

Meg Nunn Salver Report – Cairns 2008

Team selection was a hard task again this year with a lot of talent on hand. B&D sent out invitations to former team members, ladies who showed good results in pennants, also clubs were asked to nominate who they felt had potential.

We had three trials in which 16 ladies participated. In choosing a team good stamina was a top requisite to play in this due to tropical conditions we would encounter, and also the ability to be good match players. All the ladies who trailed had great camaraderie which is also a requirement to selecting a successful team.

Having chosen the team we had a get together for fitting of shirts and to give the players information required for the trip.

The selected team consisted of Cassandra Elsdon 4 Ipswich, Ash McCourt 5 Redcliffe, Carmen Aiple 6 Gailles, Alayne Duncan 8 Oxley, Suzie Gordon 9 Nudgee and Nicole Coogan 13 Virginia. A practice round was held 2 weeks before we left to allow the girls to get to know one another better.

The team traveled in their shirts bonding extremely well from the beginning. Upon our arrival in Cairns settling into our accommodation which was adjacent to the 3rd fairway went without a hitch. We did not have far to walk to the club house. Our practice round was Sunday afternoon and we had fine weather for that. Sunday evening there was a welcome dinner where all the teams were introduced and a basket of goodies was given out to each team.

Monday morning we awoke to drizzling rain, which continued for most of the day. The team played Central Qld in their first match and we came away with a draw, at half way 4 of our matches were up, all our players gave strokes especially the last three. Cairns Golf Club had an unusual match index with the 6th hole being no. 2 and then on the back nine the 10th was no. 3, the 12th no. 4 and the 13th no. 1, this seemed to allow the longer markers back into the game. It was also a course which you could at times get away with a wayward shot.

In the afternoon match against D. & S.W. we could only win one and a half matches, but 2 of the other matches went down to the last hole, it was so close, our no.4 & 5 players gave away 3 & 4 strokes respectively.

Tuesday morning the rains were heavier, not only were we contending with the rain but the sand flies were at a premium, they enjoyed the repellent we put on and managed to sneak into our clothing.

The morning match we played W.B.B. and went down 3/2, once again one match was lost 1 down and the other 2/1, the matter of sinking a putt. Cassandra didn't have to worry about putting on the 113 metre par 3 8th hole as she holed in one, congratulations Cassandra. Carmen was lucky not to have a hole claimed by her opponent as her B&D caddie did not have her mobile phone turned off and it rang during the play of a hole.

The afternoon round against Nth Qld was played in the heaviest rain of the day but we managed to come out the victors 3/2. The matches we lost both went to the last hole.

Tuesday evening we got together with Nth Qld for a B.B.Q which was kindly paid for by Ruth Common we thank her for her generosity, a great time was had by all.

Wednesday was a lay day to allow the Cairns members to play their usual mid-week competition, and the rain still persisted. This lay-day gave the girls a chance to get their equipment to dry out, and a trip to the movies was a good way to spend a wet afternoon.

Thursday morning still gloomy skies and rain, it was great to have a bye in the morning, we were hopeful the rain would ease.

That afternoon we played Far North Qld but unfortunately showers still persisted. Alayne Duncan 2up with 3 to play had the 16th hole claimed by her opposition for picking up her ball when her opposition claimed she had not given her the putt, all through the match the opponent had said to Alayne that's good enough when the ball was near the hole and Alayne would pick up her ball but on this occasion the opponent said she had only said good putt, The opposition stating that this game was to important to her team, as we had already won 2 matches 6/5 5/4 and another match was square going up the last hole, the F.N.Q girl then birdied the next hole which Alayne pared, Alayne still managing to keep her game together pared the last hole to square the match. We did file a protest over the incident but to no avail. Having squared the game with us this gave F.N.Q an unbeatable lead so Friday's matches were about the minor placing in the competitions. F.N.Q. had selected 4 of their players from Cairns Golf Course which must be an added advantage. On the brighter side of that match Carmen eagled the 352 metre par 4 fourth hole, a drive and a 4 iron into the hole, she went on to win 6/5.

Friday morning we were amazed no rain, we played Gold Coast and went on to win 3/2, the sun came out to make it very steamy and hot but it was nice only to need an umbrella for the sun.

I was very proud of our team as they acquitted themselves in a very sportsmanship manner.

Also I would like to thank two of our B&D committee Margaret Bennett & Margaret Bailey who took some time out of their holiday to caddie on 2 occasion for us, as Far Nth Qld had problems supplying caddies and we thank those who did caddie as the conditions were not good.

FINAL SCORES WERE

FNQ 27pts

C.Q. 24pts

D. & S.W. 23 1/2 pts

B&D. 20 1/2pts

W.B.B. 19pts

Gold Coast 17pts

Nth Qld 16pts (the wooden spooners)

Phyllis Fourte (Captain non-playing)