

# INSIDE GOLF NEWSPAPER

## Pacific Northwest has some of the top resorts in the country

When it comes to golf resorts, the Pacific Northwest stands alone. From Bandon Dunes on the Oregon Coast to Loomis Trail and its Silver Reef Casino Resort in Washington (right), there are plenty of golf resorts worth the trip. Oregon and Washington are both loaded with some of the top resorts in the country. For more, see inside this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.



## WHAT'S NEW IN NW GOLF

### Northwest professional loses life in accident

Sean Fredrickson, president of the Pacific Northwest Section PGA, was killed in July when two small planes collided in mid-air several hundred feet above Powderhorn Bay on Lake Coeur d'Alene in northern Idaho. Both planes then fell into the lake. Fredrickson was 48.

Others killed in the crash were Fredrickson's son Hayden, and his stepchildren Sofie and Quinn Olsen. They were on a sight-seeing excursion in one of the small planes. In total, eight people were killed in the crash.

Along with being president of the PGA Section, Fredrickson was the PGA Head Professional at Oswego Lake Country Club in Lake Oswego, Ore. He was awarded the PGA Professional of the Year honor in 2019 by the Pacific Northwest Section PGA.

Fredrickson came to Oswego Lake CC in 2019, after having served as PGA Professional at Tualatin (Ore.) Country Club for 14 years.

In a statement, the Pacific Northwest Section PGA said: "Sean was an incredible father, husband, PGA Professional, mentor and leader. There are never words to communicate the pain of such a loss."



### Ex-Seahawk Randall Morris will host charity golf event

Randall Morris Celebrity Tournament is set for Sept. 14 at Fairwood Golf & Country Club in Renton. Morris, a popular running back for the Seahawks in the mid to late 80s will be joined by his friends from the NFL, NBA, MLB and entertainment and music world personalities. The event is open to the public. Proceeds from the events will benefit the Randall Morris Foundation for Youth and Families and local charities specifically in the Renton area. To sign up, see <https://randallmorrisfoundation.com/golf/>.



## Rules Quiz

With your ball on the putting green you mark, lift and clean your golf ball. You then replace your golf ball in front of the mark. You make your put but forget to remove the ball mark. OK or not OK? Please see the answer on Page 2 of this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.

## Playing nine can be just fine



So you say you don't play golf because it takes too much time. Have you ever thought about playing just nine? Nine can be fine. There are a variety of 9-hole courses in the Northwest, including places like Highlands in Tacoma (top) and Tapps Island in Lake Tapps (left). You can usually squeeze nine holes in before or after work and it generally will take you less than two hours to play, just ask Don Mojean (putting) and Doug McArthur about their fast nine-hole rounds at Highlands Golf Course. If 18 holes and five hours rounds isn't what you are looking for, then nine holes just might be the ticket. See inside for more on nine-hole golf courses and what they have to offer.

## Korn Ferry Tour and LPGA will make their visits to the Northwest with events in Portland

The schedule for professional golf events in the Pacific Northwest might be scaled back a bit because of the Coronavirus pandemic, but there is still some professional golf to be seen.

The WinCo Foods Portland Open will be played Aug. 6-9 at Pumpkin Ridge's Witch Hollow Golf Club, featuring the top players from the Korn Ferry Tour looking to make it on the 2021 PGA Tour.

And the LPGA will return with its Cambia Portland LPGA Classic Sept. 17-20, new dates after the tournament was rescheduled due to the Pandemic. The event will feature the top players from the LPGA Tour.

The PGA Tour Champions were set for the annual Boeing Classic Aug. 21-23 at the Snoqualmie Ridge Golf Club, but that event has been cancelled.

On the Pacific Northwest Golf scene, the major tournament scheduled kicked off in July with the Oregon Open. The event was scaled back from a three-day tournament to two days.

The schedule for the top professionals and amateurs in the Pacific Northwest continues in August with the Washington Open and at Meridian Valley Country Club and the Northwest Open Invitational at Wine Valley Golf Club in Walla Walla. Both of those tournaments have also been reduced to two days. The Senior Oregon Open will be held July 28-30 at Wildhorse Resort in Pendleton.



Lexi Thompson will headline the LPGA Portland field.

## Oregon Open gets Northwest tournament golf back on track

Brady Sharp of Wine Valley GC (Walla Walla) won the Oregon Open Invitational by one stroke over Liam Kendregan of Sand Point Country Club (Seattle) and amateur Robbie Ziegler of RedTail Golf Club (Beaverton, Ore.) at Arrowhead Golf Club in Molalla, Ore.

Sharp fired rounds of 71-68 for a 139 total to win the two-round tournament, which usually is a three-day event but cut short because of the Covid-19 situation.

Kendregan had the lowest round of the tournament shooting a 66 moving up in the standings while Ziegler won the low amateur honors with rounds of 73-67.

First-round leader Brian Nosler finished tied for sixth after shooting a 68 in the opening round.

Amateurs Justin Kadin of Tetherow (Bend) and Craig Ronne of Emerald Valley tied for fourth place at 141 — two shots behind.

Next up is the Muckleshoot Washington Open at Meridian Valley Country Club Aug. 1-2.



Brady Sharp won the 2020 Oregon Open event.

## Fall Shootout returns to Central Oregon area

The second annual Central Oregon Fall Shootout is set for Oct. 3-4 at both Black Butte Ranch and Eagle Crest Resort. The two-day tournament is open to any player with a USGA handicap.

There will be flights for both men and women with the tournament using three divisions for play. Cost is \$900 for a four-player team and includes golf, carts, practice balls, tee gift, continental breakfast, lunch and more. The entry deadline for the tournament is Sept. 23, 2020.

For more information call 541.595.1292.



# Tired of playing with a bag full of clubs, this guy only uses a putter for his round

I was perusing the internet one day looking for interesting golf stories. I came across a story that talked about a guy who played golf with only a putter. I read on. He used a putter to tee off, hit fairways shots, hit bunker shots and of course, putts. As I read on it said he won his flight in a Golfweek Amateur Tour event in Phoenix with an 84.

A guy with only a putter? Shooting an 83? This I had to see.

I arranged a round of golf with Anthony Griggs, the Putter Guy. He showed up with his putter, a small bag for the putter and his playing partner Larry Vinson. I assumed this was going to be some kind of sham. He would show up with a full bag of 14 clubs and use the putter when he wanted to.

But this was no joke. The Putter Guy was for real. "I was getting bored with golf, and one of my friends suggested trying something different - like playing only with a putter," said the 61-year-old Griggs, who lives in the Phoenix area.

So one day before a round of golf, Griggs went to the driving range with his Scott Cameron putter to warm up. Only with his putter. After a few swings, his putter snapped. He quickly went across the street to the Goodwill store and found a Wilson Staff putter in a \$2.99 barrel of clubs. He bought it and headed to the first tee for his round of golf. He has only played with a putter ever since.

"I will never carry 14 clubs again,," Griggs said. "It's been a lot more fun to play with just the putter. You find out that you can come up with different shots when you have to."

As I stood on the first tee and watched him take practice swings with his putter, I thought this was a joke. But then he hit the ball long. And straight. In fact, during a round of golf a while back Griggs said he drove a 300-yard par-4 with the putter and then used the club again to make an eagle-2. The course gave him a plaque that said he was part of the "Big Dog Club."

He has shot an even-par round with his putter and has won tournaments, including his victory at the Golfweek Amateur Tour at Wild Horse Pass.

His playing partner and caddy Vinson sometimes



can't believe what he sees. "It's amazing what he can do with the putter," Vinson said. "I've tried it - I can't do it. In fact at the Phoenix Open Pro-Am Bill Haas tried to hit the putter on the range. He couldn't even get it airborne."

Griggs has different swings for his putter shots.



Anthony Griggs of Phoenix has decided the only way to play a round of golf is with his Wilson Staff putter.

When he wants to hit a short shot, he shortens up the swing. When the ball is in the rough or the bunker, he turns the putter blade over and uses it like a toe jam. The ball pops right up like a wedge.

During this round of golf, there didn't seem to be a shot he couldn't do with his \$2.99 Wilson Staff putter. On one hole, his ball was in the deep rough about 15 yards off the green. He turned the toe of the club around, popped it up and had a 15-footer to save par.

"I just adjust the swing to the distance of the shot," said Griggs.

Griggs and Vinson both say it's funny to see the looks on golfer's faces when Griggs steps to the first tee with a putter in his hands. Some guys might think it's a joke, but when he ropes a shot 210 yards down the middle with his putter, it's no joke.

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## Double Bogey



## Harold Bluestein PGA



## Rules Answer

• Answer: Not OK. Rule 14.1a. If the spot is marked with a ball-marker, after replacing the ball the player must remove the ball-marker before making a stroke. Penalty (1) one stroke.

• Inside Golf would like to thank Paul Lucien for his rules questions each month.



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# Gig Harbor Golf Club is the place to play – and learn the game as well

It is almost like a hidden secret of Pacific Northwest golf. Tucked away on the outskirts of Gig Harbor, Wash. and meandering through the trees, the Gig Harbor Golf Club is a nine-hole treat.

The idea for the course stretches all the way back to 1954 when a group got together at dinner one night and decided to build a golf course. After selling shares and moving the site to Artondale Drive, the Artondale Course opened in 1960 for charter members only.

Since then, the course has changed names to Gig Harbor Golf and Country Club in 1982 and the course has grown in membership size and improved conditions ever since.

General Manager Ryan Willie has overseen plenty of those improvements in his seven years on the job, including improved drainage irrigation projects, a re-

model of the sixth and seventh green complexes and given the driving range a new look with a new short game practice area.

There is plenty to like at Gig Harbor Golf Club. In fact, membership just keeps growing because of the improvements. Ridgetop Golf helped reshape the driving range area and that area has now given a place for the new Troy Kelly Golf School. The former PGA Tour player and Pacific Northwest native is setting up his own golf school at Gig Harbor Golf Club.

The course itself winds through the trees and finishes with the downhill par-3 eighth hole and an uphill par-4 ninth hole. The course might be nine holes, but different tee boxes gives the feel of playing a separate nine when you make the turn.

For information call 253.851.2428.



Gig Harbor Golf Club just keeps on growing, now adding an expanded driving range with a Troy Kelly School.



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# PNGA cancels remaining 2020 championships; 2020 Oregon Amateur champions are crowned

With the recent spike in cases surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and the concerns with contestants traveling from all parts of the Pacific Northwest and throughout the U.S. to compete, the Pacific Northwest Golf Association (PNGA) has made the difficult decision to cancel the remainder of their 2020 championship season.

The PNGA Executive Committee held a special meeting to discuss the spike in cases and the concerns and risks of contestants traveling from across state borders, staying in local hotels, going to local restaurants and bars, grocery stores, and other venues.

After discussing these concerns, the Committee felt it necessary to put safety first and not take any chances, so it was decided to cancel the season, starting with the PNGA Men's Amateur Championship which was scheduled to be held July 6-11 at The Idaho Club in Sandpoint, Idaho.

Unlike local, state and provincial golf associations, the PNGA is a regional amateur golf association that attracts top amateurs from around the Pacific Northwest, which includes British Columbia, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Additionally, special invitations are extended to other players across the country and around the world.

In May of this year, with the Canada-U.S. border being closed to non-essential travel, the PNGA was forced to cancel the PNGA Cup Matches, which were to be held in Kamloops, British Columbia. Then in early June the Association cancelled the PNGA Senior and Super Senior Men's Amateur, and PNGA Senior and Super Senior Women's Amateur championships.

## Brandes wins Master-40 championship

Tom Brandes of Bellevue, Wash. won the 45th Pacific Northwest Master-40 Amateur Championship, beating Dana Christianson of Tacoma, Wash. 4&3. The championship was held this week at Salishan Golf Links in Gleneden Beach, Ore., and conducted by the

Pacific Northwest Golf Association (PNGA).

Brandes, the No. 1 seed in the match-play bracket after earning medalist honors in the championship's 36-hole qualifier, and Christianson, the No. 3 seed, were tied after nine holes, but Brandes turned it up a notch after the turn, winning four of the next five holes, and sealing the match with a birdie on the par-3 15th.

## OGA crowns Amateur champs

Bryce Wortman, Amanda Jacobs and Lara Tennant were all crowned champions at the Oregon Amateur Championship at Columbia Edgewater Country Club.

Wortman, from Creswell, never trailed in the match in defeating Ben Wanichak 8&7 in the men's final. It is Wortman's first Oregon Amateur Championship title.

On the women's side, Jacobs jumped out to a big lead and, like Wortman, never trailed during the match in defeating the two-time defending champion Ellie Slama 5&3. It is Jacobs first Oregon Amateur Championship crown.

Tennant, from Portland, won her fourth consecutive Oregon Senior Women's Amateur Championship. She fell behind in the match to top seed Ginny Burke.

## Washington Golf Pass deals

The Washington Golf Pass features exclusive specials and deals from golf courses and facilities throughout Washington Golf territory, and will also feature exclusive offers on retail products, tickets to sporting events, and travel destinations.

The Pass is free to all active WA Golf members. It will not be available to the public or to inactive WA Golf members. Members need only visit WAGolfPass.com to activate their pass by using their GHIN number. The Pass is strictly an online product – there is no printed book or coupons. Non-WA Golf members can get the pass simply by either signing up at their local course or by joining online at WAgolf.org/join. Along with the Golf Pass, new members will also re-

ceive all other great WA Golf benefits. For questions, email info@wagolfpass.com or call the WA Golf office at 253-214-2919.

## Washington Youth on Course program

The Washington Golf Youth on Course program provides junior golfers the opportunity to play golf at an affordable rate in partnership with participating facilities. Although the junior pays only \$5, WA Golf then subsidizes an additional amount to each course.

The program gives golfers age 6-18 access to play \$5 rounds of golf at more than 55 participating courses in Washington and Northern Idaho, and more than 1,500 courses throughout the U.S. For a sign-up fee of just \$20 through Washington Golf, youth can start playing some of the best (and easily accessible) courses in the state and beyond for just \$5. For info, contact Torrin Westwood at twestwood@wagolf.org.

## Duan wins Washington Women's Am

Alice Duan of Seattle shot rounds of 75-69-70 to win the 27th Washington Women's Amateur; Victoria Fallgren of Spokane won the 11th Washington Women's Mid-Amateur; Leslie Folsom of Tukwila captured the 21st Washington Senior Women's Amateur; and Kris Adams of Lake Tapps won the 7th Washington Super Senior Women's Amateur.

The four championships were held concurrently on the Cascade Course at Gold Mountain Golf Club in Bremerton, Wash. and were conducted by Washington Golf (WA Golf). The Women's Amateur and Mid-Amateur were contested over 54 holes, while the Senior and Super Senior were held over 36 holes.

After shooting 3-over 75 in the first round of the Women's Amateur, Duan bounced back with a 3-under 69 in the second. Duan was the only player in the field to finish the 54-hole championship under par, and was the only player to shoot in red figures in the final round.

# Join Golfweek Amateur Tour and play events at Oregon's top courses

During its inaugural year, Golfweek Oregon has been off to a great start. Member list is approaching 80 members in its first year. Registration is growing with Founding Member status and packages given away to all players during this first year.

During the second half of the season, the Portland Tour is giving away Founding Member Status. Players will receive the option of a free 2020 or 2021 Membership, \$125 Credit, 1 Year Golfweek Subscription, Tour Swag Bag, 2021 Member Dues, and Gift.

Most recently, the tour completed the Stone Creek Cup on July 12th. Flight Winners including Geoff Rodgers, Griff Williams, Jimmy Buell, Tony Bautista, and Jim Ferguson. Geoff Rodgers and Tony Bautista walked away with over \$250 in winnings each! "Our Payout are unmatched," Said Tour Director Stotz Thoda. "When we reach full capacity, flight winners could be walking away with gift prizes worth several hundred dollars each tournament. Not to mention, with full fields, we are paying 7-10 place finishers."

Come Join The Tour, where amateurs play like the pros!

August 8/9 - Pacific Northwest Masters (Orchard Hills CC & Camas Meadows)  
Aug 29 - Elk Ridge  
Aug 30 - Indian Creek GC  
Sept 19/20 - Black Butte Ranch  
Sept 27 - McNary GC  
Oct 3 - Tour Finals @ Langdon Farms

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# Rhee claims title at Northwest Women's Open

Former University of Washington golfer Sarah Rhee shot a two-round total of 139 to win the championship of the Northwest Women's Open Presented by Pacific Northwest Equipment at Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club in Federal Way.

Rhee fired an opening-round 2-under 70 and then followed up with a 3-under 69 to win the tournament by two shots over Tori Peers of Las Vegas and by three shots over former Seattle University golfer and Symetra Tour player Jamie Huo. Rhee collected a first-place check of \$2,000 for winning the title.

Cassie Kim of Yakima was the low amateur at 143 finishing fourth while former University of Oregon player Kathleen Scavo finished fifth at 145. Julie Wells-Keller was fifth at 147 and Kelli Bowers of Chelan was sixth at 148. Defending champion Jessica Maynard tied for seventh with Taya Batistella of Bellingham at 149.

Debby King was the low senior of the tournament with a score of 159.



Former UW golfer Sarah Rhee won the event.



Former Seattle U golfer Jamie Huo sinks a birdie.

## Myrtle Beach World Am set for August tournament

Registration is continuing for the annual Myrtle Beach World Amateur golf tournament, which will be played Aug. 31-Sept. 4 at some of Myrtle Beach's top golf courses.

More than 3,000 golfers from around the world are expected to play in this year's event - including golfers from all 50 states and from many countries around the globe.

There will be \$25,000 in prizes to be won and there will be nearly 70 flights for men, women and seniors.

In addition, the tee gift bag will feature \$300 in value and the winners of each of the flights in the tournament qualify for a fifth round, which is the championship round for flight winners.

For more information on the Myrtle Beach World Amateur, see the web site [www.myrtlebeach-worldam.com](http://www.myrtlebeach-worldam.com).

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# Nine is just fine

Nine-hole golf courses just might be the best route for you to play a quicker round of golf

By Steve Turcotte, Inside Golf Editor

I remember asking my buddy to play some golf earlier this summer. I told him we were playing this really good nine-hole course. “Nine holes?” he asked. “Why not 18?” I told him we could double up the holes but since we were pressed for time, playing nine seemed to be the way to go.

That seems to be the mindset of a lot of golfers. Nine is not enough. Then there is the flipside that people don’t want to get into golf because the thought of five hour rounds and waiting on every shot is just not that appealing.

Welcome to the world of nine-hole golf courses. The Pacific Northwest is filled with some terrific nine-hole courses, both public and private. Some 18-hole courses even have their own nine-hole courses like Meadow Park in Tacoma and High Cedars in Orting. Then there are the standalones, like the private Gig Harbor Golf Club and Glen Acres in Burien. And others like Highlands in Tacoma has an executive look with 1,237 yards but still filled with plenty of challenges.

According to GolfInfoGuide.com there are some good reasons for nine-hole rounds:

- You will feel less pressure. And you can still post a handicap score with nine holes now and not feel the pressure of playing 18 holes with an avid golfer.
- It’s a better chance to get some exercise and walk. Playing 18 holes, especially on a hilly course, is a challenge for many to walk. Nine holes is much easier.
- Family and friends might be more inclined to join you for a nine-hole round that takes less than two hours and might be a great way for some family time.

One of the biggest factors for nine holes is the chance to play before or after work or play on a week-end when you don’t have the time for an 18-hole round,

spending an entire day at the golf course.

At places like Highlands in Tacoma, one of their taglines is “half the time, twice the fun.” And those are words that ring true for all nine-hole courses.

Nine-hole courses have also proven popular for after-work meetings and get-togethers. Places like Interbay in Seattle are a perfect spot for that.

If you think you don’t have time for golf? Think again. Nine holes just might be the way to go for your next round of golf.



Nine-hole courses are always an option if you are looking for a faster rounds at places like Interbay in Seattle (top) and Highlands in Tacoma (bottom).

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# Ryder Cup gets postponed to 2021; NBC will broadcast USGA events

The PGA of America, Ryder Cup Europe and the PGA Tour jointly announced that both the Ryder Cup and Presidents Cup have been rescheduled and will now be played one year later than originally planned.

The 43rd Ryder Cup, scheduled for Sept. 22-27, at Whistling Straits in Kohler, Wisconsin, has been rescheduled for Sept. 21-26, 2021.

Likewise, the Presidents Cup, initially slated for Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2021, at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, North Carolina, will now be played Sept. 19-25, 2022.

## NBC will televise USGA championships

The United States Golf Association (USGA) announced that the United States media rights for its championships have been transferred to NBCUniversal (NBCU), effective immediately.

As a result, NBCUniversal will broadcast the four championships the USGA will conduct in 2020: the 120th U.S. Women's Amateur (Aug. 3-9 at Woodmont Country Club in Rockville, Md.); the 120th U.S. Amateur (Aug. 10-16 at Bandon Dunes Golf Resort in Bandon, Ore.), the 120th U.S. Open (Sept. 17-20 at Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, N.Y.) and the 75th U.S. Women's Open (Dec. 10-13 at Champions

Golf Club in Houston, Texas).

## USGA announces Open exemptions

The (USGA) announced the exemption categories for the 120th U.S. Open Championship, which will be contested Sept. 17-20 at Winged Foot Golf Club (West Course), in Mamaroneck, N.Y. As previously announced, the 2020 U.S. Open field will be comprised entirely of exempt players due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Exempt players from the Pacific Northwest include: Adam Hadwin (Abbotsford, B.C.), Andrew Putnam (University Place, Wash.) and Joel Dahmen (Clarkston, Wash.)

## PGA will go on, sans fans

The City of San Francisco and the PGA of America today announced that the 2020 PGA Championship, in which two-time defending champion Brooks Koepka aims for a historic three-peat, will be contested without spectators on-site, August 3-9 at TPC Harding Park in San Francisco.

The decision to play golf's first men's major championship of 2020 without spectators was made in coordination with the state of California and city and county of San Francisco.

# Tour Players With Northwest ties

## PGA Tour

- Kevin Chappell • Kirkland • 195th on the list with \$176,506
- Ben Crane • Portland • 216th on the list with \$71,831
- Joel Dahmen, Clarkston • 32nd on the list with \$1,550,228
- Robert Garrigus • Gresham • 226th on the list with \$37,571
- Scott Harrington • Portland • 77th on the list with \$930,881
- Ryan Moore • Puyallup • 79th on the list with \$888,065
- Cheng Tsung Pan • Ex-UW • 157th on the list with \$285,502
- Andrew Putnam • Tacoma • 134th on the list with \$459,640
- Kyle Stanley • Gig Harbor • 140th on the list with \$420,884
- Nick Taylor • Ex-UW • 34th on the list with \$1,818,932
- Aaron Wise • Ex-Oregon • 170th on the list with \$246,597

## Korn Ferry Tour

- Robert Garrigus • Gresham • 119th on the list with \$20,162
- Andres Gonzales • Olympia • 131st on the list with \$17,275
- Alex Prugh • Spokane • 99th on the list with \$24,666
- Dylan Wu • Medford • 6th on the list with \$160,755

## Champions Tour

- Fred Couples • Seattle • 6th on the list with \$423,467
- Bob Gilder • Corvallis • No Events
- Brian Henninger • Eugene • No Events
- Peter Jacobsen • Portland • 108th on the list with \$1,056
- Kirk Triplett • Pullman • 38th on the list with \$70,255

## Mackenzie Tour (Canada) - 2020 Tour Cancelled

- Derek Barron • Puyallup • No Events
- Alistar Docherty • Vancouver, Wash. • No Events
- Chris Killmer • Bellingham • No Events
- Cory Pereira • Ex-UW • No Events
- Chris Williams • Ex-UW • No Events
- Eugene Wong • Ex-Oregon • No Events

## LPGA Tour

- Erynne Lee • Silverdale • No Events
- Carolyn Inglis • Eugene • No Events
- Jing Yan • Ex-UW • 78th on the list with \$13,661

## LPGA Symetra Tour

- Jamie Huo • Kent • 106th on the list with \$404
- Jimin Kang • Seattle • No Events
- Mallory Kent • Seattle • No Events
- Sadena Parks • Tacoma • No Events
- Kim Welch • Ex-WSU • No Events

## Did you know....

- Following all proper protocols and safety precautions during the pandemic, Washington Golf continues to conduct the state's amateur championships for the competitive player, as well as Casual Golf Days and Golf For Everyone Events for the casual golfer. Visit WAgolf.org for complete schedules.



- The PNGA was founded on February 4, 1899. It is a 501c3 charitable, international, amateur golf association dedicated to preserving the true spirit of golf by supporting its allied associations, conducting quality championships, and promoting activities beneficial to golfers in the Pacific Northwest.



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# The Lesson Tee: If you are having trouble with the tight lies, there are options for those shots

Summer is a great time in the Pacific Northwest. I feel May through October that there is not a better place to be. Many wonderful activities and great golf.

I've had some fun things this summer. Good tournaments, golf schools and players doing well with their games.

Golfers at any level miss greens. From a club golfer to a PGA Tour player. The finest players in the world average at best 14/18 greens per round. We all rely on our short game to "save shots" in any round of golf that we play.

Most golfers work on their pitching, bunker play and putting as an after thought walking from the range to the first tee. I have found scoring success if I spend time around and on the practice green before I hit a full shot on the practice tee.

Many clients express their challenges to me pitching and chipping. They get especially challenged pitching off the closely mown areas. This is commonly known as a tight lie.

First off, if someone has struggles with the "tight lie," use your putter. Practice this shot. Second, if you struggle use a hybrid. Practice this shot. Many fine golfers use these two shots.

Now, when using any kind of wedge around the green off a "tight lie" start with a proper set up. On a short pitch "lean left" at address. Make sure your chest, spine and nose is on top of or slightly in front of the ball. Most golfers who struggle are set up tilted behind the ball. These golfers struggle hitting the ball solid and hit fat and thin shots. Include in your set up choke down the shaft and narrow your stance for control.

Secondly, during the stroke keep your spine, chest and nose on or in front of the ball; stay left, weight left throughout the stroke. Never fall back. I stress start left; stay left; finish left. (photo 1, 2)

Notice how I rotate my body through the ball at



**Finally, on a "tight lie" get closer to the ball. Get "uptight" to the ball with your hands higher at address. Conversely, out of the rough around the greens lower your hands and get further from the ball to use bounce of your wedge.**

the finish. This is like an underhand toss. Notice the triangle of my arms and chest move together as I turn through the ball. Chest, arms and belt turn together! I focus on the club head taking out the roots of the grass not just skimming the tops of the blades of grass.

Finally, on a "tight lie" get closer to the ball. Get "uptight" to the ball with your hands higher at address. Conversely, out of the rough around the greens lower your hands and get further from the ball to use bounce of your wedge.

*Jeff Coston is a former PGA Tour Player and a member of the Pacific Northwest PGA Hall of Fame. He is the director of instruction at Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine, Wash. He can be reached for appointment by calling Semiahmoo Resort at 360.201.4590 or visit jeffcoston.com.*



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### Soon to be the home of the Troy Kelly Golf School

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# Summer golf road trip

## Trip through Central and Eastern Washington provides plenty of golf, wine tastings and more

**By Steve Turcotte, Inside Golf Newspaper**

As you make your way over Snoqualmie Pass, you typically know what the weather will turn into. It might be cloudy and rainy heading up the pass, but on the downside, there usually is sunshine and warmer temperatures. And that is one of the biggest reasons to make a golf trip to Eastern Washington.

Some like to take their time on golf trips. On this one, it is possible to cram plenty of golf, winery tours and other adventures into two and a half days. No time to sit around.

We started with a drive to Walla Walla, and yes the weather was cloudy when we left the Puget Sound area but sunny and warm once we made it over the pass. Wine Valley was the destination for our golf group and the local wineries were on the schedule for the ladies in the group. Mission accomplished. Wine Valley was as good as ever with its rolling fairways, undulating greens, terrific conditions and little wine. The ladies visited three wineries, got their fill of tastings and, of course, came back to the hotel with several bottles of red and white.

As we loaded up the car, the next stop was the Tri Cities area and the Red Lion Columbia Center in Kennewick. That would be home for two nights. The Tri Cities area is filled with plenty of terrific golf and we decided on Canyon Lakes for this round. There is a reason that Canyon Lakes has been voted the best course in he Tri Cities for eight years running - the layout is challenging, there is plenty of water and sand and the green on the 12th hole is the largest in the Pacific Northwest. The pressure was on as we played this hole as the Southridge girls golf team was selling raffle tickets and watched as we teed off on the hole. Only one of us splashed in the pond in front of the



Canyon Lakes features rolling hills and challenges.

green. And it wasn't me.

The group decided to take in a different golf adventure playing a round of Foot Golf at Columbia Park along the Columbia River. No severe injuries were reported but one player had sore ankles and another a sore foot the morning after.

The final stop was an hour and 20 minute drive the next morning to Yakima and one our favorites, Apple Tree Golf Club. The weather was spectacular. The course was terrific. And, of course, the water surrounding the Apple Green 17th hole par-3 gobbled up my golf ball yet again.

Road trips are a great idea. And it's amazing how much you can pack in a short period of time.



Wine Valley in Walla Walla (top) and Apple Tree in Yakima (bottom) are two terrific choices for a road trip.



# Lake Wilderness Golf Course



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# Rules of the Game: You might find your original ball, but it just might be too late



The following situation was brought up in conversation this season, after the fact, as all good rules questions do...not!

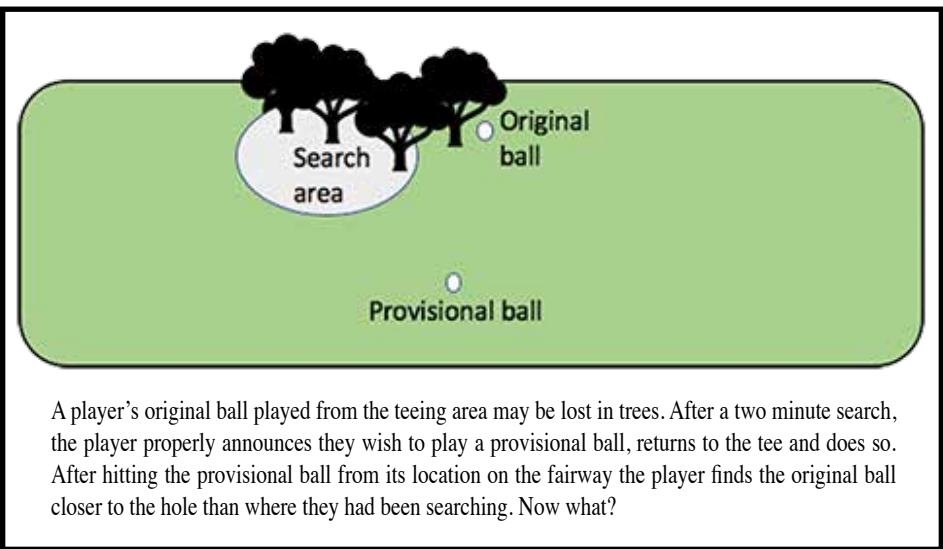
The player hits their tee shot off toward a group of trees approximately 150 yards away. The group searches for the ball for two minutes and the player announces they will return to the tee (in a power cart) and hit a provisional. The provisional ball comes to rest on the fairway closer to the hole than the search area. After hitting the provisional ball toward the green the group finds the player's original ball closer yet to the hole. Now what?!

The illustration may help in demonstrating all of the relevant positions of the original ball, the search area where the player believed the original to be and the provisional ball.

The story received was that the player and the group felt the original had been found within the three minute search time and the group agreed it was still in play. The ball was played to the green and the provisional was picked up. If only it were as simple as agreement among the players.

Let's look at a couple of the sticky points here.

Firstly, a very fast player might be able to return to



the tee, hit a provisional to the fairway, return to the fairway and hit the provisional from its at rest location and then find the original all within the remaining search time of one minute, the word might is significant. That's a lot of action for one minute, but anything is possible. Once the player starts to search the search time continues ticking away even if the player is doing something other than actively searching (for specific situations when the "clock stops" see Rule 18.2a(1) Interpretations). If the three-minute search time elapses, the original is "lost" even if you find it and the provisional ball is the ball in play under stroke and distance.

Secondly, just as in real estate, a key word here is location, location, location. The location of where the search takes place is more important than where the original ball ends up being found. I know, it seems counter-intuitive. The group searched at what they believed to be the location of the original ball, so when the player hit the provisional from a location

nearer the hole than where they believed the original to be, the provisional is now the ball in play and the original is, you got it, lost and therefore not in play. (Rule 18.3c(2))

So, the bad news for our player is that by playing the original after playing the provisional from its position (nearer than the search area where they believed the original to be) they have now played a wrong ball with a two-stroke or loss of hole penalty. The player must abandon this ball and continue with the provisional ball. Given that our player had picked up the provisional there is an extra penalty stroke for having picked up a ball in play and the provisional must be returned to its location on the course.

This must all be done before teeing off on the next hole, or in the case of the final hole, before returning the scorecard. Failure to correct playing a wrong ball is disqualification. (Rule 6.3c) Ouch.

Any time is a great time to check out the [www.usga.org/rules](http://www.usga.org/rules) website. Stay safe and happy golfing.

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8/30 Indian Creek GC

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9/20 (Big Meadow and Glaze Meadow)

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