

Pottawattomie C. C. Recap: June 3, 2019

The MSGA's second scheduled tournament of the 2019 season was held at Pottawattomie C. C. in Michigan City, IN on June 3rd. The tournament was originally scheduled for May 29, 2019 but was rescheduled because of course conditions. The first tournament of 2019 at Whittaker Woods in New Buffalo, MI was cancelled because of weather and course conditions.

The Tournament was the fifth time the MSGA had played at Pottawattomie C. C. over the years. Pottawattomie is a beautiful old golf course with Trail Creek meandering through the course. The course played extremely wet with many areas roped off.

The weather was sunny for the day with temperatures around 60 and gentle breezes. The golf course had received many days of rain in the previous weeks, causing very little roll especially on tee on shots. The course superintendent and his staff did an excellent job getting the course ready for play.

The golf course was in nice condition except for the extremely wet conditions. The greens were very good with normal warm weather speeds. The rough was very thick in places and was very difficult. The event was played under "pick and clean rules" throughout the course.

The turnout was excellent with 112 players entered. For the original May 29th date, 128 players were entered.

The course played very difficult as overall with handicaps, only 16 players bested par of 72 while six others matched par (20% of players). For the 112 players, the average Gross score was 94.4 with 77.1 as the average Net score, 5.1 shots over par of 72.

In the Individual Medal competition, Dave Heckaman led the field with a four over par 76. He was followed by Bryan Boettger with a 77, rookie Bruce Brankle, Steve Stone and Tom Knoll with 78's and Tim Swallers with a 79.

In the Net competition, Bruce Fisher led the field with a fine net 68. He was followed closely by Dave Heckaman and rookie Jack Enright with net 69's. Tom Knoll, Dave Pendergast and Gil Vayhinger posted net 70's while six others posted net 71's. In Flight E (played from the forward tees), Tom Mackrola and Art Bartholomew tied with net 70"s with Tom winning the tie-breaker. Dave Dunn was the only other player to beat par with a net 71. The flight included 19 players.

In the Skins competition, Fred Evans recorded three skins while Gary Drutis and John Spensley posted two each. In total, there were 29 skins in the five flights. In the Closest-to-the-Pin contest, Al Marquardt's shot on the 104-yard Hole #13 that finished 1" 7" from the hole was the best of the day.

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