

Once again it was an early start this morning and once again no snooze button required at 6:15 a.m. However, this seems to be quite late compared to some other players and caddies who are struggling with jetlag. Poor Caroline Hedwall told me she was wide awake at 4:30 a.m local time so she decided to work out in the gym to pass the time – now that is dedication.

I thought most of the team would have slept well after we all had a fun time in the team room last night. All the helpers, caddies and players met in the team room that happens to be decked out in life size pictures of the players and photo reminders from the four previous winning teams. Table tennis, a basketball hoop and a beanbag game are also set up for everyone to pass the time and enjoy.

As per normal Solheim hospitality beautiful dinner buffet was laid on for us. Once we all tucked in to delicious Swedish meatballs, salmon or lamb we did a quiz. It was so much fun. My team who were aptly named the “Bleach Blondes” (well, we did have a Swede a Swiss and a caddy with peroxide blond hair at the table) won the quiz. As punishment to the other losing teams they had to perform the “Gangnam style” dance to determine the out right losers. I can assure you it was hilarious, especially as they had to don Lotta Neumann facemasks while they entertained us. Graeme Matthew maybe a world-class caddy but I cannot see him on “So you think you can dance” anytime soon. Sorry Graeme but couldn’t resist.

As you can imagine it was a very relaxed evening for everyone. After the hilarity from the quiz died down, the mood changed a little when we all watched a motivational clip. Hats off to the LET for producing a great film. Motivational music played in the back ground as we watched a re run of the last few holes of Europe’s amazing comeback win in Ireland. There were also clips of individual wins along with inspiring video messages from Monty, Paddy Harrington, Graeme McDowell, Paul McGinley, Olly and Sergio. Olly was the funniest when he ended his message with “ keep kicking their asses!” Nothing like some friendly banter to get the juices flowing!

Towards the end of the evening fellow Scot Janice Moodie brought her junior Solheim Cup team in to meet the senior team. What a thrill it must have been to rub shoulders with the likes of Beany, Annika and Suzanne. Suzanne shared with us that when she played table tennis with one of the juniors she told Suzanne “I wanna take you down!” Ah the exuberance of youth!

The atmosphere is certainly building out there on the course. Many more people were around today and as expected the greens were showing their teeth. At lunch we were asking what speed we think they might be on the stimp meter. Jodie Ewart Shadoff cracked up the table when her thick Yorkshire accent came out with, “ they must be about 20!” Keep in mind that the normal tournament stimp speed would be around 11 or 12. Joking aside, the greens are very speedy in places and will, without doubt, determine the winners of the Solheim Cup this year.

Just like last night, the team was in relaxed form on the course. It was a trial day for potential foursome pairings and over all I think Lotta will be very happy with how the girls are playing. Caroline Masson holed out from the fairway at the eighth and young Charley Hull thrilled the crowd when she was inches away from holing out on top of her.

Clearly the ball striking is in place but the vagaries of these Colorado greens have yet to be mastered. It's little wonder then, that Captain Neumann and company has the team doing extra lag putting drills before practice is over for the day.

The team has their official gala dinner tonight where they will get their glad rags on and be wined and dined in true American style. The rest of us are heading to a pizza joint...oh well, but at least we'll get back to bed earlier!