
The Captain's Report – Duke's Divot

Fellow Nomads,

Once again it was a pleasure to play at the Port Elizabeth Golf Club. The course was in good condition despite the poor rainfall we have had. The facilities at the club always make our visit a pleasurable one. We thank the Captain, Derrick Adendorff, the Management and staff for the use of their club on the day. After a bit of wind at the start, to make it a little difficult, the conditions improved as the day went on.

In my fourball, I had the privilege of playing with Derrick Adendorff, Bill Anderson and a visitor, John Vye, for which I thank them. Our February game coincided with the Old Mutual Pairs Competition and eighty one entrants were received. Paul Adams of Jafa was on site to assist with the registration and handouts on behalf of Old Mutual.

Congratulations to the winners, Orion Meyer and Pops Govender, as well as to the runners up Chris Lessing and Rian Mulder, all of whom will play in the regional finals in August. Here's hoping we will have our guys go through to the finals later this year.

Ray Long, our Silver sponsor from Bloomingdales, presented Benji Zhang and Earl Berman with their Silver Salvagers which they won at last month's game at Walmer Country Club.

We inducted four new Nomads into the club, namely: Des White, Ernest Hlulani, Derek Tee and Hilton Etter. We wish you a long and happy Nomadic experience.

Sadly in February we had a few resignations and we had to terminate the membership of a number of members who did not renew their subscriptions for 2009. Our membership has dropped to close to 200.

Our away trip to Bloemfontein was a hoot and I am sure your JVC will report on that trip.

The draw has been done for the Gary Player Knock Out Competition and I wish you all well, and please play your games within the set dates, first round in April at Walmer Country Club, if you wish to play your first round game on that day please advise Jean soonest!

Our team for the Nationals has been finalized and we will be off to Durban in April and here's wishing you all a very pleasant visit to Durban and lots of fun.

The results of the Forward Tees Referendum reflected a "yes" vote for our club. There were 52 votes for yes and 33 for no. Thank you to those members who did express their view. The final decision will be taken at our Council Meeting at Nationals whether Nomads will allow our senior members the privilege of using forward tees at our monthly games in future.

Remember to support our sponsors during prize and watch that dress code.

Yours in Nomads,

Duke Nel

The Vice Captain's Report – The Vice's Version

Fellow Nomads,

Again, the year flies by and the February game at Port Elizabeth Golf Club was well supported by 110 players. Our Old Mutual International Pairs (OMIPSA) competition was also held on this day and was visited by Old Mutual Representative and Gauteng Nomad, Paul Adams. It was great to see some red amongst all that aubergine! Well done to Orion Meyer and Pops Govender, who pipped Riaan Mulder and Chris Leensing on a count-out, for the OMIPSA, but due to the number of pairs entered both pairings are going through to the regional finals to be held at the same course. I wish the four of you the best of luck and sincerely hope you go all the way!

I introduced you to the AMT committee at the last prize giving. We have already had a meeting and everyone is aware of what challenges face us this year with the economic down turn (deeper pockets and shorter arms syndrome). We have agreed on a beneficiary and will announce this after ratification by the National Exec in April. A few tables for the Race Day at Arlington Race Course on 3 July have already been provisionally reserved, and I have received commitment for a couple of sponsors for the AMEF Day at PEGC on Thursday, 20 August, already. We would like to fill the morning and afternoon field this year. I ask for your Nomadic support with these two events, whether by sponsorship or attendance, or both!

I would like to complement Eddie Kruger, our JVC, on his efforts and tenacity in recruiting a touring party for the Easterns Challenge in Bloemfontein, which will be something of the past when you read this. Five of us traveled to meet with our annual rivals.

As placing a wager on a golf match is almost as old as the game itself, and has a great tradition with Nomads Golf, I thought I might recount a golfing story that has had a lasting impression on me. I can't cite the author, or even give an exact verbatim account of the story, but it goes something like this:

Early one Saturday morning, an elderly man was warming up at the first tee waiting for his unknown opponent to arrive. Soon a youngster, in his early twenties, strode nonchalantly up to the tee and introduced himself as the older man's opponent. They tossed a coin to determine the honour, and as the older man was teeing up the youngster asked, "How about a wager on the match?" the older man replied, "That would be great, how about R10 on the game?" The youngster shrugged, sighed and said, "Sorry sir, that's not worth my while. How about playing for R300?" The older golfer thought for a moment then offered, "Let's set the wager at R1000; then it would be worth your while." The youngster, a little embarrassed and feeling uncomfortable, explained, "I have just finished university and have started my first job. I simply can't afford R1,000." The older man placed his ball on the tee, stepped back, gazed down the fairway, paused for a moment and said; "So let's play for R10."

I feel it is my duty to forewarn you that there may not be a flurry of Forty-pointers at our next monthly game at St Francis Bay Golf Club on 15 March 2009, like there was last year. For further information – pay me! See you there!

Yours in Nomads,

Greg Clack



Junior Vice Captain's Report – **Eddie's Eagle**

Fellow Nomads,

A challenge of note! This describes my golf at our second game of the year held at the Port Elizabeth Golf Club. Being an ex Gautenger I'm still trying to adapt my game to enable me to play in windy conditions with ease. Clearly this didn't look that way as my first tee shot was a high slice and when the wind got hold of it, it almost landed on the 9th fairway. Not a pretty sight! Be that as it may, myself, my partner, Trevor von Berg, and our opponents for the day, Shawn Welgemoed and Wayne Rademan, had an awesome day and the golf turned out great in the end. With Shawn being my OMIP partner and my opponent on the day, this made for some interesting golf as well, because on the one hand I needed him to do well but on the other I didn't want to lose our little side bet. So as you can see this was a real test of golf and character but was thoroughly enjoyed by us all.

Although conditions where a "little" windy it was a lovely hot summers day in the Bay as was evident by the enthusiastic desire for a bit of the good stuff before the game and the well deserved cold refreshment afterwards. I would like to thank Mitch de Hooghe and Adam Mackenzie for their sterling assistance every month in arranging this. I also want to thank our Bells lady, Caitlin for her regular assistance and for a job well done on Sunday ensuring that we were well prepared for the challenge that lay ahead.

By the time you read this we would hopefully have successfully defended our Easterns Challenge title to be held at the Bloemfontein Golf Club on 28th February 2009. This may be a lot more difficult this year as only five of us are able to make the trip but nevertheless we will do our best. However, I believe we will all have lots of fun and enjoy the golf. It will also be great to meet new Nomad friends and rekindle the old friendships made in the years gone by. Good luck to those that are going and enjoy it. I will report back on our effort in my next month's report. I will also hopefully have some details regarding our next away tour being the Frontier Trophy and the Rough Rider Cup to be held at Fish River and Port Alfred respectively on the 11 and 12 July 2009.

We have also had our first monthly meeting with the Eastern Province Division of the South African Junior Golf Foundation where Marcelle Roux and I were introduced as the Eastern Cape Nomads representatives for this year. We are hoping to make a sizeable contribution to junior golf this year with the funds raised from the Bells ticket sales, the Volvo Masters and Junior Golf Foundation days to be held later this year.

I would like to leave you with a quote for the day and good luck for the next game in St Francis on 15 March 2009 and remember that 'practise makes perfect'.

It's a heck of a lot harder to stay on top than it is to get there.
- Tom Kite

Yours in Nomads
Eddie Kruger