

THE SKINNY - Week Fifteen (Inside Nine)

OBSERVATIONS FROM ONE FOOT (OR SO) AWAY FROM THE HOLE: (Greg Waldie)

The key topic for this week is 'gimmes'. A "gimme" is a putt so short a golfer considers it to be unmissable.

This leaves open a judgment call for each player on many holes. I have seen it handled in a variety of ways. Some people base this judgment call predominantly on where they stand in the match. Some people are more lenient with gimmes, when their opponent has a very high score on a hole. Some people have a rule of thumb about what a gimme is, and is not, and try to stick to it, regardless of the standing of the match or that hole.

Then, there are some people who believe there is no such thing as a gimme at all. Regardless of the approach you take, it is certainly an item that causes heartburn for the giver and the givee every week of league play. More to come on this topic...

OBSERVATIONS FROM VARIOUS ROVING REPORTERS:

Larry Perfitt hit his shot over the green on #1 and really short-sided himself. But, he had a solution...a full-out Phil Mickelson flop shot. He's practicing this full swing touch shot and asks that Jerry Laban mark his ball, which lay a few feet from the hole on Larry's line. Troy and Jerry are standing to the side, quietly wondering if Larry can pull off this difficult shot. Larry swings and hits a beautiful high and soft flopper, which looks to be perfect...until it lands on Jerry's marker and scoots about 30 feet past the pin.

On #6 green, Rob Earley had a slippery downhill from about 14 feet. He hit his putt a little too hard and didn't judge the break all that well either. As it scooted by the hole, about a foot wide right, he wound up and slammed his hat into the turf as if he had been robbed by the golf gods. The action looked kind of like the pose of Tiger below. An awkward silence followed his outburst...when belly laughs should have been the reaction!



On the first hole, John "Mr. USGA" DeRose declared, "There are no gimmes tonight!" And, that is the way it went throughout the match. So, the other three members of the group came up with a saying that fit the circumstance well and the following acronym was coined "PUTFP". After all, we can always use one more acronym! So, fast forward to #9 green and Johnnie's eyes are begging for a gimme as he stands over a 2-footer for double-bogey. John, PUTFP!!

As we rehashed the various happenings on the golf course from the 19th hole, Candi "LS" Schomisch admonished my partner and me for being way too competitive. In nearly her next breath, she turned to her partner Mike "Mr. Nice Guy" Nelson and began to berate him for giving so many putts. Whatever Candace!

In case you ever have to find a way to tell the difference between identical twin females, get a hold of Jeff Kroupa! He has an answer for you.

QUOTE(S) OF THE WEEK:

Candi Schomisch sat down in the clubhouse and proudly announced, "Three of us birdied #8 and my partner is the only one who didn't!" Everyone within earshot was quite amazed by this statement and started commenting...Wow! That was a tough pin. That is phenomenal! Looks like Beaner's deuce was covered. Then it dawned on Candi...not all 3s are birdies!

Putting on #7 green can be a real scary proposition, especially when that pin is in the front left, like it was last Thursday. There are very few gimmes on that green! To illustrate this knee-knocking sensation, Troy Boy had a touchy downhill and side-hill putt and somehow found a way to ease it in the hole. He then turned to his partner and said, "I think I peed myself a little!"



THIS WEEK IN GOLF:

HOLE PRIZES:

Longest drive (in fairway), #1 - Shannon Beebe

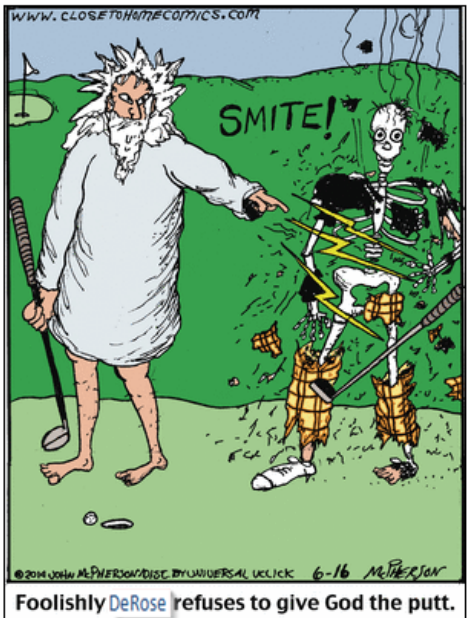
Closest to Pin #3 – No marker (That's okay. Carl would have won some more "solos" anyway)

NASTY GOLFER AWARD:

I finally tracked down Ms. Taylor sitting next to her favorite trophy. Good to see a smiley face on each side of her prize.



GOLF HUMOR:



SKINS BREAKDOWN:

- Hole 1: Another nice start for Laban, but Murphy matched his birdie so.....NO SKIN OUT!
- Hole 2: Two birdies by Bond and Troy.....NO SKIN OUT!
- Hole 3: **Carl Bond** hits it close and makes a nice deuce to win a Skin
- Hole 4: Three pars here.....NO SKIN OUT!
- Hole 5: Numerous pars and one belonged to **Art Kelley** for a Net Skin win
- Hole 6: Two birdies by Bond and **Beebe** and **Shannon** wins a Net Skin
- Hole 7: Pars were just fine here.....NO SKIN OUT!
- Hole 8: **Andy "Lima" Bean** had the only birdie here and won a Skin
- Hole 9: Three birdies here by Bean, Nelson, and Bond (again).....NO SKIN OUT!

Poker Hand: **Rob Earley** had four 7s (I guess he deserved a hat throw) and a share of the pot.

Final Tally: 27 players in the game for a total pot of $\$54/5 = \10.80 for each share

Thanks for participating in the Skins game!