



50th CHAMPIONS CUP INVITATIONAL

April 27th – 30th, 2017

Champions Golf Club

April 30, 2017
Houston, Texas
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Houston Team Overtakes Louisiana Team in playoff to win 50th Champions Cup Invitational

The Houston team of Bryant Lach and Matt Cordell captured the 50th Champions Cup Invitational in a dramatic sudden death playoff by making a birdie three on the first playoff hole on Sunday at Champions Golf Club.

After overcoming a three-shot deficit on the first five holes during Sunday's final round, the match was head to head over the final thirteen holes. Lach and Cordell shot a final round four-under par score 67, giving them a 72-hole total of 15 under par 267 over the challenging par 72 Cypress Creek championship layout.

The third-round leaders, Derek Busby / John Talley, the strong Louisiana team from St. Martinsville & Ruston, LA, birdied the final hole #18 in regulation to shot one-under par 70 and force the playoff. Dramatically, they missed birdie putts on the first playoff hole, setting the stage for Cordell to deliver the winning 8-foot birdie putt!

The Final round, which was played in cold blustery and swirling northwest winds at 15-20 mph throughout the round, continued to create havoc for the field, challenging all teams to rely on their short games and putting to survive the windy conditions.

In third place at 270, 14 under par, was the former champion team of Houstonian Kyle Maxwell and from Illinois, Derek Meinhart. Meinhart and Maxwell had a 12-foot birdie putt on the final regulation hole to join in the playoff, but the putt spun out of the hole and the team finished third.

Fifty-Six two-man mid-am teams, from 18 states, Japan and Scotland are competing in the 2017 event. The field is loaded with top amateur golfing talent that included over 400 appearances by the competitors in various USGA national championships. Average handicaps of the 112 players is +2.9 strokes per round.

Jack Burke, owner of Champions and 1956 Masters and PGA Champions advised the Cypress Creek course is an extremely difficult test of golf and is truly testing all the players to their golf course management skills. Once the wind kicks up and starts swirling around the golf course, the golfers are really going to have to be precise with their shots or face severe consequences. And the large greens put a real premium on solid putting".