

INSIDE GOLF NEWSPAPER

Fall Golf in the Northwest: Always a great time to tee it up in the NW

Inside Golf Newspaper takes a look at fall golf in the Pacific Northwest with a special section this month at various areas and courses including Red Wolf in Clarkston, Wash. (right). There is plenty to like about fall golf in the Northwest from the availability of tee times to the lower prices. See inside for more.



WHAT'S NEW IN NW GOLF

Portland Golf Club is set to host USGA 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 (below).

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 (below) will be in the field and she won the championship in 2018, 2019 and 2021. Dawn Woodard of South Carolina is the defending champion of the event.



Rules Question of the month

When a player begins searching for her ball in deep rough, she accidentally kicks her ball. After consulting with the other players in her group she learns she must replace the ball with no penalty, it was accidental during search. While she is replacing, she wants to take advantage of having the ball in hand so she takes a new ball from her bag and places it where the original ball was. At scoring her procedure came up. What do you think? See answer on Page 2.

LPGA, PGA Tour Champions put on their annual shows in the Pacific NW

Jeenno Thitkul made it look a little easier while Stewart Cink had to come from way back as the LPGA and the PGA Tour Champions made their annual stops in the Pacific Northwest.

And as usual big crowds were on hand to follow some of the best golfers that the tours had to offer.

In Portland, the Standard Portland Classic is the longest-running tournament on the LPGA Tour schedule and Thitkul from Thailand won for the 10th time in her career and the 23 year old pocketed \$300,000 for claiming the championship at Columbia Edgewater Country Club in Portland.

At Snoqualmie Ridge Golf Club just east of Seattle, Cink made up a four-shot deficit heading into the final round and then won in a playoff with Miguel Angel Jimenez to win the tournament and the Boeing Classic flight jacket that annually goes to the winner of the event. See inside for more on these tournaments.

(Photos by Scott Bisch).



Jeenno Thitkul won the Standard Portland Classic.



Stewart Cink rallies to win the Boeing Classic.

Olympia Golf and Country Club: 100 years old



Olympia Country and Golf Club has a storied history as it celebrates its 100th year this year. From its humble beginnings as a nine-hole course to its championship layout today and hosting major Northwest events. Olympia Country and Golf Club has become one of the top clubs in the region. With its scenic views of Puget Sound and the surrounding rolling hills, there is plenty to like. For more, please see inside this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.

Canterwood pro takes title at the Northwest Open in a close finish

It was close but in the end PGA Professional Preston Bebih of Canterwood Golf Club in Gig Harbor, Wash, managed to hold on and win the championship at the Northwest Open Invitational at Sunriver's Woodlands course.

Bebich fired rounds of 64-69-66 for a 199 total to win by one stroke over PGA Professional Daniel Campbell of Bellingham G&CC

Preston Bebih (Bellingham, WA) and PGA Professional Colin Inglis of Eugene CC (Eugene, OR). Campbell made a late run with his final-round 64 while Inglis also went low with a 66 in the third round of the 54-hole tournament.

Low amateur honors went to Akshay Anand of Sahalee CC (Sammamish, WA) who finished fifth place.

Blake Snyder of the PNW Golf Academy finished fourth two shots back of Anand.



78th Hudson Cup set for Inglewood Golf Club

The 78th annual Hudson Cup pitting the top professionals against the top amateurs will take place Oct. 15-16 at Inglewood Golf Club in Kenmore, Wash.

In addition, the annual Senior Hudson Cup will take place alongside the regular matches during the two days of competition.

The first day of the Hudson Cup will feature foursomes and fourball matches with the second day featuring singles matches between the professionals and amateurs.

After years and years of the same swing move it was finally time to do something about it

I'm sure you all remember the movie Tin Cup. Remember the part of the movie where Roy McAvoy (aka Kevin Costner) walks out of his RV with all of those gadgets on his body trying to find ways to fix his swing which had suddenly developed the shanks.

He is convinced one of these gadgets he has roped around his body can magically fix his swing. He is on his way out of the RV to talk to the Doctor Lady (Rene Russo) to show that there is something behind the gadgets that can fix what ails him and get him ready to hit it straight once again.

Turns out the gadgets did nothing for him. It was all mental.

I wish that was the case for me. In my case it's both mental and physical.

I've had an acute case of the over-the-tops for years I have tried to shake to no avail. I have tried mentally and physically. At age 64 maybe it's time I just give up.

I've got a friend - we will call him Tony. Whoops, sorry that's his real name. He is all about gadgets and getting better. I understand that. But he's a two handicap. How much better can you get? He watches videos. He buys things. He just had to buy this wrist deal a while ago to gauge wrist action. He's more like the Tin Cup guy than me. He doesn't really need the gadgets but that is why he is a two handicap and works on his game when, well, I don't.

But he's also a helluva lot better than I am. Maybe that's why he buys the gadgets, uses them at the range and figures out how to make them work. OK I will cut him some slack on the gadgets.

I know the days of hitting it long and trying to score low are gone. But I am tired of the over-the-top and hitting the ball left to right. I decided it was time to try and do something about it.

First stop, the gadgets. Well, not really a



gadget but I finally broke down and googled videos on how to stop over-the-top. Amazingly there are a million of them. There must be a lot of you out there too. One video was simple and only required a towel. Keep the towel tucked under your right armpit and swing. If the towel stayed in place you were not coming over the top. Easier said than done.

On to another video. This one said have

your back face the target and keep the back toward the target as you swung. This worked. For a while. Some drives were straight - and some were longer than normal. Then I took a look at one last video that said to fire the right hip toward the target. That worked too.

Suddenly the over-the-top was not completely gone but lessened and the shots were straighter.

And imagine that - it took only years and years for me to figure out that golf videos actually do work. I will also admit I did try a couple of Tony's gadgets and they worked too. I will never get down to two handicap land where he is but maybe golf might be a little more enjoyable.

For now, the ball striking is better. But my putting still stinks...time to google some more videos!

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



It took long enough but watching videos and using some gadgets just might have straightened the author out.



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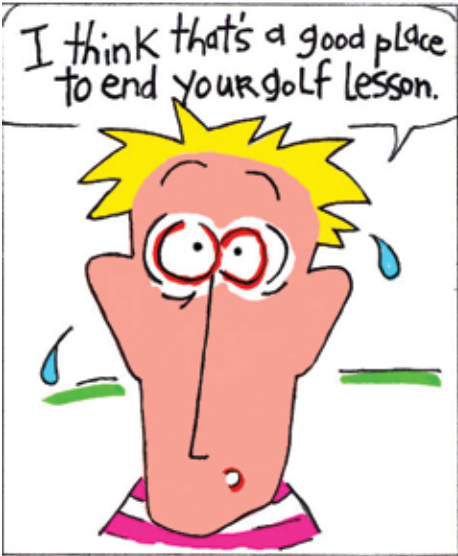
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Double Bogey



Harold Bluestein PGA



Rules Answer

Answer: Rule 9.4a states a ball moved by a player must be replaced. Since she was required by Rule to replace the ball, she must use the original ball and is not permitted to substitute a ball for the original. Once she places the substituted ball where the original was it became the ball in play under penalty of one stroke. If she had become aware of the mistake and replaced the original ball before making a stroke Rule 14.5 would eliminate the penalty for an improper substitution.

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



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Meridian Valley's Thornton captures Senior Oregon Open by four strokes

PGA Professional Brian Thornton of Meridian Valley CC (Kent, WA) won the Senior Oregon Open Invitational at Wildhorse Resort. PGA Professional Jeff Coston of Semiahmoo G&CC (Blaine, WA) finished second place with PGA Professional Ryan Malby of Kalispell, Mont. finishing third.

Amateur Greg Chianello of Reserve Vineyards (Aloha, OR) placed fourth and won low amateur honors for the tournament.

Winning the team competition of one gross, one net at 90% handicap was the team led by PGA Thornton with amateurs Eric Zerr, Michael Cairns and Thomas Herrick with an impressive 34 under par for the 36-hole competition.

Thornton put together rounds of 64-65-69 for a 198 total to finish 18 under par for the tournament and win by four shots over Coston who had rounds of 64-66-72. Malby put together three rounds of 68-68-67 for his 203 total and 13 under performance.

Chianello started slow with a 72 but rolled with a 67-69 in the final two rounds to win the low amateur honors for the tournament and finish fourth.

Steven Vancil of Persimmon Country Club finished fifth at 209 while Mark Knowles of McCormick Woods Golf Course finished sixth at 210.

Hall claims PNW Assistant title

PGA Professional Jamie Hall of PNW Golf Academy won the PNW Assistant PGA Professional Championship at Fairwood G&CC after firing scores of 69-66-137 good enough for a 7-under par total.

Nicholas Watts of Emerald Valley CC (Creswell, OR) placed second, two strokes back with Daniel Campbell (2023 Champion) of Bellingham Golf & CC in third.

Daniel Campbell and Hall both advanced to the 50th PGA Assistant Championship at the PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie, Florida from November 12-15.

PNW PGA Championship

The 2026 PNW PGA Championship is set for Sept. 15-17 at Astoria Country Club in Warrenton, Ore. This is a tournament where the top seven qualify for the national PGA Professional Championship.

Did you know....

* The inaugural PNGA Junior Girls' Amateur was held in 1956 at Overlake Golf and Country Club in Medina, Wash. The great JoAnne Carner, eventually a World Golf Hall of Fame player from Kirkland, was JoAnne Gunderson and just 17 when she won this inaugural championship. She shot rounds of 83-81. In her second round, she scored an 11 on the first hole after hitting her first three shots out of bounds, but played the remaining 17 holes in 1-under women's par.



• WA Golf is a leader in turfgrass research funding, which has benefited every green-grass recreational facility in our communities – including soccer, football, baseball fields, public parks and (of course) golf courses – and helped both their environmental and economic viability. Golf courses – 75 percent of which are public – are community assets that provide green spaces for the environment.



Tour Players With Northwest ties

PGA Tour

- Wyndham Clark • Ex-Oregon • 4th on the list with \$14,236,186
- Nick Taylor • Ex-UW • 65th on the list with \$2,432,660
- Andrew Putnam • Tacoma • 69th on the list with \$1,959,004
- A.J. Ewart • B.C. Canada • 111th on the list with \$1,036,911
- Joel Dahmen • Clarkston • 119th on the list with \$845,600
- Joe Highsmith • Tacoma • 143rd on the list with \$516,150
- Aaron Wise • Ex-Oregon • 157th on the list with \$337,520
- Dylan Wu • Medford, Ore. • 166th on the list with \$290,253
- Adam Svensson • British Columbia • 181st on the list with \$203,404
- Cameron Davis • Australia (Member at Sahalee) • 188th on the list with \$144,506

Korn Ferry Tour

- Alistair Docherty • Vancouver, Wash. • 4th on the list with \$446,786
- Carl Yuan • Ex-UW • 86th on the list with \$82,734
- R.J. Manke • Tacoma • 125th on the list with \$51,177

Champions Tour

- Ben Crane • Portland • 12th on the list with \$932,915
- Fred Couples • Seattle • 65th on the list with \$184,524
- Kirk Triplett • Pullman • 76th on the list with \$146,941

LPGA Tour

- Jing Yan • Ex-UW • 56th on the list with \$506,845
- Gigi Stoll • Tigard • 171st on the list with \$21,718
- Carolyn Inglis • Eugene • No events

LPGA Epson Tour

- Gigi Stoll • Tigard • 150th on the list with 2,647
- Kathleen Scavo • Eugene • 170th on the list with \$672
- Sarah Rhee • Ex-UW • No events



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Seattle area still in the PGA Tour conversation for a tour stop; Northwest native Gonzales named as new UNLV golf coach

The PGA Tour is slowly getting its plans together for the 2028 season and Seattle is still in the hunt for a possible tour stop.

Things will be changing drastically for the 2028 season with multiple tours, different sponsors and a new look for the PGA Tour.

First introduced by PGA Tour CEO Brian Rolapp at the Travelers Championship, the Tour will feature a new competitive structure beginning in 2028. Players will be split between two series of tournaments, the PGA Tour Championship Series and the PGA Tour Challenger Series. The best in the world will compete regularly against each other on the PGA Tour Championship Series, which will feature a schedule of 23 to 24 events inclusive of the majors, The Players Championship, a reimagined postseason and an annual team event (Presidents Cup or Ryder Cup).

The full 2028 schedule is expected to be announced early next year, but the pieces are beginning to come together on which events will comprise the PGA Tour Championship Series. Five events have been confirmed since last week, including the Travelers, the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard, the Cadillac Championship and The Sentry, the TOUR's long-standing stop at Torrey Pines.

Some locations have not been named for potential tour stops and Seattle is among those in the running with Sahalee and Chambers Bay both being named as possible sites for a tournament. So stay tuned.

Gonzales named UNLV head golf coach

Olympia native and former PGA Tour player Andres Gonzales has been named as head coach of the Nevada-Las Vegas men's golf team.

Gonzales has his hand into a variety of golf projects including working on television and radio broadcasts of professional golf events plus running a golf apparel company he co-founded called PLT Golf.

Gonzales if a former player at UNLV and was an

All-American during his playing days at the school as well before heading to the PGA Tour. He becomes the fourth head golf coach in school history.

Meehan captures PNGA Master-40

Jack Meehan of Woodinville, Wash. defeated William Snow of Vancouver, Wash. 3 & 2 to win the 51st PNGA Men's Master-40 Amateur Championship. The championship was held at Wine Valley Golf Club in Walla Walla, Wash.

The championship week that began with 36 holes of stroke-play qualifying followed by 18-hole single-elimination match play from August 5-6, culminating in the 18-hole final match.

Meehan was one of the championship's stronger contenders all week and entered match play as the No. 3 seed, having gone 8-under par in 36 stroke play holes. From the Round of 32 on, Meehan won his matches 2-up, 2-up, 4 & 2, 2 & 1 and took his 3 & 2 victory.

This marks Meehan's first PNGA title. He is a member of Bear Creek Country Club in his hometown. He recently played in the 2026 Washington Men's Mid-Amateur, where he made the cut and placed 35th.

Hulst Madison win Women's Senior Am

Kimberly Hulst (Sammamish) shot rounds of 79-79 (+10) to win the 27th Washington Senior Women's Amateur, while Karen Madison (Spokane Valley) shot rounds of 78-78 (+8) to win the 13th Washington Super Senior Women's Amateur. Both championships were held concurrently, July 28-29, at Desert Canyon Golf Resort in Orondo, Wash., over 36 holes of both gross and net stroke play.

Hulst began her round three strokes back of round 1 leader Tina Papatolis. On what was a difficult scoring day for all players, Hulst made the turn in 2-over with one birdie on the seventh hole. She quickly ascended the leaderboard when Papatolis carded a 10 on the par-4 sixth. On the back nine, Hulst birdied 11 and survived

a 4-over stretch through holes 14 and 15 to finish with another 79. Papatolis, Leslie Folsom and Kim Titus all finished in a tie for second at 12-over, two shots back.

Idaho wins Hogan Cup title

Team Idaho fired a team total of 426 to win the Eddie Hogan Cup Team Matches at Riverside Golf and Country Club in Portland. The matches featured teams from around the West Coast and the top junior golfers from the West Coast as well.

Southern California was second three shots back, Arizona was third while Oregon was fourth and Washington was fifth. Justin Anderson of Idaho was the low individual with a 140 total while Sevren Quinn of Oregon tied for second at 142. Ethan Schwab of was Washington's top finisher tying for ninth at 145.

Gambles Sands pair wins Chapman

The duo of Alyssa Amann (Riverside) and Destyn Markel (Brewster) combined to shoot 3-under par 69 to capture the 9th Washington Mixed Chapman Championship. This is the first WA Golf championship title for either of them. In second place, one shot back at 2-under par, were the duos of Doug and Erin Pierce of Sedro Woolley and Colten Kleis (Kenmore) and Shawn Farmer (North Bend).

This year's 18-hole championship was held at McCormick Woods Golf Club in Port Orchard, Wash.

Australian clams PNGA Women's Am

Raegan Denton of Adelaide, 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. The championship was administered by the Pacific Northwest Golf Association.

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. Kano was

the No. 3 seed in the bracket. The PNGA Women's Amateur is a USGA Exemption Event, and with her win today, Denton has earned a spot in the 2026 U.S. Women's Amateur. Because of her being in the top 50 in the WAGR ranking, she had earned an exemption already, but the title sealed the entry for her.

USGA in the Northwest in 2027

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 at Seattle Golf Club.

PNGA crowns junior champions

Christian Harlow of Vancouver Wash., won the 71st PNGA Junior Boys' Amateur with an 8 and 7 victory in the final match over Tristan Kim of Mukilteo, Wash. In the 70th PNGA Junior Girls' Amateur, Amanda Peng of Bellevue, Wash., defeated Niuniu Zhao of Woodinville, Wash., 3 and 2 in the final match.

Both championships were held concurrently this week at Vandal Golf Course in Moscow, Idaho. Both consisted of 36 holes of stroke play to determine seeding for the match play portion of the championships. All matches were then contested over 18 holes in a single-elimination format, except for the two final matches, which were both played over 36 holes.

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Rules of the Game: If your golf ball gets caught up with a moveable obstruction it’s important to know how to play it

If you looked up “obstruction” in a dictionary, the definition is “an item that blocks something else, making it difficult for things to move through.”

That sounds like a pretty accurate picture of obstructions on a golf course. The Rules of Golf also states Obstructions must be artificial objects. The Rules definitions explain there are two different types of Obstructions; movable and immovable. The easiest way to think about the different obstruction types is that movable obstructions are artificial objects that you move away from your ball. By comparison, you move your ball away from an immovable obstruction. This month’s article will focus on movable obstructions.

Movable obstructions are artificial objects that can be moved with reasonable effort; however, those efforts cannot damage the obstruction or the golf course. Things like bunker rakes, benches, golf towels, beer cans, or food packages are movable obstructions. How you take relief from a movable obstruction depends on if your ball is touching, in, or on a movable obstruction.

The Rules allow removal of a movable obstruction anywhere on, or even off the golf course. There is no requirement to mark the location of your ball when moving an obstruction, but I think it’s a good idea to do so. Consider the following scenarios:

George’s ball has come to rest against a bench that is setting off to the side of the putting green. George and Bill can easily lift the bench and move it away from the ball. If George’s ball moves because he has moved the bench, he just replaces the ball on its original spot (if he did mark the ball’s location, the replacement spot is easy to find). In this situation, the rules state to replace THE ball, meaning George cannot substitute another ball. This relief procedure for a movable obstruction can be taken anywhere on the golf course.



Relief is a little different for balls that come to rest in or on a movable obstruction. Bill’s ball came to rest inside a potato chip bag in the fairway. To take relief Bill would note where the ball was at rest on the ground while inside the chip bag. The spot on the ground is used as the reference point. Bill would remove the ball from the bag, then drop that ball (or another ball) within one club length of the reference point, no closer to the hole.

The procedure is the same if the ball is on the bag. This relief procedure applies for a ball in a bunker or penalty area too. If the ball came to rest in (or on) a chip bag on the putting green, Bill would place the ball or another ball on the estimated spot right under where the ball was at rest on the putting green while either in or on the chip bag. Hopefully Bill tosses the chip bag into the trash to keep this from happening to other players.

But what happens if your ball goes into a movable obstruction and you can’t find it? That exact thing happened to Joe. George and Bill were in a group in front of Joe and Betty.

Joe was having a bit of a struggle with his tee shots that day. Joe’s errant tee shot headed straight for a garbage can near the rest room on the left



If your shot gets caught up in an obstruction it’s important to know what the rules of golf tell you what to do.

side of the green. He and Betty were both certain that the ball went into the garbage. However, they couldn’t see it in the can. When George left the rest room, he saw Joe and Betty examining the trash bin. George told them as he was walking by to use the rest room, he definitely saw the ball go into the trash. In this case, George seeing the ball go into the can means it is known or virtually certain that

Joe’s ball is in the trash. Therefore, Joe gets relief using the same procedure Bill did from the potato chip bag, but Joe uses the estimated point right under where the ball last crossed the edge of the obstruction (the trash bin) as his reference point for his relief.

Good news is that all these relief procedures are free relief!

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The logo for Twin Lakes Golf & Country Club, featuring a stylized blue and white golf ball with a red flag on a green tee.



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A Centennial milestone for the Olympia Country and Golf Club as the club turns 100 years old

To walk Olympia Country and Golf Club is to move through more than a round of golf; it is to step into a story that has been unfolding in the South Sound for more than a century.

The club's roots reach back to 1914, when golf in the Olympia area began modestly with a nine-hole course in Lacey known as Mountain View. Those early golden years established the spirit of what members would come to affectionately call "Oly": welcoming, enduring and unmistakably Northwest.

In time, the club found its lasting home on a bluff above Budd Inlet, set among Douglas firs, ravines and sweeping views toward Mount Rainier and Puget Sound. The setting gave the club a sense of permanence, as though the course had always belonged to the land around it.

By 1958, Olympia Country and Golf Club had grown into an 18-hole course, deepening its place in the region's golf landscape while preserving the quiet character and natural beauty that had defined it from the beginning.

The next chapter began in 2012, when longtime member Dr. Angela Bowen purchased the club and its land. She recognized both the history in her care and the promise still ahead, investing in the course, strengthening membership and helping position the club for a confident future.

After Dr. Bowen's passing in 2017, a group of members purchased the club from her estate, carrying forward her vision and ensuring that Olympia Country and Golf Club would remain guided by the people who knew and loved it best.

The club has continued to honor that legacy by hosting important regional competitions, including

the 2023 PPGA Women's Amateur Championship, and just this year, the Washington State Men's Senior and Super Senior Championships, while remaining first and foremost a place where members and guests experience golf at its most authentic.

Today, the walk is defined by immaculate grooming, beautifully presented holes and famously fast, true and receptive greens. Every view, every approach and every putt reinforces the feeling of a timeless Northwest golf experience shaped by history, cared for with pride and still very much alive.

That is the lasting appeal of Olympia Country and Golf Club: not simply where it has been, but how gracefully its past continues to accompany every round played there.

The course might not play long, stretching to 6,106 from the blue tees but do not be deceived by the yardage. This is a course where yardage does not matter when you take into account the elevation changes and the contour of the putting surfaces.

Elevation changes? How about right out of the gate on the first hole. It measures just 244 yards but heads straight up a hill from the clubhouse next to the driving range. A shorter tee shot lands in a flat area. A longer shot ends up on a hillside in the rough.

And just when you think you might have the front nine mastered at Olympia Country and Golf Club, along comes the back nine which measures about 600 yards longer and features back-to-back 400-yard-plus par-4 holes. There is definitely some distance to tackle - especially on the back nine.

The 18th hole is spectacular - a downhill 444-yard par-4 with Budd Inlet in the background and a perfect way to finish off your round at the course.



Olympia Country and Golf Club is celebrating a milestone this year as the club turns 100 years old.



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Boeing Classic, Portland LPGA prove the NW loves pro golf

When Stewart Cink woke up Sunday morning before the final round of the Boeing Classic at the Snoqualmie Ridge Golf Club, he probably didn't give himself much of a chance. He trailed the leader by four shots and knew he needed something low to get in the mix. But that's just what he did.

Cink came up with a final-round 65 to force a playoff with Miguel Angel Jiminez - a playoff that Cink won on the first playoff hole by making a birdie. It was the seventh playoff in the 21-year history of the Boeing Classic

Pacific Northwest native Fred Couples finished in a tie for 10th at 10 under, and did get to within one stroke of the lead at one point. It was Couples' best finish since a tie for third in 2019.

In Portland, 23-year-old Jeeno Thitikul claimed victory at the Standard Portland Classic at Columbia Edgewater Country Club. It was her 10th career victory on the LPGA Tour.

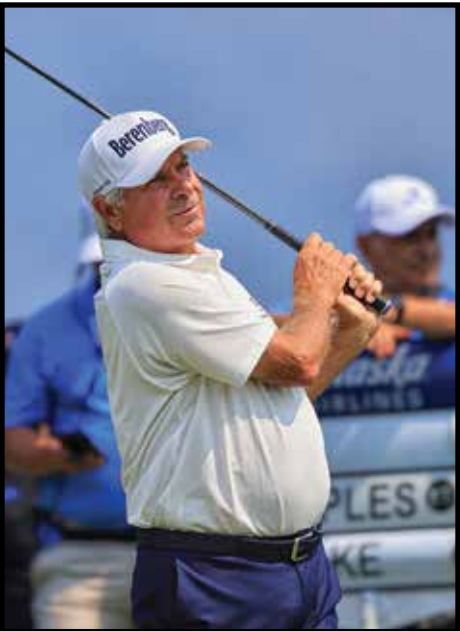
(Photos by Scott Bisch)



Jeeno Thitikul powers a tee shot en route to victory.



The Standard Portland Classic fans had some great views of the LPGA players at Columbia Edgewater.



Seattle native Fred Couples finished 10th.



Miguel Angel Jiminez lost in a playoff.



Crowds flocked the fairways at the Snoqualmie Ridge Golf Club to watch the PGA Tour Champions.



LakeLand Village

Playing at two LakeLand Village Golf Courses 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.



Two Golf Courses: Executive Nine and The 18-hole Championship Ranch Course

Lifestyle

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 lake-front 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.

"With the same great owners, the golf course is under new management that has brought so many great changes to the course and an abundance of hospitality."

Clubhouse and The Bistro



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LakeLand Village

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North to Anacortes: From golf to crabbing there is no shortage of things to do

By Steve Turcotte, Inside Golf Editor

There are some destinations for travel and golf that are somewhat of a secret. Count the Anacortes area among that group. Anacortes is known for several things, but not much when it comes to golf. Anacortes is known for fishing, crabbing and of course, an oil refinery. But there is some golf to be found in the area. And this is not just any golf, this is good golf.

From the Swinomish Golf Links to the Deception Pass Golf Center, public golf can be found in the area. And of course, there is some semi private golf too with Useless Bay Country Club and Whidbey Golf Club.

I have been fortunate to head to the Anacortes area a handful of times in the last few years and every time it always seems like there is something new to either see or do. This time around I decided to partake in the usual - family crabbing in the Puget Sound, some bike riding around the city of Anacortes, taking in the Shipwreck Days Festival, which closes off the main street through downtown with a variety of booths.

But this time I decided to head south down Whidbey Island. As you cross the bridge from the mainland onto the 52-mile long island, you see Deception Pass with terrific views as you stand on the bridge and take a peak at the waters below. I've had friends who had taken their boats through the pass. One said never again after surviving the currents. And recently a pod of Orcas made it through Deception Pass giving people walking along the bridge a terrific view of the Orcas passing through.

A little further down the road was a pleasant surprise, the Deception Pass Golf Center. I didn't expect much, but there it was, as you turned into the parking lot, a mini putt-putt course, a disc golf course, a driving range and 9-hole executive length course.

There are a couple of private courses in the area and both worth the trip as you will find Useless Bay and Whidbey Golf Club (Whidbey is basically semi-private). Whidbey Golf Club sits right in the town of Oak Harbor and offers 18 holes that bring all of your clubs into play and with the nearby fighter jets roaring over head, gives you a kind of a Top Gun feel.

Gallery Golf Club sits next to the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station and is open to the public besides being a home for the folks on the base. One funny story, years ago an Admiral and his wife were playing a blind Par-4 hole and two enlisted men playing behind hit into them. That did not go over well with the Admiral who thought the ball was going to hit him or his wife. He was not a fan of the blind shot. The next day the hole became a par-3 - and no blind shot. Rank rules.

Swinomish Golf Links is tied to the Swinomish Lodge and Casino and is another public course to try. It used to be called Similk Beach Golf Course but the Swinomish Tribe came in and bought the course, changed the name and made some nice changes.

The town of Anacortes has long been known for its oil refineries - which makes it is exciting when you are out on the water and the huge oil tankers come creeping through the channels and between the islands.

Anacortes is also the place where you can catch the ferries to the San Juan Islands.

And don't forget the crabbing. Even a novice crabber like myself was able to help out and catch some. As you make your way out of the downtown docks you see pot after pot. I know nothing about how to do it, instead hanging with my brother-in-law Terry who is a McGyver-like guy and knows everything. We always get our limit and all I do is count the crabs as they come in. We always get our limit.



Gallery Golf Course is operated by the Naval Air Station Whidbey Island and offers some scenic views.



Whidbey Golf Club is a gem on Whidbey Island (left), the author shows off his crab catch on a recent trip.

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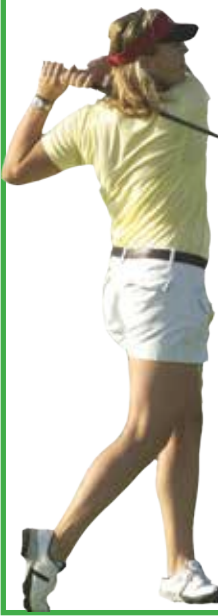


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The Lesson Tee: Looking to get that grooved swing? Check out these drills for improvement

It's September - I've had Jeff Coston Golf Academy at Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine, Wash. for than 32 years. (Started om 1994)

Wow, I'm so grateful for all the golfers coming for instruction and the friendships! As I say, "you're going to make a teacher of me yet."

The last 32 years we have discussed many facets of an effective golf swing. One important facet is: We swing in an arc or circle around our axis/spine not in a line.

Since I stand on the side of the golf ball the club and my hands move in a circle/arc around my spine.

Example: Hold a pencil in your right hand, now turn your body, observe how the pencil and your hand work in an arc around your body. The golf club does the same. See Photo 1. (Make sure the butt of the club points to the target line).

Notice my left arm is approximately 20 degrees inside the target line and my hands cover my right bicep. That would be a slight arc around my spine and around the target line. It's physics, not my opinion. Ben Hogan imagined swinging under a plane of glass resting slightly above his shoulders. Great Image. Photo 2 (make sure the butt of the club points to the target line).

A wonderful drill and image to create depth and thus the ability to shallow the shaft on the downswing is "The Wall Drill." (Photo #3). Set up with you rear end touching a wall. Turn and touch wall with left or both hands. Image swinging under the plane of glass

I practice with this plane of glass or shaft above my shoulder often. I know these proven concepts have definitely helped me to continued success over my lifetime.

Jeff Coston is a 26-time Pacific Northwest PGA Player of the Year. He is PGA Teacher of the Year. Jeff can be reached for appointment by calling Semiahmoo at 360.201.4590. See jeff coston.com.



Example: Hold a pencil in your right hand, now turn your body, observe how the pencil and your hand work in an arc around your body. The golf club does the same. See Photo 1. (Make sure the butt of the club points to the target line).



Photo #1



Photo #2

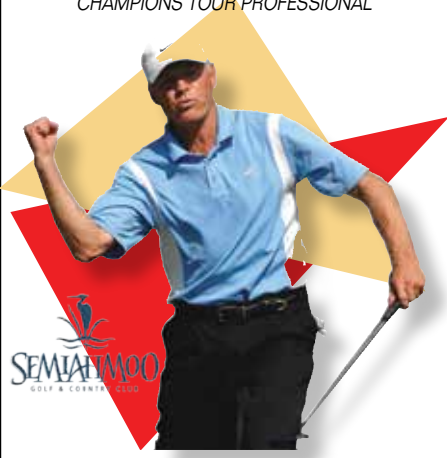


Photo #3

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There are a variety of Squairs golf shoes which have hit the market and are becoming popular on every level.

Squairz shoes hope they are changing the way golfers wear their footwear

There is a new kid in town in the golf shoe market and they are making their mark.

Squairz golf shoes are getting noticed on radio, television and on the fairways of courses around the country. Even some PGA Tour players are wearing them, such as Sepp Straka. And these aren't just your ordinary golf shoes. These are different.

Squairz was founded by Bob Winskowicz, a longtime golf-industry executive. The idea reportedly started on a New England driving range, when Winskowicz noticed how stable he felt wearing a pair of square-toed dress shoes. That observation led to a bigger question: Could a golf shoe be designed around how the foot actually works during the swing?

Instead of treating golf shoes as just clothing, Winskowicz wanted them to function as golf equipment—helping the golfer establish a better setup,

balance, stability and connection with the ground. The company spent years researching biomechanics, foot movement and ground-force reaction before launching S in January 2020.

The signature idea was the wide, squared-off toe box. That unusual shape initially made Squairz stand out—and attracted plenty of skepticism. But the company built its identity around the idea that "performance starts where you stand." It subsequently expanded beyond its original golf focus into baseball, softball and pickleball.

One important caveat: Squairz has made fairly aggressive claims about increased swing speed and distance. Independent reviews have generally found the shoes comfortable, stable and grippy, but have been more skeptical about attributing large distance gains directly to the footwear.

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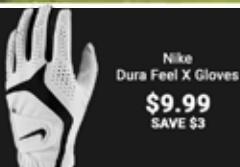
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