

North Halton rolls out welcome mat for men's amateur

A thunderstorm and heavy rain made for an hours-long delay during the opening round of the Golf Association of Ontario's Men's Amateur Championship tournament Tuesday at The Club at North Halton, but about half the field was able to get in all 18 holes.

Home-course advantage certainly was at play as two North Halton members a within striking distance of the lead. Adam Salisbury and Gray Potter carded one-over-par 72s to end up in a tie for 16th heading into round two on Wednesday.

North Halton's David Kotsos shot an opening-round 73 and his brother Mike was at +3. Thomas Hunt shot a 76 while Jeff Beedham had a seven-over-par 78. Defending champion Stephane Dubois of Brantford and Caledon's Ryan Borg were tied for the lead after round one after 68s.

The 72-hole event has drawn many of the top amateur golfers in the province and six North Halton members are in the field of about 160. Play was halted for much of the afternoon due to the weather, then resumed at 6 p.m.

Bill Swartz, a North Halton member who won the provincial title in 1982, was forced to withdraw Tuesday morning due to an ankle injury. The 52-year-old was excited about his chances of a victory on his home course Monday prior to receiving the GAO's Wall of Recognition Award, but a hobbling Swartz declared that walking the course would be just too difficult.

Former NHLer Marc Savard, who has played in several GAO provincial championships, also had to withdraw.



Adam Salisbury of the host Club at North Halton course explains to caddie Zack Henderson how his lengthy birdie putt on the par-3 18th hole just lipped out during the opening round of the Golf Association of Ontario's Men's Amateur Championship Tuesday morning. Salisbury shot a one-over-par 72 to briefly sit in a tie for first, slipping to a tie for 16th with about 20 other golfers heading into his late afternoon tee time Wednesday for round two. Photo by Eamonn Maher



The Club at North Halton member Bill Swartz (left) was presented with a coveted Migizi Eagle sculpture as a recipient of the Golf Association of Ontario's Wall of Recognition award by GAO president Jim King on Monday evening just prior to the Champions' Dinner to get the Men's Amateur Championship under way. Swartz, who won the Ontario men's amateur title in 1982, was looking forward to a strong showing at his home course this week before an ankle injury forced him to withdraw. Photo by Eamonn Maher

Peewee Eagles soar

The Georgetown peewee Tier I Eagles allowed just six runs through five games, including three shutouts, on their way to winning the recent Bolton Minor Baseball Tournament. Starting off with a 10-5 victory over host Bolton, the Eagles went on to defeat Royal York 4-0, North Toronto 10-1, Royal York 7-0 in the semi-finals and Vaughan 9-0 to claim the championship. Team members (front, from left) are: Nick Jones, Connor McLeod. Second row: Jack Ferguson, Kyle Gough, Campbell Ellis, Jake Yeigh, Kyle Roach. Back row: Coaches Bill Yeigh, Greg Ferguson, Kurt Snell, coach Mark Kinal, Josh Priebe, Stephen Kinal, Owen MacNeil, Andrew Jawdek and coach Paul Roach.

Submitted photo



Nurse back in Canuck boat

Georgetown's Cristy Nurse will be in the Canadian women's 8s boat that will try to dethrone the reigning Olympic champions from the U.S. at the World Cup III rowing championships this weekend in Lucerne, Switzerland.

The 27-year-old Nurse figures to be in the Canuck boat's second seat to try to avoid aggravating a hip/back ailment that kept her as an alternate in Canada's silver medal effort at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, England.

The U.S. recently edged out the Canadians by just over a second at the World Cup III race in France. Nurse will return home for a few weeks and serve as the maid of honour at her sister's wedding before leaving for Italy to train for the World Rowing Championships in Amsterdam Aug. 23-31.

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