

BEST BALL WRAP 2022

PLAYING IT BACK

As each group puttied out on the 18th green, it became more obvious no team would reach the magic number of 16 under par. That score was posted early by the Ben Lloyd-Nick Boggess-Matt Mazzocco-Ron Szymczak team. If that squad sounds familiar, they were co-champions in the BEST BALL TOURNAMENT in 2021. So dominating was their game they finished four strokes clear of the closest competitor. The huge margin of victory creates a goliath challenge to make this recap entertainingly informative. I will attempt to keep your attention other ways.

“No matter how often I tell people I’m thirty-nine some of them refuse to believe I’m that old.”

Finishing in 2nd place posting a minus 12 score was the good buddy foursome of Mark Spangler-Don Jander-Mini-Legend Jack Berger-and Jay Green. I would like to think I had a hand in their team performance. Before the match, Don and I snuck to Lumpy’s place and were blessed with an expertly concocted Bloody Mary from mixologist and Legend Fritz Ford. This put Jander in the right frame of mind as he played the outward side in only 37 shots despite his quadruple bogey on No.4. By the time they reached the 9th hole Don’s hot hand spread throughout the team like venereal disease after a weekend visit to a House of Ill Repute. Jay parred 9 catching a stroke. This generated a charge through the group and Jack and Mark began flexing their golf skills grinding hard until the climax. Their 12 under finish would win many BEST BALL TOURNAMENTS in year’s past.

“I was going to buy my wife a Rolls Royce for Christmas, but it took too long to deliver so I bought her some handkerchiefs.”

Two teams finished third registering 11 under scores. One of those teams was the Classic Rock Boys consisting of Doobie Brother Rick Jonas and Steve Miller. Mark Johnson and Legend Gary Glanzman rounded out the quartet and together they produced an enlightening jam session. Playing lead was Rick Jonas who strummed his twelve string to the day’s best, a score of 70. His card read

eagle, birdie, birdie on three of the par 5's. Legend Gary Glanzman Listened to the Music and came away impressed with Rick's game. Also finishing with a 61 was the Over the Hill Gang. The age of this foursome totaled 286 years. The team consisted of Mini-Legend Jerry Graves-Legend Frank Alexander-Dick Plageman-and Bob Rutherford. This group enjoys Classic Rock but also bounces to the tunes of Benny Goodman. I'm willing to bet some millennials in the field never heard of Benny Goodman. Of all the music played on the Geneva golf course over the weekend this was the only one listening to Dean Martin. When was the last time you heard "Everybody Loves Somebody" on a golf course?

"I went to a meeting for premature ejaculators. I left early."

The day belonged to the defending champions, especially Ron Szymczak. His 71 lead the way for his BEST BALL team and was instrumental in nabbing this year's GAVIN CUP. (Subsequent article is coming.) Three years ago, there was a Super Team feared of becoming a dynasty. To most everyone's surprise, they failed to defend their championship. Is there a dynasty developing with this foursome? We will know next year if they threepeat. About the only thing that went wrong for Ben Lloyd-Nick Boggess-Matt Mazzocco-and Ron Szymczak was their championship caps had not arrived in time to proudly sport them in Geneva. They have since been distributed and I expect them to audaciously display their accomplishments.

Quotes for this article are courtesy of Jack Benny.