

2008 GRIFFITH HARRIS EARLY-BIRD BACK-NINE CHAMPIONSHIP

September 1, 2008	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	FINAL
Phil - Pete	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Ray - Matt	-	-	1	2	2	2	3			won

Ray and Matt teed it up against Pete and Phil, and it should be said in advance that only Ray brought his "A" game for this extra holiday session, following a 78 at Winged Foot on Sunday afternoon. Only Ray was down the middle of the tenth fairway, and the other three incurred Jack's sarcasm as they crested the hill. Pete and Matt had no chance to get directly to the green, needing to avoid the right side trap en route. Pete's low approach found the trap, but he hit a lovely sand shot to ten feet and converted for par, putting the pressure on Ray and Matt. But they were both up to the task, first Matt sinking his own six foot saving putt and Ray two putting from the fringe to equal the score and halve the hole. Pete, Phil and Matt had a lot of trouble on eleven....Pete hitting his tee shot out of bounds for a two stroke penalty, Phil almost going out as well but leaving himself no reasonable shot from the right side, and Matt buried against the lip of the trap. But Pete's second tee shot was gorgeous, stopping just four feet from the cup and his bogey was enough to halve the hole. Matt was deep in the woods off twelve and had to chip back to the fairway, while his opponents could not get on in regulation either. Ray, however, hit his approach shot onto the green and his two putt par was enough to win when neither Phil nor Pete could get up and down from off the front side. Both Ray and Matt made par on the thirteenth, each two putting after long approach shots, and they took a two hole lead. Nobody played the fourteenth hole very well, but Ray got lucky when his unusual errant tee shot kicked off the trees on the right side and came back to the middle, Pete almost stepping on the ball as he walked down the hole in a vain hope that he had not gone into the left side woods. After a penalty stroke, though, Pete played the hole nicely and made a bogey to match Ray and keep the match at two up. Pete hit a chip from the front of fifteen for a gimme par, and when Ray's twelve foot birdie putt slid past the cup, the hole was halved once again. Ray hit a short tee shot on sixteen, leaving himself 185 yards to the pin, but he hit a wonderful fairway metal to about two feet, converted his birdie after Pete missed what he knew was a "must" birdie putt from fifteen, and the match was over...three and two.

SHOT OF THE DAY- It was the clinching shot, a fairway wood from 185 that stopped just two feet away from the cup on sixteen that gave Ray the hole and 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
09/01/08	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	9	13	7	13