

Ahh, the CCBA!

The outing was once again held at the beautiful Klein Creek Golf Club in Winfield, IL. The course is in a great location near the O'Hare airport and many circuit board shops. Sad to say, my group of grizzled veterans did not finish in the money, but wait, and listen to the rest of the story.

It was a nice enough September day as the sun was shining and it was not raining. As most of these scramble tournaments go there were prizes for the long drive on a couple of par five holes, as well as closest to the pin on a couple of par three holes. My group could not land on a par three even if we had several shots each, truth! However, Lady Luck was smiling on Kurt Seestrom on the par five 16th. Let me begin by reminding all of you that to qualify for a long drive your ball has to come to rest on the fairway of the hole you are playing.

As usual, I teed up first and launched my golf ball down the fairway. It had begun to drizzle and the wind started to blow. This was an uphill par five, but the wind was coming straight behind us heading right at the green over 500 yards away. It was a good drive for me as my shots just don't go that far, never have. Knowing we were not going to finish in the money we decided to have the big boys tee it high and let it fly. We could see the ball marker up the fairway a good distance out, but with the wind at our back and loose muscles on the big boys; they each took their turn swinging as hard as they could. My back still hurts just from watching them.

I'm not sure who was first, I think it was John. He gave it a mighty rip and the ball rocketed down the fairway turning to the left. There was a small hill in our way so we couldn't see if the ball stopped in the fairway or if it had reached the ball marker left by another golfer. Kurt was next and he was grimacing with the anticipated long drive of his life. He hit it low, but make no mistake, he hit it well! This ball was also heading for the left side of the fairway and again, there was that darn hill in the way so we could not see where it came to rest. Last but not least was Jerry Smith; Jerry is a tall lanky bloke with a swing radius that would make Dustin Johnson blush. Not having any reason to hold back Jerry gave a mighty swing that turned the golf ball inside out (it really didn't but I just wanted to type that). The shot was extremely high in the air and seemed to go on forever, again down the left side of the fairway.

We proceeded up the fairway in our carts, slowing down to pick up my golf ball which was well short of the rest. When we arrived at the marker we found that all three of my teammates had passed the previous long drive. The first ball we came to was John's, he passed the other ball by two or three yards, and he was in the fairway. About ten feet further up the fairway was the ball hammered by Kurt. Then as we looked for the ball struck by Jerry we found it about eight yards past Kurt, but he barely missed the fairway and the ball came to rest in the rough! Kurt was the big winner; can't wait till next year!