Bay Area Golf Group



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tournament | Tour Championship | Course | Villages  |
| Date | November 10, 2019 | **Designation** | Individual |

**Summary:**

Please join us in congratulating Kamran Khan as the winner of the Tour Championship. It turned out to be a perfect day for golf and as has been the case in this year’s tournaments it came down to the last hole.

Villages golf course always provides an interesting challenge for BAGG members. Given that it is a private course, none of the BAGGsters have a deep level of familiarity with the course. Everyone has to dig deep in their memory banks to remember how the course plays. Greens that look innocuous always provide the toughest challenge. This is evident from the final score where only 22% of the field was able to score better than their handicaps.

Kamran, affectionately known as KK, has been the walking wounded over the last couple of years. Battling injuries to the elbow, knees, wrist and god know where else! There is a brace holding him together on the course. He has won awards and team tournaments but never a major. Can he do it now with aches and pains? There were whispers in the dark alleys and corners that the reign of the King is over.

Past couple of tournaments have removed all doubts. He won the difficult doubles tournament playing the senior role and came to the Tour Championship in high spirits. Kamran started the tournament with a massive drive that went the grand distance of 50-75 yards, and approach to green blocked by tall trees. Instead of panicking, he calmly proceeded to lay up, and after an excellent pitch and sinking a fairly long putt, he had managed to save his par.

He didn't go through the same stress in the front-9 as he started hitting long drives with his 3-wood. Accompanied with impressive iron play and an immaculate short game, he proceeded to score 37 in the front-9. He continued the torrid pace in the back-9 as well, missing a hole-in-one on hole #11 by a few inches. However, adversity struck again soon after that. He pull-hooked his tee-off and it went OB. He hit a provisional and eventually got a double bogey on that hole. On the 15th hole, he needed a Houdini act again. He again pulled his tee off to the left and was extremely fortunate to not be OB, but he had no shot at the green. He exhibited excellent course management once again, with a great lay-up and got a bogey on that hole.

He was informed with four or five holes to go that he was tied with Ahmer with a net score of -4. He switched to his driver on holes 16 and 18 and hit massive drives to set up his victory. Overall an excellent display of course management, playing defensively and being aggressive at just the right moments. He closed the tournament out with a par on the last hole. Just like Phil and Sergio, it took a while, but Kamran Khan is now a BAGG Major Champion.

Ahmer’s game was on for 17-holes, extremely long drives, mostly GIRs, and great putting. 2 gross birdies and 6 pars, rest bogeys. Well played Ahmer! His game kicks into another gear during the tournaments.

**Story of the last hole:**

Ahmer had a stroke on the last hole. He needed a gross birdie to win the tournament outright or a par to win the tie-breaker. There was a gallery of BAGGsters watching the drama keenly including the club house leader Kamran. Here is how it unfolded:

1. Cool as a cucumber. Good tee-off which landed 100 yards from the green but in the left rough.
2. Nerves building. Needing to land on the green, played a grounder which stopped short of the green before the ditch.
3. More Nerves. Needing to land close to the pin, flew the green to the fringe in the thicker grass above the hole.
4. Nerves have now taken complete hold. Used the putter to get the ball closer to the hole, but couldn’t get it on the green.
5. When will this misery end? Good putt that just stopped at the lip
6. Finally it is over! Recorded the only double bogey of the round

**Honorable mention:**

* Hassan Firzok – Lowest gross score (75); 1 eagle! 5 bogeys and rest pars. Tied for 3rd place.
* Khurram Ismail – Most birdies (3) of the round; this is his first year in BAGG. He will be a force to reckon with in BAGG. Tied for the 3rd place. Gross score of 80.

**Official Tournament Results:**



CTP Winner: Kamran Khan (Hole 4 & Hole 11)

**BC’19’s assessment:**

**Positives:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The Hero | Raheel Merchant continues to do the hard work of getting us the best deals possible. He also encourages BAGG members to participate in the tournament publicly and privately. He buys all the goodies for golfers to enjoy. Thank you Raheel for all the effort! |
| Cost | Villages gave a good deal for a private course |
| Weather | Turned out to be very enjoyable for golf with a perfect California weather |
| Participation – We can do better! | * 19 participants signed up for the event.
* 18 members participated in golf (Ayaz had to dropout due to stomach flu)
* 6 members could not join due to travel or family commitments

At times the good deals require a minimum player commitment and your support can only make it possible. We encourage all to block times on their calendar as it makes for a fun and competitive environment. We do understand that sometimes it is impossible to lock times in advance but please make an effort. |
| Pace of Play | We spent roughly 5 hours. Some groups did better than others. Wait for the groups was minor minus 1 isolated incident when marshal asked one of the group to catchup. |
| After game hangout | Always an area of challenge especially on a Sunday. Given that the days are shorter during the fall and winter time. I think it is possible to sneak in an hour to hang out after the game |

**Areas of Improvement:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CTP setup | We have had couple of tournaments this year where CTP markers or tape measures have been missing. We do need to smooth out this process! |