

## 2008 GRIFFITH HARRIS EARLY-BIRD BACK-NINE CHAMPIONSHIP

August 31, 2008	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	FINAL
Ray - Phil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
Pete - Matt	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	won

The teams were decided by the usual toss of golf balls on the tenth tee, and there was one of the usual pairings.....Phil and Ray against Matt and Pete. For today's match, Pete broke out a new pair of golf shoes, different from his others with white toes and sides, and the warning label advising that traction was different with non-metal spikes still attached to the side of the heel. Ray showed up wearing what Jack thought might be his underwear, a multicolored pair of shorts. Phil was longest off the tenth tee, but it was Pete who saved par to win the hole by rallying after an errant tee shot and a low three iron that left him short, but a chip and putt won the hole. The eleventh hole was halved with pars, as Ray chipped from off the front of the green to two feet while Matt saved his par by getting out of the left side sand and making a six foot downhill putt. Ray was in trouble on the twelfth hole, wide to the right side and in the woods off the tee and had to hit perpendicular to get back to the fairway as there was no way to advance the ball from his lie. His recovery shot hit the one hundred yard stick and stopped dead, so Ray hit a wedge but left it off the front of the green in three. Never giving up, Ray then rolled a downhill wedge beautifully into the cup to save par. But Matt stole the hole when he followed Ray's heroics by rolling in his birdie putt from about ten feet to win the hole and put his team two up. Ray hit his tee shot down the middle on thirteen and hit his approach shot to just off the green, from where he rammed an uphill birdie attempt to just past the cup for a gimme par. But Pete matched that score after pulling his approach shot from an awkward stance in front of the first trap, but chipping beautifully and making the par putt to halve the hole. Ray hit a beautiful downhill chip on fourteen and converted his comeback putt for par, enough to halve the hole when Matt slid his twelve foot birdie attempt just past the right side of the cup. The fifteenth hole was halved with pars from Pete and Ray, and the teams headed up the hill with Pete and Matt having a two hole lead. Pete and Ray halved the sixteenth as well, both two putting for par again and keeping the match two up with two to go. Ray brought his team back from the brink on seventeen when he made bogey from the front of the green, enough to win when neither opponent could match the score. Eighteen was an exciting finish, as Phil pulled his tee shot a bit and, needing to win the hole to halve the match, decided to go at the pin instead of playing safely to the right, requiring him to get either around or through the tree. He hit the perfect shot, knifing through the high leaves and settling about ten feet from the hole. With the pressure on, Pete hit an equally lovely approach shot, cutting his ball at the flag and stopping about the same distance away as Phil. As he has done in three of the last four matches, Pete sank his birdie putt to close out the match for his team.....two up.

**SHOT OF THE DAY-** One award clearly has to go to Ray, who saved par on the twelfth hole after three disappointing shots by holing his chip shot. But another award is given today for a two shot combination executed by Pete on the eighteenth. With his team one up, and Phil having put his approach shot inside ten feet for a birdie chance, Pete hit his approach shot to about the same distance and followed by making his birdie to clinch the match.

	Ray	PetE	Phil	Matt
04/20/08	0	1	0	1
04/26/08	0	1	0	1
04/27/08	0	0	0	0
05/04/08	0	0	0	0
05/10/08	1	0	0	1
05/24/08	0	0	0	0
05/25/08	1	0	1	0
05/26/08	1	0	1	0
06/07/08	0	1	0	1
06/08/08	0	1	1	0
06/14/08	1	0	0	1
07/04/08	0	1	0	1
07/05/08	1	0	0	1
07/12/08	0	0	0	0
07/13/08	0	1	0	1
07/19/08	0	1	1	0
07/20/08	1	0	0	1
07/26/08	0	1	1	0
08/02/08	1	1	0	0
08/03/08	1	0	1	0
08/16/08	0	1	1	0
08/22/08	0	1	0	1
08/24/08	0	1	0	1
08/31/08	0	1	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>