

Morris Park C. C. Recap - September 22, 2014

The MSGA's 12th and final tournament of 2014, the Robert Brady Challenge, was held at Morris Park C. C. in South Bend, IN on September 22nd. The turnout was excellent with 120 players, the largest participation in a final tournament in the MSGA's history and the largest for the 2014 season. It was the MSGA's seventh tournament at Morris Park over the years. The Morris Park staff did a great job with excellent service for lunch, golf and dinner.

The weather was a beautiful fall day for golf with plenty of sunshine, temperatures in the low mid-60's and light winds.

The golf course was in excellent shape, but played very difficult. The undulating greens were in wonderful shape, but very fast, especially for the many downhill putts. The difficult and sloping greens lead to plenty of extra putts. Overall with handicaps, only 10 players beat par of 70 while five others matched par. For the 120 players, the average Gross score was 92.6 with 75.5 as the average Net score, 5.5 shots over par of 70. In total, only 13% of the players beat or matched par.

This season a separate Flight (E) was used for players whose handicap and age total 95 or more and who choose to play from the forward tees. The flight plays for net awards only and had 17 entries.

In the Individual Medal competition, the Overall Low Gross winner was Jerry Giolitto with an excellent two over par 72 that included two birdies and four bogeys. Fred Kepler with a 76 was second followed by Tom Knoll and Jim Jonas with 78's. Four others finished with 79's. Ray Brosseau and Paul Surowiec tied for first in the Low Net competition both shooting excellent net 65's. Ray was the overall winner with the tie-breaker rules. Jim Jonas was next with a net 67, followed by Jerry Giolitto, Fred Kepler and Bruce Neulieb, all with net 68's.

In Flight E, Jerry Stayton and Robert Rogers tied with net 66's with Jerry winning the tiebreaker. Jerry Gerard was next in line with a net 68 followed by Bill Hehemann and Art Branco with even-par net 70's.

Overall, in the six flights, 60 players won prizes in the Individual Medal competition.

In the Skins competition, six players were multiple winners with Rob Hocevar leading with three skins. The other players with two skins each were Dan DeMartinis, Paul Surowiec, Dick Weiss, Ray Brosseau and Bill Scully. In total, there were 39 skins in the six flights. In the Closest to the Pin contest, Rob Hocevar had the closest shot of the day on the 135 yard 11th hole when his ball was measured at 2 feet 10 inches.

Congratulations to award winners in all the flights and especially to Jerry Giolitto with his fine round of 72 and Ray Brosseau and Paul Surowiec for their excellent net 65's. In Flight E, Jerry Stayton and Robert Rogers with net 66's are also worthy of mention. The complete list of winners can be found on the Tournament Results tab.

In the season-long Brady Cup competition, Tom Stefaniak finished first with 2350 points, 105 points ahead of Ray Brosseau who finished second with 2245 points. Tom will have his name added to the permanent Brady Cup trophy in addition to receiving a personal engraved replica of the permanent trophy. Dan DeMartinis (2120 points), Bruce Fisher (2105 points) and Dave Pendergast (2020 points) rounded out the top five places. The Final 2014 Brady Cup standings with the top 25 places are shown on the Brady Cup tab.
The field of 120 included nine members who played in all twelve 2014 MSGA tournaments including Ray Brosseau a MSGA rookie in 2014. The current MSGA membership stands at 189, of which 124 played five or more events. It was a great finish to a wonderful year.