



THE DRIVER



Newsletter of the Madrona Links Men's Club

December 2014

Men's Club Tournaments and November Events

Turkey Shoot/Poison Ball - November 13

Get a Turkey for Playing Golf

That's right, it's November, so that must mean it's time for the Turkey Shoot and Poison Ball Tournament.

This tournament is the only one that guarantees that everyone is a winner, since every one that plays will receive a free turkey. That being said, it is one of the more demanding tournaments of the year. The format is a four-man team, playing a combined 3-man scramble and 1-man poison ball. That may sound confusing, but that is part of the challenge.

The way things work, each team gets two numbered "poison balls" at the start of the tournament. These balls are used for the single player part of the competition. Everyone else will use "regular" golf balls. On the first hole, one player is chosen to play the poison ball, while the other three play a three-man scramble. At the end of the hole the scores for the poison ball and the scramble are recorded. For the next hole the poison ball is passed to another player to use and the remaining three again play a scramble. The poison ball is passed along in a regular rotation so that each player will play it at least four times. Two of the players will have a fifth opportunity to play it.

So far, it seems easy. The kickers are 1) loss of a poison ball results in a 4 stroke penalty for the team, 2) loss of both poison balls causes disqualification, and 3) playing the poison ball out of order also results in disqualification. Points 1 and 2 can cause team captains to agonize for hours about which team member should play the poison ball on particular holes. Since it is a regular rotation that determines who plays the poison ball, the Player with the ball on hole 1 also plays it on holes 5, 9, 13 and 17. The Player with the ball on hole 2 also plays it on holes 6, 10, 14, and 18. Holes 3 also covers holes 7, 11 and 15, while Hole 4 covers 8, 12, and 16.

This is a shotgun start, so it is important to realize that the player that finishes the poison ball on 18 must pass the ball to the proper Player for Hole 1 as you continue on. Failure to do this properly has caused many a disqualification.

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The Driver

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A rules sheet will be passed out with the scorecards and the poison balls at the start of the tournament. If you have any questions, feel free to ask BEFORE you start playing.

Sign-up sheets will be available soon. If you don't have a team, or are in need of a team mate or two, let them know at the desk and they will work to find you what you need.

Congratulations

The only information that I got this month was:

Dan French eagled 15 from the blue tees.

Gary Roadhouse aced number 12 from the blues. It's his second ace.

Somewhere along the line I missed the fact that:

Tom Schoenleber shot his age from the white tees.

If I missed your milestone, leave a note at the desk or email madronadriver@gmail.com

One Last Time on the Rock Rule

Last month's Driver had an error concerning the Rock Rule. You may **NOT** go "as far back as you'd like, keeping the original spot between you and the pin." You may **ONLY** go back until you are out of the rocky area.

Hopefully that will further clarify the does and don'ts of the "Rock Rule."

Now that we are using "preferred lies," otherwise known as "Winter Rules," perhaps the Rock Rule won't need to be used as often as in the Summer.

November 13
Turkey Shoot/Poison Ball
Shotgun start
White Tees

December 11
Ball Buster
Ridiculous Tees

Watch this space for next'
Year's first tournament