

Naton - Smith Victorious in Inaugural Event of the SDGA 2009 Season

Mike Naton and David Smith took home the 36 hole better ball championship, the inaugural event of the 2009 Syracuse District Golf Association (SDGA) season, in a sudden death playoff over Jim Roy and son Kyle Roy.

It was a tale of two days weather-wise for the two day tournament. Friday was a perfect sunny 75 degree day with very little wind. Saturday was brutal day with heavy winds, rain (over 2 hours of rain delays) combined with final day challenging pin positions.

Following the second rain delay, the team of Jim Roy and Kyle Roy birdied the 18th hole to put them in a playoff with Naton & Smith. The sudden death playoff began at the first hole. Jim Roy and Mike Naton both found themselves close to the pin for birdie with 15 and 6 feet respectively. Naton's partner Dave Smith putted up for a tap in par. Jim Roy followed with his birdie attempt that slid just past the hole and he tapped in for his par. This left Mike Naton with a free run at birdie from 6 feet to win the championship. There was never a doubt on the putt that as Naton split the cup with his putt for the win. Naton capitalized on an opportunity that few district golfers have had over the years, as Naton stated "It's rare when you have a chance at a putt to beat Jim Roy".