

VINTNER'S GOLF AND SOCIAL CLUB'S NEWSLETTER #5

Eighty VGSC members came out on Saturday, March 25th and Sunday, March 26th with the same idea of trying to qualify for the NCGA Zone Qualifier. There would be only one net and one gross team that would reach that goal. Every year this tournament makes me cringe. There are always a handful of teams that feel like they played as well as they can, but come up short. The same hole bogey or the net birdie that got away is often the culprit. The better you play... the closer you get... but still the disappointment. First it was Gomez/Gomez... then Glorioso/Gardner... then Zipp/Honeycutt and finally the low net winner at 53 was Marbue Marke and Art Hess with net 53's. The low gross winner is TBD as Murray/Andrade and Quinn/Pallistrini tied at 62. As the Vintner's tradition goes, we will do a 9-hole playoff to break the tie. I will be toying with the idea next year of taking the low four net teams and making our own final four madness. An example would be Hess/Marke vs Banducci/Troendley and in the other bracket Glorioso/Gardner vs Gomez/Gomez. The team that won both of their 9-hole matches would represent the Vintner's at the zone.

Winning the first flight with a flawless round of net 57 was Jim Hunter and Dan Sakai. Jim played well on the front side with five pars for birdies, while Dan Sakai's natural 31 on the backside finished it off. Sometimes you just don't have enough strokes, but holes 3/12, 7/16 and 9/18 did avoid their onslaught. In a five-way tie for second place the teams of Gomez (68)/Gomez (70), Quinn (66)/ Pallistrini (69), Leahy (68)/Kuehl (68), Glorioso (70)/Gardner (71) and Zipp (77)/Pennycook (71) shot net 58's winning \$20 per person in gift cards. These guys fired some excellent rounds and most of the teams made strong runs at both the net and gross qualifying spots. All these teams could look back and tell you about the birdie that slid by. Golf is truly a game of inches and that is what makes it such an unpredictable game from day to day. If you really think about... hitting a ball 180 yards off a skinny small club face into winds, over lakes, trees, bunkers and accurately landing it softly on a green....sounds impossible and farfetched. Often times it is just that.

Winning the second flight and capturing the low net qualifying spot was the team of Hess/Marke with a score of net 54. Art started the round with a birdie for eagle on the very first hole and these fourteen handicaps never looked back. Art shot a 77 with two natural birdies, while Marbue shot 74 that included twelve pars. Both players played well and shined on different holes. In a three-way tie for second place were Templeton/Coutch, Ready/Stewart and Troendly/Banducci with net 68's. Brian's 81, Bill's 81 and Jeff's 82 all were personal bests and led their teams to great scores. All three teams left some crumbs on the floor, but that is what happens when you chow down. In a three-way tie for fifth place with net 59's were the teams of Murio/McDermott, Monroe/Ackley and Wallace/Stegner. Bob shot a smooth 73, while his partner Cary shot a 36 on the backside. The Ack man shot a 74 with the War Dog firing his driver at all the par 3's. The Wizard fired an 84, while Brian made par for birdie on holes five, six, seven, eight and nine.

The next event (Point Event #6) will be on Saturday, April 8th or Sunday, April 9th in an individual low net format. This will be the last event of the first trimester and a double point event. The leader in points after this event will win a free month of golf. This will be Master's weekend, so pick a day, play early and watch the best tournament of the year. Good luck to our representatives down in Monterey later this year. Give me some feedback on Final Four idea for next year's Zone.