

## THE RECORD:

Results of Sider Cup competitions over the years has been:

1994	Red—18	Blue—18	2010	Red—37	Blue—35
1995	Red—27 <sup>1/2</sup>	Blue—28 <sup>1/2</sup>	2011	Red—37	Blue—27
1996	Red—36 <sup>1/2</sup>	Blue—30 <sup>1/2</sup>	2012	Red—27	Blue—37
1997	Red—33 <sup>1/2</sup>	Blue—54 <sup>1/2</sup>	2013	Red—34	Blue—26
1998	Red—48 <sup>1/2</sup>	Blue—48 <sup>1/2</sup>	2014	Red—31	Blue—33
1999	Red—52	Blue—56	2015	Red—24	Blue—36
2000	Red—60	Blue—61	2016	Red—31	Blue—21
2001	Red—58	Blue—61	2017	Red—37	Blue—31
2002	Red—66	Blue—51	2018	Red—38	Blue—27
2003	Red—49	Blue—63	2019	Red—49 <sup>1/2</sup>	Blue—14 <sup>1/2</sup>
2004	Red—53 <sup>1/2</sup>	Blue—58 <sup>1/2</sup>	2020	Red—30	Blue—38
2005	Red—48 <sup>1/2</sup>	Blue—47 <sup>1/2</sup>	2021	Red—28 <sup>1/2</sup>	Blue—34 <sup>1/2</sup>
2006	No play - Greens under Renovation				
2007	Red—47	Blue—49			
2008	Red—45	Blue—47			
2009	Red—36	Blue—52			

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HARBOR HILLS  
SIDER CUP  
THE TRADITION



  
HARBOR HILLS  
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## HARBOR HILLS SIDER CUP THE TRADITION

### **The Concept:**

All journeys start with a single step - or in the case of the Sider Cup, a ride in Leo Sonetti's Jeep way back in 1993. On their way to a golf tournament at another club, Leo, Si Fisher, Bram Dekker and Ray Goldwire got to kicking around what a great tournament the Ryder Cup was, and wouldn't it be great to have our own version of the Ryder Cup right here in Harbor Hills. The idea almost died as it was being created, because Leo's Jeep was sideswiped by a truck from behind, and they were lucky not to have a serious accident. They all came through okay, but the joke was  
- Let's forget the Ryder Cup, but continue the discussion about the Sider Cup. Thus, the name was born.

### **The Commitment:**

Bram and Ray were very enthusiastic about the idea and committed themselves to put the "show on the road". The goals right from the first were to include as many golfers as possible in an event which would provide fellowship, friendship, and camaraderie for existing Club Members and integrate new members into the Club.

### **The Format:**

They wanted to follow the Ryder Cup format as closely as possible, both as to play and dress. This was at the height of Payne Stewart's popularity, and the Sider Cup "uniform" was copied from Payne's classic knickers, socks, suspenders, and cap. The Ryder cup, of course, is not complicated with handicaps,

So, Bram traveled to Scotland to collect information about how they handled handicaps, pairings, rules, etc. in competitions like this. (Why reinvent the wheel?) His findings led to the basics:

- All handicaps ranked away from the low handicap player in the field;
- All handicaps then reduced to 90%;
- All players using same tees ("official handicap tees");
- All matches playing off handicap of lowest handicap player in match;
- Matches:
  - Day 1 - Alternate Shot;
  - Day 2 - Fourball (better ball of partners);
  - Day 3 - Individual head to head.
- All players play with 9 different players with reasonably similar handicaps during the 3-day period.

### **The Team Players:**

How to choose the teams? Different options were considered, but because there was really no other logical way of splitting the field, they decided to divide the participants in ranking order from the lowest to the highest handicap. They flipped a coin (an old U.S. dollar) and Ray got the odd numbered ranking players for the Red Team. Once Red, always Red - once Blue, always Blue.

### **The Cup:**

The Cup itself was sponsored and purchased in Scotland in 1994 by Bram Dekker. To memorialize The Tradition, the old U.S. dollar coin used to choose the original teams was attached to our Sider Cup.

### **The Matches:**

Over the years as old members departed and new members were added, the objective has been to keep the combined team handicaps at the beginning of each Sider Cup as equal as possible. This was originally done "manually", but now a sophisticated computer program handles assignment of new team members and pairings for play. Ideally, the matches would all end in a tie and indeed the system has worked so well that 2 matches have ended in ties.

### **The Measure of Success:**

From day one, the Sider Cup was a great success, and it has become a great Tradition at Harbor Hills. We can't be sure, but we believe that during its inception, it was unique in its totality not only in the United States, but the whole world. Its success has resulted because:

- It's completely different from all other games;
- It's a real "Team Competition" and has created great team spirit on both sides;
- It's a great way to introduce new members into our Harbor Hills family;
- It's preceded by an outstanding event - our annual Oktoberfest;
- It's followed by a great dinner party afterwards.

### **The Inception:**

The first Sider Cup competition took place in 1994 with 16 players on each team. By 2000 the field has grown to 64 players per team, which is close to the maximum.