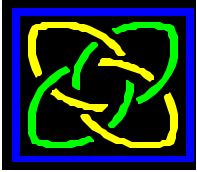


The Ducas

The Newsletter of
The Irish Open
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Number 8 in '98

A good time was had by all, better by Don Marsh

The pipes, the pipes are calling!

The 8th annual Irish Open began with the sounds of pipes and drums. Taylor resounded with the strains of Irish and Scottish tunes played by a contingent of the Scranton Black Diamonds and the Eagle Hose Company #1 Pipe Bands. On pipes were Bill Hetherson and John Rama and on drums, Jim Riley.



A special thanks to Bill, John and Jim for their time, effort and performance on behalf of the Irish Open. We hope to have them back in 1999 for our opening ceremonies.

What a great day for the Irish!

For a change, we had some great weather this year for the Open. In previous years we've contended with rain, hail, wind, lightning, fog and darkness.

Consistency

For the third year in a row we had 10 teams competing in the Open. We had six new faces in this year's Open including one from Australia, Sid Birch.

In case you were wondering, the remaining 34 golfers in this year's Open have all played in previous Opens. Thirty one golfers have participated in four or more Opens since our inaugural event in 1991. Six have played in all eight tournaments. We hope this is a sign that we're doing something right. Suggestions are always welcome though!

And the winners are ...

The championship team fired a 62, the second lowest score in our eight years, while the last place team compiled a 71.

Teams are listed in their order of finish.

John McClurg 62
Bill Scaramastro
Glenn Sprechini
Pat Welk

Beverly Birch 63
Jay Downs
Rick Lynch
Bob O'Malley

Terry Bondurant 63
Marie Buranich
John Hoblit

Andy Smith

Dave Lloyd 65
Don Marsh
George Sharkey
Don Tweedy

Paul DiMarco 67
Barry Everson
Joe Lukus
Mitch Morgan

Sid Birch 67
Terry Purcell
Frank Santoriello
Tom Staffaroni

Bill Hetherson 68
Mike Lukus
John Rama
Jim Riley

Paul Canavan 69
Paul Healey
Dave Maher
Joe McKeown

Mike Brislin 71
Jack Delaney
Sue Downer
Bill Ollendyke

Mike Golembeski 71
Steve Nagley
Stan Pratt
Mike Rovnanik

Longest drive on the 18th went to Sid Birch. Closest to the pin on 11 went to Mike Golembeski.

Since 1991 there have been 79 persons playing in the Open, 42 of them have won one or 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 has taken home 6 trophies in 5 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, one championship in 97, three second place finishes, 94, 95 and 96 as well as longest drive in 1992.

Paul DiMarco, Chud Rightor, Pat Welk and Bob Graham all have four trophies apiece.

In the eight year history of the Open there have been three repeat champions, Paul DiMarco in 93 and 94, Matt Beckish in 95 and 96 and Glenn Sprechini in 97 and 98. Glenn has an opportunity to become our first threepeat champion in 1999. Four others have been champions in two or more non-successive years; Bob Graham in 92, 94 and 97, Bill Hetherson in 92 and 95, Mitch Morgan in 91 and 96 and Pat Welk in 95 and 98.

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 six 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

1997 - Pine Hills

High	70
Low	61
Average	66.00

1998 - Pine Hills

High	71
Low	62
Average	66.70

Overall

High	88	set in 1996
Low	61	set in 1997
Average	70.57	

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 eight.

Only 183 days until Saint Patrick's Day! Slainte!

**The Irish Open
Executive Committee**

Mike Brislin
John McClurg

