

Wheelock Effort Pays Dividends Gold Takes 14th Cup in Close Finish at San Clemente 14-11



Frank Gleason, Greg Clark, Captain Perry Wheelock and Captain Don Cooper at the San Clemente First Tee

AP San Clemente, Ca.

He may have valet parked your car the night before, or poured you a drink at the Holiday Inn bar, or perhaps taken your ticket at the local Cineplex. However on Sunday, August 9th Perry Wheelock, clad in a lemon yellow chiffon vest and matching tie led a group of very motivated golfers to a hard fought 14-11 Gold victory at the 14th Annual Blue and Gold Cup at the San Clemente Golf Course. The win marked the pinnacle of Wheelock's golfing career, and was the final result of months of serious effort and preparation. In no previous Cup have we ever seen a Captain put forth near the amount of labor Wheelock invested in this year's competition. From the visible efforts of the Blog, e-mails and yardage books, to the not so visible covert activities, he set a standard that will possibly never be duplicated. It all paid off handsomely at San Clemente though, as he cemented his place in the history of this growing event. The final tally moved the overall competition into a dead heat, with the record now standing at 6-6-2.

On the other side of the leaderboard, Blue Captain Don Cooper did the best he could to rally his group of talented players. It was an uphill battle all the way though, as the Gold team was very determined to win at their home course in San Clemente. The previous three Blue and Gold Cups contested at this venue were taken by the Blues, which was quite an embarrassing record that needed to be changed. Captain Wheelock set the tone early though, by virtue of his own difficult match play victory over Blue Joe Vincent.

A review of some of the more exciting matches over the course of the days play include the following. In perhaps the most stunning result of all, Blue rising junior Andrew Clark could only secure a 1/2 point against Gold veteran Ed Zurowski despite shooting an incredible 78. Ed answered with an 80, one of the best competitive rounds of his entire life. Joe Ross came from 5 down at the turn against Kevin Clark to square his match with both players earning a 1/2 point. Blue local Mark Russell won the 18th hole to squeeze past Jim Meck in a very tight battle 1 UP. Gold Tom Contino utilized his three strokes to full advantage in just edging past tough Tom Maland also by a score of 1 UP. Maland just bested Contino on his own ball 76 to 77 in a riveting display of excellent golf.

In another well handicapped match, Gold team member Sean Chalmers won the last two holes to secure his all square and 1/2 point result from traded Blue team member Pete Dille. Blue Eric Molinar played some solid golf and edged CBI Director Bill Schack 3 and 1. In a battle between a Bruin and a Trojan, Eldon Forcey proved once again that good always destroys evil by just clipping a very tough Rick Palmer in an incredibly close back and forth match 1 UP. Gold Jim Retzlaff was on a strict diet of mineral water and his par on the final hole gave him his 1 UP margin of victory over the very steady play of Richard Hainline. Gold Mark Gibbs found himself one down to Blue veteran Lee Llevano going into the 17th hole, and found a way to win both the remaining two holes, the last with a nice par, to secure his valuable one point contribution to the winning effort.

In the later matches, Gold Director Scott Wallace put forth a very strong effort against Blue Greg Clark which paid off nicely in the form of a 2 and 1 triumph. In another very tight contest, Blue stalwart Bob "Stone Cold" Anderson outlasted a very stubborn Stewart Bush with a similar 2 and 1 margin. In a rematch of an earlier battle Nigel "the Cockroach" McClurg never trailed against Blue low handicapper Marc Corless before pulling out a very close 2 and 1 victory. Nigel kept his spotless Blue and Gold win streak alive which now stands at an incredible 7-0. Both players had nice rounds with Nigel carding a 75 and Marc a 79.

The low round of the day was delivered by rising Blue junior Connor Dougherty. He threw a smooth four birdie two under par 70 at Gold veteran Frank Gleason who was overwhelmed 4 and 3. Frank fought hard along with the way against the dart throwing Dougherty, but even an impressive 78 on his own ball was no match for the best round ever played in a Blue and Gold competition.

In perhaps the most built up match of the entire event, Jeff Dense and Joe Cantu battled the entire day and headed to the 18th hole all square. Joe unfortunately pushed his tee shot right which resulted in some tree trouble that led to a bogey. Jeff was in front of the green in two, and chipped to eight feet below the hole for this third. His par putt just slid by the hole to give the two drained combatants 1/2 point each. A fitting ending perhaps to another exciting match play event!

THE 14TH ANNUAL BLUE AND GOLD CUP					
San Clemente G.C.		August 9th, 2009			
Pts.	BLUE	Score	GOLD	Pts.	
1/2	Joe Ross	All Square	Kevin Clark	1/2	
1	Mike Dille	3 and 2	Slater Shaw		
	Chris Corless	5 and 3	Matt Clark	1	
	Lee Batson	+3 7 and 5	Patrick Clark	1	
1	Mark Russell	1 UP	Jim Meck		
1/2	Andrew Clark	All Square +3	Ed Zurowski	1/2	
1	John McGushin	7 and 5	Gary Hansen		
	Tom Maland	1 UP	Tom Contino	1	
	Dave Plough	5 and 3	Don Zaremba	1	
1/2	Pete Dille	All Square +3	Sean Chalmers	1/2	
1	Brian Dougherty	5 and 3	Jim Ferraro		
1	Jack Harrington	7 and 6	Rick Ray		
1	Connor Dougherty	4 and 3	Frank Gleason		
1	Eric Molinar	3 and 1	Bill Schack		
	Rick Palmer	1 UP	Eldon Forcey	1	
	Joe Vincent	2 UP	Capt. Perry Wheelock	1	
	Capt. Don Cooper	3 and 2	John Yenny	1	
	Richard Hainline	1 UP	Jim Retzlaff	1	
	Lee Llevano	1 UP	Mark Gibbs	1	
	Greg Clark	2 and 1	Scott Wallace	1	
1	Bob Anderson	2 and 1	Stewart Bush		
1/2	Joe Cantu	All Square +2	Jeff Dense	1/2	
	Marc Corless	+1 2 and 1	Nigel McClurg	1	
	Simon Anderson	+1 6 and 5	Peter Shaw	1	
1	Dr. Wille Ross	3 and 2	Charlie Clark		
		11	GOLD	14	