determine the eventual winner. In a TC C semi-final PizzaMan bettered Billiards. He was to take on PingMan for the final at Casselview. In the Super Senior, Bookie defeated RudyBear to set up a meeting with PJ for the final.

And for a fitting cap to the TC matches at Stonebridge, IronMaiden triumphed over ZenGirl in 15 holes in the Women's B final. Congrats to the Maiden for winning this inaugural event. Also, we can't help mentioning that Smitty showed no mercy to his hapless opponents, ten-holing them both. Meanie! And dare we bring up the fact that the mighty Ticklar fell to three wingnut B players: Ruskie, Stevie Ray, and Wilford? No, I don't think so.

On to the weekend, then. At Casselview 55 Slammers showed up to compete in 71 separate matches! I'll just highlight a couple of things here. Chef kept on with his winning ways, defending his Number One spot with victories over Rulz, Smitty, and Grumpy and capturing the lead in the EG A class with an even par round. PizzaMan and PingMan went at it hammer and tongs to decide the TC C Championship. It went back and forth all the way to the 18th with PizzaMan prevailing. Congratulations, PizzaMan.

The EG event carried on the following day at Mountain Creek where 49 Slammers showed up. Chef held on to the Number One position – including a 15th hole victory over budding pro Malone. And now he's seriously threatening Chilly's all-time loss-less match record.

Special kudos to Grumpy who was the OC for both events on the weekend. It was a big job keeping everything in order and dealing with the massive paperwork involved in over a 100 matches. Well done!

Of note is the fact that nearly a third of all the matches on the weekend went to the 18th hole. This kind of close competition where the outcome may hinge on one putt is what makes match play so exciting. And speaking of same, I failed to mention in last week's summary the shootout for the TC Senior crown that took place at Canadian. The final featured rather a bizarre format that may have pushed the limits of kosherness! Three of the finalists played as a group: Toro, ParBreaker, and Ticklar. Technically ParBreaker was to play Toro in a semi-final match and the winner would take on Ticklar. But they agreed beforehand that the winner among the three would be the Senior champ. Things turned out fine. ParBreaker beat Toro after 14; from then on ParBreaker and Ticklar were contending for the title. Ticklar found himself two down with two to do. Ticklar describes quite well what happened next:

"Down to the wire – we all hit great drives, roughly 210 to the front pin on the par 5. PB lays up. I have a go - beautiful high 3 iron to 15 feet – birdie in the bag and a good shot at eagle. PB hits a conservative approach and just misses his birdie putt. I just miss the eagle and convert the birdie. All hope is not lost. Three good drives on 18 – PB to hit first – playing safe he tries to hit to the middle of the green and runs into the fringe on the back. I try aggressively to go for the front pin and spin off the front – neither of us convert the pars – PB wins 1 up with a 72 and 3 birdies, I shoot 76 with 4 birdies – great match, bad guys win."

I'm still not sure what would have happened if they had a three-way – e.g. ParBreaker beats Toro who beats Ticklar who beat ParBreaker. The mind boggles!

Since matches decided on the 18th are so fascinating, perhaps you have a good story to tell about a win, loss, or even a tie. Give me your story and I'll publish the best one next week.

Returning to the EG Championship, I just want to mention that quite a few Slammers are still in the thick of things. Chef leads the A; B-Rye sits in third. Iron Maiden and ZenGirl are second and third respectively in the Ladies Division. Ticklar and KaDaver sit at second and third in the Senior. Sunny leads and TJ is in third place in the B. PizzaMan leads and WeeWillie is third in the C. And GoldenGirl and BearCat hold the second and third positions in the D. Best of luck at eQuinelle on Saturday!

I want to mention another event that took place last week. One of our fellow Slammers, ProZee (also known by some people as Kevin Baldelli) participated in a national amateur competition sponsored by GolfTown. The finals were held at Markham's Angus Glen golf course, the site of the 2002 and 2007 Canadian Opens. Out of 31 players, ProZee came in ninth. Congratulations! See the results here:

Best quote of the week from Stonebridge: "We were so close to the group in front of us we could smell their aftershave."

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