



MSGGA 2014 Championship Recap: August 18/19, 2014

The 12th annual MSGGA Championship was held at Swan Lake Resort G.C. in Plymouth, IN on August 18 & 19th. The event was also the ninth of the MSGGA's 2014 season. The turnout was a solid 68 players for the Two-man Best-Ball event including one guest. Six flights were required to accommodate the 34 teams.

The weather was very good both days for the flight matches with temperatures near 80, partly sunny skies and light breezes. However, just as the final matches were being completed, rain caused a delay in finishing several matches and the Shoot-Out for the overall championship. This was the second consecutive year playing the MSGGA Championship at Swan Lake, although the MSGGA has played the course three other times for regular tournaments. The golf course was in beautiful condition with the fairways and thick rough in excellent shape. The greens were perfect with enough softness to hold good approach shots and very smooth for quick, but true putts. The large greens were close to the best for any of our past Championships. The staff at Swan Lake, led by Head-Pro Chad Hutsell, did a great job in hosting the championship that included two continental breakfasts and lunches.

For the 2014 MSGGA Championship, the shootout winners and overall champions were John Becking and Bill Gustin who qualified for the shootout as winners of the Albatross Flight (A). Second place went to Roger Stevens and Bruce Fisher who placed first in the Chip Flight (C). Other flight winners were Don Herakovich and Dave St. Clair in the Birdie Flight (B), Don Giedemann and Art Yagodnik in the Drive Flight (D), Harvey King and Dave Pendergast in the Eagle Flight (E) and Ray Brosseau and Tim Gericke in the Fairway Flight (F).

The playoff was exciting from start to finish. The teams of Don Herakovich/Dave St. Clair and Don Giedemann/Art Yagodnik were eliminated on the first shootout hole. Harvey King and Dave Pendergast were eliminated on the second hole while Ray Brosseau and Tim Gericke were eliminated on the third hole. The fourth playoff hole was tied, requiring an additional playoff hole and then a chip-off to determine the winners. John Becking's chip within a couple of feet was ultimately the winning shot.

Congratulations to all the flight winners and especially to John Becking and Bill Gustin who will have their names added to the permanent John J. Pavlos Memorial Championship trophy as the winners of the 2014 MSGGA championship. They will also be awarded individual trophies at the final dinner event at Morris Park C. C. All results of the tournament are shown on the Tournament Results tab.

The Championship did not result in significant changes to the overall Brady Cup standings. Dan DeMartinis (1695 points) and Tom Stefaniak (1670) continue their close competition for first place. Following are Ray Brosseau (1525), Bruce Fisher (1465) and Gil Vayhinger (1405), rounding out the top five places. Bill Gustin gained the most by moving into seventh place with 1336 points. The current standings are shown on the Brady Cup tab.