

2002 Golf Report

(by guest writer - Larry Cohen)

1/1/03

Happy New Year from the assistant to the commissioner of golf. As usual, Mike did all the record keeping, but asked me to use my MSC-Director skills to write the 2002 golf summary. I'll try it without my usual partner-in-crime, Dave Berkowitz.

This year there will be no "fine print." If you can't figure out how to read the reports, too bad.

Home & Away Rounds Report

The bottom line is that after 6 years, we are all pretty even on our hosting. Marc Culberson is a bit behind due to some people's reluctance to go to Weston, but we have plans to help catch him up in '03. Bernie, Marc C., Marshall, Mike, Neil, Larry, Lee and Victor will continue as "hosts" in 2003. Everyone else will pay greens fees to the host. (Mark Molson might go either way--only Janice knows for sure).

As usual, we all should be grateful for the many hours spent by our Commissioner. Compiling the data is just one extra bit of his anality -- it's the organizing of the rounds that makes all of our golf lives so easy. Let's all try to cooperate by always reading and answering our e-mail in a timely fashion..

Financial Report

Enclosed are the betting results since Mike moved to FL in 1996.

John Lewis is the lifetime South-Florida-bridge-players-tour money leader and as usual, he led the money-winning list for 2002. But, he is a quasi-pro, so we won't count him. Therefore, the real winner is John Griscom with + \$348. It came down to the 17th hole on Dec. 31 where Larry's poor finish dropped him to 3rd, giving John G. the "title."

On the other end of the list, we find the players that are least likely to negotiate

strokes on the first tee. They always go with the program. Consequently, we thank Marshall for financing the tour, while often playing in pain, not getting enough strokes, and not complaining about either.

The money won/lost is broken down by player by club. Notice that our 2 biggest money winners, the firm of John & John are basically plus no matter where they play. They can (and do) win anywhere. Are they under-handicapped? Are they clutch players? Good money-players that make the money putts? You could argue in circles about strokes and fairness, but my personal opinion is that they win because they get the most out of their partners. Why? Because there is a sense of relaxation when you play with someone that rates to par the hole. There is less tension, and it allows for better golf. Conversely, if your partner drives it out-of-bounds, or rates to make a 6 on a hole, it makes it harder for you to play your best.

2002 Awards

Minor awards:

Most frustrated golfer: Lee

Nicest golfer: John G. (by far)

Least grouchy golfer: Mike

Most time-obsessed golfer: Larry

Most in-pain golfer: Marshall

Most disinterested golfer: Neil

Major Award:

Most improved golfer award (MIGA): Goes to John G. who shot his age and had many rounds in the 70's. He is getting better with age. He is also the unofficial tour money leader if we omit the quasi-pro. Honorable mention to Mike Becker who had his first plus year after 5 losing years. His stroke average went from 91.80 in 2001 to a lifetime low of 90.26 in 2002. His New Year's resolution is to average under 90 in 2003

Happy New Year!

The assistant to the Great Organizer

FINE PRINT

The enclosed details the number of guests playing at a "member's" home club -vs- the number of times that member played at other clubs, and where everyone played. Mike shows 2002 and a summary of 97-98-99-00-01-02.

In 2002, there were 631 recorded rounds, down from the record of 710, the year before.

Some members count twice: i.e. - when Mike and his friend Bruce played abroad, Mike was counted twice. The home and away summary assumes "others" (non-members) paid the member for their greens fees.

Of course, greens fees differ significantly from club to club and by season and I took neither into account. What this means is by comping each other we wind up paying our home guest fee rates when we play at other courses. For example, in season, when Neil hosts Larry at Coral Ridge, Neil pays \$125 for Larry. When Larry hosts Neil at Boca Greens, Larry pays \$43 for Neil. But who would want to play Coral Ridge and pay \$125? (Neil has the option of becoming an "other" and just pay cash whenever he plays our courses.)