



Alberto Moriondo  
Kemper Lakes Golf Club  
Winner  
2014 Champion of Champions

**CHICAGOLAND'S  
CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS GOLF TOURNAMENT  
Park Ridge Country Club**

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By Dennis LaLiberty



With temperature in the mid-60s, sunshine and a mild breeze, and just the slightest hint of impending fall in the air, Alberto Moriondo of Kemper Lakes Golf Club in Killdeer, Illinois produced a steady one over par round of 71 for a one stroke win in the *Champion of Champions* golf tournament. The event consists of one

day, 18 hole stroke play matching the individual champions of virtually all the private clubs in the Chicago metropolitan area, with 2014 marking the 16<sup>th</sup> year it has been hosted by Park Ridge Country Club. This year's champion terms himself a "consistent" golfer and he demonstrated that with a workmanlike round reflecting just three bogies and two birdies.

Moriondo pointed out his miscues leading to bogey: a pulled iron into the water at the par 3 9<sup>th</sup> hole, under clubbing his tee shot on the long par 3 17<sup>th</sup> and a second shot which missed the green on hole 16, a dogleg par 4. He offset the miscues by saving bogey at hole 9 with an up and down one putt after taking a penalty stroke and made two stellar shots to further offset the bogies: a birdie on the 455 yard 4 par 15th after a 6 iron second shot left him 7 feet from the hole; and, coming better late than never, a 5 iron from 185 yards out on the double dogleg par 4 18<sup>th</sup> which left him just 2



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feet from the hole for an easy birdie. While Moriondo describes himself as consistent, he is also clearly competitive. His playing partner for the round, Rick Cavanaugh of North Barrington's Biltmore Country Club, was leading by one stroke after Moriondo's bogey on 17. But a birdie on the difficult 18<sup>th</sup> against Cavanaugh's bogey allowed Moriondo to post his 71



16 Tee Leader Board

early in the afternoon as the leader in the clubhouse. Whether it was the pressure on the groups playing later to try and match or beat that score, or some difficult pin placements which made birdies hard to come by and bogies uncomfortably likely, the fact is that the early clubhouse leader won the day. Cavanaugh was joined by Rob Chapman of The Grove Country Club of Long Grove, Illinois, in a second place tie, one stroke behind the winner. Moriondo commented favorably on the Park Ridge course's condition and particularly remarked that the greens were just the right speed for a championship, and amazingly true.

This year's winner will almost certainly hold the distinction as the competitor farthest from his place of birth: Alberto Moriondo was born in Argentina and took up golf at the age of 13, playing at the world renowned Jockey Club in Buenos Aires, the only 36 hole course ever designed by famed golf course architect Alistair MacKenzie, who also designed such iconic courses as Augusta National and Cypress Point in the U.S. and Royal Troon in Scotland. Alberto graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and later earned an MBA from its Wharton School. He moved to the U. S. in 1991 at the age of 25 and now lives in Barrington. He has been a member at Kemper Lakes Golf Club since 2004 and its club champion a number of times, including both this year and last.

Alberto has traveled a long way to play golf at Park Ridge Country Club and is looking forward to maintaining his consistent and competitive edge so as to enjoy playing there again next year when the

journey would be just a short drive down I-294 or I-90, depending on how he plans to attack the Interstate dogleg.