

Kelly Murray's phenomenal '60'

by C.C. Bigelow



One of the few that did not drop.

In the first round of the 1986 Manitoba Open, Kelly Murray, a young professional from Vancouver, took Southwood apart, establishing in the process a new course record of 60 strokes - ten under par. By good luck, I watched the whole round except for the first tee shot. I do not expect to see another round like it in my lifetime. Here is how Murray did it.

He teed off on **number 10**, a short (260 yard) par 4, but one with all kinds of trouble around the green. Murray drove the green with his short driver (he also carries a long driver), but he said later he might not have been in a chance-taking mood if he had already played the front nine. Two putts gave a birdie. **One under.**

Number 11 is a par 4 of about 315 yards, with a pond between 260 and 280 and a thicket close to the left side of the green. Murray's drive was a bit wild, sailing over the pond to the left of the thicket. He pitched over the thicket to the green, and two-putted for par.

Number 12 is a simple par 4 of about 350 yards. Drive, approach, and one putt for birdie. **Two under par.**

Number 13 is an easy, short par 3 of 135 yards. Murray pitched to the green, sank the putt for birdie. **Three under par.**

Number 14 is a 400 yard slight dog's leg left. Murray's drive went over the trees at the corner and came down close to the water fountain at about 330 yards. Pitch and putt for birdie. **Four under par** after five holes.

Number 15 is a 440 yard par 4. Kelly had a regulation par here.

Number 16 is a par 3 of 215 yards. Murray drove to within about six feet of the pin, missed the putt. Par.

Number 17, Par 5, 500 yards. On in three, one putt for birdie. Five under par.

Number 18. A 320 yard par 4. Trees on the right make this a dog's leg for ordinary players. Murray drove over the trees to the green. Two putts for birdie. **Six under par**, 29, on the first nine.

Number 1. Par 4, 320 yards. Murray drove his third par 4 of the day, then got down with two putts for birdie. **Seven under par.**

Number 2. Par 4, 460 yards. Regulation par.

Number 3. Par 3, 205 yards. Regulation par.

Number 4. The longest hole on the course, a 540 yard par 5. Murray drove up the left side to within ten yards of the little ditch at 350 yards. He went into the green with a seven iron, and made a putt of about 20 feet for eagle. **Nine under.**

Number 5. 185 yards. Routine par 3.

Number 6. Par 4, 430 yards. Murray hit a long but wild drive soaring over the trees on the right to the seventh fairway. A nine to the green, two putts for par.

Number 7. Par 5, 490 yards. Murray's drive carried over the little ditch at about 280, and wound up at the left hand 150 yard marker - another 340 yard drive. He was off to the right of the green on his second, but made a good pitch and one putt for birdie. **Ten under par.**

Number 8. par 4, 385 yards. A slight dog's leg right for ordinary mortals. Murray drove about 340 yards to wind up between the two bunkers in front of the green. He pitched to within about four feet and missed the birdie putt.

Number 9. Par 3, 155 yards. A nine iron was on line for the hole, but fell short and spun back off the front of the green. An approximately 70 foot putt left Murray a five footer, which he sank.

Quite a round! **29-31 for 60**. Nothing over 4; three par 4s reached in one with drives typically over 300 yards and some as long as 340. And, just as most of us can sit around after a game figuring how we should have been lower, Murray later said this one could easily have been in the 50s. After all, exactly half of Kelly Murray's shots were putts!

1986 MANITOBA OPEN		OFFICIAL SCORE CARD										On completion of the round, this card must be signed by the Marker, verified and signed by the Contestant and promptly given to scorekeeper. Any question in dispute must be referred to the Rules Committee.										
CONTESTANT Kelly Murray, Vancouver		DATE: Aug 22, 1986										1:58 pm 10 th Tee										
Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOTAL	
Yards	321	457	203	541	183	430	488	384	153	3160	261	313	350	136	395	437	213	503	320	2928	6088	
Metres																						
Par	4	4	3	5	3	4	5	4	3	35	4	4	4	3	4	4	3	5	4	35	70	
	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	3	31	3	4	3	2	3	4	3	4	3	29	60	
MARKER'S SIGNATURE	H. S. Mell										CONTESTANT'S SIGNATURE Kelly Murray											