

# GAVIN CUP WRAP UP

## THE LAWMEN

Saturday in Geneva is labeled “Moving Day”. The only move that day was in the clubhouse as rain halted play and forced cancellation of round 2. I want to give a shout out to Emily who did a wonderful job keeping 46 frustrated golfers well lubricated. Another tip of the cap goes to the golf club designer that sold Mark Kovachy one of his revolutionary putters that stands on its own to help line putts and carries the weight of a small safe for \$125. He has since sent it to the scrap yard. As it turned out, we could have awarded the Gavin Cup right then. After Friday’s round at Madison, Pat Dorn and Craig Marshall held a 5 shot lead over Rick Jonas and Steve Miller. When Sunday’s round at Geneva finished, Pat Dorn and Craig Marshall earned the trophy easily, winning by 4 strokes over Rick Jonas and Steve Miller. Finishing third in the competition were Dagon Abdon and Jacob Davis. Yeah, but they were eight strokes behind the champions and never a serious threat.

The Marshall and the retired Homicide Detective (one carries a gun and the other, thankfully, does not) put the field on notice Friday that their game was sharp. Pat Dorn carded a 75 (best round of the day). Craig Marshall toured Madison in 89 swings, damn good for a 24 handicapper. Their message was stamped, signed, sent, then displayed on Blaise Plageman’s door Friday Night for all to read. It said by the numbers, “Come and get us you suckers.” On Sunday, with Geneva playing as tough as it has in years, Pat and Craig continued their fine showing shooting plenty well enough to keep the field at bay, reminiscent of Brian Harmon’s game at the British Open. No rope-a-dope for those lawmen, it was more like the Ali Shuffle.

Upon learning he won the Gavin Cup, I heard some disturbing comments from Craig Marshall. He expressed reluctance about returning home with the trophy. He mumbled something about his wife. Wait! What? She does not want to wax and dust this magnificent masterpiece? It is an insult to Craig’s accomplishment. I cannot imagine Mrs. Chandler Stephenson reacting in such a manner when her husband brings home the Stanley Cup. I would be willing to bet

the Claret Jug is proudly displayed in the Brian Harman house. To exhibit such a negative attitude about this beautiful piece of furniture is as upsetting as spitting on the Holy Grail. The Geneva Open expects a heartfelt apology. Of course, the Handicap Committee can make it nearly impossible for Craig to win again.

Despite Mrs. Marshall's negative attitude towards the Gavin Cup, I hope it does not offend her, the name Craig Marshall will be forever engraved on the trophy. It is his second time winning and he personally is honored. He won in 2021. For Pat Dorn, he is a third time champion. Pat first captured the Cup in 2004 and again in 2009. Winning the Gavin Cup is no easy achievement. Before the first tee shot at Madison was hit, Nick Bogges emphasized to me that his personal goal was to win the Gavin Cup. All the Best Balls, Scrambles, and Skins Nick won over the years, the Gavin Cup has eluded him. I tried to comfort him by pointing out that some of the biggest names in sports have been shut out of their most wanted prizes. Arnold Palmer never won the PGA thus never claiming a career Grand Slam. Rory's pursuit needs an elusive Master's victory. Hell, Dan Marino never won a Super Bowl and Charles Barkley has no NBA championship ring. Not the case for Pat Dorn and Craig Marshall who can brag they are multiple Gavin Cup champions. Show off your trophy proudly.