

Sketch of a West Pointer – Ed Bobinski

Ed Bobinski is the longest serving Regular member of the WPGC with 23 years, sitting third behind lifetime members Roy Moulton and Dave Fairweather. Ed started to play golf at age 14, when he was a summertime junior caddy at the golf course near his home in Montreal. His handicap has been as low as 13, and is currently 19. Ed turns 80 during the first week of October 2012 and came close to shooting his age in 2010. He is the proud holder of a hole-in-one award, achieving this special feat on the current second hole at Langara, 147 yards, plus the flag at the back.

Ed was born October 3, 1932 in Montreal and has lived in Kingston, Ontario (Royal Military College); Korea; Montreal (McGill); Victoria; Germany; Ottawa; London, England; Manila, Philippines; Vienna, Austria; Dallas; Jedda, Saudi Arabia, before finally settling in Vancouver. (*note: another member who has been around the world!*) Ed began work as a regular force army infantry officer in the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (Captain) and later served 27 years in Canada's Foreign Service, mainly as a Trade Commissioner abroad in a number of foreign posts and later as Canadian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, North and South Yemen, Somalia and the Philippines.

Ed and his wife, Norma, have two sons and a daughter. His idea of a great vacation is visiting cities in Europe and Mexico. Two of Ed's memorable occasions in golf are his hole-in-one and battling Wayne Ferrey in a match play 33-hole playoff over two days to win the Club Championship in 2002. He remembers being 2-up going to 17 on the first day and is glad that Wayne had his turn at victory a few years later. While assisting Len Brown, Ed conceived the idea of the "Pot of Gold" side event at the Putting Jamboree, to keep the waiting flights active and amused while another flight was putting; he had also introduced this concept to the Men's Mid-Week Club at University Golf Course. His favourite courses are McCleery, because of the variety of trees and friendliness of the staff, and the Manila Golf Club, where he enjoyed four fantastic years of early-riser golf and monthly dinners with 44 Filipino early-riser golfers and their spouses.

When asked to provide favourite golf stories, Ed declined to comment for this sketch, but he does have many to share. Golfers that he most admires are Tom Watson, Lee Trevino and Chi-Chi Rodriguez.

Ed has been a valuable member of West Point since 1989 and served as Vice Captain twice, in 1994 and 2004.

*Prepared by Lorne Lindsay
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