

Niners

By CATHY LOFFINK



We get a chuckle from golf-day mishaps

Since my last article, two fun events have taken place. In June was Guest Day. It truly was a success. For the first time the Niners had to start a waitlist. We got almost everyone in to play and ended up with a fabulous field of players. Bobbi Christiansen, chair, and her committee created an enjoyable atmosphere with the theme "Let's Kick Up Our Heels." That we did.

Based on Webster, a couple of the definitions of the word scramble as a noun is "an eager and unceremonious or unscrupulous struggle and a jostling and pushing for possession." Typically, in golf this would be a scramble for the ball and to obtain a good score. For one team in the July scramble this took on a whole different meaning. The morning started for this team with two cancellations so our check-in gal, Paula, scrambled to find at least a third so it could be more than a twosome. This meant each player would take turns playing a fourth ball for each hole. Doable right? With a feeling of relief when she added a third player, the team hustled to their starting hole of #3 on the green course. As they moved along, they saw no one else playing in front of them. Strange! Were they on the wrong course? Upon reaching the green on hole 5, a voice yelled a name.



Guest Day winners: Virginia Horler and Sharon Garrick with their guests.

One of the players turned around and saw her husband standing at the door of their home motioning her to come in. She told the other two to continue playing and she would be right out. She scrambled to the house and was told what was thought to be a small leak from the toilet ended up with major water damage to the floor and inside the wall. She hustled outside to catch up with the two ladies as they moved down the fairway, one of them pushing two carts. She told them to keep going, and in the interest of pace of play only play one extra ball rather than two for the now two missing players. She would catch up with them after she filed an insurance claim. At this point each of them was a bit frazzled. The remaining two tried to continue for the next few holes, at



Matching flamingo players, Cathy Raffaelli, Lynne Brown and Joanne Carvalho.

times a bit concerned they were going fast enough while trying to keep track of the balls, score and whose turn it was. When player number one called to find out where her team was, they told her they were on hole 6. Wait a minute, she said. I am standing on #6. At that point she realized she had written down the score from the beginning in the box for hole 1 rather than 3, where they started. What else can make this Scramble more challenging? Figuring it out, they met up on hole 9 where they encountered the croquet mallet with a flamingo on it, which they were supposed to use to putt. They were ready to quit, but persevered and scrambled on to complete the round. Once back at the Dining Room, the atmosphere of pink flamingos and cheerfulness overtook them,



A team of winners, Louise Heindel, Melanie Payton, Kelly Vaughan and Darlene Crosby.

and they chuckled at the mishaps of the day. Playing in a Scramble took on a whole new meaning for these three valiant Niners. Who were they you ask? Jeanette Thatcher, new Niner Marilee Carson and, yes, the author of this article.

The next Scramble will be held on Aug. 11. The sign-up book is in the Proshop or you can register online at ladiesninersgolf.com. Spots fill up quickly so be sure to register early. Then look for more information regarding our September events and the Annual Niner Performance. It will be the last one, Our Last Hurrah, so the songs will be a variety of music. Look for tickets to become available. Since it is the final show, the Niners are generously performing for free for the community.