

The Hartwell Invitational Open Classic

Office of the Commissioner

20 August, 2002

Gentlemen:

It is time. Summer's going fast, nights growing colder, and it is time. The groundskeepers, media crews and low level interns have all been hard at work making sure that things go just as smoothly this year as they ever have. So get those chores done early, and tell your wife you can't go shopping with her, because this Labor Day, there's golf to be played.

As you'll recall, we are now in the fourth year of a handicapping system designed to level the playing field a bit. Essentially, it puts each player in the position of competing against himself. Last year, Mike had the biggest improvement over his previous scores, so he took home the coveted plaque. We will continue along those lines this year, this time using the two previous years' worth of scores to determine a handicap. This should keep the fairness aspect of the system intact while minimizing the opportunity for certain players to sandbag one year and take a big handicap the next. (Of course, Marty's quest to sandbag every year continues) If a player misses a year, he's assigned the course par (34) as a substitute score (one more year, Tim). Looking at the previous years' scores, here are the results with this year's prospective handicaps:

	<u>Scores</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Handicap</u>
Drew Banks	43,48,34	42	84 1
Bill Banks	48,49,48	48	53 7 46
George Hammerle	51,50,49	50	47 9 39 ✓
Jim Grote	56,34,34	41	34 0 34
Rick Herbst	58,71,60	63	71 22 49
Marty Mitchell	61,66,61	63	57 22 (35)
Mike Gorman	73,71,61	68	71 27 40
Tim Pattinson	34,43,46	41	47 0 47
Greg Pattinson	34,57,58	50	57 9 46
Brian Horner	34,34,58	42	77 1 76

Hopefully, this will continue to make for a more evenly matched tournament and a reason for each player to continue to play year after year.

As usual, the game will be held at the Hartwell Country Club at 9:00 am on Labor Day, September 2nd. A luncheon will be held immediately following at Frisch's on Vine St. to crown the new champion and shower him with the usual fabulous prizes. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Sincerely,

William V. Banks
Commissioner