

BLGC MGA 9-Holer Report for February 8, 2018

There were eight of those World Famous 9-Holers in the pro-shop early today despite the frost covered roofs and cold outside conditions. Today's game was STABLEHERD which is not at all an accurate description of The Herd – nothing stable about us!

Finally, when the thermometer showed 40°F about 9:30 a.m. the Herd began to move outside – slowly.

We let the pesky 18-holers use the #1 tee box since they were a five some and reportedly could play faster than a Herd of eight. Once out of view (or about 150 yards) the four 9-Holer golfers flailed away. Once at the #1 green the golfers were joined by the four 9-Holer putters and the putting began. Our golfers were: John Moran, Mac McConahy, Bob Westbrook and me. Our putters were Don Webb, Ken Mayne, C.L. Newsome (scorekeeper) and the ever-agitating James “the Spicewood Legend” Longoria.

John Moran was on his game today, striking the ball well off the tee box and following that up with strong putting. Mac hit strong down the fairways and Bob and I continued to work on our “short” game.

The putters continue to believe that the color of the golf ball somehow influences their putting skills. So, throughout the round golf balls of various color combinations began to appear. I suspect that some psychology is at work here, but I'm not certain who it's working on.

C.L. Newsome, the retired NASA rocket scientist, had some trouble keeping up with seven old guys hollering scores at him. I admit it does get confusing, especially when the guys yell different scores each time!

At green #5 Ken Mayne drew a “yellow card” for putting off the green. And just to be consistent, he did it again on the #8 green and received another “yellow card.”

On the #7 green, that master of deceptive putting, James Longoria, made an “ace” with a ball that very much appeared to be moving by the hole and then suddenly making a left turn into the hole! All the Herd was in awe so after all the “fist pumps” and almost “high-fives” (remember these are old guys), we ran James' golf ball through a portable x-ray scan device just to see if it had a magnet or GPS inside. Nothing showed up, so his “ace” was celebrated again.

And as luck would have it, C.L. Newsome ended the round with an “ace” on the #9 green. Nothing unusual about the ball behavior this time, it was just luck mixed with perseverance.

It was noon by this time, so the Herd made it to the pro-shop for coffee and calculations.

The scorecard was fed into the Quantum 9-Holer Computer and instructed to run the STABLEHERD sub-routine. And faster than C.L. can erase seven wrong scores, today's results were projected in 4K on the ceiling. Here's how the old guys did:

Putting Competition:

1st Place for \$4: Don Webb, 21 putts;

2nd Place for \$2: James Longoria, 22 putts;

3rd Place for \$1: C.L. Newsome, 22 putts (he lost the scorecard playoff);

4th Place for \$1: Ken Mayne, 26 putts;

Golfing Competition:

1st Place for \$4: John Moran, net 35;

2nd Place for \$2: Mac McConahy, net 35 ½;

3rd Place for \$1: Paul Castiglione, net 37 ½;

4th Place for \$1: Bob Westbrook, net 38.

That's it for another great day of 9-Holer golf at good old Blue Lake!

Paul Castiglione
9-Holer Herder