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BACKSPIN: Good times, bad times, Q&A times p.24





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Photo courtesy Wolf Creek Golf Club

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TROY ANDREW
Publisher

IN AUGUST OF THIS YEAR, the Pacific Northwest lost one of its giants in the golf community, William H. "Bill" Mays, a longstanding and extraordinary volunteer of the Pacific Northwest Golf Association, Washington State Golf Association, Pacific Coast Golf Association, United States

Golf Association, and The Home Course in DuPont, Washington.

Since 1979, Bill made selfless contributions that have resulted in the Associations achieving a level of excellence and respect within the golf community that would otherwise not have been possible.

Bill served as a volunteer club representative to the PNGA and WSGA for over 30 years, first as a member of Yakima (Wash.) Country Club, and then later as a member of Canterwood Golf and Country Club in Gig Harbor, Wash. During this time he served in practically every volunteer capacity each Association affords. Whether it was volunteering his legal expertise to rewrite the Association by-laws or serving as a volunteer chairman for PNGA and WSGA championships at his own club, Bill gave very generously of his time.

Bill served on the PNGA Board of Directors from 1982-1995, and then again from 2007-2012. He chaired or served on almost every committee, was Treasurer, and served as President from 1989-1990. When he stepped down from the PNGA Board in 1995, he still remained very active in a non-voting capacity on the Board as Legal Counsel, until fully retiring from legal practice in 2007. He rejoined the PNGA Board in 2007 because of his role as President of The Home Course Board of Directors.

In 1992, when the PNGA and WSGA cooperatively reorganized the structure and services for each Association, Bill played a leading role. He took on the monumental task of re-writing the by-laws of each Association, which charted the path of success for both organizations.

He served on the WSGA Board of Directors since 1992 and became President from 2001-2003. Since 1992 he also served as Legal Counsel on the WSGA Board of Directors until retiring from legal practice in 2007.

In 1999 Bill was awarded the PNGA Distinguished Service Award, the PNGA's highest honor in recognition for volunteers who have donated their time and effort simply for the betterment of the game.

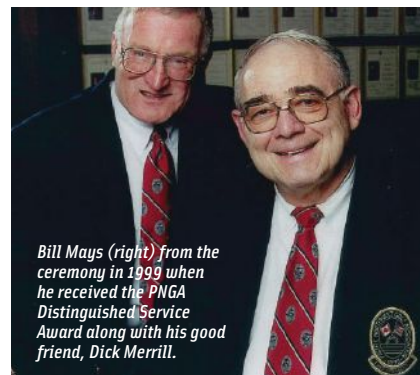
Bill's longstanding dream for over 20 years was for the PNGA and WSGA to one day cooperatively acquire, own, and operate a golf course that would serve as the home for Northwest Golf House, future permanent offices for the PNGA, WSGA and Allied Associations. In 2007, Bill's dream became a realization for the PNGA and WSGA. His remarkable leadership led to the purchasing of a golf course in DuPont, Wash., which you all know as The Home Course.

Bill became the foundation of The Home Course and was elected President of the Board of Directors. His leadership led the course to be chosen by the USGA as the Assisting Course with Chambers Bay in hosting the 2010 U.S. Amateur Championship.

In the five years that Bill devoted himself to The Home Course, he emphasized and led the mission that it should be a place "all that is good for the game of golf," a place that provides the stewardship that was promised to the PNGA and WSGA members. Since 2007 it has complementarily hosted over 12 PNGA, WSGA, USGA, and Washington Junior Golf Association championships and qualifiers. It was selected as the host site for the 2014 U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links Championship, became a turf-grass research site for environmental stewardship, formed active junior golf camps held throughout the summer, created the "Little Home Course" for junior golfers and beginners, annually promotes PGA and USGA "grow the game" initiatives, and started a \$5 standby green fee program for juniors. And that is just the beginning.

These volunteer contributions pertaining to Bill cover only a small portion of all he has done for golf in the Pacific Northwest. Most of Bill's contributions were done behind the scenes in a manner that earned him no fanfare, which is the way he wanted it to be. Everyone who knew Bill can confirm his reputation for honesty and integrity.

On a personal note, in 2011 Bill took me under his wing and mentored me in my new role as Executive Director and CEO. I will be forever grateful for his support, wisdom, and friendship. He has impacted many lives, and his legacy will live on forever.



Bill Mays (right) from the ceremony in 1999 when he received the PNGA Distinguished Service Award along with his good friend, Dick Merrill.

A SNAPSHOT OF BILL'S CONTRIBUTIONS

- 1979-2012 PNGA and WSGA Club Representative
- 1982-1995, 2007-2012 PNGA Executive Committee
- 1987-1988 PNGA Treasurer
- 1989-2012 Evans Caddie Scholarship Supporter and Par Club Member
- 1989-1990 President of the PNGA
- 1992-2012 USGA Regional Associations Committee
- 1992-2012 WSGA Board Member
- 1992-2012 WSGA Executive Committee
- 1992-2007 WSGA Counsel
- 1995 President of the Pacific Coast Golf Association
- 1995-2007 PNGA Counsel
- 1999 PNGA Distinguished Service Award recipient
- 1999 President of the Pacific Coast Golf Association (2nd term)
- 2001-2003 President of the WSGA
- 2005-2012 Appointed Trustee Emeritus, Pacific Coast Golf Association
- 2007-2012 President of PNGA/WSGA Properties Inc. (The Home Course)



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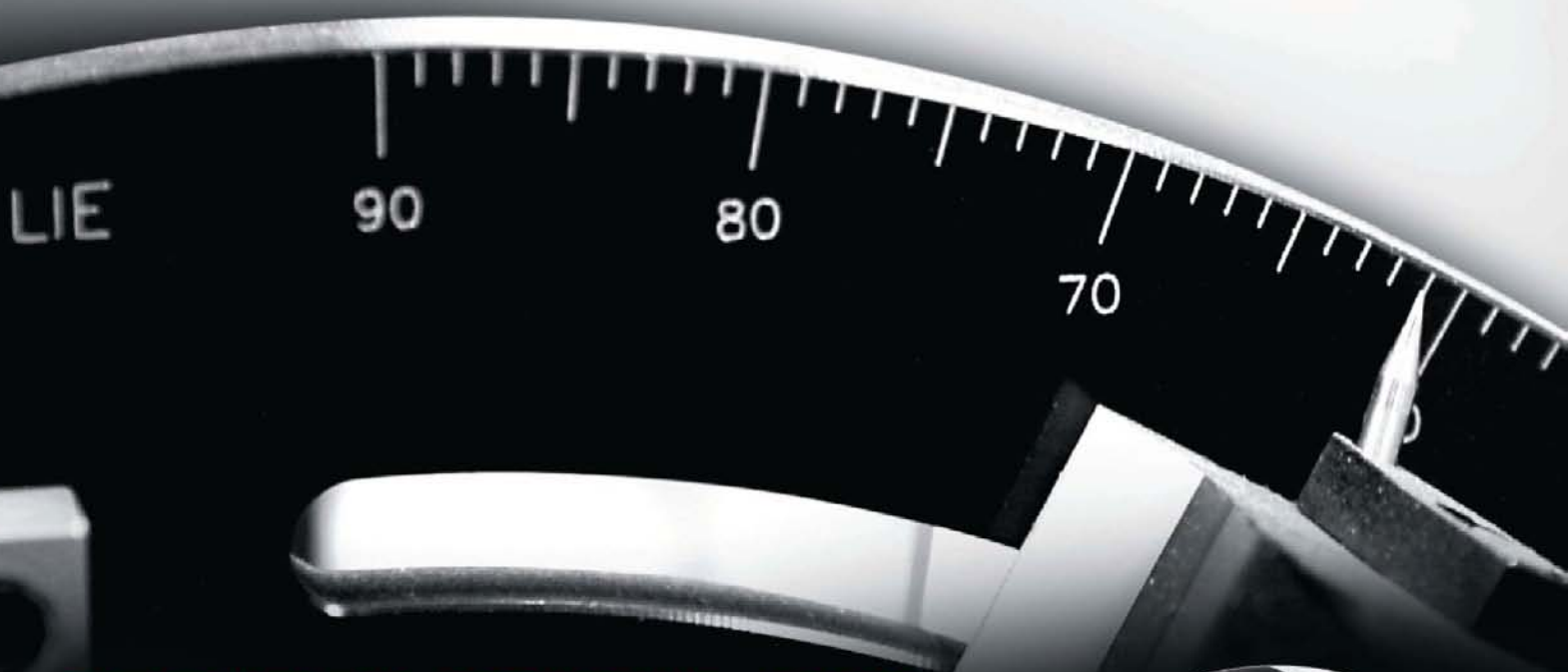
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Chip Shots

HIGHLIGHTS FROM AROUND THE NORTHWEST



Plath's wife Carolyn serves as a coach for Ron during a round, assisting with direction.

▶ PLATH INDUCTED INTO BLIND HOF

In August at a ceremony following the U.S. Blind Golf Association (USBGA) National Championship at Middle Bay CC on Long Island, N.Y., Ron Plath of Lake Oswego, Ore. was inducted into the Blind Golf Hall of Fame.

"When I first started losing my sight it was always my hope to keep playing but I wasn't sure if it was possible," said Plath. "When I saw that completely blind people were competing, it was comforting to know that this was something I could do forever."

Plath was diagnosed with macular degeneration when he was 26 years old and is legally blind. As his sight slowly deteriorated over the years to the point where he had to give up driving and his job as an educator in the Beaverton School District, his golf game didn't miss a beat. He joined the USBGA in 2003, winning the B-3 national championship five times and the International Blind Golf Association World Championships in 2008. Plath helped secure, promote and organize USBGA National Championship tournaments in Oregon in 2003 and 2006. He served as USBGA junior golf chairman from 2008-2009. In 2006, he formed the Northwest Blind Golf Foundation, an organization that conducts weekly golf clinics for junior and adult golfers in Oregon and Washington. He also serves as the USBGA representative on the IBGA board. The Oregon native still has the 7-iron that his father cut down for him when he was 3-years old.

Plath was unable to attend the ceremony in August, having hurt his back (if it's not one thing, it's another) the month before during the World Blind Golf Championship in Nova Scotia. So he will be officially honoured at the Blind Golf Open Championship in 2013, which will be held at Stone Creek GC in Oregon City, south of Portland.

Visit www.usblindgolf.com for more information.



SWILCAN PROPOSITION

There is a lot of history about the Swilcan Bridge on the 18th hole at the Old Course in St. Andrews. And for Sara Berlin and Chris Griffin, the history became a little more personal when Griffin proposed to her on it while playing the course during their trip to Scotland this past May.

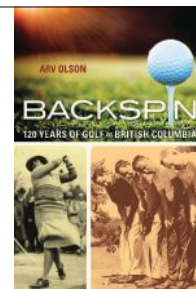
The two initially met in 2005 while working in the pro shop at Tacoma Country & Golf Club. They went their separate ways, Berlin working as head coach of the University of San Francisco women's golf team, and Griffin heading to the Southwest to pursue his PGA Tour dream. Sara returned to Tacoma, now working as a PGA professional at the club; and Griffin still plays, but now with the Northwest as his base. The two began dating in 2008.

They were married on October 11 on the green of Tacoma's par-3 15th hole. "We chose that date (10/11/12) so he wouldn't ever forget," said Sara with a laugh.

And the honeymoon? Someplace just as memorable as the proposal: "We're going to Augusta to watch the Masters."

OLSON HONORED BY NWGMA >>>

Arv Olson was recently selected as the recipient of the 2012 NWGMA Distinguished Service Award. Visit www.nwgma.org to read about Arv's selection by the Northwest Golf Media Association.



BACKSPIN: 120 YEARS OF GOLF IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Arv Olson; \$28.95

Heritage House Publishing

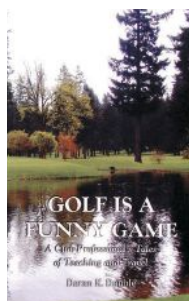
Twenty years ago, Arv Olson, who for 38 years was the voice of golf as a columnist for the *Vancouver* (B.C.) *Sun* newspaper, compiled and published an account of the game as it had been played for a century throughout the province. Now, in "Backspin: 120 Years of Golf in British Columbia," published by B.C.'s Heritage House Publishing, we find an expanded, restructured edition that includes loads of new information and photographs. This ambitious undertaking starts in the 1890s on the shores of Jericho Beach in Vancouver and in Beacon Hill Park in Victoria, and ends with the final thrilling holes played in the Victoria Open last year. The author has traveled the province, building a wide offering of anecdotal history from the Kootenays to Haida Gwaii, Victoria to Port Alice and across the Lower Mainland.

This incredibly rich book chronicles all the personalities that have walked the province's fairways, and covers tournament golf and exhibition events and introduces some of the international visitors from Bobby Jones and Walter Hagen to Britain's Joyce Wethered.

The book includes a foreword written by Ward Stouffer, PGA of BC Director of Golf at Fairwinds G&CC on Vancouver Island, who first met Olson during tournament play around Vancouver in the 1970s.

The publisher is donating 15 percent of the proceeds to BC Golf House. The book can be purchased on their website (www.bcgolfhouse.com), at local golf shops and most mainstream bookshellers. Or visit www.heritagehouse.ca to purchase the book.

ON THE BOOKSHELF



GOLF IS A FUNNY GAME

Daran Dauble; \$10

Northwest Links Press

This collection of essays and golf instruction, written by PGA professional Daran Dauble, was collected and edited by his brother, Dennis Dauble. After a battle with cancer, Daran passed away this past March after spending 34 years at Glendoveer GC in Portland, first as director of instruction, then head golf professional, and since 1992 as Director of Golf.

The subtitle of the book is "A Club Professional's Tales of Teaching and Travel," and the collection is clearly a love song sent to the golf industry. Daran spent most of his working life helping others enjoy the game, and his efforts included founding the Glendoveer Junior Program, which has become on the largest in Oregon; serving as head coach of the Multnomah County Special Olympics golf team for 21 years; and being a certified club-fitter for 25 years. In 1991, Dauble was named Teacher of the Year by his fellow PGA professionals.

The book is worth a read, to find out what drives the people who helped create the game in our region. To purchase a book, email dennisdauble@charter.net. The cost is \$10, which covers shipping.

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Chip Shots

HIGHLIGHTS FROM AROUND THE NORTHWEST



Photo courtesy Golf Channel

Lepp's Big Break

James Lepp, the Abbotsford, B.C. native who won the NCAA Individual Championship while playing for the University of Washington as a four-time All-American, is a member of the cast of "Big Break Greenbrier," which is airing on the Golf Channel. Lepp was the 2003 PPGA Co-Player of the Year (along with Brock Mackenzie) and the '05 PPGA Player of the Year, and he appeared on the cover (with Mackenzie) of the March 2004 issue of this magazine.

The 28-year old Lepp, who still plays out of his childhood course of Ledgeview G&CC in Abbotsford, was the medalist at the 2005 U.S. Amateur, then had some success on the Canadian Tour after turning pro in 2006. But, by his own admission, he burned out on the game after a few years.

"I wanted to be a professional golfer since I was four years old, ever since I picked up a golf club," said Lepp. "I love golf, and live for golf. It's all I really know. I always was competing at the highest level, through junior golf, amateur golf and college golf. A couple of years into playing professionally I hit a pretty solid wall. I failed to improve. I felt like I was getting worse. Happily, I turned away from the game. I needed it. I was starting to 'hate' golf, and I never thought I would get to that point. After a few years of barely playing and working on the business side of golf, I'm really starting to enjoy the game again. I'm curious to find out what 'real' competition feels like after being away."

KeyBank

Evans Cups support caddie scholarships

The 15th annual Evans Cup of Oregon, held September 17 at Waverley Country Club in Portland, and the 21st annual Evans Cup of Washington, held September 24 at Sand Point Country Club in Seattle, combined to raise \$250,000 to benefit the Evans Caddie Scholarship Program. The \$125,000 raised at the Oregon event was a record-breaking amount. KeyBank is the presenting sponsor of both events, which are conducted by the PPGA, OGA, WSGA, along with regional directors of the Western Golf Association.

The funds generated at these annual fundraisers help support the Evans Scholars who attend the University of Oregon, Oregon State University, University of Washington and Washington State University. Currently, there are 49 young men and women Evans Scholars from the Northwest, with each of them receiving four year, full tuition and housing grants valued at over \$50,000.

For more information on the Evans Caddie Scholarship Program, including how to apply for scholarships and how a club can provide opportunities for young applicants, contact Bill Moses at 855.214.2913 or visit www.wgaesf.com.



VICTORIA GOLF CLUB

In British Columbia, Victoria Golf Club continues its new but strong caddie program, having already sent two Evans Scholars to university. The program at Victoria is championed by WGA Director Berne Neufeld, who hopes to see the program spread to other clubs in B.C.

When one door closes....

PGA Hall of Famer Anne Sander tried this summer but didn't qualify for the USGA Senior Women's Amateur. So, on September 4 she qualified to play in the U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur, claiming the final spot in the qualifier held at San Diego Country Club. At 75 years old, Sander was the oldest competitor in the championship proper by almost 30 years – way to go, Anne! The championship was held Oct. 6-11 at Briggs Ranch GC in San Antonio, Texas. In her career, Sander has won seven USGA national championships, behind only Bobby Jones and Tiger Woods (with nine) and PGA Hall of Famer JoAnne Carner and Jack Nicklaus (with eight) in number of championships won.

Pretty good company.



We knew him when

The World Golf Hall of Fame & Museum will enshrine Seattle native Fred Couples as the first member of the Class of 2013. Couples will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at its Induction Ceremony on Monday, May 6, 2013, at World Golf Village in St. Augustine, Fla. The ceremony will once again kick off The Players Championship week. It will be fitting for Couples, who won the 1984 and 1996 Players Championships.

Yes, he's had an okay career as a professional, but we of course remember him for his amateur career here in the Northwest, which is legendary. He won the 1976 PPGA Junior Amateur (see photo), the 1977 Washington Junior Golf Association championship, the 1978 Washington State Amateur, the 1978 Washington Open, the 1978 BC Junior Boys' Amateur, the 1979 BC Amateur, was the Low Amateur at the 1979 U.S. Open and Medalist at the 1980 U.S. Amateur, and won the 1988 and '90 Northwest Opens. In 1999 he received the PPGA Centennial Lifetime Achievement Award.

Well played, Freddie.



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Got the Fever

When it turns cold this winter, turn up the heat by heading south by southwest



Photo courtesy Scottsdale Convention & Visitors Bureau

A few things to know about golf in Scottsdale, Arizona

Scottsdale has a lot of golf courses

Scottsdale has 51 golf courses within the city limits and over 200 in the surrounding area. In fact, 13 of the top 25 golf courses in the state are located in Scottsdale, a larger percentage of the state's top-ranked courses than any other municipality in the nation.

Annually hosts the "Greatest (and Greenest) Show on Grass"

The PGA Tour's Waste Management Phoenix Open has been held at TPC Scottsdale's Stadium Course since 1989. The golf course's stadium-style seating provides unobstructed views of the action that helped the tournament grow into the most-attended event on the tour, each year hosting an estimated 500,000 golf fans.

Home to "Top 100 Courses You Can Play"

Scottsdale is home to six of the "Top 100 Courses You Can Play" according to *Golf Magazine*. Grayhawk Golf Club's Talon Course was ranked at No. 99. Both Troon North courses made the list – the Monument Course came in at No. 44, and the Pinnacle Course was ranked No. 21. Both We-Ko-Pa courses made the cut as well – Cholla ranks No. 34 and Saguaro No. 43. And the Boulders South Course came in at No. 90.

Golfers can save a buck or two in the shoulder seasons

Every vacation market on the planet has a peak season when demand and rates are at their highest. For Scottsdale, it's January through April. Those wishing to experience the city's golf on a budget can take advantage of excellent values in the shoulder seasons. Mid-October through December marks the fall shoulder season when a lush green blanket of new ryegrass covers the golf course, cool fall temps have replaced the heat of summer and lodging rates have yet to climb to their peak-season levels. Late April through mid-June marks the summer shoulder season and the winter ryegrass begins to wither while the summer Bermuda grass starts to take hold.

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Things to do in warmer climes

Seve Ballesteros Legends Tournament

November 29 – December 1, 2012

Pebble Beach, California

sevelegends.com

Pebble Beach Resorts will host the inaugural Seve Ballesteros Legends Tournament. This new event in the international golfing calendar is in aid of the Seve Ballesteros Foundation, which was set up by Seve in 2009.

Ballesteros was not only the greatest, most charismatic and most influential golfer Europe has ever produced, he was also an acknowledged all-time master of the short game. So what better way to celebrate the life of this great man than with the mother of all par-3 tournaments?

Professional golfers and celebrity captains will lead eighteen teams of four around the par-3 Peter Hay Course, amid a carnival atmosphere with live music, fine food and wine, TV screens broadcasting from around the course and many more attractions.

In addition, the team package includes two additional days to play the world famous Pebble Beach Golf Links and The Links at Spanish Bay. This is an incredible opportunity to celebrate the life of one of the game's greatest players on one of the world's greatest courses.

Want to play in this? Visit their website for information.

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WOLF CREEK GOLF CLUB

If you have a jones for unique golf experiences, you need to visit Mesquite, Nev., about 90 minutes north of Las Vegas. On the northeast end of the small town, prepare yourself for Wolf Creek Golf Club.

The course is carved beautifully out of the desert. It is an unearthly, jaw-dropping setting. The layout will test your game with its stunning layout and overwhelm you with its dazzling beauty. There are views from nearly every hole, with tee boxes often 100 feet above the fairway.

Opened in 2000, the par-72, 7,018-yard layout challenges players from start to finish, but is still suitable for players of all abilities.

Recently, *Wall Street Journal* named Wolf Creek Golf Club as one of the "10 Best Places to Play Golf in the World." It really is that unique of a place.

You can create your own vacation online at golfwolfcreek.com, choosing your accommodations and courses to play in Mesquite. For groups of 16 players or more, call 866.252.4653 to schedule a golf outing.



Desert Willow Golf Resort

Everybody's Favorite Desert Destination

With its warm year-round climate, unparalleled mountain views and world-class golf courses, Desert Willow Golf Resort is the premier destination for any golfer looking for the ultimate golf experience. Located in Palm Desert in Southern California's Coachella Valley, Desert Willow has the perfect climate to enjoy golf, outdoor dining, and the holiday season.

The resort has the desert's two "must play" courses, Firecliff and Mountain View. Highly acclaimed and award-winning, including No. 25 on *Golfweek's* "Best California Courses" list, both layouts feature immaculate greens, manicured fairways, and enough challenges between the two to become known as the gold standard of desert golf. The resort is also the site of The Palm Desert Golf Academy, a world-class instruction facility featuring PGA certified private instruction and group clinics.

Have a group you want to play with, need a meeting room after a round, or perhaps you want to hold a wedding in a unique

location with some of the most stunning views of the valley floor? Desert Willow is the ideal destination, featuring venues that can accommodate any group size up to 400 guests for any occasion, with the added option of hosting a function on one of the resort's lush event lawns.

Deals at Desert Willow for PPGA members

Desert Willow Golf Resort offers their Double Eagle promotion, for golfers who want to play the resort's two courses within a 14-day period, offering up to 30 percent in savings per round.

If you are going to be in the desert a bit longer, Desert Willow's Platinum Club Card offers tremendous savings on golf, apparel, food and beverage, and more.

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Visit my web site at www.JennieRobinson.com to view all desert area listings, find out about golf courses and country clubs in the area and book tee times.

TAKE THE GHIN UMBRELLA WITH YOU THIS WINTER

On October 15, 2012 the Arizona Golf Association and Arizona Women's Golf Association adopted the USGA's GHIN Network as their handicap computation service. On November 1, the Southern Nevada Golf Association did the same thing. In 2010, six Southern California golf associations also began using GHIN as their provider.

The rest of Nevada and California, and New Mexico, Texas and Utah, have been on GHIN for a while.

What does all this mean?

Well, it means that, since you are receiving this magazine, you carry a handicap through the USGA's GHIN Network, and this means that when you leave the cold and wet Northwest winter to get some sun and play a little golf in the warm weather of the Southwest, you can most likely post your scores right at the club without

having to change out of your Bermuda shorts and sunscreen. Using your same GHIN number. All under one umbrella.

It means that you are now part of the largest handicap computation service in the world.

If you find yourself with more than one GHIN number provided through different Association member clubs, contact your handicap chairperson or golf association to merge your GHIN numbers into just one.

View other travel highlights on the "Well Traveled Golfer" page on the PNGA website! Snap this QR code with your smartphone, or visit www.thepnga.org.

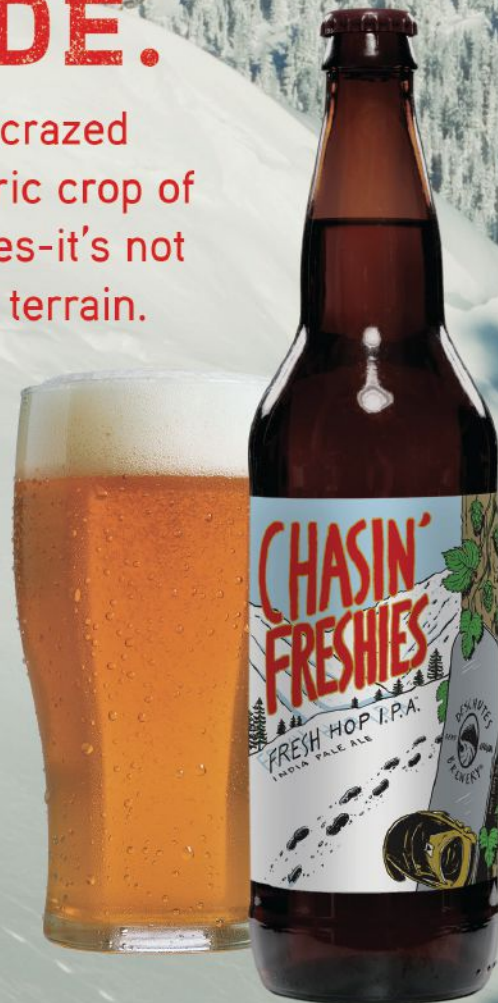




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The 217-yard par-3 13th hole at Avondale Golf Club.

WINTER DESTINATION

Avondale Golf Club

BY LEONARD FINKEL

A PACIFIC NORTHWEST WINTER, often wet and cold, isn't ideal for golfers.

Southwestern states present many destinations that satisfy a golf appetite. Numerous short, direct, flights from Portland, Seattle and Vancouver make California's Palm Springs area ideal for golfers. And many of those travelers put down roots at Avondale Golf Club in Palm Desert.

Why Avondale? Numerous interviews with members revealed the answer: the people and the golf course. This might be the friendliest, most welcoming group of golfers in the world.

"The compelling reason for us to join Avondale was the people most of all and secondly, the golf course," said John Coonce, who is from Seattle and has been a member at Avondale since 2007. "It wasn't the typical desert course with target golf. It had a lot of grass and trees. We played it one day and signed up the next. It's a golf course you just don't get tired of playing."

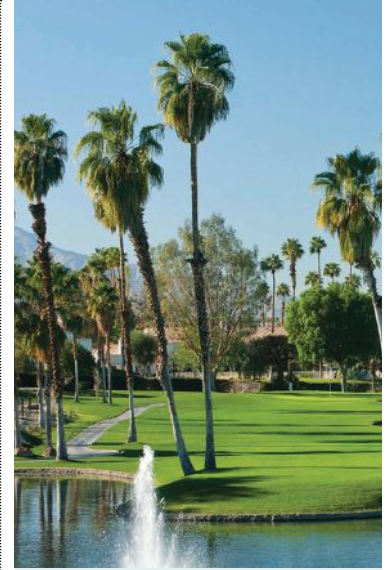
Jon Woodson related, "The winter weather in the Northwest is hideous. We wound up at Avondale because the course reminded us a lot of our course in Portland, but without the rain and cold. It was perfect for us." Woodson has been a member at Avondale since 2000.

Avondale is a club where you go out on the driving range and members recognize

that you're new and come up and introduce themselves, then set up a game or have lunch with you.

Avondale's traditional par-72 course is known for its beautiful setting and impeccable conditioning. More than 2,000 trees line fairways with dog-legs left and right. A spectacular four-component practice facility consists of a 290-yard all-grass driving range with natural turf-only tees; massive putting green; chipping greens with three hole locations and a separate bunker area. Members love the fact that the driving range faces the beautiful desert mountains. Avondale prides itself as a club where it's impossible not to find a golf game on course and enjoy drinks or cards afterwards.

A Coachella Valley gathering point and top layout since 1969, Avondale is in the midst of an exciting revival. San Diego-based JC Resorts was retained as its management company and the results have been very encouraging. In 2011, Avondale sold more memberships than any other private club in the Valley. Former club president Bill Challenger confirms, "Another benefit is that we're managed by a professional organization that knows what they're doing. They've kept costs under control." Major recent improvements include revamped men's and women's locker rooms, fitness center, new Lookout Dining Room and the refurbished Garden Dining Room.



Discover Avondale

Avondale is for the person focused on golf. For people traveling from cold-weather states who want to be part of a community, this club delivers an experience you can't get from public golf. Economically, reasonably priced memberships make a lot of sense. Flex memberships even allow you to choose the specific months you would like to be a member. For example, some members join only November, February and March because they're out of town January and February. A 60-round limited play membership is perfect for folks in the desert for an extended period but don't play on a daily basis. Rounds can be divided between a member and their spouse over the course of 12 months.

Free Discovery Tour at Avondale

A free, personalized Avondale Discovery Tour includes a tour of the entire facility, a round of golf and lunch in the Garden Dining Room. Avondale pairs prospective members with members they'll share interests with. If you are from Seattle or other Northwest cities, they'll try to find members from your city. If you are a bit younger, you'll be paired with younger members.

To set up your personal Discovery Tour, contact Shaun Mingus at smingus@jcreorts.com or 760.345.2727. For more information on Avondale, visit www.avondalegolfclub.com.



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We are so sure you'll love the Terravita Experience that we are offering a NEW affordable and flexible Designer Membership Plan to the first 15 new members that sign up. This plan provides great new options to fit your particular needs.

Fill out an application now by contacting Steve Mallory, Director of Golf at 480 488 7962 or Sandy Cifone at 480 488 6956. Once approved, we'll assign you to one of our friendly and knowledgeable Mentors to help you fully assimilate into the Terravita Golf Club experience!





A Little Native Ability



Bandon Crossings

Photo courtesy Bandon Crossings

Self-taught Dan Hixson has quietly become one of the region's best course designers BY BLAINE NEWNHAM

DAN HIXSON, PERHAPS THE MOST CELEBRATED NEW GOLF ARCHITECT IN THE COUNTRY, is supremely self-taught. Not only didn't he study as a golf architect, but never worked for one either.

After just two full-fledged course designs – Bandon Crossings on the Southern Oregon coast, and Wine Valley Golf Club in Walla Walla, Wash. – Hixson is not only a nationally-recognized designer, but may well be an heir to great Northwest designers, following in the footsteps of A.V. Macan, Chandler Egan, Bunny Mason, John Fought, Bill Robinson, Bill Overdorf, John Steidel and John Harbottle.

Sculpted in the waving wheat country of Southeast Washington, Wine Valley, which opened in 2009, has recently been included in a top 100 list of America's best modern designs, ahead of courses like Hazeltine and Valhalla, former sites of major championships.

Hixson is presently working on a 27-hole course in Eastern Oregon called Silvies Valley Ranch near the town of John Day. Indeed, he's building a course when only 10 new golf course projects are underway in the entire U.S.

So who is Dan Hixson, and how did he get there?

"When I was a kid my mom said she'd see

the light on in my room late at night and she was sure I was drawing golf holes," he said.

The dream never forgot Hixson. He followed in his dad's footsteps – Harvey was a PGA club pro in Cottage Grove, Ore. – working for 12 years at Columbia Edgewater in Portland, eventually becoming that club's PGA head pro. He was good enough as a player to do a mini-tour stint in Australia and New Zealand.

But there remained this burning desire to design courses. He said the dream first sparked in the late 1960s when his dad took him to watch Robert Trent Jones' remaking of nearby Eugene Country Club, where his grandparents were members.

Dan Hixson was seven.

"The art side was always there," he said. "I was constantly drawing. I designed furniture. I kept track of the great golf holes I had seen. I was particularly taken by the Alister MacKenzie work in Australia. I liked the natural look of the bunkers."

His schooling for course design came during the failed attempt to play golf for a living, but also during his successful tenure as a teaching pro. He understood the average golfer, and, more than anything, he understood golf as a business.

He knew courses built in the 1980s and '90s moved too much dirt, cost too much to build

and maintain, and were, in some instances, destined to fail.

"I wasn't afraid," he said, "to tell clients they couldn't spend \$8 million and have the project be successful."

But how do you get started as an architect when you've never even worked with one?

For Hixson, it came one hole at a time. He built a short-game practice area and par-3 course at Columbia Edgewater. He built greens here and tees there. He helped with a remodel at Emerald Valley near Eugene, and did a smart nine-hole revision at the Crestview course in Waldport, Ore.

For Hixson, the move to a career in design was as much personal as it was professional. He left Columbia Edgewater, got divorced, downscaled and began a career devoted to being an architect even if he weren't one.

He sought the advice of other architects. Harbottle told him to find people who wanted to build a golf course, and build it for them.

"I would have done Bandon Crossings for nothing," he said.

Indeed, it was the gamble a couple from Eugene – Rex and Carla Smith – took on Hixson to build Bandon Crossings that realized the dream.

(Visit www.thepnga.org to read the rest of this article.)



The ninth green at Rainier G&CC went under Hixson's knife, set to re-open in the spring.

WORD OF MOUTH

After Dan Hixson designed the par-3 course at Portland's Columbia Edgewater Country Club, more or less in his spare time while he was still the club's head professional, the word started to spread that here was someone who understood the game from the inside, understood what club pros and general managers would need and want. And he began to land small jobs at the region's clubs, performing small renovation projects on a few holes here and there.

Twice he was selected to upgrade some of the layout at Seattle's Rainier Golf and Country Club, most recently just finishing a complete overhaul of the club's ninth green, which had earned notoriety over the years for the number of 4-putts it planted on golfers' scorecards.

"The selection of Dan for Rainier projects was based on Dan's background in local golf and love for course design," said Bryon Hammock, CCM, the General Manager at Rainier. "After he designed

our first-class short game area, we knew he was the right pick to redesign one of Rainier's most challenging holes and our practice green."

Hixson reshaped and re-sloped the green to USGA standards, and arranged for the staff at Rainier to save over 9,700 linear feet of sod, which was re-used once Hixson was ready for it. He also enlarged the nearby practice putting green to nearly double its original size.

The club is planning to have the new hole open for play by April 1, 2013.

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1999

Bandon Dunes
1999

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2001

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2010

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Photo by Wood Sabold

Pacific Dunes #11, 148 yards, par 3



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Chambers Bay, #3, 165 yards, par 3

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Eye of Any Hurricane

The irrepressible Shawna Ianson BY JENNIFER SWINDELL

ONE OF THE BEST AMATEUR GOLFERS IN IDAHO didn't take up the game until she was 39. Now, 20 years later, Shawna Ianson regularly plays in championships' final groups in final rounds where the combined ages of her playing partners is usually less than her own age.

Ianson is a retired teacher, former college athlete and cancer survivor. She's also a shining example of how, at any age and under most any physical circumstances, you can be a successful amateur golfer.

"I recently realized how successful I have been because of the game of golf – not just because of my winning tournaments, but also what I have gained in friendships, companionship, traveling, and my personal life," Ianson said. "It literally has changed my life."

Ianson has been a lifelong competitive athlete who enjoyed softball, basketball and volleyball when she was young. She is an excellent bowler and was a member of the Boise State University bowling team, and remains a huge fan of Bronco sports ("I was a Bronco before being a Bronco was cool!"). She considered becoming a professional bowler but opted instead to be a teacher.

By the age of 39, she was interested in starting a new sport, one less demanding on her body.

"When I took up golf, I really took it up," said Ianson. "I joined several leagues and hit balls as often as I could. I took lessons and played in every tournament I could find."

Today she is at the top of her game. No other golfer (male or female) played in all 10 of the Idaho Golf Association's main events over the last two years – Four-Ball, State Amateur, Mid-Amateur, Senior Amateur and Tournament of Champions. She usually finishes in the top 10.

"The IGA championships are run so professionally that I feel that I am close to really playing on a professional tour, even though it's just an amateur event," she said. "I like trying to beat the young girls. I feel that I can be competitive no matter how much older I am than they are."

She won this year's IGA Women's Mid-Amateur in a one-hole playoff and is the two-time defending champion in the IGA's four-ball event. She has won multiple club championships and is a regular on Idaho's PPGA Cup team.

"When Shawna competes, she isn't flashy or overpowering, just a solid citizen who brings a soft-spoken, competitive spirit," said IGA executive director Genger Fahleson.

Winning trophies has not been her only reward. The golf course is where she met the love of her life, Bob Ianson. They are members at Hillcrest Country Club in Boise, and since her retirement from teaching, Shawna can play and practice as much as she wants.



Shawna Ianson with a few of her many trophies.

"By playing a difficult course almost every day and really working on my game, my handicap dropped rather quickly," said Shawna, who maintains a 3-handicap. "I love golf because improvement is a moving target. Once you break 90, then you want to break 80, then 70. But I also love to be out in the fresh air and green grass. The scenery of a golf course has so much beauty, and nature is all around you!"

Shawna most likes competing in individual events, though she enjoys partner tournaments, including chapmans with her husband, who is also a very good player, carrying a single-digit handicap. They won the Chapman Championship at Lakeview Golf Course in Meridian, Idaho this year.

Her greatest accomplishment in golf was qualifying for the 2008 USGA Senior Women's Amateur, held that year in Tulsa, Okla.

Shawna had her best season ever in 2012, even though she was diagnosed with thyroid cancer only 18 months ago. It was shocking to receive the diagnosis because she was always healthy and reliable, but she took on the news with strength and courage.

"Cancer never changed her attitude about golf," said Amber Van Ocker, a friend and fellow competitor. "I've never seen her rattled. The second you count Shawna out (in a tournament), is the second you've lost." Most of her friends didn't even know she was sick, because she never skipped a beat. She didn't slow down practicing and playing golf. Most of her competitors didn't even know she had cancer. She continued to golf almost every day, and has added tennis to her repertoire. And she doesn't really talk about it because she doesn't think of it as much of a problem.

She had surgery to remove her thyroid and will be on medication the rest of her life. Her husband was diagnosed with prostate cancer this year and also underwent surgery.

"They told me that my metabolism would be down and that I might gain weight and feel tired, but I have not noticed," she said. "We're both doing well and are optimistic that we will both be fine."

We all are.

Jennifer Swindell has lived and worked in Boise, Idaho most of her life. She is a former sports editor and writer for the Idaho Statesman who now specializes in marketing and media relations. Last year she was elected to the IGA Board of Directors.

A STORY TO TELL?

Has the game of golf affected your life? Changed it? Saved it? What does the game mean to you, to your family, to your friends? Send us a note at editor@thepnga.org.



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Walla Walla, Washington

Water, Water, Everywhere

When marking a golf course for play, don't paint yourself into a corner, or a hazard

by Susan White
British Columbia Golf
Senior Manager of Field Operations

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT TASKS in creating a venue that abides by the Rules of Golf is the proper marking of the course. This includes ensuring the boundaries of the course are well identified; marking of water and lateral water hazards; identifying abnormal ground conditions; obstructions and integral parts of the course.



At British Columbia Golf, we use lines to mark the margins of water and lateral water hazards. In such an instance, any stake used identifies the water hazard; the painted lines define the margin. Remember, margins of water or lateral water hazards go up and down. A ball is deemed to be in a water hazard when any part of it touches the

water hazard. In the accompanying photo, with the ball touching the red line, it is in the water hazard.

Stakes and lines should be placed to include in the hazard not only the water, but also rough, banks and unkempt growth related directly to the hazard. Again looking at the photo, this line has been painted in accordance with outside the unkempt growth, etc. However, there is one small problem with where this line is painted, which will become apparent.

In the photo, the ball lies on a sprinkler head (an immovable obstruction), however, the ball lies in or touches the water hazard. How may this player proceed? The player may play the ball as it lies, being careful not to ground his club, or he may proceed under any of the options provided by Rule 26-1, with a penalty of one stroke.

Even though the player's ball lies on an immovable obstruction, he is not entitled to free relief as his ball lies in a water hazard (Note 1 to Rule 24-1). If the ball lay closer to the center of the sprinkler head – not touching the hazard line – it would not be in the hazard, and he would be entitled to free relief.

Where should this line be painted? Far enough away from the sprinkler head to ensure if a ball comes to rest on or near it, the ball will not be in the hazard.

In this situation, the player chose to play the ball as it lay – which could have damaged the club head and the sprinkler head. This may make for both an unhappy player and an unhappy superintendent.

If you are involved in the marking of your course, please pay careful attention to where lines are placed. And if you need any guidance, a good document to have on hand is the USGA's publication, "How to Conduct a Competition." This publication is full of good guidelines that should be used even when marking your course for your regular day-to-day play.

The man with the ball is responsible for what happens to the ball.

BRANCH RICKY (1881-1965)
Major League Baseball executive
and Hall of Fame inductee



All eyes are on Lucas Gatto as he comes to a decision about whether to play the ball out of the hazard or take a drop. From left to right are Kevin Vigna, Gatto, Vito DeSantis (PGA Director of Golf at Port Ludlow GC, serving as the match's referee), PNGA Manager of Rules and Competition Derek Wideman, and PNGA Asst. Manager of Rules and Competition Jonathan Brodin.

Rules large...

On the 34th (and, as it would turn out, final) hole in the championship match of the 2012 PNGA Junior Boys' Amateur, held this past summer at Port Ludlow (Wash.) Golf Club, there is a small creek that runs across the fairway of the par-4 just about where a big drive might land. Lucas Gatto of Burnaby, B.C. – down three holes with three to play to Kevin Vigna of Coquitlam, B.C. – walked down the fairway to find that his tee shot had come to rest among a few small rocks inside the lateral hazard line of the creek.

And Gatto knew what this meant.

He knew he needed to win the hole to stay alive and extend the match. With Vigna's tee shot safely in the middle of the fairway, Gatto knew that if he incurred the one-stroke penalty and took a drop, the match would pretty much be over.

So he thought about his options. If he played the ball as it lies, where would he stand – in the creek? on the rocks? Could he even get the club on the ball, which had settled next to some rocks next to the water's edge? Gatto asked the referee of the match, Port Ludlow's Director of Golf, Vito DeSantis, if he could remove the loose impediments from the hazard where his ball lay – and DeSantis informed him he could not (under the Note to Rule 23-1). If he took a drop, where would he drop? And if he did take a drop, took the penalty, he would still need to make a difficult shot from a difficult lie.

Gatto and Vigna are friends, playing junior golf together at the same club, Vancouver (B.C.) Golf Club. They played on the same high school golf team in Burnaby, B.C. And Gatto had only entered this championship because he heard his friend had entered.

And now it came to this. And there really wasn't any alternative.

Gatto took the drop. Took the penalty. Accepted it for what it was.

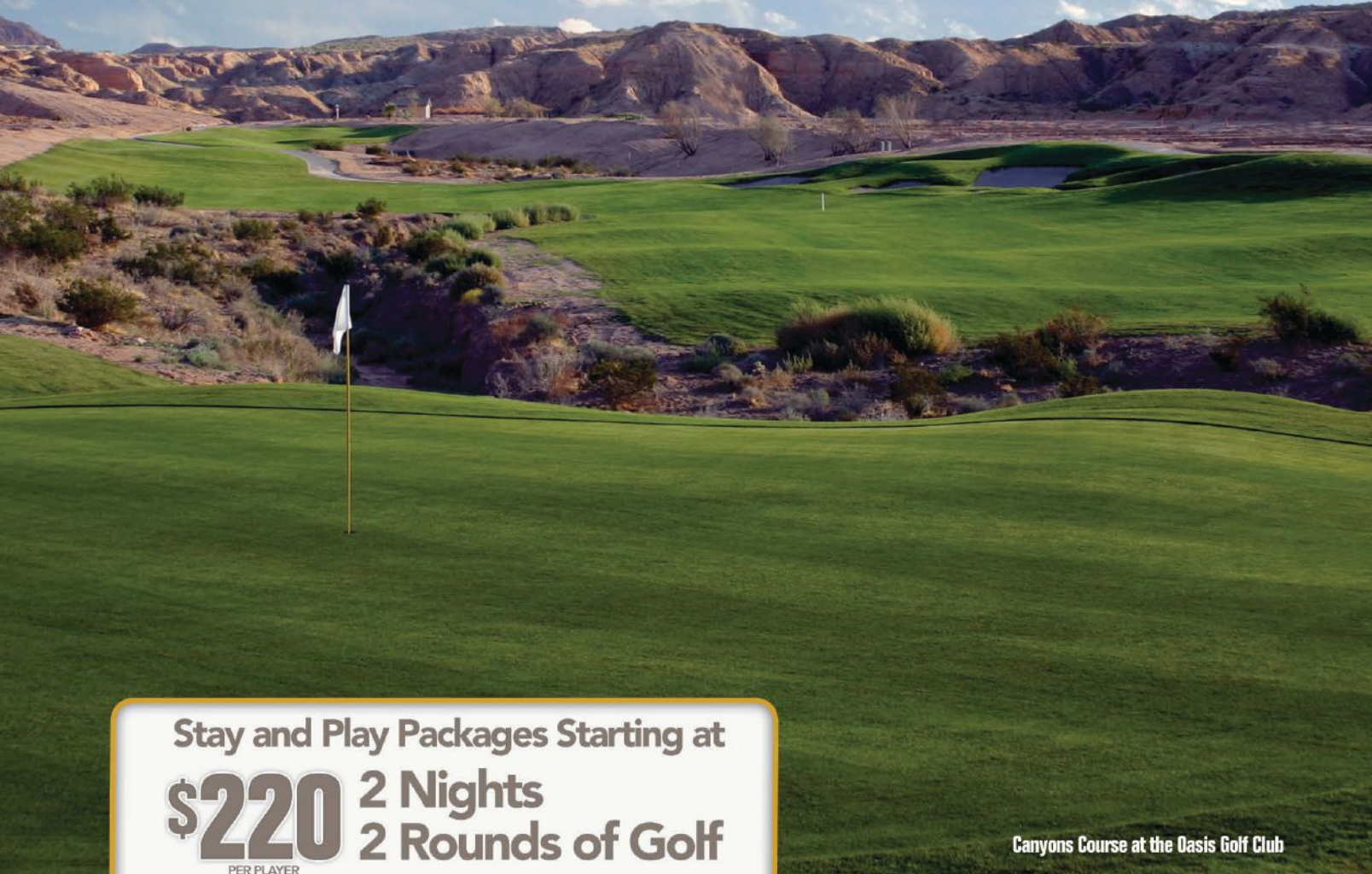
And when they had both reached the green, Gatto conceded the hole and the match to his friend. And they embraced.

...and small

At the Par-3 Greenlake GC in Seattle, Wash., Local Rule No. 2-b states, "After seven strokes, player may move on to the next hole."

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Backspin

WE ASKED, YOU ANSWERED. Q&A FROM THE BEST OF THEM

Monkey business, crow's shenanigans, Timberlake's malfunction, beer in a bag, and the looming controversy about belly putters. No, we don't shy from talking about it

HOW DID YOU GET STARTED IN THE GAME?

BRYSON My dad influenced me to get started at a young age, like most kids, but I didn't fall in love with the game until the early "Tiger" era.

HALL My grandparents enrolled me in a junior golf clinic at their home course in Northern California when I was about 10. It lasted three days and included an 18-hole tournament at the end. There were four golfers competing in my age group, and I finished in second place – about 30 strokes behind the winner. I've been finishing more than two dozen strokes behind good players ever since.

MARRINGTON My grandfather gave me my first set of clubs when I was about 10 (still have them tucked away somewhere?). He played avidly at the Glen Meadows GC in Sydney, B.C. Cy would take me down to the beach, which was just a wedge away from his home, to hit balls into the ocean. Fun memories.

MEEHAN I was exposed to the game early on because I grew up on a par-3 course, Brae Burn, in Redmond, Wash.

THE STRANGEST THING I'VE EVER SEEN ON A GOLF COURSE IS...

BRYSON Working as a golf professional at a public golf course, I've had my share of strange encounters. My favorite would be the nude sunbathers across the river from our course.

HALL Besides my own golf swing? Really, the strangest thing I know of I didn't see with my own eyes. I only reported on it. It came at Crooked River Ranch last year when a pair of ladies playing together aced the same hole. The chances of that are astronomical enough – about 17 million to one. But two months later on the very same course two men,

who knew the ladies well, did the exact same thing.

MARRINGTON While in Malaysia, I saw two monkeys making love and looking at me like I am the distraction. At the same course, ordering a beer, no plastic cups, I was given a lunch baggie with a twist tie and straw – beer in a bag!

MEEHAN A playing partner, who shall remain nameless, once hit a ball with such a descending blow that it went into its own divot, popped out backwards and then rolled forward 5 yards because it had so much spin. Same guy once one-putted for a nine on a 125-yard par-3.

IT SHOULD BE LEGAL IN GOLF TO...

BRYSON Have unlimited specifications for equipment (clubs/balls etc.) from the USGA. I believe golf needs a boost. If the game was easier and more fun, more new players would stick with it. I compare the golf industry with the skiing industry, when snowboards were invented the ski industry received a shot in the arm. Golf needs a snowboard!

HALL Play the out-of-bounds as a lateral hazard. Think of how much time that would save for those of us who hit more tee shots during the course of a round than a long-drive champion's practice session.

MARRINGTON Bring firearms to shoot the crows and ravens that hijack your food from your cart. Will never



If you are thirsty pretty much anywhere throughout Asia, stop off at a corner convenience store where the shopkeeper will snag a plastic bag off the shelf and draw the beer from a keg. And you can buy it by the pound. But be sure to ask for a straw.

forget my first game at Nicklaus North in Whistler, B.C. Purchased a very large sandwich, took one small bite, walked over to the green to make my putt, and the bugger had destroyed my sandwich the moment I turned my back. DOH!

MEEHAN Take one 4-foot putt on each nine. Maybe two.

IT SHOULD BE ILLEGAL IN GOLF TO...

BRYSON Anchor a golf club to the body.

HALL Stare down a putting line for more than one minute if you have a double-digit handicap. I understand why a PGA Tour pro wants to see every facet of the putt. But I've seen way too many hacks like myself analyze a green like an accountant analyzes a tax form on the way to a three-putt.

MARRINGTON Have in excess of two groups on the tee box of a par-3 waiting for the group ahead. Slow play for sure!

MEEHAN Suffer through 5-hour rounds. Ready golf should be a requirement.

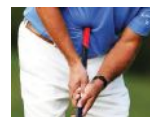
THE OTHER MEMBERS OF MY "DREAM FOURSOME" ARE...

BRYSON Bill Murray and my twin daughters, Kalynn and Kenna.



"I'm going to steal your potato chips, and there is nothing you can do about it."

Thus quoth the raven, nevermore



The belly putter. Or, "The controversy that will consume the golf world in 2013."



➤ Ben Bryson is the PGA Head Professional at Banbury Golf Course in Eagle, Idaho. He grew up in Reno, Nev., where he was the state high

school individual champion. Bryson attended Washington State University, playing on the men's golf team, and winning two individual collegiate titles. He moved to Boise right out of college in 2006 to start working at Banbury. He is the 2012 Rocky Mountain PGA Section Champion and Player of the Year, and also played in the 2012 Web.com Tour's Albertsons Boise Open. Ben and his wife Sara have twin 18-month old daughters, Kalynn and Kenna.



➤ Zack Hall has been the golf writer at the Bulletin in Bend, Ore., since 2007, and has covered all facets of Central

Oregon golf, from small-time amateur tournaments to USGA national championships and the now defunct Jeld-Wen Tradition. A 1999 University of Nevada, Reno, journalism graduate, Hall has been playing golf since he was 10 years old. But despite that, he has a golf swing that resembles the Tin Man during an oil shortage. He is happily married to his wife of 10 years, Janell, and will soon be teaching his 18-month daughter Aubrey the virtues of playing golf quickly.



➤ Ross Marrington is the president of BCgolfguide.com, which he founded in 1998. The evolution of the Internet transformed

the web portal into a premier golf travel resource and has become one of the largest golf tour operators in Western Canada, and now offers golf trips to the U.S. and worldwide. With a background in computer graphics and self-taught web design, a glorified hobby of combining his passion for golf and interest in computers and the web made for an ideal marriage. Ross grew up in the Lower Mainland, and has lived in Kelowna, B.C. since 2002. He and his wife Alana have a son, Hunter, who at 16 has beat his dad twice at golf this year. "I am in trouble," said the worried and proud father.



➤ Jim Meehan is the golf writer for The Spokesman-Review newspaper in Spokane. An avid golfer, his editorial duties include three special golf sections

annually for the newspaper, covering selected tournaments and writing a weekly golf column. Born in Kansas, he primarily grew up in Redmond, Wash., other than living for one year in Norman, Okla. He attended Redmond High School and then Washington State University.

HALL Tom Watson, Andre Agassi and my 18-month-old daughter Aubrey. Watson because not only is he a legend, but he is also one of the most genuine athletes I have ever interviewed. Agassi, because he was an idol of mine growing up and he has done so much for my hometown of Las Vegas. And Aubrey, because there is nobody I would rather share that experience with.

MARRINGTON Alice Cooper, Justin Timberlake and Bill Murray.

MEEHAN Bubba Watson, David Feherty and any of my three brothers at Augusta the Monday after the Masters.

YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME ON A GOLF COURSE WEARING...

BRYSON Any Washington Huskies gear. GO COUGS!

HALL Anything that Rickie Fowler would wear. I guess that makes me pretty boring.

MARRINGTON Bright yellow shirt, Green Bermuda shorts, black knee high socks and golf sandals.

MEEHAN Golf shoes. If I'm walking four and a half hours, I'm wearing the most comfortable pair of shoes I own.

YOUR FAVORITE SENTIMENTAL GOLF COURSE AND WHY...

BRYSON The Old Course at St. Andrews. The history, the incredible new 270-degree driving range overlooking the town, the penalizing bunkers and challenging double greens.

HALL The executive course at Oakmont Golf Club in Santa Rosa, Calif. The course is nothing spectacular. But that is where I learned to play the game and where I would play with my grandfather and father for years after. Some of my happiest times spent in golf were on that little course.

MARRINGTON Predator Ridge (Predator course), first time ever to break 80 (shot a 77) despite starting out double-bogey and bogey. A mental breakthrough that one can have and accept a few bad holes and keep focused and still shoot an awesome game!

MEEHAN Patty Jewett Muni in Colorado Springs. The Pikes Peak Amateur was our family's annual summer vacation and I won my match-play division the first year I was eligible.



WE HAVE DECIDED TO FORGIVE JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE'S EARLY YEARS, when he appeared on TV's "Star Search" and Disney's "New Mickey Mouse Club," and then fronted the boy band 'N Sync, and then participated in the infamous "wardrobe malfunction" with Janet Jackson during halftime of Super Bowl XXXVIII. Yes, we can forget all that, because he's turned out to be a fine actor in movies, and slapped his name on the PGA Tour's Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, actively taking part in the event and helping to raise a significant amount of money for charities. And he's not too bad of a golfer, either. Dream Foursome? Why not.



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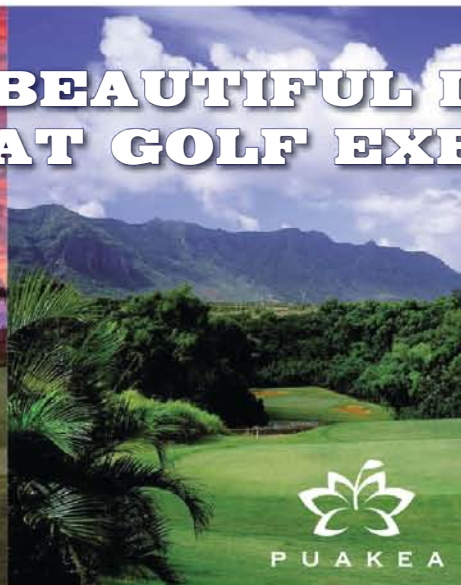
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A Look at the Past, a Goal for the Future



from the IGA

Genger A. Fahleson, Ph.D.
IGA Executive Director

THE IDAHO GOLF ASSOCIATION'S total membership in 2012 with 17,200 regular members and 690 junior members was nearly identical to the active golfer membership of 2011. A goal for 2013 is to create growth in those membership numbers.

The IGA had a successful 2012 Championship season. The Association conducted 12 state championships, four USGA qualifiers, two junior event qualifiers (Big 1 and Junior World) and the Carter Cup Matches, which is a Ryder Cup-style competition between Idaho amateurs and the professionals of the Rocky Mountain Section PGA, Snake River Chapter. The IGA Junior Tour included approximately 40, 1-day and 2-day competitions throughout the four districts in Idaho. Overall entry numbers in IGA Championships have held fairly steady compared to 2011. In 2011, 936 Idaho golfers entered IGA Championships, and 909 golfers entered IGA Championships in 2012.

A big challenge for the IGA and BanBury Golf Course was serving as host for the Junior America's Cup which was held in July. The Junior America's Cup is a competition featuring an elite field of 17 teams representing state and regional golf organizations in the western United States that select the best junior golfers in their area to participate.

The 2013 IGA Spring Meeting schedule will be released in January, 2013. Each year the IGA conducts three Spring Meetings, one in each of the three districts. The main business conducted at the Spring Meetings is an election of one Board member in each district. We will be actively searching out potential Board members over the next couple of months. Any IGA member interested in more information about the IGA Board of Directors can call the office at 208.342.4442 or email iga@theiga.org.



T.K. Kim



Madeleine Sheils

Congratulations to all the 2012 IGA State Champions

Women's Four-Ball

Men's Four-Ball

Women's Match Play

Men's Match Play

Senior Men's Match Play

Women's State Champion

Men's State Champion

Women's Mid-Amateur

Men's Mid-Amateur

Women's Senior

Men's Senior

Girls' Junior State Champion

Boys' Junior State Champion

Women's Tournament of Champions

Senior Women's Tournament of Champions

Men's Tournament of Champions

Senior Men's Tournament of Champions

Mixed 29

Shawna Ianson and Karen Markle

Donavan Ard and Chris Reinke

Sheryl Scott

Jimmy Burnett

Norris Dancer

Madeleine Sheils

Taeksoo Kim

Shawna Ianson

Josh Nunamaker

Karen Markle

Kip Reeder

Amy Hasenoehrl

Josh Gliege

Jill Good

Karen Markle

Ty Travis

Kip Reeder

Abby Black and Marc Rhoades



Volunteer Appreciation

The IGA's Volunteer Appreciation Day took place on October 14 at BanBury Golf Course in Eagle. The volunteers who gave their time and effort during the season were treated to golf and food. Thanks to all of the volunteers who helped during the 2012 season, making it all possible, from course rating to IGA championships. If you would like to get involved with volunteering for the IGA, contact Vanessa Sinclair at 208-342-4442 or vsinclair@theiga.org.

SCORE POSTING

A reminder that the last day to post a score from a round played in the region administered by the IGA is November 14th. Handicap Revisions will occur on the 1st and 15th of every month throughout the entire year. The score posting season for rounds played in the region administered by the IGA will start again on March 1, 2013.



SNAP & SEE



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Golf is a Great Walk, Spoil Yourself



from the director

KRIS JONASSON
Executive Director
British Columbia Golf
kris@bcga.org

A LITTLE RESEARCH CONFIRMED that it was not likely that Mark Twain, the great American author and humorist, ever penned the quote "Golf is a good walk spoiled," but current research would indicate that the sentiment is a little misguided.

In fact the research now says that golf is a low impact activity that meets the average adult's daily need to take 10,000 steps. Walking 18 holes and carrying clubs can burn up to 2,000 calories and experts now say that walking 18 holes is equivalent to a six-kilometer run. No wonder golfers on average have a five-year longer life expectancy than the general population.

Now, there will always be those distractors who claim that, while the above stats might be true, there are too many golfers who

ride in a golf cart and they get little or no benefit from the sport. While my evidence is not scientific, the technology available to me would indicate that these sentiments are misguided as well.

Steve Jobs invented a really neat little device called the iPod Nano and I have been wearing it for the last while and using the built-in pedometer to record how many steps I take daily. The results over the summer have been very interesting.

On days when I just go to work and come back home I will average between 4,000-6,000 steps. (Yes, it counts when you get up from your desk and walk down the hall to talk to a colleague rather than send an email.) If I add 18 holes during the day or after work my step count varies from 18,000-22,000 steps, depending on how straight I hit the ball that day.

On a typical weekend playing with my friends, my step count averaged about 15,000. Weekends in my mind are for playing golf and

having a sleep to catch up and get ready for the next week. (That's what I tell my family and I am sticking to it.)

The really interesting part of my research is what my step count was when circumstances dictated I take a cart. I do have a strong preference for walking but there are courses that are a difficult walk or for some other reason a golf cart is used. In those circumstances my step count would vary between 10,000-13,000 steps.

The reality is that even when one uses a cart there are a lot of steps to take between where you park and the green, in stalking the break of a putt from all directions and in walking disgustedly down the fairway after a cold top.

So let's all agree that "Golf is a great walk, so spoil yourself," and you can quote me on that. Looking forward to see you all walking and swinging into 2013.

NEWS & NOTES

Parker honoured by PGA of BC

Mike Parker, longtime head professional at Victoria Golf Club, was presented with the PGA of BC Lifetime Achievement Award. With over 30 years of service in the Victoria club's pro shop, Parker is one of Canada's longest-serving CPGA Directors of Golf with the same club. Parker was presented with the honour last month during the Club Professional Championship, which was held at Victoria GC.

The Lifetime Achievement Award honours individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the PGA of BC over an extended period of time through their actions on and off the golf course. This highest level of honour has only been awarded six previous times in the history of the PGA of BC.

Score Posting

A reminder that the last day to post a score is November 15. The active season for posting scores will begin again on March 1, 2013. British Columbia Golf encourages handicap committees at individual courses to determine whether their course conditions warrant an earlier closing, or later opening, of score posting.

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British Columbia Golf Unveils Access Global Golf and Travel Network

A new golf and travel benefit program was recently announced by British Columbia Golf, which is aimed at satisfying its members' needs related to golf and vacation packages.

Following extensive collaboration with the Arizona Golf Association and leading golf and travel industry partners, Access Global Golf and Travel Network is now available for purchase by the golfing public. Acting as a golf and travel concierge with point accumulation opportunities, Access Global Golf and Travel Network speaks to the growing demand for a rewards program, offering golfers in British Columbia an opportunity to reap golf and travel rewards to as many as 3,000 golf resorts worldwide.

"Through a number of our member surveys this past year, the reoccurring theme that was concluded from our research was their demand for golf and travel programs," stated Kris Jonasson, Executive Director of British Columbia Golf. "We have done extensive work to bring Access Global to our members and we could not be more excited about the benefits it brings to our membership base. The program brings world class golf and travel to anyone who wants it with the opportunity for excellent special offers."

At no cost, a free guest member of Access Global instantly receives up to \$150 in golf and travel discounts with a "Best Rate Guarantee" on all travel and use of a seven-day-a-week concierge service. With the free guest membership, golfers and travelers alike accumulate "Club Credits" at a rate of one per each dollar spent on travel. Club Credits can be used for future golf and travel purchases.

By upgrading to an annual paid membership at a cost of only \$139, full members of Access Global receive up to \$300 in instant savings on travel, exclusive offers from over 100 of the most prestigious resorts across the globe, discounts between 10-50 percent at over 3,000 golf clubs in the world, including some in B.C., and the ability to earn five Club Credits for every dollar spent.

Visit www.britishcolumbiagolf.org/access-global for more information on Access Global and to sign up for the program.

British Columbia Golf Mourns the Loss of Gerry Walker



British Columbia Golf was saddened by the news about the passing of longtime volunteer, friend and Board member, Gerry Walker. He was 73.

Gerry was involved in numerous capacities throughout his storied career in amateur golf volunteerism. Dating back to the mid-1980s, Gerry became heavily involved with junior golf on Vancouver Island. As a member at Nanaimo Golf Club, he was active in his club's junior program, acted on the organizing committee for the 1993 Canadian Junior Boys' Championship as well as being the Zone 6 Junior Chair for many years.

Prior to the amalgamation of the British Columbia Ladies Golf Association and the British Columbia Golf Association, Gerry acted

as the provincial Junior Chair for the then BCGA.

Gerry also held the Player Development Trust Fund near and dear to his heart, supporting the cause with an unwavering level of enthusiasm, dedication and financial generosity.

In 2009, Gerry was the Manager for the Canada Summer Games team sent by British Columbia to Prince Edward Island. Under his mentoring, British Columbia captured four gold medals, one silver and one bronze. Gerry has also served as a non-playing captain for teams representing British Columbia at national events on many occasions.

More recently, he acted as the Chair of the British Columbia Golf Player Development Committee for six years followed by a two year stint as the Vice Chair.

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Exciting Year for Oregon Junior Golf!



from the OGA

CRAIG WINTER
OGA Director of
Junior Golf
& Rules Education

OREGON JUNIOR GOLF BEGAN THE SEASON with the launch of the Jacobsen Youth Initiative. Its two featured programs – the Erling Jacobsen Tour and Youth on Course – are specifically designed to lower the intimidation and cost for

new young golfers looking to get out on the golf course.

Tyler Morse, a former OJG summer intern, was asked to direct the Erling Jacobsen Tour, a non-competitive 9-hole event series filled with fun, food, prizes and new friendships. With Tyler's leadership, the Erling Jacobsen Tour doubled the number of events and realized four times the number of children participating! The Youth on Course pilot program is now up and running and a select group of youth are currently playing golf for just \$5 per round and we are on track for a full program launch in the spring of 2013.

In our competitive events series, our new registration engine provided unparalleled convenience for parents and players, resulting in a 65 percent increase in tournament registrations. These great increases meant we were able to host our biggest fields ever at many of our two-day events, some exceeding 240 players in a single day!

This year was not only about participation – we also witnessed some truly outstanding performances as well. Hannah Swanson, 17, of Forest Grove, was named the OGA Girls' Player of the

Year after an amazing summer including victories at the Oregon Junior Amateur and a semi-finalist finish at the PNGA Junior Girls' Amateur. Cole Madey, 15, of West Linn, was our Boys' Player of the Year, compiling one of the most dominant performances ever for an Oregon Junior Golfer en route to winning four OJGA Majors, including the Oregon Junior Amateur at his home course, The Oregon Golf Club.

Other notable performances by Oregon Juniors included Gigi Stoll qualifying for the U.S. Women's Open, Clayton Madey's second-place finish at the Western Junior and Dylan Wu advancing to the Round of 32 at the U.S. Junior Amateur. At the 45th Eddie Hogan Cup Team Matches, Oregon Team #1 came up four strokes short, eventually finishing second at these prestigious team matches, held annually at Riverside Golf & Country Club in Portland.

With all that momentum, it just didn't seem right to say good-bye until next spring, so we decided to create the OJGA Winter Series and our first two events are already sold-out!

If the future of the golf industry can be predicted by the current participation levels in junior golf, it appears we are heading down the right track.

You can help Oregon Junior Golf continue to sustain this amazing growth! We are always looking for volunteers, and as a 501c3 your donation is tax-deduction. Call our offices today (866.981.4653) to see how you can get involved!

NEWS & NOTES



The OGA announced the re-hiring of **Brent Whittaker** as Director of Tournament Operations. Whittaker previously worked for the OGA from 2005-2012, leaving in January to spend more time with his family. He served as the USGA Boatwright Intern, Assistant Director of Competitions and Director of Tournament Operations during his earlier tenure at the OGA. Whittaker currently lives in Eugene.

Save The Date for the **Fourth Annual Ladies Tee Luncheon "Fore" The Children's Course** scheduled for Monday, December 3, 2012 at Portland Golf Club featuring LPGA Tour Professional Dottie Pepper. Tickets are \$95 per person, of which \$50 will directly support The First Tee of Greater Portland and The Children's Course. Call The Children's Course at 503.722.1530, or register online at thefirstteegreaterportland.org.

The OGA is hosting a **3-Day Rules of Golf Workshop** at Bandon Dunes Golf Resort December 19-21, 2012 that includes morning golf on Bandon Dunes, Pacific Dunes and Old MacDonald courses and afternoon Rules education sessions each day. The OGA has worked with the resort to develop special attendee pricing on lodging (\$100 per person/double occupancy) and golf (\$50 each round per person). Visit oga.org for more information. To register, contact Craig Winter at 866.981.4653 or cwinter@oga.org.



Amy Pendergast, PGA head professional at Bandon Dunes Golf Resort, has been named the recipient of the 2012 PGA Merchandiser of the Year Award for Resort Facilities. Pendergast, 36, will be honored at the PGA Magazine Merchandisers of the Year Conference Awards Dinner, January 18, 2013, at the Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate, Fla. She has been the head pro at Bandon Dunes since 2010, and has been the resort's director of retail since 2000. She is a graduate of Portland State University, where she competed on the women's golf team.

TAG, YOU'RE IT View the OGA website on your smartphone!



SNAP
&
SEE



SCORE POSTING

A reminder that the last day to post a score is November 30, with the last Revision of this year being December 1. There will be off-season Revisions on December 15, January 1, 2013, January 15, February 1 and 15, with the active season re-starting March 1, 2013.

Oregon Golf Association Annual Award Winners

Since the OGA Annual Meeting in 2004, we've been recognizing some of the top contributions to the game of golf at many levels. This year's recipients were recognized October 19, 2012 at Illahe Hills Country Club in Salem, Ore.



Member of the Year is **Bruce Lemmerman** of Eagle Point Men's Golf Club. Bruce was selected for his involvement as the Tournament Chairman of the Eagle Point Men's Club and his outstanding dedication to the Eagle Point High School boys and girls golf teams, on which he serves as volunteer coach.



Judy Bergs of Royal Oaks Country Club is the Handicap Chair of the Year. Thinking the position sounded interesting, Judy began assisting in 2003, and became the Chair in 2005. Her approach to the job has always been to be a good educator, as opposed to playing "handicap police."



Director of the Year is **Wynan Pelley** of River's Edge Golf Club, Bend, Ore. Wynan works tirelessly to support the OGA in many ways, from regional support with Clubs and outreach to courses throughout her area to her service as an Executive Committee member and Rules Official at Central Oregon events and assisting with Rules Seminars.

Club of the Year went to **Agate Beach Women's Club** of Newport, Ore. This club serves as an example of the great things our Clubs do in their communities. They mentor and support the Newport High School girls' golf team by raising money, donating clothing, shoes and equipment, and hosting a Play Day annually with the team.



Royal Oaks Country Club was chosen the Facility of the Year. This club's commitment to sustainable practices, dedication to giving back to their community and strong membership base earned them this honor for 2012.

Harold Bluestein, PGA, of Vancouver, Wash. was selected Golf Professional of the Year. A PGA member since 1981, Harold is involved in the Oregon Chapter of the PGA, its committees, the Golf Alliance of Oregon and is dedicated to player development for those of all skill levels.



Superintendent of the Year went to **Bill Swancutt** of Illahe Hills Country Club in Salem. It was almost as if every member and co-worker at Illahe Hills nominated Bill for this year's honor, as many mentioned he's too humble to ever take any praise himself. Bill is known as the unofficial "Dean of Superintendents" as many of his employees have gone on to become superintendents.

Brie Stone of Veneta, Ore. was selected Golfer of the Year. Brie dominated the OGA

Women's Championship series this year, winning all three events she entered including the Tournament of Champions, Oregon Mid-Amateur & Oregon Women's Stroke Play Championship. Her win at the Oregon Mid-Amateur was an unprecedented third straight victory at the event.

The Distinguished Service Award went to **Everett "Ev" Reynolds** of Juniper Golf Club in Redmond. Only the third time this honor has been awarded, the OGA recognized Ev with its highest honor for his commitment and dedication to Oregon Junior Golf and the OGA. Ev was a fixture on the first tee as "The Starter" for Oregon Junior Golf, including more than two decades on the first tee at the Junior Amateur.

At Volunteer Appreciation Day held October 8 at Willamette Valley Country Club the OGA also recognized the following volunteers for their contributions. Honorees were Kim Wenger of Eugene, Ore.; Mike Mahaffey of Woodburn, Ore.; Steve Hagen of Scappoose, Ore.; and the Bill Worden Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Bill King of Wilsonville, Ore.

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A century of memories for Bellingham Golf and Country Club



Attendees of Bellingham G&CC's centenary celebration gather on the ninth fairway.



An early 20th century version of the clubhouse at Bellingham G&CC.

by Tony Dear

WHEN BELLINGHAM GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB HELD A WEEKEND OF SPECIAL events this past August to celebrate its centenary, it was actually 100 years, two months and three days old. Incorporated in June of 1912, Bellingham G&CC is, remarkably, one of only 33 businesses based in Washington State that officially began life that year and is still operating today.

The club owes much of its success and durability to its members' resilience and ingenuity. Like all clubs of a similar vintage, it had to survive the Great Depression and its aftermath which it did, barely, by creatively reworking the debt it had accumulated after steadily losing members during the 1930s and '40s, and then issuing \$200 shares that

saw a significant shift in the membership's composition.

Having started out as a club of bankers and lawyers, it morphed into more of a blue-collar club fostering a mentality and work ethic that has endured to the present day, and which has created a club with an intimate small-town feel, a dedicated staff, and a membership that truly values the club's history as well as its place in the community.

For all its charitable endeavors (Bellingham G&CC actively supports the local YMCA, the Cancer Society and the Bellingham Food Bank, as well as allowing the Western Washington University men's and women's teams and high school teams to call the course home), and even after the addition of the swimming pool in 1961 and construction of a handsome new

clubhouse in 2005, the focus has always been on golf, so it was only natural the weekend celebration should start with a golf tournament.

"We had 90 participants, and started the day at 7:00am with a bagpiper out in the center of the course playing as competitors warmed up on the range," says the club's General Manager, Trent McAllister. "We played a 27-hole team event."

The morning, McAllister adds, was made particularly special not only by the piper but also the fact several copies of that morning's *Bellingham Herald* had arrived enabling participants to enjoy a fine history of the club written by sports editor David Rasbach as they registered and received their commemorative player kits.

On Saturday evening, 360 people attended a gala dinner in a tent erected on the ninth fairway. There were 26 past presidents honored, as were a litany of employees from the past and present, including current superintendent Dave Bocci, Bill Colwell who has worked in the maintenance department for 31 years, Bill Fulton who was superintendent from 1990-98 and who has been at the club a total of 32 years, and Sue Brown whose 39 years behind the clubhouse bar and in the office earned her the honor of having the bar named after her.

Four past club professionals – Rick Verbarendse, Steve Reuhl, Tom Parkhurst and Dean Russell – were also there and, given the part he played in ensuring the vitality of the club during the 1980s and '90s, Russell was called upon to act as emcee.

Russell presented long-time member Rick Weihe with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his 11 club championships, and numerous top performances in PNGA and WSGA events

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stretching back to 1970, the year Weihe won the WSGA Washington State Amateur Championship and was runner-up in the PPGA Pacific Northwest Amateur Championship (he also won the PPGA Men's Master-40 Amateur Championship in 1990, and the WSGA Senior Men's Amateur championship in 1998). This year, Weihe qualified for the USGA Senior Amateur. "Rick is an amazing golfer and gentleman," said Russell. "And it was a special moment for me to recognize his accomplishments and contributions to Bellingham Golf & Country Club."

Russell also introduced the Mayor of Bellingham, Kelli Linville, whose parents had been members and who took swimming lessons at the club as a child. She and current club president Don Van Andel exchanged plaques – one from the Governor's office to the club which now hangs outside the pro shop, and one from the club to the Mayor which hangs in City Hall.

After member Phil Multop toasted the club and its future, Seattle musician Vic Peters played music from the last 100 years, and the attendees danced into the small hours to the Rocky Vaselino band.

The following day, brunch was served in the clubhouse to 300 guests including members of the public. Thus concluded Bellingham Golf & Country Club's centenary weekend. The members had partied like it was 2012, celebrating the last 100 years and readying themselves for 100 more.

A former British PGA Apprentice Professional, Tony Dear is an award-winning writer who contributes to numerous golf publications on both sides of the Atlantic. He has authored several books on golf, and manages the website www.bellinghamgolfer.com.

Popular Winter Series Returns for Fourth Season

The WSGA Winter Series is back for 2013! The tournament series is open to men and women amateurs who are in good standing of a WSGA member club and have a USGA Handicap Index not exceeding 36.4 for men and 40.4 for women. Formats include Stableford, Individual Stroke Play, 2-Person Best-Ball (Four-Ball), and a 2-person Scramble. The four events will take place once a month from January through April, and there is a series-long points system for grand prizes after the final event.

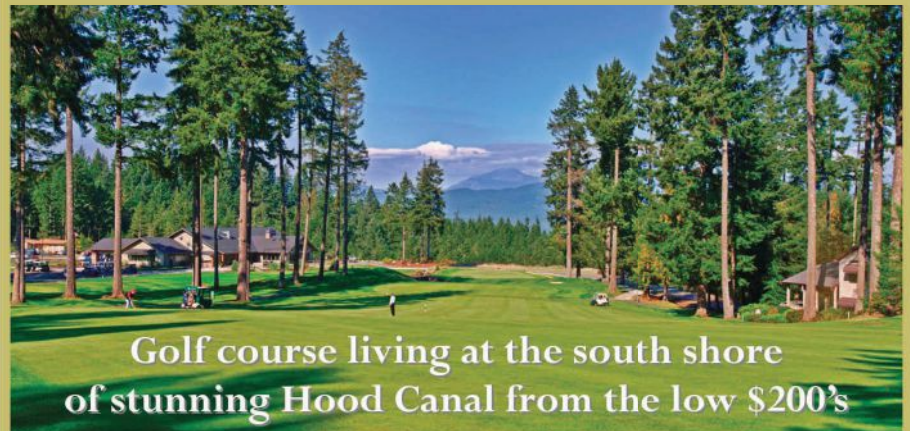
Online entries, schedules and locations will be available December 1 at www.thewsga.org. Call 800.643.6410 for more information.



Photo by Bob Heck

THAT WAS THEN. THIS IS NOW. In the previous issue of this magazine, an older photo of the Meadow Springs Country Club clubhouse in Richland, Wash. was inadvertently used. This photo (above), taken from the ninth fairway, shows the present clubhouse, which opened in 2000 and provides great views of the golf course. Vintner dinners, featuring selected wines from a featured winery, are offered. All of the club's facilities – swimming pool, tennis courts, banquet hall – have been renovated or built within the past dozen years. The swimming pool was renovated in 2004 with state-of-the-art mechanical equipment and other materials such as the heat-resistant deck coating.

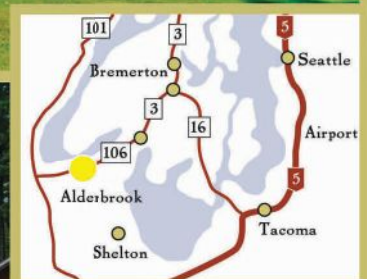
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NEWS & NOTES

Horton Elected WSGA President



Horton

At the 90th WSGA Annual Meeting held October 27 at Meridian Valley CC in Kent, Frank Horton was elected President of the Washington State Golf Association.

A native of the Northwest, Horton worked for 33 years at Bremerton's Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in the Nuclear Engineering Department as a mechanical engineer. Before and since retiring in 2004, Frank devoted much of his time to the game of golf. He has been a volunteer Rules Official for the WJGA for almost 15 years, and also works high school and college events, as well as PNGA and WSGA championships. He was an invited Rules Official for the 2011 U.S. Senior Open at Sahalee Country Club.

Frank was General Chairperson for the 2006 U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship and the 2011 U.S. Junior Amateur, both of which were held at Gold Mountain Golf Club in Bremerton.

Frank has served on the WSGA Course Rating Committee for several years, and as WSGA secretary. He is also a PNGA Hall of Fame Committee member.

Frank's second love is music and playing guitar with friends. His enthusiasm for golf, for music, and for life in general is contagious, and the golf community is fortunate to have this most fortunate native son.



Frets

Thomas Frets has been named general manager for Renton's Fairwood Golf and Country Club. Frets has spent the past two years as president of GM Resources in Bellevue, providing management consultant services to private clubs. Prior to that he was general manager/chief operations officer of Glendale Country Club in Bellevue. In 2006 Frets was selected as Club Manager of the Year by the Western Washington Golf Club Superintendents Association.



Ferreira

Li Wang of Sammamish, Wash., and Jordan Ferreira of University Place, Wash., have been named HP Scholastic Junior All-Americans by the American Junior Golf Association. Earlier this summer Ferreira won the PNGA Junior Girls' Amateur Championship.

Score Posting

A reminder that the last day to post a score from a round played in the region administered by the WSGA is November 14th. Handicap Revisions will occur on the 1st and 15th of every month throughout the entire year. The score posting season for rounds played in the region administered by the WSGA will start again on March 1, 2013.

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WSWGA History Book Available

PNGA Hall of Famer Ann Swanson has put together a monumental history of the Washington State Women's Golf Association, "Celebrating 90 years of Championship Golf...the Grand Tradition."

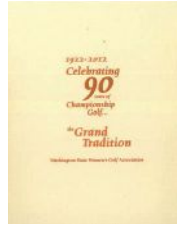
Swanson is the current president of the WSWGGA, which is the oldest women's golf association in the state, and with its 90th championship being held this past summer at Seattle's Sand Point Country Club, she felt it was the ideal time to put the book together.

"Many of our records and history have been lost over the years," said Swanson. "I researched for two years in order to put this book together. We finally have some history written down now. I have always loved reading golf history and as president of the WSWGGA this year and it being our 90th year it was a great time to do it."

Some of the best women players in the state have been associated with the WSWGGA including Hilda Beck, Anne Sander, JoAnne Carner, Pat Lesser Harbottle, Edean Ihlanfeldt, Betty Jean Hulteng, Connie Guthrie, and so many more.

Each contestant at the 90th championship was given a copy of the book.

The 297-page book, full of never-before seen photos and clippings, can be purchased by emailing Swanson at swaneylinks@comcast.net or by calling Amy Foster at Sand Point Country Club at 206.525.5766. The purchase price is \$65. Proceeds from the sales will go to women's golf scholarships.



First Tee launches growth initiatives

The First Tee Campaign for 10 Million Young People was launched in 2011 and runs through 2017, the program's 20th year. And with this drive, the program has begun its Matching Grant initiative. Chapters of The First Tee that raise an amount more than they raised the previous year, and increase the number of individual donors, are eligible for a matching grant from the national office. The matching grants are tiered, so that the more a Chapter raises, and the more new donors are involved, the greater the matching grants are. The matching grant program runs until 2015.

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For your second shot, you'll have a long downhill approach to a green that lies just

beyond a gaping ravine that angles long and away from you. And there is no give on this second shot. You're either on the green, or you're lost in the ravine.

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The green is large, and sloped so that it will accept long shots. Believe in this. Or, you can bail out to the left, short of the ravine, and chip on from there, hoping to save par with a one-putt.

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