

INSIDE GOLF NEWSPAPER

Ryan Moore's hot finish earns a Ryder Cup spot

Puyallup native and PGA Tour star Ryan Moore has seen plenty during his golfing career. From NCAA Championships to U.S. Amateur titles to PGA Tour victories, Moore has done it all. Now add one more as he was named a captain's pick to the U.S. team by captain Davis Love III.



WHAT'S NEW IN NW GOLF

Players with Northwest ties earn PGA Tour status

A trio of players with connections to the Pacific Northwest have played their way to the PGA Tour for next season.

- Andres Gonzales of Olympia earned his way back to the PGA Tour next year by winning enough money in the Web.com playoffs. His \$74,000 for a second-place finish got him back on the tour for the upcoming season.
- Former University of Washington player Cheng Tsung Pan finished 11th on the Web.com money list to earn his promotion to the PGA Tour for next year. The top 25 from this year's Web.com Tour earned cards for next year. Pan finished with \$233,950 in winnings.
- Another former Husky Joel Dahmen from Clarkston finished 25th to earn his card. Dahmen finished with \$150,267 to make the move.

If it's fall, it must mean it's time for aerification

Now that fall is almost here it's time again for aerification. Most golf courses around the area have already aerified or will be aerifying putting greens.

Have you ever wondered why golf courses aerify their greens, or why they topdress their greens with sand on occasion? Typically golf courses in our area aerify their greens twice a year, once in the spring and then again in the fall. Why? Aerification provides three primary benefits that help to improve the health of putting greens. During the aerification process a coring machine or aerifier removes cores or plugs from the putting green. By removing the cores or plugs, aerification provides a means for removing thatch from the putting surface, which allows for better infiltration of both water and nutrients.

Twin Lakes Golf and CC nears 50 and still a treat

Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club in Federal Way, Wash. is nearly 50 years old and is still a treat for golfers in the south Puget Sound area. The course winds through the Twin Lakes neighborhood and features terrific Puget Sound views on the back nine. See inside for more.

Rules Quiz

In which of the following is a player's ball not lost:

- The player searched for 6 minutes and did not find the ball.
 - The player dropped a ball where he thought his original ball was likely to be and played his next stroke.
 - The player dropped a ball for relief from a lateral water hazard for which she did not have virtual certainty the ball was in the lateral water hazard.
 - A player found two balls in the fairway pretty far apart. Both are the same brand, and number he was playing. He failed to put any identification mark on his original ball.
- Please see Page 2 for the answer.

Sale of North Shore will bring several new changes to the course

Nothing has been set in stone, but the new owners and operators of North Shore Golf Course in Tacoma will be looking at options for making significant improvements to the 55-year-old course. The Puyallup Tribe of Indians bought the course last month and Columbia Hospitality was brought in to run the operations. Changes will be coming on and off the course. The new owners have begun putting together short and long-term plans for capital improvements. See inside for more.



A Pacific Northwest farewell to the King



Photo by Scott Bisch ©

Arnold Palmer was known as the King for good reason. He was truly the best ambassador golf has never known on and off the course. Nationally and internationally Arnie had his legion of fans called Arnie's Army. And in the Pacific Northwest, he came every year to take part in Peter Jacobsen's annual charity event. He last came in 2011 when the event was called the Umqua Challenge and greeted fans at the event that year with a smile and a thumbs up. The King will be missed.

Prugh captures NW crown in a playoff

Corey Prugh of Manito G&CC (Spokane, Wash.) won the Pacific Northwest PGA Professional Championship in a one-hole playoff against defending champion Tim Feenstra of Broadmoor GC (Seattle). Prugh made a birdie on the first extra hole for the title.

The PNW PGA Professional Championship is a 54-hole championship and serves as a qualifier to advance directly to the PGA Professional Championship, June 18-21, 2017 at Sunriver Resort, Sunriver, Oregon. In addition to Prugh and Feenstra, Scott Erdmann of Oswego Lake CC, Russell Grove of College Golf Camps Of America LLC, Brent Murray of Oswego Lake CC, Ryan Malby of Iron Horse GC and Bryan Tunstill of Columbia Edgewater CC all earned spots to represent the section next June.

Jade Greens will shut the doors in November

Jade Greens Golf Course in Auburn, Wash. will close on Nov. 27 as a result of water issues and rising prices. The nine-hole course opened in 1990 as Jim and Mary Jo Hawk turned the property into a golf course and driving range. It is undecided as to what the future use for the property will be and whether the driving range will remain open. Various options are being considered. More on the story next month.

Aspen Lakes: Great Central Oregon option

Just because the leaves are falling the temperatures have dipped a bit, don't think that a getaway to Central Oregon is out of the question. Places like Aspen Lakes in Sisters, Ore. keep the golf season rolling right along in the fall with good weather and a course which is always in superb condition. For more Aspen Lakes and a Central Oregon getaway, see inside.



Attention golfers: Make sure you don't ever sign up for the non-golf golf trip

Trivia time: When is a golf trip not a golf trip? OK, a couple of hints first there was a plane trip involved, golf clubs were checked in and more than a week's worth of golf clothes were packed. So, I will ask again when is a golf trip not a golf trip?

Answer: When your left wrist gets hit with a bout of gout and it's literally too painful pick up a 12-ounce adult beverage. I knew the left wrist was in a bit of trouble as the Alaska Airlines plane headed for Charleston and a nine-day trip to Myrtle Beach. But I held out hope that drugs would help.

No dice. I gave it a shot during our group's first round, playing 18 holes of right handed golf. Shot a 108, but lost three balls and had three whiffs. With the four-day World Handicap Championship in Myrtle Beach a couple days away, I was in trouble. This was seriously looming as a non-golf golf trip.

I even visited an urgent care place in Charleston to see if I get could a reprieve. The doctor prescribed some medication – it did take some swelling down and made my wrist feel a little better, but not nearly enough.

When it came time for the first round, the other three guys on the trip loaded up and headed for the course. I stayed back at the hotel. I did get a chance to work on my tan and walk the beach. Day two came, same story. But I did find a way to play a few holes. We headed to a par-3 night golf course and I got in 9 holes of right handed golf.

Day three and day four of the trip were the same. The other three headed to the course, I stayed back at the hotel and continued to work on the tan and getting some beach exercise. I even mixed in a movie to stay busy on one of the days.

I knew I was rolling the dice when I stepped on the airline to make the trip. But had hoped



that the gout might come and go or I could play with some pain. There was no playing with this pain despite the fact I am the worst when it comes to dealing with pain.

And the kicker – a tropical storm headed out way the day we left giving us no chance

for a round of mini golf or go karts. And with the bad wrist, there was no chance of a final getaway round.

The closest I got to tournament action was the 19th Hole at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center where I wore an ID badge saying I was a player in the tournament. Little did everyone else know at the Convention Center as they ate and drank was that I was probably the only guy in the building on a non-golf golf trip. It was frustrating to see the scores and hear the tales of the course.

Oh well, live and learn. I might have not teed it up at the World Amateur, but I did get a chance to work on my tan for a week.

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



The closest to tournament action the author got was the nightly functions at the Convention Center.



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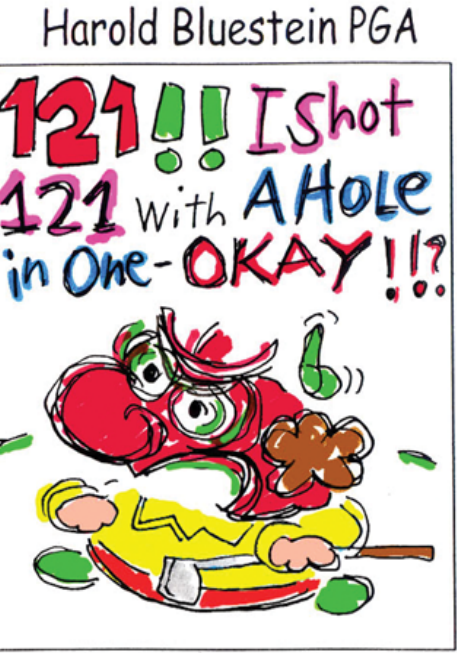
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Double Bogey



Rules Answer

• Answer: C. Since the player dropped a ball under an inapplicable rule. If the original ball had been found within the 5 minutes allowed for search she could have picked up the dropped ball, under Rule 20-6, and proceeded in accordance with the Rules. Played the original ball. Her ball would have become lost had she make a stroke at the dropped ball.

• Inside Golf Newspaper would like to thank Paul Lucien for his rules insights.



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Pacific Amateur Golf Classic celebrates 20th year in play

Golfers from around the world celebrated in Bend with the 29th annual Lithia Pacific Amateur Golf Classic. The event featured nearly 500 players taking part at some of Central Oregon's top courses with men and women taking part in several flights.

Rick Gehrke of Meridian, Idaho won the tournament championship with a net score of 68 at Sunriver's Crosswater. The top four players from each of the flight advanced to the final round at Crosswater. Gehrke, playing in the 12th flight during the tournament, shot a gross score of 83 and combined with his 15 handicap shot a net 68 to win the crown at the 20th annual event.

The event used Sunriver's Meadows and Woodlands courses in addition to Lost Tracks, Widgi Creek, Aspen Lakes and Juniper.



Brooks Stoner of Bellevue found trouble on this shot at the Lithia Pacific Amateur (left); golfers sign their scorecards after the final round of the event.

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New maintenance program paying dividends at Aspen Lakes; Keating named as new head professional at the OGA Course

An investment in the conditioning of Aspen Lakes Golf Course, a family-owned facility in Sisters, Ore., and a new maintenance program is showing how relatively small steps can make a big difference in the health of a championship layout. Aspen Lakes, long a “Hidden Gem” at the foot of the Cascade Mountain Range in beautiful Central Oregon, is in its best condition in years. That is no accident.

The Cyrus family, which owns the facility, and the entire staff have rededicated their efforts over the last two years to get Aspen Lakes in optimal condition. Superintendent Josh Knapp has also instituted several low-cost changes that have put Aspen Lakes at the forefront of turf maintenance.

Among the improvements:

- A new aerification process that lessens the impact on the golf course by first spurring turf growth, then using less-intrusive tines, and top-dressing with a brush trailer that uses far less sand.
- Aspen Lakes soil has moved from a pH level of 7.8 in 2014 to a far-less acidic 6.8 today, strengthening the turf to thrive in Central Oregon’s High Desert climate.
- Implemented a deep and infrequent watering program that has helped foster stronger roots.
- Last year Aspen Lakes added about 4 inches of its trademark red sand to every greenside bunker on the golf course.
- Recently launched a newly designed website at www.aspenlakes.com.

Such improvements are being noticed by golfers. In July, Aspen Lakes enjoyed a 10 percent uptick in golfers compared with July 2015, which was already well ahead of July 2014.

“We always get good feedback, but this year it seems like it has been at another level,” said Rob Malone, Aspen Lakes director of golf. “I think

play has definitely grown on the coattails of our conditioning. Our superintendent, Josh Knapp, and his team have done such a wonderful job.”

OGA names Keating head professional

Mark Keating has been hired as the PGA Head Golf Professional of the OGA Golf Course, announced by OGA CEO Barb Trammell.

Keating has served as a golf professional for 36 years, most recently at the The Reserve Vineyards and Golf Club in Aloha, Ore. Before that he worked as Director of Player Development at Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club in North Plains, Ore., as well as working at Meriwether Golf Club in Hillsboro, Ore. and Astoria Country Club in Astoria, Ore.

“I could not be more excited to join the amazing team at the OGA Golf Course and to get acquainted with the local golf society,” said Keating. “The feel of the club takes me back to my teenage years in Idaho where the living was pretty easy and there was a real community. I appreciate the opportunity and the warm welcome that I have received so far.”

Keating is originally from Carmel, Calif., though attended high school in Moscow, Idaho.

Oregon Amateur Four-Ball winners

Three teams won divisional titles at the playing of the Inaugural Oregon Amateur Four-Ball Championship, held August 27-30, 2016 at Eagle Crest Resort – Ridge Course in Redmond, Ore. In the Open Division, the duo of Trevor Harding (Portland, Ore.) and Brent McKee (Portland, Ore.) earned the title in the Open Division by defeating medalists Jim Dunlap (Beaverton, Ore.) and Jay Poletiek (Portland, Ore.) 6 and 4 in the championship match. Earlier in the day, the Harding/McKee team came back from 3-down

after 10 holes to defeat Concordia University pair Tanner Huddleston (Woodland, Wash.) and Ryan Melnychuk (Grants Pass, Ore.) after 19 holes.

Amanda Jacobs (Portland, Ore.) and Gretchen Johnson (Portland, Ore.) won the inaugural title in the Women’s Division, defeating divisional medalists Ginny Burkey (Eugene, Ore.) and Lisa Smego (Olympia, Wash.) 2 and 1. The pair never trailed, finally pulling away by winning with birdies on the 15th and 16th holes before halving the 17th with pars to earn the victory.

The Senior Men’s Division was won by Central Oregon residents Stein Swenson (Bend, Ore.) and Carey Watson (Bend, Ore.). Their match against Mark Bowler (Portland, Ore.) and David Lydell (Beaverton, Ore.) came down to the 18th hole, where Watson knocked in a 12-footer to clinch his team’s 1-up win and the inaugural Senior Men’s title.

NW golfers qualify for USGA Four-Ball

Erik Hanson of Kirkland, Wash. and Ben Garrett of Seattle shot a team score of 7-under par 63 in earning medalist honors in qualifying for the 2017 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball; while Ellie Slama of Salem, Ore. and Amanda Minni of British Columbia teamed to win the qualifier and advance to the U.S. Women’s Amateur Four-Ball.

The other team to advance to the U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship proper are Ryan Kelly of Gig Harbor, Wash. and Ryan Welborn of Tacoma, Wash. Slama and Minni were the only team to advance from this qualifier to the Women’s Amateur Four-Ball.

Both qualifiers were held at Oakbrook Golf Club in Lakewood, Wash. and were conducted by the Washington State Golf Association (WSGA), which is the local representative of the United States Golf Association (USGA).

The 2017 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball will be held May 27-31 at Pinehurst Resort & Country Club at the Village at Pinehurst, N.C.; and the 2017 U.S. Women’s Amateur Four-Ball Championship will be held May 27-31 at The Dunes Golf & Beach Club in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

NW juniors play with Champions

Julia Dai (The First Tee of Greater Seattle), and Dylan Bissell and Maxwell Turnquist (both of The First Tee of Yakima), competed in the 2016 Nature Valley First Tee Open at Pebble Beach, an official PGA Tour Champions event that was held September 13-18. The event was in its 13th year.

The three young players will be among 81 juniors nationwide competing from The First Tee, a nonprofit dedicated to youth development through the game of golf. Each was selected by a national panel of judges who evaluated playing ability and comprehension of the life skills and character education learned through their involvement with The First Tee.

Haack wins PPGA Mid-Amateur

Mike Haack of Bellevue, Wash. overcame a shaky second round to post a solid final round even-par 72 in winning the 32nd Pacific Northwest Men’s Mid-Amateur Championship. This is the second title for Haack, having also won this championship in 2009.

Haack shot a 3-under par 69 in the first round to set the early pace and jump to the top of the leaderboard, but a second round of 4-over par 76 that included a double bogey and a quadruple bogey allowed Seattle’s Sean Packer a two-stroke lead going into the final round.

But Haack took advantage of a three-shot swing in the front nine of the final round to go on to win the tournament.




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Gibbons wins Senior PGA, seven advances to nationals

PGA Professional Rob Gibbons of Arrowhead GC (Mollala, Ore.) won the Senior PGA Professional Championship at Illahe Hills CC by five strokes over PGA Professional Mark Keating of OGA GC (Wilsonville, Ore.), PGA Professional Joe Carranza of Aldarra Golf Club (Falls City, Wash.) and PGA Professional Jeff Coston of Semiahmoo G&CC (Blaine, Wash.).

Gibbons fired rounds of 69-68-137. He also captured the Hugh Starkweather award, which goes to the low professional for both rounds that is 60 years and older.

Gibbons, Keating, Carranza, Steve Stull of Meadow Springs CC (Kennewick, WA), Brent Murray of Lake Oswego CC (Oswego Lake, OR) and Mike Buss of Salem GC (Salem, OR) all qualified for the 2016 Senior PGA Professional National Championship on November 17th-20th, 2016 at PGA Golf Club's Wanamaker and Ryder courses. PGA Professional Jeff Coston was already exempt.

PGA Professional Steve Reuhl of Columbia Super Range (Everett, WA) won the Senior Division by one stroke over PGA Professional Kevin Bishop of Saint Martin's University.

Hudson Cup is set for Fircrest

The Pacific Northwest's version of the Ryder

Cup, the Hudson Cup, is set for Oct. 20-21 at Fircrest Golf Club in Tacoma.

Created in honor of Robert Hudson of Portland Golf Club, this event pairs the Section's top professionals against the area's top amateurs. This marks the 68th annual event.

Robert A. Hudson was a very successful Portland businessman whose firm, Hudson House, was one of the nation's leading wholesale grocers. Hudson played golf at Portland Golf Club and was devoted to the game.

During World War II, the PGA of America was trying to keep its Tour alive and was in dire need of sponsors. Hudson stepped up to the plate with the urging of Larry Lamberger, Portland Golf Club head professional, and offered to underwrite a 72-hole open tournament with a purse of \$10,000.

Thus the 1944 Portland Open was born, and Sam Snead won it. Hudson stayed with the program and went on to sponsor the 1945 Portland Open (in which Ben Hogan set the 72-par 72-hole scoring record of 27-under-par 261) and the 1946 PGA Championship, won by Hogan. Hudson went on to sponsor Portland Opens in 1948 and 1949 and the Western Open in 1955, all at Portland Golf Club, and he became the first chairman of the PGA Advisory Committee.

Tour Players With Northwest ties

- PGA Tour**
- Kevin Chappell • Kirkland • 8th on the list with \$4,501,050
 - Ben Crane • Portland • 139th on the list with \$607,892
 - Robert Garrigus • Gresham • 104th on the list with \$1,024,900
 - Andres Gonzales • Olympia • 143rd on the list with \$579,667
 - Richard Lee • Bellevue • 202nd on the list with \$137,813
 - Ryan Moore • Puyallup • 16th on the list with \$3,701,034
 - Alex Prugh • Spokane • 202nd on the list with \$135,437
 - Michael Putnam • Tacoma • 214th on the list with \$65,600
 - Kyle Stanley • Gig Harbor • 142nd on the list with \$580,734
 - Nick Taylor • Ex-UW • 138th on the list with \$628,756

- Web.com Tour**
- Jason Allred • Ashland • 154th on the list with \$12,876
 - Joel Dahmen, Clarkston • 39th on the list with \$150,267
 - Jeff Gove • Seattle • 86th on the list with \$57,695
 - Scott Harrington • Portland • 62nd on the list with \$92,233
 - Cheng Tsung Pan • Ex-UW • 11th on the list with \$233,950
 - Alex Prugh • Spokane • 63rd on the list with \$89,109
 - Andrew Putnam • Tacoma • 38th on the list with \$150,546
 - Andrew Yun • Tacoma • 111th on the list with \$43,161

- Champions Tour-**
- Fred Couples • Seattle • 58th on the list with \$215,800
 - Bob Gilder • Corvallis • 103rd on the list with \$45,421
 - Brian Henninger • Eugene • 71st on the list with \$170,603
 - Peter Jacobsen • Portland • 120th on the list with \$25,770
 - Kirk Triplett • Pullman • 12th on the list with \$917,603

- Mackenzie Tour (Canada)**
- Brock Mackenzie • Yakima • 2nd on the list with \$84,075
 - Cameron Peck • Olympia • 23rd on the list with \$26,789
 - Chris Williams • Ex-UW • 81st on the list with \$5,933
 - Aaron Wise • Ex-Oregon • 4th on the list with \$65,313

- LPGA Tour**
- SooBin Kim • Ex-UW • 155th on the list with \$13,576
 - Sadena Parks • Tacoma • 110th on the list with \$68,117

- LPGA Symetra Tour**
- Molly Aronsson • Ex-UW • No Events
 - Kelli Bowers • Chelan • No Events
 - Jimin Kang • Seattle • No Events
 - Mallory Kent • Seattle • 141st on the list with \$2,429
 - Erynne Lee • Silverdale • 15th on the list with \$49,835
 - Kristen Rue • Gig Harbor • 183rd on the list with \$647
 - Renee Skidmore • Everett • No Events
 - Kim Welch • Ex-WSU • No Events

Did you know....

• As part of the WSGA, you are automatically a member of the Pacific Northwest Golf Association, and are entitled to all its benefits. Visit www.thepnga.org to view the All Access Tournament Calendar, which lists all events throughout the region to play in—juniors, seniors, couples, fundraisers, series, and much more.



• The trio of Conner Barr (Beaverton, Ore.), Jesse Heinly (Bend, Ore.) and Justin Kadin (Corvallis, Ore.) represents Oregon and the OGA at the 2016 USGA Men's State Team, held at the Country Club of Birmingham in Birmingham, Ala. The format of the event includes 54 holes of stroke play, where the two lowest individual scores will be counted for the team's overall score each day. See next month's issue for results.



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Left to right: Copper Canyon Golf Club, Buckeye; The Phoenician, Scottsdale.

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Langer wins Boeing Classic in playoff after big comeback

Never doubt Bernhard Langer, no matter how dire the situation might seem.

Things looked bleak for the German superstar after his first nine holes in the Boeing Classic at TPC Snoqualmie Ridge, when he was 1 over on his final round, six shots behind the leader and tied for 14th place.

But Langer, who turned 59 during the tournament, birdied four consecutive holes to begin his second nine, made a birdie on the 18th to get into a playoff with Woody Austin and Kevin Sutherland, then birdied the 18th again to win on the first playoff hole capturing the tournament and the champions Flight Jacket..

“Things weren’t going very well for me earlier today,” said Langer, who made a couple of long par putts on the front nine that proved to be critical in his winning comeback.



Photo by Scott Bisch ©



Photo by Scott Bisch ©

John Daly (left) made his first appearance at the Boeing Classic and drew plenty of fans; Bernhard Langer (right) won the tournament in a playoff with a birdie.

NW players advance to PGA Tour; Brehm wins WinCo Portland Open

The first 25 of 50 available PGA Tour membership cards for the 2016-17 season were secured at the Web.com Tour’s final Regular Season event, the WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by Kraft Heinz, contested on the Witch Hollow Course at Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club.

And a pair of golfers with Northwest connections were among the two to get promoted. Former University of Washington players Joel Dahmen and Cheng Tsung Pan both were in the top 25 and will play on the PGA Tour next year. Dahmen of Clarkston, Wash. earned the 25th and final card with \$150,267 in earnings this year, which provided a \$975 cushion over Xander Schauffele. Dahmen, who won the Order of Merit on the Mackenzie Tour in 2014, was 16th on the money list before falling nine spots

with missed cuts over his final three starts of the Regular Season.

Ryan Brehm wins WinCo Foods Open

These days, professional golf seems full of long hitters. Even in that crowd, Ryan Brehm stands out. In the final round of the WinCo Foods Portland Classic at Pumpkin Ridge, Brehm showed he is more than a long-drive specialist, winning the tournament for his first victory on the Web.com Tour. And there was more.

The top 25 on the Web.com Tour money list at the end of WinCo event, which concluded the regular season, earned PGA Tour cards for next season, and Brehm, who entered the week at No. 30, moved to No. 4.



Photo by Scott Bisch ©



Photo by Scott Bisch ©

Former Washington golfers Joel Dahmen (left) and Cheng Tsung Pan earned PGA Tour cards.

A large photograph of a golfer in mid-swing on a green, with a snow-capped mountain in the background. The golfer is wearing a light-colored shirt and dark pants. The background features tall evergreen trees and a clear sky.

A square QR code located in the top right corner of the advertisement.

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A collage of three smaller images: a stack of pancakes with a maple syrup dispenser, a plate of food, and a golf cart with two people inside.

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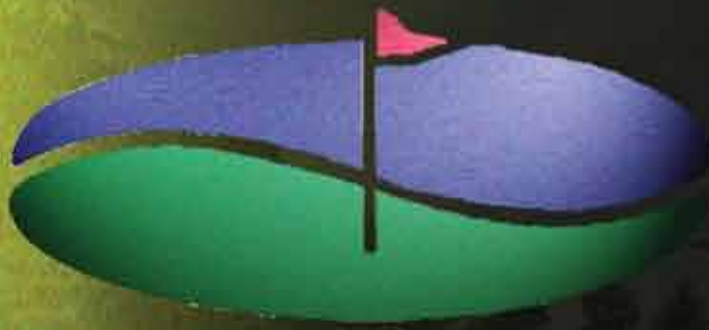
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A photograph of the Aspen Lakes clubhouse at night, illuminated with warm lights and decorated with Christmas lights.

A photograph of a golf course at dusk or dawn, with a body of water in the foreground and mountains in the background.



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The Lesson Tee: If you want to make more putts, here's some helpful tips

A few years ago I played in the PGA Senior Professional National Championship in Aldie, Virginia. The golf course is a Jack Nicklaus design called Creighton Farms. A beautiful facility and layout. The tournament was four rounds and with over 250 professionals from around the country. I played solid and finished 10th. I won the event in 2006 so I guess that makes me a fossil.

This Nicklaus course seemed a bit more different than many others I've played. The greens were very tricky and some were even scary.

I'd like to talk this month about putting and some keys to successful putting on any green, but particularly fast and undulated putting surfaces.

There are several key areas to successful putting. I have talked to and putted with several players that have influenced my putting. Ben Crenshaw, Loren Roberts, Morris Hatalsky and Bob Rotella. Of these four people you have most likely heard of all but Morris. In Morris' many years on the PGA Tour, and now the Champions Tour, he has led each tour in putting at some point.

1. Hitting the sweet spot of the putter:

Every putter has a sweet spot. Usually it is the dot or line on the putter head. Striking the ball solidly on the sweet spot is a skill that is overlooked by golfers and teachers – and often on the full shot too. It is assumed a proper solid strike just happens. Not true. Practice this skill. A ball struck on the sweet spot rolls out the same distance; rolls true and does not jump off the face left or right. This skill is non-negotiable and if you are to master putting then you must practice this.



2. Proper speed:

People three putt because of poor speed much more than poor line. The crazy thing is golfers spend 80% of their energy on line. It needs be the opposite. Focus 80% on speed especially on putts 15-40 feet. Spend more time on 30-50 foot putts, focusing on mainly speed. People usually drop 3 balls at 6-12 feet and practice missing. Start your putting by hitting 40 footers to no hole just to develop good touch and speed on any green.

3. Develop your skill from 5 feet and in:

After your speed practice on 30-40 footers, work on your putts at 3, 4 and 5 feet. There is value in practicing even 2 1/2 to 3 footers. Great value in seeing the ball go in—developing your commitment to a read and a tension free routine. It is a safe putt on the practice green that sometimes is not so safe on the course because the pressure to score or missing influences our mind. Be aware of this tension and let it go. These short putts are great to develop our skill and awareness of the stress. Make a few of these short putts before you go on the course.

4. Trust/Commitment:

Develop your awareness to the questions:

Am I trusting my speed, strike, read and even myself? Or am I afraid to miss? On any shot in golf we must TRUST and be COMMITTED and FREE. This is also a skill to develop and be aware of. Ask yourself the question am I the same putter on the course as the practice green? Why not? There is no rule to try harder on the golf course. Try trying less. I know it is counter to what we have been taught. Try trying less on all shots. Trust what you have been practicing on. Read the book, "Extraordinary Golf" by Fred Shoemaker.

5. Develop your technique:

Notice I put this last. Most people have better putting strokes than they think. Their technique is better than their putting statistics. I contend to say if you did steps 1-4 your putting would improve dramatically.

Again, technique. I use an arc board or a simple 2 x 4 and a Joey Sindelar putting clip on my technique. The board works the path of my stroke and the clip the clubface. As in the golf swing the clubface is much overlooked by the player and even educators of the game.

Putts are missed technically, often due to an open or closed clubface, which feels like a pull or a push. Players are more apt to think it is path when in reality it is clubface.

The board can be used all winter indoors or out. Work on this technique and your consistency will improve. Golfers rarely take putting lessons. If you embrace the practice and see the value in putting and short game lessons then your scores will improve faster.

Jeff Coston is a former PGA Tour player and a 20-time Pacific Northwest PGA Player of the Year. He can be reached for appointment at Semiahmoo Resort by calling 360 201 4590 or find out more about Jeff at jeffcoston.com.

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Twin Lakes: Almost 50, club offers a variety of activities

Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club in Federal Way, Wash. has been in play for nearly 50 years, opening in 1967. It has been a place that has hosted big-time tournaments, big-time events and seen plenty of changes.

Now, the club is a place that would seem to appeal to just about every type of golfer - becoming a semiprivate club with a country club feel that has tee times for the public.

Twin Lakes is a place that has a little of something for everyone. For the families, there is the swimming pool and one of the top junior golf programs in the area. For the serious golfer, there are memberships that give you all the golf you need on a course that demands precision and accuracy.

And for those in need of hosting a wedding

or special event, the Twin Lakes clubhouse has plenty of room for meetings and banquets for any type of occasion on or off the course.

The club opened as a private facility nearly 50 years ago but became semiprivate a few years ago offering public tee times. But Twin Lakes is still a place with that private feeling.

The course winds through the tall Pacific Northwest trees. It might not be the longest course around (6,196 yards) but is the kind of place where you need every club in the bag. It's also a course with some terrific views, as you stand on the 15th tee and take a look at the Puget Sound, Vashon Island and the Olympic Mountains all at once.

There are plenty of reasons to tee it up at Twin Lakes. Call 253.838.0432 for more info.



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Rules of the Game: Before you declare your ball lost, make sure you know what to do



As a Rules Official, one of the things I frequently hear a player say after a couple of minutes searching for his ball near some “junk” (bushes, trees, etc) is that he’ll just declare the ball lost.

So why would a player want to declare his ball lost? Usually this happens when a player has hit his ball near or into some ugly “junk” after which he has hit a provisional ball into a good position. He then takes a quick look along the edge of the “junk” to see if his ball is either playable or within two club lengths of being playable (see Rule 28 Ball Unplayable). If it is, he wants to find it. If not, he doesn’t want to find it, and he doesn’t want anybody else to find it.

Why? Because once it’s found, his provisional ball must be abandoned (see Rule 27-2c). And because if the original ball is found deep in the “junk” he will likely have to declare it unplayable, and his only realistic option may be the stroke and distance option (see Rule 28a). Under this option, he will have to put a ball into play from the spot where he played his previous stroke, necessitating a “long walk” back which is both stressful and

Definition of Lost Ball

A ball is deemed “lost” if:

- a. It is not found or identified as his by the player within five minutes after the player’s side or his or their caddies have begun to search for it; or
- b. The player has made a stroke at a provisional ball from the place where the original ball is likely to be or from a point nearer the hole than that place (see Rule 27-2b); or
- c. The player has put another ball into play under penalty of stroke and distance under Rule 26-1a, 27-1 or 28a; or
- d. The player has put another ball into play because it is known or virtually certain that the ball, which has not been found, has been moved by an outside agency (see Rule 26-1b or c); or
- e. The player has made a stroke at a substituted ball.

Time spent in playing a wrong ball is not counted in the five-minute period allowed for search.

time consuming.

And why do that if he’s got a provisional ball in a good position. So he’d like to just declare his original ball lost and move on to his provisional ball.

Unfortunately the Rules don’t allow the player to do that. Accompanying this article is an exhibit showing the Definition of Lost Ball. The astute reader will notice that a ball is lost if any one of five different conditions is met, but that the player declaring the ball lost is not one of them. So until one of those five conditions is met, the ball is still in play, and can be found by anyone looking for it.

So what’s the player to do? The player can request that everyone within hearing distance stop looking for his ball. Does everyone have to stop looking? No, they don’t. But hopefully they will out of respect for the player. He should then play his provisional ball and follow it forward, hoping that one of the first two conditions of a lost ball is satisfied before anyone still looking finds his original ball.

A related thought for fellow-competitors and spectators is to always ask a player if he wants help looking for his ball before you start looking for it.

Why? Because if he has a provisional ball in a good position, he may not want to find that original ball.

New owners at North Shore eye possible changes

With the sale of North Shore Golf Course to the Puyallup Tribe of Indians finalized the question now is what can we expect from the new owners. Shawn Cucciardi, the Director of Golf for Columbia Hospitality, the company that will be managing North Shore, said the plan is to examine all aspects of the course, from top to bottom, from drainage to, the practice facility to course length, to the status of the current buildings and then meet with Marine View Venture, the economic development arm of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, to evaluate plans and to prioritize the improvements.

The present team that manages the course will be kept in place with Dave Wetli as General Manager while Bart Turchin will shift from Food & Beverage Director to Head Golf Professional, all other personnel are expected to remain in place.

"It's the best thing that could happen," said Wetli, " It's like an early Christmas present".

The 55-year-old course has stood the test of time but it needs to be brought up to date and as Cucciardi stated, "made relevant again."

North Shore Golf Course was sold by North Shore Golf Associates (NSGA). NSGA developed North Shore Golf Course in 1961 and has been its sole operator and remains a vital contributor to the greater Tacoma community. NSGA is largely comprised of the Bourne and Proctor families of Tacoma.

Columbia Hospitality also operates the Classic Golf Club in Spanaway, McCormick Woods in Port Orchard, Oakbrook Golf Club in Tacoma and Gold Mountain in Bremerton and the TPC Snoqualmie Ridge, just east of Seattle in the town of Snoqualmie and host for the Boeing Classic.

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Aspen Lakes Golf Club in Sisters, Ore. is ranked as the 10th best Public Course in Oregon by Golf Magazine.

Aspen Lakes: Central Oregon course is an award winner in a variety of ways

Fall is in the air, and Central Oregon is still a top destination for golfers still trying to get the most out of the 2016 season. At places like Aspen Lakes in Sisters, Ore. fall golf is a terrific option. Aspen Lakes has been open for 20 years and is a Northwest favorite.

In fact, Aspen Lakes is ranked as the 10th best public course in Oregon by *Golf Magazine*. And for good reason. The course has a great layout, designed by Bill Overdorf, offers spectacular views of the Central Oregon mountains and features its trademark red sand bunkers.

The concept for Aspen Lakes Golf Course in Sisters Oregon, began in 1988 when the Cyrus Family acquired a 1,084 acre parcel adjacent to their family farm. The first nine Aspen Lake golf holes were constructed in 1996 under the watchful eye of World Class golf course architect

William Overdorf. He worked with the existing site to sculpt this incredible mountain view golf course into the existing Central Oregon landscape. As important natural features were identified during construction, the plans were modified to incorporate them into the golf course rather than destroy the feature.

The second nine Aspen Lakes golf holes were opened in 1999. The signature red sand for the bunkers originated on the Cyrus property. When it came time to install the bunkers, it was discovered that the “normal” sand that the other central Oregon golf courses use is hauled in from other states. In looking at alternatives, it was decided that it would be more environmentally friendly to use local materials already in Central Oregon.

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Rick Hancock: A natural at Indian Summer

Golf turf and Rick Hancock, Superintendent at Indian Summer Golf & Country Club, are a perfect match in the golf business. Hancock actually knew for years that he wanted to work with turf. In high school, he worked at Indian Summer when the course was under construction. He went to Washington State University and graduated with a turf degree, and soon after college got a job working as the assistant superintendent at Indian Summer.

Since that start 18 years ago, and after working at several Oki Golf properties like the Plateau Club in Sammamish and the 36-hole Golf Club at Hawk's Prairie in Lacey, Hancock is now back where it all began at Indian Summer as the head superintendent.

"It's funny how things work out," he said. "I always seem to find my way back to my first great experience at Indian Summer".

With fall and winter golf approaching,

Hancock says this is an important time for the maintenance crew. Aerification is key because it allows for the course to become playable during the winter months and allows for the grass to be in top shape for the following season. Hancock says the work is only beginning. Throughout the winter, plant nutrition is key and the crew even helps educate golfers on how to take care of the course during the offseason. "I find it helpful to explain to golfers when turf damage occurs in the winter, it is cumulative and it will likely be there until spring," said Hancock.

Hancock has also experienced wild weather conditions in his years with Oki Golf. Ice storms combined with winds at Hawk's Prairie a few years ago dropped 40 trees and thousands of branches, resulting in a two-month closure of the Woodlands course. Another time a lightning strike killed a large Douglas fir on the 18th hole and traveled through the irrigation electrical

wires back to the central computer causing thousands of dollars in damage.

Besides wild weather, Rick has witnessed rare incidents, like the time at Indian Summer a maintenance crewmember was running a one-month-old tractor. The tires slipped on the wet slope, sending the mower into a nearby pond and landing upside down. The operator handed the keys to Hancock with what he thought was a smirk on his face. Turns out he wasn't trying to be funny—he had the foresight to turn the engine off before it plunged into the pond, saving the diesel engine.

In his time at Oki Golf, Hancock has heard plenty, like one golfer's comments: "It's just grass, it will grow back," he said after taking a big divot on the green after missing a two-foot putt. Lucky for Indian Summer's members, Rick makes sure that the grass does, indeed, grow back.



Indian Summer superintendent Rick Hancock.

The Hickory Corner: This golfer is a hickory natural

By Brian Giboney, Special to Inside Golf

In life we all meet some very unique people. Through my other sport passion (skydiving) became good friends with perhaps the most interesting person the world over. Her name is Brittany Sanchez.

At age six Brittany started competing in gymnastics and by 11 was an Olympic hopeful training under legendary coaches Márta & Béla Károlyi. She would go on to win a national championship in vault, but by age fourteen she had missed her window and took up golf. Brittany played golf in high school and went on to play at the college level. In 2001, she added a second national championship when her Southern Nazarene University golf team won the NAIA National Championship. After golf Brittany started skydiving and BASE jumping. To date she has made over 5,000 skydives and 500 BASE jumps, and in 2011 added a third national

championship - this time in skydiving. But wait there is more. While all of this is going on she earned her bachelors degree, a master's degree, and is currently putting the final touches on her dissertation on gene & sequence variants at Texas A&M who will soon be awarding her a much deserved PhD. To summarize: Three national championships (gymnastics, golf, and skydiving), two degrees, and a PhD all before the age of 34.

When I offered hickory golf to her, she did not recoil an instant. She was excited for the chance to try a new golf challenge. Twin Lakes Country Club was selected as the venue and off we went to the course.

No instruction was needed and her first hickory shot was a niblick that sent the ball airborne. The round was smooth and we ended up shooting a two person better ball score of 77. I certainly did not have my best stuff and was thankful to have her as


my teammate or I might have shot in the hickory 90's that day. After the round I asked Brittany to share her experience - in non-PhD terminology.

"The first thought on the range was these clubs do work & no big deal, but out on the course quickly realized how challenging it is playing with 100 year old hickories. The rewarding part is hitting a great shot (she hit several) with the old clubs. When I finally made a par it took me back 20 years to when I first started playing golf and made my very first par. The sense of accomplishment is real with the hickory clubs. I also appreciate my modern clubs much more now."

If you are looking for a new sense of accomplishment on the golf course, hickory golf just might be for you. Meadow Park Golf Course has rental hickory sets available for you and you can also contact AP National Hickory Players for more information at 253-830-4496





Brittany Sanchez








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South Carolina: No shortage of golf and history in the area

By Steve Turcotte, Inside Golf Editor

If you a history buff and golfer, Charleston is a place that has you covered. From the terrific variety of golf courses to the historical stories that go with some of the courses, Charleston is a history lesson and terrific golf opportunity all rolled together.

From places like Shadowmoss Golf Club to Stono Ferry Golf Links, Charleston is a place where you can tee it up near the Atlantic Ocean and learn about some U.S. history.

How’s that? Take a look at the sign that sits on one of the holes at Stone Ferry and talks about the Battle of Stono Ferry on June 20, 1779, a battle that was part of the revolutionary war between the Americans and British. It was a battle that killed President Andrew Jackson’s older brother Hugh. The area is chock full of that kind of history plus some great golf.

- Stono Ferry Golf Links is a place where history really comes out. Part of the course was battlefield in 1779 between the Americans and British as 300 soldiers lost their lives. An old railroad line between Savannah and Charleston ran right where the golf course is today in the late 1850’s and was the main lifeline between the two cities. But don’t forget about the golf.

Stono Ferry is ranked among the top courses in the area for a reason. There are plenty of challenging holes and plenty of holes with water views. The finishing hole is a par-4 with an island green.

The course was voted the course of the year in 2011 in South Carolina, which means a lot since the area is full of award winners.

- Shadowmoss is another Charleston golf treat. The course has been voted as the “best golf value in Charleston” and located 12 minutes from downtown. The course has been around for 40 years in the Charleston area and a change to Champion Bermuda greens in 2003 has been a



Kiawah Island’s Ocean Course is a treat.

big improvement to the putting surfaces.

The course is a treat for visitors and locals. The course presents several challenges including a narrow creek that bisects the fairway short of the green on the par-5 fifth hole. It also has a lagoon system that parallels, crosses then parallels the fairway again on the 8th hole.

And along the way, you might spot an alligator or two at one of these courses.

There’s many things to like in Charleston.

- And close by sits Kiawah Island Resort, home of some of the best golf courses in the country, including the Ocean Course. The Ocean Course is ranked among the best courses in the country and has been a host course for the Ryder Cup and PGA Championship. The course hosted the 2012 PGA Championship and will again in 2021. There are 90 holes of public golf to be found at the resort.



Stono Ferry Golf Club in Charleston has some terrific golf and was the site of historical wars.



Shadowmoss Golf Club in Charleston features a challenging layout with South Carolina flavor.



Players in the Myrtle Beach World Amateur try their luck on the TPC Sawgrass island hole.

Myrtle Beach World Amateur brings in players from all over


There are amateur tournaments and then there is the Myrtle Beach World Amateur. This tournament, held at the end of August, is one of the largest in the world. How large? How about more than 3,000 players form around the world.

This is an event with a PGA Tour feel. The tournament uses flights, different courses and is played over four days with the winners of all 60 flights meeting for the championship on the final day. For some, it is serious business. For others, it is a chance to get out and play golf in one of the country’s hot spots for golf.

The World Amateur started back in 1988 and since then has grown to over 3,000 players using many of the golf courses in and around Myrtle Beach. The action on the courses is about as good as it gets but off the course, the tournament pulls out all the stops.

The World Amateur takes over the Myrtle Beach Convention Center for the week with nightly 19th hole activities, including free food and drinks for all players and guests. Plus there is musical entertainment every night of the week and the Golf Channel’s Charlie Rymer was on hand for a couple of days.

This is a tournament that is an attraction for golfers from around the world. Many different countries were on hand and some took part in a special international tournament before the event started. And nearly every state in the U.S. was represented as well. For more see www.myrtlebeachworldamateur.com



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“Jeff Coston is one of the most talented golfers I’ve ever played with. Beyond that, he’s one of the nicest guys I know.”
Tom Lehman...
206 Ryder Cup Captain & 1997 Leading Money Winner and Player of the Year

Jeff Coston
Golf Academy
360-201-4590

2016 SEAHAWKS SUNDAY SPECIAL

18 HOLES OF GOLF + CART + FOOD FOR ONLY \$35

We all love our Seahawks, but why waste a Sunday on the couch? This fall enjoy 18 holes of golf with a cart plus a restaurant coupon for a meal and a beverage for only \$35. The Scotch and Vine at Riverbend food ticket includes either a Beef & Blue Salad, All American Burger, Riverbend Deluxe Hot Dog, or a Barnyard Hen Sandwich. Enjoy a round a golf and then cheer on the Hawks on TV with a fantastic meal. Deal starts September 18th.

12



UPCOMING EVENTS

Riverbend Winter Series

20th Annual Winter Better Ball - Sat. December 10th, 2016

20th Annual Winter Scramble - Sat. January 14th, 2017

22nd Annual Winter Ball Buster - Sat. February 18th, 2017

THE RIVERBEND PAR 3 COURSE IS STILL OPEN

Come on down and work on your game

GLOW IN THE DARK MINI PUTT

October 14th, and 15th

Call 253-856-5175 for details

DOWNLOAD OUR FREE MOBILE APP TODAY!



- Free GPS
- Book Tee Times
- Keep your score and track your stats
- Discounts and text specials

Search for Riverbend GC in the Apple App Store or Android Market.



THE SCOTCH & VINE AT RIVERBEND

Grand Opening October 10th

There will be food and drink specials and door prizes throughout the day as well as live music in the afternoon with JD Hobson.

We currently have our walk-up window open daily at 7 a.m. and the dining room is open at 11 a.m. See all the details on Facebook at *The Scotch and Vine at Riverbend*.

18 Hole Golf Course: 253-854-3673 | Par 3 Golf Course: 253-856-5195 | Driving Range: 253-856-5175

The Riverbend Golf Complex is a City of Kent Facility | riverbendgolfcomplex.com

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