

# WINTER TRAVEL ONLINE ISSUE



VOL.9 NO.6

WINTER 2019/2020

29 YEARS OF THE BEST COVERAGE OF GOLF IN RI, MASS & CONN

## Players of the Year



**Bobby Leopold**  
Rhode Island



**Pam Kuong**  
Massachusetts



**Jen Holland**  
Connecticut



**Kibbe Reilly**  
Rhode Island



**Matt Parziale**  
Massachusetts



**Richard Dowling**  
Connecticut

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**Connecticut's  
Ben James  
holding the  
Presidents Jr.  
Cup**



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## Southern New England's Players of the Year

Pages 11, 15 and 18 have the Player's of the Year, but below is a little synopsis of how this publication got to where it is now, and how we named our Players of the Year.

We have been doing this publication for 29 years. It started out as just Rhode Island golf news and was called Ocean State Golf. Golf was very popular back in 1990. Tiger Woods was making his mark and creating a huge impact in the number of men, women and children who wanted to take up the game of golf.

Our first issue was a four-color magazine to coincide with an LPGA event called the Ocean State Invitation that was taking place at Newport Country Club in the spring of 1990. Dave Adamonis, Sr. and I had spent almost a year figuring out if a golf publication was economically feasible. It seemed like

most of the banks and credit unions in Rhode Island wanted to be part of this new publication that was starting as golf was booming.

For those of you Rhode Islanders old enough to remember 1990, the first day of the New Year and the new decade was marred by a "Banking Crisis." Governor Sundlun announced that a great many credit unions and a few banks were closed for business as the auditors tried to figure out what was wrong.

Alas, many of our advertisers had their doors closed. "No Soup for You" meant no advertising for us. We combined forces with Don Paulus and Frank Drake, who were running a successful business and were also looking into starting a golf publication at the same time. The four of us combined to get that first issue published. It was an artistic success, but a financial disaster.

Dave and I kept the name and in

March 1994 with the help of a new partner, Ray Lacallaide, we started printing a newspaper. We had been following the golf scene closely and decided to name the Players of the Year for 1993. They were Dr. George Pirie and Kim Augusta, and the junior player of the year was MacKenzie Hurd. Our first issue of 1995 (February) named our 2004 player of the year, and it was Dr. Pirie again, who went on to win many more. I think we have more pictures of him than anyone else. Regrettably, we did not have a women's player of the year. Paul Quigley was our winner in 1995.

In 1996 the winner was Brad Adamonis. Amazingly, Brad is now trying to earn his PGA card again at the age of 46. He has made it to the finals of Q School. In 1997 we combined our Ocean State Golf and Bay State Golf publications and the players of the year were Jim Salinetti

in Mass. and Mike Capone in R.I. We named our female player of the year and it was Donna Glazer.

In 2000 Dave Adamonis moved to Florida to start the Johnson & Wales golf program and the publication was now my responsibility. We have had players of the year every year since then, both men and women.

It was 2010 when this publication became Southern New England Golfer. We decided to cover all of Connecticut and the rest of Massachusetts to go along with our original format of just covering Rhode Island and eastern Massachusetts. This past June was when the latest iteration of the publication took place. We have switched to online-only. This reporter, publisher, editor and maintenance man has seen the last change that will be taking place—I hope. Please enjoy and sorry for the long dissertation.

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## FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the December 2019 issue of Southern New England Golfer. This is now the fourth issue that has been totally online, and I think we are getting better at it. I know that the subscribers continue to grow, so we must be doing something right. It is certainly easier getting pictures and other info at low resolution and have it look great on a computer screen. We also don't miss delivering papers throughout the southern New England region.

This issue has a few travel stories in it. All to places much warmer than New England. It's fun to take my golf clubs out when I hear that it is snowing back home. Sorry.

Congratulations to our players of the year. It is a wonderful accomplishment and we are happy to give them a little recognition. We've cov-

ered Kibbe Reilly and Bobby Leopold for well over a decade, dating back to when this publication was known as Ocean State Golf. I can still recall meeting Leopold when he first came to Rhode Island and was wondering how he might get to play in the Northeast Amateur. Denny Glass was the tournament director at the time, and when Bob said that he had just finished near the top at the Hornblower at Plymouth G.C., I called Denny and he found a spot for him.

The Presidents Cup was great drama and riveting television. I'm sure most of the golf fans stayed up until midnight watching the matches. It wasn't decided until the next to last player (Matt Kuchar) won the 17<sup>th</sup> hole in his match. It was Kuchar's first singles win ever in this competition. I think it made for better

drama because the Internationals were expected to be overmatched and played so well right from the first match of the event.

What an accomplishment for Ben James and Michael Thornbjornsen to earn spots on the Junior Presidents Cup team and travel all the way to Australia to compete. The Americans won 14-10, but all the players should be applauded for representing their countries and playing in over 100 degree temperature with 40 mph winds. Both players have been fixtures on the U.S. Challenge Cup program for many years. There is no question that this competition has made them better players and more importantly great examples of the golfing level in New England.

Our Season Passport continues to sell very well. I think that people are buying the book for holiday presents in some cases, but most are just hoping that they can use the books soon after the new year on an unusually warm day. Let's hope.

*Continued on page 30*

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Answers

### TRIVIA

#### Presidents Cup

1. Where was the 2013 event held?
2. Where was it held this year?
3. Where was the event held in 2011?
4. Who has served most often as captain for U.S.?
5. Who for the International team?
6. What year did it begin?
7. Where can International players reside?
8. Has there ever been a tie?
9. How many have the Americans won?
10. If a tie, in what country was it held?
11. South Africa
12. Nine
13. Yes
14. Great Britain
15. Outside U.S., Europe and
16. 1994
17. Jack Nicklaus
18. Royal Melbourne, Australia
19. Ohio
20. Murfield Village, Dublin,



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## The Handicap System will be Changing in U.S. on Jan. 1, 2020

Your handicap will probably be undergoing some changes starting the first day of the new year, as the USGA and R&A officially announced in November that the World Handicap System was ready to be rolled out in 2020.

In a release, the governing bodies announced that the WHS system will go live in other parts of the world “throughout the year to accommodate different implementation plans and variations in the golf calendar.”

With the WHS, golfers around the world will have “a unified and more inclusive handicapping system for the first time.” The implementation will take place in the United States the first week of January while other countries such as Great Britain and Ireland will wait until later in the year.

“When the golf community works together, everyone benefits,” said Mike Davis, CEO of the USGA. “We have seen the benefit that handicapping has provided for decades, providing greater enjoyment for all who play. To have a single set of Rules of Handicapping for the game will connect golfers from country to country, and we are excited to bring the best of all worlds together through this initiative. It is one of the many ways we are investing in golf’s future, to strengthen and foster growth of the entire game for years to come.”

There are five educational points that the governing bodies are stressing as their first wave of educational information has been released to golfers.

First of all, how a player’s handicap is calculated will be changing. Instead of taking 96% of the 10 best score differentials out of your last 20 rounds, that number is being changed to eight and the percentage calculation is being dropped. The formula by which a handicap is calculated is changing to more accurately reflect a player’s “demonstrated ability” (past performance) versus their potential ability by simply averaging the



differential of those eight best rounds.

Second, a “playing handicap” will adjust based on course rating, slope and par. According to the USGA, your playing handicap is your course handicap adjusted for handicap allowances depending on the format of play or terms of the competition. More often than not, however, your course and playing handicaps will be the same.

Third, equitable scoring control will be eliminated. Instead of differing skill levels of players being able to take and post certain scores on a hole, everyone will play under the same ESC: net double bogey or par + 2 + handicap strokes. For example, a scratch player (getting 0 strokes) can only take double bogey, but a 10-handicap player playing on the 8th hardest hole on the course can take a triple bogey on their posting score.

Fourth, your handicap will update daily instead of bi-weekly. Gone are the days of revisions on the first and 15th of every month. Players’ handicap indexes will update the day after a score is posted meaning how many strokes you get can change from day to day.

Finally, extreme score fluctuations and weather conditions will be taken into account. The WHS will limit

first day will lower their handicap.

Point five seems to be the most difficult to figure out. I asked Bob Ward, executive director of the Rhode Island Golf Assn. for his thoughts on this new weather changes. His thoughts, “I like the changes. Think it will be more fair when competing against players from other countries. Both the USGA and other countries had a “give and take” and it seems equitable. Asked about bad weather conditions, he said “We had meetings about this and the USGA’s computer system should be able to make this work.” Ward emphasized that every golfer who wishes to have a handicap should download the free GHIN app to their phone and post the score right after playing.

Kevin Wice, handicap chairman with MassGolf was pretty much in agreement with the thoughts of Ward. “This will be a good thing for everyone. A World Handicap System is really the right thing to do. His emphasis was also posting the score right after playing.

**Looking for the latest news in Southern New England Golf?**  
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## GOLF INSTRUCTION

### Find Your Lost Distance!

**M**ost students come in and complain about consistency with their ball striking, most notably, solid contact. To strike a ball solidly when it is sitting on the ground, we must first strike the golf ball before the ground, which will lead to a divot in front of the golf ball. Struggling players don't understand how to use the loft of the club effectively and are trying to get under the ball to lift it in the air. While this may work on a fluffed up lie in the rough or while the ball is sitting on a tee, it is a different story when the ball is sitting on the ground.

A golfer trying to get underneath the ball leads to divots before the ball, clubhead energy transferred into the ground rather than the back of the ball, and the dynamic loft of the club increasing, which turns a 7 iron into a much higher lofted club. So even when you do manage to get out of your own way and get



the ball up in the air, the ball will be flying higher and shorter with less energy with a loss of total distance. Fear not, there are a few things you can work on to regain your distance with your irons!

First, let's look at where you are making contact with the ground in the downswing. Take a golf tee and place it about 1" on the outside

part of the golf ball and hit a shot. Now look where the turf contact was in relation to the golf tee. If the contact was before the tee, you will need to work on shifting some weight to your left side that will help bring the bottom of the arc closer to the ball.

Next, work on the feeling of a punch shot with your full swing. With a punch shot, the shaft will be leaning forward at impact leading to a lower ball flight along with weight more on the left side. This will help control the dynamic loft (the actual loft of the club at impact) to get more distance.

Lastly, let's work on hitting the ball in the middle of the clubface.

Place two tees in the ground about 1" outside the golf ball on each side to create a gate. Now, swing the club through the gate and hit the golf ball without hitting either golf tee. Using some foot powder spray on the clubface will confirm your impact location.

In summary, creating a more effective low point, lowering the dynamic loft and finding the middle of the clubface will create outstanding results that will increase your distance and confidence in your game! Our TrackMan 4 Launch Monitor will measure the Low Point, Dynamic Loft & Centerface Contact, so if you are curious, stop in for a lesson to learn your TrackMan numbers!

*Todd Campbell is the director of the Golf Academy at Mulligan's Island in Cranston. He writes an Instruction column in each issue of SNE Golfer.*

*He can be reached at 508-951-4371 or at tcampbell@pga.com.*

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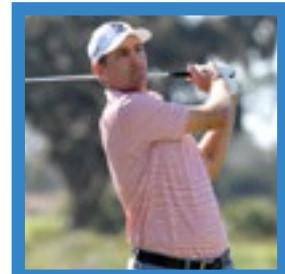
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#### Brendon Todd

<b>Age:</b>	34
<b>Birthplace:</b>	Pittsburgh, PA
<b>Family:</b>	Married
<b>College:</b>	Univ. of Georgia
<b>Turned Pro:</b>	2007



**Brendon Todd** is the poster boy for persistence on the PGA Tour. Todd, who turned professional right out of college in 2007 rose through the ranks in the minor tours and earned his PGA card in 2009. He finished 186<sup>th</sup> on the money list and lost the card. He then made no cuts in 2010.

Todd earned his card for 2012 by finishing first at Q School, but then did not keep it. In 2016 his Tour earnings were just over \$75,000 and in 2017 they were \$14,925. He admitted having the yips, not a good sign for a professional. He had played 179 events and had made only 86 cuts with no top 10's.

He hired a new swing coach and this year of 2019 and 2020 is off to a great start. He has won two events in a row, Mayakoba and the Bermuda Championships and finished 4<sup>th</sup> at the RSM Classic. His earnings for this year are already \$2,201,882 as of 12/1/19 and he has earned his card for the next two years with the win and a trip to the 2020 Masters. He has earned \$9,546,182 on Tour in his career and he is well ahead in first place in this year's FedEx points race.

## Tee it up at the 2020 National Golf Expo-Boston

For three days only, February 28-March 1, the National Golf Expo transforms Boston's Seaport World Trade Center into the Northeast's largest indoor pro shop and driving range.

"Itching to get back on the links? Need new equipment? Want to improve your game? Like a challenge? At this year's Golf Expo you can do it all!" suggests Show Manager David Gerth. "The National Golf Expo is can't-miss experience for the avid and average golfer that you can't find anywhere else."

Stock up for the season with Expo-only bargain prices on balls, tees, clothing, accessories and getaways. 'Try before you buy' at the Joe & Leigh's Fitting & Demo Center, where golfers can get custom-fitted for the latest club technologies by manufacturer reps from the biggest industry leaders, such as Callaway,



Cleveland, Cobra, Mizuno, Wilson, Ping, Titleist and TaylorMade.

"There will be plenty of opportunities at the Expo for players to become better golfers," offers Gerth. "The demonstration stage is the perfect place to pick up new tips from pros who know, as well as weekend golf clinics with Rob 'Hardy' Poole from 98.5 The Sports Hub."

New England PGA professionals

will be on-site offering \$10, 10-minute tune-ups that are tailored to each individual's skill level. Junior golfers (age 17 and under) of all skill levels can receive a free tune-ups from a PGA professional.

"Many attendees enjoy coming to the Expo with their golfing companions," Gerth adds, "To find huge savings on their next great golf vacation destination, or to play

against each other in the interactive challenges."

Thousands of dollars of prizes are available to win through our interactive challenges, including rounds of golf, new clubs, balls, gift cards and getaways! Challenges for 2020 will be the Audi Long Putt, the Chippo Chipping Challenge, the TruGolf Closest to the Pin Challenge and the New England Turf Short Game Challenge. A portion of the proceeds benefits Best Buddies Massachusetts.

The Amstel Light Beer Garden allows golfers to kick back and relax in a lounge equipped with Xbox golfing game consoles, a Putt for Prizes green and contest giveaways. Snell Golf balls is the official golf ball of the 2020 National Golf Expo-Boston. Visit [GolfExpoBoston.com](http://GolfExpoBoston.com) to purchase tickets online and for more event information.

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## Milford, CT's Ben James on Winning U.S. Team

**B**eing a member of the United States team in the Junior Presidents Cup was already the greatest golfing accomplishment of Ben James' young life.

Sinking lengthy putts to clinch two team wins Saturday elevated his experience and feelings for his international debut, and though he lost his singles match Sunday, the U.S. team held on for a 13-11 victory over the International side at Royal Melbourne Golf Club in Victoria, Australia.

James, 16, a sophomore at Hamden Hall Country Day School from Milford, was the youngest player on the American team after putting together arguably the best year for a junior player in Connecticut golf history. Maxwell Moldovan, the 2019 Rolex Junior Player of the Year, U.S. Junior Amateur champion Preston Summerhays and Vishnu Sadagopan, a Rolex Junior All-American with whom James spent

a lot of time before the competition, also swept their opening-day matches as the Americans built a 9-3 advantage.

In the Saturday morning four-ball, James made a 35-foot birdie putt on the 17<sup>th</sup> hole to cap a comeback that gave he and Sadagopan, of Pearland, Texas, a 3-and-1 victory over Kartik Sharma of India and Andi Yu of China. Then in the afternoon foursomes, James sank a 60-foot birdie putt on the same green as he and Alexander Yang of Carlsbad, Calif., rallied to notch a 2-and-1 victory over the Australian duo of Joshua Greer and Karl Vilips, ranked No. 1 in the Golfweek/Sagarin Boys Junior Rankings and a Stanford commit.

James, a second-team Rolex All-American who has committed to the University of Virginia, lost 3 and 2 in singles to Bo Jin, the U.S. Junior Amateur Championship runner-up from Beijing, China, who will



**Ben James with Jr.  
President's Cup**

play collegiately at Oklahoma State University. The 24 players had to play the final day in what the locals call "a hot northerly" that blew in temperatures of more than 100 degrees accompanied by 40 mph winds.

"Ben said it has been like a dream," Don James, Ben's father, said Monday. "The golf course is amazing and really hard, especially around the greens, which are so firm there aren't any ball marks, even on wedge shots. And the bunkers are cut right into the greens, so a mishit shot doesn't stop until it reaches the sand."

The teams got to mingle Monday with the U.S. and International teams that will play in the 13<sup>th</sup> Presidents Cup on Thursday through Sunday.

"Ben said the camaraderie has been tremendous," Don James said. "There was a blind draw for the four team matches, but most of the kids have known each other for many years, so it was easy for them to play with each other. And (U.S. captain) Justin Leonard said, 'It's going to be a little bit of a letdown when the kids go from this to their next high school or junior tournament. But this is the real Presidents Cup. The only difference between this and the actual Presidents Cup is the grandstands aren't full. Christmas for these 24 kids started on Dec. 6 in Melbourne, and it's been going for four days now.'"

James was the last player to qualify for the U.S. team after winning state, New England and national

titles. The event included players from 10 states, Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, India, Korea and South Africa, several of whom competed in the Boys PGA Junior Championship at Keney Park Golf Course in Hartford in July.

James tied for ninth as the best Connecticut finisher in the PGA of America national championship and was the only member of the 2022 high school graduating class on the U.S. team.

James, who plays out of Great River GC in Milford, clinched his spot on the Junior Presidents Cup team when he tied for 19<sup>th</sup> in the AJGA's Junior Players Championship at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra, Fla., home of The Players Championship. The Junior Players Championship was by invitation only, and Smith, who entered the season finale 11<sup>th</sup> in the points standings, was the only player from Connecticut in the 78-man field.

CSGA executive director Mike Moraghan said James deserves all the rewards he gets before he starts his college career at the University of Virginia. "I think Ben James could be the best junior golfer in Connecticut history, and I don't know if any junior has had a better summer than Ben did," said Moraghan, the University of Virginia men's golf team coach from 1989 to 2004 who helped James get a scholarship with the Cavaliers. "It's been fun to watch Ben grow and develop. I remember looking over at our table of boys at the New England dinner (in 2016), and Ben was half the size of some of our guys. He looked like a little kid next to boys like A.J. Ouimet and Jason Liu, but he really fit right in and had everyone's respect."

"It was obvious even then that Ben was mature beyond his years and had all the qualities you want to see in a champion golfer. He is patient, focused, thoughtful in his decision-making and never seems to be overwhelmed by the moment. And he loves to play and compete. Combine his mental strengths with physical talent and you have a very special player."

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## Tiger Leads USA to Presidents Cup Win

**I**t wasn't pretty, but it sure was exciting. The United States Presidents Cup team, who went into the contest as prohibitive favorites, managed to sneak out of Australia with a victory, 16-14 at Royal Melbourne in Australia.

With a team that had seven rookies on their squad and led by Captain Ernie Els, the Internationals certainly put up a great fight and looked like they would be the victors as they jumped out on top in the first matches, winning 4-1 in the opening session. They managed to keep their lead until there were only a few singles matches left during the finals singles event on the last day.

U.S. Captain, Tiger Woods, was really the catalyst as he became the first playing captain in 25 years of this event. He finished the week at 3-0-0. "I had faith in all my guys," said an emotional Woods after the match was completed. He helped earn two points during the team events, but surprisingly did not play in either of the Saturday matches. He went out first on the final day and won his match against Abraham Ancer, the youngster from Texas

who grew up in Mexico and chose to play as a member of the International team.

The final result was in doubt until Matt Kuchar, who has never won a singles match in this competition, came back from a deficit and tied his match with a great birdie on the 17<sup>th</sup> hole. Kuchar had been sent out next to last, and he and final starter Rickie Fowler were both down in their matches during most of the day. When Fowler lost the 18<sup>th</sup> hole, the final score showed a two point victory.

The final day was riveting drama. The U.S. team needed to win the last matches by at least two to



*Tiger's eagle putt on the 15th hole. Tiger led Team U.S.A to victory by securing the 1st point in singles matches*

tie the event and two and one-half to retain the Cup that they had lost only once since the event began. Ironically, the loss came at this Alister MacKenzie gem of a course in 2003.

There were many heroes for the Americans. Justin Thomas played very well in the early matches to keep the Americans within striking distance. Xander Schauffele played well all week, as did Patrick Cantlay. The Americans had never won a

singles match in the history of this event. They have always had the lead heading into the final singles matches, but this script was totally different.

The International team's highest ranked player was Adam Scott who was ranked 21<sup>st</sup>. They put up a great fight and it made for great television drama. The announcers spent the entire final day talking about the different scenarios needed for the Americans to come back. Most every match was close. Tiger Woods going out first and setting the tone for the day was great strategy. He won his match in 16 holes and was able to go back out and encourage the rest of the troops. "It was so exciting, and I always had faith in each of the players," said Tiger to Steve Sands from the Golf Channel after the event was concluded.

Charlotte, N.C. will be the site of the next Presidents Cup in September of 2021. It will be very difficult to top this year's event that was full of drama, suspense, fights (Patrick Reed's caddie with an inebriated fan), and great theater. We can't wait.

*Bruce Vittner is a member of the Golf Writers of America and the Golf Travel Writers of America and can be reached at bruce@snegolfer.com.*

## Keep your head down

By STEVE ZARIELLO

**Y**ou picked your head up. It's the first thing your friends say when you hit a bad shot like it's the magic key to a perfect swing. It probably accounts for 90% of all tips given on the golf course (we're still waiting on confirmation of that statistic, but it's got to be close!) Pros keep their head still when they swing so it must be legitimate right? Well, it may be part of a great swing, but it may also be the most useless tips

anyone has ever given.

Your friends aren't wrong when they assume your head should stay still, but they're also missing the big picture. When your head lifts up, it's not because you lost focus or control of your head, it actually has more to do with everything below your head and the chain reaction that occurs when something doesn't move the way that it should. Your body is an amazing machine, and it

has an ability to re-route movement patterns to compensate for things that it can't do. So if it's not about what you're actually doing with your head, then what do you do about it?

The key to keeping your head still is in improving your flexibility and strengthening the rest of your body. Where exactly in your body is the difficult part to figure out, but if you really want to put an emphasis on improving, find yourself a TPI

certified trainer or physical therapist. If you want to take a more general approach to it, you can never go wrong with strengthening your abs and glutes (butt muscles) and working on your hip flexibility. Improve in those areas and you'll be sure to have an easier time swinging, and hopefully won't hear so many people tell you that you picked your head up.

**"Your body is an amazing machine, and it has an ability to re-route movement patterns to compensate for things that it can't do."**

## Plenty of Professional Golf in our Area in 2020

New England golf fans, buckle up! We're in for one heck of a ride in 2020!

Amateur and professional golf will have a huge presence in and around our area next year making the game's elite stars easily accessible for those of us here in Southern New England.

Looking at things in chronological order, we get our first taste of pro golf from June 18<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup> when then PGA Tour's U.S. Open makes a stop at the famed Winged Foot Country Club in Mamaroneck, NY – just across the southern Connecticut border.

Gary Woodland is the defending champion after capturing his first major championship at Pebble Beach last summer. He will, no doubt, be challenged by many of the sport's best like Tiger Woods, major championship assassin Brooks Koepka and others on a course that has proved to be treacherous for even



the world's best players.

Only one of the previous five U.S. Opens at Winged Foot have seen the winner finish under par. And that does not include 2006 U.S. Open champion Geoff Ogilvy.

Few remember Ogilvy as the 2006 champion. Instead, we remember the meltdowns of Colin Montgomerie and, even more so, Phil Mickelson on the 72<sup>nd</sup> and final hole on Sunday at Winged Foot. Will the 2020 U.S. Open Championship contain such drama? We shall see.

The next week features a New England twin-bill if you will. The PGA Tour will move its operation to the

TPC Highlands in Cromwell, Connecticut for the Travelers Championship June 25<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup> while the Champions Tour brings its game to the historic Newport Country Club in Rhode Island for the U.S. Senior Open those same days.

The site of the first ever U.S. Open and U.S. Amateur in 1895, Newport Country Club is, by far, the Ocean State's best golfing experience on a course with a clubhouse that are both steeped in tradition.

Folks in these parts remember Tiger Woods capturing his second of three U.S. Amateur championships at Newport in 1995 and Annika Sorenstam's Monday playoff victory over Pat Hurst on a rain-soaked course in the 2006 U.S. Women's Open Championship.

That 2006 event saw the first round delayed by one day due to fog and rounds 3 & 4 of the tournament played on what was a 36-hole marathon Sunday.

Now, the likes of Fred Couples, Kenny Perry, Colin Montgomerie, Bernhard Langer, Miguel Angel Jimenez, Vijay Singh and more will join locals Billy Andrade and Brad Faxon for a summer-showdown in Newport.

This event is an absolute must for Southern New England golf fans for all of the aforementioned reasons. Plus, it may be the only time you get to walk the beautiful and historic fairways of Newport Country Club

while taking in some breathtaking views on Ocean Drive.

While the U.S. Senior Open and Travelers Championship are taking place in Rhode Island and Connecticut respectively, so too is the prestigious Northeast Amateur at Wannamoisett Country Club.

Want to see tomorrow's PGA Tour stars today free of charge? Then this is the event for you. Alumni of this event include Dustin Johnson, Luke Donald, David Duval, Hal Sutton, Ben Crenshaw and more!

Wannamoisett is a Donald Ross gem and unequivocally the finest conditioned course from tee to green in Rhode Island, if not all of New England. It is an easy-walking course making it a fan-friendly environment for all who attend.

Lastly, just before summer comes to a close and we turn our attention to the Patriots and NFL Football, the FedEx Cup Playoffs return to the TPC Boston in Norton, Massachusetts August 13<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> for the Northern Trust Open.

Once an annual event known as the Deutsche Bank Championship, this now takes place every other year here in Southern New England with this past season's event having been held at Liberty National Golf Club in Jersey City, New Jersey.

This event features only the top 125 players on the FedEx points list which assures you of a star-studded field. It is the first of three playoff events followed by the BMW Championship and Tour Championship where all golfers are vying for the \$70 million-dollar bonus fund of which the 2019 winner took home \$15 million.

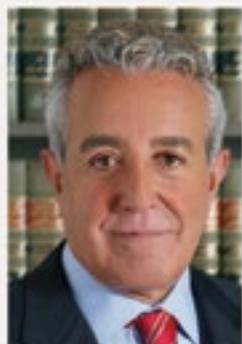
So, if you are looking to get your 2020 golf fix, look no farther than 180-mile span of interstate 95 between Norton, Massachusetts and Mamaroneck, NY next summer. In the words of local car dealer Al Cerrone, "you'll be glad you did!"

*Editor's Note: We have not yet confirmed the dates for the CVS Health Charity Classic, but that is always held in June. More info in the March 8 issue.*

*Scott Cordischi host a weekly sports talk show and writes a column in each issue of snegolfer.com.*

## John N. Calvino, Esq.

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Atty. John N. Calvino

### Sponsor of You Make the Ruling

Tiger hit his second shot at the par 5 18<sup>th</sup> hole into the environmentally protected hazard in front of the green. His caddie saw the ball in the hazard, and Tiger went in to hit it. Is that allowed? What is the ruling?

**Calvino Ruling:** Under Local Rules for abnormal conditions assisting preservation of the course by defining environmentally-sensitive areas where play is prohibited is allowed. The area is treated as a hazard, and thus the ball cannot be played from there. Normally the committee sets up a drop area with white chalk to define the drop point. If no point is specified, the ball must be dropped in accordance with rules for ball in a hazard. Tiger could not hit the ball from there.

## Leopold, Reilly Named R.I. Players of the Year

**B**oth readily admit that their respective years could have been better. But while not spectacular, both Kibbe Reilly and Bobby Leopold, of Wannamoisett Country Club, were rock solid in their play in 2019 and because of their overall excellence throughout the season, they are both the RIGA and SNG choices for Players of The Year.

"It's a thrill, for sure," said Reilly, who first took up the game after his husband, Tom, gave her a set of clubs and she began taking lessons with Norm Alberigo at Rhode Island Country Club, where the couple were members.

"I did not begin playing golf until after I was married and I was 31," said Reilly. "My husband wanted me to know what he was doing on weekends, so in his loving way, he bought me a set of clubs, which were called Lady Tigers. They came with a pink golf bag."

"And I started taking lessons from Norm, who is now the head pro at Agawam Hunt. He was the first person who believed in me. He told me that 'if you really work at this you may be pretty good.'

Both players have been staples on the Rhode Island golf scene for years now, earning multiple RIGA and (for Reilly) RIWGA honors.

This is the second time that Reilly (2008 also) has been named SNG's Player of the Year, Leopold's second, the last coming nine years ago, proving he, like Reilly, has stood the test of time. "It's kind of what your shoot for, in the back of your mind, when you play," he said. "You hope you play well enough to achieve it."

Reilly, who is originally from Texas, was victorious in five of nine tournaments this year. She also finished second in the stroke play (won by Montauk's Nancy Diemoz), and the Junior/Senior (teaming with Montauk's Kay Bullock) and was third in the senior amateur. She is a multiple past champion (2013-'14) in the senior am.

"In many ways it didn't feel like anything awesome because I came in second, sometimes I came in third," she related. "I did have some first place finishes, but they were all in



**Kibbe Reilly**

team events.

"The things I really try to gear up for are the New England championship and the Endicott Cup. Those are always good metrics for me because there are so many wonderful players from Massachusetts and Connecticut, so for me to be in the conversation with them is always nice."

Reilly was one of several outstanding women to play out of RICC, before she moved to Wannamoisett. One of the people she competed with and against was Julie Greene. "Julie was one of my favorite people on earth, never mind one of my favorite people to play golf with. Julie was not only a great golfer but a great mentor. She had a wonderful sense of humor. She was terrific. And another of my favorite people to play with is Nancy Chaffee."

The one event that Reilly missed this summer was the Ladies State Amateur. "I did not play in the (State) Amateur this year because I had grandchildren visiting. What kind of grandparent would I be if my out of town grandchildren were here and I was out of the golf course? That wouldn't be right. That was a good trade."

The move to Wannamoisett was more due to its proximity to her home and while she treasures her time at RICC, she is very happy where she is. "There are some great women golfers at Wannamoisett. They keep me on my toes. We have a lot of fun together. I certainly enjoyed Rhode Island Country club, as long as Julie was around and I enjoyed playing with Nancy. It's just easier to play at Wannamoisett because its just a 10 minute drive from my house, added Reilly."

Leopold, who was born and grew up in England, before coming to the

States. He attended and played at Rollins College, in Florida, where he met his future wife, Rhode Islander and member of a golfing family, Taylor Cooke. He moved to Rhode Island after college and has had a stellar career as an amateur.

He seriously considered turning pro, with the hopes of getting to the PGA Tour, but decided that family was more important, and



**Bobby Leopold**

instead turned to the Cooke family insurance business, got married and devoted himself to family and amateur golf.

Twice a R.I. State Amateur champion, Leopold nearly put a third trophy in the case this summer, finishing second to Andrew O'Leary of Pawtucket CC, at the weather plagued tournament contested at Shelter Harbor in June.

"Andrew is a very good player, a very good competitor and a nice kid as well," said Leopold. "We had a very good match. I would have liked to come out on the better side of things. It was tricky this year because it was spread out because of the weather. We played 18 one day and then 18 the next day."

"I had the momentum going pretty good on the first 18. It's hard to go to sleep and then go back the next day and try and do the same thing. That's golf."

Bobby won the state Mid-Amateur title for the fourth time (the others coming in 2011, '14 and '16). And he was second in the New England Amateur as well as teaming with his brother in law, Tyler Cooke, to reach the quarterfinals in the U.S. Amateur Four-Ball event.

"It would have been nice to win the New Englands. I finished second. I had that all but won but then we got a bit of a bad break with

the weather and bogied the last two holes and lost by one. That was kind of a killer."

Both Reilly and Leopold have evolved as golfers, but in opposite manners, as life has progressed for each. "When I first started I rarely played because I was working full time," explained Kibbe. "Then my mom, in Texas, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and I decided I could no longer work in the kind of job that I had and needed more flexibility and basically went to work for myself. I've been doing that for the last 25 years and that was a good decision because it made a life in golf possible."

"I continue to take lessons and I belong to what I believe is the best golf course in the state. It's a beast and it kicks me around, but it makes me better at other courses."

For Leopold his golf has taken a bit of a back seat to supporting and raising a family, which includes three young sons. "My game was definitely better seven years ago, pre children," he said. "I still work on my game as much as I'm able, but there are more limitations now, with time frames, with both work and life having three young sons."

"It's what you choose to do when you don't turn pro. You accept that you're not going to have your game every week, but when it's there, it's still pretty good. Ball striking is still key and when I'm playing well that tends to be the best part of my game, but my putting is probably now better than it's ever been. I think that's due more from experience. You get smarter as you get older."

Like Reilly, Leopold became a member at Wannamoisett to test his game and thinks it speaks well of the club's membership to have multiple Players of the Year.

"It's a good representation of Wannamoisett and the members that we have," he said. "We have a good string of players. It's a good place to play. I think it's the hardest golf course in Rhode Island. It tests every part of your game."

*Tim Geary is a retired sports writer for the Fall River Herald and writes frequent columns for snegolfer.com.*

## North Edges South at Inaugural DeSantis Cup

Match play guru Jacob Finard won the clinching point to give the North squad a 20 ½ to 15 ½ victory at the inaugural DeSantis Cup at Agawam Hunt. Finard, who won the Spinal Technology Junior Match Play Championship earlier this fall, blew a 4-up lead in his match with Adam Housley before winning the 18<sup>th</sup> hole to secure the victory.



**Michigan bound  
Jacob Finard**

While the victory was sweet for the Steve Feinstein led North squad, the event was about more than the outcome. It was an amazing tribute to Steve DeSantis, who passed away unexpectedly last summer. 48 of the Northeast's top junior golfers traded shots in the inaugural competition. The format for the event was a modified Ryder Cup format. Team matches were contested on Saturday followed by a pairings dinner, in which Sunday's singles matches were announced.

The North team was led by Captain Steve Feinstein and 2017 US Junior Amateur champion Michael Thorbjornsen. The South squad was led by Captain Joe Guise, Team USA Junior Presidents Cup team member Ben James and Duke commit Luke Sample. It was a star studded completion.

"All the players and families were very fond of Steve," stated junior phenom Michael Thorbjornsen. "This is a fitting way to remember him annually. Most of the juniors do not get to play in competitions like this. It was a fun-filled weekend."

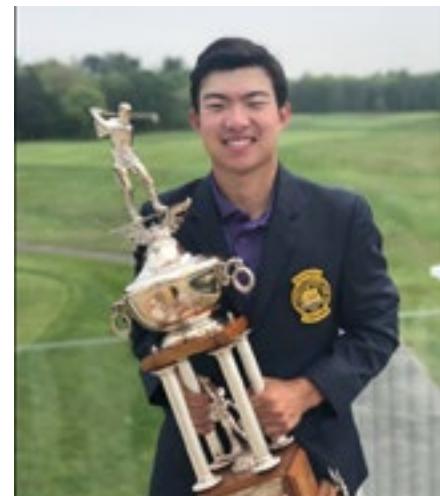
"Dave (Adamonis) and I kicked the tires on this last year," added South Captain Joe Guise. "Steve was a big part of the Challenge Cup family. We wanted to do something to remember him annually. It was a great tribute to him. All of the top players from the Northeast participated. Only one

player couldn't join us. I know Steve was enjoying the competition and comradery from above."

## Altomare, Khang Cap off Fine Seasons on LPGA Circuit

Former Challenge Cuppers Brittany Altomare and Megan Khang recently completed successful seasons on the LPGA Tour. Each player retained their cards in grand fashion. Altomare finished the season ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in the CME Globe Season Rankings, Khang checked in 34<sup>th</sup>.

The highlight of the season for both players was earning coveted spots on Team USA at the Solheim Cup team. While the result was crushing (Team USA lost on the final hole of the competition), the honor to represent their country was the highest achievement for



**James Imai**

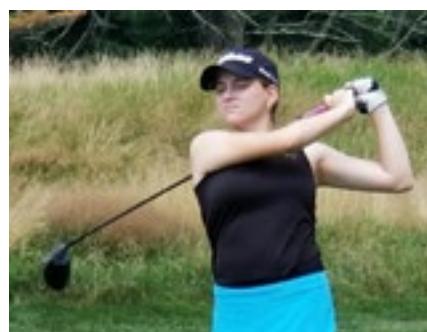
both in their professional careers.

Over the 2019 campaign Altomare played in 26 events worldwide, making the cut in all 26 competitions. The former University of Virginia standout had two runner-up finishes and four top ten performances to earn a career best \$878,369.

Khang, a former 8-time Challenge Cup Player of the Year, enjoyed another solid campaign chalking up seven top 10's in 24 appearances. For the season Khang earned \$646, 367.

## Imai, Garvin Earn Challenge Cup Player of the Year Honors

Massachusetts residents James Imai and Angela Garvin were recently named 2019 Challenge Cup Players of the Year. Imai, who is enjoying a solid freshman season at Northwestern, was one of



## Challenge Cup Player of the Year Angela Garvin

New England's most dominant players in 2019. His resume included victories at the Challenge Cup Junior Match Play Championship, the Challenge Junior Invitational and a record third Mass Golf Junior Amateur title. Imai also made it to match play at the USGA Junior Amateur before being eliminated in the first round of match play. By virtue of his finish Imai will be invited to the prestigious Northeast Amateur in June of 2020.



**Michael Thorbjornsen and Drew Cohen**

In 2019 Garvin had a Megan Khang like season, as she swept the board in Challenge Cup play. The University of Maryland freshman hoisted the hardware at the Challenge Cup Junior Match Play Championship, the Challenge Cup Championship, the Spinal Technology Junior Classic, the World Series of Junior Golf and the Challenge Cup Girls Championship. She capped off her brilliant season by winning the 116<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Women's Amateur Championship.

## Thorbjornsen Heads College Signings

2018 USGA Junior Amateur champion and 2-time Challenge Cup Player of the Year, Michael Thorbjornsen headlines an impressive

list of Challenge Cup players who have committed to play college golf in the fall of 2020. Thorbjornsen, who is Stanford bound, is part of the top recruiting class in men's college golf.

The duo of Anne Walsh and Allison Paik will be joining Alexis Florio at Columbia University next fall. The Challenge Cup trio will give Columbia a legit chance of winning an Ivy League Championship and a NCCA berth during their tenure.

## Player – College

### **Michael Amari**

Johnson & Wales University (Miami)

### **Jillian Barend**

St. Francis University (PA)

### **Jonathan Elkins**

Villanova University

### **Matt Epstein**

William & Mary College

### **Trevor Green**

Johnson & Wales University (Miami)

### **Michael Hanratty**

Colgate University

### **Adam Housley**

Johnson & Wales University (Miami)

### **Mac Lee**

Boston College

### **Sean Magarian**

Assumption College

### **Caleb Manuel**

University of Connecticut

### **Colin McCaigue**

Middlebury College

### **Jack O'Donnell**

University of Michigan

### **Max Orwicz**

Bucknell University

### **Margot Osterman**

Siena College

### **Allison Paik**

Columbia University

### **Gabrielle Shieh**

Brown University

### **Rebecca Skoler**

University of Virginia

### **Michael Thorbjornsen**

Stanford University

### **Anne Walsh**

Columbia University

### **Michael Walsh**

Lafayette College

## Team New England Looks to Maintain Dominance at Dave Adamonis Sr. Challenge Cup Matches

Team New England will look to make it five in a row at the 31<sup>st</sup> annual Dave Adamonis Sr. Challenge Cup Matches

# PROFESSIONAL GOLF

By DAVE ADAMONIS JR.

at the famed Blue Monster course at Trump National Doral on December 20<sup>th</sup>. The team event which pits 12 of New England's finest junior golfers against 12 of Florida's top players tees off the week for a large contingent of Challenge Cup players. The members of Team New England and another 15 junior players will match shots at the Doral Publix Junior Golf Classic. The junior event annually attracts over 600 junior players worldwide. Players compete in 12 age divisions over four courses at the highly acclaimed Doral Resort.



*Brad Adamonis and Alexa Pano*

## Team New England Roster

<b>Ricky Angeli</b> South Kingstown, RI	2021	Locust Valley, NY	2022
<b>Ben Boyd</b> West Hartford, CT	2021	<b>Liam Gill</b> Wayland, MA	2021
<b>John Broderick</b> Wellesley, MA	2022	<b>Joey Lenane</b> Dedham, MA	2022
<b>Harry Dessel</b> Barrington, RI	2022	<b>Colin McCaigue</b> Brookline, NH	2020
<b>Jonathan Elkins</b> South Deerfield, MA	2020	<b>Jack Pepin</b> Plaistow, NH	2021
<b>Thomas Finn</b>		<b>Jason Temel</b> West Newton, MA	GAP
		<b>Mark Wilson</b> Needham, MA	2021

## Van DerLaan Leads New England Contingent at Korn Ferry Q-School

Four New England professionals (all Challenge Cup alum) have advanced to the Final Stage of the Korn Ferry Tour Q School. Southbury, Connecticut's John VanderLaan led the New England contingent at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage by firing a blistering 23-under par total at the Brooksville (Fla.) Qualifier. His effort earned the 2018 NCAA Division II champ medalist honors by a whopping eight strokes. Former Golden Domer Mark Baldwin also punched a ticket comfortably at the same qualifying site. Down the road in Plantation, Florida two more New Englanders punched their tickets to Orange County National. Zach Zaback and Brad Adamonis will join VanderLaan and Baldwin December 12-15 in the four-round, no cut Final Stage.

The Final Stage results will determine each players starting position for the 2020 season. Three Challenge Cup players from the Metropolitan New York area (Ryan McCormick, Sean Kelly and Brandon Wu) also advanced to the Final Stage. Another 11 Challenge Cup alum fell short in their quest at 2nd Stage. Best of luck to our "Super 7". Here is a bio for each New England player.

### Brad Adamonis

**Age:** 46

**Born:** Cumberland, RI

**Hometown:** Coral Springs, FL

**College:** Miami U. (Ohio)

**Turned Pro:** 1996

**World Golf Ranking:** 2063

71 career PGA Tour starts

Best finish was a play-off loss to Kenny Perry at the 2008 John Deere Classic

201 career Korn Ferry Tour starts  
Best finish was a 4-man 8-hole play-off win in 2007 at the WNB Classic

Birdied 3 of his last 5 holes at the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of this year's Q-School to make the cut on the number  
Has more frequent flier miles than any player competing at the Final Stage

### Mark Baldwin

**Age:** 36

**Born:** Laconia, NH

**Hometown:** Mesa, AZ

**College:** Notre Dame

**Turned Pro:** 2006

**World Golf Ranking:** 1801

24 career Korn Ferry Tour starts, most while a member of the Tour in 2018

Best finish was a tie for 7<sup>th</sup> at the 2018 Price Cutter Charity Championship

2 PGA Tour starts, most recent at the 3M Open in which he just missed the cut

Had an ESPN SportsCenter moment at the 3M as he holed out for eagle from the fairway and chest bumped with caddie. It was the ESPN "Shot of the Day".

Has played more tours worldwide than any New England player, spent several seasons in Asia



*John VanDerlaan*

### John VanDerlaan

**Age:** 23

**Born:** Southbury, CT

**Hometown:** Ponte Vedra, FL

**College:** Florida Southern

**Turned Pro:** 2018

**World Golf Ranking:** 2063

Won 9 individual titles while a member of the Florida Southern College golf team

2018 NCAA Division II Individual Champion

Jack Nicklaus Award Winner in 2018 (given to Top D II player)  
Tied for 31<sup>st</sup> at the 2018 PGA Tour's Barbasol Championship, his lone PGA Tour appearance

Member of the Mackenzie Tour in

2019

68-69-65-69-68-64-67-66

Those were John VanDerLaan's scores from 1st and 2nd stage combined 40-under par

Was medalist by 8 at 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage

Average of 67 per round

Has made birdie every 2.8 holes

Made eight 2's during this stretch

### Zach Zaback

**Age:** 25

**Born:** Nashville, TN

**Hometown:** Farmington, CT

**College:** UConn

**Turned Pro:** 2016

### World Golf Ranking: 1506

3 PGA Tour starts, all through Monday Qualifiers

Has yet to make the cut in a PGA Tour event

1 Korn Ferry Tour start, missed the cut

21 career starts on the Mackenzie Tour in 2018 and 2019, 16 made cuts, 3 top 10s

Ranks 16<sup>th</sup> on the Minor League Golf Tour career Money List with 9 wins since 2016

## SEASON PASSPORT

# 2020 Golf Season Passport Available Now

Golfers from around New England have been enjoying the great golf discounts from the Season Passport since 2010. This combined coupon books offers over 200 individual deals at over 75 golf courses. Most of the courses are in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, but there also deals in New York and some in Florida.

The price for the Passport remains at \$64.95, and there are discounts for multiple purchases of the passport if you want to buy it with your golfing buddies. The Golf Season Passport will include discounts at many of the best public courses in New England including Allendale, Beaver River, Blackstone National, Country View, Cranston, Cranwell, Crystal Lake, Crumpin Fox Club, Foxborough, Fox Hopyard, Gardner Municipal, Green Mountain, Fenner Hill, Laurel Lane, Manchester CC, No. Kingstown, Portland, Quarry Ridge, Rehoboth,

Shattuck, Swansea, Tekoa CC, Triggs, Winnepaug and dozens more. There are also some nine-hole courses for those that would rather just play nine including Kings Crossing, Louisquisset, Midville and Pinecrest in Rhode island. New this year is the fine Brattleboro CC in Vermont. The Golf Season Passport can be used through December 31, 2020.

Each course will be allowed to have up to three deals, and offer up to four plays per deal. This gives golfers an opportunity to not only save money, but also play their favorite courses more often.

Thousands of golfers from around New England have enjoyed the Season Pass and Season Passport and have saved



hundreds of dollars while golfing. You can purchase your pass at [www.golfwesternmass.com](http://www.golfwesternmass.com) or at [www.snegolfer.com](http://www.snegolfer.com), or call 401-464-8445.

While you are on the website, please register for information about golf events for your area. The Massachusetts group runs tournaments from time to time at some great courses, and regularly has over 100

players per event. We have played The Crumpin Fox Club, The Ledges Golf Club, Metacomet Country Club, Crestwood Country Club and Blackstone National GC along with many others. You can also get a \$10 off coupon from the Golfers Warehouse stores in New England and also a \$25 off putter fitting from Spargo Golf in

Cranston.

Harley Magrath who has a large group of golfers that play every Wednesday had this to say about the Season Passport. "We save hundreds of dollars each year on our golfing fees with the Season Passport. Each week we look at books and decide where we are going to play the following week. Since some of the courses have more than one coupon, we often go back to the courses we like the most."

There is a coupon code attached to the ad below. You can use that code at either [www.golfwesternmass.com](http://www.golfwesternmass.com) or at [www.snegolfer.com](http://www.snegolfer.com) to save \$15 if you order the book by January 31. The book makes a great gift for the golfers in your life and you will definitely save money on your golfing experiences next year with the Season Passport.

Please call or visit the websites for more information or to make a purchase. The Season Passports are mailed the same day.

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## Dowling and Holland win Connecticut Golf Assn.'s Players of the Year

### Bilodeau, Marrello, Szewczul, Shearyi, James and Sarrazin also Shined

**R**ichard Dowling, Eclub of Connecticut: Won Connecticut State Golf Association Amateur Championship and CSGA Two-Man Championship with Nick Taylor, tied for second in CSGA Public Links, finished third in CSGA Mid-Amateur and tied for seventh in the CSGA Amateur stroke play qualifying to earn the Connecticut Golf Assn.'s points total and was named Amateur player of the year.



**Richard Dowling**

In the Women's division Jen Holland, a member at Lyman Orchards GC in Middlefield received the CSGA Liz Janangelo Caron Women's Player of the Year Award for the second consecutive year after winning the Southern New England Women's Golf Association Senior Championship and Connecticut State Women's Amateur Senior Division and earning the only spot in the U.S. Women's



**Jen Holland**

Mid-Amateur Championship qualifier, finishing third in the State Women's Amateur and SNEWGA Individual Championship, fourth in the Women's Tournament of Champions and tied for 11<sup>th</sup> in the New England Women's Golf Association Championship

In the Professional Male category Kyle Bilodeau, PGA Active Member, clinched his first Connecticut Section PGA Player of the Year Award when he beat 2018 Section POY Chris Tallman in the semifinals of the Match Play Championship, which he won with a 4-and-3 victory over Mike Martin. Bilodeau also won the Connecticut Section Championship in a playoff with Tallman and Donny Kirkpatrick and the Mohegan Sun PGA Pro-Am #2, tied for first in the Mohegan Sun PGA Pro-Am #3 and among Section pros in the Western Massachusetts Open, finished second in the Spring Stroke Play Championship, the Connecticut Assistant PGA Championship and PGA Pro-Veteran and among Section pros in the Manchester Open, tied for second in the Mohegan Sun PGA Pro-Am #4, tied for fourth in the PGA Pro-Assistant Championship and Travelers Championship Pre-Qualifier, tied for eighth in the Walter Lowell PGA Tournament, tied for 11<sup>th</sup> in the Connecticut PGA Championship and qualified for the Connecticut Open, where he missed the cut.

The Senior Professional Male was Fran Marrello of Canaan Country Club. He earned a record ninth Connecticut Section PGA Senior Player of the Year title thanks largely to winning the PGA Senior Championship to increase his Section individual victories to a record 24, being low senior (fourth overall) in the Connecticut PGA Championship, tying for low senior in the Spring Stroke Play, finishing second in the Connecticut Senior Open, tying for fourth in the Walter



**Dave Szewczul**

Lowell PGA Tournament and reaching the semifinals in the Match Play Championship. The 2009 inductee into the Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame also qualified for the PGA of America Senior Professional Championship, where he was the only Section player to make the cut, and the 2020 PGA Professional National Championship.

In the Men's Senior Amateur Dave Szewczul of Tunxis Plantation Country Club in Farmington edged close friend and frequent playing partner Bill Hermanson of the Black Hall Club in Old Lyme (1,050.33 points to 1,007.66) to earn a record ninth CSGA Senior Player of the Year Award after he won the New England Super Senior Championship, tied for first in the Manchester Four-Ball Senior Division, CSGA Senior Match Play stroke play qualifying and low Connecticut finisher (fourth overall) in the New England Senior Amateur, finished second to Hermanson in the CSGA Senior Amateur, tied for third in the CSGA Super Senior Division and the CSGA Senior Four-Ball with Hermanson, tied for 17<sup>th</sup> in the CSGA Tournament of Champions Senior Division and reached Round of 16 in the CSGA Senior Match Play. He also finished 21<sup>st</sup> in the race for the Player of the Year Award, which he has won twice. He's the only person to earn the POY and Senior POY Awards in

the same year.

Natalie Shearyi of West Hartford was the Professional Female of the Year as she made 13 of 20 cuts and had four Top-20 finishes on the way to 80<sup>th</sup> on the Symetra Tour money list with \$15,430.

Ben James of Great River Golf Club, Milford was the Junior Male player of the year. A junior at Hamden Hall Country Day School, James was the youngest player (16 years old) named to the 12-player United States team for the Junior Presidents Cup at Royal Melbourne Golf Club in Australia after he won the American Junior Golf Association Killington (Vt.) Junior Golf Championship, New England Junior, CSGA Junior and Northern Junior, finished second in the AJGA Wyndham Invitational, was low amateur and third overall in the Connecticut Open and low state finisher (tied for ninth) in the Boys PGA Junior Championship at Keney Park Golf Club in Hartford and tied for 18<sup>th</sup> (12<sup>th</sup> among U.S. players) in the AJGA Junior Players Championship at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra, Fla., to clinch a spot on the U.S. team. He also was named to the Rolex Junior All-American second team by the AJGA and honored at the Rolex Junior All-American Awards Banquet Nov. 23 at PGA National Resort & Spa in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

Sophia Sarrazin of Great River Golf Club was the Junior Female player of the year. The 15-year-old sophomore at the Hamden Hall Country Day School won the Borck Junior Golf Tournament and AJGA Mahong Valley Hospital Foundation Junior All-Star Tournament in Ohio, finished fifth in the Connecticut Junior PGA Championship, tied for 10<sup>th</sup> in the Hartford Women's Open and finished 75<sup>th</sup> in the PGA of America's Junior Girls Championship at Keney Park GC.

## Gallo Named to Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame

Kyle Gallo has achieved on many levels in Connecticut golf, especially winning a record-tying Connecticut Open titles. So it's no surprise that Gallo was inducted into the Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame at the Connecticut State Golf Association at the organization's annual meeting and Hall of Fame inductions ceremony Dec. 5 at 5 p.m. at Torrington Country Club.

"To me, golf is something I'll do, health permitting, until I die," said Gallo, who shares the Connecticut Open wins record with John Golden. "You can compete in golf forever."

Gallo, 43, is no longer competing full-time after winning the Connecticut Open in 1998, 2000, 2004 and 2010, being runner-up five times and sharing the tournament scoring record – 200 at the Country Club of Fairfield in 2000. He also won the 1999 Maine Open, 2004 Providence Open, 2005 and 2010 Manchester Open, 2009 and 2014 Cape Cod Open, 2011 Massachusetts Open and 2013 New England Open.

During his professional career, Gallo spent time on the Nationwide (now Korn Ferry Tour) in 2005 and 2006, played on several mini-tours and narrowly failed to qualify for the PGA Tour three times. He played at Central Connecticut State University from 1993-95 and 1997-98, was a three-time All-New England selection and named CCSU Male Athlete of the Year in 1998. He also spent one season at the University of Texas El Paso (1995-96), where he was a First Team Western Athletic Conference selection. He became the only player to win the Connecticut Open and CSGA Public Links Championship in the same year (1998), was runner-up in the CSGA Amateur Championship, was named the 1997 Connecticut Golf Association Player of the Year and qualified for the U.S. Amateur in 1995, 1997 and 1998.

At Berlin High School, Gallo had an astonishing 102-13-6 record in match play and was the state champion, co-champion and runner-up in the CSGA Junior Amateur Championship. A native



*CT Golf Hall of Fame inductee Kyle Gallo*

of Kensington, Gallo was named to the Berlin High Hall of Fame and graduated in 1993 after being named All-Conference four times and leading the Redcoats to the Northwest Conference title in 1991 and 1993. A two-time team captain, he was a three-time All-State selection and two-time All-New England pick and made the CSGA New England Junior Championship team twice before graduating from CCSU in 1998.

In 2015, Gallo decided it was time to give back for the admittedly "selfish" life that he had to lead to compete. He became head coach at his alma mater on Aug. 10 and led the Blue Devils to their first Northeast Conference title in 13 years. Unfortunately, CCSU suddenly ended its golf program, which had been so successful in New England for several decades, for political and financial reasons. "It was heartbreakingly," Gallo said.

Gallo coached at Western New England University for one year and is now weighing another opportunity. "It gives me even more satisfaction than playing honestly," Gallo said.

Might the PGA Tour Champions be in his future? "I won't put a time line on golf," Gallo said. "I feel good. I always compete to win, and I'll tee it up with anybody. A PGA Tour pro even. Just give me a couple of weeks to practice."

Gallo learned to play the game at

Timberlin Golf Course in Berlin, where Chuck Lasher and Lindsey Hansen worked together for 17 years. Ironically, Lasher and Hansen will be inducted into the Connecticut Section PGA Hall of Fame on Nov. 24 at Lake of Isles in North Stonington.

The Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame was established in 1955 by the Greater Hartford Jaycees, who founded the Greater Hartford Open, now the Travelers Championship, to acknowledge outstanding players and significant contributors to the game. In 1991, the CSGA assumed stewardship of the Hall of Fame with the dedicated intention of carrying on the successful selection process exercised by the Jaycees. Led by World Golf Hall of Fame members Gene Sarazen and Julius Boros, the Connecticut shrine boasts 21 major championship titles: six U.S. Opens, five PGA Championships, three national PGA Senior PGAs, two Masters, two British Amateurs, two U.S. Women's Amateurs and one British Open.

### HALF OF FAME O'SULLIVAN LUCEY DIES

Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame member Pat O'Sullivan Lucey, one of the most personable people in the history of Connecticut golf, died on Nov. 6 at the age of 93.

Lucey attended Orange Center School and graduated from The Day School and Katherine Gibbs

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and Bradford College. She worked at Mid-Pines Golf Resort near Pinehurst, N.C., and Southern New England Telephone Company in West Haven and North Haven.

Lucey had been a member of Race Brook Country Club in her hometown of Orange since 1942 and was a pioneer in women's golf. Her illustrious career included winning the 1951 Titleholders Championship, then a major on the LPGA Tour, the Connecticut Women's Golf Association Championship 10 times, the Endicott Cup five times, the Connecticut State Women's Amateur, New England Women's Golf Association Championship and Women's North & South Amateur three times each. She also played on the 1952 U.S. Curtis Cup team, turned pro in 1954-55 and was inducted into the Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame in 1967.

In 2008, Race Brook Country Club formally dedicated its inside nine "The O'Sullivan" in recognition for her longtime membership and being an ambassador of the club. Her survivors offered special thanks to longtime friend Fran Bender, Dr. Benedict Fernando and the staff at Maplewood Orange Assisted Living.

## Stan McFarland: Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame Inductee for Distinguished Service to the Game

**W**hen Stan McFarland was 19, attending night school at the University of Hartford and developing into one of the state's best golfers during the day, he proposed the idea of becoming a club professional to his father. After all, he'd been part of a Manchester High team that won two state championships and 39 straight matches and was now excelling in amateur industrial leagues.

His dad looked at him quizzically. "Why would you want to turn something you love so much into a job?" Stan remembers him saying, adding: "I thank him to this day."

So do the rest of us, including the thousands of players, officials and volunteers Stan has led, taught and saved from disaster over his half a century as a CSGA and USGA official. A newcomer discovers quickly that at most of the championships Stan works, there's one phrase more common than "Fore!"

It's: "Ask Stan, he'll know." Stan McFarland is the wise and sometimes curmudgeonly uncle who makes the family look smart. Although he has been a rules official with the highest certification for almost two decades and worked at every level of the game, he's most proud of the few penalties he's assessed. "My goal in every case is to prevent something from happening. And i can say that I've prevented a lot more things than I've ever called."

That does not mean he is a softy. On subject of slow play, for example, he minces no words. "We've been way too nice," he says, and tells the story of a qualifier years ago when he and New Haven Country Club's Bruce Guthrie, who was the Official in Charge, gave every player this message on the subject of pace of play: "We're going to penalize someone today, we just don't know who it is yet."

"They finished in under four hours," he says proudly.



*Stan McFarland*

As a CSGA president in 2015-16, McFarland added a director of women's golf and increased One Day Tournaments to the present 14. He merged the men's and women's course ratings teams for efficiency. He served as President of the Widgy Neale Scholarship Foundation.

But he's made just as sizable a mark outside of Connecticut. He was chosen to serve on the USGA's Public Links Championship Committee and officiated at five national championships. When the Public Links was discontinued, Stan joined the Senior Amateur Committee and has officiated at five of those events. He also officiated at the 2017 U.S. Four-Ball Championship at Pinehurst and has served as lead rules official at eight Division II NCAA Women's Championships, including this year's in West Palm Beach.

Meanwhile, he's continued his strong play. He has five club championships to his credit, and two senior club championships. He has tied for the New England Senior Amateur Championship. He has two CSGA Senior Net Championship titles. And he has made nine holes in one.

One of his club championships was won at Manchester Country Club, where he is the oldest member, has sat on the greens com-

mittee and served two terms on the board of governors. If there is a tiny gap in his resume, it is that he has not served as president of the club where he grew up caddying (after a baseball injury) and falling in love with the game.

"I dodged that one," he says of the Manchester presidency. "We had union problems at work [Pratt and Whitney Aircraft] and I had 500 workers under me and about a thousand grievances on my desk. I didn't think it would be too good if I was not concentrating on that." It won't surprise you then that McFarland is un-flappable as a rules official.

Beside him and encouraging to give back to that "thing he loves so much" is his wife of 35 years, Linda, who has traveled with him as

he worked events and played some 1,000 courses nine countries. "Linda says, I like where this golf takes me," he laughs. "She has been great."

There is more giving back to come. A member of the New England Golf Association Executive Committee, he will assume that presidency in 2021.

And through it all, McFarland is proud that he's still learning, and helping others to learn as well, you'll find him often in rules discussions with other CSGA officials at CSGA and he's quick to tell you he's met plenty of rules officials nationally who were smarter than him. Which leads him to his mantra. "It's what you learn after you know it all that counts," he says.

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## Parziale and Kuong Tops in Massachusetts

**N**ot much could top 2018 for Matt Parziale. How many golfers can say they played in the Masters at famed Augusta National, thanks to a U.S. Mid-Amateur win the year before?

And do it with the guy who taught him the game he loves — his dad Vic, a retired 32-year Brockton firefighter — carrying his bag. And to top it off, play a practice round with his idol, the man who inspired him to take up the game, Tiger Woods?

The year got even better two months later when Parziale not

only played in the U.S. Open at famed Shinnecock Hills but made the cut — unlike Phil Mickelson and other Hall-of-Fame caliber players. Once again, his father was there at his side.

But 2019 was also a very good year for Matt Parziale. He again gained a spot in the U.S. Open field, punching his ticket at a qualifying tournament in Purchase, N.Y. He got to tee it up at an equally legendary track, Pebble Beach, though Parziale failed to make the cut this time around.

A member of Thorny Lea Golf

Club in Brockton, he competed in the U.S. Amateur Four-Ball, U.S. Amateur and U.S. Mid-Amateur championships and won the Norfolk County Classic.

For those reasons, the 32-year-old Brockton resident has been named Mass Golf's Player of the Year for the fourth straight time and sixth overall since 2009. He trails only nine-time winner Frank Vana Jr. for the most Player of the Year titles since the award's introduction in 1976. Vana was named the Senior Player of the Year for MassGolf.

It has certainly been two momentous years for Parziale. He gained national attention in 2018 with his Masters and U.S. Open appearances while still a full-time firefighter on the Brockton Fire Department. The spotlight was especially bright when he earned co-low amateur honors at Shinnecock, a course where many pros floundered.

Since then, Parziale has taken a leave from his firefighting duties and now works for an international insurance company, a job that gives him more time flexibility, which he can then devote to his golf game.

"I'm used to the juggling," he told reporters after playing at Pebble Beach. "When you're a golfer — it doesn't matter, pro or amateur — you try to get the best score you can. The (pros) do stuff that I don't do. Yeah, still busy, but things have started to slow down."

And, oh yes, he got married. Parziale and his wife, Ali, changed their original wedding date to accommodate his appearance at last year's U.S. Amateur, which came after the 2018 Masters and Open. They eventually tied the knot Aug. 3, 2018, headed straight to the Amateur and got an early start on their honeymoon in Napa Valley when Matt's failed to advance. A swing through Bora Bora and a winter spent skiing together (Ali is a former professional ski racer) made up for the previous winter, when Matt didn't want anything to put his Masters appearance at risk.

What will 2020 bring? Parziale makes no predictions but it would

be hard to top the past two years.

### Women's Player of the Year

Pam Kuong has always been athletic. A soccer and softball captain at Wellesley High School, she became a three-sport standout at Ohio Wesleyan University. But she had barely touched a golf club until about two dozen years ago when she was approaching her mid-30s.

A bank executive, some of her colleagues encouraged her to play, and she got off to an encouraging start, shooting a respectable 98 at the Woodland Golf Club in Newton. "I only started playing golf because people told me it would be valuable in my work relationships with new and existing clients," Kuong said.

Now at age 58, she's enjoying every minute. Seven years after she first claimed the title, Kuong, still a resident of Wellesley, has earned MassGolf's Women's Player of the Year for the second time.

The Charles River Country Club member did so by advancing to the round of 16 in the U.S. Women's Senior Amateur and to the round of 32 in the U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur.

She also won the Massachusetts Women's Senior Amateur and advanced to the semifinals in the Massachusetts Women's Amateur. Kuong also won the Endicott Cup, a 36-hole stroke-play competition for women golfers in Southern New England and led the Bay State team to triumph over Rhode Island and Connecticut in the Tri-State Matches.

While she enjoys the competition, Kuong simply loves the joy golf brings. "Everyone is just really nice and that's really why most of us play these events," she said after winning the state senior amateur title. "Being able to play these events with my friends is great. ... It's always a good time playing Mass Golf events."

*Mike Kirby, the former editor of The Sun Chronicle of Attleboro, can be reached at mkirbygolf18@gmail.com.*

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## Ditch that Cart and Eat Right for a Healthy 2020!

We have these golfing friends, Ben and Maddy. Ben's a big guy. An athlete, or at least he was pretty good in college. Now he has two kids in college, a house on a pretty street with sidewalks and trees and a red Honda with no dents. We met them while playing in our Couples League. Happy times.

This fall while having a drink and munching nachos after golf, Maddy, said to him, "I am prepared to sacrifice. Eat less, give up alcohol, toe the line. But old boy, I think you should sacrifice too."

"Sacrifice? What do you mean? I go to work every day, pay your parking tickets, wine and dine you on your birthday. Not that I'm complaining. It brings me great joy to do this."

"Well," she replied, "I want you to keep me company."

"Like how?"

Like help me get ready for our vacation in the Caymans this winter. I was trying on my golf skorts the other day, and, would you believe, I couldn't fasten them. And my bathing suit? Scary. So, Babe, I need your support. Don't you think we could both take off a few pounds?"

I've got to hand it to him. Ben was all in. He started walking the course instead of riding, worked out at the gym with a trainer, cut back on his portions, scaled back his beer intake. Did everything he was told to do. Recently I asked how it was going.

"I've gone down one pants size, but I've gained five pounds. It's discouraging," he said.

"It is a frightful time of year to try to lose weight," I commiserated. "Did you know the average person gains five to ten pounds over the holidays? Hey, if you look at it this way, you're not doing half bad, especially since your pants are fitting better. Must mean you're trading flab for flat."

"Yeah, that's what my trainer told me."

"So instead eating three frosted sugar cookies with sprinkles," cut back to one," I suggested.

Stepping on the scales the first week after the Waterford has dropped in Times Square, is not unlike being told you need a root canal. Those pants that felt comfortable before

the holidays, strain the buttons; the dress that looked so sexy around Thanksgiving looks like it would better fit the turkey. We all have our own way of dealing with "the problem."

Some pay serious cash for a spa fix or buy into a weekly name-brand weight-loss program. Others with Will Power and less desire to part with monetary resources, follow a favorite diet, maybe the Keto Diet, South Beach Diet, the "You Tarzen, Me Jane" Paleo diet, the perennial Weight Watchers diet, the pizza diet. My all time favorite is an ice cream and coffee diet — four scoops of vanilla ice cream and all the coffee you can drink each day.

Exercise counts too. So what about these golfers who grumble they want to lose weight, but then insist on using a golf cart when they play. So here's an idea? Take a cart for nine and walk for nine. Or bite the bullet and walk all 18 using fewer clubs and a light carry bag.

And, instead of worrying about what we can't eat, why not focus on things that are really good for us? Here are some suggestions for a healthy 2020.

- Dark Chocolate (70% or higher): Delicious news. Swap out milk chocolate for dark chocolate. It's packed with antioxidants, and magnesium. It's also good for your heart, brain, stress, and lowers risk of diabetes and cancer. Bring on the mousse and chocolate-covered strawberries.

- Oatmeal: This magic breakfast cereal is a great source of fiber and helps to control blood sugar and insulin levels. Also good grains: brown rice, quinoa, millet, barley and bulgar.

- Walnuts & Almonds: We're talking a few, not handfuls. They contain antioxidants and are an excellent source of anti-inflammatory omega-3s.

- Berries: In addition to tasty yummy, berries are super sources of antioxidants and said to protect against cancer, urinary tract infections, macular degeneration, heart disease and stroke complications.

• Soy: Not my personal favorite but things like tofu, tempeh, miso, soy milk etc. may help reduce LDL (bad cholesterol) And listen up: for those of a "certain age", soy can help reduce the dreaded hot flashes and night sweats.

- Sweet Potatoes: Loaded with the antioxidants and beta-carotene, sweet potatoes help stimulate your immune system and contribute to healthier eyes.

• Cauliflower: OK, so it isn't your most beloved vegetable. Still it's an important source of potassium, vitamin C, folic acid, B vitamins and fiber. All good.

- Garlic: Its Jekyll side gives you stinky breath, its Hyde side is heart-friendly, helping to reduce LDL, lower blood pressure and fight cancer. It's all about the sulfur compounds.

- Spinach & Kale: Popeye was right. Great veggies containing fiber, potassium, vitamin A, lutein (which may reduce macular degeneration) and folic acid.

- Red Wine: Swap out your pina coladas for red wine. Pinot Noir is particularly high in antioxidants.

- Tomatoes: Tomatoes and tomato-based foods like ketchup and chili sauce are a health nut's bonanza. They contain the antioxidant, lycopene, that helps protect against heart disease, osteoporosis, certain kinds of cancers and even Alzheimer's disease.

- Salmon: Sure it's one of the fattier fishes, but its benefits are impressive. Salmon contains the fatty acids omega-3s, which reduce inflammation — good for those

with arthritis — and salmon helps control coronary heart disease. (Flax is also a good source of omega-3s. Just one tablespoon of ground flaxseed a day works).

Other important foods for better health include grapes which are rich in flavonoids antioxidants to fight inflammations, heart disease and cancer; sesame seeds which contain copper, magnesium, zinc, fiber and protein and help control cholesterol; and bananas loaded with potassium.

So ditch that cart, walk and eat healthy for a Happy 2020!

*Katharine Dyson publishes CNY Golfer, is a member of the GolfWriters of America and the GolfTravel Writers of America and writes a Women's column in each issue of snegolfer.com.*

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## Brittany Altomare has a Great Year

**B**rittany Altomare, the pride of Central Mass., was a golfing star at Shrewsbury High School and also at the University of Virginia. Now she's a bona fide star on the LPGA Tour. Ranked 21st on the LPGA money list, the 28-year-old Altomare has earned \$878,369 in 26 events during the 2019 season, the fifth-best among all American players. She also boosted her career earnings to \$2,211,103.

In her latest tournament finish, a tie for ninth at the CME Group Tour Championship, Altomare fired rounds of 69-72-69-66 for a 12-under total and a check for \$82,790. It was her fifth top-10 finish of the year. Her highest payday this season (\$123,864) came in mid-June at the Meijer LPGA Classic when she carded rounds of 66-65-69-68 (20-under-par) tying for second place.

One of six rookies on the U.S. Solheim Cup team, Altomare turned in an excellent 2-1-1 record in the matches, won by Europe 14 ½ to 13 ½ at the Gleneagles Resort in Scotland. "It was an amazing week for women's golf," Altomare told Worcester Telegram & Gazette golf writer Bill Doyle. "We showed people that these girls are really good, and we're competitive, and I thought we

put on a pretty good show. It's golf. You win some and you lose some."

On the final day of Solheim competition, Altomare's 5 and 4 win over Europe's Jodi Ewart helped the U.S. team forge a 13 ½ -11 ½ lead but the Americans could not gain the needed half point in the final three matches.

A month before the Solheim Cup, Altomare, who is engaged to a Shrewsbury High grad—Steven Stanislawzyk—returned to Central Mass. to play in the 44th annual Lori Lajoie Charity Golf Tournament at Worcester Country Club. With several area club professionals—mostly men—in the field, Altomare carded the lowest score of the tournament, a 2-under-par 68. Interestingly, Worcester Country Club, the home of the inaugural Ryder Cup in 1927, plans to bid to host the 2025 Solheim Cup.

### IF IT STILL WORKS

When it comes to golf equipment, there's always something new, something supposedly better that comes along. And, of course, most golfers are willing to spend a lot of money if their prospective purchases

can actually make their scores go lower.

You can be sure the 2020 PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando, Fla., in January will feature the newest, most cutting edge, most innovative and best-of-the-best newly designed drivers, irons and golf balls.

Putters too, of course. I was amazed when I read that a Scotty Cameron special gallery putter, a Craftsman Carbon Prototype Chromatic Blue and Bronze model, recently sold for \$7,000 after a private fitting in California. I hope the buyer never three-putts another green.

And I would also like to introduce that Scotty Cameron buyer to Gardner's Allen Goguen, who is 72 and has been putting since his freshman year in high school with the same Bulls Eye putter, an Acushnet brass-head model, stamped with the name of designer John Reuter. "I was 15 years old when I bought my Bulls Eye putter from Dan Donovan in the Gardner Pro Shop," the still very-competitive Goguen recently told me. "I think I paid about 35 bucks for it."

Goguen, who won the Gardner Municipal club championship and the Delay Memorial in 1968 and a Commissioners' Cup title a few years

later with the same putter that's now knocking on 58 years old, has no intention of changing to a new flat stick come the 2020 season. "My Bulls Eye has never left my bag. It still works," said Goguen, who also uses a half-century old Wilson Sam Snead Blue Ridge 6-iron for long-running chip shots. "About two years after I bought my putter, I bought that 6-iron at John's Sport Shop."

### WACHUSSETT INDOOR GOLF

Wachusett Country Club in West Boylston has opened its Swing 365 Indoor Golf Lounge in the Frost Room with three TrackMan golf simulators. On simulator screens measuring 10 feet, 9 inches high and 14 feet wide, golfers can play 50 courses, including PGA National, the Old Course at St. Andrews, Royal Portrush GC, and, of course, Wachusett CC itself. Wachusett charges \$50 an hour per bay, not per person, Monday-Thursday and \$60 per bay Friday-Sunday.

Jay Gearan writes a Central Mass. Notebook column in each issue of snegolfer.com.

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**6 Holes in One in 2019!**

## Werenski Earns Over \$850,000 in 2019 Retains His Tour Card for 2020

A rollercoaster of a season for **Ricky Werenski** of South Hadley has left the fourth-year PGA Tour veteran on the sidelines as the calendar year comes to an end. But when Werenski was on the golf course, in full health, he again proved to be among the best in his profession in the world. And that more than earns him Male Golfer of the Year in Western Massachusetts for 2019.

Werenski, who turns 28 in late December, earned \$851,329 in official money during the 2019 season and he used clutch play to retain his Tour card for 2020. His third season on tour saw him make 17 of 27 cuts, with a third-place finish highlighting four top 25s. He made his last five cuts, posting 18 of his 20 rounds in the 60s. Still, he missed out on qualifying for the FedEx Cup Playoffs by one spot, when he finished 126<sup>th</sup> on the final list.

With that gone, he still needed a little help to punch his ticket for 2020 and Werenski answered the call in dramatic fashion. He took care of that by finishing in 24<sup>th</sup> place in the Korn Ferry Tour Top 25 Finals, which offered Tour cards to 25 golfers who had not secured playing status for the upcoming season.

Werenski rallied in the Korn Ferry Tour Championship – the last of three Korn Ferry events – to finish seventh there. He played his last four holes at 2 under par to secure a top 10. The finish improved his series standing from 53<sup>rd</sup> after two events to 24, just inside the coveted Top 25.

The 2020 season started the next week. Just two weeks in he sat in eighth place in the FedEx Cup points standings, and he was 22<sup>nd</sup> after missing the cut at the Houston Open. But the new-found momentum he built to start the season was curtailed for a time by a broken arm sustained in an auto accident in October.



**Ricky Werenski**

The accident, which ended with a head-on collision into a cement barrier at nearly 70 miles per hour on I-95, cut short a hot start to the 2020 season. Werenski had tied for third place in his opening event – A Military Tribute at the Greenbrier in September – and then he followed up with a share of 18<sup>th</sup> at the Sanderson Farms Championship a week later.

As Thanksgiving Weekend passed, Werenski was no longer in a cast, and X-rays looked good according to his father **Mike Werenski**. Putting and chipping were to follow during the first two weeks of December. Werenski was hopeful of a return at the Sony Open in January.

When he returns for his 90<sup>th</sup> career start, Werenski will seek to make the cut for the 54<sup>th</sup> time. His career earnings are closing in on \$3.3

million, and his resume includes a pair of second-place finishes and two thirds among seven top 10s.

### Garvin Named Top Female Golfer

**Angela Garvin** of Feeding Hills needed only two months of success to earn herself honors of Female Golfer of the Year in Western Massachusetts. She won the Massachusetts Women's Amateur and Girls' Junior Amateur in successive weeks.

Winning both during the same year matched an accomplishment made only three other times. She joined select company of **Joanne Goodwin** (1954), **Loren Milhench** (1985) and **Chelsea Curtis** (2005).

Garvin's first state amateur title was won in wire-to-wire fashion. It culminated with a 4-and-3 win over

**Anne Walsh** of The Country Club at Weston Golf Club in the 18-hole final. She qualified for match play as the No. 1 seed, earning medalist honors with a 1-under-par 145 during onsite qualifying. She had finished as tournament runner-up in 2017.

Garvin's success came a week after she won the Massachusetts Girls' Junior Amateur Championship at The Ridge Club in Sandwich.

The University of Maryland freshman had won junior titles in 2015 and 2016 and with her third crown she became the first to win three junior titles in nearly 50 years (Ruthann Donahue won in 1968, 1969 and 1970). Garvin also won the Mite Division title in 2010.

Earlier in the summer, Garvin qualified for her sixth Girls Junior PGA Championship. She missed the cut by two strokes there, at Keney Park GC in Hartford. Her year continued at Maryland, where she tied for 58<sup>th</sup> and 77<sup>th</sup> in two starts for a Big 10 program that had three top-5 finishes in six fall tournaments.

*Russ Held writes a Western Mass. column in each issue of snegolfer.com.*

### Love to Travel?

Visit SNEGolfer.com/category-golf-travel and read travel stories, golf club and resort reviews from around the globe.

## Fresh Foam LinksSL



New Balance Golf introduces the Science of Soft with its new footwear line for 2020 featuring Fresh Foam technology. The company first introduced Fresh Foam in its performance running shoes and now golfers can enjoy this extraordinary softness on the fairways.

The Fresh Foam LinksSL features a waterproof performance mesh upper, TPU eyestays and a bootie construction for a sock-like fit.

With a full-length Fresh Foam midsole, the LinksSL provides golfers with a cloud-like feel and comfort in every step. The spikeless rubber outsole has pressure mapping colors to highlight the key performance zones in the shoe.

The Fresh Foam LinksSL is backed by a two-year waterproof warranty and has an added a welded forefoot water-guard for extra protection. The Fresh Foam LinksSL is available in white, grey and black in sizes 7 – 16 and comes in widths up to 4E. The suggested retail is \$99.95.

## Orange Whip Trainer

Orange Whip Golf is the leader in the golf training aid category and the Orange Whip Trainer has been voted the #1 Teaching and Training Aid by PGA and LPGA Professionals for the past 5 years. It's also used by over 300 Tour Professionals worldwide.

Whether you are a Tour Player or a beginning golfer, using the Orange Whip Swing Trainer allows you to feel if your swing is in Rhythm and Balanced. Providing a low impact workout, the Trainer will increase your flexibility and strengthen your golf muscles. It is the perfect warm-up tool before you play, practice, and for off-season training.

The Orange Whip is available in Full-Size, Mid-Size, Compact, Junior, Wedge, Putter, and LightSpeed models. Visit [OrangeWhipGolf.com](http://OrangeWhipGolf.com) for more information.



## Titleist Phantom X 12.5 Putter

Scotty Cameron has added a new model to the 2019 Phantom X family – the **Phantom X 12.5** – to meet the needs of players seeking a stable mallet with more toe flow and a new alignment option. A left-handed Phantom X 12.5 model also joins the lineup.

Phantom X 12.5 joins a cohesive Phantom X family that now includes 10 modern mallet designs built around five different head styles. Phantom X 12.5 provides golfers with a new setup option – featuring a **low-bend shaft configuration** and a **tour-inspired single milled sight line** – built around

the family's flagship model, the high-MOI Phantom X 12.

Like every putter in the lineup, the Phantom X 12.5 incorporates Scotty's tour-inspired, multi-material construction methodology of combining 303 stainless steel and 6061 aircraft-grade aluminum for increased MOI, optimal weight distribution, forgiveness, improved sound and responsive feedback.

The Phantom X 12.5 has a stepless steel shaft with one shaft of offset and a single "low-bend" designed to aim directly down the target line and promote an arc path for more toe flow in the putting stroke. It has a continuous, single center sight line milled from the leading edge to the back of the flange – painted gloss black – offering a new alignment feature for the Phantom X line.



**Have a Product  
for Review?**

**Contact Bruce Vittner at  
[Bruce@sneGolfer.com](mailto:Bruce@snegolfer.com)  
or Call 401-464-8445**

## Arizona's Wigwam Resort Named Best Historic Hotel

In our May 2018 issue we did a story about the Wigwam Resort. It was our first venture west of Phoenix, as we had always headed to the Scottsdale area. What a great time we had, and when we recently received word that the Wigwam Resort had been named the Best Historic Hotel by Historic Hotels of America, we decided to return.

We had played the two Robert Trent Jones, Sr.-designed courses (the Gold and the Blue) that opened in 1965, but we had not played the Red course that was designed in 1972 by Red Lawrence and is across the street from the main property.

What an excellent decision to return to the property. The Red course was a nice layout with many memorable holes. The final three holes might be the best as you wind your way back towards the resort.

The property is just the most relaxing place to visit. Since it was near the holidays, they had a small train running around the grounds each evening for guests (especially the young ones) to enjoy.

In 2009 JDM Partners, whose founder is Jerry Colangelo, the former owner of the Phoenix Suns, purchased the Wigwam. The influx



*The Wigwam Resort*

of funds rejuvenated the property into a truly first-class resort while keeping many features of the historic property.

There are 331 guest rooms, mostly huge casitas that are spread out around the property. The rooms feature a southwestern motif and are well appointed, many with fireplaces, wet bars and spacious bathrooms. The Red Door Spa has all the amenities and makes a great

destination after a round of golf.

You might think that you have arrived at a tennis academy when you see the nine tennis courts including a stadium court. They are all lighted for the warm evening and clear skies that you find in Arizona. There is also a golf academy on property. Another true delight is the large spa and workout facility located next to the tennis courts. We were so impressed with the

meals that we had at Litchfield's, the first-class restaurant just off the main lobby. Seating is available both inside and outside under fragrant flowers and plants. Red's Bar & Grill is also a favorite, as it sits next to the first tees at the Gold and Blue courses.

There are many attractions near the Wigwam. Look at the top right of the attached picture. That is the home of the Phoenix Cardinals who play just down the road from the resort. Baseball spring training is less than ten minutes away and the Suns and Diamondbacks play in downtown Phoenix. Great golf, great resort, and most all the sporting events you can imagine make the Wigwam Resort and the West Valley a wonderful destination. You can get more information by visiting [www.wigwamarizona.com](http://www.wigwamarizona.com) or by calling 800-909-4224.

*Bruce Vittner is a member of the Golf Writers of America and the GolfTravel Writers of America and can be reached at bruce@sne golfer.com.*

## Golf Truisms – These are 100% Accurate!

Never wash your ball on the tee of a water hole.

There is no such thing as a friendly wager.

The stages of golf are Sudden Collapse, Radical Change, Complete Frustration, Slow Improvement, Brief Mastery, and Sudden Collapse.

The only sure way to get a par is to leave a four-foot birdie putt two inches short of the hole.

Don't play with anyone who would question a 7.

It's as easy to lower your handicap as it is to reduce your hat size.

\*\*\*If you really want to be better at golf, go back and take it up at a much earlier age.

If your driver is hot, your putter will be ice cold; if you can hit your

irons, you will top your woods; if you are keeping your right elbow tucked in, your head will come up.

Progress in golf consists of two steps forward and ten miles backward.

One good shank deserves another. It takes 17 holes to really get warmed up.

No golfer ever swung too slowly.

No golfer ever played too fast.

One birdie is a hot streak.

No matter how badly you are playing, it's always possible to play worse.

Whatever you think you're doing wrong is the one thing you're doing right.

Any change works for three holes.

The odds of hitting a duffed shot increase by the square of the number of people watching.

Never teach golf to your wife.

Never play your son for money.

Never try to keep more than 300 separate thoughts in your mind during your swing.

The less skilled the player, the more likely he is to share his ideas about the golf swing.

It's surprisingly easy to hole a 50-foot putt when you lie 10.

The statute of limitations on forgotten strokes is two holes.

Bets lengthen putts and shorten drives.

Confidence evaporates in the presence of fairway water.

It takes considerable pressure to make a penalty stroke adhere to a scorecard.

It's not a gimme if you're still away.

The more your opponent quotes the rules, the greater the certainty that he cheats.

Always limp with the same leg for the whole round.

The rake is always in the other trap.

The wind is in your face on 16 of the 18 holes.

Nothing straightens out a nasty slice quicker than a sharp dogleg to the right.

The rough will be mowed tomorrow.

## The Club at New Seabury is a Hidden Gem

*'Your Cape Escape' Offers Something for Everyone and a Variety of Memberships*

Tucked away in a pristine location on Nantucket Sound, The Club at New Seabury is a 1,500-acre hidden gem and the ideal Cape Escape. This private community, named among "The Best Places to Live



on the Coast in 2019," by Coastal Living Magazine, is a relaxed resort experience, where you can unwind or play to your heart's content.

With recent multi-million dollar renovations of the new stylish Clubhouse and its two Championship golf courses, The Ocean and Dunes, as well as a state-of-the-art fitness and aquatics complex, a variety of new homes, and multiple dining options to choose from, there are more reasons than ever to join.

At the center of the Club's 42,000 square foot newly remodeled Clubhouse sits 95 Shore, a new upscale, yet casual restaurant and bar that offers sweeping views of Nantucket Sound and the Club's two golf courses. The Clubhouse also houses a Golf Shop, locker rooms and The Grand Ballroom.

"Whether you're looking for seasonal living, a weekend or summer getaway or a full-time community, there are various membership options and real estate possibilities," said Chris Card, President & Managing Director of The Club at New Seabury. "Our

members are a great blend of people from New England and beyond. We're talking about young families, couples and retirees with varying backgrounds and interests and that's what makes it a special place."

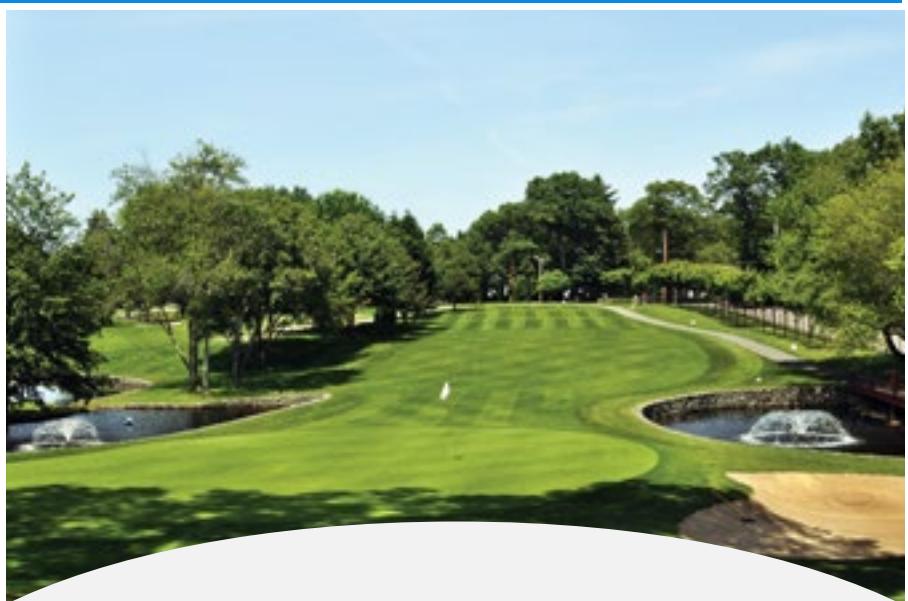
Members and guests who visit New Seabury can relax and play as much or as little as they would like with two beach clubs, a beach bar and two pools. If they prefer fitness classes or specific sports instruction,

the facilities are unmatched. When it comes to dining, Executive Chef Mark Porcaro's culinary delights can be enjoyed at one of four indoor-outdoor restaurants, cafes and covered terraces, all of which offer great fare and views of the golf courses or ocean.

There are Stay and Play packages that provide accommodations and golf, while The Club at New Seabury also offers regular specials on accommodations and serves as the perfect setting for weddings, parties, meetings and events.

Every day at The Club at New Seabury can be different and just as you like. With a welcoming community, family-friendly lifestyle, world-class amenities, and an array of Club events to enjoy year-round, this is truly a Club for all ages and all seasons.

The Club at New Seabury is conveniently located two hours from Boston, 70 miles from Providence and 170 miles from New Haven, CT. For reservations or more information about Membership call 508-539-8322 or visit [www.NewSeabury.com](http://www.NewSeabury.com).



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**Mondays in April, May, June**

**Tee time must be booked**

To qualify for free carts tee times must be booked and tee times must be before 11 a.m. Show coupon at the course or mention Southern New England Golfer when booking tee times.

**No groups of 8 or more. Call for availability.**

## Camelback Inn Continues to Impress

Many times when I venture out to Scottsdale for our annual media tournament I find myself looking forward to spending a couple of days at the Camelback Inn, a J.W. Marriott Resort and Spa. From the first time I visited this famous resort cut into the side of a mountain and facing Camelback Mountain, I was so impressed with the charm and design of this southwestern marvel.

Built in 1936 as the first luxury resort in the Sonoran Desert, it quickly attracted top movie stars and celebrities to this oasis in the desert. George and Barbara Bush were guests, as was hotelier J.W. Marriott, Sr. In 1967 Marriott made Camelback Inn the first Marriott Resort and by 1969 it had already earned a five-star rating.

Imagine spending \$50 million on a renovation? That is what happened years ago to this resort that is listed in the top 100 in the world. It has been a Triple A Five Diamond resort for the past 26 years.

They have two courses connected with the property. They sit about two miles from the resort and there are free shuttles.

Both of the courses were redone and upgraded. The Padre Course,



*The 15th hole at Camelback's Ambiente Course*

an Arthur Hills (Newport National-designer) design, is a challenging layout with great bunkering. Known for its water holes, the 18<sup>th</sup>, a 547-yard par 5 has been rated the best water hole in the Scottsdale area. The course measures 6,900 from the back tees, but there are three other sets and the forward tees are a very fair 5,132 yards.

This time we played the Ambiente Course. It was built in 1970, but was completely redesigned by Hurdzan/

Fry Design in 2013 as part of a \$10 million renovation that completely changed this course that runs along a desert wash (a wet weather river) that could not be functionally altered.

They did a masterful job. The grading was changed to offer full protection of the wash and has 100 acres of newly planted native grasses, wildflowers and trees. Huge bunkers, both around the sloping greens and in the fairways were

added, and the layout is excellent. The first hole will give you a great taste of what is to follow. It is dogleg left with a huge bunker in front of a large very sloping green. Our favorite hole was the 13<sup>th</sup> that has a great view of the mountain.

There is a wonderful practice facility on the property. There is a golf school on premises, and there are chipping and bunker practice areas, a very large practice green and a vast driving range. Camelback Inn has unlimited golf packages available, and the use of the practice area will be a highlight of that package.

The distaff side will really enjoy the Spa. It is a 31,000 square foot area with every amenity possible. The beautifully appointed rooms with a view of Camelback Mountain just outside your window makes this a wonderful place to relax and enjoy the desert. At nighttime you think you can reach up and touch the millions of stars, as the nights are most always clear.

You can find out more about Camelback Inn, a J.W. Marriott Resort and Spa at [www.scottsdalecamelback.com](http://www.scottsdalecamelback.com) or by calling 1-480-947-3300.

## Mountain Shadows Hosts Golf Writers

By BRUCE VITTNER

As you fly into Phoenix Airport, you can't help but notice the iconic Camelback Mountain just to the north. It was on the other side of that mountain where we spent four days of sheer enjoyment at Mountain Shadows Resort in Paradise Valley, a tiny community next to Scottsdale.

It is the shadow from Camelback Mountain and Mummy Mountain that garnered the name of this iconic resort that was first opened in 1959. Each afternoon you watch the sun dip below the mountain and watch the temperature drop. It's not bad, however, when the temperature is a warm 70 degrees in December while the sun is shining as it does over 330 days per year.

Mountain Shadows has a rich history of Hollywood celebrity visits and the property served as the location for television shows

including a Monkees episode. Since it was one of the few properties that were open year-round, it became a great dining and entertainment place for the locals who began moving to this arid and warm climate from other parts of the country.

The original golf course was designed by Jack Snyder and built in 1961. It was a short course, par 56, and worked its way up towards the mountain and then back down. It quickly became a favorite for those Hollywood celebrities and socialites who were drawn to its seclusion, challenging greens and unique desert setting.

The golf course was redesigned by Forrest Richardson to make it a par 54 Short Course that is challenging and fun with holes ranging from 75 yards to the fifteenth hole that measures 180 yards from the back tee. The seventh is the one that

measures 75 yards, but most of the yardage from the tee to the green is a pond.

We saw many couples playing the course, and also many juniors. It is not easy. The tees are well designed and the greens and green surrounds are well manicured, but many of the holes have desert waste area in between the tees and greens. For more information you can visit [www.mountainshadows.com](http://www.mountainshadows.com) or call 855-485-1417.

The other three courses we played were Long Bow Golf Club, Talking Stick and We-Ko-Pa in Fountain Hills. Long Bow in Mesa is a robust test of golf, so pick the correct tees to play. It was in perfect condition and is highly regarded and is only twenty minutes from downtown Scottsdale.

Talking Stick was the course for the second day. This Coore-Crenshaw design is located minutes from

downtown off the 101 and was in wonderful condition. It is a flat course, but the weaving holes and natural trees and bushes made each hole unique. They have two courses on property and a large casino is right next door.

Our last course was We-Ko-Pa's Saguaro course that has been rated best course in the area by Golfweek in eleven of the past twelve years. I've played their other course in the past, and that is a great design as well. That evening we went to Fort McDowell Adventures that is just down the road from the courses. They also have a casino right near the courses.

*Bruce Vittner is a member of the Golf Writers Assn. of America and the Golf Travel Writers of America and can be reached at bruce@snegolfer.com.*

## PGA Professionals Rank Myrtle Beach's Top 20 Courses

**W**hat is the best course in Myrtle Beach? It's a question everyone asks, and MyrtleBeachGolfTrips.com wanted to answer.

The area's leading package provider, MyrtleBeachGolfTrips.com, conducted an anonymous survey of Myrtle Beach area PGA professionals, asking them to rank the Grand Strand's top 20 courses. More than 50 professionals participated in the poll, and the results often tracked with popular opinion but there were certainly surprises.

The famed Dunes Golf & Beach Club, a Robert Trent Jones Sr. design that has hosted USGA, PGA and LPGA events, was the clear No. 1, garnering nearly half of the first place votes. Caledonia Golf & Fish Club, a consensus top 100 layout, was second, followed by Tidewater Golf Club, the area's most scenic course.

Grande Dunes, which features five holes that play along the Intracoastal Waterway, was fourth, and Prestwick, the biggest top 10 surprise, was No. 5. A Pete and P.B. Dye design, Prestwick has always been a favorite of locals who



*King's North at Myrtle Beach National*

appreciate the challenge and quality of the architecture.

TPC Myrtle Beach, True Blue, the Fazio Course at Barefoot, the Dye Course at Barefoot, and King's North at Myrtle Beach National rounded out the top 10.

"Traveling golfers ask us what the best course in the area is all the time, and we wanted to be able to answer the question with more than personal opinion," said Justin Binke, director of sales and marketing for MyrtleBeachGolfTrips.com. "What

group is better qualified to rank Myrtle Beach's premier courses than PGA professionals? We are excited to unveil the results of the survey, and we certainly hope golfers enjoy the rankings as much as we did compiling them."

Participating PGA pros ranked courses from 1 to 20 with the top-ranked course earning 20 points and each subsequent spot receiving one fewer point. The course with the most points sat atop the rankings.

**Here are Myrtle Beach's top 20 courses, according to PGA professionals:**

1. Dunes Golf & Beach Club
2. Caledonia Golf & Fish Club
3. Tidewater Golf Club
4. Grande Dunes Resort Club
5. Prestwick Country Club
6. TPC Myrtle Beach
7. True Blue Golf Club
8. Fazio Course at Barefoot Resort
9. Dye Course at Barefoot Resort
10. King's North at Myrtle Beach National
11. Pawleys Plantation Golf & Country Club
12. Arrowhead Country Club
13. Love Course at Barefoot Resort
14. Heritage Club
15. Thistle Golf Club
16. Pine Lakes Country Club
17. Rivers Edge Golf Club
18. Arcadian Shores Golf Club
19. Willbrook Plantation
20. Long Bay Club

For more information, go to [www.MyrtleBeachGolfTrips.com](http://www.MyrtleBeachGolfTrips.com).

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# SNE GOLFER LOCATOR MAP

## RHODE ISLAND COURSES

- 1. BEAVER RIVER G.C. (18) P**  
343 Kingstown Rd. Richmond, RI, 401-539-2100 [www.beaverriergolf.com](http://www.beaverriergolf.com), CR,CH,SB,O
- 2. BUTTON HOLE SHORT COURSE (9) P, X**  
1 Button Hole Dr. Providence, RI, 401-421-1664 [www.buttonhole.org](http://www.buttonhole.org), CL,CH,DR,PS, Lessons
- 3. COUNTRYVIEW G.C. (18) P**  
49 Club Lane Burrillville, RI, 401-568-7157 [www.countryviewgolf.net](http://www.countryviewgolf.net), CR,CL,PS,CH,O
- 4. COVENTRY PINES G.C. (9) P**  
1065 Harkney Hill Rd. Coventry, RI 401-397-9482 [www.coventrypines.com](http://www.coventrypines.com), CR,CH,CL,SB,DR
- 5. CRANSTON C.C. (18) P**  
69 Burlingame Rd. Cranston, RI, 401-826-1683 [www.cranstoncc.com](http://www.cranstoncc.com), CR,CL,PS,CH,O
- 6. CRYSTAL LAKE G.C. (18) SP**  
100 Bronco's Hwy. Mapleville RI 401-567-4500 [www.crystallakegolfclub.com](http://www.crystallakegolfclub.com) CR,CL,PS,CH,O
- 7. EXETER C.C. (18) SP**  
320 Victory Hwy. (Rt.102) Exeter, RI 401-295-8212 [www.exetercc.com](http://www.exetercc.com), CR,CL,PS,CH,O
- 8. FAIRLAWN GOLF COURSE (9) P,X**  
3 Sherman Ave. Lincoln, RI 401-334-3937 [www.fairlawngolfcourse.com](http://www.fairlawngolfcourse.com) CR,CL,CH,SB,O
- 9. FOSTER COUNTRY CLUB (18) P**  
67 Johnson Rd. Foster, RI, 401-397-7750 [www.fostercountryclub.com](http://www.fostercountryclub.com), CR,CL,PS,CH,O
- 10. HARBOR LIGHTS MARINA & C.C. (9) P**  
150 Gray St. Warwick, RI, 401-737-6353 [www.HarborLightsRI.com](http://www.HarborLightsRI.com), CR,CL,PS,DR,CH,O  
Restaurant, Leagues
- 11. JAMESTOWN G.C. (9) P**  
245 Conanicus Ave. Jamestown, RI, 401-423-9930 [www.jamestowngolf.com](http://www.jamestowngolf.com) CR,CL,CH,SB,O
- 12. KINGS CROSSING G.C. (9) P**  
655 Old Baptist Rd. N. Kingstown, RI, 401-294-2872, [www.kingscrossinggolfclub.com](http://www.kingscrossinggolfclub.com) CR,PS,CH,O
- 13. LAUREL LANE C.C. (18) P**  
Laurel Lane, off Rt.138, W. Kingston, RI 401-783-3844, [www.laurellanecc.com](http://www.laurellanecc.com) CR,CL,PS,CH,O
- 14. MIDVILLE COUNTRY CLUB (9) P**  
100 Lombardi Ln. W. Warwick, RI, 401-828-9215 [www.midvillegolfclub.com](http://www.midvillegolfclub.com), CR,CL,PS,CH
- 15. NEWPORT NATIONAL G.C. (18) SP**  
324 Mitchells Ln. Middletown, RI, 401-848-9690 [www.newportnational.com](http://www.newportnational.com), CR,CL,PS,SB,O
- 16. NORTH KINGSTOWN G.C. (18) P**  
615 Callahan Rd. No. Kingstown, RI, 401-294-0684, [www.nkgc.com](http://www.nkgc.com), DR,PS,CR,CL,CH,O  
Dan's Tavern on the Green
- 17. PINECREST GOLF CLUB (9) P**  
25 Pinehurst Dr. Richmond, RI, 401-364-8600 [www.pinecrestri.com](http://www.pinecrestri.com) CR,CL,CH,SB,O, Leagues

## 18. RICHMOND C.C. (18) SP

Sandy Pond Rd. Richmond, RI 401-364-9200 [www.richmondcountryclub.net](http://www.richmondcountryclub.net)

CR,CL,PS,CH,O

## 19. ROSE HILL GOLF CLUB (9) P, X

222 Rose Hill Rd. So. Kingstown, RI, 401-788-1088, [www.rosehillri.com](http://www.rosehillri.com) CR,CL,CH,SB,O  
Leagues

## 20. TRIGGS MEMORIAL G.C. (18) P

Chalkstone Ave. Providence, RI 401-521-8460, [www.triggs.us](http://www.triggs.us), CR,CL,PS,CH,O

## 21. WINDMILL HILL G.C. (9) X

35 Schoolhouse Rd. (off Rt 136) Warren, RI 401-245-1463, [www.windmillgolfri.com](http://www.windmillgolfri.com)  
CR,CL,CH,O, Restaurant

## 22. WINNAPAUG C.C. (18) P

184 Shore Rd. (Rt. 1A) Westerly, RI 401-596-1237 [www.winnapaugcountryclub.com](http://www.winnapaugcountryclub.com)  
CR,CL,CH,DR,SB,O

## 23. WOOD RIVER GOLF (18) P

78 Woodville-Alton Rd. Hope Valley, RI, 401-364-0700, [www.woodrivergolf.com](http://www.woodrivergolf.com),  
CR,CH,SB,O

## RHODE ISLAND DRIVING RANGES

### A. BUTTON HOLE LEARNING CENTER

1 Button Hole Dr. Providence, RI 401-421-1664 [www.buttonhole.org](http://www.buttonhole.org), target greens, 2 putting greens, lessons

### B. IRON WOODS GOLF PRACTICE

CENTER 1081 Iron Hill Mine Rd. (off Rt.146) N. Smithfield, RI, 401-766-1151, [www.iwgolf.com](http://www.iwgolf.com), putting greens, grass tees, covered area, bunker, lessons, repairs

### C. MULLIGAN'S ISLAND GOLF & ENTERTAINMENT (9) X

1000 New London Ave. (Rt 2) Cranston, RI 401-464-8855, [www.mulligansisland.com](http://www.mulligansisland.com)  
60 stall driving range, covered area, batting cages, mini-golf, par 3 course, 18-hole pitch and putt, PGA Golf Academy, Spargo Golf on premises, club fitting and repairs

## MASSACHUSETTS COURSES

### 24. BAY POINT CLUB (18) SP

Bay Pointe Dr. Onset, MA 508-759-8802 [www.baypointeclub.com](http://www.baypointeclub.com) PS,CR,CL,DR,O,SB

### 25. BLACKSTONE NATIONAL G.C. (18) SP

227 Putnam Hill Rd. Sutton, MA, 508-865-2111 [www.bnnc.net](http://www.bnnc.net), CR,CL,CH,PS,O,DR

### 26. BLISSFUL MEADOWS G.C. (18) SP

801 Chocalog Rd. Uxbridge, MA, 508-278-6110 [www.blissfulmeadows.com](http://www.blissfulmeadows.com), CR,CL,CH,DR,PS,O

### 27. BUNGAY BROOK G.C. (9) P

30 Locust St. Bellingham, MA, 508-883-1600 [www.bungaybrook.com](http://www.bungaybrook.com), CR,CL,DR,PS,CH,O

### 28. CAPTAINS COURSE (36) P

1000 Freemans Way, Brewster, MA, 508-896-1716 [www.captainsgolfcourse.com](http://www.captainsgolfcourse.com)  
CR,CL,CH,PS,O

### 29. CHEMAWA GOLF COURSE (18) P

350 Cushman Rd. N. Attleboro, MA, 508-399-

7330, <http://chemawagolf.com> CR,CH,O,CL

### 30. EASTON C.C. (18) SP

265 Purchase St. Easton, MA 508-238-2500, [www.eastoncountryclub.com](http://www.eastoncountryclub.com)  
CR,CL,PS,CH,O

### 31. HAZELTON GC (18) P

329 Summer St. Rehoboth, MA 508-557-1856 [www.hazeltongolfclub.com](http://www.hazeltongolfclub.com) CR,PS,CH,O

### 32. HILLSIDE CC (9) P

82 Hillside Ave. Rehoboth, MA 508-252-9761 [www.hillsidecountryclub.com](http://www.hillsidecountryclub.com) Sauna, Pool, Courts,CR,CL,CH,Tiki Bar,O, Lessons

### 33. JOHN E. PARKER MUNI. G.C. (9) P

17 Fisher St. Taunton, MA, 508-822-1797 CR,DR,CH,SB, Skins Thurs. at 3:45

### 34. JUNIPER HILL G.C. (36) P

202 Brigham St. Northboro, MA, 508-393-2444 [www.juniperhillgc.com](http://www.juniperhillgc.com), CR,CL,PS,CH,SB,O

### 35. MAPLEGATE COUNTRY CLUB (18) SP

160 Maple St. Bellington, MA, 508-966-4040 [www.maplegate.com](http://www.maplegate.com), CR,CL,PS,CH

### 36. THE LINKS AT MASS GOLF (18) P, X

300 W. Maine Rd. (Rt 123) Norton, MA 508-222-0555, [www.linksatmassgolf.org](http://www.linksatmassgolf.org) CL,PS,CH,SB,O

### 37. NORTON COUNTRY CLUB (18) SP

188 Oak St. Norton, MA, 508-285-2400 [www.nortoncountryclub.com](http://www.nortoncountryclub.com), CR,CL,CH,SB,O

### 38. OLDE SCOTLAND LINKS (18) P

695 Pine St. Bridgewater, MA, 508-279-3344 [www.oldscotlandlinks.com](http://www.oldscotlandlinks.com), CR,CL,SB,DR,O

### 39. PINE OAKS G.C. (9) P

68 Prospect St., S. Easton, MA, 508-238-2320 [www.pineoaks.com](http://www.pineoaks.com), CR,CL,CH,O  
Retail Store

### 40. REHOBOTH C.C. (18) P

155 Perryville Rd Rehoboth, MA, 508-252-6259 [www.rehobothcountryclub.com](http://www.rehobothcountryclub.com), CR,CH,PS,O

### 41. SHAKER HILLS G.C. (18) P

146 Shaker Rd. Harvard, MA, 978-772-3330 [www.shakerhills.com](http://www.shakerhills.com)  
CR,CL,CH,PS,O

### 42. SHINING ROCK G.C. (18) SP

91 Clubhouse Way, Northbridge, MA, 508-234-0400, [www.shiningrock.com](http://www.shiningrock.com), CR,CL,CH,PS,O

### 43. WENTWORTH HILLS G.C. (18) SP

27 Bow St. Plainville, MA, 508-316-0240 [www.wentworthhillsgc.com](http://www.wentworthhillsgc.com), CR,CL,CH,PS,O

## CONNECTICUT COURSES

### 44. AIRWAYS G.C. (18) P

1070 S. Grand St., W. Suffield, CT 860-668-4973, [www.airwaysgolf.com](http://www.airwaysgolf.com)  
CR,CL,CH,SB,O

### 45. ELMRIDGE GOLF CLUB (27) P

229 Elmridge Rd. Pawcatuck, CT, 860-599-2248 [www.elmridgegolf.com](http://www.elmridgegolf.com), CR,CL,DR,PS,CH,O

### 46. FOX HOPYARD (18) SP

1 Hopyard Rd. East Haddam, CT 860-434-6644, [www.golfthefox.com](http://www.golfthefox.com)  
CR,CL,CH,PS,DR,O

### 47. LAKE OF ISLES C.C. (18) P

Foxwoods Casino, Mashantucket, CT, 860-312-3636, [www.lakeofisles.com](http://www.lakeofisles.com)  
CR,CL,PS,SB,Rest.,O, Golf School

### 48. MOHEGAN SUN GOLF CLUB (18) P

7 Dows Ln. Baltic, CT 860-862-9230 [www.mohegansungolfclub.com](http://www.mohegansungolfclub.com) CR,CL,PS,CH

golf packages, Lessons

### 49. PORTLAND GOLF CLUB (18) P

169 Bartlett St. Portland, CT 860-342-6107 [www.portlandgolfclub.com](http://www.portlandgolfclub.com) CR,CL,PS,O, Rest.

### 50. QUARRY RIDGE GOLF CLUB (18) SP

9A Rose Hill Rd. Portland, CT 860-342-6113 [www.quarryridge.com](http://www.quarryridge.com) CR,CL,CH,PS,O riding only

### 51. RIVER RIDGE GOLF CLUB (18) P

259 Preston Rd. Griswold, CT 860-376-3268, [www.riverridgegolf.com](http://www.riverridgegolf.com)  
CR,CL,PS,CH,O

### 52. SHENNECOSSETT G.C. (18) P

93 Plant St. Groton, CT, 860-448-1867 [www.shennygolf.com](http://www.shennygolf.com) CR,CL,CH,PS,Rest.,O

### 53. SKUNGAMAUG RIVER G.C. (18) SP

104 Folly Ln., Coventry, CT, 860-742-9348 [www.skungamauggolf.com](http://www.skungamauggolf.com), CR,CL,CH,PS,O

## MAP KEY

( ) = Holes

PS = Pro Shop

P = Public

CH = Clubhouse

SP = Semi Private

O = Outings

X = Executive

SB = Snack Bar

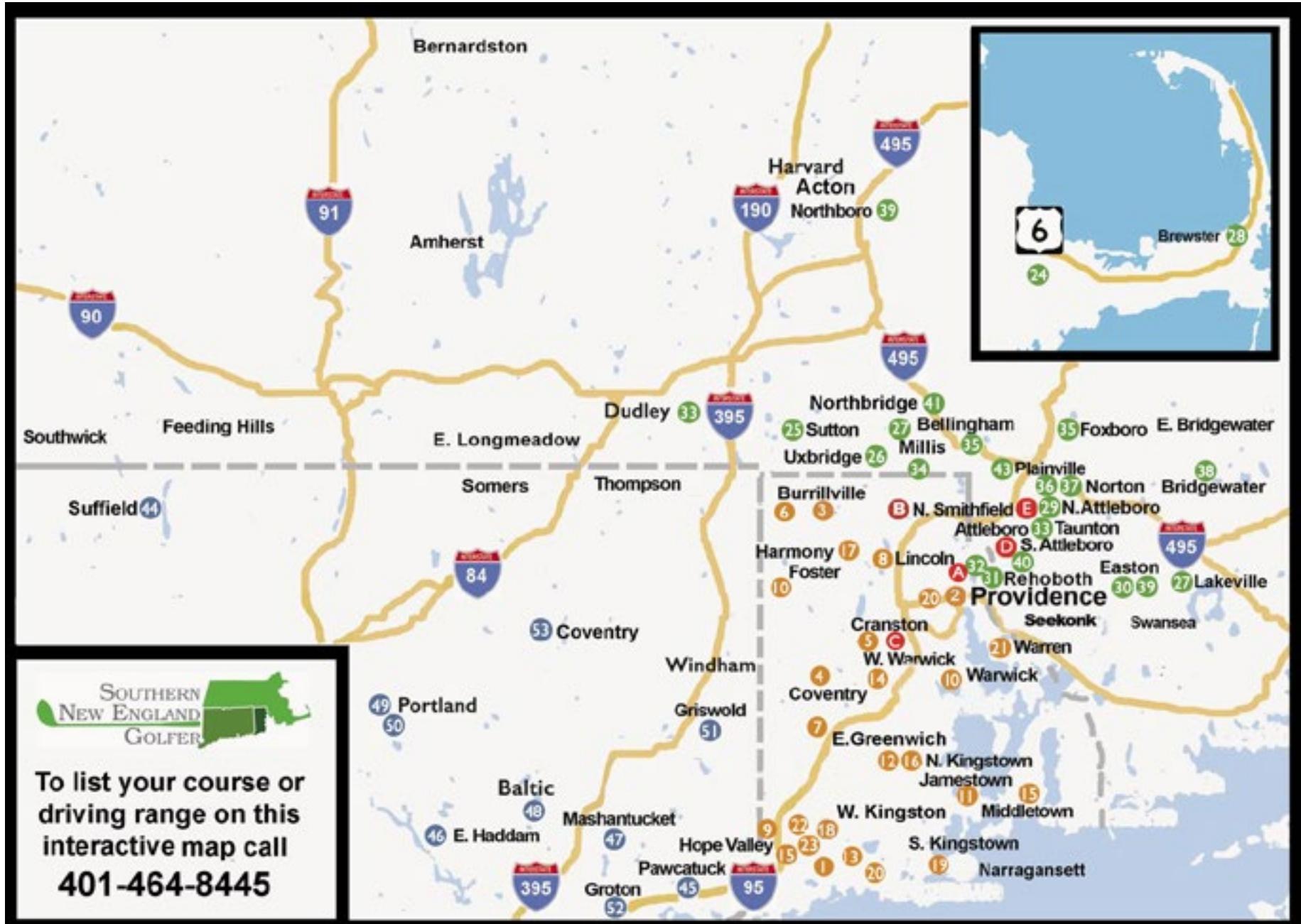
CR = Cart Rental

CL = Club Rental

DR = Driving Range

Our website  
[www.snegolfer.com](http://www.snegolfer.com)  
has directions  
and information  
for each course.

## SNE GOLFER LOCATOR MAP



Be part of this map that is seen by thousands and thousands of golfers who travel around southern New England. Cost is only \$120 for the six issues in 2020. Each listing is linked right to your website. One visit by a foursome pays for the year.



## Golf Life Real Estate Re-Launches as Boutique Golf Real Estate

BOSTON, Mass. – Gorman Golf Media, a Boston-based golf media company, has announced the re-launch of Golf Life Real Estate™ [www.golfliferealestate.com](http://www.golfliferealestate.com), a boutique real estate referral network dedicated to providing future home buyers with the most effective way to find, evaluate and select a golf lifestyle community that meets their individual budget.

"After a few unexpected events over the past few months we are open for business," said Thomas Gorman, CEO of Gorman Golf Media, which assets include Pro Golf Weekly ([www.progolfweekly.com](http://www.progolfweekly.com)), New England dot Golf ([www.newengland.golf](http://www.newengland.golf)), eSouthernGOLF ([www.eSouthernGOLF.com](http://www.eSouthernGOLF.com)) and Under Par

Media. "The primary goal of Golf Life Real Estate is to assist future home buyers who make one of the most important financial decisions of their life. Our FREE service to qualified buyers is to introduce them to a Golf Lifestyle Concierge™ who has been vetted and is among the top-10% of real estate agents in their specific region, and who are members of the National Association of Realtors (NAR). Our boutique service is available nationwide and the best part is the referral is FREE to our clients. We get paid at closing by the selling broker if, only, and when the client purchases property."



If you are considering buying a home in a gated, golf community, Golf Life Real Estate™ will refer the qualified client to a professional real estate agent who knows their local golf community, who will negotiate the best deal and treat you as their most important client.

Golf Life Real Estate™, established in 2018, works exclusively with a network of nationwide real estate agents (NAR) who are in the top-10% in sales volume in their specific area. The company refers only trustworthy,

high-caliber real estate agents who are well-respected in their communities. The company strives to be the undisputed leader in consulting with potential home buyers helping them make the best decision about where to relocate and what gated, golf community best suits them. One call to 1-800-635-3008 or inquiry from the web site [www.golfliferealestate.com](http://www.golfliferealestate.com) and a Golf Lifestyle Concierge™ will respond within 24 hours.

For all you know-it-alls out there, here's a question-and-answer that might send you gasping for air.

If you have a golf product or service and want to advertise in GOLF Magazine, what's the cost of a full-page, four-color ad that will appear in the print and digital edition? Answer: About \$100,000. That's not a typo, the price is about one-hundred thousand dollars.

It cost big bucks to promote your golf company and to get your product in front of thousands of potential customers. Let the buyer beware because there's no accurate statistics to show that advertising in GOLF Magazine will boost sales revenue.

In fact, as you probably know, golf publications in print are shrinking while online digital golf publications, such as Southern New England Golfer that you are reading right now, are growing market share and earning reader's attention. Two highly respected weekly print golf publications – Golfweek and Golf World - stopped weekly publications three years ago and five years ago, respectively.

Which brings us to today's topic of Gorman Golf Media, which has become one of the fastest growing online golf media companies in the past two years. Gorman Golf Media owns four online golf brands: Pro Golf Weekly ([www.progolfweekly.com](http://www.progolfweekly.com)), New England dot Golf ([www.newengland.golf](http://www.newengland.golf)), Golf Life Real Estate ([www.golfliferealestate.com](http://www.golfliferealestate.com)) and eSouthernGOLF ([www.eSouthernGOLF.com](http://www.eSouthernGOLF.com)).

"The source of where golfer's get their golf news has changed," said Thomas Gorman, owner and publisher of Gorman Golf Media, a digital marketing platform delivered through a multitude of web, email, weekly newsletter and social media channels. "It's all online, not in print. If you want the latest golf news, you either go to a favorite web site or the news is delivered daily to your email address. There is never a shortage of golf headlines."

Gorman has been an active golf writer for almost 28 years. He started in the business as a summer hobby in 1992 writing about local golf for the Daily Transcript, just south of Boston. Then

## Gorman Golf Media Expands Its Audience

in 1996 Tiger Woods came on the scene and the game exploded as did the golf media.

Today Gorman has a small media empire consisting of four brands. Pro Golf Weekly, with partner and web site wizard Paul Daly, covers all elements of professional golf and the four major Tours – PGA, LPGA, Champions and European.

New England dot Golf, ranked No. 1 on Google Search, highlights the best of golf in New England and beyond, offering engaging content with a mix of original features and reviews. The team of nine golf journalists, with a combined 350 years of experience, will post 10-15 original stories each week, and then delivered by newsletter on Fridays to 50,000 email addresses.

Golf Life Real Estate™ is a boutique real estate referral network dedicated to providing home buyers with the most effective path to find, evaluate and select a golf lifestyle community. There is no cost or obligation to talk to a Golf Lifestyle Concierge™ to answer all your questions and learn everything there is to know about buying property in a gated, golf community.

GLRE recently announced its latest program called Free Webinar Wednesday. From the luxury of your own home you can log-in to a Wednesday webinar scheduled at 3 pm starting January 8, 2020. Designed by real estate professionals, the program features top-producing agents who specialize in selling property in golf communities discussing the pros and cons of buying.

The most recent addition to Gorman Golf Media is eSouthernGOLF, a website and weekly email delivered to 20,000 email addresses on Fridays. Published by Florida-based Alan Darty, and edited by golf writer Dave Daubert, the content includes travel, products, resort destinations, equipment, interviews and lots of Sunbelt State golf news, just as the name implies.

If you have a chance, check out one of the web sites and sign up for the weekly newsletter.

## From the Editor continued from page 4

We will continue to offer discounts on our website for purchasing the book that has thousands of dollars in savings.

On the note of savings. We are going to encourage advertisers to offer discounts and coupons in their ads online. We are offering them a discounted price for advertising their discounts. This gives the readers a better value and provides more of an incentive to open up the email that subscribers receive or those who visit our website where the paper can be downloaded.

I keep getting more and more responses about how golfers and those who like to read about golf are enjoying the website. The format is unique. It really does read like a newspaper. The best part is that you can connect with the advertisers right while you are reading as all the ads are link to the advertisers' websites. Others have commented about how they can go back to read past issues, and many have spoken about how they forward the link to their golfing friends in different areas of the country—no postage needed!

We will be publishing again on March 8. Keep your head down and swing easy, and don't forget to email this publication to golfers you know.

Bruce Vittner is the publisher/editor or [sne golfer.com](http://snegolfer.com) and can be reached at [editor@sne golfer.com](mailto:editor@sne golfer.com).

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[sne golfer.com](http://sne golfer.com)  
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## Name That Hole!



### Picture of the Month

David Hartley of Cranston, RI was the first one with the correct answer of Hole 17 at PGA National in Palm Beach Gardens, Fl., one of Jack Nicklaus' Bear Trap holes. He won a 2020 Season Passport. Be the first to send in the answer to this issue's picture and win a Season Passport. Email your answer to [bruce@sne golfer.com](mailto:bruce@sne golfer.com).



LIVE. PLAY. RELAX. ESCAPE.

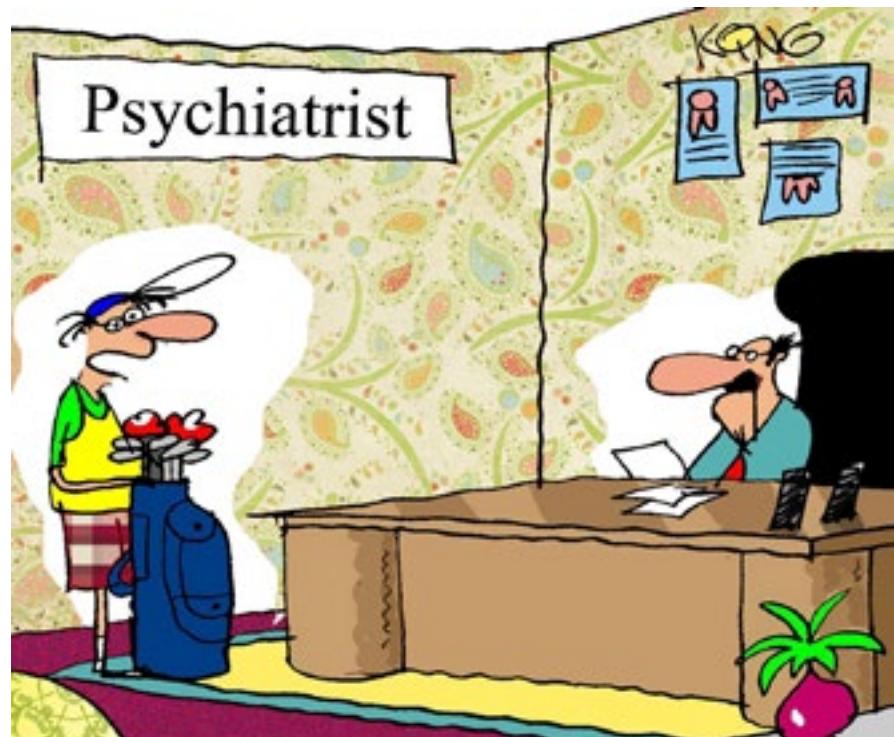
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