

Cuba's Week in Review

June 20-26, 2011



The Slammer Tour held six regular (not that any Slammer Tour event could be called normal) events this week where 102 rounds of golf were played, each with its own personal drama and effect on the competitions for Slammer rankings, Tour Championships, Commish's Cup team qualifying and the health and wellness of the players.

The week began with new #1, Ozone, supported by his girlfriend Kerry, wearing the crown and earning pre-registration privileges to upcoming events as long as he holds the position. Slammer sharks began circling and eQuinelle on Sunday became the future venue for a wide open Slammer challenge for supremacy.

Mid-week events were held at Gatineau, Canadian and Falcon Ridge. Falcon Ridge has its famous Amen Corner which can make or break a match, while Canadian had Amen Intersection en route which made for a 15 minute detour getting to the course. Gatineau is a totally reworked course with a great layout, and the Slammers held a parking lot revival after the event. Who really needs a clubhouse?

Thursday saw the first of three TAN Co. Doggie Extravaganzas at White Sands, a terrific par-three course, and hosted by The Royal Oak in Orleans. Kids Club, one of 10 golfers, walked away with a whopping \$123 – and he was still chuckling about it come Saturday and Sunday!

We headed to Loch March on Saturday for the second time this season; as before there had been torrential rains the previous days but we were treated like royalty, got unlimited range balls, played lift, clean and place and cannot wait for a dry day to play there. What a great layout!

The week ended Sunday with two events. There was a first-ever event at a Larrimac in Chelsea, Quebec, where Slammers rated the course a very high 9 out of 10. HELFM, recently off of injured reserve with an ankle transplant, hosted as OC for his first event, and gave all players a three minute shopping spree in the pro shop. I'm inski next time!

The last event was eQuinelle, where #1 Ozone was dethroned in his title defence by Ticklar. He held it to start the year, relentlessly pursued it and is now humble in victory and always gracious in defeat. It's all history because it's golf and the next game is around the corner.

Through all of these events, small donations accumulated for three-putts or whining benefited the Make a Wish Foundation by raising a cool \$126.

I recently took a poll of all players at an event and found that over 90% have some type of significant injury they are playing with or recuperating from. The only healthy players were Stevie Ray, Grumpy and Captain Crunch. (Pepilepu claims to be okay but he admittedly smells). Stevie Ray may not remain healthy for long after describing his recent playing partners as "two guys and a Frenchman". He will likely be paired against Team Quebec in the upcoming Commish's Cup. Golf is so fair!

Thanks to all for my Slammer Tour adventures in the Ottawa Valley. Thanks especially to the ever present photogolfer PointZero, so far this season's most improved player, for not taking fashion pics during my backswing.



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