

2012 GRIFFITH HARRIS EARLY-BIRD BACK-NINE CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday, July 28	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	FINAL
Ray - Pete	E				E	1	E	E	E	halved
Phil - Matt	E	1	1	1			E	E	E	halved

A cloudy and gray day on Saturday, and the players chose to revert back to a traditional match play format for the day. The ceremonial toss of golf balls on the tenth tee pitted Ray and Pete against Matt and Phil, and it was decided that Phil's three strokes would be taken on specific holes (13, 16, 17) instead of by choice given the format. Phil led off with a beautiful tee shot in the middle of the fairway, followed by Matt way to the right in the middle of the trees, Pete long down the side of the fairway and Ray also a good tee shot. The three good tee shots followed with good approach shots to the green. Ray left his birdie putt short and tapped in for par, but Pete could not capitalize when he ran his putt past the hole, and Phil was also not able to make his birdie putt when it came up short, settling for par and a half. Phil faded his tee shot on eleven into the front right trap, while Matt landed on the green but rolled just off the left side. Pete and Ray also missed the green, missing five-foot par putts, so after Matt ran his putt up the hill and was given his par, his team won the hole and drew first blood. Phil and Pete were in the fairway on twelve, Ray and Matt to the right, Ray longer but both in the rough. But Pete and Phil hit their second shots to the right, Phil into the bunker and Pete on the right side of the green. Ray and Matt both found the green from the rough. Matt had a two-putt par, and after neither Ray nor Pete could convert from some distance, both made par and the hole was halved. Phil took advantage of his stroke opportunity on thirteen, landing his tee shot down the fairway on the left side, while Matt found the right side woods. Ray hit some blacktop with his drive, but it stayed right and ended up in the fairway and long. He followed with a good shot to the back of the green. Matt tried to get through the trees but got hung up in the bunkers anyway, followed with a very nice iron to three feet past the pin. Phil's approach traveled through some branches on the left side and came to rest short of the green. Ray ran his long birdie putt past the hole, and the slick slope took his ball fifteen feet farther....but he calmly stepped up to the ball and ran his comeback into the hole for par. Matt had a short, but sidehill, putt to tie but lipped out and went down the slope. But Phil carried his team with a good uphill first putt, followed by his rolling in a putt for five, net four, and a tie. Matt and Pete found the left side woods from the fourteenth tee, took penalty strokes, recovered down the hill and hit good approach shots to the green, but could not make putts to recover completely. Meanwhile, Ray played a beautiful hole with good shot after good shot, hitting his second from a sidehill lie in the grass bunker and his third from in front of the creek, two putts for par and a victory. Pete hit the right side of the green on fifteen, Ray long and off the back, Matt and Phil to the short left side. Matt's chip stopped short of the hole on the downslope, Phil's slid to the right, Ray's chip came up short, but Pete's birdie putt was on line and true, stopping just a few inches from the cup for a par. Matt ran his putt past the left edge, Phil did the same, so Pete's par won the hole and gave his team the lead going up the hill. Phil had a stroke on sixteen, hit his tee shot on the seventeenth fairway but recovered nicely by coming over the trees and having an approach shot. Matt was in the right rough after bouncing off a tree in the left woods, came up short with a long approach. Pete came up short in two and had to chip on, Ray was in the left bunker in two and had a downhill tricky sand shot left. The green was in poor shape with fungus, dead spots, long growth and uneven surfaces and nobody could make their first putts, everyone settling for five and Phil's good comeback combined with a stroke on the difficult hole earned a victory and tied the match. Pete was left off the tee on seventeen but curled a good second shot around the trees and down the fairway. Phil pulled his second shot toward the little creek and found trouble, Ray coming up short of the green. Matt, after a long tee shot, pushed his second shot right of the bunkers. Ray missed a par putt and settled for bogey, which tied Phil who recovered from his trouble to earn a net five as well, sending the match to eighteen all square. Matt went slightly right into the rough, Ray hit the road and got a good straight forward bounce past the trap and out of tree trouble, Phil and Pete in the fairway. Pete pushed his second shot, Phil hit a good one to the front of the green, Matt also on the front of the green about ten feet away, and Ray up to the occasion and taking advantage of his position by hitting his approach past the pin. All three had makeable birdie putts, and all three gave good attempts as they rolled solid putts that just did not fall, making par and halving the hole, finishing the match all even.

	Ray	Pete	Phil	Matt
1	0.5	2.0	2.0	3.0
2	3.5	4.0	3.5	4.0
3	4.5	7.0	5.0	6.0
4	7.5	8.0	6.5	8.0
5	10.5	10.0	8.0	8.5
6	13.5	11.0	9.5	10.5
7	14.5	11.0	12.5	12.5
8	16.0	12.5	15.5	12.5
9	17.0	12.5	17.5	15.5
10	19.5	12.5	20.0	16.5
11	21.5	13.0	20.5	19.5
12	24.5	13.0	22.5	20.5
13	25.5	14.0	23.5	21.5

