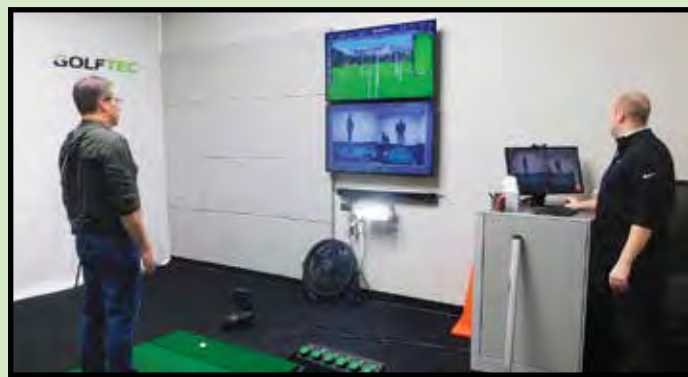




Southcenter GOLFTEC location gets new look and equipment

The Southcenter (Seattle) GOLFTEC location has taken on a new look after a recent re-model. New walls, new lights, new displays and new computers, all help to make the learning experience better and more efficient. Thomas Sibert (photo) is providing a customer with insight into his swing with video breakdown. See inside for more on GOLFTEC.



WHAT'S NEW IN NW GOLF

Pacific Northwest golf shows ready to roll out

If it's winter time in the Pacific Northwest it must mean it's golf show time. Here is a quick look at the three shows in the Pacific Northwest coming up this winter at three different Northwest venues:

- The Spokane Golf Show is set for Feb. 22-23 at the Spokane Convention Center. The two-day show will feature over 100 exhibitors and there will be free golf with every admission.
- The Portland Golf Show is set for Feb. 28-March 1 at the Oregon Convention Center. The three-day show will feature exhibitors, instruction and more.
- The Seattle Golf Show will be held March 7-8 at the CenturyLink Events Center. There will be free rounds of golf for every entry. Free lessons and instructions will be available on the show floor. There will also be a 19th hole and fun skills competitions. Saturday will be a kids and family day.

Las Vegas Amateur offers winter tournament action

If you are looking for another winter tournament escape from the Pacific Northwest, the Las Vegas World Amateur is set for Feb. 24-26 at some of the top courses in Las Vegas.

The three-day tournament will be held at the Revere Golf Club's Lexington and Concord courses as well as Chimera Golf Club. The tournament is open to golfers of all handicaps.

The entry fee of \$525 includes the three tournament rounds of golf, golf carts and range balls each day, a welcome party, tournament awards banquet and more. For more information on the Las Vegas World Amateur, call 206.818.4653.

Auburn LPGA Tour player Jo Ann Washam passes

The Pacific Northwest lost a golf legend when Jo Ann Washam of Auburn died at the age of 69. Washam was a three-time winner on the LPGA Tour and played golf at Washington State University.

Washam was a multi-sport athlete playing both golf and basketball at Washington State. She played in national championship tournaments for both teams at WSU.

On the LPGA Tour, Washam won the 1979 Women's Kemper Open and made two holes in one in the event. She finished ninth on the money list in 1980 with \$107,062. She also won two team events - with Chi Chi Rodriguez and Nancy Lopez.

Rules Quiz

Your ball has come to rest on the putting green. You mark and clean your golf ball. After you replace it in front of your mark and walk away the ball inexplicably moves a couple feet towards the hole. Now what? See answer on page 2 of this issue of Inside Golf Newspaper.

Golf Digest names the top instructors in the Pacific NW

Golf Digest has released its ranking of some of the top teachers in the states of Washington and Oregon. Jeff Ritter of Pronghorn Resort in Bend tops the Oregon list while Jeff Coston of the Jeff Coston Golf Academy in Blaine tops the Washington list.

On the national level, Butch Harmon is ranked as the top teacher on the list while Mike Adams is second, Mike Bender is third, David Leadbetter fourth and Chuck Cook fifth. *Golf Digest* does its teaching ranking list every two years.

There are several familiar names on both lists for both states

In Washington, Coston is a PGA Northwest Section major championship winner and has been at his facility at Semiahmoo resort in Blaine for 25

years. He also works with Adams and Bender at golf schools nationally. On the Oregon list, former PGA Tour and PGA Tour Champions player Brian Henninger is ranked third. Henninger works out of the Golf Farm in Tualatin.

Here are the top teachers in Oregon and Washington as listed in order by *Golf Digest*:

Washington: Jeff Coston, Jason Aichele, Craig Welty, Todd Erwin, Christopher Runyan, Derek Siesser, Tom Sovay, Brian Thornton, Rick Fehr, Kathy Gildersleeve-Jensen, Doug Dossie, Joe Thiel, Bill Tindall, Josh McKinley, Erin Menath.

Oregon: Jeff Ritter, Noah Horstman, Brian Henninger, Bruce Furman, Jerry Mowlds, Grant Rogers, Christopher Smith, Sean Lanyi.



Jeff Coston (left) works with Tony Willis.

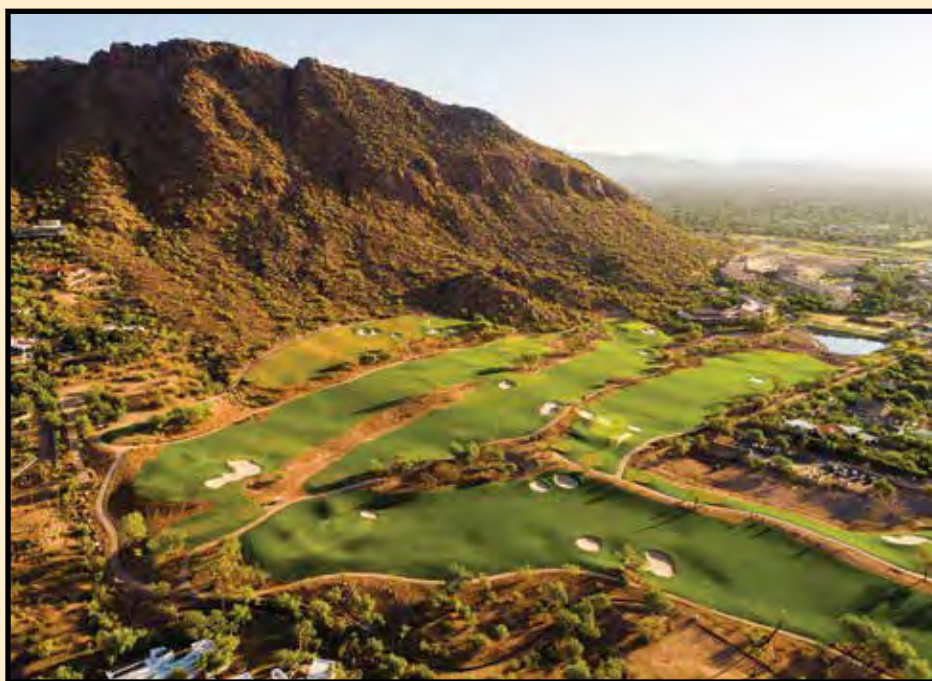
Lake Wilderness: Maple Valley course is a challenge



Lake Wilderness Golf Course in Maple Valley, Wash. might not have the longest yardage around, but it is a course that demands the right club for the right distance at the right time. The course features a park-like setting and offers some good conditions year-round. For more on Lake Wilderness Golf Club, please see inside this issue of Inside Golf.

Destination: Newly remodeled Phoenician Resort

If the Pacific Northwest winter weather is getting to you, you might want to consider heading south to better weather - places like the newly remodeled Phoenician Resort in Arizona. The resort has completed a \$90 million remodel, including the golf course. For more, please see inside this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.



Some winter thoughts: It's OK to break out the clubs; NW loses a good one in Washam

Just a few observations as we head deep into winter in the Pacific Northwest.

- The weather around the Pacific Northwest hasn't been too bad - there have been a few days where the clubs have been taken out of the trunk. I always have the right equipment from my rubber golf shoes to the stocking hat to the warm gloves to the rain pants. One day, I actually got to wear shorts because it was 55 degrees. Wish those days would happen more often. I have a friend who wants to play all the time- even in the rain. When he calls, I ignore it unless the sun is out.

- Which leads me to another interesting winter idea, I see that Riverbend Golf Course in Kent, Wash. runs what it calls Doppler Deals. If you watch enough weather, you know the doppler is the radar that shows when and where the rain will fall. Riverbend has a deal for golfers that the cost to play golf is based on the chance of precipitation. For example, if there is a 21 to 40 percent chance of rain, then the course will knock off \$3. If there is a 71-100 percent chance of rain then the discount is \$10 off. Had a buddy play at Riverbend one day and said he paid \$10 because it was supposed to rain. He said it didn't and got lucky. This is the same guy who calls me and wants to play in the rain.

- PXG Golf Seattle has made some good inroads since opening for business. The clubs are a treat to hit and the fitting studio in Bellevue is one first-class operation. I saw recently where the company went out and signed singer Darius Rucker as a PXG Golf ambassador. Sure, the company has plenty of PGA and LPGA professionals playing their clubs, but now has a Grammy winning artist and golf fanatic in the fold. Rucker is also the guy who puts on a terrific event called Monday After the Masters in Myrtle Beach which is a huge charity event.

- It was sad to see the news that Northwest native and LPGA player JoAnn Washam passed away. It was terrific to have her make a name for



herself on the big tour and it was even better we could call her one of our own. She was a terrific athlete and a winner on the LPGA Tour. And it was always great to see her at events like the Safeco Classic.

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



JoAnn Washam (photo courtesy of the PPGA).



The Grammy winning singer Darius Rucker was recently brought on board to be the PXG Golf Ambassador



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Subscription rates:
\$17-one year and \$30-two years (U.S. funds).

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www.insidegolfnewspaper.com
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Northwest Publications, Inc. and is
published on the first of each month.



Rules Answer

- Answer: The ball must be replaced. (Rule 14.2) If the player's ball on the putting green moves after the player had already lifted and replaced the ball on the spot from which it moved: The ball must be replaced on its original spot (which if not known must be estimated) (see Rule 14.2). This is true no matter what caused it to move (including natural forces). The opposite would be true had you not had the opportunity to mark the ball yet. In that case the ball would be played as it lies.

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



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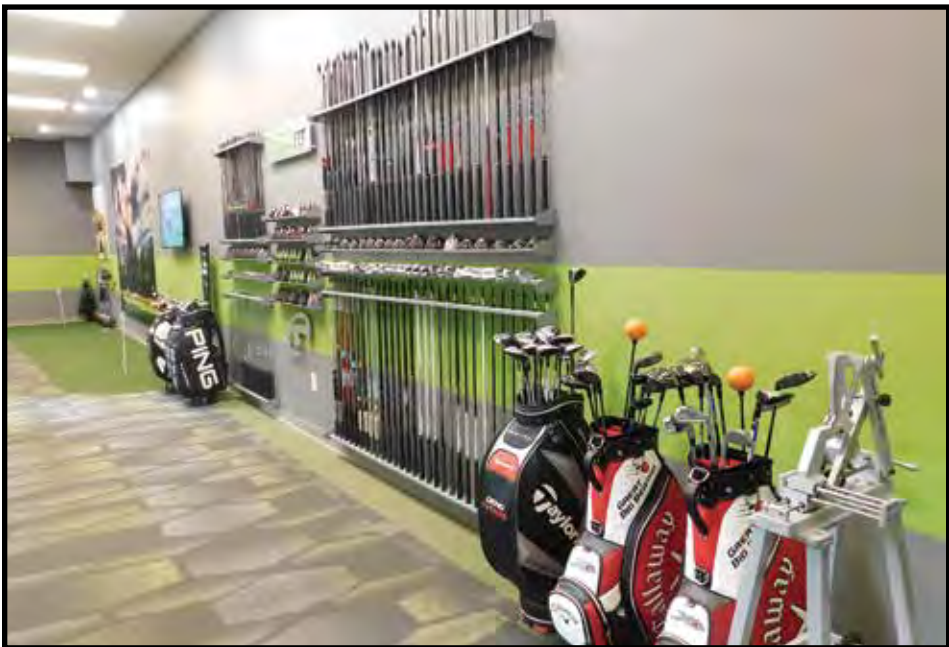
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A new wall display with a variety of custom fitting clubs and shafts ads to the new look at GOLFTec.

GOLFTEC gives Southcenter location a new look after re-modeling project

If you are looking to improve your golf game for the 2020 season, GOLFTEC just might have some answers you are looking for. And if you hit the Southcenter facility, you will see a newly remodeled facility with several new innovations to help you lower that handicap.

GOLFTEC has four Puget Sound locations: Southcenter store, South Lake Union, Lynnwood and a Bellevue store. There is also a shop in Spokane and three locations in Oregon.

The Southcenter location recently joined its sister store at South Lake Union with a new look. The new look features a vibrant updated interior, new cameras plus enhanced fitting and equipment offerings.

In addition to fitting golfers for the right woods and irons, a new TECPUTT training system has been installed for data driven analysis of putting. The new system utilizes special analysis sensors that pair with a comprehensive analysis app to provide real-time actionable motion analytics, 2D and 3D synchronized graphical playback, video capture and automatic cloud-based record keeping and more.

The TECPUTT system is in play at all GOLFTEC locations. As they say on their website, "True improvement requires more than a simple tip or quick fix."

GOLFTEC was founded in 1995 as a facility to provide instruction and clubfitting. There are over 200 locations worldwide.

For more see the web site www.golftec.com.

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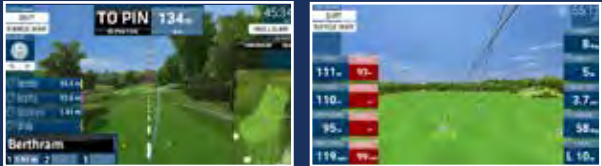
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Highsmith, Slama headline 2019 PNGA Players of the Year; new handicap system now in place

The Pacific Northwest Golf Association (PNGA) has announced the 2019 Players of the Year for the region. Those honored include Men’s Player of the Year, Joe Highsmith of Lakewood, Wash.; Women’s, Ellie Slama of Salem, Ore.; Men’s Mid-Amateur, Reid Hatley of Hayden Lake, Idaho; Women’s Mid-Amateur, Gretchen Johnson of Portland, Ore.; Senior Men’s, Pat O’Donnell of Happy Valley, Ore.; Senior Women’s, Lara Tennant of Portland, Ore.; Junior Boys’, Ian Siebers of Bellevue, Wash.; and Junior Girls’, Gihoe Seo of Mercer Island, Wash.

• Joe Highsmith, Men’s Player of the Year (WA GOLF): Highsmith, a sophomore at Pepperdine University who last spring was named WCC Freshman of the Year, had top-10 finishes at the NCAA D-I Regional and Sunnehanna Amateur, and top-25 finishes at the Northeast Amateur, Western Amateur and NCAA D-I National Championship.

• Ellie Slama, Women’s Player of the Year (OGA): Now a junior on the Oregon State University women’s golf team, Slama finished last spring by setting the school’s single-season scoring record, and was selected to the All-Pac-12 First Team. She finished eighth in the Pac-12 Championship, and 11th at the NCAA Regional. This summer she won the Oregon Amateur, successfully defending her title.

• Reid Hatley, Men’s Mid-Amateur Player of the Year (WAGOLF)... Hatley was named the Men’s Mid-Amateur Player of the Year for the fifth consecutive year.

• Gretchen Johnson, Women’s Mid-Amateur Player of the Year (OGA): Johnson made a mark on the regional and national scene in 2019.

• Pat O’Donnell, Senior Men’s Player of the Year (OGA): O’Donnell dominated the region’s senior competition in 2019. He won the Oregon Senior Men’s Amateur, Pacific Northwest Senior Men’s Amateur, Pacific Northwest Senior Players’ Championship, and the OGA Tournament of Champions.

• Lara Tennant, Senior Women’s Player of the Year (OGA): Tennant won national titles on two continents in 2019. She accomplished the rare feat of successfully defending her title in the U.S. Senior Women’s Amateur, winning for the second year in a row.

• Ian Siebers, Junior Boys’ Player of the Year (WA GOLF): This is the second year in a row that Siebers has been named Junior Boys’ Player of the Year. He won the individual title in the 2019 Junior America’s Cup, and was selected to play on the U.S. team in the Junior Presidents Cup.

• Gihoe Seo, Junior Girls’ Player of the Year (WA GOLF): Seo won four titles this season, the Pacific Northwest Junior Girls’ Amateur, WJGA Players Open, WJGA District 2 Championship, and the WJGA Tournament of Champions.

New handicap system for 2020

The World Handicap System (WHS) is ready to be launched in January 2020 and will provide golfers with a unified and more inclusive handicapping system for the first time.

Though many countries are planning to adopt the new system in January, the system will go live in other parts of the world throughout the year to accommodate different implementation plans and variations in the golf calendar.

Developed by the USGA and the R&A in close coordination with existing handicapping authorities, the WHS will provide all golfers with a consistent measure of playing ability, with handicaps calculated in the same way wherever they are in the world.

A key objective of the initiative was to develop a modern system, enabling as many golfers as possible to obtain and maintain a Handicap Index. Golfers will be able to transport their Handicap Index globally and compete or play a casual round with players from other regions on a fair basis. It will also indicate the score a

golfer is reasonably capable of achieving the next time they go out to play. The WHS has two main components – the Rules of Handicapping and the Course Rating System. The Rules of Handicapping are encompassed within seven Rules to inform administrators and golfers on how an official Handicap Index is calculated and administered, with some flexibility given to national associations based on how the sport is played and enjoyed in their region.

The Course Rating System, based on the USGA Course Rating System first adopted nearly 50 years ago and already adopted on nearly every continent, sets out a consistent method of determining a course’s difficulty. Together, these components become the foundational elements in determining a golfer’s Handicap Index.

It’s the no posting season

It’s that time of the season for golfers in the Pacific Northwest. As of the middle of November it is no longer allowed to post scores at courses shot around the Pacific Northwest. The non-posting time will run through the end of February.

The reason for the non-posting of scores at golf courses in the Pacific Northwest is because of Mother Nature and the fact that all courses play what is called Winter Rules during the months of November through March. In the Pacific Northwest you can lift, clean and replace your ball on every shot. That is not the case at other courses during the winter months around the country.

When you travel outside of the Pacific Northwest to places like Hawaii and Arizona, you can still post those scores during the non-posting time in the Pacific Northwest.

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As part of those efforts, each have also been long-time supporters of the Seattle Golf Show, which returns to the CenturyLink Field Event Center, Mar. 7-8. The kickoff event to golf season in the state of Washington, the Seattle Golf Show gives local enthusiasts the chance to try out the newest clubs, pocket huge savings on greens fees, apparel and other golf-related products and services, receive free lessons, take home incredible prizes and connect with more than 150 golf and golf-related exhibitors.

Join the Pacific Northwest Golf Association, the First Tee of Greater Seattle and dozens more of the industry’s biggest names and market your products and services to a crowd of more than 10,000 golfers at the Seattle Golf Show.

Course membership! The program that 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.

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Lake Wilderness: A demanding shotmakers course in Maple Valley



Lake Wilderness Golf Course in Maple Valley, Wash. is a demanding shotmakers golf course.

Over the years Lake Wilderness Golf Course in Maple Valley, Washington has undergone several changes and the net result is a short, tight, course that requires a golfer’s full attention.

Being relatively short at 5,409 yards is not a bad thing as it makes it playable by all levels of golfers from the low handicappers to those who don’t bomb-it off the tee. But one thing is for sure, if you don’t keep your ball in the short grass, you will pay for it in strokes as the fairways can get tight.

The wide variety of holes at Lake Wilderness is part of the charm and challenge that attracts golfers to the course. While many holes are lined with houses, there are strategically-placed mature fir trees that provide a park-like setting on many holes. The greens are always in great condition as the greens keeper is also a golfer. Golfers can

expect to encounter several sand bunkers and water hazards, so keeping your focus on club selection is essential to get around this course.

The large clubhouse has a full-service bar and is perfect for banquets and corporate outings. being able to accommodate large groups from 175 to 200 people. Smaller functions are also welcome.

The rates at Lake Wilderness are very attractive, keeping with their plan to be one of the best values in golf. Their winter rates are \$25 for 18 holes on weekdays and only \$30 on weekends. Seniors get a great deal at \$18 weekdays and \$19 weekends. They are offering a Advantage Card for \$99 (\$89 seniors), that includes one free round and \$10 off each round there after. Other specials are available so call the pro shop or check out their website for more information at LakeWildernessGC.com.

Arizona’s Phoenician Resort takes on new look after three-year, \$90 million remodel

It started more than three years ago. And now, the Phoenician Resort in Phoenix looks nothing like it did when it first opened its doors. After three years and \$90 million, the Phoenician has plenty new to show off, including a golf course that has been reconfigured from 27 holes to 18 holes and offers some breathtaking views. The renovation of the resort started before the work on the golf course. The golf course was shut down for more than a year while undergoing the transformation. During the re-design, nine holes were taken out of play and all of the other holes were given a new look utilizing existing fairway corridors.

Water features at the golf course were re-shaped and renovated. The water feature on the par-5 18th hole makes you think twice about

weather to go for the green or to lay up. Fairways were recontoured and the cart path system was rebuilt for a smoother navigation experience. Every green was rebuilt with a new hybrid Bermuda grass. The course now provides golfers a choice of tees ranging from 4,594 yards to 6,518 yards.

The resort itself started its renovation back in 2016 with the remodeling of its Canyon Suites Hotel. The two biggest additions to the resort along the way were the Phoenician Spa and the Phoenician Athletic Club. The project was completed in stages. Everything finally reopened a year ago and the reviews have been terrific. The resort’s signature pool has been renovated with a longer water slide and water playground for children. The facility is owned by Host Hotels and Resorts.



The Phoenician Golf Club in Phoenix, Ariz. was redesigned from a 27-hole course to 18 holes

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Portland’s Lara Tennant is a force on the senior golf scene

By Steve Eubanks, Global Golf Post

Love, like a ripening harvest, comes in different colors and at different times. Early infatuation is almost always too restless, while the discipline to harness passion’s gallop requires time, encouragement and the examples of life.

Lara Tennant liked the game. She didn’t love it. Growing up in Portland, Ore., as Lara Mack, she was part of an entire family played golf. This was in the late ’70s early ’80s when most Americans had one television with four channels and one phone connected to the wall by a cord. People ate dinner at home, together, and families engaged in unstructured activities like playing a few holes of golf at a local course. George Mack, Lara’s father, saw to it.

“I have four siblings and we all played collegiate golf,” Tennant said. “I played at the University of Arizona. But in my childhood I wouldn’t say golf was my favorite sport. My family did it, so my siblings dragged me to the golf course. Of course, once you get a little better at something you start to enjoy it more. I give (my family) a lot of credit in my early years for keeping me in it.”

At Central Catholic High School in 1980, Tennant, a freshman, and her older sister Renee went to the athletic director and asked the school to form a girls’ golf team. The request was denied. Central Catholic had girls’ volleyball and basketball, and budgets were tight. But the Mack girls persisted.

They convinced an English teacher to be the coach and recruited three other girls to field a full team. Three years later, the Central Catholic Rams won the Oregon girls’ golf state championship.

Tennant went to Arizona, where she enjoyed the game but never competed at the level of many of her teammates. A solid third, fourth or sometimes fifth player for the Wildcats, Tennant was sharp enough to see that others had a drive, as well as a level of speed and talent, that she lacked. She always made the travel squad and went to the NCAA Championships in her junior and senior years, and that seemed to be enough.

“I never thought about turning pro,” she said. “I



Lara Tennant

knew I wasn’t good enough to be as good as I would want to be out there. And I knew I wanted to pursue other things.”

After college, she worked as the women’s golf coach at the University of Oregon. But then she met her husband, Bob Tennant, an orthopedic surgeon, on a blind date set up by a mutual golf buddy. They settled down to raise a family in Portland. Six kids in five years later (including one set of twins), golf became a hobby with a week or two of competition thrown in annually. Once again it was family that pushed her to keep after it. Bob was a serious player. Even though Lara sometimes would take eight months off (once going almost two years away as she had two rotator-cuff surgeries), Bob encouraged her to compete.

“I played in some mid-ams and played in two U.S. (Women’s) Amateurs when they were in my region –

2000 (at Waverley Country Club, the Tennants’ home club) and 2006 (at Pumpkin Ridge). And I played state association events if they were convenient,” Tennant said. “But I was never quite able to prepare. I’d practice for a week and then go play. I enjoyed being out there again but I wasn’t able to advance very far because I simply didn’t prepare the way I should.”

Then the ripening occurred. As the children aged and became more self-sufficient, as they competed on high school golf teams and memories of Central Catholic flooded back; as her father grew older and Tennant saw the joy of the game through generations, something began to stir.

“As my kids got older I set my sights on senior golf,” she said. “Waverley Country Club called when I was in my late 40s and asked when I was turning 50 because they wanted to host the U.S. Senior (Women’s Amateur). And they did the first year I was eligible to play (2017), which really propelled me to start practicing and competing more.”

She was co-medalist in her first U.S. Senior Women’s Amateur but lost her first match on the 18th hole. Her entire family was there and they hurt for her.

“But I saw this an opportunity to show my kids how to be a gracious loser, to understand that sometimes things in life don’t work out even though you’ve worked hard and given it your all,” Tennant said. “Outcomes are not guaranteed. That was an important lesson for them.”

But Tennant had a lesson of her own to learn. With her youngest kids, the twins, driving and making young-adult decisions, she had time to dedicate herself to the game. And she found something. She discovered the passion for golf that she had seen in others when she was in college, the love of the work and the devotion to the process.

“I played with and against so many All-Americans,” she said of her younger days. “I didn’t, back then, have the passion for the game that they had. But once I was able to practice more in preparation for senior golf, it reignited my passion for the game. I understand now what so many of my peers felt in college.

“As my kids got older I set my sights on senior golf. Waverley Country Club called when I was in my late 40s and asked when I was turning 50 because they wanted to host the U.S. Senior (Women’s Amateur). And they did the first year I was eligible to play (2017), which really propelled me to start practicing and competing more.”

- Lara Tennant


“I love golf now. I love practicing and competing and I love the people I’m meeting. That spills over into playing well. I’m really appreciative that I’ve renewed my passion in golf.”

A life lived passionately yields success. Tennant won the U.S. Senior Women’s Amateur in her second outing in 2018 at Orchid Island Golf & Beach Club in Vero Beach, Fla. Then, in 2019, she successfully defended her title, defeating Sue Wooster for the second consecutive year in the final at Cedar Rapids Country Club in Iowa.

A few weeks later, Tennant won the British Women’s Senior Amateur on the third hole of a three-way playoff at Royal St. David’s in Wales.

“Our babies, the twins, are off to college,” she said. “I dropped the first off in Boston and then flew to Cedar Rapids and won the U.S. Senior Am. Then I came home, practiced a week, dropped the second one off at college in California and flew directly to Wales to win the British. So my life is very full and very busy with my kids and my husband.

“They keep me grounded. And I was happy that, just as I was able to teach the kids about being a gracious loser at Waverley, I was able to show them what it means to win graciously this year.”




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Cedars at Dungeness’ Bill Shea honored as Professional of Year

The Pacific Northwest Section PGA released its annual 2019 awards. Here are the winners for the Pacific Northwest Section PGA:

- Golf Professional of the Year: Bill Shea, PGA, Director of Golf at the Cedars at Dungeness and Peninsula GC, received the Section’s highest honor in being chosen as the 2019 Golf Professional of the Year.
- Assistant Golf Professional of the Year: Kevin Story, PGA of Eagle Crest Resort in Redmond, OR was named the 2019 Assistant Professional of the Year.
- Player Development Award: Derek Siesser, PGA of Indian Canyon GC in Spokane, WA was honored with the 2019 Player Development Award.
- Youth Player Development Award: Sara Griffin, PGA of Griffin Golf in Sumner, WA received the 2019 Youth Player Development Award.
- Bill Strausbaugh Award: Greg Manley, PGA, General Manager at Meridian Valley CC in Kent, WA was recognized for being an outstanding mentor with the 2019 Bill Strausbaugh Award.
- Horton Smith Award: Harold Bluestein, PGA of Harold Bluestein Golf LLC in Vancouver, WA was honored with the 2019 Horton Smith Award, an award that goes to a PGA model educator.
- Teacher of the Year: Jason Aichele, PGA, Teaching

Professional at Meadow Springs CC in Richland, WA was selected as the 2019 Teacher of the Year.

- Patriot Award: Chris Runyan, PGA, Teaching Professional at GolfTEC - Spokane in Spokane, WA received the 2019 Patriot Award.
- Merchandiser of the Year - Public: Jacob Lip-pold, PGA, Head Professional at Chambers Bay GC in Tacoma, WA was named the 2019 Merchandiser of the Year for Public facilities.
- Merchandiser of the Year - Resort: Jeff Simonds, PGA, Director of Resort Operations at Bandon Dunes Golf Resort in Bandon, OR was honored with the 2019 Merchandiser of the Year award for Resort facilities.
- Merchandiser of the Year - Private: Gordon Corder, PGA, Head Professional at Manito G&CC in Spokane, WA received the 2019 Merchandiser of the Year award for Private facilities
- Deacon Palmer Award: Carissa Simons, PGA of Griffin Golf was recognized with the 2019 Deacon Palmer Award for outstanding performance in the face of a personal challenge.
- Perry Williams Award: Kathy Brown, PGA, Head Professional at Twin Lakes Village in Rathdrum, ID received the 2019 Perry Williams Award for her service to the Section’s Rules of Golf Committee.

Did you know....

• On January 1, 2020, the new World Handicap System (WHS) came into effect. Developed by the USGA and the R&A, and administered locally by Washington Golf, the WHS will provide all golfers with a consistent measure of playing ability, with handicaps calculated in the same way wherever they are in the world. Among the changes are your golf handicap will be adjusted in real time, after each score posted. For more information, visit WHS.com or WAgolf.org.



• Among the many benefits of being a member of a men’s or women’s club anywhere in the Northwest, you can find events to play in at the Pacific Northwest Golf Association’s “All Access Calendar.” This listing of events and tournaments is updated throughout the year, and includes events for men, women, couples, seniors, juniors, charitable events, and more. Visit thePNGA.org/all-access for more information on upcoming events.



Tour Players With Northwest ties

PGA Tour

- Kevin Chappell • Kirkland • 176th on the list with \$61,749
- Ben Crane • Portland • 167th on the list with \$71,831
- Joel Dahmen, Clarkston • 43rd on the list with \$514,684
- Robert Garrigus • Gresham • 206th on the list with \$21,885
- Ryan Moore • Puyallup • 53rd on the list with \$426,756
- Cheng Tsung Pan • Ex-UW • 106th on the list with \$206,303
- Andrew Putnam • Tacoma • 82nd on the list with \$268,175
- Nick Taylor • Ex-UW • 67th on the list with \$321,762
- Aaron Wise • Ex-Oregon • 117th on the list with \$173,168
- Alex Prugh • Spokane • No Events
- Kyle Stanley • Gig Harbor • 128th on the list with \$149,685
- Scott Harrington • Portland • 26th on the list with \$822,871

Korn Ferry Tour

- Andres Gonzales • Olympia • No Events
- Scott Harrington • Portland • No Events
- Brock Mackenzie • Yakima • No Events
- Michael Putnam, • Tacoma • No Events

Champions Tour

- Fred Couples • Seattle • No Events
- Bob Gilder • Corvallis • No Events
- Brian Henninger • Eugene • No Events
- Peter Jacobsen • Portland • No Events
- Kirk Triplett • Pullman • No Events

Mackenzie Tour (Canada)

- 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

- Jing Yan • Ex-UW • No Events

LPGA Symetra Tour

- Jimin Kang • Seattle • No Events
- Mallory Kent • Seattle • No Events
- Sadena Parks • Tacoma • No Events
- Jing Yan • Ex-UW • No Events
- Kim Welch • Ex-WSU • No Events
- Erynne Lee • Silverdale • No Events



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The Lesson Tee: Winter golf practice might be the right time to get that grooved swing for ‘20

I know it's winter. I know its cold and wet. I also know, the winter months are a great time to improve our golf game and get ready for the 2020 season.

Whether we work on our ball striking technique; the mental side of golf; our wedge play; pitching; bunker play or putting.

The winter months are a great time to improve and come out flying in the spring. I know it has worked for me and my students. My dry warm academy building sure helps too.

I did a segment on my website a while back with my friend, Tom Lehman, called "5 Questions." Tom is a past British Open Champion and a past PGA Tour Player of the Year. Tom has always been known as a tremendous ball striker.

Tom talks about striking the ball solidly; coming in on a shallow approach to the golf ball; and little rotation of the club face through the hitting area. We are definitely on the same page. Let's focus on solid strikes of the golf ball. Like Tom Lehman, I have seen so much success in my own game and that of my students from swinging on the proper swing plane! Most golfers approach the golf ball on a steep path.

Like Lehman and most successful ball strikers a shallow approach or on plane approach to the golf ball leads to a proper more solid strike! It is also true that with a shallow on plane approach there is less call for over release or rotation of the club head. There is less curve and less timing involved. It is also untrue that a shallow on plane path and approach produces only a draw. Although most golfers would die for a draw.

Secondly, if golfers would have a more stable or centered turn with less weight shift



off the ball they would hit more solid strikes of the golf ball. (Rickie Fowler photo 1) When I grew up shifting ones weight was taught to everyone.

True physics says movement of your axis and fulcrum not only changes the arc of the swing; it also slows it down. I wish I was smart enough to have figured this out years ago. I would have less gray hair and won more tournaments.

Thirdly; here is a revealing and a super drill. Place a piece of plywood 2 1/2 clubheads behind the golf ball.

Paint a line where the ball sits and another line six inches in front of the ball. Make solid strikes without hitting the plywood and create a divot between the two lines. You can also hit shots in this station.

Photo 2 gives you an idea about how it all comes together when all the pieces are in place for the swing.

Jeff Coston is the all-time major tournament winner in the history of Pacific Northwest PGA golf. Jeff can be reached for appointment at Semiahmoo by calling 360-201-4590. See jeffcoston.com



Photo #1



Photo #2

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Dan Altmayer: It might be time for some financial New Year’s resolutions

Have you thought about your New Year’s resolutions for 2020? When many of us make these promises, we focus on ways we can improve some form of our health. We vow to get more physically healthy by going to the gym, or we promise to improve our mental health by learning a new language or instrument. But it’s also important to think about our financial health – so it’s a good idea to develop some appropriate resolutions for this area, too.

What kinds of financial resolutions might you make? Here are a few suggestions:

- Increase your retirement plan contributions. One of the best financial moves you can make is to take full advantage of your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. If you contribute pre-tax dollars to your plan, the more you put in, the lower your taxable income will be for the year, and your earnings can grow on a tax-deferred basis.

So, if your salary goes up in 2020, increase the amount you put into to your plan. Most people don't come close to reaching the annual contribution limit, which, in 2019, was \$19,000, or \$25,000 for those 50 or older. You might not reach these levels, either, but it’s certainly worthwhile to invest as much as you can possibly afford.

- Use “found” money wisely. During the course of the next year, you may well receive some money outside your normal paychecks, such as a bonus or a tax refund. It can be tempting to spend this money, but you may help yourself in the long run by investing it. You could use it to help fund your IRA for the year or to fill a gap in another investment account.

- Don't overreact to market downturns. You’ve probably heard stories about people who lamented not getting in “on the ground floor” of what is now a mega-company. But a far more common investment mistake is overreacting to temporary market downturns by selling investments at the wrong



time (when their prices are down) and staying out of the market until things calm down (and possibly missing the next rally). The financial markets always fluctuate, but if you can resolve to stay invested and follow a consistent, long-term strategy, you can avoid making some costly errors.

- Be financially prepared for the unexpected. Even if you’re diligent about saving and investing for your long-term goals, you can encounter obstacles along the way. And one of these roadblocks could come in the form of large, unexpected expenses, such as the sudden need for a new car or some costly medical bills.

If you aren’t prepared for these costs, you might have to dip in to your long-term investments to pay for them. To prevent this from happening, you may want to keep sufficient cash, or cash equivalents, in your investment accounts. Or you might want to maintain a completely separate account as an emergency fund, with the money kept in low-risk, liquid vehicles. If possible, try to maintain at least six months’ worth of living expenses in this account. It will take some effort but following these resolutions could help you move closer to your financial goals in 2020 – and beyond.

Dan Altmayer is an Edward Jones representative. He can be reached at 253.661.3155.

The Gem in the Rough: Time to tee off into the new year in style

By Ruby Lampkey, Special To Inside Golf

The new year is quickly approaching and it’s hard to believe that it isn’t just another new year, but a new decade! Every year, millions of people make New Year’s resolutions, hoping to spark a positive change. The way you dress can say a lot about you, and wearing the right clothes can make you feel powerful and confident. There’s trying too hard and then there’s not trying at all. After all, the golf course is one of the few places where showing off is actively encouraged. Like it or leave it, you’re going to be judged from the moment you check-in for your tee-time to when you’re posting your score to your GHIN.

Here is a tip on how to look on par: Create a style that is all your own. You want to make a statement, but not too over the top. Don’t blend in with the spectators. Find your true shade and soon enough you’ll stand out in a crowd. There are millions of golfers in desperate need of a wardrobe update. Lucky for most of us, we can look for inspiration from professional golfers who have graced legendary greens with their presence. Popular brands spend months making sure their players are the best human advertisements they could possibly be. A good way to stay on top of golf trends are looking to your favorite golfers on the tour. Some of the most iconic fashion statements would be Tiger Wood’s signature red Sunday polo, Paula Creamer sporting her favorite color pink and Rickie Fowler’s bright and colorful outfits.

Golf clothing these days need to look great and perform even better to ensure players are getting the most versatility out of their gear on and off the course. In an age when plenty of dads still think they can wear their golf gear



out to dinner, brands nowadays are making crossover products that can pull double duty and never look out of place. Thanks to a new wave of athletes and young casual golfers, independent brands are changing the otherwise standard game of golf genre by injecting an energy of fashion it’s never seen before.

As the industry grows, brands are working to embrace demands for setting new trends, improving fabric technologies, silhouettes and overall style. Golf is becoming more relevant and trendy to accommodate all types of golfers. 2020 is the year that the game of golf’s fashion will have a new reputation.

Discovery Bay: Olympic Peninsula course getting better every year

Improving the playing conditions of a golf course is not an overnight endeavor. Such is the case at Discovery Bay GC in Port Townsend, where each year the maintenance crew, under the direction of general manager Randy White, has methodically attacked specific areas of drainage, irrigation, tee building and brush thinning. That practice has also been applied to their greens where troubled greens have been addressed, whether it be soil based or equipment like a new roller to smooth the surface to perfection.

While it has taken some time to fully appreciate their efforts, today the results are evident as the greens are some of the best you will find anywhere. Golf architect Michael Asmundson, who designed the Home Course in DuPont, designed the second nine at Discovery Bay in 1997. He also redesigned some holes on the front nine adding a new par 4 second hole, lengthening the first hole and adding new greens on #1, #6 and #7 – construction was also managed by Randy White.

The course is no pushover at 6,665 yards with a rating

of 72.6 and 126 slope. Also new last year are the Silver tees that play to 3,799 yards, giving golfers five tee options to choose from.

To go along with the course improvements, new golf carts were introduced in 2018, some with full enclosures.

If you are a dog owner, you will be able to take Fido with you as responsible dog owners are allowed to bring their dogs on the course.

The relatively mild climate that the course enjoys allows for some of the best golf you can find in the fall and early winter months. The location of the course, high above Discovery Bay, benefits from the weather-shielding Olympic Mountains providing what has become locally known as the ‘Blue Hole’.

The course has the only covered driving range on the peninsula. For more on Discovery Bay Golf Course, visit their website at: www.discoverybaygolfcourse.com or call 360-385-0704 for tee times.



After years of improvements, Discovery Bay in Port Townsend is ready for prime time.



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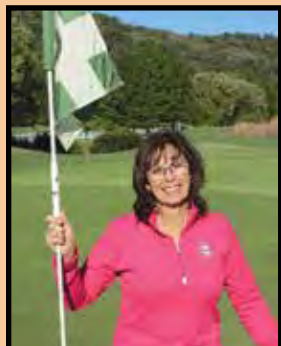
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Rules of the Game: Stroke and distance just might be your new best rules friend

Pat Campbell



So many of us dread the words “You have to play under stroke and distance.” Because stroke and distance means add a stroke and play from the location of the previous stroke, it can increase the score for your hole rapidly. As a result it feels like we are being unduly punished for a bit of bad luck, like our ball off the tee veering off to the out of bounds fence as if pulled by a mighty ball magnet. And...we all hate the comments from our fellow golfers, “Well, that’s OB, better re-tee, hitting three.” As if we needed reminding.

There are times you have no other option as stroke and distance is the only way to keep a ball in play for the round. The two most common are for a ball hit out of bounds or for a ball that is lost. If you couldn’t play under stroke and distance you would have to quit. So, already you should be feeling more kindly disposed toward stroke and distance.

Then, there are times when stroke and distance is one of a number of available options. The Rules that allow stroke and distance as an option are Penalty Area relief and Unplayable Ball relief. So, it’s a choice, and if it’s your best option it has to feel better.

Probably the best known application was Tiger



There may be times on the course when stroke and distance might be your get out of jail free card.

Woods putting on Hole 13 at the 2005 Masters. His ball not only missed the hole, but kept on going into a Penalty Area (known at that time as a water hazard). Tiger knew he would have to take penalty area relief for one penalty stroke so which option would serve him best? He calmly replaced the ball on the putting green playing under his first option, stroke and distance, and putted again. He obviously felt he had gained some useful information that could be applied.

The really neat part, though, about stroke and distance, is that you can play a ball under stroke and distance any time you want, no explanation needed. (See Rule 18.1)

So, think about that three-tiered putting green you love to hate with a hole location on the top tier. You slide it by the hole and it continues down the other two tiers and comes to rest against the cut of the long grass 20 yards in front of the green. You know that it takes a perfect chip to get it back up and resting on that top tier, maybe more than one. For one stroke you can simply announce that you are playing under stroke and distance, replace your ball and putt again, already having gained a little read about what your putt will do.

I bet you never thought stroke and distance could be such an advantage, even a welcome choice, and maybe someday, your new BFF.



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