

2009 GRIFFITH HARRIS EARLY-BIRD BACK-NINE CHAMPIONSHIP

April 10, 2009	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	FINAL
Pete - Phil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	halved
Ray - Matt	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	halved

The first official match of 2009 was played on April 10 on the front nine after a thirty minute frost delay, with Pete and Phil teaming up against Ray and Matt. With apologies in advance because this summary is being written without the aid of a voice recorder, the following is the best of my recollection of the day's events. Ray and Pete drove the fairway on the opening hole while Matt found the fairway bunker and Phil strayed left. Pete hit a lengthy approach shot just to the green while Matt's bunker shot glanced off the lip and faded right toward the green. But he managed to chip nicely to about eight feet and made his par putt to win the first hole and put his team one up. On the second hole Matt was very high and left off the tee while Pete was down toward the right side trap with Ray and Phil. Matt's second shot was far enough but left of the green, and his chip shot was a bit short, leaving him a twelve foot par putt....which he made to put his team two up. Pete was all over the place on the third hold, hitting a reasonable tee shot but following with a topped fairway wood and an errant approach shot to the right. From near the fourth tee, Pete hit a beautiful chip and made his par putt to win the hole and cut the lead in half. This is where it starts to get a bit fuzzy, but I think that the fourth hole was halved with bogeys. Pete parred the fifth hole to even the match as Ray and Matt missed the green and could not make their saves. The long sixth hole proved challenging to everyone, but Matt has the worst of it when he missed an eighteen inch putt that would have won the hole and given his team the lead again. Everyone found the green on the short par three seventh, birdie putts were close but not converted and the match went to the eighth all even. Matt played the eighth well with a long drive followed by a straight five wood, leaving only 135 yards to the pin. Pete pulled his drive a bit and mishit his fairway wood, leaving himself on the wrong side of the road with 200 yards to go. Pete hit a high fade with a five wood and had a birdie putt, and Matt hit an eight iron that also left him with a chance. Pete's putt was just off the cup, and Matt's looked dead in but bumped out at the end and rimmed the cup, so the players were all even going to nine. Phil and Matt drove into the right side woods, Pete was long down the left side and Ray outhit everyone with his Noodle ball, carrying the fairway trap and leaving himself a sand wedge in. Phil hit a remarkable shot through the trees and onto the green, Pete hit a high approach to a reasonable distance, putting all the pressure on Ray to come through. He was up to the challenge, though, landing his wedge about ten feet from the cup. Phil's putt just missed, Pete was just short, and Ray ran his putt past the edge so everyone settled for par and a tie for the day.

	Ray	Pete	Phi	Matt
04/10/09	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	1	1	1	1