
The Captain's Report – **Duke's Divot**

Fellow Nomads,

A perfect day for a monthly meeting at St Francis Bay Golf Club. There was a bit of a breeze which took the edge off a few of the players , but not so for Marcelle “Pumba” Roux, two over gross for a 43 pointer off a nine handicap! Well done, we needed you in Bloemfontein last week.

A big thank you to St Francis Bay Golf Club for hosting us yet again and having everything in place from start to finish. Club Captain Charlie Byl joined our field, along with Benjamin Zhang and Peter Wilson in my fourball. We had 95 players in the field, which is a bit disappointing for such a lovely venue as St Francis Bay.

I wish also to thank Eddie Kruger for assisting Jeanne and Bev with registration and Georgie Saffy for helping out the ladies with the prize sheet. Well done to starter Roy Newman and his helpers Glen Blom, Mike Fowler, Stuart Mclver and Brian Cunningham in moving the field timeously. Thanks to Glen Blom who stood in for our camera man on Sunday and to Archie Pearce for conducting the fines session. Sadly once again we had far too many early leavers SEVENTEEN in all, and I wish to remind you that prize giving is a very important part of our Nomads day and all members are expected to attend prize giving. It goes without saying that we owe it to our sponsors to be at prize giving. Our Bell 'n Milk went down well before tee off and we were treated to another pleasant SAB Marzan Gold at the back of the 18th green to finish of a long round of golf.

Well done to all the winners and hard luck to Kerry Bosch who missed the R11,000 “Pick Three” jack pot by one point in the “B” division! Our prize table is complete with sponsors for all the prizes with the exception of the “Two Clubs”, anyone wishing to sponsor this prize, please contact me. We had a number of tie awards Dennis Jones, Paul Bester, Larry Kozak (5 yrs), Darrell Harvey (absent, 10yrs) and Bjorn Winderballe (20 yrs) as well as game badges presented to Kerry Bosch and Bruce Watson , (both 100 games), Neale Kunhardt our HLM kindly did the honors for us.

Welcome back were a number of members who have not played for some time, Darrell Harvey, Neville Botha, Ockie Esterhuysen, Garry Milford and Fanie van Niekerk, it is always a pleasure to see you in the field.

Good Luck to those participating in the Gary Player Trophy at Walmer Country Club on April 5th.

Yours in Nomads,

Duke Nel

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

Fellow Nomads,

It was, as always, a delight to play at St Francis Bay Golf Club in March. The weather played its part and the little breeze that we started with, soon died down. By the time we were enjoying the hospitality of the “Hansa Girls” it was a perfect evening standing next to the eighteenth green, savouring the golden nectar and watching our Captain's fourball finish. Ask Duke about his last clutch putt! I had the pleasure of partnering Ray Hitzeroth, with the challenge of playing against Louis Snetler and Gerrit Botha, both of whom started off cold but warmed up slowly like a “diesel engine”. In the last “Vice's Version” I mentioned

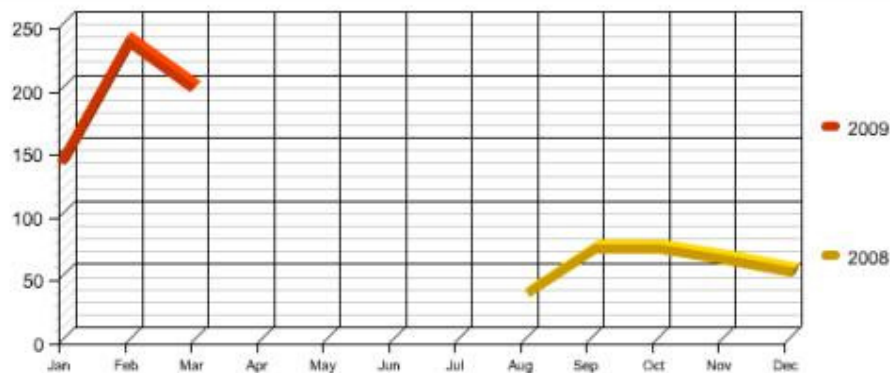
the tradition of placing wagers on this great game, and this month Ray and I were fortunate enough to claim the proverbial "lock, stock and barrel", which doesn't often happen - to me at least.

All the Bells Tickets that we were allocated have been handed out, either to those of you who have purchased them, or to the AMT committee who are trying to sell the extras. Please note that the counterfoils should be correctly and fully completed and returned to Jeanne, or me, by the next game on 5 April. I need to ensure that all of these get up to Durban for the main draw at Nationals. There are no telepathic winners in this great draw!

The trip to Bloemfontein for the Easterns Challenge was a blast and I'm sure our JVC, Eddie Kruger, will report back on this sometime. Our trophy cabinet is unfortunately, once again, empty!

Our Eastern Cape Nomads website available at www.easterncapenomads.co.za is up and running and appears to have reasonable visitor traffic as can be seen by the increase in visitors to the site this year as opposed to last year, shown in the graphic below. Have a look and let me know if you feel we can add anything that can be of benefit to the club.

Report Graph



Source: Webstat.com

At the St Francis Bay game there seemed to be some confusion, and then ensuing deliberation, of who claims the "Nearest for Least" spoils. After discussion with our Captain, and past Captains, it was agreed that it was the "Nearest in Regulation" that would win; that is closest for 3 on a par 5 and closest for 2 on a par 4. "In regulation" means **on the green**. This is the way it is played at Nomads, as it allows all in the field to compete for this prize, not only the long hitters. Even I, a renowned chopper, won it at PEGC in February!

Last month, I mentioned that there may not be a flurry of Forty-pointers at St Francis Bay GC, as we had had 5 in 2008. Well, this turned out to be true, possibly due to the lightning-fast greens and the course playing slightly longer, with only Marcelle Roux being rebellious and shooting a 43-pointer, 5 better than anyone else! I look forward to our next game at Walmer Country Club on 5 April 2009, which is also the start of the Gary Player Knock-out Competition for many of us. I look even more forward to seeing what Marcelle's new handicap is going to be!

"Golf is the closest game to the game we call life. You get bad breaks from good shots; you get good breaks from bad shots - but you have to play the ball where it lies." - Bobby Jones

Yours in Nomads,

Greg Clack

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

Fellow Nomads,

What an enjoyable day it was at our 3rd monthly game held at St Francis Golf Club. The weather was awesome and the golf course superb. Thanks to my partner Hans Rigelnik and our opponents Darrell Harvey & his visitor Ed Brooke all the way from Wales for a well contested round of golf.

We unfortunately weren't able to defend our title at the Easterns Challenge in Bloemfontein on the 28th February 2009, the 1st of our away tours. Nonetheless fun was had by all and I would like to thank Duke, Greg, Dave Pearson & Vaughn for a memorable occasion & a wonderful experience. This being my first Easterns Challenge and one which I thoroughly enjoyed, I surely will make a habit of being a part of this experience in the years to come and I encourage those of you who have not yet had the opportunity, to also do so.

We left early Friday morning and took a slow drive up to Bloemfontein. On the way we stopped for lunch in Graaf Reinette at the Coldstream Restaurant, which used to be the old British Officers mess/pub in the early days where we were treated to succulent lamb chops and a frosty or two. What was amazing was that one had to pass through the kitchen to get to the toilets. A venue to be visited should you perhaps pass that way. That night we attended a cocktail party hosted by Free State Nomads at the Bloemfontein Golf Club. After a reasonably early night we were up early Saturday morning ready to defend our title on the golf course. It was always going to be tough as there were only 5 of us, ± 29 from Free State & approximately 16 from Easterns. Nevertheless we were up to the challenge. Little did we know that the course had some heavy rain during the week and the rough was just as tough as at the US Open. The course played long and very tight and was a true test of golf. We envisaged averaging about 30 points but this was not to be. We ended up coming third on 26 points with Free State second on 27.462 points and Easterns winning on 28.706 points. Well done to Duke who came third in the C division and also was part of the best playing fourball.



After prize giving and an enjoyable braai we celebrated our tough unsuccessful title defence late into the night. We left Bloemfontein early Sunday morning for home after an awesome breakfast and arrived safely late afternoon having had a wonderful experience making new friendships and rekindling friendships of old.

I look forward to arranging our next away tour being the Frontier Trophy and the Rough Rider Cup and I know that this will also be an experience of note.

Good luck for the 1st round of the Gary Player Knockouts at Walmer Country Club next month.

Yours in Golf,

Eddie Kruger