

**Nordic Chamber Golf Open 2009**  
**03.07.2009**  
**ČELADNÁ**  
Prosper Golf Club Čeladná

The morning of the Nordic Chamber Golf Open started as so many other Friday mornings. The weather had taken its toll on the area and the air was quite humid, even during the morning hours. But, it was warm and the sun was threatening to peep through every now and then. It was certainly a turn for the better as far as the locals were concerned.

We were warmly welcomed by the staff at Prosper Golf Club Celadna and advised that we had been allocated „the old course“ for our event. In addition to this, we were informed that the course was undergoing works to put it in shape for the European PGA Tour that was to take place 3 weeks later and so the greens had been worked on. Upon inspection the greens seemed ok although the fairways appeared a bit higher than normal.

„A word to the wise“ the marshall seeing us off the first tee said. „Stay away from the rough, they are very rough“. Wise words indeed we thought and tee'd off knowing little of what was to come.

It turned out that the course had been inspected the Tuesday prior to our tournament and been briskly advised by the PGA representatives, that work needed to start asap in order to ensure PGA standards in time for the tour. Alas, the grass on the fairways were indeed „a bit“ higher than usual, but the roughs were impossibly high and rough. Add to that the amount of water the weather Gods had poured on the region in the 2 or 3 weeks prior to us coming there, and you had roughs that would have gotten even Tiger Woods to look for someone local to lend him a shovel or an axe. A pitching wedge or sand wedge at full force was not guaranteed to reach down to the ball. In the cases where the ball was actually struck, the distance was both disheartening and the direction generally more than a little „off target“.

After having finally fought (yes, fought) our way through 18 holes of rough and less rough (read: fairways) we were again warmly welcomed to the 19th hole. The sun was by this time out in full flow and it was with more than a bit of relief that people gathered around for food and drinks. The chat flowed and all soon realised that absolutely everyone had fought, chopped, wedged and struck their way to the clubhouse and I think all of us at one point felt like giving up. In a show of character and endurance, every single player came back with a smile on their face (red with exhaustion) but happy it was finally over.

The head marshal then took mercy on us and before handing out the prizes, assured us that the course we had just battled was a harder course than what the professionals would have to face 3 weeks later. So, when seeing them playing a hole on this course in par, we all truly know how they have it easy.

The categories were split prior to taking bookings for this tournament and so some categories had it easier than others to win prizes. I would like to say a big THANK YOU to all that took part in this tremendous Nordic Chamber Golf Open of 2009 and

belive me, you were all winners on this day. Some walked away with prizes for their efforts. The rest I hope left with good memories of how we fought Celadna and won.

We hope to see you again soon at our other golf events or perhaps during other Nordic Chamber events where you are all more than welcome.

Thank you.