



ACES

Blind players make aces in record fashion

» After making a hole-in-one during the first round of the Bluegrass Kentucky Regional blind golf tournament Sept. 16, Kevin Edwards approached a fellow competitor. “I joined your club today,” he told Brian MacLeod, who couldn’t help thinking an epidemic was afoot.

With his ace Edwards capped a week in which fellow blind players Ty Thompson, Ron Plath and MacLeod scored holes-in-one on successive days in different states. Thompson, 51, canned a 9-iron on the 144-yard fourth hole at Peninsula Golf Resort in Lancaster, Ky., Sept. 10, while Plath, 61, sank a 50-degree wedge on the 85-yard 14th hole at Stone Creek GC in Oregon City, Ore., Sept. 11. MacLeod, 53, jarred a 5-iron on the 150-yard eighth hole on the West Course at Bull Creek GC in Midland, Ga., Sept. 12, while Edwards, 50, holed a 6-hybrid on the 154-yard eighth hole at GC of the Bluegrass in Nicholasville, Ky. All four golfers received help from a coach in lining up their magic strokes.

The U.S. Blind Golf Association classifies Thompson, Plath and

Edwards as B-2 competitors—those with corrected visual acuity that’s worse than 20/600, with the standard for legal blindness being 20/200 or worse. MacLeod, a Canadian, is one of the world’s top totally blind players, having won 2011 national titles in the United States, Canada and Italy. Although the USBGA does not keep official hole-in-one records, past presidents David Meador and Sheila Drummond counted only 10 aces among members in the last four decades, underscoring the recent flurry’s rarity. —Mike Cullity

MISCELLANY

Just in ...

» The European Tour has canceled the Andalucia Masters, scheduled for Oct. 18-21 at Valderrama GC in Sotogrande, Spain. It’s the fourth Spanish event the tour has been forced to cancel this year because of the failing economy in the country. Previously the Madrid Open, the Castellon Masters and Iberdrola Open were taken off the schedule. ... After one more year at the Castle Stuart Links course in Inverness, the Scottish Open will move to Royal Aberdeen GC in 2014.

THE HARDEST WORKING HYBRIDS



ARE THE #1 HYBRIDS ON THE PGA TOUR



...AGAIN.



Claim based on Darrell Survey PGA Tour equipment counts for 2008, 2009, 2010 & 2011.