

INSIDE GOLF NEWSPAPER

Pacific Northwest Indian Tribes provide some top flight courses

If you have played golf around the Pacific Northwest you have surely played one of the Tribal courses in Oregon or Washington like Red Wolf Golf Course in Clarkston, Wash. (right). Many of the tribal-owned courses are award winners as well. For more on the tribal-owned courses, see our special section.



WHAT'S NEW IN NW GOLF

Tacoma's Highlands set to host Washington Par-3 Championship

Highlands Golf Course in Tacoma is set to host the annual Washington State Par-3 Championship Sept. 12-13.

Registration is picking up so now is the time to sign up for this annual event and take part in one of the strongest fields the tournament anticipates. The championship will take place over two days and consist of stroke play - with the winner receiving the coveted Tartan Vest and Angus Cup.

The Washington Par-3 Championship has become a popular event since Highlands created it. Highlands has been voted one of the top executive-length courses in the area and is always a challenge.

This year's tournament is expected to have a different feeling as three-time champion Brett Manke will be unable to compete leaving the chase for the vest and cup wide open. Manke's precision wedge play has been the big reason he had been a three-time winner of the event - but now the door is open for another champion.

This has always been such a popular event that is always sells out so sign up early.

For more information email highlands-golfevents@gmail.com or see the course web site at highlandsgolf.net.



Rules Question of the month

A player playing in a competition is tired of reaching down and picking blades of grass to toss up in the air to learn where the wind is coming from. He has a creative idea of tying a ribbon to his cart above the top to indicate the wind directions and strength. After the round someone comments how unique that method of reading the wind was. Is this an issue for the Committee? See the answer on Page 2 of this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.

LakeLand Village: The secret is getting out



For years people who have been driving for family vacations to get to Washington Olympic Peninsula might have seen the signs for LakeLand Village in Allyn, Wash. a small community located along the shores of the Puget Sound. There might not be much to see from the road but when you make the turn and head up the hill there is plenty to see thanks to cousins Steve Anderson (left) and Rick Anderson (right). They have continued the family tradition of creating a great family living environment with a terrific golf course. For more on LakeLand Village, see inside this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.

KJR Sports Radio's Dick Fain is a man who wears many hats

Dick Fain of KJR Sports Radio in Seattle is a guy seems to have a lot going on- but always has time for some golf with his son Dixon (pictured right). He has an afternoon sports talk show with his co-host Dave "Softy" Mahler. He is the television play-by-play voice of the Seattle Storm. He is a high school basketball coach. Has a son who doubles as a high school basketball player and golfer and is involved in both. There sometimes doesn't seem to be enough time in the day for Fain. For more on Fain and what he does, see inside.



Pumpkin Ridge pro rallies in final round to win Rosauers

PGA Professional Hunter Westcott of Pumpkin Ridge GC (North Plains, OR) won the 39th Rosauers Open Invitational at Indian Canyon GC after firing impressive rounds of 67-66-63-196 for a 17-under par total for the tournament.

He beat out an incredible field of talent for his first Pacific Northwest PGA Section win.

Low amateur honors went to 2024 Champion Andrew Von Lossow of Indian Canyon GC who finished in tie for second place with 2023 Champion Conner Robbins of Meadow Park GC (Tacoma, WA). Von Lossow had led the tournament after two rounds.

Westcott found himself in the top 10 after the first two rounds but went low in the final round shooting the impressive 63 to overtake the leaders and win.

It was the usual strong field at the Rosauers this year as 53 of the players were under par for the three rounds of the championship.

James Hall of the PNW Academy finished fourth at 199 while Josh Scothorne of Interbay and Tim Feenstra of Broadmoor tied for fifth at 200. Brian Thornton of Meridian Valley finished sixth at 201.

A fourpack of USGA events in the NW for the 2027 season

The United States Golf Association certainly does like the Pacific Northwest - it seems that there is USGA championship held in our backyard every year. And next year there won't be just one, or two, or three there will be four USGA championships in the Northwest.

It will start with the USGA Adaptive Open on July 5-7 at Sunriver's Meadows Course, a fairly new event which features players with disabilities.

Next up will be the US Junior Championship for boys on July 19-24 at Chambers Bay in University Place, Wash.

After that will follow the U.S. Senior Women's Open at Tacoma Country and Golf Club on Aug. 19-22 and right behind that championship will be the U.S. Senior Amateur for men on Aug. 28-Sept. 2.

That makes four USGA events in about two months in the Northwest - it should be quite a show in 2027.

Now I see why there are fights on the golf course because these idiots can't control themselves

Those of you who know me know that I can mix it up with smart asses anywhere, anytime. Even on the golf course. And that has always been for fun. I can always talk my way out of anything, anytime, anywhere. Have I ever been in a fight in my 64 years? Never.

But when I see those golf videos online - you know the ones where guys are getting into fights on the golf course over the stupidest things you have ever seen, I am lucky that I am not one of those stupid guys.

You hit into someone? Yeah, let's fight. You made some noise on someone's backswing? Yeah, let's go. These videos are so common they are almost a daily highlight reel on Instagram.

I have been hit into. I have hit into people. I have talked when people are swinging. All of those have been no fuss, no muss. I have always been able to talk my way out of any situation on the golf course. I have always been able to cool the situations with quick wit, self-depravation and apologies which I usually don't mean.

But then there was this time a couple of weeks ago that I almost made one of those videos and could have been one of those Instagram idiots.

Let's set the scene: I was playing with my friend Ivan and his kid Ben and we were on a par-4 and the second shot was a blind shot to a green. The tee box for the next hole was only a few yards from the green so that didn't help either.

As I walked up to my ball I heard the four guys on the tee yell "hey you hit into us." I looked at my ball and said "what are you talking about - this is my ball." They repeated their assertion "you hit into us." I repeated... "This is my ball - what are you talking about."

Then I looked at my friend's kid and could tell he had pulled his shot and it was his ball that headed toward the tee, but he had no idea since he couldn't see the tee box or the idiots



on the tee (yes I said idiots but we will get into that part soon enough).

After I hit my approach shot, they continued to ramble about being hit into. I started my usual apologies as I walked toward the green saying the shot came from the trees and he could not see you guys. That wasn't good enough for these clowns.

Yes, idiots and clowns. Let's dive into this a little more. Two of them wore cut off T shirts. One guy looked like a tub of goo. Another did nothing but utter four-letter words. Classy guys. And they wouldn't stop.

My friend and his kid also tried the apology route. Didn't work much better. We did all we could with our words and then turned toward the green to putt. Unfortunately, the tee box was only a few steps from the green so we had to hear and see them. And when we turned around the tub of goo guy was taking off his glove and walking toward us.

I had seen enough. And now I'm thinking I just might want to be part of one of those stupid ass videos!

"What are you thinking," I yelled at the guy. "We apologized. It was an accident. Can't you guys just hit and keep going?"

The funny thing is the kid who hit the shot is a lawyer so I was able to use one of my favorite lines. "If you guys really want to do something

I hope your lawyer is better than ours because he is right here. And his dad is ready to take the video for Instagram!"

Funny thing, that stopped them in their tracks. They jumped in the carts, drove away and we didn't have to deal with them the rest of the round.

OK now it's your turn. I would love to hear from you if you have ever run into idiots on the golf course and tell me your stories. I will run them in an upcoming issue of Inside Golf because I think these are always entertaining. But if you were the bad guy in the story don't bother, I only want to hear if you were the victim like we were in our story. Because there are always idiots and victims on the golf course. And you know who you are.

• Ok another question for you. When is a hole in one a real hole-in-one.

I was playing in our club's Master's Par-3 tournament a while back. All of the holes on the front nine were shortened. None of the holes were playing the lengths they were supposed to be and on this day, the 8th hole was supposed to be a 170-yard par-3 but was playing 87 yards.

So what happened I happened to make a hole in one.

When we finished the round everyone in the clubhouse gets all excited and said I owed a round because I aced the hole.

But I said wait a minute. This was a fake hole-in-one. It wasn't the listed yardage. It played short and wasn't from the right tee box and the right yardage marker.

They hammered on me to buy a round. And if you know me, I'm cheap. I wasn't about to buy a round for a fake hole in one. What do you think? I ended up buying a few because I felt guilty but I still think it's a fake hole in one. If I'm right I know a few folks who owe me a drink.

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



Bob Marlatt
Publisher-Advertising

Steve Turcotte
Editor-Advertising

Kathy Marlatt
Operations Manager

Contributing Writers
Jeff Coston, Patti Daskalos

Photography: Scott Bisch

Cartoonist: Harold Bluestein

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Mailing Address
P.O. Box 1890
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Courier Address
460 Dennis Blvd
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Phone
(360) 379-4080

E-mail Address
insidegolf@cablespeed.com

Website Address
www.insidegolfnewspaper.com

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Double Bogey



Harold Bluestein PGA



Rules Answer

Answer: Yes, unfortunately it is. Rule 4.3a(2) specifies that measuring wind speed at the course or using an artificial object to get wind related information is not allowed. For the first breach it is a two stoke penalty. Breach of the rule a second time is a disqualification.

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

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LPGA, PGA Tour Champions make their Pacific Northwest return again

The LPGA and PGA Tour Champions have set their dates for their return appearances to the Pacific Northwest for their annual tournaments for the 2026 golf season..

Interestingly both are set for the same weekend in August. The LPGA Portland Standard is set for Aug. 13-16 at Columbia Edgewater Country Club while The Boeing Classic will take place Aug. 14-16 at Snoqualmie Ridge Golf Club. The LPGA Portland Standard is the longest-running tournament on the LPGA Tour schedule.

After a historic 75th anniversary season, the LPGA Tour announces the 2026 schedule featuring 33 events and a total prize fund of over \$132 million. The world’s best female golfers will once again compete for the largest prize fund in the Tour’s history. The upcoming year will notably see the Solheim Cup in the Netherlands as well as new events, new venues and increased purses. In 2026, the LPGA Tour will travel to 13 different countries and regions and 13 states across the United States.

There will be two multi-event swings in Asia – the first in the spring to Thailand, Singapore and the People’s Republic of China and the second in the fall to People’s Republic of China, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia and Japan. One European swing will take place in the middle of the year, including two major championships and the ISPS Handa Women’s Scottish Open, before the LPGA Tour returns to Europe for the Solheim Cup in September.

The Boeing Classic just celebrated its 20th year in 2025 and always features one of the top fields on the PGA Tour Champions schedule when the tournament tees it up at Snoqualmie Ridge. Northwest native Fred Couples is always a fan favorite.

And the LPGA’s Epson Tour returns to Wildhorse Resort & Casino in Pendleton, Ore. Aug. 21-23. The tour is the official qualifying tour of the LPGA and the only tournament of its kind in the Pacific Northwest and attracts top women golfers from around the world competing for one of 15 LPGA Tour membership cards for the 2027 season.

Tour Players With Northwest ties

PGA Tour

- Wyndham Clark • Ex-Oregon • 4th on the list with \$9,976,186
- Nick Taylor • Ex-UW • 59th on the list with \$2,307,915
- Andrew Putnam • Tacoma • 66th on the list with \$1,939,369
- A.J. Ewart • B.C. Canada • 107th on the list with \$1,036,911
- Joel Dahmen • Clarkston • 117th on the list with \$813,694
- Joe Highsmith • Tacoma • 153rd on the list with \$462,585
- Dylan Wu • Medford, Ore. • 180th on the list with \$268,953
- Adam Svensson • British Columbia • 195th on the list with \$182,904
- Cameron Davis • Australia (Member at Sahalee) • 205th on the list with \$144,506
- Kevin Chappell • Kirkland • No events

Korn Ferry Tour

- Alistair Docherty • Vancouver, Wash. • 7th on the list with \$337,646
- Carl Yuan • Ex-UW • 103rd on the list with \$52,153
- R.J. Manke • Tacoma • 128th on the list with \$39,013
- Aaron Wise • Ex-Oregon • No events

Champions Tour

- Ben Crane • Portland • 10th on the list with \$921,505
- Kirk Triplett • Pullman • 66th on the list with \$126,431
- Fred Couples • Seattle •77th on the list with \$95,810

LPGA Tour

- Jing Yan • Ex-UW • 53rd on the list with \$449,682
- Gigi Stoll • Tigard • 166th on the list with \$21,718
- Carolyn Inglis • Eugene • No events

LPGA Epson Tour

- Gigi Stoll • Tigard • 144th on the list with 2,647
- Kathleen Scavo • Eugene • 1667th on the list with \$672
- Sarah Rhee • Ex-UW • No events

Did you know....

- PNGA Championships are well known to international players, as they can receive Presidential Invitations to compete in them. The past three PNGA Women’s Amateur Championships have been won by three different Australian players, including Raegan Denton last month, and in 2019 the championship was won by Japan’s Rino Sasaki.



- Bradley Mulder, the 2026 Washington Men’s Amateur champion, is an identical twin. His brother, Benjamin, is also an accomplished golfer who plays at Washington State University. The family hails from Spokane, and the brothers formerly played golf at Mead High School in the northern outskirts of that city.



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Texas golfer holds onto to win PNGA Men’s Amateur crown; Suncadia Resort’s Tumble Creek is sold to Escalante Golf

Byungho Lee of Plano, Texas defeated Nilay Naik of Lake Oswego, Ore., 3 & 1 in the final match to win the 124th PNGA Men’s Amateur, held at Palouse Ridge Golf Club in Pullman, Wash.

This is the first PNGA title for Lee, who was the No. 8 seed of the championship following stroke play qualifying. He is a rising junior at Pepperdine University. Lee’s win breaks the two-year title run of Sam Renner and thus is the first new champion of the event since Joshua Koo in 2023.

In his match against Naik, Lee displayed a strong and consistent level of play. In the morning 18, both players exchanged back-and-forth hole wins; hole 5 was the first that halved. After Naik and Lee swapped birdies on 7 and 8, respectively, they made the turn tied. Naik subsequently birdied the 628-yard par-5 10th and took advantage of Lee bogeying the 11th to go 2-up as they reached the 12th tee. Five halved holes followed until Lee gained momentum, going par-eagle on 17 and 18 to tie the match at the break of the scheduled 36-hole match.

After nearly being eliminated in the Round of 64, where his match went to 20 holes, Lee kept his opponents at bay. En route to the championship, he won his matches 4&3, 2&1, a win by concession in the quarterfinal, and 4&2 in the semifinal.

Lee played without a caddie and carried his clubs through the 160-plus hole week-long marathon.

Suncadia’s Tumble Creek is sold

Escalante Golf – a boutique owner and operator of luxury golf properties nationwide – has acquired its 27th property, Tumble Creek, in Cle Elum, Washington.

Adjacent to the renowned Suncadia resort, Tumble Creek is a private, gated residential golf community situated approximately 80 miles from Seattle via Interstate 90. Given its location on the eastern side of the Cascade Mountains, the Cle Elum region is sunnier and

drier than the Seattle metro area, making it a sought-after recreational retreat. Outdoor activities like golf, skiing, fishing, kayaking, hiking and wine tasting are noteworthy attractions.

As part of the acquisition, Escalante Golf assumes ownership of the club, golf course and remaining real estate within the community; this includes approximately 330 homesites still available for development. Current Tumble Creek members will continue to enjoy access to the club and Suncadia’s resort amenities, including its two 18-hole championship courses.

Designed by acclaimed architect Tom Doak, the Tumble Creek golf course opened in 2006 and features many of the characteristics that have made Doak one of the most respected designers in the game. Its player-friendly experience appeals to a wide range of golfers, with well-placed bunkers and penalty areas presenting a greater challenge for more skilled players from the championship tees. Golf Digest ranked Tumble Creek No. 5 in its 2025-26 list of the Best Courses in Washington, while Golfweek named it the state’s No. 3 private golf course.oriented amenities – including bowling lanes, a golf simulator, casual recreation areas and spaces for year-round programming – reinforce its role as a central hub for members and residents.

Mulder wins Washington Men’s Am

Bradley Mulder of Spokane, Wash. shot rounds of 66-67-71 to win the 105th Washington Men’s Amateur by a single stroke over Sam Renner (Bend, Ore.).

The Championship was held June 23-25, at The Home Course in DuPont, Wash., marking first time The Home Course had hosted the Men’s Amateur since the golf course opened in 2007. The Home Course is co-owned and operated by WA Golf and the Pacific Northwest Golf Association.

The win earned Mulder an exemption into the 2026 U.S. Amateur.

Mulder’s victory was not achieved without him displaying exceptional resilience throughout the final round. Entering with a three-shot lead over Brock Maulding (Lake Tapps, Wash.), Mulder made his second bogey of his entire week on his first hole. He then went on birdie-bogey-birdie stretch on holes 3-5, leaving him even for his round by the time he reached his seventh hole. His tee shot on that hole was lost out of bounds, leading to a double bogey, and Mulder eventually made the turn in 39 (+3).

Lambro claims Seattle City Am

Bellevue College golfer Kai Lambro shot a three-round total of 11 under par to win the Seattle City Amateur. Lambro shot rounds of 64 at Bill Wright then followed it up with a 66 at Jackson Park and a 70 at West Seattle to win the tournament by five shots.

Christopher Zamano of Bellingham finished second at 5 under par. Dalton Dean of Everett Golf and Country Club tied for third with Henry Mills of West Seattle and Ben Van Hollebeke of Bill Wright at 4 under. Isaac Elaimy of West Seattle and Erik Olson of Snoqualmie Ridge tied for sixth at 2 under while Sandy Vaughan of Veterans Memorial finished eighth at even par.

Lambro led the tournament from start to finishing in claiming the title.

Portland’s Tennant wins in Europe

Lara Tennant of Portland, Ore. has won The R&A Women’s Senior Amateur Championship, held this week at Frilford Heath Golf Club in Oxfordshire, just west of London.

Tennant is a 5-time PNGA Senior Women’s Player of the Year, and in 2022 was inducted into the Pacific Northwest Golf Hall of Fame. She won her second R&A Women’s Senior Amateur title when she outlasted England’s Emma Brown in a thrilling encounter.

Currently ranked 357th on the World Amateur

USGA spotlight again hits the NW with the Senior Women’s Am

The USGA will again hit the Pacific Northwest when the Senior Women’s Amateur takes place Sept. 26-Oct. 1 at the Portland Golf Club.

The event will bring together the top 132 senior women amateurs ages 50 and over. There will be 18 holes of qualifying before match play will take place to determine the champion. There will be some local flavor for the event as Lara Tennant of Portland will be in the field and she won the championship in 1028, 2019 and 2021. Dawn Woodard of South Carolina is the defending champion of the event.

Golf Ranking, Tennant returned a closing 2-under-par 72 over Frilford’s Red Course for a two-over-par 296 total to defeat Brown by five shots. Brown’s fellow 2002 Curtis Cup team-mate Kerry Smith placed third, six shots adrift of Tennant.

Australian wins PNGA women’s Am

Raegan Denton of Beverley, Australia, defeated Gabriella Kano of Fullerton, Calif., 5 and 3, in the final match to win the 124th PNGA Women’s Amateur Championship, held at the OGA Golf Course in Woodburn, Ore.

Denton was the medalist after the two rounds of stroke-play qualifying earlier in the week, and was the No. 1 seed in the match-play bracket. Denton is a member of Australia’s High Performance Program and is ranked No. 47 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking.



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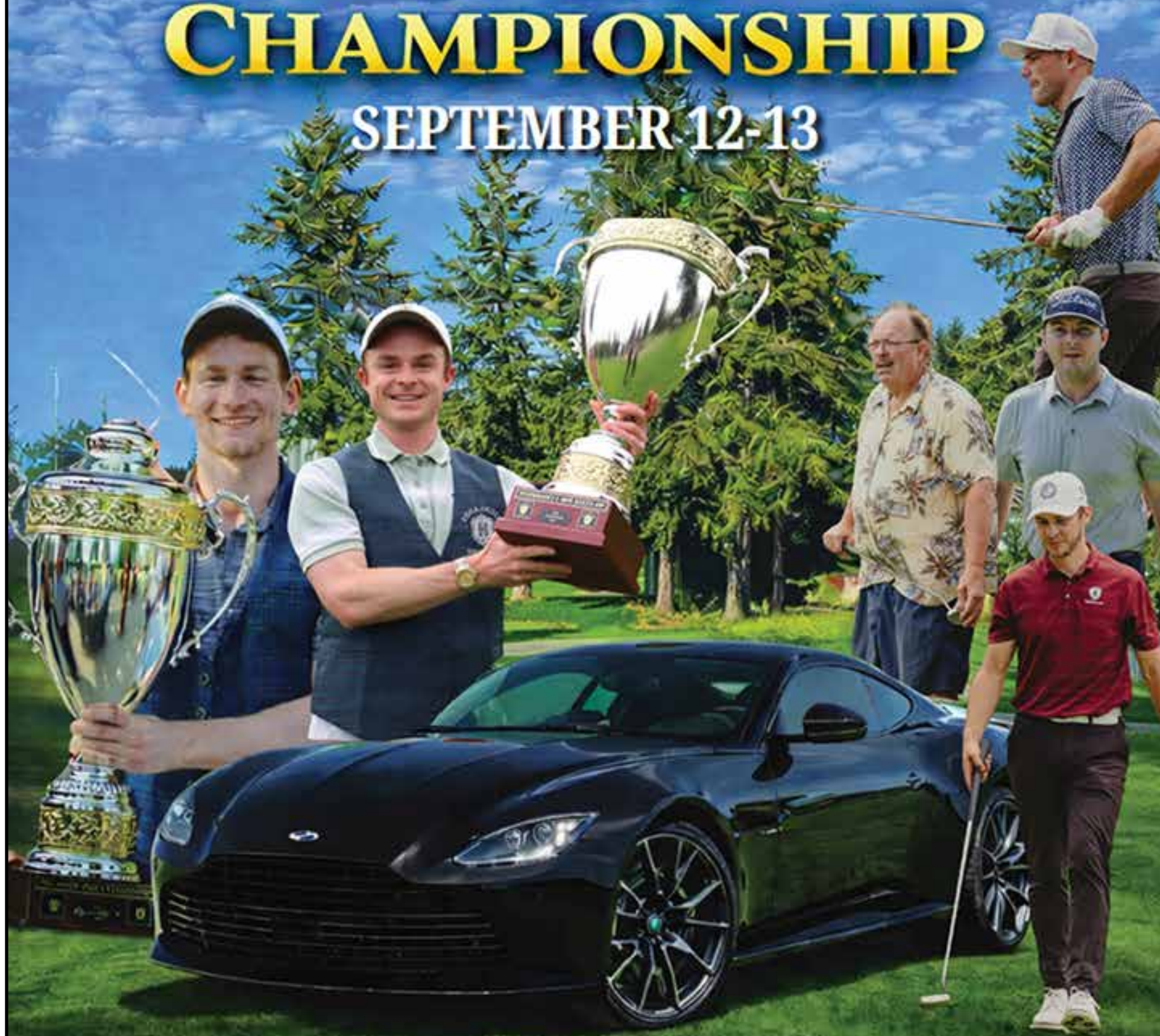
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Rules of the Game: Tired of playing the same old format during your round of golf, then give foursomes format a try

Ever get tired of the same old golf scoring format every time you play? Try Foursome golf instead - also known as Alternate Shot. Foursome golf format is much more popular in the European Countries than in America. (Which could perhaps be why Team Europe Leads Team USA 25.5 to 14.5 in total four-some sessions in four of the last five Ryder Cup sessions.)

I've heard rumors that Europeans often wonder why Americans would want to hit the golf ball so many times during one round— If you play alternate shot each player should (theoretically) swing ½ the number of times in one round.

Here is what you need to know if you want to give Foursome golf format a try.

First, Foursome golf can be played in either match play or stroke play format. Two partners compete as a side by playing one ball. The partners alternate playing shots on each hole. Partners must also alternate the order in which they play first from the tee on each hole.

For example, if Bran and Kate were playing as partners, If Bran teed off on Hole 1, he would continue to tee off on all the odd holes, and Kate would tee off on the even numbered holes. They would alternate hitting shots until the ball was holed. Keep in mind that even if Kate holes out on Hole one, she would still tee off on Hole two.

Here are a few other order of play reminders:

- If a stroke is cancelled, replayed or does not count, the same partner who made the stroke that was cancelled, must make the next stroke



- If a side plays a provisional ball, it must be played by the partner whose turn it is to play the players next stroke AND if that shot was made from the teeing area, it must be played from the same tee – even in mixed foursome format when players may be using different tees.

- Penalty for playing in the wrong order is the general penalty. So if you are playing match play, this hole is over for you and your partner as soon as you play in the wrong order. For stroke play, if partners play in the wrong order this mistake must be corrected, and the correct partner must make a stroke from where the partner made the first stroke in the wrong order. (Strokes and penalty strokes made after wrong partner played do not count). If the mistake is not corrected before making a stroke to begin another hole, or the last hole of the round, then the penalty is disqualification.

And one last important thing: A player cannot purposely miss a ball so their partner can play! Play when it's your turn. Have fun playing Foursome format.



Tired of the same old format when you play golf, then it might be time to give Foursomes a try next time.

It's mixed Four-Ball stroke play and on the 3rd hole player A from one side has a putt on the same line as her partner player B but much closer to the hole. When it is their side's turn to play, she positions herself behind her partner's as he made his putt. After the other side finished, she rolled her putt into the hole. At scoring the other side (Players C & D) asked the Committee about her actions on the 3rd hole. How should the Committee decide?

ANSWER: Rule 23.8 tells us that in addition to the other limitations in Rule 10.2b(4), "a player must not stand on or close to an extension of the line of play behind the ball while their partner is making a stroke to gain information for their next stroke". Penalty for a breach of 23.8 s the General Penalty (2 strokes).

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A stylized logo of a golf ball with a flag on top, set against a blue and white background.

LakeLand Village Golf Course

Golfers will enjoy playing the 18-hole Ranch Course and the 9-hole executive course at LakeLand Village. The golf course offers golfers numerous ponds, gaping bunkers and majestic views of the Olympics and Mount Rainier. Ardent golfers will appreciate the scenic driving ranges, practice chipping and bunker areas, and the well-groomed putting greens. In addition to a gourmet restaurant, cafe and espresso bar, the clubhouse also provides banquet facilities.



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LakeLand Village

200 E Old Ranch Rd. • Allyn, WA 98524

LakeLand Village Community

The community at LakeLand Village is like no other.

The vibrant housing community is the only Washington residential community that offers 27 holes of golf.

The residents at LakeLand enjoy a variety of niceties like a lakefront bistro restaurant, a stocked spring-fed 50-acre lake for year round fishing, several miles of quiet streets for walking or bike riding and of course some of the best golf found in the state.

Located between Hood Canal and Puget Sound's Case Inlet, overlooking the town of Allyn, Lakeland Village offers a relaxed lifestyle for a unique living experience.





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For nearly six decades, Twin Lakes Golf & Country Club has been more than a place to play golf—it has been a place to belong.

Nestled among rolling hills with sweeping views of Puget Sound, the club, located in Federal Way, Wash., has become a gathering place where friendships are built, families celebrate milestones, and every visit feels like coming home. It is a private retreat that offers the perfect balance of recreation, relaxation, and community.

Whether your passion is championship golf, dining with friends, summer afternoons by the pool, fitness, or year-round social events, Twin Lakes offers something for every member of the family. Here, neighbors become lifelong friends, traditions are created, and

every season brings new opportunities to connect with others in an atmosphere that is welcoming, genuine, and refreshingly unpretentious.

Choosing the right country club is an important decision, and we believe it should be experienced—not rushed. That's why we're excited to introduce our 12-Month Preview Membership Promotion, giving you the opportunity to enjoy everything Twin Lakes has to offer without paying an initiation fee for your first twelve months. Simply enjoy the club as a member while paying only the applicable monthly dues and charges for your membership category.

During your Preview Membership, you'll have time to experience the course through every season, meet fellow members, enjoy our social events, and discover

why so many families have chosen Twin Lakes as their home away from home.

Should you decide to continue your membership, additional preferred pricing and membership incentives are available when you join during the promotional period.

There has never been a better time to discover what makes Twin Lakes one of the South Sound's best-kept private club experiences. We invite you to schedule a personal tour, meet our team, and experience firsthand why so many members say they didn't just find a country club—they found a community.

For more information, contact Tom Coburn, General Manager at tcoburn@twinlakesgolf.net or info@twinlakesgolf.net.



Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club in Federal Way.

Two-day Mount Baker Challenge Cup set for September

The Pacific Northwest has long been known for spectacular golf. Towering evergreens, snow-capped mountain views, pristine fairways, and cool September mornings create an unforgettable setting for the game. Now, a new tournament is bringing together some of Northwest Washington's finest courses while celebrating one of the region's newest golf travel experiences.

Welcome to the inaugural Mount Baker Challenge Cup, a two-person best ball championship presented by the Mount Baker Golf Trail.

More than just another tournament, the Mount Baker Challenge Cup represents the beginning of a new tradition—one that showcases championship golf, regional hospitality, and the unique character of the courses that make up the Mount Baker Golf Trail. Whether you're a competitive player looking to test your game or simply love the camaraderie of tournament golf, this event promises two memorable days on two of the area's most enjoyable layouts.

The Mount Baker Golf Trail is a new collaboration between five outstanding Northwest Washington golf facilities: Shuksan Golf Club, Lake Padden Golf Course, Sudden Valley Golf Course, North Bellingham Golf Course, and Loomis Trail Golf Club. Together, these courses offer golfers an incredible variety of playing experiences—from tree-lined parkland layouts and dramatic elevation changes to championship-caliber conditioning and breathtaking mountain scenery. The Trail was created to encourage golfers to discover everything the region has to offer while making it easier than ever to plan a multi-course golf getaway.

The Mount Baker Challenge Cup serves as the perfect introduction to that vision.

The tournament begins on Saturday, September 12, with a Welcome Event at Shuksan Golf Club.

Play officially gets underway on Sunday, September 13, with the opening round at Shuksan Golf Club. Widely regarded as one of Washington's premier public

golf destinations, Shuksan provides a fitting stage for Round One. With its immaculate conditions, strategic design, and spectacular views of Mount Baker, the course rewards both precision and smart decision-making. In the two-person best ball format, partners will have opportunities to attack pins while knowing a steady score from their teammate can provide the safety net every successful team needs.

Best ball has remained one of golf's most popular team formats because it combines individual shot-making with true partnership. Each golfer plays his or her own ball throughout the round, with the lower score between teammates counting on every hole. The format encourages aggressive play, dramatic birdie runs, and exciting momentum swings while ensuring that every player remains involved from the opening tee shot to the final putt.

Following the opening round, teams will carry their scores into Monday's decisive final round at Sudden

Valley Golf Course on September 14. Nestled among towering forests and rolling hills overlooking Lake Whatcom, Sudden Valley offers a completely different challenge from the opening day. Elevation changes, demanding approach shots, and beautiful Northwest scenery create a memorable conclusion where every hole can influence the championship standings.

Once the final putt drops, players will gather for the Awards Banquet, where champions will be crowned and the inaugural Mount Baker Challenge Cup will officially become part of Northwest golf history. The banquet provides the perfect ending to the weekend, giving competitors the chance to celebrate outstanding performances, share stories from the course, and recognize the beginning of what promises to become an annual tradition.

Registration information, tournament details, and additional information about the Mount Baker Golf Trail are available at MountBakerGolfTrail.com.



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KJR Sports Radio’s Dick Fain wears many hats but always has time to for his son on the course

Sometimes there just doesn’t seem to be enough hours in the day for Dick Fain. In addition to juggling hours being the family man with his wife and two kids, he also has his day job at KJR Sports Radio in Seattle, a second job as the television play-voice of the Seattle Storm WNBA team, a high school basketball coach and a dad who looks after his son Dixon on the basketball court and the golf course.



The 52-year-old Fain has always been a sports kind of guy. He graduated from Mount Rainier High School before heading to the University of Washington. If you have ever listened to him on the radio he bleeds Purple and Gold. In fact on his afternoon show with his partner Dave “Softy” Mahler, they both bleed Purple and Gold. Fain got his start at KJR Sports Radio way back in 1997 as a behind the scenes producer. He got his first taste of being on the air in 1999 being an update guy and doing what he loved with his alma mater as a pre and post game show for Husky games. He then started doing Saturday shows in 2000 and his career was on its way. “I knew I always wanted do radio, I got some breaks early,” said Fain. “Wall I ever wanted to be when I grew up was be a radio host and play-by-play broadcaster.”

Fain got a co-hosting job during the week in 2011 and then in 2017 moved the afternoons with his current co-host The Soft One and they have been ruling the afternoon airwaves ever since. If you have ever listened to their show you can see why people tune in. Their banter is great and they bring in their producers to join in the conversation as well. They rarely take phone calls but do take texts to add into the show. But Fain said that is just the way that the radio and television sports talk shows have gone in that direction these days. “The shows have moved from the direction of taking phone calls to the hosts talking - and bringing in the producers to add to the shows too,” he said. “The producers have an open mic now and that has added to the show. It has just become the evolution of the way the talk shows have gone.” Fain’s other gig could not have gone any better with the Seattle Storm. It all started back in 2000 as a sideline reporter and he did an occasional play-by-play announcing job. In 2008 he became the full time play-by-play announcer. He traveled for five seasons as the radio announcer and did the occasional television game. But all that changed as the team slowly went away from radio and transitioned to television. The Seattle Storm has four WNBA Championships and Fain has been around for all of them. This season the young Storm team is struggling but Fain says there is hope down the road as the young team gains more experience. Off court and away from the radio airwaves, Fain has coached basketball and his son Dixon for years. He has watched Dixon grow as a sharpshooter on the court at Mount Rainier High School and becoming one of the top junior golfers in the state. Fain coached at Mount Rainier for 15 years before



Dixon Fain watch his dad Dick tee off during a round at Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club in Federal Way.

stepping away in 2012 to work with Dixon as a youth player. He is back on the Mount Rainier bench as Dixon enters his junior year. And on the golf course, Fain tries to get as much time with Dixon as possible watching him develop into a solid player. Fain enjoyed sports as a kid but wishes he had taken up golf earlier and played more. But he said playing with Dixon and watching him has been a treat. “I regret not taking up golf earlier,” he said. “After watching Dixon and what he is doing at an early age has been great. We put plastic clubs in his hands and he went to work with the clubs at age 2. It was cool to watch. We signed him up for The First Tee at age 6 and he made his first par at age 6. And we even got the video of him making that par. Pretty cool” Fain’s 14-year-old daughter Aubrey is another well-rounded athlete in swimming, water polo, basketball and even plays the piano. Sometimes there just doesn’t seem to be enough hours in the day to do it all. But he manages to squeeze it all in. And that’s the way Dick Fain likes it.



Dick and son Dixon enjoy the views at Twin Lakes.

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The Lesson Tee: These tips might be what you need to stop that ‘casting’

This month marks a celebration of 23 years of my Jeff Coston Golf Academy at Semiahmoo Golf Club! Being here with the members, staff and this super facility has been my honor and privilege! Thank you Semiahmoo for allowing me to spend much of my life here and hopefully much more.

Everyone wants to hit the golf ball further, no doubt! Hitting the golf ball straighter helps also. Over the past 23 years I’ve learned that everyone wants to be more consistent; hit it farther; hit it straighter.

I have continued to write about the proper plane, path and club face. Over these 23 years I have focused on shallowing the shaft on the downswing, most golfers have to steep of an approach.

I have mentioned that most golfers would benefit from a slightly stronger grip in the fingers. Golfers also aim their feet to the right of target and shoulders left; where feet left and shoulders right would be a better habit.

These non- negotiables being stated; here goes your extra credit.

Most golfers release the club to early. Some call it casting. No matter what you call it, it is a power leakage that is mostly caused by to steep an approach to the hitting zone and or to early of a hip rotation. Notice Bill Hass in photo 1. Bill slides his hips as he moves his arms, hands and butt of the club to the golf ball.

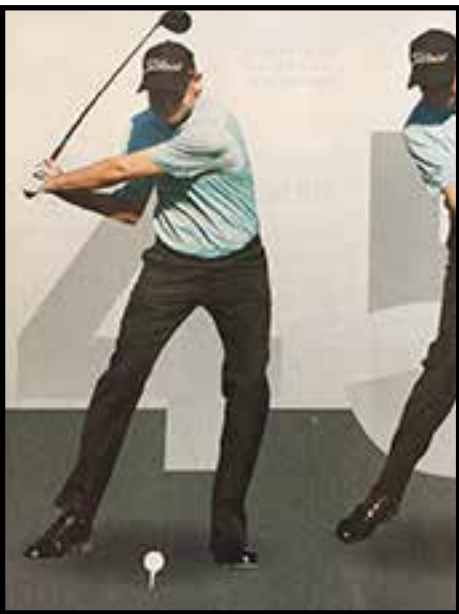
Again, most golfers clear their hips too soon and thus release the club too early to catch up with their hips. We want to approach the hitting zone with hands and arms at a shallow shaft angle! You will have more "lag" and less casting.



Most golfers release the club too early. Some call it casting. No matter what, it is a power leakage which is mostly caused by too steep of an approach to the hitting zone and or too early of a hip rotation.

Check out this "wall drill" in photo 2. Stand a little more than arms length from a wall. As you hinge early, swing your arms down on a shallow approach without releasing early and striking the wall. Weird feel? Give me a call.

Jeff Coston is a former PGA Tour Player and multi-time Pacific Northwest PGA Player of the Year. He can be reached at Semiahmoo Resort for appointment by calling 360.201.4590 or see www.jeffcoston.com for more information.



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Founders Group offers some great places to play when making the Myrtle Beach trip

If it's winter time in the Pacific Northwest, it might be time to make that annual winter golf trip. And there might not be a better place to take that trip than the place they call the Grand Strand - Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Myrtle Beach is an area that is golf, golf and more golf. And for good reason. There are courses up and down for miles and this is truly golf at its finest. In fact the PGA Tour now calls Myrtle Beach home to one of its tour stops.

And there is one company that knows exactly what golfers want when they head to South Carolina for a golf trip. The Founders Group features a collection of 21 courses in and around Myrtle Beach and offers some terrific variety with no two courses alike.

For those who are looking at making a Myrtle Beach trip for some golf - Founders Group has a way of setting you up with the lodging and golf with its Myrtle Beach Golf Trips. There is no shortage of courses to play in the Founder's Group and the accommodations are first rate. For more on taking a trip to Myrtle Beach and where to stay and play - see the web site www.myrtlebeachgolftrips.com.

The Founders Group is a company that can take care of all of your golf needs with one visit to the web site or one phone call. With its variety of courses and choices of places to stay, Myrtle Beach is the kind of place you will want to visit time and again. Call 1.866.694.2448 for more information on the golf trips.

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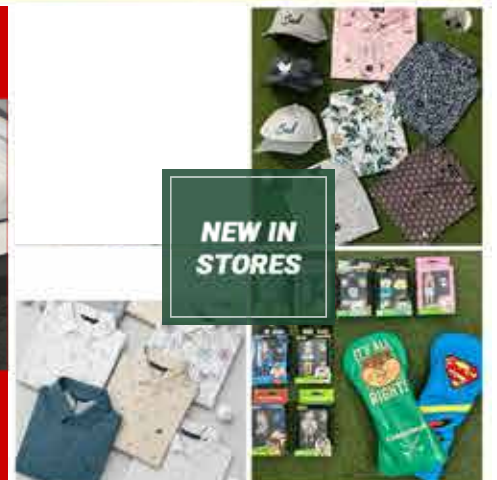


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