

Aiton Claims 2020 Title in First Attempt

Perseverance is sometimes the name of the game in golf. And, it was perseverance that enabled Mark Aiton to claim the 2020 D-PATRICK FORD/LINCOLN Senior City Golf Championship in his first appearance.

After building a 3-shot lead through three holes on Sunday at Fendrich, Mark faltered a bit as his pursuers gained ground and he fell into 4th place, 3 back, after #13. But disaster struck his three main challengers on #14 and #15. His perseverance over the last five holes, playing them 2 under par, yielded victory. “I am still in disbelief”, he said on Tuesday. “I did not know when I finished where I stood. There were plenty of good players that could shoot 3-4 under par ahead of me and I didn’t know I had won until they posted my score.”

It seems the legacy of the great golfing families of Evansville Municipal golf just keeps rolling along. The Aiton family has mixed it up on the fairways with the Schreiber’s and Brinker’s and others for decades. This week it was an Aiton that persevered. Mark had caddied for his son Kyle in the City tournament a few weeks ago, but this week it was Kyle on the bag. “Winning the Senior City with my son as my caddie is so special. I had no expectation when I entered that I would win. It is such an honor to compete against such a strong field of guys I have played against for years and win”.

Heading to the back nine on Sunday, 4-time champion Robin Rubrecht (-3) had overtaken Aiton (-2) with a birdie on #9. Dave Bates was also at -2 while John Kaposta and Ron Nelson were lurking at -1. Then the old saying that “the tournament doesn’t start till the back nine on Sunday” played out once again.

Kaposta birdied #11 to pull within one but then Rubrecht birdied #12 for a 2-shot lead over Bates and Kaposta and 3 over Aiton who had bogied #11. Then an errant shot by Robin lead to a double bogey on #14 while Bates, Kaposta and Aiton all birdied. Dave and John were then tied for the lead at -3 going to #15 with Robin and Mark one back. Then the sky fell for Bates and Kaposta as both double-bogied #15 and neither could find a birdie on the way in. Ron Nelson eagled #17 to get to -1 and get back in the picture but did not birdie the last hole.

Pivotal to his title run was a 20-foot uphill putt for a par save on 16. “Putting was the key this weekend”, Mark said. “I didn’t drive it nearly as well as I have been

all summer. I only hit 3-4 fairways each day but I made a lot of 5-10 footers to salvage pars”.

There were no birdies by any of the challengers until #18. Rubrecht and Aiton were tied at -2 and after Robin’s short-range birdie attempt curled off to the right, Mark coolly sank a 6-footer to capture the Jerry Schreiber Cup.

The Frances Fleming Flight (50-54) was won by Ron Nelson with a pair of 70’s for a 140 total at -1 for the tournament. Ron eagled #17 to win by 2 over Dave Turpin who had rounds of 72-70- 142 (+1). Dirk Brinker finished third at 144.

The two best rounds of the day were played by Scott Hastings at 66 and the Defending Champion Troy Schreiber at 67 in the Billie Martin (55-59) flight. Both players scorched the back nine with 32 and 31, respectively, to end in a tie at 140, 1-under par for the two days. Brian Schmidt shot 72-72-144 for third place.

In the Bob Hamilton Flight (60-64) John Kaposta (71-73-144), after making a strong bid for the overall title, hung on to win the flight by a shot over former Champion Greg Glisson and perennial contender George Nord. Robert Prevo shot a 1-under 69 for fourth place and was one of only six players to break par for the day.

Coming up just short of capturing his fifth overall title, Robin Rubrecht, with one-under par rounds of 70-69 for a 139 (-2) total, won the Richie Moore Flight (65-69). Britt Reddington came in second at 144 and Neal Boughton was third at 147.

Although Dave Bates let the elusive Blue Jacket slip from his grasp for the fourth time on number #15 on Sunday, he managed two solid rounds of 71-69 for 140 (-1) and a win in the Ed Wolf Flight (70-74), shooting his age both days. Joe Hahn and Steve Zehr, who also shot his age on Sunday, tied for second at 151.

The Don Partridge Flight (75+) was won by Don Shull, again, shooting 79-71-150 and eking out the win by a shot over Steve Schroer (78-73-151) who shot his age on Sunday. Shooting their age both days were Shull, Bob VanBritson, Reid Schnell, Larry Swallows and Frank Harrington.



2020

**D-PATRICK FORD/LINCOLN Senior City Golf Championship
Final Results**

		<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Gift Certificate</u>	
		<u>Score</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
					<u>Helfrich</u>	<u>Fendrich</u>
<u>Overall Champion</u>						
Mark	Aiton	69	69	138	\$	500
<u>Frances Fleming Flight 50-54</u>						
1	Ron Nelson	70	70	140	\$	300
2	Dave Turpin	72	70	142	\$	225
3	Dirk Brinker	72	72	144	\$	175
4	Brent Porter	72	74	146	\$	125
5	Scott Alpers	71	77	148		\$ 100
6	Jeff Ralston	75	74	149		
7	Lion Hurt	79	71	150		
8	Steve Katterhenry	77	76	153		
9	Mark Wallace	78	79	157		
	Jim Elkin	81	76	157		
11	Roger Gain	84	79	163		
12	Rodney Guthrie	83	83	166		
13	Mark Newmaster	91	81	172		
14	Corey Hancock	91	84	175		
15	Andy Blake	96	81	177		
16	Todd Southern	98	86	184		
17	Mitchell Dupree	82	DQ	DQ		
<u>Billie Martin Flight 55-59</u>						
1	Troy Schreiber	73	67	140	\$	262.50
	Scott Hastings	74	66	140		\$ 262.50
3	Brian Schmidt	72	72	144	\$	175
4	Dean Brinker	75	72	147		\$ 125
5	Chris Bartnick	78	72	150		\$ 100
6	Terry Cardin	76	78	154		
7	Keith Bratton	76	79	155		
8	Drexel Brothers Jr.	82	75	157		

	Larry	Williams	86	71	157
10	Edgar	Rhodes	83	77	160
11	Steve	Richardson	85	77	162
12	Kelly	Fraser	83	80	163
13	Michael	Schnell	81	85	166
14	David	Wilder	85	83	168
15	Kevin	Johnson	90	81	171
16	Joe	Manor	93	97	190

Bob Hamilton Flight 60-64

1	John	Kaposta	71	73	144		\$	300
2	Greg	Glisson	73	72	145		\$	225
	George	Nord	74	71	145		\$	225
4	Robert	Prevo	77	69	146	\$	150	
5	Steve	Stabenfeldt	73	76	149		\$	125
6	David	Royster	76	74	150		\$	70
7	Joe	Stellern	76	78	154			
	Travis	Buente	80	74	154			
9	Robert	Pope	78	77	155			
10	Terry	Collins	80	79	159			
11	Paul	Kohlman	82	79	161			
12	Randy	Galloway	82	80	162			
13	Joe	Gish	83	82	165			
14	Rodney	Buchanan	88	78	166			
15	David	Conaway	88	82	170			
16	David	Osbourne	85	88	173			
17	Ben	Preske	90	86	176			
18	Marlin	Briles	100	86	186			
19	Tim	Fisher	WD		WD			
20	Terry	Schmitt	WD		WD			

Richie Moore Flight 65-69

1	Robin	Rubrecht	70	69	139	\$	300
2	Britt	Reddington	73	71	144	\$	250
3	Neal	Boughton	76	71	147	\$	200
4	Stan	Bealmear	73	75	148		\$ 150
5	Ward	Peyronnin	77	75	152		\$ 125
6	Chuck	Sallee	78	76	154		\$ 90
7	Brad	Johann	78	78	156		
8	Brian	Mackey	82	78	160		
9	Steven	Vandiver	80	81	161		
10	James	Crumbaker	82	83	165		

11	Blake	Oeth	81	85	166
	William	Phillips	84	82	166
13	Jim	Mitchell	87	80	167
	Brad	Coole	88	79	167
15	Bill	Sutton	85	83	168
16	Jim	Elless	86	85	171
17	Steve	Sallee	88	86	174
18	Micah	Johnson	94	89	183
	Harold	Miles	103	80	183
20	Steven	Schimmelman	98	96	194
21	Steve	Wassmer	80	WD	WD

Ed Wolf Flight 70 - 74

1	Dave	Bates	71	69	140		\$	250
2	Steve	Zehr	73	78	151	\$	175	
	Joe	Hahn	76	75	151	\$	175	
4	Bob	Torrence	76	78	154	\$	110	
5	Mike	Hurt	81	76	157			
6	Jack	Hrvatín	76	83	159			
7	Terry	Babb	79	82	161			
8	Tom	Hite	81	82	163			
9	Jerry	White	84	84	168			
10	Dan	Johnson	88	82	170			
11	Pete	Weinert	89	82	171			
12	Charles	Farmer	89	85	174			

Don Partridge Flight 75+

1	Donald	Shull	79	71	150	\$	250	
2	Steve	Schroer	78	73	151		\$	200
3	Robert	VanBritson	77	76	153		\$	150
4	Larry	Swallows	77	77	154	\$	130	
5	Frank	Harrington	78	80	158			
	Ed	Nicholson	81	77	158			
7	Reid	Schnell	80	81	161			
	Jerry	Sanders	81	80	161			
9	William	Osbourne	79	83	162			
	Paul	Berryman	81	81	162			
	Maurice	Hildebrant	84	78	162			
12	Larry	Brill	88	81	169			
13	Jerry	Weigand	88	88	176			

\$ 3,002.50 \$ 2,997.50