

2010 GRIFFITH HARRIS EARLY-BIRD BACK-NINE CHAMPIONSHIP

Sunday, April 10, 2011 and let the games begin! The weather was a bit chillier than forecast but that did not deter the intrepid warriors from their appointed and long awaited match. The predetermined pairings had Ray and Phil opposing Pete and Matt in a traditional match play format. Pete started things off with a pushed tee shot that bounced back toward the fairway and Matt was farther to the right, Ray long and down the middle as always. Matt chipped in front of the green, Pete pulled his shot toward the fence, Phil found the greenside bunker and Ray uncharacteristically was short with his wedge. Pete hit a marvelous chip close to the pin and Matt was past the pin by five feet, putting pressure on Ray to get close and save par. He did just that and we were all square to start. Matt hit the best tee shot on eleven, while Pete and Phil were left and Ray was short. Pete hit a great chip and was conceded his par, allowing Matt a run at birdie which he missed. Phil, with pressure to match the par, chipped to three feet below the cup and hit his uphill putt about three feet and one millimeter, enough to drop and halve the hole. Ray forgot his driver on twelve, counting on his caddie to bring his club, and instead chose to use Pete's club. Of course he hit it down the middle and pretty long. Pete and Matt both had less-than-full wedges to the green and both hit them well, Matt flying high and left and Pete low and getting a bad bounce to the right, and both made par. But it was not enough as Ray hit his new 64-degree wedge stiff to the pin for a birdie and a win. Matt brought out his new driver but got his old results as his tee shot on thirteen went wide right, but he was picked up by Pete who chipped delicately from above the hole and left himself an uphill six foot par putt which he made to win the hole. Phil was in trouble from the fourteenth tee, Matt mishit his second shot and it was up to Pete and Ray to compete for this hole. Both players were in the same spot approaching the green and both made par to halve the hole and keep the match even. Matt hit a nice tee shot on fifteen to nine feet and Ray went even better, landing about six feet. But only Matt could make his birdie putt and that gave his team the lead going up the hill. All four drives were in the fairway on sixteen, Matt with a nice tee shot with the new driver and Phil much the best of the group after crushing a drive right down the middle and past the other three. But it was Pete's approach shot that earned the best birdie putt and he converted by sinking an uphill eight footer to win the hole and get the match to dormie. The seventeenth hole was not pretty but Ray and Phil each salvaged bogey to win the hole and keep the match alive. Eighteen found both Pete and Phil in the trees on the right, Ray and Matt in the fairway. Both Ray and Matt hit the green with their approach shots, although they each had long putts left. After both players three putted for bogey, the hole was unceremoniously halved and the match won by Pete and Matt, one up.

April 10, 2011	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	FINAL
Ray - Phil	E	E	1	E	E			1		
Pete - Matt	E	E		E	E	1	2		1	won