



## MTA Transit Golf Club League Play by GEORGE PEREZ

### Transit Golf Club's October Championship Tournament

(Dec. 5, 2002) The Champions Tournament at Camarillo Springs Golf Course was the last obstacle for the Transit Golf Club 2002 top tournament players.

This was not just another tournament for the Club's top three point winners in each flite. A victory this day would earn the title of Club Champion. The challenge would be against the golf course, and against the other top players in each flite that would be bringing out all the skills gathered during the year.

Of course, the rest of the field was ready to challenge the top three positions in a defiant way saying, "This is what will happen next year."

### The First Tee Shot

Our first group was off the tee and the tournament was on. I made it a point to group the top players in each flite together. In this way each player knew exactly where he or she stood and what the others were doing.

When a shot was made, good or bad, the pressure mounted instantly. I was paired with the top three "A" players, which included Robert "Chi-Chi" Ramirez, MTA's Steve Mullaly and Michael Piotrowski.

Steve began the round like a "Pro" by getting birdies on the first two holes. This put the other two on the defensive. I could not help the joy I felt as I saw these three guys going at each other.

We finished the front nine and only Chi-Chi was close to Big Steve as Michael had a few bad holes that put him and the season in the third-place seat.

The "B" flite players in contention were, Anthony Rogers, Frank Cole, and Abdul Zohbi. I was not with these players but Mark Beauchamp advised me that the "B" Flite championship play was first class and very competitive. Anthony Rogers set the standard by shooting a blazing "38" in the front nine which nearly locked in a first place finish, unless Anthony fell apart or was somehow struck by lightning.

The "C" flite also had its high caliber of players competing for that honor of finishing in first place. The top three in "C" flite included Lorenzo Lopez, Corval Sattler and David Guyer. Jill Jourden had previously qualified for the "C" Flite championship but, unfortunately, had to withdraw and could not compete in this last and most important tournament. Nevertheless, Jill established the fact that she is a worthy competitor and we will all be on the look-out for her next year.

## **The End Results**

The "A" flite Champion was MTA's own and always-ready-to-play Steve Mullaly, ending his golf round with a three-stroke lead. Second place went to "Chi-Chi" Ramirez, one of our LA County Sheriff's deputies, and third place went to Michael Piotrowski.

The "B" Flite was particularly tough this year with many players improving and going low during the year.

Anthony Rogers, by playing defensively on the back nine, held off the competition, and settled the "B" flite championship with a victory. Anthony took charge from the beginning, but ran into trouble on a couple of holes as often happens playing defense. Frank Cole finished a very respectable second place, and Abdul Zohbi did his best to land in third place.

David Guyer was the "C" flite Champion. David was a very steady player this year and his victory proved how determined he was to improve.

Lorenzo Lopez, made a statement this year as one of our most-improved golfers. As a new golfer, Lorenzo invested much time practicing and improving his all-round game. Corval Sattler, a long-time and valued club member, took third place and also showed big improvements in his game.

As usual, the Transit Golf Club selects a member who represents our best player, taking into consideration handicap and low gross scores.

At the end of the year, when the smoke had cleared, the club championship was a duel between last year's champion, Julio Palomo, and previous champion, Alan "Chick" Epstein. The results were that "Chick" was on his "A" game finishing the season with a round of 78. When the scores for the lowest seven rounds were averaged, "Chick" had the lowest scoring average, clearly the best player for 2002.

Camarillo was in great condition for this first annual championship round and we enjoyed every shot.

## **The Rewards**

Our Club Champion and the Flite first-place winners will represent Transit Golf in the annual Public Links Golf Association (PLGA) "Champion of Champions" tournament in December. Our winners will compete against other champions and flite winners from other golf clubs. We wish our players the best rounds ever. Come home with trophies!

The Transit Golf Club motto is, "Everyone's a Winner in Transit Golf," so until we start next year's competition, keep 'em in the "Short Grass."

To obtain a 2003 TGC Application, contact Steve Mullaly at (213) 922-5159.

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