

Hello golfers and friends,

June 2013

Thanks to David Meador for the following report regarding the Guiding Eyes Classic in Mt. Kisco, New York held on June 9 and 10, 2013. Congratulations to one and all.

Mario Makes Strong Finish to Win Blind Golf Masters

Mario Tobia, a former discus thrower athlete in high school and college, flew by the field in a strong finish at this year's Guiding Eyes Corcoran Cup, the Masters of Blind Golf. Mario and his coach, son Matthew, 28, closed out the competition with an incredibly strong bogie, bogie and par on their last three holes played at Mount Kisco CC, Mount Kisco, New York.

"We got off to a rugged start, scoring only 12 stableford points on the front nine, which pretty much put us out of the running for a win. But I found my swing and began hitting fairways on the back nine." said Mario in a recap ten days after tournament play.

This was the 36th consecutive year in which Guiding Eyes for the Blind brings in the top ranked 14 USBGA totally blind golfers and their coaches to play the Corcoran Cup, typically played on the second Sunday in June. Golfers and their coaches then stay over for the Guiding Eyes Monday golf fundraiser and Monday evening banquet. The Guiding Eyes Monday event is one of their largest annual fundraisers, a corporate golf "scramble" that fills not just one golf course but two. The first is Mount Kisco CC in Mount Kisco, NY. The other is Fairview Country Club just across the state line in nearby Connecticut.

According to Guiding Eyes president Bill Badger, "It takes approximately \$45,000 to breed, raise, train and match one guide to a blind or visually impaired handler. The funds raised through the Guiding Eyes Golf Classic are hugely important to the school and the USBGA is an essential partner in making this happen. By playing golf with corporate sponsors and interacting with our dinner guests, the USBGA helps to keep our mission in the forefront throughout the event."

David Meador and coach Everett Davis were winners of the Cribari Trophy, awarded to the competitor with the second highest number of points. Jim Baker and coach Kyle Seeley took home the McFarland Trophy for most exceeding their point target based on their USGA handicap. Ron Derry and Coach Brian Larson won the Spoonster Award as the team showing the most improvement from the previous year.

Obviously, the USBGA is itself a winner for long helping such a great cause. Congratulations one and all!

Now for a reminder regarding another tournament coming up in September. The Kentucky Blue Grass Tournament is scheduled for September 16-19, in Lexington, KY. The information letter and application form should be coming out in the near future.

Some of you may be wondering about the Bylaw changes and Logo change that were discussed in a previous e-mail newsletter. The mailing of these changes has been delayed to make sure that the changes are in the best interest of the USBGA. Also, progress is being made on adjustments to the logo to make sure that it is the best image of the USBGA we can come up with.

Hope you are all having a great summer with lots of golf. Keep swinging.

Joan Dietz
Communication Chairperson

Phone: 440-238-5591

E-mail: wjdietz99@gmail.com