

# INSIDE GOLF NEWSPAPER

## Myrtle Beach is a place that is the ultimate golfers paradise

Looking to knock another item off your golf bucket list, make sure to add a trip to Myrtle Beach, S.C. There is plenty to like about the place they call the Grand Strand. With nearly 100 courses within an hour's drive (including True Blue pictured right), there are quality courses to play. And off the course there is even more action. See inside for more on Myrtle Beach.



## WHAT'S NEW IN NW GOLF

### Topgolf breaks ground on new location in Renton

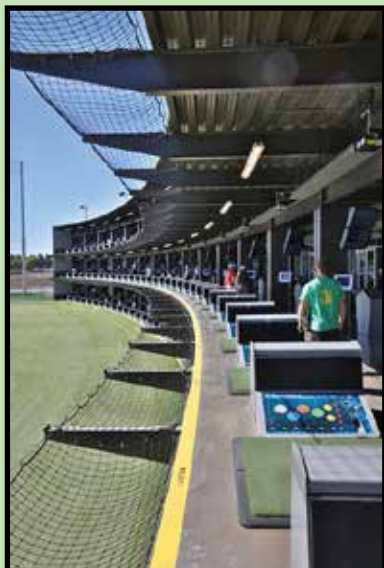
Global sports and entertainment leader Topgolf Entertainment Group will introduce its technology-enabled entertainment experience to the greater Seattle area with a new, state-of-the-art venue. This venue, expected to open in 2022, held a groundbreaking ceremony on August 3 to kick off construction of what will be Topgolf's first traditional multi-level entertainment venue to serve Washingtonians. Topgolf Renton-Seattle will be located off Logan Ave. near Boeing's Renton Factory and The Landing Shopping mall.

Topgolf Renton-Seattle will feature Topgolf's new skylit central atrium design. With comfortable seating, yard games, and a giant video wall, the skylit central atrium creates a hang-out spot and connects the fun of hitting bays with the action of our patio, bars and roof terraces.

"We're thrilled to kick off the development of Topgolf Renton-Seattle and look forward to unveiling this state-of-the-art venue," said Topgolf Chief Development Officer Chris Callaway.

The new, three-level venue, which is expected to employ more than 500 Associates once open, will feature 102 outdoor hitting bays, plus a full-service restaurant and bar and event space for corporate and social events.

Guests can experience the unique technology-driven fun that communities have grown to know and love in an open-air and safe multi-level environment. The signature experience features point-scoring games in outdoor hitting bays, chef-driven menu items, top-shelf drinks, music and year-round programming for all ages. Additionally, Topgolf will offer private event rooms for corporate meetings, celebrations and more.



Renton's Topgolf will look like this when it opens.

### Rules Quiz

You and your opponent are sharing a motorized golf cart during your match. As you hit your next stroke from the fairway your opponent and cart move directly in the path of your ball. The ball strikes the cart and bounces some 20 yards away into the rough. Now what? What are your options? Penalties? Who gets them? See answer of Page 2 of this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.

# LPGA Cambia Portland Classic welcomes golfers to a new locale: Oregon Golf Club

The LPGA was treated to a new host site when the Cambia Portland Classic made a move from its previous host site at Columbia Edgewater Country Club to The Oregon Golf Club in West Linn.

All was good until Mother Nature stepped in.

But that didn't stop the tournament as being completed, although it was shortened from 72 holes to 54. Jin Young of South Korea won the tournament at 11 under par winning on a Sunday after the third round on Saturday was washed out because of rain. It turns out it was the wettest weekend in the Portland area in nearly six months, forcing the tournament changes.

The Oregon Golf Club received more than 1 1/2 inches of rain on Friday night forcing officials to call off Saturday's round. In fact, because of the wet and slippery conditions, fans were not allowed on the course for the final round of the championship.

For more information and photos on the Cambia Portland Classic, see inside this section.



PHOTO BY SCOTT BISCH ©



PHOTO BY SCOTT BISCH ©

Jin Young won the Cambia Classic (above); Oregon State's Ellie Slama made the cut (above right). PHOTOS BY SCOTT BISCH



## RV2Tee offering a new way to tee it up

If you own a recreation vehicle, there is a new way to tour the Pacific Northwest and play golf. RV2Tee is a membership program and community that allows anyone with an RV to stay overnight for free at host golf courses. Host courses benefit from the added support and RVers are able to have access to courses that provide overnight parking for free. See inside this section for more information.



## The calendar might say October but it's still not time to put the clubs away

Sure, the calendar might say October but that doesn't mean it is time to put the golf clubs away. Not a chance. Instead, keep those clubs handy because fall golf in the Pacific Northwest is a great time to play.

From the Puget Sound area to Portland to Eastern Washington to Central Oregon, there are plenty of places that offers some great tee times, even better rates and some terrific fall weather.

Fall golf might mean shorter days in the Pacific Northwest but it also means that the courses are always in good shape, the tee sheet is open and the rates are down. See inside for more on fall golf.



Fall golf in the Pacific Northwest is a great idea at places like Juniper Golf Club, located in Redmond, Ore.



# Back to the Beach: A return trip to the 2021 World Amateur in Myrtle Beach is a treat

There is nothing like a road trip if you are a golfer. If you are traveling golfer you no doubt like to tee it up at places like Phoenix, Palm Springs and Hawaii. All locations in the western part of the United States and all places with great weather and better golf.

But then there is the East Coast. And Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Looking for a golf bucket list trip? Myrtle Beach needs to be on that list.

I've been fortunate to have been to the place they call the Grand Stand for years. I remember my first trip more than 20 years ago. There were over 100 courses within an hour's drive of each other, there were restaurants galore, there were miniature golf courses, lighted night golf courses and of course, the miles and miles of the beach.

I was hooked. I have been lucky to go back every year for the Myrtle Beach World Amateur. This year there were 3,800 players from around the world. Every state in the country was represented. And the winner this year was a woman golfer for the first time in 12 years.

And this year, as usual there was plenty to see, well over 100 holes of golf to play and some sights that I had never seen before on the golf course.

Let's start with the tournament. I was in the fifth flight. Let's just say I was never in contention to win. With several three puts, a couple of four puts and a round that started with four straight 6's on the card, I finished in the middle of the pack.

But away from the tournament, there were some new courses to try, a re-modeled course to tee it up and some miniature golf to play.

During a round at Pawley's Plantation, a Jack Nicklaus-design south of downtown Myrtle Beach, my long streak of a hole-in-one almost came to an end. On a par-3, a 6-iron landed on the green and rolled. And rolled some more. It ended up four inches from the hole. At least it saved me some money from buying a round of drinks.

On another hole, honesty was the theme. There was a table full of golf balls and a money jar. Someone selling golf balls was trusting. There were some great balls to buy and we left the money in the jar



and got some good golf balls. Think something like that would go over at some of the courses you play? Think again.

Myrtle Beach. If it's not on your bucket list, get it on the list. Pronto.

Steve Turcotte is editor of Inside Golf Newspaper. He can be reached at [sturturcotte@comcast.net](mailto:sturturcotte@comcast.net).



A near hole-in-one at Pawley's Plantation.



Now this is honest sales as someone left golf balls and a money jar along a hole at Pawley's Plantation.



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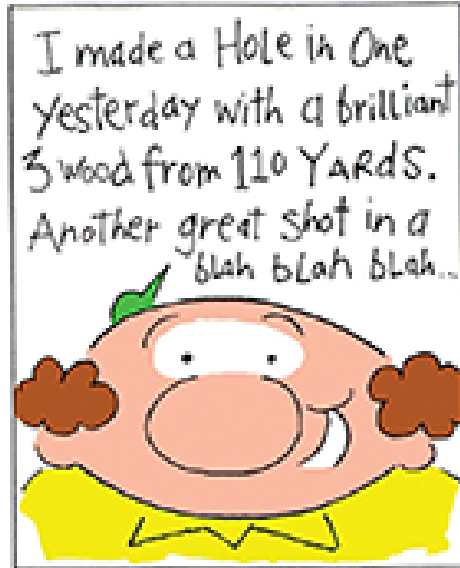
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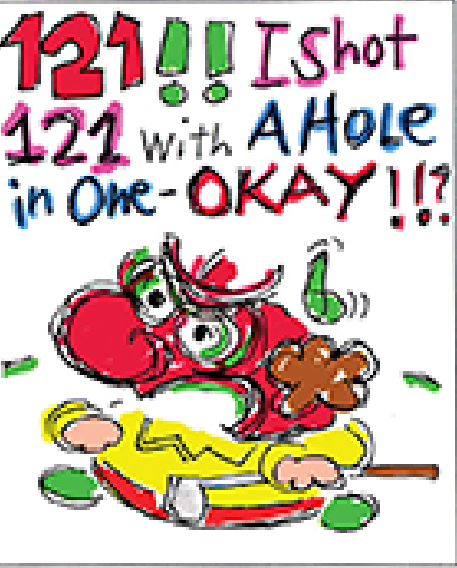
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## Double Bogey



## Harold Bluestein PGA



## Rules Answer

Answer: His score is 8. Tee shots (2), approach shot (1), putts, (2), stroke and Distance Penalty (1) when he returned to the tee and, when he picked up the ball, dropped a ball and played from there he played from a wrong place (2 strokes). When players do what they think is fair it often leads to higher scores.

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

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# Portland’s Lara Tennant does it again, claims third straight USGA Senior Women’s Amateur

Lara Tennant won her third consecutive U.S. Senior Women’s Amateur title with a 2 and 1 victory over Ellen Port in the final match at The Lakewood Club in Point Clear, Ala.

Tennant, from Portland, becomes the first player in 20 years to win three in a row at the U.S. Senior Women’s Amateur. Carol Semple Thompson was the last golfer to achieve the feat while winning four consecutive from 1999-2002.

The final match was originally scheduled for Wednesday but play was suspended after two holes due to inclement weather in the area. When it resumed Thursday, Tennant held a 1 up advantage but the match quickly evened up after she posted bogey on No. 3.

The two players traded holes on the front nine – Tennant winning Nos. 4 and 5, and Port taking Nos. 7 and 9 – to make the turn all square. Tennant pulled away on the back nine after Port faltered with a bogey on No. 12 and a double bogey on No. 14. Tennant sealed the victory with a par on No. 17.

Tennant recorded six wins in four days of tournament play. In addition to the title win over Port, Tennant defeated Susan Cohn (2 up - semifinal), Sally Krueger (3&2 - quarterfinal), Kelley Nittoli (2&1 - Round of 16), Juidith Kyrinis (19 holes - Round of 32) and Tina Barker (2&1 - Round of 64).

Tennant (72-71) also tied for individual medalist honors at 1-under par during the 36-hole stroke play qualifying portion of the event which occurred Sept. 10-11.

Tennant won back-to-back U.S. Senior Women’s Am titles in 2018 and 2019. The 2020 event was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Koppenberg wins Washington Mid-Am

Jacob Koppenberg shot rounds of 69-70 to easily claim the title in the 12th Washington Men’s Mid-Amateur Championship, held at historic Bellingham (Wash.) Golf and Country Club.



Portland’s Lara Tennant won a third straight USGA title.

Koppenberg, a longtime Bellingham resident playing on his home course, finished six shots ahead of Matt Rawitzer of New York and Colton Kleis of Seattle, who tied for second. Koppenberg was the only player in the full field of 120 who finished under par for the championship, with players battling gusty winds and periods of rain over the two days.

Koppenberg played collegiately at Western Washington University, where he twice was named NCAA All-American. After college he played briefly on the mini-tours, trying to earn his way onto the PGA Tour. But he returned to Bellingham, regained his amateur status, got married and started a career in business development and is now a father of two boys, including a two-week old baby.

## Former PPGA Player of year wins

Christina Spence Proteau of Port Alberni, B.C. won the 2021 Canadian Women’s Mid-Amateur Championship

at Golf Château Bromont in Quebec in a playoff over Vancouver’s Nonie Marler.

Proteau has previously been named the PPGA Women’s Mid-Amateur Player of the Year three times (2012, 2013, 2014) and won the 2017 PPGA Women’s Mid-Amateur Championship.

## Brandes wins Washington Senior Amateur

Tom Brandes of Bellevue shot rounds of 67-77-69 to win the 35th Washington Senior Men’s Amateur Championship; while Mark Johnson of Mountlake Terrace fired rounds of 75-72-71 to win the 14th Washington Super Senior Men’s Amateur Championship.

Both 54-hole championships were held at Kitsap Golf & Country Club in Bremerton, Wash., and were conducted by Washington Golf.

Brandes entered the day three shots back of Bob Davies of Bremerton, in a tie for second place, and put together an impressive final round to get the win. His final round of 1-under par 69 was the low round of the day. Finishing in second place was Robert Davies of Bremerton.

## Strickland wins PPGA Men’s Mid-Am

Mark Strickland of Mukilteo, Wash. fired rounds of 73-70-68 and made birdie on the first playoff hole to win the 36th PPGA Men’s Mid-Amateur Championship. The 54-hole stroke-play championship was held at Silves Valley Ranch in Seneca, Ore.

In the final round, Strickland made just one bogey and five birdies which propelled him up the leaderboard and placed him in a tie for first with Harrison Moir of Portland, Ore. after the conclusion of play. He defeated Moir the first playoff hole (Hole #18) with a birdie to capture the title.

Daniel Campbell of Bellingham, Wash. and Hunter Wescott of Portland, Ore. finished in a tie for third and Colton Kleis of Seattle, Wash. finished in fifth.

## Amateur Players Tour ready to hit Seattle area

The Amateur Players Tour is hosting its first tournament in the Seattle area on Oct. 23 at Washington National Golf Club in Auburn. The Amateur Players Tour is another great way to keep those competitive juices flowing on the golf course now that the fall golf season has arrived.


The Amateur Players Tour (APT) is a members-only tour consisting of local chapters throughout the United States and Canada for men and women of all ages and skill levels. The tournaments will be played on public and private golf courses and the formats will change up along the way with match play, Stableford, team events, member-guest events and more. The focus will always be on fun and friendly competition at each of the tour stops during the season.

The Seattle chapter’s inaugural tournament at Washington National on Oct. 23 is a way for chapter owner Warren Ottley (seattle@amateurplayerstour.com) to kick off the season. He wants to introduce himself and get to know the players in the Seattle area while making plans for the upcoming season. As a tour that is by the players and for the players, Warren is hoping to gain insight into what the golfers would like to experience with APT Seattle.

The APT was created to improve upon the repetitive stroke play experience common among various amateur golf groups and Seattle will utilize different formats to change things up. The local chapters are the heart and soul of the APT with a healthy schedule of tournaments across the country with competitive entry fees at courses that the public might not ordinarily be able to play.

The inaugural North American Championship will be held Oct. 25-27, 2021, at Pinehurst Golf Resort in North Carolina. Members from all over the country will play in a 54-hole stroke play tournament to crown the North American Champion and National Player of the Year. Tournament rounds will be played on Pinehurst #1, #6, #8, #9 and Talamore Resort. Upon completion of the 2nd round, the top 20 and ties from each Division will advance to play their final round on the historic Pinehurst No. 2.


All golf fanatics who can’t get enough of the game, its history, its architecture, and its spirit are invited to reach out to Warren or visit amateurplayerstour.com.



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# LPGA Portland Cambia Classic has strong field and a new venue

The 50th edition of the Portland Cambia Classic almost was like a soap opera. There was the change of venues, the weather, a winner which had taken some time off before the tournament and some of the biggest names on the LPGA Tour not even making the cut.

It all made for an interesting three days of golf. Yes, you read that right. Three days. The weather in Portland was so wet that tournament officials called off the third round Saturday and the event became 54 holes instead of the planned 72 holes.

Jin Young of South Korea won the tournament - and that was after taking a break after the Tokyo Olympics and not playing in the Women's British Open.

Some big names like Stacy Lewis, Brittany Lang and Christina Kim all failed to advance to the weekend

rounds of the tournament, missing the cut.

Oregon State University Ellie Slama qualified for the tournament and was in danger of missing the cut after shooting an opening-round 78. But she rallied back with a 69 to advance to the weekend.

*There was plenty of action at the LPGA Portland Cambia Classic - and its new host course The Oregon Golf Club. Eugene's Carolyn Inglis (right) made the cut at the tournament; Brittany Henderson (lower left), who caddies for sister Brooke, checks the yardage for a hole with her range finder; Mother Nature might have kept the crowds away (lower right) but the set up at the Oregon Golf Club still drew fans to watch the event.*

**PHOTOS BY SCOTT BISCH.**



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# Inglis continues his hot 2021 with win at the NW PGA Professional Championship

Colin Inglis of Shadow Hills CC (Junction City, OR) won the PNW PGA Professional Championship presented by Cadillac, Club Car and Rolex by three strokes over Austin Hurt of Wing Point G&CC (Bainbridge Island, WA). Inglis fired rounds of 64-68-68-200, 13 under par for the 54-hole event. This completes an amazing summer with Inglis winning the Rosauers Open Invitational in July and finishing in the top 10 of all Section majors.

In addition to Inglis and Hurt, Jason Aichele of Meadow Springs CC (Kennewick, WA), Ryan Malby of Kalispel, MT, Shane Prante of The Home Course (DuPont, WA), Tim Feenstra of Broadmoor GC (Seattle, WA) and Ryan Benzel of Sahalee CC (Sammamish, WA) will advance directly to the 2022 PGA Professional Championship April 17-20, 2022.

Additionally, the low 20 scores at the 2022 PGA Professional Championship presented by Cadillac, Club Car and Rolex will earn a place in the 104th PGA Championship at Southern Hills Country Club, Tulsa, Oklahoma in May 2022.

## Rannow wins NW Senior PGA title

Bob Rannow of Ocean Dunes Golf Links (Florence, OR) won the PNW Senior PGA Championship title by one stroke over Tony Robydek of Meadow Park GC

(Tacoma, WA) at Rainier Golf and Country Club.

In addition to Rannow and Robydek, Mark Knowles of McCormick Woods GC (Port Orchard, WA), Greg Manley of Meridian Valley CC (Kent, WA) and Monte Hanson of Bend GC (Bend, OR) qualify for the 2021 Senior PGA Professional Championship presented by Cadillac, held October 21-24, 2021, at PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie, FL. Jeff Coston of Semiahmoo G&CC (Blaine, WA) is already exempt as he won the National Senior PGA Professional Championship in the past.

Rob Gibbons of Arrowhead GC (Molalla, OR) captured the Hugh Starkweather award which goes to the low player for both rounds that is 60 years and older.

Winning the Senior Division is Gordy Graybeal of Jefferson Park GC (Seattle, WA) and Paul Cobleigh of Suntime GC (Yakima, WA) with Mike Coury winning the Senior Net Division.

Past champions entered in the event include Jeff Coston of Semiahmoo G&CC (2020, 2019, 2013, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007 and 2006), Tom Sovay of The GC at Redmond Ridge (2018), Steve Stull of Richland, WA (2017, 2014), Rob Gibbons of Arrowhead GC (2016), Chuck Milne of Vanco Driving Range (2012, 2000), and Bill Tindall of Redmond, WA (1996).

## Did you know....

- The GHIN Handicap Program software (provided to all WA Golf members) allows you to post nine-hole scores. The software will combine nine-hole scores with your other nine-hole scores as they are posted. Eighteen-hole scores that are the product of combining two nine-hole scores will be reflected in your history by the letter "N."



- Every year, the PNGA selects the individuals with the most outstanding accomplishments for the Pacific Northwest Player of the Year Awards. The categories recognized are Men, Women, Men's Mid-Amateur, Women's Mid-Amateur, Senior Men, Senior Women, Junior Boys and Junior Girls. With no PNGA championships being held in 2020 due to the pandemic, the PNGA will once again award these honors for 2021.



## Tour Players With Northwest ties

### PGA Tour (2022)

- Kevin Chappell • Kirkland • No events
- Ben Crane • Portland • No events
- Joel Dahmen, Clarkston • No events
- Cameron Davis • Australia (Member at Sahalee) • No events
- Robert Garrigus • Gresham • No events
- Scott Harrington • Portland • No events
- Ryan Moore • Puyallup • No events
- Cheng Tsung Pan • Ex-UW • 8th on the list with \$220,850.00
- Andrew Putnam • Tacoma • 31st on the list with \$42,875.00
- Kyle Stanley • Gig Harbor • No events
- Nick Taylor • Ex-UW • 61st on the list with \$15,120.00
- Aaron Wise • Ex-Oregon • No events

### Korn Ferry Tour

- Alistar Docherty • Vancouver, Wash. • 323rd on the list with \$2,514
- Robert Garrigus • Gresham • 190th on the list with \$25,016
- Andres Gonzales • Olympia • 176th on the list with \$35,880
- Alex Prugh • Spokane • Finished 145th on the list with \$57,497
- Dylan Wu • Medford • 17th on the list with \$367,750

### Champions Tour

- Fred Couples • Seattle • 18th on the list with \$1,457,756
- Peter Jacobsen • Portland • 206th on the list with \$4,416
- Kirk Triplett • Pullman • 36th on the list with \$765,240

### Forme Tour

- Corey Pereira • Ex-UW • 22nd on list with 306 points
- Andrew Yun • Tacoma • 4th on the list with 781 points

### LPGA Tour

- Carolyn Inglis • Eugene • 134th on the list with \$46,721
- Jing Yan • Ex-UW • 113th on the list with \$85,632

### LPGA Symetra Tour

- Olivia Benzin • Tacoma • 159th on the list with \$2,189
- Jamie Huo • Kent • No cuts made
- Erynne Lee • Silverdale • 146th on the list with \$2,982
- Kathleen Scavo • Ex-Oregon • 169th on the list with \$1,494
- Gigi Stoll • Tigard • 35th on the list with \$34,600

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# RV2Tee

## New membership program will make it easier to tour with your RV and find a place to golf

If you are an RV owner who likes to take your rig to the golf course or a snowbird traveling between destinations, then you will be interested in RV2Tee.

A new service for traveling golfers, RV2Tee.golf, launched a membership program allowing RVers to stay overnight for free at host golf courses. For \$99 per year, RV2Tee members are granted access to unique overnight dry camping spots and special access to host golf courses. Members can use the RV2Tee app to earn points by visiting each course, and then redeem points for rewards at participating retail partner locations. The RV2Tee app is available for download from the App Store and Google Play.

The only requirement for RV owners is they must have a self-contained RV that allows them to dry camp during their stay at the course. All arrangements are made between the member and the host course.

Mike Simpson, founder of RV2Tee.golf is a local businessman that owns multiple businesses in Arlington, Washington and has a degree in Golf Operations and Management. He is a past general manager of Arlington Golf Course, plus a full-time RVer making him uniquely in tune with golf and RV travel.

Simpson came up with the idea for RV2tee while on a golf trip in the summer of 2020 and enlisted his childhood friend Kevin Phillips to join him and help bring the concept to fruition. Phillips has been servicing clients as an Edward Jones financial advisor and account manager with Colonial Life where servicing clients has been of utmost importance.

“As an RV owner, I know the pure joy of finding new and unique places to stay while traveling. RV2Tee gives RVers a way to combine their travel and golf passion to discover new experiences while getting rewarded for that discovery,” said Simpson.

While the service is new, Simpson said he expects to have the service nationwide by next year. He wanted to point out that all members will have access to the new host courses as they are added.

As for host courses, the service is free and they will have total control over the program while gaining free marketing.

Simpson said he plans to have a booth at all of the regional golf shows in 2022.

For more details or to like them on social media, visit their website: RV2Tee.golf.



RV2Tee is a new program designed for owners of recreational vehicles to make it easier to stay and play at golf courses across the Pacific Northwest.



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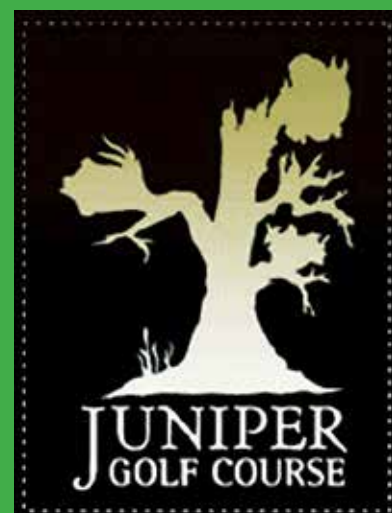
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# Fall golf in the Pacific Northwest is a great time to stay the course

From the Puget Sound area to Eastern Washington to Central Oregon, there is no shortage of places to play some fall golf in the Pacific Northwest. Just because the calendar says October, there is no reason to put the clubs away. At courses across the Pacific Northwest, fall golf is always a great idea - with more tee times and lower prices.

While the fair-weather golfers put their clubs into the closet for the year, those of us that truly love the game know that the fall season can be the best time to play. The trees are displaying their magnificent colors, the greens are dark green and receptive, the fairways are a bit softer so that balls hit less than perfect, don't bounce into trouble nearly as often as they did during the firm summer fairways. October still finds the courses fairly firm so you don't have to worry about balls plugging in the fairways.

Probably the best part of fall golf is playing with the lack of congestion, the slow playing that is associated with large crowds navigating the course is gone. Fall time brings out the true golf lover, the ones who may not be the best ball strikers but they know how to get around the course at a fair pace. If you choose your course carefully, you can often times have the course nearly to your self. Golf was meant to be played at a speed that is comfortable and not hurried or rushed because the group behind you is starting to drive on you or having to wait on every tee for the slow group in front of you.

As the days are getting shorter it is important to plan for earlier rounds. The weather is going to be cooler so choosing your clothing is an important consideration – pick multiple thin layers that don't restrict your swing but can be adjusted to the situation—a vest is always a good choice. Generally speaking, the close-in courses will get the majority of play in fall and winter months, which leaves the perimeter courses with more open tee times. We certainly don't want to discourage anyone from playing the city courses. Their tee sheets should



A good fall choice: North Shore in Tacoma, Wash.

also be a bit more open as well. Most courses are still dry this time of year so the options are wide open when choosing a course to play.

In Oregon, the Portland area is another great option and Central Oregon, at places like Juniper, the fall golf options are terrific with the changing of the colors, course conditions and weather. There are a bunch of great golf courses to choose from whether going north, south, west or east. And, don't forget just over the mountains, Eastern Washington still has some great golfing weather where you can extend the dry season a bit longer at places like Vic Meyers Golf Course.

One huge benefit to fall golf is the off-season green fees. For some, the high-time rates can be challenging to average player who often times can only afford a few rounds a month while the reduced rates make it possible to get in any extra round our two.



Ocean Dunes in Florence, Ore. (top) and Vic Meyers in Eastern Washington, are two terrific choices





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# Destination: Myrtle Beach

With a variety of courses up and down the Grand Strand, Myrtle Beach is a must stop

By Steve Turcotte, Editor Inside Golf Newspaper

There are many things to love about golfing in Myrtle Beach. But there is one serious problem: Which courses do you choose to play? There are nearly 100 courses up and down the area they call the Grand Strand. You just simply can't play them all. As much as you would like to spend a couple of months and see everything Myrtle Beach has to offer, you have to pick and choose. On a recent trip, here are some of the pickings and choosings our golf group did on the way to the 2021 Myrtle Beach World Amateur:

• **Pawley's Plantation:** This is a gem that was designed by Jack Nicklaus that opened in 1988. The course winds its ways through trees before ending up in marsh-land on the back side. Nicklaus said he enjoyed the work on the course saying "we used what's here, without forcing or changing what Mother Nature provided." As good as the front nine is at Pawley's Plantation, the back nine gets your attention right away on the 10th hole, a short par-4 with trouble left, sand right and water in front of the green. When you get to the 13th hole, the marsh-land kicks in. A dike across the marsh was built for tee boxes for the par-3 13th and the par-3 17th hole. Both short on yardage but tough with all carry over the marsh and smallish greens.

• **True Blue:** You would think a course like True Blue with its wide fairways would be no match for straight hitters. Think again. Course designed Mike Strantz has enough trouble on every hole to make many of the shots a challenge. It all starts on the par-5 first hole with its wide fairway. But like all of the other holes, the trouble lurks around the greens with sand and water and waste areas. So don't be thinking that wide fairways will make it easy. True Blue's sister course Caledonia make up a resort that is ranked among the



Pine Lakes in Myrtle Beach is called the Granddaddy.

best in the country.

• **Pine Lakes:** This is called the Granddaddy of Myrtle Beach, being the oldest course in Myrtle Beach. Don't let the age deceive you. The course has matured through the years and this year, Pine Lakes underwent a re-model project that added new grasses to all of the greens and renovated all of the bunkers. The work was done to get the course back to its original shape - a course that opened in 1927. This is a course that is located virtually in the middle of Myrtle Beach and is a favorite of both locals and traveling golfers alike with its challenging layout and plenty of trouble with the water and sand traps.



True Blue (top) and Pawley's Plantation are two of the golf choices players can make in visiting Myrtle Beach.



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# The Lesson Tee: Improve your swing at home without hitting balls on the range

My students and I have experienced practicing in a "Swing Station," at home, without a golf ball and striking golf balls on the range. They have shown significantly more improvement than when striking balls alone. Especially with the "Swing Station," designed to produce the technique desired.

Here is a station that has helped many produce a desired shallow angle of approach to the "Hitting Zone."

1. Lay an alignment rod left of your target. Your feet need be left of your target always! If hitting a shot over 2nd base, feet need be aimed at short-stop.
2. Place a shaft in the ground or a cone indoors or on a matt on your toe line, equal with the hosel of your club. (Photo 1).
3. Place a impact bag or a range bucket six inside the target line, equal with your left foot.
4. Your backswing should slightly go outside the cone and the downswing need be well inside the cone/shaft. Do not hit the impact bag on downswing. (Photo 2).

Work this "Swing Station" at home and train your shallow from the inside path. Then go to the range with the same station.

Feel like you use a body turn on the backswing and mainly hands and arms on the inside of the cone on your downswing. This is so vital to making this work for your own golf game. Keep this practice and you will see the results - and it's something you can do over the winter months when Mother Nature keeps you inside.

Own this path this winter and you will enjoy golf next spring.

*Jeff Coston is a former PGA Tour and Champion's Tour player. He is rated #1 teacher in Washington by Golf Digest. Jeff can be reached for appointments by calling Semiahmoo at 360 201-4590.*



Photo #1

My students and I have experienced practicing in a "Swing Station," at home, without a golf ball and striking golf balls on the range, produce significant more improvement than striking balls alone. Especially with the "Swing Station," designed to produce the technique desired.



Photo #2

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# Rules of the Game: Are you allowed to stand behind a player when that player is making a putt? Sometimes

A foursome came in to the clubhouse and wanted to confirm the following.....Standing behind another player while they putt.....it's a penalty, right?! Two strokes, right? The answer, not always. Context is sometimes everything in golf and this one requires context.

The first thing to determine was, what format of golf was the group playing? If it was match play, there are a number of factors to clarify. Was it singles or a team format such as four ball? In stroke play there is only one format recognized by the rules of golf, straight forward stroke play, may the best player win.

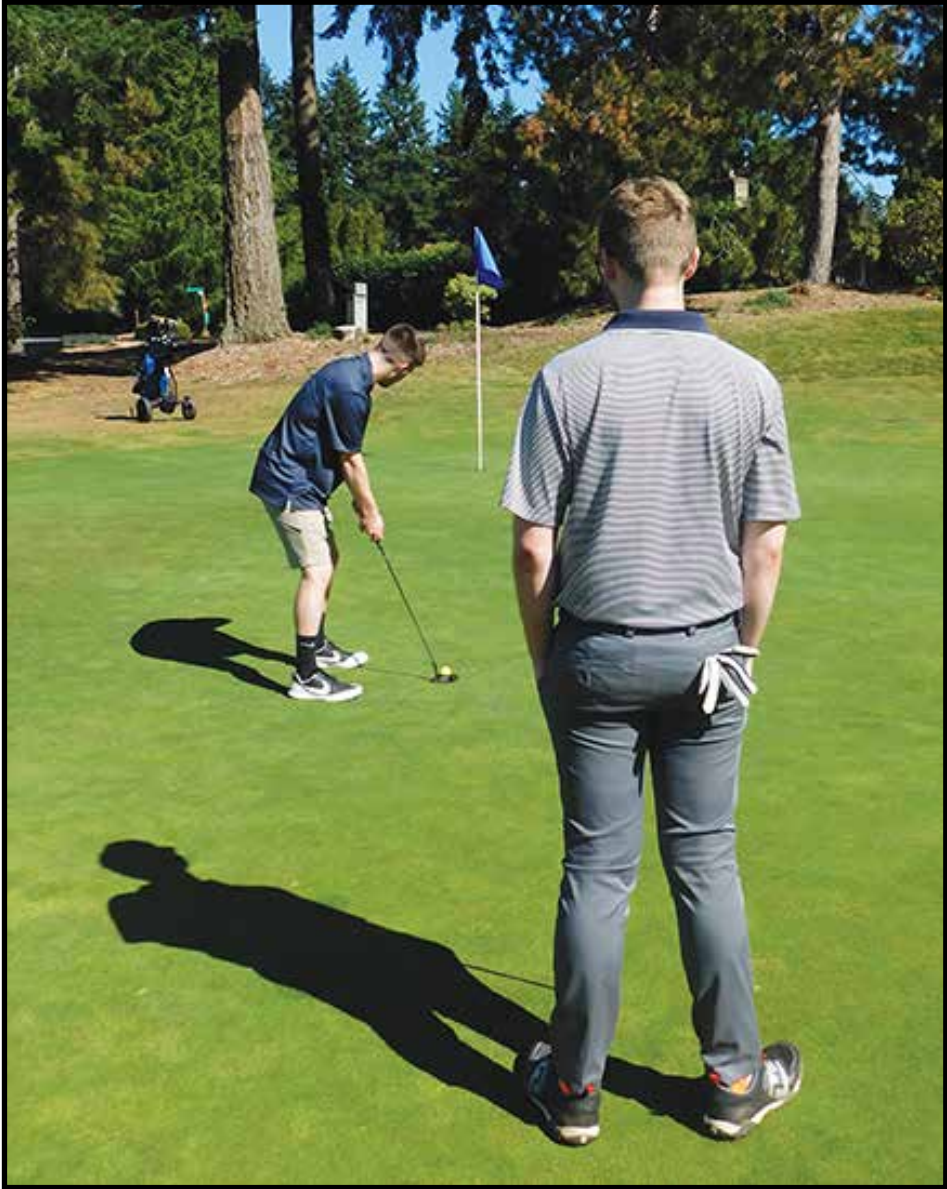
Let's deal with the simplest one first: Stroke play. In stroke play, there is nothing in the Rules of Golf to prevent a player from standing behind a fellow competitor while they putt, providing they aren't doing it to assist the player who is putting, in which case it is covered under the advice rule, Rule 10.2. However, it's not considered very appropriate etiquette by many players and will get you a dirty look or two, so decide if you really want to go there, no one wants to be THAT player that others would rather not play with. The player putting may ask you to step aside and I would recommend that you do so, promptly and with at least a muttered apology. It's worth noting that if the Rules of Golf don't prohibit an action it is understood to be permitted and this is a great example of a case where the rules are silent when pertaining to a competitor wanting to get a read off his fellow competitor's putt.

Now match play. In singles match play you and your opponent are the only two who care about what goes on in your match. You can overlook breaches of the rules, but you cannot agree to waive the rules. In this case, standing behind your opponent is not against the rules, but the question of etiquette needs to be considered just as in stroke play and, if asked, you should move.



In team match play formats such as four ball, the partner can act just as a caddie and assist in determining a line of play for the putt, even to the extent of pointing it out on the putting green. (Be careful not to set anything down to assist in demonstrating the line. That's an action that can't be undone and the penalty cannot be avoided). However, just as a caddie's actions are restricted, so are those of the partner. The caddie cannot deliberately stand on or near on the extension of the line of play behind the ball while the stance is being taken or the stroke is being made and the partner cannot, either (Rule 10.2b(4)). The partner can assist in determining the line of play for the putt but must step aside before the player begins to take their stance. If the partner has remained on or near the extension of the line of play for the putt and the putt is made, the player gets a loss of hole penalty. The player can avoid the penalty prior to making the putt by stepping out of their stance and having their partner step aside. The partner must remain off to the side while the player retakes their stance and proceeds to make the putt.

Questions? Check out [usga.org/rules](https://www.usga.org/rules). Stay safe.



Standing behind someone when they putt might not be against the rules but it sure bad etiquette on the course.

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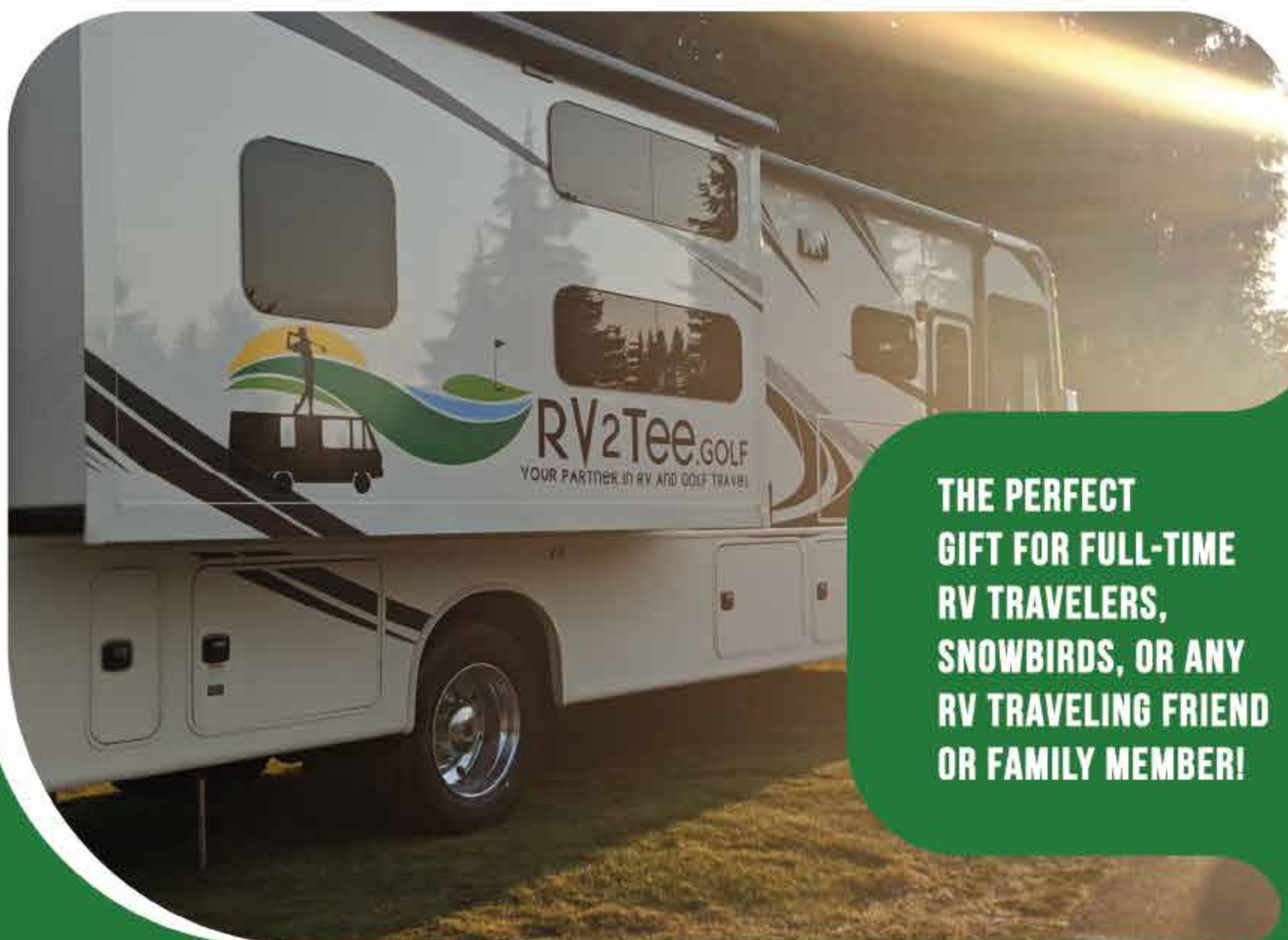
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