

# INSIDE GOLF NEWSPAPER

## Pleasant Harbor Resort downsizes golf plans

The proposed Pleasant Harbor Resort on Washington's Olympic Peninsula in Brinnon has downsized its plans from an 18-hole golf course to a 9-hole layout. For more on the plans for the resort, please see Page 3 of this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.



## WHAT'S NEW IN NW GOLF

### Central Oregon Shootout will be held April 22-24

One of the Pacific Northwest's top team tournaments, the Central Oregon Shootout, will be held April 22-24 at three of Central Oregon's top golf courses.

The tournament, which will feature two-player teams, features three different formats of play throughout the three days - with a better-ball, scramble and chapman.

The three-day tournament will take place at Aspen Lakes, Black Butte Ranch Resort and Eagle Crest Resort. There will be a welcome reception as part of the entry fee as well.

Cost is \$600 per team and includes green fees, cart, lunch, tee prizes and more. For information see [www.aspenlakes.com](http://www.aspenlakes.com) and hit the information button for the Central Oregon Shootout.

### Pacific Amateur Classic offers early tourney deal

If you are looking to play in the Lithia Pacific Amateur Golf Classic, now might be the time. The tournament is offering an early registration deal of \$475 before March 1 to sign up and play in its 20th annual tournament, which will take place Sept. 17-22 at some of Central Oregon's top golf courses.

The event includes three rounds of golf on a different course each day, gift bag with more than \$200, demo day, dinner, lunches, golf cart and more. The tourney cost goes to \$530 after March 1. See [www.pacamgolf.com](http://www.pacamgolf.com) for more

### Seattle Golf and Travel Show is set for March

Make sure to mark your calendars for March 4-6 at the CenturyLink Field Events Center. This is the event that officially marks the return of the 2016 golf season in the Puget Sound area with the Seattle Golf and Travel Show featuring a variety of displays, events and interactive exhibits designed to get golfers fired up for the golf season.

One of the biggest hits at the show is traditionally the demo area, where all the leading manufacturers will have a place to check out their new clubs and a place to hit them as well and see what they like. There will also be a chance to see what is new for golf in the Pacific Northwest in terms of the golf business and everyone who buys a ticket will be given a free round of golf when they enter the show.

There will also be speakers throughout the three days of the show as well as demonstrations and competitions like for long driver and putting contests. Over 12,000 attendees are expected to make it to the show.

For more information about the show, see the web site [www.cascadiaevents.com](http://www.cascadiaevents.com).

### Rules Quiz

As expected based on all of the press and discussions the use of a long putter is prohibited now that the 2016 golf season has arrived. True or False?

## LPGA Portland Classic is set for new date on 2016 tour schedule

The LPGA Portland Classic Presented by Cambia has been shifted to new dates on the 2016 LPGA tour calendar. The tournament will be held June 30-July 3 at Columbia Edgewater Country Club in Portland.

The tournament is entering its 45th year on the LPGA Tour schedule, the longest-running tournament the LPGA has on its calendar. The tournament has typically been held in August or September. The event is also one of the most popular on the LPGA Tour every year with most

of the top players entering and taking a shot at the \$1.3 million purse.

The 2015 tournament was won by teenager Brooke Henderson, who survived a Monday qualifier to get in the event and then won by eight shots. She was the third youngest winner in LPGA history when she claimed the title.

The Portland Classic Presented by Cambia will be the second of two LPGA events in the Northwest in 2016. The KPMG Women's PGA is set for Sahalee June 9-12.



Brooke Henderson won the event in 2015.

## Northwest's top teachers can cure your golf ails



The 2016 golf season is right around the corner in the Pacific Northwest and if your game needs a bit of help Inside Golf Newspaper just might be able to help you find the right golf instructor. This month we present our annual Golf Teacher Directory - a special pull-out section that gives you personal information on 90 professional golf instructors from around the Northwest. In the top photo, Riverbend Golf Course professionals Marti O'Neill (back) and Justin Harvey (foreground) work with Highline College golfer Megan Martin. GolfTEC's Jordan Cooper uses a swim-noodle as a training aid with student (right). For more, please see inside this section.



## Pacific Northwest golf shows ready for center stage

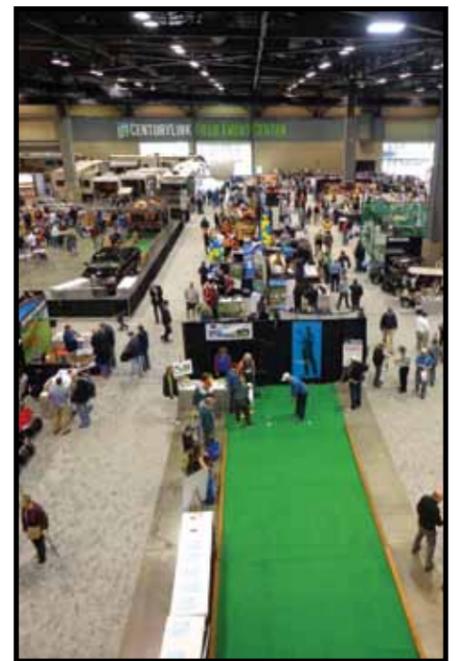
The 2016 golf season is getting close - don't believe it, all you have to do is see that golf shows around the Pacific Northwest are close at hand.

First on the tee is the Portland Golf Show, which will be held Feb. 12-14 at the Oregon Convention Center. Next up is the Vancouver B.C. Golf Show, set for Feb. 13-14. The Spokane Golf Show will follow on Feb. 19-21 while the Seattle Golf and Travel Show wraps up the show season March 4-6.

All the shows will feature plenty about what is new for 2016 along with ideas about where to play and what to hit.

### Northwest Golf Shows

- **Portland Golf Show:** Set for Feb. 12-14 at the Oregon Convention Center. Tickets are \$13. For information see [www.portlandgolfshow.com](http://www.portlandgolfshow.com)
- **Vancouver Golf Show:** Set for Feb. 13-14 at the Pacific National Exhibition. Tickets are \$14.34. For information see [www.vancouvergolfshow.com](http://www.vancouvergolfshow.com)
- **Spokane Golf Show:** Set for Feb. 19-21 at the Spokane Convention Center. Tickets are \$12. See [www.spokanegolfshow.com](http://www.spokanegolfshow.com).
- **Seattle Golf and Travel Show:** Set for March 4-6 at the CenturyLink Field Events Center. Tickets are \$15.34. For more information see [www.seattlegolfshow.com](http://www.seattlegolfshow.com).



The Seattle Golf Show is set for March 4-6.

# The Pacific Northwest winter might cause some golf blues, but there is hope coming

Winter in the Pacific Northwest is always a tough time for golfers. The weather usually never cooperates and the clubs usually are left in the trunk of the car until spring.

OK I did cheat a bit this winter and headed to Arizona for a few rounds but it seems as if Mother Nature followed me there too- with some chilly conditions, frost delays and howling winds. At least one round was in the 60-degree temperature area.

As I drive around the area in the winter, not only has golf been a tough deal, but there are signs that make it even more depressing. The other day I drove by the site of the old Sumner Meadows course. The land still sits empty, apparently someday destined for warehouses or a housing development.

The sign out front still sits but it getting overgrown by tall grass and weeds. People still park their cars close to the old course and use the trails for walks, but those too will soon be gone as part of development.

One time I drove by the old Elk Run Golf Course in Maple Valley. Another course that has gone away. The Tahoma School District is using part of the land for a new school.

Bad weather and golf course closings. Not a good winter.

But there are signs that the golf season is right around the corner and things should be looking up.

During a drive one weekend morning, I turned on ESPN 710 Seattle and heard Jim Moore and Shon Crewe on the Golf Show. Moore might not know what the heck he is talking about, but hearing a golf show on a winter morning seemed to be a pick-me-up.

I stopped at the driving range after the radio show ended and hit some balls. The sun came out and Mother Nature finally seemed to be cooperating in the winter around the NW.

With the sun still out, I decided to roll the



Steve Turcotte

dice and play a few holes. The skies looked a bit ominous but on the first tee, the sun came back and I got nine holes in. The ground was a little wet and the greens were bumpy, but it was a chance to play some winter golf.

As I walked out of the course, I saw some

information for the Seattle Golf and Travel Show, another sign that the golf season is closing in. The show will be at the beginning of March and is always the best way to kick off the season to see what is new.

Golf in the Northwest is always a strange deal. That's why most of us find a way to get out to the warmer temperatures for a few days of golf. During that day driving around, the course closings and weather tried to do me in on that winter day in the NW.

But I wouldn't let it happen. Courses might close, but others are still up and running. The rain might hit, but the sun could be close behind. Golf season is close, enjoy it.

Steve Turcotte is editor of Inside Golf Newspaper. He can be reached at sdturcotte@comcast.net.



The sign to the old Sumner Meadows course shows how overgrown it has become since closing.



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## Double Bogey



## Harold Bluestein PGA

## Rules Answer

**Answer: False.**

• Inside Golf thanks Paul Lucien for his help with the monthly rules questions..

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# Proposed golf resort on Olympic Peninsula gets scaled way back

The proposed Pleasant Harbor Marina and Golf Resort in Brinnon, Washington was subjected to another public hearing (there have been many) in Brinnon, Washington. The original plan included an 18-hole resort golf course, however, after ten years of frustration the developer (The Statesman Group from Alberta, Canada) has downsized their proposal to include only a 9-hole golf course.

What was proposed 10 years ago has become bogged down in a bureaucratic quagmire - the county's nine appointed planning commissioners will digest the public hearings, again, and make a recommendation to the county commissions, who may accept it or have more public hearings (can't seem to have enough of these) before they decide. The latest hearing went the way of the others, about half in favor and half opposed - nothing new.

Either way, the hopes of another golf resort in the Puget Sound region have pretty much faded away.



The proposed Pleasant Harbor Marina and Golf Resort on the Olympic Peninsula has downsized.

## PSGA 2016 Schedule Includes Private clubs

Puget Sound Golf Association's 2016 schedule includes Chambers Bay, Gamble Sands, Salish Cliffs, TPC, Canterwood, Desert Canyon, Bear Creek & other excellent private clubs to sample this golf season. Friends/Business associates welcome. No membership required.

An optional tournament is held at each event for players w/a current WSGA Handicap card.

PSGA outings enable golfers to play quality courses in Washington, Arizona & Hawaii each year.

You may review the 2016 PSGA golf schedule at [nationalgolftours.com](http://nationalgolftours.com) - PSGA link.

For event sign up, send email to: [psgagolfer@yahoo.com](mailto:psgagolfer@yahoo.com) - or call PSGA office at (206) 226.5332

## Join TVGC for March Madness!

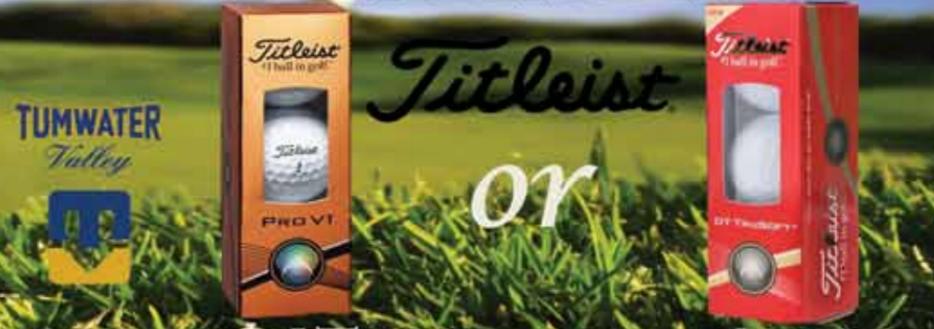


**How to Play:** Ask Pro Shop staff for an entry card. Play 4 rounds at regular rates between now and March 12, 2016 and have your card stamped after paying for each round. First 64 completed/submitted cards fill the contest. Multiple entries allowed! (TVGC Membership/Pass Holders pay \$6 card/entry.)

Drawing to match you the golfer with your NCAA Men's March Madness Team will be March 15th. Get all the details in the Pro Shop...let the fun begin!

## Free Titleist with EVERY round at Tumwater Valley Golf Club!

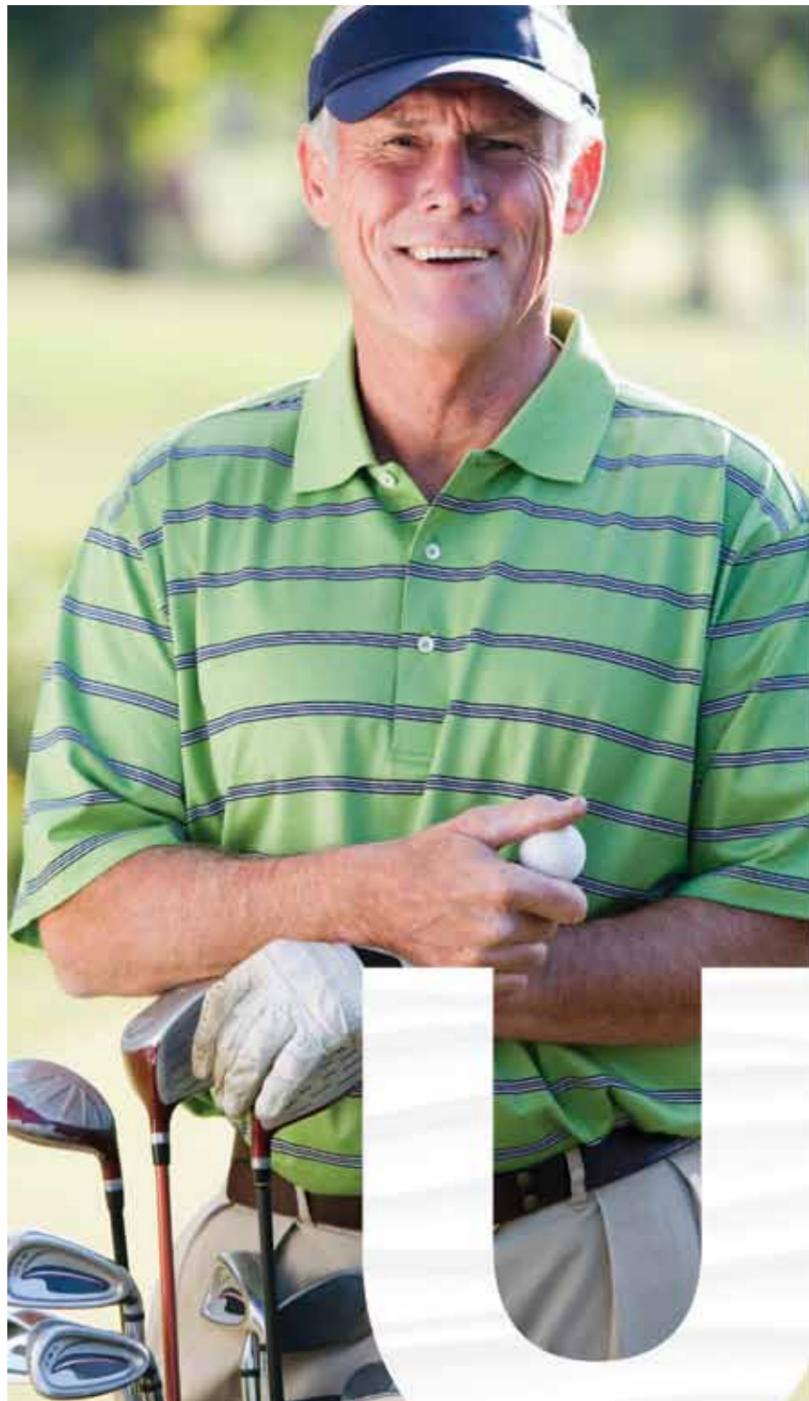
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# Professional tours set dates for Northwest events for 2016; Chamber's Bay Brent Zepp named top golf professional

The Pacific Northwest is set to play host to a variety of professional tournament during the 2016 golf season. The Champions Tour, Web.com Tour and LPGA Tour will all be represented this year with tournaments.

The KPMG Women's LPGA Championship kicks things off with its major championship set for June 9-12 at Sahalee Country Club in Sammamish. The second-year event is a collaboration with the LPGA and PGA of America and offers a purse of \$3.5 million.

The Portland Classic Presented by Cambia Health Solutions has moved dates this year and will take place June 30-July 3 at Portland's Columbia Edgewater Country Club.

The Champions Tour will hit the Pacific Northwest and the TPC Snoqualmie Ridge on Aug. 26-28 with the Boeing Classic. The tournament offers a purse of \$2,000,000 and will feature some of the top players from the tour.

The Web.com Tour hits the Boise area July 9-12 with the Albertson's Boise Open at Hillcrest Country Club before the tour moves to the Portland area and Pumpkin Ridge's Witch Hollow Aug. 27-30 with the WinCo Foods Portland Open.

The LPGA will be making a return to the Puget Sound area June 7-12 with the KPMG Women's PGA Championship and tickets are available for the tournaments. Ticket prices range from \$10 for practice round tickets to \$75 for a six-day weeklong pass to the event.

The tournament will bring together the top players on the LPGA Tour and marks the return of the LPGA to the Puget Sound area since the Safeco Classic went away years ago.

## Chamber's Bay Zepp wins award

Each year members of the Western Washington Chapter PGA are selected by their peers to receive the following awards based on their outstanding achievements. Here are the winners for the 2015 golf season:

• **Golf professional of the year:** Brent Zepp, Chambers Bay. Brent exudes great skills in the areas of leadership, mentoring, and representing the PGA. However, it was the national and local success of the U.S. Open at Chambers Bay that pushed Brent to the top.

• **Teacher of the Year:** Alex Dunlop, The Golf Club at Newcastle. Alex implements all the skills of the "modern" teaching pro.

• **Bill Strausbaugh Award:** Greg Manley, Meridian Valley Country Club. Greg Manley certainly epitomizes this award. He holds the PGA badge in the highest regard and considers giving back to other PGA members, the WWC Chapter, the PNW PGA Section and to his community very important and rewarding.

• **Horton Smith Award:** Mark Rashell, The Golf Club at Newcastle. Mark has spent a great deal of effort on education. He has taught educational seminars at the Chapter level and has supported several PGA "Growth of the Game" initiatives.

• **Player Development Award:** Koll Farman, The Golf Club at Newcastle. Koll has great enthusiasm for growing the game and it shows when looking at how many golfers he touched this season.

• **Youth Player Development:** Sara Griffin, Tacoma C&GC. Sara is currently the Youth Player Development Director for the WWC Chapter. She has made a huge impact at her own club.

• **The Patriot Award:** David Kass, Salish Cliffs Golf Club. David has done substantial work in the Chapter as the Patriot Golf Day Chairman. He has revamped the Patriot Golf Day Format and venue in order to make the most positive impact to the fund raising in this event.

• **Assistant Golf Professional of the Year:** Ryan Young, Chambers Bay. For a young professional Ryan has already compiled an impressive body of work. He has his hand in most aspects of the Chambers Bay golf operation.

• **Merchandiser of the Year: Private:** Kenney Boyd, Glendale Country Club. Kenney spends a

considerable amount of his weekly schedule managing the retail operation.

• **Merchandiser of the Year Public:** Marti O'Neill, Riverbend Golf Complex. His sales numbers are really strong considering that his customers often are often entry-level or value driven.

• **Merchandiser of the Year Resort:** David Kass, Salish Cliffs Golf Club. David epitomizes creativity. He has invented programs like the "US Open Selfie" promotion which had customers submitting Salish Cliffs logoed product in a selfie from the US Open.

## Riverbend offers group lessons

Riverbend Golf Course will hold its February group lessons throughout the month on a variety of days with its instructors.

On Tuesday's throughout the month of February, Eric Hinrichs will teach a class from 6:00-7:00 p.m. On Wednesday's, Josh Immordino will teach a class from 6:00-7:00 p.m., on Thursday's Jon Shabel will teach a class from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and on Saturday mornings from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Justin Harvey will teach a class.

Each participant must attend the time and day chosen for the entire duration of the group session - there is no switching of days. Each class will have a minimum of four students and a maximum of eight.

Cost is \$75 per student for the February classes. For information call 253.856.5175.

## ExploreOregonGolf Passport available

The ExploreOregonGolf Passport continues to be the best value for golf savings in Oregon & SW Washington to play more, travel and play new courses. You'll get access to more than 60 courses (some offer multiple or unlimited redemptions!) and feel good about supporting growth of the game through donations made to the Golf Alliance of Oregon (PGA, Superintendents, Junior Golf, Golf Course Owners & Club Manager's Association).

It's a win-win! You save, support the game and get to play more while exploring & visiting new courses in Oregon & SW Washington.

The Passport costs \$129 or if you are not a member it will be \$179 and that includes the Passport and an OGA membership.

For information see [www.oga.org](http://www.oga.org).

## Drive, Chip & Putt qualifying

The Masters Tournament Foundation, PGA of America and United States Golf Association have partnered to create the Drive, Chip & Putt Championship, a free, nationwide junior skills competition for girls and boys ages 7-15, competing in separate divisions in four age categories. Participants in the competition will advance through local, sub-regional and regional qualifiers conducted throughout the U.S., all competing for a spot in the championship final to be held each year at Augusta National Golf Club the day before the Masters Tournament.

Visit the web site [www.DriveChipandPutt.com](http://www.DriveChipandPutt.com) for more information about the event.

## Olympic Peninsula Card offers chance for three

The 2016 Olympic Peninsula Card offers golfers an amazing opportunity to play three of Kitsap Peninsula's premier golf facilities for one great price. For just \$169 plus tax players get a round of golf, cart and a bucket of range balls at each facility. Players also will receive -10% off on all merchandise and food & beverage purchase that same day. The OPC card is valid seven days a week after 12:00 pm and includes holidays. The cards are good till October 31, 2016 and there is a limited number of cards left for sale. Call either White Horse at 360-297-4468, Seven Cedars at Dungeness at 360-683-6344, or Salish Cliff's at 360-462-3673.



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 May not be combined with any other special/promotion/discount.  
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Rounds must be played after a round at regular price is paid.

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 Expires 2/29/16

COUPON

PIERCE COUNTY

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(Reg. \$65) • Expires 2/29/16

COUPON

EVERETT

**Walter Hall Golf Course**



**Sunrise Special**

**18 Holes of Golf, Golf Car Fee, Breakfast Sandwich & Coffee for only \$33!**

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# Pacific Northwest PGA hands out awards for its 2015 season

The Pacific Northwest Section PGA of America has named its 2015 Special Award Winners. The top Pacific Northwest PGA professionals in 15 categories were recognized by their peers for outstanding performance during 2015. The winners listed below represent the very best of the Pacific Northwest Section's 1,100 PGA Professionals in Washington, Oregon, Northern Idaho, Western Montana and Alaska.

Here is a look:

• **Bryan Tunstill**, PGA, Head Professional at Columbia Edgewater CC in Portland, OR received the Section's highest honor as Golf Professional of the Year for 2015. Tunstill has developed very aspect of his profession to the fullest degree, including golf shop operations, teaching, playing, tournament administration, rules of golf, and merchandising.

• **Greg Manley**, PGA Head Professional at Meridian Valley CC in Kent, WA, was awarded the 2015 Bill Strausbaugh Award. He has proven to be a true mentor to his fellow PGA Professionals through 13 years of service to the Western Washington Chapter, 7 Years to the Section, and extensive community service.

• **Jason Aichele**, PGA, Teaching Professional at Meadow Springs Country Club in Richland, Washington, was named the 2015 Teacher of the Year. Aichele has brought to fruition a fantastic plan for a year-long coaching program and developed his own 3,200 square foot indoor practice facility.

• **Andy Mackimmie**, PGA, of the Coeur d' Alene Resort was honored with the 2015 Horton Smith Award. Mackimmie, who has been the Section's Chairman of Education for the past five years, has shown his commitment to furthering education in the Section by coordinating the popular Sweet Sixteen Education Seminars.

• **Justin Roberts**, PGA of Canyon River GC in Missoula, MT was named 2015 Assistant Golf Professional of the Year. He stepped up in a big way with daily operations, as well as hosting major Section and Montana State amateur events at Canyon River GC. He also started up a junior golf program, and raised funds for it by holding a tournament.

• **John Grothe**, PGA Head Professional at the

OGA Golf Club in Woodburn, OR received the 2015 Player Development Award. Grothe was recognized for making exemplary contributions in the area of player development. He has been a leader in programs to grow the game, at little or no cost to participants.

• **Sara Griffin**, PGA, of Tacoma C&GC received the 2015 Youth Player Development Award for her extensive and innovative junior golf programs at Tacoma C&GC, as well as developing her own Golf in Schools program.

• **Chris Runyan**, PGA, of Prairie Falls GC in Post Falls, ID received the 2015 Patriot Award. Runyan spearheads a charity golf tournament that raises over \$50,000 for charities supporting our veterans and he works with injured local veterans to bring golf back into their life.

• **Matt Brown**, PGA, of Highlands GC in Gearhart, OR was named the 2015 Merchandiser of the Year for Public facilities. Brown was recognized for innovative merchandising including online sales, high-tech custom club fitting, and managing a custom club brand that he launched in 2014.

• **Louis Bennett**, PGA Head Professional at Tetherow GC in Bend, OR was named the 2015 Merchandiser of the Year for Resort facilities.

• **Scott Lertz**, PGA Head Professional at Royal Oaks CC in Vancouver, WA, received the 2015 Merchandiser of the Year award for Private facilities. Lertz is recognized for the great attention to detail that he puts into merchandising and creative interactions with his customers.

• **Kathleen Brown**, PGA of Esmeralda GC in Spokane, WA, was honored with the 2015 Perry Williams Award. In addition to serving the PNW PGA Rules Committee since 2013, she was the PGA Rules Official on both the Rosauers Open Invitational and the PNW PGA Professional Championship.

• **Derek Barron** of Tacoma Golf Center in Tacoma, WA, was recognized as both the 2015 Player of the Year and 2015 Assistant Player of the Year.

• **Rob Gibbons**, PGA of Arrowhead GC in Molalla, OR was named the 2015 Senior Player of the Year. Besides placing well in all of the Section's senior events in 2015, he qualified for and played in the 2015 Senior PGA Professional National Championship.

## Tour Players With Northwest ties

### PGA Tour

- Ben Crane • Portland • 122nd on the list with \$122,087
- Robert Garrigus • Gresham • 103rd on the list with \$50,193
- Andres Gonzales • Olympia • 180th on the list with \$32,805
- Troy Kelly • Bremerton • No Events
- Ryan Moore • Puyallup • 53rd on the list with \$316,539
- Alex Prugh • Spokane • 194th on the list with \$21,352
- Andrew Putnam • Tacoma • No Events
- Michael Putnam • Tacoma • 149th on the list with \$65,600
- Kyle Stanley • Gig Harbor • 123rd on the list with \$124,621
- Nick Taylor • Ex-UW • 127th on the list with \$115,550

### Web.com Tour

- Jason Allred • Ashland • No Events
- Joel Dahmen • Clarkston • No Events
- Jeff Gove • Seattle • No Events
- Scott Harrington • Portland • No Events
- Richard H. Lee • Bellevue • No Events
- Brock Mackenzie • Yakima • No Events
- Andrew Yun • Tacoma • No Events

### Champions Tour

- Fred Couples • Seattle • 6th on the list with \$75,000
- Bob Gilder • Corvallis • No Events
- Brian Henninger • Eugene • No Events
- Peter Jacobsen • Portland • 35th on the list with \$12,250
- Kirk Triplett • Pullman • 31st on the list with \$17,000

### LPGA Tour

- SooBin Kim • Ex-UW • No Events
- Sadena Parks • Tacoma • No Events

### LPGA Symetra Tour

- Molly Aronsson • Ex-UW • No Events
- Kelli Bowers • Chelan • No Events
- Jimin Kang • Seattle • No Events
- Renee Skidmore • Everett • No Events
- Kim Welch • Ex-WSU • No Events

### Did you know....

• Paige Mackenzie of Yakima, Wash. won the 2002 WSGA Women's State Amateur and would later play on the LPGA Tour. She is now a studio analyst on Golf Channel and will be reporting for them on the 2016 KPMG Women's PGA Championship being held this June at Sahalee CC in Sammamish, Wash.



• On the heels of Oregon hosting the 1st US Women's Four Ball Championship last year at Pacific Dunes, the OGA will host the inaugural Oregon Four-Ball Championship August 27-30th at Eagle Crest Resort in Redmond, Oregon. Get more information and register for this exciting new championship at [www.oga.org](http://www.oga.org)





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# The Hickory Corner: There is value in those collections

By Brian Giboney, Special To Inside Golf

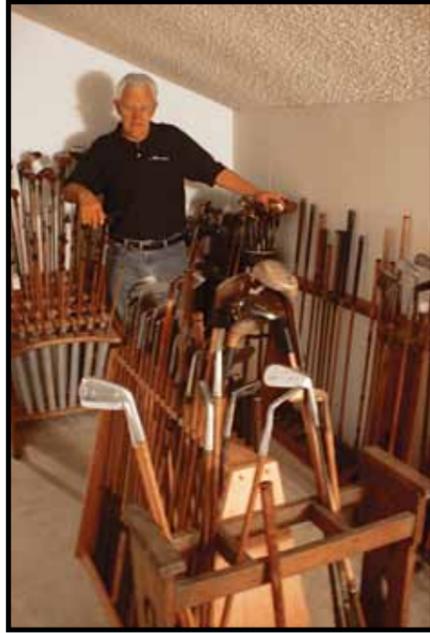
Welcome back to The Hickory Corner where we explore hickory golf (golf with pre-1935 equipment).

Prior to hickory golf tournaments becoming what they are today there were simply hickory golf collectors. These collectors were people who saw value in golf's past and foresaw value that would be realized down the road. How right they were. When golf transitioned from hickory shafts to steel shafts in 1936, wood shafted golf clubs headed to the dusty corners of the garage, to the basement, and to attics across the land as their value on the golf course plummeted.

Then 30+ years later those former golfer's children started inheriting their father's old wood sticks and started to see value – "Hey - these things are cool" – this was around the late 1960's and early 1970's when collectors groups started popping up. Hickory golfers were so scarce in those days players used to mail in their scorecards to be counted in golf tournaments. Yes you read that right. Hickory golfers in the late 1960's and early 1970's mailed in their score cards to be counted in golf tournaments that were not even held on the same course.

Much has changed since those days and so has the value to hickory clubs. In the Northwest there are only a handful of collectors with collections worthy of a Hickory Corner article. Word on the cobblestone is a collection in the Portland area is a must see and here in the greater Seattle there are two. Over back to back weekends I hit the freeway and drove to see the collections of Rob Ahlschwede and Jack Wilson.

Since my travels started with Rob we will start his collection. The tour began in Rob's garage where his work bench is set up as well as several hundred hickory clubs. Not knowing the full extent of the collection figured - "Wow - this is impressive" then was invited to see the real collection inside. Upon entering this large rec-room converted into golf museum, one adjective best describes the sensation – JAW-DROPPING. Rob started collecting in the 1970's and joined the Golf Collector's Society in the early 1980's. His 35+ years of collecting and playing hickory golf clearly shows in his collections. We are talking about thousands of pieces from the hickory era



Jackson Wilson (left) shows off his hickory collection; Rob Ahlschwede (right) shows Grayson Giboney part of his hickory collection that he owns.

and not just clubs. Hats, bags, markers, flags, tees, glass milk jars with hickory golfers on them. Photos, paintings, books, and other items one would not ever consider in the evolution into the modern game of golf we enjoy today. The collection reveals a lot of the man who grew up in Omaha, Nebraska and fell in love with hickory golf over 35 years ago.

Next on the travel plan was to see Jack Wilson's collection. Like my visit with Rob, this tour started in the garage, and again hundreds of hickory golf clubs. This time more hickory woods which was impressive knowing how hard good brassies and spoons are to find. Then it was into the warmth of the home to see the real gems. Again JAW DROPPING. This time in the sheer quantity of "players" which are hickory clubs ready to go play golf. Jack's collection is much different than Rob's and you can see the contrast in the two photographs. Rob's collection made me respect his dedication and overall breadth of knowledge and desire to learn everything there is to know about

hickory. Two minutes into seeing Jack's collection all I wanted to do was go play some golf even though it was pouring rain outside.

Jack also hails from Omaha, Nebraska and migrated to the Northwest after living in Colorado and Oregon for many years and collecting all along his migration path. Ironically these two long time friends have never sold a club to each other. There is a thick layer of mutual respect for the way they each go about collecting hickory golf.

The Hickory Corner asked both Rob & Jack the same question for you readers who might have an interest in collecting hickory golf items.

THC: What advice do you have for new collectors?

Rob: Don't do it! Not really, if you love something it is great to have a few of those things around for comfort. Best advice is to look for the best items: Clubs with good deep stamps and in good condition. If a club is very significant stamps are not as important.

Don't be an accumulator--except to use more common items to trade up to more important pieces for the collection. Also, specializing in one area makes it easier--books only, or clubs only, or ceramics or artwork. And, you better love what you are after!!

Jack: If you think you want to get serious about hickory golf get your hands on some good reference materials. Buy what catches your eye. Get involved with people that can help you. We have a wonderful group of hickory players and collectors here in the Puget Sound area [Jack is a member of NW Hickory Players and also participates in AP National Hickory events]. I love the history and traditions of golf. Myself and others in our region play hickories often. Anyone is welcome to come play or ask questions.

As for which collection is better. The Hickory Corner cannot possibly choose, both Rob and Jack deserve major credit for their collections and their passion for hickory golf the past 30+ years. And hickory golf is better off because of them.

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# The Lesson Tee: With a new golf season it's time to evaluate where your game is

I believe it is a helpful thing to evaluate our golf games at least once each year. I know I do. Each one of us desires to play better, score lower, hit it further, more consistent ball striking, make more putts and the list goes on. We need to sometimes take a slightly different approach to improvement to achieve our new goals.

I would like to strongly suggest to pick a few areas to improve.

First, perhaps it would serve most golfers well to look at the short game first. If golfers started their focus and practice on and around the greens scores would definitely be lower.

Look at your putting. How can one eliminate three putts? To eliminate mistakes is a sure and quick way to score lower. Practice speed drills from 40 feet or further. Focus on speed first and foremost when playing. Start to roll the ball past the hole to eliminate half of your error of short and past the hole too far.

Next, commit to and trust your read from five feet and in. Most short putts are missed because golfers get cautious, fearful and doubtful as they get closer to the hole. Because of this mental blockage again commit and trust your read. Also, develop a timely consistent routine. More like Brandt Snedeker. Less time to putt equals less time to THINK. Golfers on a whole would play better, enjoy themselves and the game more if they thought less and played faster.

Secondly, work on that pitching around the green. Master that sand wedge around the green. Wear that club out! Use that sand wedge 95% of the time (or more) from at least 75 yards and in. Getting the golf ball up and down around the green (or just up) compared to not is like making a birdie. If you do not convert



**Jeff Coston**

that up and down you will need a birdie to make up for that mistake.

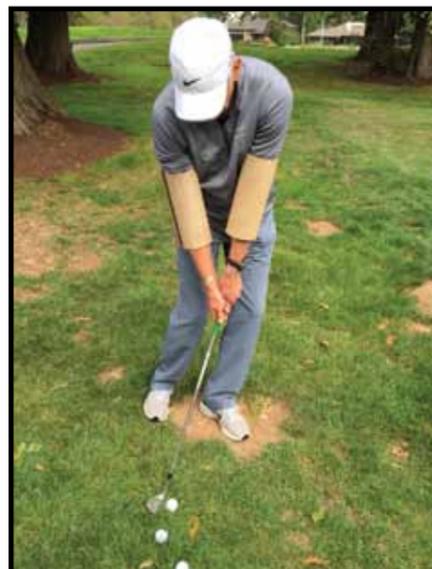
Next, drive the ball better. That driver needs to be our "offensive weapon!" Most golfers are filled with doubt and defensive with that driver.

Make the golf ball curve with that driver. Jack Nicklaus told me when we played, straights an accident. Learn to swing that driver on plane. That driver swing is more from the inside than any club in the bag! It is of the utmost importance to shallow the path and shaft on your driver. Make that a goal for 2014 and you will really enjoy the game.

Fourth, read and apply the first five chapters especially of a book by a friend of mine called, "Extraordinary Golf" by Fred Shoemaker. This book is required reading for my students. Shoemaker read my mail in the "extraordinary" book.

This is a great start for 2016. Come up to beautiful Semiahmoo Resort and see me. We will get 2016 started correctly.

*Jeff Coston is the all-time leading tournament winner in the history of Pacific NW golf. He is a member of the Pacific Northwest PGA Hall of Fame. Jeff can be reached for appointment by calling 360 201 4590 and jeffcoston.com.*



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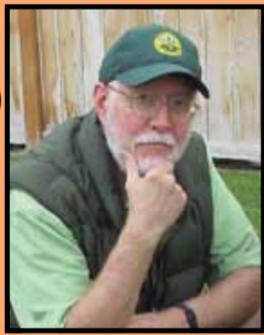
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# Rules of the Game: If there is a new year on the way, that means there are some new rules

## Russ Wing



### 2016 EDITION OF THE RULES OF GOLF: Anchoring the Club — Understanding Rule 14-1b

**WHAT CHANGES?**  
The new entry—Rule 14-1b—prohibits strokes made with the club or a hand gripping the club held directly against the player's body or with a forearm held against the body to establish an anchor point that indirectly anchors the club.

**WHAT THE RULE SAYS**  
In making a stroke, the player must not anchor the club, either "directly" or by use of an "anchor point."  
**NOTE 1:** The club is anchored "directly" when the player intentionally holds the club or a gripping hand in contact with any part of his body, except that the player may hold the club or a gripping hand against a hand or forearm.  
**NOTE 2:** An "anchor point" exists when the player intentionally holds a forearm in contact with any part of his body to establish a gripping hand as a stable point around which the other hand may swing the club.

**THIS IS NOT AN EQUIPMENT RULE** — Confirming mid-length and long putters remain permissible provided they are not anchored.

**PERMITTED:**  
CLAW  
CROSS-HANDED  
LONG PUTTER NOT ANCHORED  
FOREARMS HELD AGAINST BODY WITHOUT ANCHOR POINT  
MID-LENGTH PUTTER NOT ANCHORED  
TRADITIONAL GRIP  
GRIP RESTING AGAINST FOREARM

**PROHIBITED:**  
MID-LENGTH PUTTER ANCHORED AGAINST STOMACH  
ANCHORED LONG PUTTER  
ANCHOR POINT CREATED BY FOREARM  
END OF CLUB ANCHORED AGAINST CHIN

Penalty: Anchoring the club in making a stroke brings a two-stroke penalty in stroke play and loss of hole in match play (as with any other breach of Rule 14-1).

USGA, R&A

## There are ways to make winter golf fun

Keep golf fun over the winter can be a fun challenge. Here are a few winter golf tips: work on swing mechanics, shot making, golf fitness, golf travel & golf shopping.

• Get a large mirror in your garage or spare bedroom. Work on your swing mechanics: swing path, turn, extension, or what ever swing angle you are working on to help your mechanics. Print out your golf swing: 8 swing position & print out some other golfer (ie: PGA/ LPGA tour players swing)...& study those angles & copy those angles.

• On the driving range or when you have time for 3, 9 or 18 holes... Have less clubs in your bag... Play with a 7 iron & a putter... Next time: hybrid & a putter. You will golf faster, learn shot making, you will find yourself on different parts of the same golf course (which makes you think), try shots during the winter (no tournament stress & experiment & see what you can & can't do). Another round: turn your entire golf course into a par 3 course...start from "fun feeling places."

• Golf fitness: winter is the time I hit my golf fitness on over drive. You can gain valuable distance, core strength, explosion, stability, & power from your body. Use this time to focus on your health & you will feel amazing. Get a friend, get a stretch band, free weights, mirror, get in a gym, a trainer, what ever motivates you! log onto [www.mytpi.com](http://www.mytpi.com).

• Golf travel: get a fun get a way planned. Come visit me in Palm Desert/ Palm Springs, CA... I can help customize a fun feeling golf- spa- shopping.

• Get golf shopping: nothing motivates me like cute golf clothes, golf gadgets & golf hats. I love to see the latest in golf trends, fashion & look & feel great on the golf course. (It motivates me on my 5:30 am work outs!). Try these: custom golf shoes (my joys/ Footjoy... Custom color.

Becky Fossum is an LPGA Teaching Professional- Class A. She can be reached at 253-576-3130. [www.BeckyFossumGolf.fotomerchant.net](http://www.BeckyFossumGolf.fotomerchant.net)

Of the new Rules that just went into effect on January 1st, the one that has gotten the most press coverage and discussion is Rule 14-1b, Anchoring the Club.

To help golfers better understand this new Rule, the USGA and the R&A have published the "infographic" that accompanies this article. Please read it carefully so that you can better understand this new Rule.

Q: Does this new Rule just apply to putting?  
A: No, it applies to all strokes.

Q: Can my local club waive this new Rule through the use of either a Local Rule or a Condition of Competition? A: No and no. Clubs and Committees are not authorized to waive a Rule of Golf through the use of a Local Rule or a Condition of Competition.

Q: Can you post a score for handicap purposes if you made any anchored strokes? A: Yes, but only if you record the appropriate penalty strokes for violating the Rule. Otherwise, no, because handicap rounds must be played in accordance with the Rules.

For more information about any of the Rules changes, please visit the USGA's web site ([USGA.org](http://USGA.org)).

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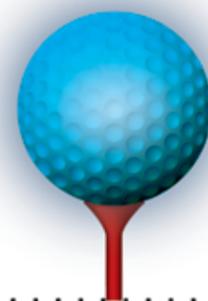
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