

## MGA TOURNAMENT NEWS

The 2010 Summer Fling, a stroke play event was held on May 23. Those placing are shown in the table below.

Handicap Flight A	Gross	Net
First Place	Derek Ellis	Ernie Anderson
Second Place (Tie)	Steve Hultquist	Doug Wade
	Steve Pennington	
Handicap Flight B		
First Place	Shawn Martin	Greg Sicka
Second Place (Tie)	Dave Poczynek	Tom Chavez
Senior Flight		Marvin Loyd
First Place	Fred Janzen	Jerry Mabry
Second Place (Tie)	Larry Boyer	James Howard
		Mike Minyard

## MGA NEWS & VIEWS

By Jim Chittenden

I mentioned last month that the Forest Ridge Men's Golf Association follows the USGA's "The Rules of Golf". The rules regarding handicaps for those competing in a match while playing from different tees is, perhaps, the most controversial, least understood and most reviled (by Seniors, anyway) of all.

According to Section 3.5 of the rules, if two competitors are playing from different tees, say one on the Blue tees and the other on the White tees, the player on the Blue tees has the difference in the Course Rating between the two tees added to his handicap. At Forest Ridge this is three strokes. Oh, the wailing, the gnashing of teeth!

In order to understand the background of this decision, we need to explain how the Course Rating and the Handicap are related. The Course Rating is what a Scratch Golfer would score from that tee, and the Handicap is what allowance is necessary to allow an amateur to score **to that level**. At Forest Ridge the Blue tees have a Course Rating of 71.6 and the White tees have a Course Rating of 68.3. The two sets, then, have a difference in Course Rating of three strokes.

Now, let's assume that both players have a Handicap Index of 10.8. Player A, playing from the Blue tees, will have a handicap of 12. Player B, playing from the white tees, will also have a handicap of 12. If both players play exactly to their handicap, Player A will have a final score of 12 + 71, or a **Gross Score** of 83. Player B will have a final score of 12 + 68, with a **Gross Score** of 80. Giving Player A his three strokes, his **Net Score** becomes  $83 - (12 + 3) = 68$ . Player B's **Net Score** is  $80 - 12 = 68$ . Without this allowance, Player A would have to play **three strokes** better than his handicap to tie Player B!

It may not make the medicine taste any better, but at least this should help Player B understand why he has to give an additional three strokes to the guy playing from the Blue tees. If Player B really, really does not want to give up those three strokes, he can elect to play from the Blue tees and use his Blue tee handicap.