Ottoville Has Fun and Wins 2009 PCL Golf Tournament

Putnam County Sentinel – Charlie Warnimont, Sports Editor

KALIDA – On the way to the Putnam County League golf tournament Monday Ottoville coach James Brown talked to his players about having some fun on the course.

The request was made to help the golfers forget about the 30-40 MPH winds they were due to face when they arrived at Country Acres Golf Course for the 2009 PCL tournament. His advice was helpful to his team as the Big Green were able to repeat as league champions.

Ottoville had four golfers shoot in the 80's Monday as the Big Green won the PCL championship with a 333. Kalida was second with a 361 followed by Columbus Grove at 370, Fort Jennings at 389, Leipsic at 392 and Miller City at 397.

Brown's request came as golfers faced their first adverse weather conditions of the season with a high wind warning posted for the county along with overcast skies and cooler than average temperatures.

"Before we came over here, I told them if you just go out there and have fun it will take the pressure off the wind blowing and things like that," Brown said. "I think it helped out with a few of the golfers. But they grinded it out and that's a good thing to see. I was talking with someone, I don't even know if we practiced in this rough of weather all summer. We didn't have a match cancelled all season because of bad weather, it has been gorgeous. Then we come out here and its 30-40 MPH winds."

The key to Ottoville repeating as league champions was their depth. The Big Green has seen all five golfers take turns shooting low scores this season and Monday was no different. Number one golfer Jordan Schimmoeller came in at 85 and Kyle Karhoff, number two, checked in with an 84. The Big Green's depth showed as number five-man Zach Weber led the way with an 81 and number four-man Chris Rieger coming in with an 83 after he shot a 45 on the back nine, his first nine holes of the tournament. "We really have a deep team," Brown said. "We have five guys that can post pretty good numbers, Eric Ricker did not play his best today, but he didn't need to as the other four guys chipped in. I was proud of the kids for doing that."

With their low scores four Ottoville golfers were named to the PCL first team in Weber, Rieger, Karhoff and Schimmoeller. They were joined on the first team by Columbus Grove's Matt Jennell (83) and Kalida's Tyler Verhoff (85).

The PCL second team consisted of Kalida's Kyle Hoffman (86), Leipsic's Spencer Selhorst (88) Nathan Maag (90), Grove's Clay Bryan (90) and Fort Jennings' Zach Schuerman (91).

SCORES

OTTOVILLE 333 – Zach Weber 81, Chris Rieger 83, Kyle Karhoff 84, Jordan Schimmoeller 85 and Eric Ricker 98.

KALIDA 361 – Tyler Verhoff 85, Kyle Hoffman 86, Neil Recker 93, Cody Mathew 97 and Alex Vorst 105.

COLUMBUS GROVE 370 – Matt Jennell 83, Clay Bryan 90, Bret Schroeder 96, Taylor Giesige 101 and Matt Silver 103.

FORT JENNINGS 389 – Zach Schuerman 91, Kurt Warnecke 93, Cody Warnecke 97, Tyler Dray 108 and Adam Mesker DQ.

LEIPSIC 392 – Spencer Selhorst 88, Nathan Maag 90, Miles Gibson 104, Drew Steffan 110 and Troy Niese 112.

MILLER CITY 397 – Kevin Kaufman 96, Derek Kaufman 99, Tim Inkrott 100, Derek Griggs 102 and David Rippetoe 116.