

Tournament Review—Arizona Biltmore (Links)

Forty SGL golfers teed it up on a beautiful Saturday morning at the Arizona Biltmore's Links course. We put up a pretty middle-of-the-road performance, as the average gross was 91.8 and average net was 74.0. For the second week in a row, we had an even-par score, this time from Dan Shumaker with 71. Dan also had low net on the day at 63. Dan's round was remarkably steady, as he posted 16 pars, one birdie (18th) and one bogey (13th).

Overall, the group scored 21 birdies, coming from 15 players on 12 different holes. No one went crazy, though, as six different players had two apiece—Dan Gallegos, Jim Bieleniewicz, Prag Shah, Rich Perry, Bret Goers and Jeff Thursam.

The most troublesome hole was the watery par-5 2nd, playing at an even 2 strokes over par. The easiest was the looks-like-it-was-crammed-into-someone's-backyard par-3 5th, at an average of +0.67.

Low gross and net guaranteed Dan Shumaker the Flight 1 win. Dan Gallegos picked up his first victory of the season in Flight 2 with 82/69. Bret joined the list of 3-time winners with 85/68 in Flight 3. Gareth Broudy got his second win in Flight 4, posting 93/65 and David Evers topped a 5-player Callaway field at 83/71.

On the hole where the H-I-O pot was emptied on our last trip here in 2018 (the 8th), Prag came very close to duplicating that feat, as his name was on a CTP marker about 6 inches from the hole. The other CTPs were earned by Alan Nicholas on the 3rd hole, Jim Bieleniewicz on the 5th, Dan Gallegos on the 11th and Marc Caporrimo on the 15th. Prag, Alan, Jim and Dan all converted their CTPs into Deuces, the only ones won on the day.

Jeff Thursam and Alan each claimed 5 Gross Skins to top that category. Nandita Shah's par/net eagle on #1 combined with 6 carryovers to win her 7 Net Skins.

Congrats to Michael Broudy, who apparently mastered the sledgehammer stroke necessary to win Low Putts on the brutally slow greens. He needed just 25, four fewer than his closest pursuer.

Dan Gallegos earned money in five of the six games, netting \$110 for his efforts.

Next Up—Longbow, Ringers Round 2

We head to Longbow this weekend for the second of five Ringers rounds. If you missed the first one, you can still join the fun, and remember that not everyone plays all five rounds, so you are not at much of a disadvantage.

Round 2 is always where the most dramatic movements in scores occur, as players clean up many of their messes from the opener.

We sit at 47 entrants as of today. Let's push it over 50! There are 9 spots open for the actual event. This one is an 8:30 shotgun start.



The short, risk-reward par-4 8th. You probably need a birdie here if you want to win Ringers.

Important Announcement Regarding Handicaps

Effective January 1, 2020, SGL will be joining the new [World Handicap System](#). This will require all members to join this system through the AGA and will affect league dues. For more detail, please visit [our website](#), where Dave has posted an announcement on the homepage.

Don't wait until the last minute to make this change. You can earn up to \$20 in membership rebates if done before 1/1/20. You may complete your signup [on this page at the AGA website](#).

What's Different About the New World Handicap System

While much of the math remains the same, there are some significant differences in the new world handicap system, which will be implemented in the United States on January 1 and elsewhere around the globe as the year progresses. Here are some of the things you need to know:

- Your index will now be based on the best eight of your last twenty scores, rather than the ten that is currently used
- The maximum score on a hole for handicap purposes will now be double bogey plus any handicap strokes for the hole. Currently, the max is double bogey if your course handicap is 9 or below, 7 if course handicap is 10-19, 8 if 20-29 and 9 if 30+.
 - o Example: You are playing a par-5 and you are getting 1 stroke for handicap purposes. The maximum score for your handicap is 8, i.e., par of 5 + double bogey + 1. If you are not getting a stroke on that hole, the max is double bogey, or 7.
- Abnormal playing conditions such as extreme weather will be factored in. This will be based on all scores turned in for a course on a given day, which are compared to norms for the course. For this reason, it is important to post your scores immediately after playing.
 - o NOTE: The league will now do the posting for your score's in our events. You will still be responsible for posting rounds played outside the league.
- Your index will also become your league index, meaning you will no longer have a separate one for SGL. More details to follow in future newsletters on how this affects those who do not already have a GHIN number and index.

Handy Links:

[Saturday Golf League web site](#)

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