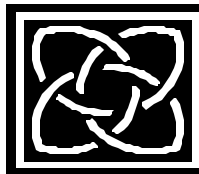


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# The Ducas

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The Newsletter of  
The Irish Open  
Volume 1 • Issue 1  
September 1996



## Still rolling after six successful years

*A good time was had by all, better by some*

The pipes, the pipes are calling!

The 6<sup>th</sup> annual Irish Open began with the sounds of pipes and drums. The hills of the Summit resounded with the strains of Irish and Scottish tunes played by a contingent of the Greater Scranton Black Diamonds Pipe Band. On pipes were Tom Brownlee, Bill Hetherson and on drums, Jim Riley. The parade to the first tee was led by the Irish Open Executive Committee, John McClurg and Mike Brislin, carrying the American and Irish flags. The Black Diamonds contingent played a rousing rendition of "Wearin' O' The Green". Following the opening number were, "Minstrel Boy", "O'Donald Abu", "Mhaira's Wedding", "The Swan", "Cockney Jocks", and "Amazing Grace". The Black Diamonds completed their performance by playing "Scotland The Brave" as they left the tee area.

A special thanks to Tom, Bill and Jim for their time, effort and performance on behalf of the Irish Open. We hope to have them back in 1997 for our opening ceremonies.

A special thanks to Paul Canavan for helping us as our video cameraman.

Rain, rain go away!

Hurricane Eduard almost canceled our tournament this year. Fortunately it moved far enough west of us to limit the amount of rain we received. Other than a single five minute downpour there were only occasional sprinkles to contend with.

For the first time this year we were contending with another tournament before us. We expected to get out by 1pm but we didn't get underway until 1:30pm. When the last foursome was coming up 18 darkness was very close. Next year's starting time will move back to noon to avoid a repeat of this year's difficulties with scheduling.

Our largest Open ever!

In addition to the late start, the size of this year's tournament played a part in the late finish. We had our largest turn-out in our six years, 10 teams, 40 participants.

This year saw our second highest number of new faces. In 1993 we had 13 new faces, this year we had 12 new faces including two persons recently relocated from Wichita, John Hoblit and Terry Bondurant and one from Australia, Beverly Buranich. All of our out-of-staters were on one of the top three teams in this year's Open.

In case you were wondering, the remaining 28 golfers in this year's Open have all played in previous Opens. Twenty five golfers have

participated in four or more Opens since our inaugural event in 1991. Seven have played in all six tournaments. We hope this is a sign that we're doing something right. Suggestions are always welcome though!

Get on your mark ...

While the Executive Committee was off acting important, marching in parades and all that, Rick Lynch was getting the Open started. Rick was this year's starter and cameraman. Many thanks to Rick for a great effort.

Pictures

One copy of the pictures is being circulated with this newsletter. Please don't take any of these out of the album. If you would like prints or digitized files, that can be used for screen savers, just let me know. They will be provided free of charge. Thank you.

And the winners are ...

The lowest and highest scores were recorded in this year's Open. The championship team fired a

scorching 64 while the last place team compiled an 88.

Teams are listed in their order of finish.

Rick Lynch 64  
 Mitch Morgan  
 Beverly Buranich  
 Matt Beckish

Jerry Prazych 70  
 Paul DiMarco  
 Chud Rightor  
 Dave Lloyd

Bob Graham 71  
 Paul Healey  
 John Hoblit  
 Terry Bondurant

Dave Maher 71  
 Brian Tinsley  
 Jim Roland  
 John Kulpak

Marie Buranich 73  
 John McClurg  
 Glenn Sprechini  
 Keith Hyland

Rich Wilson 73  
 Mike Conway  
 Dan Crecca  
 Don Tweedy

Rob Nardelli 73  
 Vince Grega  
 Tom Staffaroni  
 Pat Welk

Jim Kowatch 79  
 Mike McMahan  
 Tom Rose  
 Bill Ollendyke

Paul Canavan 83  
 Joe McKeown  
 Terry Purcell  
 Mike Rovnanik

Mike Brislin 88

Tom Brownlee  
 Bill Hetherson  
 Jim Riley

Longest drive on the 5<sup>th</sup> went to Mitch Morgan. Closest to the pin on 17 went to Matt Beckish.

Since 1991 there have been 64 persons playing in the Open, 31 of them have won one of more trophies. The Executive Committee interprets these statistics as confirmation that the team selection process and play format provides a fair competition for all involved regardless of skill level.

Speaking of stats ...

Mitch Morgan will need to build a trophy case soon. Mitch has taken home 6 trophies in 4 years of play in the Open. He has two championship trophies, 91 and 96, one second place trophy, 94 and one third place trophy, 95. In addition he has back to back longest drive trophies, 95 and 96.

Dave Lloyd also has an impressive trophy collection, three second place finishes, 94, 95 and 96 as well as longest drive in 1992.

In the six year history of the Open there have been two repeat champions, Paul DiMarco in 93 and 94, and Matt Beckish in 95 and 96. Matt has an opportunity to become our first threepeat champion in 1997. Three others have been champions in two non-successive years; Bob Graham in 92 and 94, Bill Hetherson in 92 and 95, and Mitch Morgan in 91 and 96.

We have kept track of scores in the Open since 1993. Following are the high, low and average scores as well as the overall high, low and average for the past four years.

**1993 - Summit Hills**

High 76  
 Low 69  
 Average 72.75

**1994 - Summit Hills**

High 86  
 Low 68  
 Average 73.56

**1995 - Summit Hills**

High 78  
 Low 66  
 Average 70.50

**1996 - Summit Hills**

High 88  
 Low 64  
 Average 74.50

**Overall**

High 88 set in 1996  
 Low 64 set in 1996  
 Average 72.94

Until next year ...

Thank you for all the positive feedback about this year's Open. We're working on making next year's bigger and better than our first six.

Only 183 days until Saint Patrick's Day!