



## **Elcona C. C. Recap - Sept. 16, 2024**

The MSGA's 10th and final tournament of 2024, was held at Elcona C. C. in Bristol, IN on September 16th. The turnout was a little short of normal final events with 88 players participating. It was the MSGA's third tournament at Elcona C. C. over the years, but the first as the final tournament. Elcona's staff did a great job with excellent service for lunch, golf, and the awards dinner. All players received golf towels as door prizes before play started.

The weather was very warm and sunny with temperatures near 90\* for the afternoon. There were gentle breezes for much of the day, but staying hydrated was the play of the day.

The golf course was in great shape but played extremely difficult. The rough was thick in many areas especially around greens. The course has many fairway sand traps, and most greens are guarded by traps. The greens were hard and very fast especially with sidehill or downhill putts. Most putts were of a defensive nature. There were plenty of high scores in all flights.

Overall, with handicaps, only two players beat par of 72 and two matched par (only 5% of players). For the 88 players, the average gross score was 95.0 with 81.4 as the average net score, 9.4 shots over par of 72. The 9.4 shots over par was the highest in several years.

The best score of the day was by Ron Dockery with a gross score of 76 (A flight) followed by Jack Kary with 77 (A) and Doug Schnick with 79 (C). Only 10 others shot 85 or better.

In the net competition for Gold (back) tee players, flight A was won by Jack Kary with a net 74 followed by Jeffrey Swanson with 76 and flight B was won by Steve Carter with an excellent four under par 68 followed by Kevin Reichard and Steve Hissong with 74's.

For Blue (middle) tee players, flight C was won by J B Overmyer with a net 71 followed by Doug Schnick with 72. Flight D was won by Dale Cramer with 73 followed by David Niespodziany with 76.

For Green (forward) tee players, Dave DeBoer, Chuck Zimmerman and Roger Stevens tied in flight E with 76's. Dave won the tiebreaker. Flight F was won by Mike Conley with a net 72 followed by John Farron and Bob Henrickson with 74's

In the Skins competition, J B Overmyer recorded three skins while David Niespodziany, Ron Gross and Buzz Cotton each posted two. In total, there were 34 skins in the six flights.

In the Closest-to-Pin contests, Keith Bope was closest playing the Blue tees with a shot 1 foot 3 inches on hole #8 playing at 161 yards.

Congratulations to award winners in all the flights. The complete list of winners can be found on the Tournament Results tab.

In the season-long Brady Cup competition, Kevin Shidler finished in first place with 1963 points in the closest race ever. Second was won by Brian Gensel with 1960 points and third by Tom Moser with 1844 points. Dan Kaleth (1785) and Shawn Reed (1784) rounded out the top five places. Kevin will have his name added to the permanent Brady Cup trophy in addition to receiving an engraved replica of the permanent trophy. The Final 2024 Brady Cup standings with the top 25 places are shown on the Brady Cup tab.

The Elcona field of 88 included 11 members who played in all ten 2024 MSGA tournaments. The current MSGA membership stands at 134, up 3% from last year's 130.

For 2024, 101 members played five or more events (75%). For the 2024 season, the average number of member players was 88 (66% of membership) as compared to the average number of players for 2023 of 83 (64% of membership).

It was a nice finish to a good year in spite of several very hot days. Fortunately, there were no cancellations due to weather.

The Board of Directors thanks all the members for their participation this year and hopes to see all members returning for the 2025 season with a few of their golfing friends.