

Saints golf team alumni and boosters,

On Sunday September 25th, 132 golfers and 8 volunteers took part in the 11th Annual Saints golf team four-person scramble. It was a bit warm at Mt. Woodson Golf Course but a little bit of a breeze made it better throughout the day. I want to start by thanking several individuals and companies who helped make the day such a fun and successful day for those who played:

- Head PGA Professional Perry Dotson at Mt. Woodson always is organized and has the course set up with the special events to help make it a fun round. Mt. Woodson donated a foursome to our event as well and cooked us up some great burgers for our pre-round socializing
- Shari and Mike Zizzi for the 11th year in a row donated a 3 day, 2 night stay at their Mammoth Lakes condo for the raffle
- The US Grant Hotel, through Doug Korn, donated a 1 night stay along with a food credit for our raffle
- Coronado Golf Course Head PGA Professional Brian Smock donated two foursomes for the raffle
- Fallbrook Winery, through Paul Fournier (Saints '88), donated wine for our special events winners
- PING Golf, through San Diego Sales Representative Rich Mundy, donated PING wedges for our winning team and shoe bags for our 2nd place team winners
- Golf Mart Mission Valley, through Manager Russell Imamura, donated gift cards for our winning teams and special events winners

We again had some great golf played throughout the round. The players include former Saints golf team members (young and not-as-young!!!), many of whom have/do compete in high level tournament golf. The scores on Sunday were again excellent with a score of 52 (18 under par!!) winning by only one stroke over two teams. Here are the results of the event:

The special event winners were:

Par 3 - closest to the pins

- #3 Patrick Blanchard
- #6 Matt Linville (Saints Athletic Director)
- #9 Chris Derr (Saints 2011)
- #16 Christian Da Luz (Saints Assistant Head Coach and Saints 1991)

Long Drive

- #14 Dennis Morton

Our "Old Guys" – team must have a cumulative age of at least 220 years - winners

- Don Eklund (Saints '75) and Steve Arculich (Saints '71) playing with Chris and Kerry Booth. The team shot a score of 56 (fourteen under par)

The following three team winners each earned prizes including free entry into the Randy Jones Invitational

- 3rd place with a score of 53 (17 under par, losing a scorecard playoff for 2nd place): Sam Flaming (Saints '15), Collin McNicholl (Saints '15), Alvin Chan, Griffin Tso
- 2nd place with a score of 53 (17 under par): Eugene Itkin, Isabella Itkin, Cory Segall, Joey Cave (Saints '04)
- 1st place with a score of 52 (18 under par): Mark Paule, Kirk Taylor, Paul Schroeder, Matt Gates

Upcoming Saints golf team things to keep your eyes out for:

- We will again host St. Patrick's 8th grade class in January at Colina Park for some "introduction to golf" instruction with our team. This not only is a way of getting more students on a golf course, hopefully beginning a lifetime journey, but it also lets the younger students get some time to hang out with Saintsman at a local venue made just for kids
- The Purple Gang Alumni group will take on the top Saints golf team members in February in the Alumni Match
- The spring 2023 season begins in the 2nd week of February. The top 5 players from last year's 7th ranked team in San Diego will all be replaced this year. While that means a bit of a rebuilding year, it provides opportunities for players to step up to the varsity and raise the level of their play against the top San Diego teams. With a large group of 9th graders coming out for the team with some golfing experience, our returning team leaders of 12th graders Jeff Korn and Henry Hooper along with 11th grader Jack Dougenis will get to help mold the next generation of Saints golfers!

I'd personally like to thank the many Saints alumni, parents, coaches, wives, and boosters who have helped in the 11 years of the event. I remember sitting down with Mike Zizzi (his son Johnny was on the team at the time) and Ruben Carriedo (Saints tennis alumni who at the time was on the Saints tennis team coaching staff with me) almost 12 years ago with the idea of putting together a golf team scramble to raise money for the team while also creating a great Saints social networking event. Without their encouragement and support, I wouldn't have even endeavored to run the event and I don't think any of us envisioned how successful it would become at getting people together. It is a great experience seeing everyone catching up with each other at the tournament! Thanks again!

Sincerely
Tom Isaak, Saints Golf