



Winter golf in the NW can be an enjoyable experience if done right

Just because the calendar has turned to winter that doesn't mean you have to put the clubs away until spring. Instead, select the right clothes to wear and pick the right days to play. You'll find that winter golf in the Pacific Northwest can be an enjoyable and rewarding experience. See inside for more.

WHAT'S NEW
IN NW GOLF

Inactive posting season begins this month in NW

Inactive score posting season begins in the Pacific Northwest this month and runs until March 1, 2026. The NW is one of 41 golf associations in the U.S. that has an inactive posting season during the winter months. This is because of the general change in course conditions in our region that would adversely affect course ratings.

If you play golf during our Inactive Score Posting Season in an area where scores are still being accepted for handicap purposes, you must post those scores as soon as practicable. Your handicap will continue to be revised daily when you post an eligible score, even during the off-season.

Each course is rated under the Course Rating System part of the World Handicap System. The single largest factor that impacts a course rating is distance. How far a ball will travel in the air and how much roll it gets on the ground are heavily impacted by weather. To create a standard course rating, each course is rated as if it is July 4th (or, high summer), and the difference in course conditions in our region between summer and winter are too great and would negatively affect the majority of golfers and their handicap. There are many courses in our region that drain well and stay in good condition for the winter months, but this cannot be evaluated on a course-by-course basis.

Rules Question of the month

Player A's ball is on the putting green about 1 foot from the hole. Player B chips from the fringe and as the ball rolls toward the hole, Player B's ball in motion hits and moves Player A's ball about 18 inches from its original spot. Player A replaces the ball on its original spot and holes the putt. See the answer on Page 2 of this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.



The Home Course: Dry course always worth the time

There are plenty of places to choose from if you want to keep your golf game going during the winter months. The Home Course in DuPont is always a good choice in all seasons but, with their Play For Free Stay and Play Package promotion through November, it is another incentive to play one of the Northwest's top courses at a great price. See inside this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.

Developers have an eye out for golf resort along the Snake River near the Tri-Cities area

By Cory McCoy, Tri-City Herald
www.tri-cityherald.com/news/business/article312177155.html

One of the world's leading golf course designers could soon bring his talents to a sweeping riverfront property 20 minutes from the Tri-Cities. And a Snake River park that was shut down by federal budget cuts could see big benefits from the course as its new neighbor.

The golf course is expected to begin taking shape as soon as developers get approval, potentially as early as this fall. It's the dream of a group of Tri-Citians who spent their youth enjoying summer days at Levey Park in Franklin County.

The park was one of many in the area closed this year by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers after federal budget cuts left the Corps without the resources to staff the parks. They hope to reopen Levey Park by next summer, but county leaders say it's fallen into disrepair and needs some help.

When the Gordon family began shutting down winery operations on the hillsides above the park, the group saw an opportunity to showcase the beauty of Eastern Washington and the Snake River. North 44, which is run by Ben Harris and Kennewick Councilman Brad Beauchamp, is partnering with Keith and Jordan Tieg to transform the picturesque 300-acre property that was once home to vineyards and a cherry orchard. It borders Levey Park and nearly a mile of Snake River shoreline.

North 44, which is run by Ben Harris and Kennewick city councilman Brad Beauchamp, is partnering with Keith and Jordan Tieg to transform the 300 acres on the Snake River shoreline. They're partnering with world-renowned golf course designer David McLay Kidd, who is best known for courses that showcase sweeping views on rolling hills and cliffsides. Kidd has designed courses from Bandon Dunes on the Oregon coast to the St. Andrews Links "Castle Course" in his native Scotland.

Right now they're in the process of applying for a special use permit to start work on the course. The golf course is expected to be open within about two years if they can break ground this fall.

While the vision started as a resort-style course, they want to be clear that this plan is meant to be

See golf resort, Page 4

Hawaii golf: Never a bad time to go

There never seems to be a bad time to travel to the Hawaiian islands to tee it up, and when Mother Nature starts to deal cold and wet weather in the Pacific Northwest, it's a good time to head to the warm sunny islands and play some great golf.

Places like Waikoloa Beach Resort on the Big Island (right) offers a great challenge and fabulous views. With its 27 holes, Waikoloa Beach Resort is an island treat.

For more, see inside this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.

Wildhorse Resort: The Pendleton-area course had been on my wish list and finally I got the chance to play it

Along with my counterparts in Port Townsend I have helped produce Inside Golf Newspaper for over 30 years. I have been fortunate to see and play golf courses around the country and the world. From places like Portugal to Australia to Mexico to Thailand, I have been lucky enough to see golf in different corners of the world.

But there was one corner of the world for some reason that kept escaping me. And this corner was, pardon the pun, right around the corner.

Wildhorse Resort in Pendleton has been a place which has been a part of Inside Golf Newspaper for years and a place that has been on the Turcotte Bucket List of places to play in the Pacific Northwest. But for some reason or another the travel plans have never worked out for a trip to Eastern Oregon.

But all that came to an end - and thanks to my coaching with the Highline College men's golf team. Sometimes things just work out for a reason - when a tournament hosted by Blue Mountain College was set to be held at Wildhorse. I couldn't get our golf team signed up fast enough for that tournament.

I had felt so bad for so long about no visiting a place that has been such a great support of our publication. But through the years we have done many stories, photos and most recently stories on the Epson Tour coming to Wildhorse Resort bringing together the future stars of the LPGA Tour.

But in October 2025 I finally made it. And it was worth it This is a place that has it all. The resort itself is a 200-room tower with plenty to offer everyone from gambling to movies to bowling to shows to food - you name it this place had it all.

And now, let's get to the golf course. When the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation created this gem 30 years ago they knew what they were doing. This is a



golf course which should be listed as one of the best casino courses in the country. It's definitely one of the best in the Northwest. And it is a place which has hosted plenty of championships from the professional to the amateur level. Good stuff for sure.

A few years ago, the Tribe bought what

was the Pendleton Country Club and changed the name to Birsch Creek. This is another gem. Now they have two. It makes the trip to Pendleton even more worthwhile.

And now after 30 years I can finally say I have played Wildhorse and will say it is one of my favorites in the Northwest, With this course it seemed to have everything from challenging holes, miles and miles of Eastern Oregon views and when the wind whips up - even more of a challenge.

And there's more as the resort is adding another hotel tower with more rooms and more of everything.

If you haven't been, make sure to get there. It is worth the trip for sure. There is plenty to see and do.

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



Wildhorse Resort in Pendleton offers a terrific course with a resort that has everything you need in a road trip.



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Double Bogey
Well MR. Teaching Pro-How long before I'm shooting par golf?

Harold Bluestein PGA

Rules Answer

Answer:
Player A proceeded correctly.

• Inside Golf would like to thank Paul Lucien for his for the rules questions and answers.

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Professional team comes back in singles, wins the Hudson Cup

For the professional team, it looked there was trouble brewing at the 77th Hudson Cup at Willamette Valley Country Club in Canby, Ore. The professionals were down big after day of in the Ryder Cup-style match with the top amateurs from the Northwest. But the professional team rallied in the singles to win the cup 10 1/2-9 1/2.

In the Senior Hudson Cup, the professionals won a slim 11-9 advantage.

In the Hudson Cup, which features the top professionals in the Northwest against the top amateurs, it was the amateurs which controlled the event after the first day of team matches. But when it came down to the singles matches, the professionals were all on their games against the amateurs.

The professionals won the singles 7-3 to finish off the comeback. Winning for the professionals in the singles matches were Mason Koch, Scott Erdmann, Jeff Coston, Brian Thornton, David Phay and Ryan Benzel. Harrison Moir and Zach Foushee won for the

amateurs. Two matches were all square.

The Charles Congdon Award went to Robbie Ziegler (voted on by the professional team) and the Larry Lamberger Award was presented to Mason Koch (voted on by the amateur team). In the Senior Matches, The Bill Eggers Award was presented to Ron Hop (voted on by the senior professional team) while Birk Nelson was bestowed the Bob McKendrick Award (voted on by the senior amateur team).

Wescott, Foushee wins Pro-Am crown

PGA Professional Hunter Wescott of Pumpkin Ridge GC (North Plains, OR) and his amateur Zach Foushee of Langdon Farms GC (Aurora, OR) won the Pacific Golf & Turf Pro-Amateur Championship at Portland Golf Club.

In second place was the team led by PGA Professional Nicholas Watts of Eugene Country Club (Eugene, OR) and amateur Charlie Stankawitz of Bandon Crossings (Bandon, OR).

Did you know....

• The annual PNGA Player of the Year awards were first given out in 1997. There are six categories: men, women, men's mid-amateur, women's mid-amateur, senior men, senior women, junior boys and junior girls. The first recipient of the Junior Boys' award was Jason Allred, who would go on to a career on the PGA Tour; and the first recipient of the Junior Girls' award was Kelli Kamimura, who would become the longest tenured women's head golf coach at Washington State University. Visit thepnga.org to see the 2025 honorees.



* Scores from rounds played in Washington Golf territory between November 15th and the last day of February should not be posted for handicap purposes. However, if you play a round during the WA Golf Inactive Score Posting Season in an area (California, Arizona, Hawaii, etc.) that is still accepting scores, you must post that score as soon as practicable. During the Inactive Score Posting Season, Handicap Indexes will continue to be updated daily, provided an acceptable score is posted the day prior.



Tour Players With Northwest ties

PGA Tour Money list for 2025

- Nick Taylor • Ex-UW • 25th on the list with \$5,431,209
- Wyndham Clark Ex-Oregon • 57th on the list with \$2,939,050
- Joe Highsmith • Tacoma • 58th on the list with \$2,820,859
- Cameron Davis • Australia (Sahalee Member) • 77th on the list with \$2,093,245
- Andrew Putnam • Tacoma • 109th on the list with \$1,285,418
- Joel Dahmen • Clarkston • 107th on the list with \$1,194,612
- Adam Svensson • B.C. Canada • 169th on the list with \$403,726
- Dylan Wu • Medford, Ore. • 168th on the list with \$403,726
- Cheng Tsung Pan • Ex-UW • 188th on the list with \$186,829
- Carl Yuan • Ex-UW • 232nd on the list with \$17,920
- Ryan Moore • Puyallup • not on the list with no events
- Kevin Chappell • Kirkland • not on the list with no events
- Kyle Stanley • Gig Harbor • not on the list with no events
- Aaron Wise • Ex-Oregon • not on the list with no events

Korn Ferry Tour

- Alistair Docherty • Vancouver, Wash. • 48th on the list with \$207,582
- Dylan Wu • Medford, Ore. • 74th on the list with \$129,625
- Carl Yuan • Ex-UW • 79th on the list with \$111,054
- Nate Stember • Ex-Oregon • 140th on the list with \$46,622
- Aaron Wise • Ex-Oregon • 192nd on the list with \$9,150
- Scott Harrington • Portland • not on the list – no events
- Kyle Stanley • Gig Harbor • not on the list – no events
- R.J. Manke • Tacoma • not on the list – no events
- Andrew Yun • Tacoma • not on the list – no events

Champions Tour

- Fred Couples • Seattle • 60th on the list with \$309,013
- Kirk Triplett • Pullman • 72nd on the list with \$226,662

LPGA Tour

- Jing Yan • Ex-UW • 111th on the list with \$182,375
- Gigi Stoll • Tigard • 129th on the list with \$98,211
- Carolyn Inglis • Eugene • 129th on the list with \$96,211

LPGA Epson Tour

- Kathleen Scavo • Ex-Oregon • 110th on the list with \$9,581



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Northwest native Kyle Stanley trying different world tours; The Aces at the OGA Course keep on making those aces

Two-time PGA Tour champion Kyle Stanley is seriously considering life on The International Series and the Asian Tour after declaring himself ‘impressed’ with the set up having immersed himself in the Jakarta International Championship, the fifth of nine elevated LIV Golf-backed events on the calendar. Stanley is Pacific Northwest native and attended Bellarmine Prep High School.

Stanley has real pedigree. The American memorably won the prestigious Waste Management Phoenix Open in 2012 after making up an eight-shot gap in the final round, a week after letting a six-stroke lead slip going into the final round of the Farmers Insurance Open. He also won the Quicken Loans National five years later in a play-off against Charles Howell III, now of LIV Golf.

Before turning pro, he was a member of the US Walker Cup team featuring Dustin Johnson and Webb Simpson that beat a Great Britain & Ireland team featuring Rory McIlroy in County Down in 2007.

The 37-year-old was in the field for the fifth elevated Asian Tour event of the season on an invite and has loved the experience from start to finish. So much so, he’s considering a tilt at Asian Tour Q School this year, having received some sound advice from International Series India presented by DLF champion and compatriot Ollie Schniederjans.

He said: “This is only my fourth or fifth event this year, I haven’t really played much. I was really excited



to have the opportunity to come over here.”

The Aces at the OGA Golf Course

The OGA golf course located in Woodburn, Oregon is one of just a few golf courses that has three par five holes. Most courses have four.

Two members of the OGA Men’s Club have achieved an extraordinary accomplishment. Each achievement is based on not only the number of holes in one that they have but also how they got them.

Phil Chun and Ron Olson are longtime members of the OGA Men’s Club and seem to control the number of holes in one here at the OGA Golf Course. As crazy or strange as it may seem they have a combined total of sixteen aces. What are the odds of that? But the hole in one story gets even more interesting.

Phil has five aces on the same hole, number seventeen, and one ace on number six. Each of his aces on number seventeen was achieved using a different club! Every time Phil gets to hole seventeen his playing partners wonder if ace number six will happen. Phil is quite the competitor and is always a threat when he stands at the tee box on a par three.

Ron Olson, also a longtime member at OGA has a total of ten holes in one. Eight were at the OGA Golf Course. The really amazing thing is that he has had an ace at each of the five par threes at OGA. Also, this year Ron had two aces on number three within two weeks of each other.

The odds of an amateur golfer making a hole in one are about 1 in 12,500. Based on their achievements Phil and Ron are known as “the Aces at OGA”.

Northwest’s McLean is Hall of Famer

The PGA of America recently announced its 2025 Hall of Fame Class, and among this year’s inductees is Northwest native and PPGA Hall of Famer Jim McLean.

Along with McLean, the other 2025 inductees in-

clude PGA of America Past President Jim Richerson, PGA; Ronny Glanton, PGA; JD Turner, PGA; LPGA Tour Legend Nancy Lopez; and PGA of America Honorary Member and adaptive trick-shot artist Dennis Walters. They will be inducted into the PGA of America Hall of Fame at the 109th PGA Annual Meeting during a special ceremony on November 5, 2025, at the Omni PGA Frisco Resort in Frisco, Texas.

McLean is one of the most influential PGA of America Golf Professionals in the world, recognized globally for his teaching excellence. In 1991, he founded the Jim McLean Golf School at Doral, which has grown into an internationally respected academy with locations across the U.S., Spain, Mexico and South Korea, and currently headquartered at the historic Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Fla. His schools have produced 420 certified teaching professionals, with more than 250 serving as Directors of Golf or Instruction.

Now a PGA Master Professional, McLean has taught thousands of golfers, including over 100 PGA, LPGA and Champions Tour professionals, including Cristie Kerr, Keegan Bradley, Tom Kite, Peter Jacobsen, Lexi Thompson, Gary Woodland and Bernhard Langer.

McLean won three PPGA Men’s Amateur titles – 1969, 1971 and 1972. He was inducted into the PPGA Hall of Fame in 2003. By the age of 16, Jim began to serve notice that he could play the game as well. He twice won the Washington State Jaycees Junior title (1966, 1967) and also won the Washington State Junior title in both those years. He won the PPGA Men’s Amateur three times (1969, 1971, 1972), the 1970 Northwest Open (competing against the PGA Professionals), the 1970 Seattle Amateur, the 1971 Pacific Coast Amateur. Later he became an All-American at the University of Houston. In addition, he played in two U.S. Opens and the 1971 Masters, where he made the cut. He was inducted into the Pacific Northwest Golf Hall of Fame in 2003.

Daylight info for winter golf

For golfer who want to play their rounds around daylight time

Date	Sunset	Daylight hours
1-Oct	6:47:00 PM	11:36
31-Oct	5:52:00 PM	10:00
30-Nov	4:20:00 PM	8:44
31-Dec	4:27:00 PM	8:30
31-Jan	5:09:00 PM	9:32
28-Feb	5:53:00 PM	11:01
31-Mar	7:38:00 PM	12:48
30-Apr	8:20:00 PM	14:27
31-May	8:58:00 PM	15:42
30-Jun	9:10:00 PM	15:55
31-Jul	8:44:00 PM	14:59
31-Aug	7:51:00 PM	13:24
30-Sep	6:50:00 PM	11:43

• Note that Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 2, 2025 at 2:00 am.

New golf resort planned

Continued from Page 1

something the Tri-Cities can enjoy while also showcasing the beauty of the region. They haven’t settled on plans for including resort accommodations yet, Harris said. The average size of an 18-hole golf course is about 150-acres, according to the U.S. Golf Association. The 300-acre property, was once home to vineyards and a cherry orchard, borders Levey Park and nearly a mile of Snake River shoreline in Franklin County. The Snake River property stretches along a mile of shoreline past Levey Park, which the developers hope to help revitalize.

Read more at: <https://www.tri-cityherald.com/news/business/article312177155.html#storylink=cpy>



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Home Course is always a good deal to play in the winter plus promotion makes the deal better

If you are looking for a place to tee it up this winter there are plenty of choices of good quality courses in the Pacific Northwest - but The Home Course in DuPont should be on your n dggrfflist. This is a course that traces its history back to the days when explosives were housed on the site.

Since then, the land has been transformed into one of the top courses in the Pacific Northwest that has hosted several major championships, including the U.S. Amateur and the U.S. Four Ball.

The Home Course is proud to present a course that is playable year round, even during the wet months that we know so well in the Pacific Northwest. When the late architect Mike Asmundson designed the course nearly 20 years ago he knew he was looking at land that woud make a golf course playable year round.

The Home Course opened in early summer of 2007 and was immediately lauded by *Golfweek* magazine as the No. 2-ranked “Best Public Course in Washington.” It is a walkable layout with panoramic views of Puget Sound, the Olympic Mountains, and Mount Rainier. The course is cooperatively owned and operated by the Pacific Northwest Golf Association and Washington Golf (WA Golf).

Not only is The Home Course one of the most popular courses in the Puget Sound area it is also of-fering golfers a deal for some free golf. Yes, you read that right. Free golf. It’s part of The Home Course’s Stay, Then Play For Free deal which runs through the end of November, 2025. If golfers book a room at a participating DuPont hotel through the end of the month they will receive two rounds with cart at The Home Course. How can anyone past that up?

The participating hotels include the Best Western Liberty Inn, FairBridge Inn and Suites, Hampton Inn and Suites, Fairfield Marriott and Home2 Suites.

You can book the package by calling 253.964.0520 to make tee times then contact one of the hotels to book your stay. Free golf? Who wouldn’t want that.



Not only is The Home Course in DuPont, Wash. a good winter choice, there is a Stay and Play promotion too.

Home Course pro Cassidy captures golf teaching award

John Cassidy of the Home Course in DuPont, Wash has been selected as the Western Washington Teacher Profes-sional Of The Year.

Cassidy has over 30 years of experience in the game of golf, he’s been fortunate to compete and travel to amaz-ing places all over the world. His teaching philosophies have formed by combining his personal experiences playing and the knowledge gained by working with some of the best instructors in the country. John's playing resume includes plenty of national events.

During his career, John spent 16 years learning and working on his game from Shawn Callahan former lead instructor at the Butch Harmon school in Henderson, NV. In addition, John has spent time with Mike Bender, EA Tischler (co-creator with Mike Adams of the Bioswing Dynamics program), Jonathon Yarwood former David Leadbetter Academy and tour coach, Scott Cowx 2019 Canadian Teacher of the Year and tour coach. John is a Scott Cowx certified instructor and certified in the Forces In Motion bio dynamics program from Sasho Mackenzie and Dr. Phil Cheetham.

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Rules of the Game: In stroke play competition, you don’t have a score for the hole unless you finish by holing out

Last month’s article was about the penalty for failing to hole out. This month’s topic is about what happens in Stroke Play if you start your hole by making a stroke from outside your teeing area (including if you are on the right tee but tee off in front of the tee markers).

First, a quick reminder of the definition of Teeing Area. The Teeing Area is the area where a player must play from starting the hole they are playing. The area is rectangle two club-lengths deep, measured from the forward most outside edge of the tee markers. This means that not all players will have the same size Teeing Area, as not all players have the same length of club used to measure club-lengths. The Rules define a Club-Length as the length of the longest club in the player’s bag during a round, other than their putter.

To play a ball from the Teeing area, the ball is considered to be in the Teeing Area when any part of the ball touches or is above any part of the Teeing Area. You do not need to stand in the Teeing Area to play your ball.

Consider this scenario: Barb, Jim, Mike, and Bob are playing stroke play at their favorite course. Barb is playing from the green tees, Jim and Mike are playing from the blue tees and Bob has decided to play from black tees. Everything is going great and they get to the 6th hole. Barb tees off from the green teeing area. Jim is telling a hilarious joke while he and Mike and Bob all walk up to the Blue Teeing area and tee off. Whoops, Bob got distracted by Jim’s humor and has teed off from the wrong teeing area. If Bob catches the mistake now, he adds two penalty strokes and tees off again, not counting the original



tee stroke. (He is hitting three from the Tee as his first Stroke). If he catches the mistake at any time during the play of the hole, the same is true, Bob disregards any strokes made, and goes back to the correct teeing area, adds the two penalty strokes and is hitting three from the tee.

But what if he doesn’t catch the mistake and tees off on hole 7? If that happens, then Bob is disqualified. Sorry Bob. If the scenario is changed a little bit; Bob tees off in front of the tee markers on hole 18. In this case, Bob needs to correct his mistake before he turns in his score card.

Again, these scenarios are correct for Stroke Play. Match Play is different. As “good to know” information, in Match Play, if you play from the wrong teeing area, play on unless your opponent recalls your stroke. If your opponent cancels your stroke, they must do so before either player makes another stroke, and they cannot withdraw the cancellation. If your stroke is cancelled, you must play a ball from inside the teeing area, but there are no penalty strokes added to your score.



Make sure you tee off from the right teeing area or you could be assessed two penalty strokes or disqualified.



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"MyGolfConcierge was born out of a desire to offer something more personal, authentic, and enriching than what's typically found in mass-market golf travel," says Guertler. "While many golfers are funneled into overbooked and expensive destinations like Scotland and Ireland, the Heart of Europe - Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary, and the Czech Republic - offers equally stunning golf with the added bonus of cultural depth and tranquility."

Guertler, a lifelong golfer and seasoned traveler, provides each client with a personal consultation to craft a fully customized itinerary. MyGolfConcierge takes care of every detail, from tee times and luxury accommodations to private cultural tours, concert tickets, spa reservations, and more.

"These trips are ideal for couples or groups where not everyone golfs," Guertler adds. "We thoughtfully balance tee times with cultural, wellness, and gastronomic activities, ensuring every traveler feels indulged and inspired."

• About MyGolfConcierge: Based in Vienna and founded by Stephan Guertler, MyGolfConcierge specializes in creating tailor-made travel experiences in Central Europe, combining elite golf with the region's most exquisite cultural and culinary offerings. With meticulous attention to detail, the company delivers one-of-a-kind journeys that reflect each client's personal interests and passions.



Praia d'el Rey Resort will be one of the stops on this hosted trip to Portugal from April 3-12, 2026.

Former Seattle P-I sports writer will host trip to Portugal

Former Seattle P-I sports writer and sports radio personality Jim Moore will host a trip in April to Portugal featuring the sights and sounds of the country.

The trip is set for April 3-12 and comes with luxury accommodation, golf, food and more. The trip begins with seven nights at the Marriott Praia D'el Rey Resort and includes daily breakfast and dinner at the resort along with dinner drinks. There will be another night at a four-star hotel in the city center of Lisbon.

The trip also includes a farewell dinner in Lisbon, a guided city tour of Lisbon and a guided city tour of Obidos. There will be six rounds of golf included at courses like Praia D'el Rey, West Cliffs, Royal Obidos and Bom Sucesso.

The trip covers all transfers from the courses to the hotel and from the airport to the hotel.

Price per person sharing a double room is Euro 2,799. Deadline for booking is Nov. 30, 2025.

For more information email sg@mygolfconcierge.travel.

Golf resort project on Hood Canal still in the preliminary planning

The Pleasant Harbor Master Planned Resort (MPR) is a proposed large-scale development located in the Black Point area of Brinnon, Jefferson County, Washington along the Hood canal. The project, also referred to as the Pleasant Harbor Marina and Golf Resort, aims to create a self-contained and integrated resort with urban density in a non-urban setting, focusing on destination resort facilities and short-term visitor accommodations.

The development plan includes a marina with 290 slips, a maritime village with approximately 180 units and a new 10,000 square-foot commercial village, a golf course with conference and food service capabilities, and about 1,090 residential units designed for the visiting public through a "condotel" program. The project has a long and complex history, with planning starting in 2006 and a development agreement between the county and the developer, Statesman, signed in 2018. This agreement details how the resort will meet the 30 requirements set forth in the 2008 ordinance, including managing natural, wildlife, and cultural resources, providing local economic opportunities, and supporting services.

As of October 2, 2025, the project is still in the permitting and review stages. Jefferson County received an application for a preliminary plat for the project, which was deemed complete on April 16, 2024, with project revisions received on June 23, 2025. Various permits and legal documents have been processed, including water rights, storm water permits, and a notice of complete preliminary plat application.

A public hearing on the MPR preliminary plat was scheduled for October 15, 2025.

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Hawaii just might be the right answer for a NW winter getaway

By Steve Turcotte, Inside Golf Editor

You know that you are flying into something special just by looking out the window of the airplane as you land at the Kona International Airport on Hawaii, the Big Island. From the brief seconds upon landing, you see golf courses, lava fields, mountains, ocean waves and long endless miles of roads.

Welcome to the Island of Hawaii, also called the Big Island, a paradise that has just about everything you would want in a golf vacation. Terrific resort golf courses? Check. Some great public courses? Check. Plenty of beaches to enjoy the Pacific Ocean and its surfing and snorkeling? Check and check. The chance to tee off in the shadow of one of the tallest mountains - Mauna Kea? Check.

Other islands like Oahu, Maui and Kauai might get more headlines, but Hawaii Island is a place where you get everything the islands have to offer - and less crowds.

Here's a look at the golf on the Big Island:

- Many of the resorts sit along the ocean and offer terrific views. Waikoloa Beach Resort has 27 holes to offer. The Kings' Nine is embraced by natural lava formations so keeping the ball in the fairway is key. The Waikoloa Beach Resort is more than just golf as well. There are two shopping villages and two resorts - a Marriott and a Hilton. The Hilton is so set on 62 acres and is so spacious that you can opt to take a tram or boat to get from one side of the resort to the other. The Marriott features a spectacular setting along the beach. There is plenty to like along these 27 holes with views of the ocean and during the right time of the year you can spot whales swimming close by.
- It all started in 1964 when Mauna Kea was designed by Robert Trent Jones Sr. and opened for play. In fact, Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer and Gary Player came over for an exhibition. Rumor has it during the round on the par-3 third hole, the three stood at the 272-yard tee box with the Pacific Ocean in front of them that Player told the other two he couldn't carry his ball that far. There is a plaque on the tee box commemorating the exhibition that day. Right next door sits Hapuna Golf Course which features a dramatic course with plenty of holes up the hill and more down the hill toward the Pacific Ocean.
- A course that used to be called the Big Island Country Club has now changed its name to Makani. This is a course which sits on the hillside above Kona and features a terrific layout and some spectacular views. With wide fairways and water on half of the holes - a terrific island green par-3 17th hole and a dramatic finishing 18th, this is a course that is worth the extra trip up the hill.
- Mauna Lani Resort is nestled between Waikoloa Beach Resort and Mauna Kea Resort and has two courses on site. Its signature 15th hole on the South Course is one of the most

photographed holes in the world. In the winter, you might see humpback whales.

- Hualalai Resort's Jack Nicklaus designed course is also the home of the Champions Tour in January and features a Four Seasons Resort. The resort has two courses, with the Nicklaus course being used for the PGA Champions event every January. The 17th hole is dramatic, a par-3 which sits on the edge of the Pacific Ocean and has a tee shot which carries lava. A private course sits next door.
- Kona Country Club is another gem, has undergone some changes, including an irrigation project that closed the course for two years. And the results have been amazing with perfect tees, fairways and greens. There are some long par-3 holes that get your attention and if the wind is blowing, you better have your A Game with you. There are a few holes along the Pacific Ocean that provide terrific scenery during your round. There is plenty to like with Kona Country Club with the challenging layout and great conditions.
- Inland, golf is still a treat. Makalei Golf Club, up the hill from the Kona Airport, just might be one of the hilliest golf courses around. In fact, the cart drive from the clubhouse to the driving range takes you up 750 feet. And wildlife abound, including peacocks and wild boars.
- And Waikoloa Golf Village sits at elevation and offers a Robert Trent Jones Jr. course with some scenic views of the ocean. There are plenty of challenging holes and the slopes of the fairways and greens makes you think about using just about every club in your bag. Two of the best holes are par-3 holes, the sixth which features the Kohala Coast and the Pacific Ocean and the 12th, a downhill par-3.



Hualalai on the Big Island is a Jack Nicklaus design and home to a PGA Tour Champions event every January



Kona Country Club sits just south of downtown Kona and offers a challenging course with ocean views.



Waikoloa Beach Resort offers a course with 27 holes with different names called the Lakes, King's and Beach all with some great holes and some with views of the ocean.



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The Lesson Tee: Calm those nerves if you are having some troubles around the greens

I have many golfers come to me struggling with their pitching and chipping. Sometimes they even have the yips around the green. After a while these poor images abort their short game and become difficult to overcome.

Step one:
Create a reactive routine that take the conscious mind out of the equation.

If every golfer made "the game of golf" more reactive; took less time and incorporated a subconscious flowing routine on EVERY shot most would not only play better but have more fun!

In your routine: Waggle looking at the target, spend more focus on the target and less time standing and thinking while looking at the ball. I like to imagine Steph Curry shooting a basketball. Let it go! Keep moving! Less thought. Less energy. Less time.

Step two:
Practice landing the ball where you want.
Place a shaft or even a hula hoop on the green and get better at landing the ball where you want. Forget the hole, practice landing the ball where you want.

Step three:
If every golfer leaned more left at address with chest and nose on top of the golf ball, and finished turning on your left hip/leg, all would hit their pitches more solid.

Take out the ROOTS of the grass not just the tops of the blades of the grass. Thump the roots as you turn. (photo 1 and 2)

Step four:
Big key here. Most poor to average pitchers of the golf ball create too many angles with their elbows folding and wrists hinging.

Imagine you have casts on your arms: (photo 1 and 2) and just turn your triangle of your two arms and chest back and through. Remember always



In your routine: Waggle looking at the target, spend more focus on the target and less time standing and thinking while looking at the ball. I like to imagine Steph Curry shooting a basketball. Let it go! Keep moving! Less thought. Less energy. Less time.

start left and finish left. Its like your chest is the hub of the wagon wheel and your arms are the spokes. Keep it moving. Less hinge, less folding of your arms.

Jeff Coston is a member of the Pacific Northwest PGA Hall of Fame. Jeff can be reached at Semiahmoo for appointment by calling 360-201-4590. See jeffcoston.com.



Photo #1



Photo #2

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If you do it the right way, there is plenty of golf to be played in the Pacific Northwest during those chilly winter months

Before we talk about the challenges of winter golf in the Pacific Northwest, it's important to consider how fortunate we are to be able to play at all in the winter; The upper Midwest and Northeast are snowed or frozen-in and can not play at all. What they wouldn't give for our winter weather. Yes! Even the rain is better than snow.

What is it really like to play winter golf in our region? The best description is: It's different! It varies depending upon the weather. There's no point in trying to entice the fair-weather golfer into playing in winter, but, the rest of us know what to expect and, while we may prefer summer golf, we don't shy away for enjoying golf in the winter months.

I think you could call us hard-core golfers. As one competitor once said, referring to playing a competition round in inclement weather, "Fair for one, fair for all." That could be the motto.

Core golfers know we must adjust our swing accommodate the extra clothing. We know how to dress in layers and carry hand-warmers, wear waterproof shoes. We know how to pack our bag with rain-gear, a dickie or stocking cap, depending upon what the weather calls for. A hot drink is always nice!

We know how to adjust our club selection for the colder weather and carry an extra towel to

clean the mud off our ball. A grove cleaning brush is very handy. We are used to seeing our ball settle down in wet grass and learn how to produce a swing that can dig it out, even in the fairways. We know that the greens will be slower and softer. The bunker sand will be wet and the fairways will be longer. We also know the importance of choosing courses with good drainage. Carts are nice but when it is cart-path-only, walking might be a better option.

For some, it may come as a surprise that there are courses east of the mountain that play year-round too, depending upon weather, of course. Places like the Tri-Cities in Washington and Juniper in Oregon are a couple of places that play year-round. There are other; just check their websites.

Winter golf is also a great time to work on your golf skills, especially your chipping. It's also a good time to take lessons. If you play competitive golf in spring or summer, you'll want to get in the extra practice in winter so you are better prepared when the golf season actually starts.

Do we need to mention that there are fewer people on the course and the prices are much lower. And, when you are back in the clubhouse after your round, you can take in a football game on the tube while enjoying your favorite beverage.



Winter weather can be challenging, but it can still provide an exhilarating round of golf with friends.

Here are some tips to play winter golf in the NW

• Layer up with moisture-wicking base layers, insulating mid-layers, and waterproof outer layers. Don't forget warm gloves and a beanie or hat to keep your head warm.

Choose the Right Equipment

• Use softer golf balls that perform better in colder weather. Consider using a hybrid or 7-iron instead of a driver for better control on wet or soft ground.

Adjust Your Expectations

• Understand that the ball will not travel as far in cold weather. Be prepared to adjust your club selections accordingly.

• Keep Your Equipment Dry: Use waterproof bags and covers to protect your clubs and gear from rain and moisture. Bring extra towels to wipe down clubs and balls.

• Plan for Shorter Days: Tee off earlier in the day to make the most of the limited daylight. Check local sunset times and plan your rounds accordingly.

• Stay Hydrated: Even in colder temperatures, it's essential to stay hydrated. Bring water or warm drinks in a thermos to keep your energy up.

• Warm Up Properly: Spend extra time warming up to avoid injuries. Stretch your muscles and take some practice swings to get your body ready.

• Less Crowded Courses: Enjoy a more relaxed pace with fewer golfers on the course, which can enhance your overall experience.

• Improved Focus and Concentration: The quieter surroundings and cooler temperatures can help you concentrate better on your game, allowing for improved performance.

• Unique Scenic Beauty: Western Washington offers stunning winter landscapes, including snow-capped mountains and serene, misty mornings that can make your round memorable.

Opportunity for Practice

• Winter golf provides a chance to work on your game without the pressure of tournaments or competitive play, allowing for valuable skill improvement.

Health Benefits

• Staying active during the winter months can boost your mood and overall health.

• Affordable Rates: Courses offer lower green fees during the winter months, making it a cost-effective time to play.



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