

JUNE / JULY 2022 | VOL 12 NO 2

SNEGOLFER.COM

# SNE GOLFER



## CLUB PROS

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## TRIVIA

### THE MEN'S U.S. OPEN

- |     |                                                       |     |                             |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 1.  | Where was the first Open held?                        | 1.  | Newport Country Club        |
| 2.  | How many holes were played?                           | 2.  | 36 holes in two days        |
| 3.  | Who was the winner?                                   | 3.  | Horace Rawlins from England |
| 4.  | How much did he win?                                  | 4.  | \$150 plus a \$50 golf coin |
| 5.  | What course architect was known as the "Open Doctor"? | 5.  | Rees Jones                  |
| 6.  | What year did Francis Ouimet win?                     | 6.  | 1913                        |
| 7.  | How many Opens have been in Massachusetts?            | 7.  | Nine                        |
| 8.  | How many in Rhode Island?                             | 8.  | One                         |
| 9.  | What course has hosted the most Opens?                | 9.  | Oakmont CC near Pittsburgh  |
| 10. | How many has Pebble Beach hosted?                     | 10. | Six                         |

# EDITORIAL

Welcome to our June/July 2022 issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com). We continue with our theme of highlighting people who make golf better. We featured independent course owners last year, course superintendents last issue and this issue is highlighting golf professionals who work at the club level.

There are over 28,000 PGA of America professionals in the United States, and there are thousands and thousands more who are club professionals without the PGA accreditation. We have highlighted quite a few of them in our tri-state area of Southern New England. Kathie Dyson has even highlighted a wonderful club professional woman in New York State. I think you will like some of the insightful things that these pros have to say about their jobs and the industry of golf. Think you might have a little more appreciation of them after reading the many things that they do to keep us happy playing golf.

We are losing one of the best things in golf in these parts--the CVS Charity Classic. We are so fortunate to have been able to enjoy this event since 1999 thanks to the generosity of CVS and the outstanding work of our local PGA Tour pros, Brad Faxon and Billy Andrade. Please enjoy the story by Scott Cordischi who served as the starter for 15 years. Local golf fans were able to see up-close and personal most of the best golfers in the world in both the male and female categories.

CVS would always take the back cover of our first two issues of the year, and then we had so much wonderful material to write about to get fans excited in anticipation and then the photography and stories about the event. We will truly miss it, and we can't thank Tom Ryan who developed the tournament and Larry Merlo who followed Ryan's wonderful leadership.

The millions of dollars raised for charity from the tournaments is amazing. One of my favorite days of the year was to go up to the CVS headquarters in Woonsocket in December to watch the presentation of so much money to help charities in our area. The smiles and tears made memories of a lifetime.

This reporter will be heading to Myrtle Beach in August for the World Amateur event. I've missed the last two, but have been to about 16 of them. It is so much fun, and you meet and play with so many wonderful people. If you can get away for a week, I would highly recommend it.

We had a chance to go up to The International Club in Bolton, Mass. Most people recognize it as having the longest yardage in the country at over 8,100 yards, but it has been completely remodeled as will be one of the prettiest and most spectacular private courses in the country when the new ownership completes its work.

The U.S. Open is a chance for New England to shine its light on the top golfers in the world in June. Tickets prices have gone through the roof, and we hope that you enjoy the event, even if you can't make it in person. We will have many people covering the event and will have many stories and pictures in our July 25 issue.

The week after the Open, most all of the golfers will be heading to Connecticut to compete in the Travelers Championship. This event is always a highlight of the New England golfing summer and tickets are still available. We will be covering that event for you as well.

As always, we thank the advertisers that keep us able to provide top-notch writing from a cadre of wonderful writers and even better people.

Keep your head down and swing easy and see you on the next issue in July.

## BRUCE VIT'NER

Publisher/editor of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com). He is a member of the Golf Writers of America and the Golf Travel Writers of America.

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# PGA OF AMERICA HAS MANY BRANCHES TO SERVE GOLFERS

Since we are featuring club professionals and the PGA of America in this issue, it seemed like a good idea to get more information about this organization that has over 24,000 active members across the country and thousands more who are now retired.

There are two basic ways to earn your PGA accreditation, through college education or playability and ongoing education and training. There are over a dozen colleges across the country to offer a four-year degree in Business Administration or Hotel Management. The closest one to New England is Penn State.

The other way to earn your accreditation is through playability and time working in the golf industry. This is the way that Zac Stennett of Tallwood C.C. in Hebron, Ct. earned his PGA of America card. "It was a process that took over eight years," said Stennett whose story is in this issue. Many prospective applicants cannot pass the playability requirement that requires shooting a specific score (determined by the slope of the golf course) over 36 holes in one day. This reporter has heard stories from many working in the golf industry that this was the part they could never master.

Another part to PGA Member status is that you must work in the golf industry for a certain number of years. You first earn your Associate status and work your way up to full status (there are three steps).

There are 41 active chapters in the United States. New England is one of the oldest chapters as it was founded in 1916. Makes sense, because this is where golf really developed in America in the late 1800's. Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine are all part of the New England Chapters, but each state has their directors. Mike Higgins is the executive director of the New

England Chapters and you often see him at many events in all of the states. The New England chapter has just over 1,100 members.

Connecticut branched off from the New England chapter in 1933 and they have their own chapter headed by Tom Hanke. It was Hanke who provided us with the figures for the PGA of America. "Each chapter runs tournament programs, many which are open to anyone. We raise money through sponsorships and offer many scholarships and other programs to help grow the game of golf," said Hanke.

The New England Chapter's website talks about the many ways that they are growing the game of golf. There are foundations, junior programs and clinics, programs to help military veterans. You can see more of what they do at [NEPGA.com](http://NEPGA.com).

Please read Tim Geary's story with Dan Gaughen on page 8 for more details of a club pro's life. ■



# [ A New Beginning... ]

It started as a vision of building a well-rounded Academy that could analyze every part of your golf game with the most advanced technology available all under one roof. In November of 2021, we opened the doors to our new 1500 sq ft Academy facility at Cranston Country Club. The Academy features 2 indoor/outdoor hitting bays which are climate controlled so that they can be utilized year-round. Studio A is my personal teaching bay and is home to all of the technology including TrackMan, GEARS, Swing Catalyst, Puttview, Sam PuttLab and an AboutGolf Simulator.

All of my lessons are held in Studio A, a private setting where students can feel more comfortable taking their lessons without distractions. There are multiple large monitors on the walls displaying the TrackMan club and ball flight data from every shot taken along with video replays of your golf swing from up to 4 different angles at once. The swing videos are captured in HD at 240 frames per second for amazing detail at any moment

in your swing.

Students are also standing on a 3D Motion Force Plate from Swing Catalyst, which measures the pressure trace of their feet throughout the golf swing along with the 3D forces (Horizontal, Rotational and Vertical) of how they are using the ground while swinging the club. Using the ground is key to getting more speed & power in your swing.

We also offer 3D Motion tracking from GEARS Golf. GEARS is a full swing club and body tracking system used by PGA Tour Pros & Teachers to measure and analyze every nuance of a swing in full 3D, from address to follow-through.

Rounding out the full swing technology is our AboutGolf simulator, the same as featured in the Golf Channel studios. We chose this simulator for its many different practice options from chip shots up to full ranges, along with a full golf course simulator catalog and other fun games to keep your skills sharp year-round.

For putting, we offer a unique combination of our PuttView green along with a stroke analysis from Sam PuttLab. PuttView transforms our 6x10 ft putting green into an interactive learning environment. The software instantly calculates and projects any putt directly onto the green and tracks it in real time to provide actionable

Story Continues On Page 7

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feedback. Adding in the stroke analysis from Sam Puttlab, the student will gain valuable feedback about their stroke.

My goal in building this Academy was to have students come in for an experience that until recently was only available for Tour players, and I think I have accomplished that goal. All of the technology in my Studio has been personally funded and I hope that students can appreciate the amount of technology that we have to offer.

We have also tried to make the appointment booking process as simple as possible with our online calendar, which can be accessed by clicking the Book Now button on my website home page. The calendar lists my current availability so students can book online and make appointment changes as necessary 24 hrs a day. In addition, my lesson rates for both ½ hr and full hr sessions are also listed, along with discounted lesson packages. And, as always, feel free to contact me with any questions! ■

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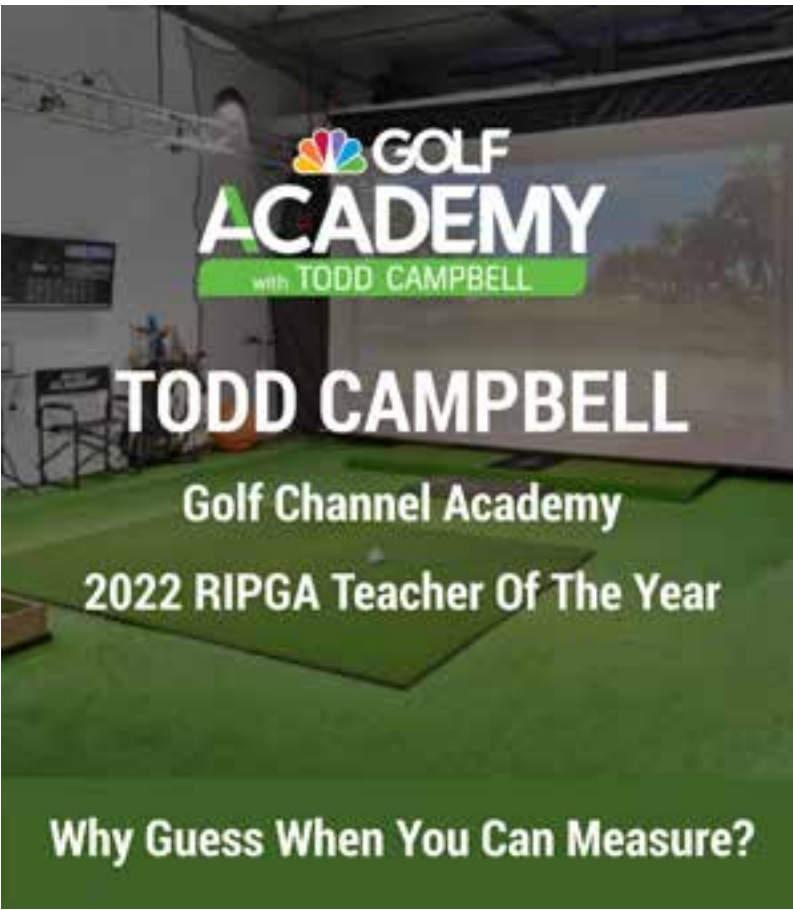
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# Gaughan Wears Many Hats

**D**an Gaughan's path to a career as a PGA Professional wasn't the traditional one. In fact its genesis was almost accidental.

He had just graduated from Tiverton High School and took a job, working in the pro shop at nearby Montaup Country Club, in Portsmouth.

"I was 17 and I had never even played golf," Gaughan admitted. It was nothing more than a way to make some money until he found a real job. It turned out to be the seed that blossomed into what it is today, a Class A PGA Professional, the kind who is the backbone of the game of golf, that all good clubs strive to hire and keep.

After several stops, Gaughan returned to Montaup last year to be the head pro, succeeding the retiring Steve Diemoz, the man who gave him that first opportunity. "I started working here and was here for about five years and I thought, this isn't a bad place to be," Gaughan recalled.

"I liked the industry. I liked the fact that it wasn't a behind-a-desk kind of job. I was outside, I was inside. There was always something different and I thought this might be a good way to earn a living."

A star basketball player in high school, Gaughan spent the next 10 years working toward becoming a PGA Pro. At 23 he first began the training process. He took and passed his playing ability test.

Then he moved to Fall River CC, where he was the assistant under the late Tom Tetrault and became a full-fledged PGA Class A pro in his sixth and last year at Fall River, 2002.

From there Gaughan was hired to be the first head pro at the newly constructed Crystal Lake club in Harrisville, RI. "The golf course hadn't even opened yet," he said. "It was still under construction and they were about to open a few holes that spring."

Living in Bristol, the daily commute became such a grind that Gaughan left and took a step back in one way, but a huge step forward in another.

He was hired at RICC as an assistant under Kyle Phelps and worked in that position for the next four years before being tabbed to be the head pro at the Button Hole short course and learning center in Providence, where he spent the next 13 years, mainly working with young kids,



**Dan Gaughan**

just learning the game. Both the kids and the pro got a lot out of the experience.

A club professional is many things, the least of which is a tournament participant.

They teach, they counsel, they sell, they run tournaments, they service the needs of whatever membership has hired them. It is a far different world than that of the PGA or any of the lesser professional tours.

"You wear a lot of hats," said Gaughan. "Obviously you run a lot of club tournaments. Some pros own their merchandise concession. You're a small business person inside the club, so you're working both for the facility as well as yourself. "I pay my staff, so you have to balance out what you're making and budgeting your staff. There's a lot of work.

"As a PGA pro we have to maintain and earn credits every three years to keep up our education, to keep up our skill level (not playing), but there are education credits



and meeting credits to make sure we're up to date with the industry and we're keeping up with the trends. We need to know all the changes in the game, the rules and that type of thing.

There's a lot of bookwork and study. The education continues throughout your career. You just don't go to work every day. You have to continue to improve your skills and education inside the golf world. There are seminars and meetings all year that members can either attend in person or online," he added.

"The PGA will host a teaching seminar where an accomplished instructor will come in and we'll go and watch how he teaches and pick up on different techniques." Gaughan explained.

"Fitting clubs is a skill where you have to understand the technology behind a launch monitor, what the spin rate is and how to read all that data. We have a series of educational seminars where you go through all of that."

Then there are the lessons and one size doesn't fit all. A good teaching pro must be able to adapt to the person they are teaching.

Last year, his first back at Montaup, was a tough one because of Covid.

Unable to get staff, Gaughan had a difficult situation, finding the time to give lessons. Playing? Forget it.

He'd love to play more, but that's another aspect of being a club professional. "I don't have the time (to play in tournaments)," he said. "It was easier years ago when we had the staff to cover, but now it's tougher. I'm going to try to get in some time this year to play, but it's difficult because you have to practice. You don't want to just show up and try to compete when you haven't played or even hit balls. It could be embarrassing."

As of this interview Gaughan hadn't played a full 18 holes since last October until this May 18th. PGA Professionals are highly trained, highly motivated and have very little time for themselves. It's the blue collar side of professional golf.

If you are a member of a golf club and are fortunate enough to have such a person there, appreciate them. ■

**Tim Geary is a retired golf writer from the Fall River Herald and writes a column in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com).**



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# CVS Health Charity Classic Comes to an End

It's the end of an era! And what a glorious era it was. CVS announced in May that it would no longer hold the annual CVS Charity Classic Golf Tournament at Rhode Island Country Club and that the event has been cancelled after 23 years. Started in 1999, this tournament has donated more than \$25 million to local charities while providing many great memories for golf fans in the area.

As the starter for the tournament for 15 years, I had the privilege of introducing legends like Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Nick Price, Juli Inkster and more on the first tee at RICC - not to mention introducing our local fan-favorites like Dana Quigley, Brett Quigley and tournament co-hosts Brad Faxon and Billy Andrade.

With that, let's take a look back at some of the great moments in CVS Charity Classic history. The tournament got off to a roaring start in 1999 when Lee Janzen recorded a hole-in-one on the par-3 17th by the water at RICC. The crowd surrounding the green went crazy when the ball dropped into the hole.

For his efforts, Janzen won a brand-new Dodge Intrepid courtesy of Bristol County Dodge. The next golfer on the tee was Scott McCarron and, as luck would have it, he too would record a hole-in-one sending the fans into an absolute frenzy while his playing partner Tim Herron fell to the ground in amazement.

The hole was only insured for one golfer to win a car with a hole-in-one, but Bristol County Dodge owner Mo Claire felt it was only right that McCarron also win a new Dodge Intrepid, so he generously awarded one to him as well.

While tournament co-hosts Faxon and Andrade were obvious crowd favorites, so too were the Quigleys. Champions Tour legend and former local golf pro Dana Quigley teamed up with his nephew Brett Quigley many times in the earlier years of the event and seemed to have a large following wherever they went.

Brett had his father Paul – a local golfing legend – on his bag for the tournament while Dana had his son Devon – a golf star at URI – on the bag. It was a



Tom Ryan

true family affair and an absolute pleasure to watch.

Speaking of our tournament co-hosts, there was a point where many of us wondered if either Brad Faxon or Billy Andrade would ever win their own tournament. Each had come close, but couldn't break through.

Then, in 2017, Andrade partnered with two-time defending champion Keegan Bradley and Canadian LPGA star Brooke Henderson to reach the winner's circle. It would be the first of three consecutive wins for the trio from 2017-2019 before the COVID pandemic essentially shut down the world.

For the first decade-plus of the tournament, who could forget the annual player's clinic hosted by the field on the 18th green? Led by the hilarious

impersonations of Peter Jacobsen, it was the perfect primer for the tournament to help get fans in the right mood for good golf and great times along the fairways of Rhode Island Country Club.

What made it even more special, was the fact that most of the golfers Jacobsen was impersonating were there to see it live. Peter's impersonation of Arnold Palmer was a particular favorite of mine and the crowd at the event, not to mention The King himself who seemed to get quite a kick out of it.

There were so many special moments over the 20+ years of the event like the father-son combination of Jay and Bill Haas winning the event in 2004. One of my personal favorites and a true gentleman – Nick Price – found the winner's circle three times in 2001, 2006 and 2009.

The list of players who have played in the event looks like a who's who list of top golfers from the PGA, LPGA and Champions Tour.

Players like Nicklaus, Palmer, Lee Trevino, Greg Norman, and Gary Player, all teed it up in the CVS Charity Classic. So, too, did stars like Rory McIlroy, Rickie Fowler, Sergio Garcia, John Daly, David Toms and Davis Love III. As did LPGA stars like Inkster, Morgan Pressel, Paula Creamer and Natalie Gulbis.

The tournament provided for a laid-back atmosphere where southern New England golf fans could get up close and personal with their favorite players making for a wonderful few days each summer here in Rhode Island.

But above all else, through the efforts of Faxon, Andrade and CVS, tens of millions of dollars were raised and donated to local charities. And that is why they decided to create this event in the first place.

At their core, Brad and Billy are extremely charitable people. Their Andrade/Faxon Children's Charities initiative was started well before the first CVS Charity Classic in 1999 and had already donated millions to local charities.

Yes, we will miss the CVS Charity Classic golf tournament. But we will forever be grateful for all that Brad Faxon, Billy Andrade and CVS have done for our community.

I think that I speak for all in southern New England when I say from the bottom of my heart, "Thank You!" ■

**Scott Cordischi is a long-time sports talk show host, and writes a column in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com).**



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# Hazelton Returning to Former Glory Rehoboth, Massachusetts



If you want to score a few birdies, why not play at a great golf course that is named after a bird? That would be the Hazelton Golf Club in Rehoboth, Mass. located only a few miles from the Rhode Island border.

Back in 1959, famed golf architect Geoffrey Cornish laid out the design for a course called Sun Valley. Sun Valley was an easy-walking course surrounded by weeping willow trees that became a favorite of golfers in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. But over the years, the course and clubhouse fell into disrepair. Storms toppled many of the trees, and weeds grew in the fairways. Eventually the course closed; disappointing a lot of golfers including Joe Moniz of Warren, Rhode Island.

Joe was a local businessman and entrepreneur who in 2012 purchased Crestwood Country club, a private course just a mile down the road from Sun Valley. Moniz made improvements at Crestwood, and it is now one of the premier golf courses in the area.

Looking for a new project, Joe decided to make a significant investment and bring the old Sun Valley back to its glory days. Joe said, "I had such fond memories of Sun Valley that I wanted to make an investment necessary to provide a great course for the area public-golfer that I myself enjoyed for so many years." He added "It has been well received so far."



**New & Improved Clubhouse**



**Looking Back Down the Long Third Hole**

Joe hired Tim Gerrish, who had worked with Geoffrey Cornish, to bring Sun Valley back to life. The Gerrish team excavated the grounds and designed 18 new greens and fairways. The revitalized course is a true championship design playing 7,100 yards from the back tees. The tees and greens were re-seeded with a new type of bent grass and an updated irrigation system was installed to create luscious fairways. The course has five sets of tees, including orange tees (forward tees) for the novice golfer.

Also, a major investment was made to create a beautiful new clubhouse and lodge. The new building is a combination of stones and a brick archway, reminiscent of the classic you would see in the hills of Tuscany. Inside, the brick arches frame the large marble bar, and the spacious dining room. In the warm weather live entertainment is provided, and an expansive patio gives you the option of watching the sun set over the golf course.

Green fees are very reasonable, and once again golfers from Massachusetts and Rhode Island are returning to their old stomping grounds.

Where does the bird come into the story? Joe is a big animal lover. One day he was at Crestwood when a friendly white pigeon appeared next to the clubhouse. Joe started feeding the bird and every place Joe went, the bird would follow him like a faithful dog. Joe named her Hazel, and when they designed the logo for Hazelton, they incorporated a drawing of Hazel the pigeon. ■

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## John N. Calvino, Esq.

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### ***Sponsor of You Make the Ruling***

Collin and Xander were playing a match. Collin was not at the tee at the appointed time. When it was his turn to tee off, the referee for the match declared a disqualification and Rory was announced as winner. Collin showed up four minutes late and said that he could play and just lose the first hole. Is he correct?

**Ruling:** Yes, Collin is correct. A new rule (Rule 6-3a) allows for players to not be disqualified if they arrive within five minutes of their tee time. They would still be assessed a penalty of losing the first hole in match play and a two-stroke penalty in stroke play.

## Menante Back To Defend At 60th NORTHEAST AMATEUR

Last year's champion, Dylan Menante from Pepperdine University is back to defend his title in the 60th playing of the Northeast Amateur, which will run from June 22nd through the 25th at historic Wannamoisett Country Club in East Providence, R.I..

Some of the best players in the world of amateur golf traditionally play in the Northeast Am and 101 players have been invited to the Rumford neighborhood for a week to test their games against the par 69 layout. This past offseason the Donald Ross course underwent a major restoration with the guidance of renowned architect Andrew Green which included expanding many of the greens, moving and reshaping bunkers, all new sand, leveled and resurfaced all tee boxes as well as adding yardage to holes 6, 12 and 16.

This will be one of the few times the event will welcome back its defending champion, because the Northeast attracts so many great collegiate players who turn professional the next year. It's rare to have anyone return to defend-- Collin Morikawa of Cal Berkley, was the last to do it. Only three other players have won consecutive Northeast titles; Luke Donald (200-'01), Jay Sigel (1984-'85) and John Cook ('78-'79).

The Northeast will be loaded with All-Americans. Three first team All-Americans, Fred Biond from the University of Florida, Cole Sherwood from Vanderbilt and Gordon Sargent, the Individual NCAA champ also from Vanderbilt are in the field as well as 39 NCAA Division One All-Regional winners. The Northeast also features some of the best juniors in the country and always invites some of the top mid amateurs. "The mid-ams add a real nice flavor to our event, said tournament chairman, Ben Tuthill.



Dylan Menante

One of those mid-ams is Brockton, Mass firefighter, Matt Parziale, who captured the USGA Mid-Am in 2017 and competed at the Masters in 2018. "Matt can certainly compete against these college kids and the juniors. We also have Stewart Hagestad back (who was the low mid am in the 2017 tournament and won the Joseph Sprague Sr. Trophy, which is given for that accomplishment). He has played in the Open and competed in the Masters. We'll see if those guys can make a run at it, said Tuthill."

Wannamoisett is not a long golf course by today's standards, but Parziale says, "It doesn't need to be. The greens are tricky. You have to be in the right spots. I'm always learning new things every round. Everyone says this is the best tournament of the year, from the mid-ams to the college kids. We love to come here. It's a really fun event."

Dozens who are now household names on the PGA and even Champions Tours have competed in

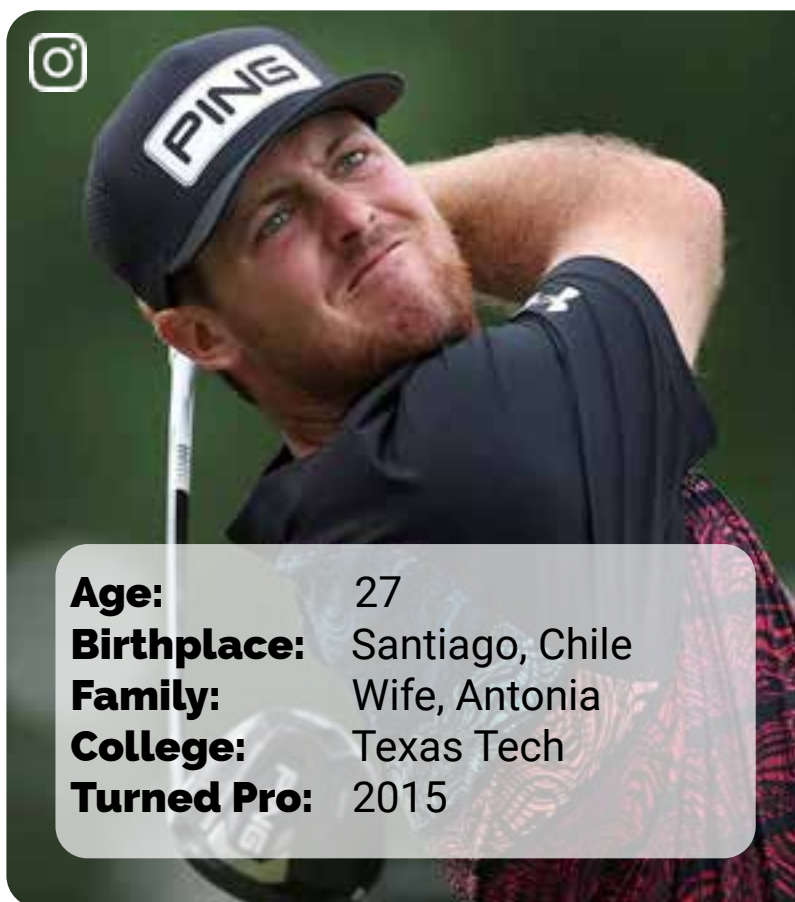
this event over years, including Bryson DeChambeau. “Bryson played here a couple of years ago,” said Tuthill. “It’s not that much of a surprise to see guys who played here win out on the PGA Tour. Every year I get the question, ‘who is the big name here this year’ and the answer is you don’t really know. Any of the 101 players we have in this field this year could go on and do unbelievable things in golf. We’ve seen it time and time again. You look at the history of the players who have been here and have gone on to accomplish incredible things,” said Tuthill who will be hosting for his ninth year, and he also played in four Northeast’s.

The participants in the Northeast Amateur is a “who’s who” of professional golf. Scottie Scheffler played here three times as did Sam Burns and Cameron Champ. Both of Jack Nicklaus’ sons played here. Freddie Couples played in 1980. Brad Faxon played six times, and all three Quigleys have played here. Webb Simpson played four times and Justin Thomas played in three events. Dustin Johnson played in 2006 and 2007, and Rickie Fowler was also here in 2007. PGA of America President Seth Waugh’s son, Clancy, played in the event for four years. Peter Uihlein won and set a new record in 2011.

And there will be the local flavor as well; Wannamoisett members Bobby Leopold, RI Junior champion Patrick Welch, Davis Chatfield, now at Notre Dame, Nick Maccario of Waltham, Mass., Billy Forcier of Rumford and Joe Tucker of Warwick, RI are all in the field.

There is no charge to come and watch the best amateur players in the world, and Wannamoisett is a very nice walking course. See the PGA Tour stars of tomorrow! They put on quite a show. Imagine telling your friends that you had followed Scottie Scheffler, or Justin Thomas or even Tiger Woods around Wannamoisett C.C. where you can get up close and personal with the players. ■

*Bruce Vittner is the publisher/editor of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com) and a member of the Golf Writers of America and the Golf Travel Writers of America and can be reached at [bruce@snegolfer.com](mailto:bruce@snegolfer.com).*



**Age:** 27  
**Birthplace:** Santiago, Chile  
**Family:** Wife, Antonia  
**College:** Texas Tech  
**Turned Pro:** 2015

## Mito Pereira

It was fun watching Mito Pereira, a native of Chile, play the final round of the recent PGA Championship in Oklahoma. He led the final round all day, until a poor drive on 18 led to a double bogey and a tie for third. He was very gracious afterwards talking to the media. He and his wife now live in Jupiter, Fla. and he and his wife are waiting for their first child.

He turned professional in 2015 after attending Texas Tech. He started on the Latino-American Tour and rose to the Korn-Ferry Tour. He won back-to-back events on the Korn-Ferry Tour in 2020-21 and also had a third win to secure his PGA Card for the 2021-22 season. He currently has earned \$3,488,115 through May 28, 2022. He currently stands at 35 in FedEx standings with 749 points.

**RISING STAR**

## LaSalle Takes Home All The Hardware

After a little more than a month, high school golf season in Rhode Island is over. The season came to a close this past week with the boys' individual State Championship and the team State Championship at Cranston Country Club. The girls' individual State Championship was held two weeks ago at Warwick Country Club.

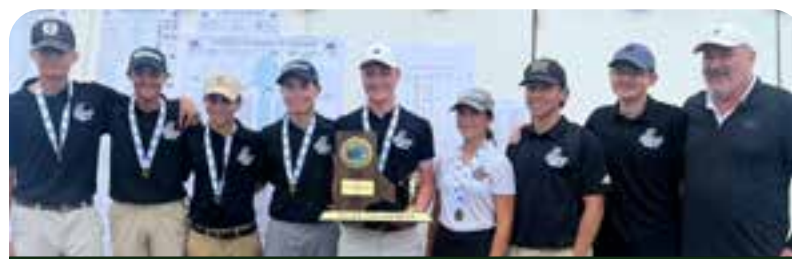
La Salle's Olivia Williams won the Rhode Island High School Girls State Championship on Tuesday afternoon at Warwick Country Club. Williams posted an 18-hole score of four-over 76 to win the title by two shots over Barrington's Lily Dessel and four shots over Bay View's Morgan MacLeod. "My mindset was just to take everything one shot at a time and stay focused on my process for every shot," said Williams after the round. Moses Brown's Kylie Eaton finished fourth, Rogers' Meghan Mureddu took fifth and Smithfield's Samantha Tinsley finished sixth.

For the second year in a row, La Salle phenom Max Jackson is the State Individual Champion. Jackson posted a two-round score of 139 (3-under) at Cranston Country Club to win the title by five shots over Narragansett's Sebastian Carlson and Moses Brown's Harry Dessel. "It was crazy. This year definitely felt a little closer than last year, Harry was playing great. Coming down the stretch there was definitely a lot of pressure. But this one feels different. We have a clean sweep this year, boys individual, girls individual and team so I'm glad that I did my part," said Jackson after the round.

Jackson becomes the first player to win back-to-back State titles since Will Dickson won four in a row from 2014 to 2017. Jackson has been open about going for four in a row, which would tie Dickson's record.

The La Salle Academy Rams won the 2022 High School Golf State Championship on Wednesday afternoon at Cranston Country Club. The Rams posted a two-day score of 605 (37-over) to beat Bishop Hendricken by 19 shots and claim the title.

"This kind of was a dominant year for us. We led the state in scoring average, and we showed it in these big tournaments. I'm just really happy for our seniors. This year just felt different because of how close we all were," said La Salle star Max Jackson after the round. In the final round, the Rams were led by Jackson, who posted a



**LaSalle Boys Team**



**Olivia Williams**

72. Meanwhile, Girls' champ Olivia Williams contributed a 74, and Joseph Earley added a 75. Charles Melvin rounded out the scoring with a final round 80. ■

*Joe Calabro is the owner of GolfNewsRI and writes a junior column in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com).*



## Zac Stennett's Unusual Rise to Golf Professional

Zac Stennett was a baseball player at Eastern Connecticut and was majoring in Finance. After graduation he was hired at Citibank, and his boss said that he should start playing golf so that he could interact with clients on the course.

He joined Tallwood G.C. in Hebron, Ct. in 2011. "I could always hit a long distance in baseball, and it was the same in golf when I started," recalled Stennett who was always asked to play in scrambles because of his long drives.

He quickly got hooked on the game of golf, and played almost every day under the tutelage of John Nowbilsky who was the head professional for about 40 years. "I went from a 9-handicapper to a plus 4 in less than two years," remembered Stennett who kept asking Nowbilsky to hire him as an assistant. "We've never had an assistant," was Nowbilsky's reply, but he finally gave in and gave Zac the job of assistant after showing up at the course for about 25 days straight.

"I knew that this was what I wanted to do for my life's work," said Stennett who added that it didn't feel like a job to him as he was having so much fun.

Becoming a PGA Professional is not an easy task. The part that keeps many hopefuls from reaching their goal of being a PGA member is the playability component. The candidate must shoot a particular score over two rounds of golf. The score is based on a formula with the course rating, and it must be accomplished in playing the 36 holes in one day.

Another part of the criteria for membership is the course work (that course in regards to books, not green grass!) Potential members have to take a certain number of courses to earn their membership status. "I was lucky that I had a four-year degree from college, and some of that was used to reduce the number of courses that I had to complete," said Stennett who completed his continuing education degree and earned his PGA membership in 2017.

"What kept me going was that this didn't seem like a job to me. I loved every minute of it. Yes, you work really hard, and the hours can be very long—50-60 per week, and you often don't have much time at home—especially



on the weekends, but it's GOLF not work," added Stennett.

"You are always working with people. The PGA is a wonderful organization that has almost 30,000 members, and there is great camaraderie," said Stennett who often gets to play in local and regional PGA events to help earn money and learn from other members.

"Golf professionals certainly get to where a lot of hats," said Stennett as he talked about overseeing the food and beverage department as well as running leagues and purchasing supplies and equipment. This is in addition to giving lessons. "This is a multi-million dollar business, and you have a lot of responsibility," added Stennett.

Stennett talked about the owner of Tallwood, Dana Barnes. "Mr. Barnes had owned Twin Hills for a few years and just bought Tallwood this year. I had been the head pro at Twin Hills, and he asked me to come to Tallwood, and it has worked out wonderfully," remarked Stennett.

"I am so fortunate to know and work with George Connor of Connor Golf who has been teacher of the year many times in the Connecticut PGA. He is the coach of the Portland H.S. team as well as a teacher at Tallwood, and he coaches my son, Luke, who is a student at Portland H.S. and led the school to the state championship as he won the individual championship," said a proud Zac. "I can't see myself doing anything else for the rest of my life," said Stennett.

That is quite an endorsement for a career choice, this reporter would say! ■

*Bruce Vittner is the publisher/editor of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com) and is a long-time member of the Golf Writers of America and the Golf Travel Writers of America and can be reached at [bruce@snegolfer.com](mailto:bruce@snegolfer.com).*

## Ali Davey Enjoying Being Head Pro at Twin Hills

Ali Davey got her start in golf at Indian Hill in Newington, Ct. She started selling hot dogs, but worked her way to Golf Shop Manager. "I really learned so much about the golf industry those first couple of years", said the amiable Ali as we talked about how she got into the golf industry.

"I was able to play a lot of golf at Indian Hill when I wasn't working thanks to head pro Jim Bedus and his assistant Jeff Beyer, recalled Davey. She had gone to Central Connecticut College and was instrumental in starting a women's golf team at the school. "I wanted to play golf and they only had a men's team. So, it made sense to start a women's program," she remembers. "Lowell Lucas was the coach of the very good men's team, and he was helpful in getting us started," Davey said.

When Davey graduated, she took a job at Wethersfield C.C. as an assistant golf professional (the course that used to host the PGA event back in the 50's and 60's and was the forerunner of the Travelers Championship. (This reporter watched Arnold Palmer there in 1957, and got to speak to Palmer about it at the 50th anniversary of the Golf Writers of America in Myrtle Beach.)

"Mike Bailey gave me my first start at Wethersfield Country Club and I am very thankful. He really showed me the ropes and how to be a better instructor and all around golf professional" said Davey. In 2004 Davey married Jeff Beyer whom she had met at Indian Hill. "We used to work in Connecticut for seven months and then travel to Florida to work in the winter," recalled Davey who said it was often her and a bunch of golf pros staying in the same condo units and working at different places during the winter.

The majority of her work as an assistant golf professional has been at private courses. "I was at Tumblebrook C.C. for about 15 years. The members and staff really made me feel part of a family. Sometimes it didn't feel like work," said Davey. Allison went on to become the Head Golf Professional at Willowbrook Golf Course for 3 years. "I thought I knew what it was to be a golf professional, but until everything rests on your shoulders, you really don't know. I loved every minute that I worked at Willowbrook," said Allison. She spent the last two years at Tallwood Country Club, but was asked to be the Head Pro at Twin Hills Country Club.



"When Mr. Barnes purchased Tallwood this year, he needed a PGA Professional as the head pro and took Zac from Twin Hills and it opened the position of head professional for me at Twin Hill," said Davey. "There is really a lot symmetry between the courses and they are only fifteen minutes apart," she added.

Davey has a wonderful philosophy about teaching golf which she loves doing. "We really want to make people enjoy their golf experience and keep them playing it. Right now golf is hot, and we have had so many new golfers. It is my job to make sure that we retain these golfers with Lessons, leagues, and family programs," said Davey. She added that many women feel more comfortable with a woman instructor, but teaches a wide variety of students. "I have a passion for teaching everyone, but there is nothing more gratifying than watching junior golfers have success while having fun!"

"Covid really helped the golf industry. We found so many people who wanted to be outside and participate in a sport during the last two years. It is our job to help them enjoy the game and get better at it that makes it even more fun," said Davey who wanted to make sure that this article made the point that she usually beats her husband, Jeff, when they play golf together. ■

# Travelers Looking for Another Great Finish

[www.travelerschampionship.com](http://www.travelerschampionship.com)

After playing the final 444 yards at TPC River Highlands in Cromwell for what turned out to be a lucky 13th time in the Travelers Championship last year, Harris English (pictured right) became known as “Mr. 18th Hole.”

English certainly had no complaints. His 16-foot birdie putt on the eighth playoff hole finally overcame Kramer Hickok, gave him his fourth PGA Tour title and led to the Georgian being a captain’s pick of Steve Stricker for his first berth on the U.S. Ryder Cup Team that he helped to a record 19-9 victory over Europe.

“I played the hole so many times that I feel like it you gave me a 10-footer on that hole that I’ll probably make the putt,” English said via zoom during Travelers Championship Media Day in May. “The playoff actually got easier the more and more we went on. All I was thinking about was the next shot, so it really helps settle your focus down to what you are doing next.

“There was some pressure on the first (playoff) hole, then it got to be fun as we each gave it everything we had. It was like a one-on-one boxing match, which is why I enjoy match play. And the atmosphere and energy the fans were bringing was incredible. They stayed out there for all eight holes and were ready to keep going if we were going to a ninth hole.”

The constant roar of the fans who scurried between the 17th and 18th holes sounded more than 10 times the supposed 10,000 limit because of lingering COVID-19 restrictions, and the length of the playoff had a special effect.

“I had a few friends and family watching the telecast tell me they had to have a few more cocktails after 72 holes and then had a late dinner,” English said with a smile.

English’s decisive putt came after he and Hickok made 15 consecutive pars and was his second victory of 2021 after going winless for seven years. He earned



\$1,332,000 and was suddenly ranked 12th in the world after being 373rd in early September 2019 and headed to a career season and the Ryder Cup.

But lingering hip problems dating 10 years to his days at the University of Georgia finally led to surgery on Feb. 14 that he hoped would get him back to the PGA Tour for the U.S. Open on June 16-19 at The Country Club in Brookline, Mass., and the Travelers Championship the following week. The absence led to English slipping to 34th in the world rankings, something that he hoped he could improve quicker with an improved and stronger right hip.

“I’d been battling a torn labrum in my hip for a long time,” English said. “Injections stopped working, physical therapy stopped working and it kept getting worse and worse. Some days I wondered how I was going to make it through 18 holes, so I finally figured it was time to get it fixed surgically and strengthen around the hip and take the pressure off.”

Playing in his first Ryder Cup was a highlight of English’s career, but so was winning a Travelers Championship that ended more than two hours later than scheduled in gathering darkness at 8:09 p.m. on what thankfully was the longest day of the year.

“Anytime I can get my name on a trophy with Arnold Palmer on it is awesome,” English said, referring to “The King” winning the then-Insurance City Open at Wethersfield Country Club in 1956 and 1960.

English’s only PGA Tour start in the first five months of the year was a tie for 55th in the Sony Open in Hawaii in January, and he had surgery on his right hip on Feb. 14. He rehabbed twice a day at his home in Sea Island, Ga., after celebrating his alma mater winning the national football championship. He also drove three hours from his home to Augusta National Golf Club to watch the third round of the Masters.

As usual, Andy Bessette, executive vice president and chief administrative officer at Travelers, presented a special gift to the defending champion during Media Day, and this time it was a Georgia football helmet signed by Bulldogs quarterback Stetson Bennett, the MVP in the national championship game. Bessette “won” the helmet during an auction at a dinner at the Masters.

“I don’t have anything from the Bulldogs winning the title, so that’s so cool,” English said. “Thanks so much.”

“I guess we’ll have to call you ‘Harris the English Bulldog,’ ” Bessette said, eliciting a chuckle from the assembled media.

Health permitting, English will face a star-studded field that had early commitments from No. 1 Scottie Scheffler, whose four victories this year included the Masters; No. 5 Justin Thomas, who defeated Will Zalatoris in a three-hole aggregate playoff to win the PGA Championship; No. 6 Patrick Cantlay, the PGA Tour Player of the Year and FedExCup winner in 2021; No. 8 Rory McIlroy, who finished second in the Masters and eighth in the PGA; No. 11 Xander Schauffele, the 2021 Olympic gold medalist; No. 13 Dustin Johnson, the 2020 Travelers champion; No. 14 Zalatoris, who finished second and fifth in the past two Masters; No. 17 Joaquin Niemann; No. 19 Abraham Ancer; No. 20 Brooks Koepka; and No. 36 Harold Varner III. Watson, a fan favorite and major tournament supporter, might not be able to try to tie Hall of Famer Billy Casper for most tournament titles (four) because of a torn meniscus in his knee that he revealed after he tied for 30th in the PGA. ■

**Tournament tickets are on sale at [TravelersChampionship.com](https://www.travelerschampionship.com), and gates will be open to all spectators starting June 22 for the Celebrity Pro-Am. To purchase tickets and for tournament updates, visit [TravelersChampionship.com](https://www.travelerschampionship.com).**

## GELDERMAN WINS TITLE; D’AMARIO GETS TRAVELERS SPOT

The Connecticut PGA Championship had a similar ending to the Travelers Championship 11 months earlier. On May 24, Geoff Gelderman bested COVID-infected Adam D’Amario on the eighth extra hole to win the Connecticut Section PGA’s first major of the year at the Black Hall Club in Old Lyme, one of the most difficult courses in Connecticut.

But Gelderman, the second-year assistant pro at H. Smith Richardson Golf Club in Trumbull, won’t be playing in Connecticut’s biggest sporting event. He parred the eighth playoff hole, the par-4 fourth, to earn the \$4,500 first prize but is a recently registered PGA of America associate who is on the pathway to PGA membership. He will have to pass three levels of the Golf Professional Management Program and significant work experience before earning Class A standing.

“I’m satisfied with how I played, but I’d trade my check for a spot in the Travelers Championship,” said Gelderman, 37, who shot two 2-over-par 73s for a 36-hole total of 146. “Being a Connecticut guy from Trumbull, all I’ve ever thought about was playing in the Travelers Championship. And that’s all I was thinking about the whole time today. I didn’t even care what the money was, just playing in my first PGA Tour event.”

Meanwhile, D’Amario, who impersonated Harry Houdini with countless improbable saving pars throughout the final round, flew his second shot 25 yards over the green on the eighth playoff hole and failed to make a 20-foot par putt to continue the exciting exhibition. Still, the head pro at Indian Hill Country Club in Newington will get to play in the Travelers Championship for a second time without winning a qualifying tournament but earned the Section exemption for being the lowest scoring PGA of America Class A member from the Section. In 2018, he lost a playoff to Corey Harris in the Spring PGA Stroke Play Championship but advanced to Cromwell because Harris wasn’t a PGA of America member.

“It’s a little bittersweet because I’d like to win the tournament and put myself on the trophy,” said D’Amario, who also shot a closing 73 despite missing 14 of 18 greens in regulation, including 10 in a row at one point. “I can’t be upset with the way the playoff went with all of the back-and-forth.”

D’Amario’s longest playoff was nine holes in a Massachusetts Open qualifying, but this obviously had far more significance. And he had a magically saving touch

and came within two feet of a hole-in-one at No. 17 with a 7-iron. He had missed the previous 10 greens, including at the par-3 ninth hole, where his tee shot hit at the back of the green and careened down an embankment and into the edge of a parking lot, leading to a double bogey.

The playoff wasn't much different as D'Amario missed five of eight greens but stayed alive with a sand-saving par on the sixth extra hole, the par-5 second, despite his second shot ricocheting off a tree and 20 yards backwards. He also made a 10-foot putt for par at the seventh extra hole, the par-4 third, but couldn't save himself on the next hole, earning \$2,800 and the coveted Travelers Championship berth that he knew he had secured before the playoff began.

Meanwhile, Gelderman made a downhill 25-foot putt on the fourth playoff, the par-4 fifth, after dumping his approach shot into a bunker. He got up-and-down for par from a bunker at the seventh extra hole, making a 4-foot putt to extend the playoff to what became the decisive hole.

D'Amario said he played "way better than I expected" after going into COVID-19 protocol a week earlier and locking his clubs in the Indian Hill pro shop until he received clearance to play according to CDC guidelines before the first round Monday. He rode solo in a cart but donned a mask whenever he approached anyone.

"A smooth swing tempo is something that I haven't had for a while," D'Amario said. "I kind of ran out of gas (in the first round) when I bogeyed five of six holes on the back nine, but I managed to really scramble well today."

D'Amario, who shot 74-78 to miss the cut in his Travelers Championship debut, won the Connecticut Section PGA Professional Championship in 2011 and has qualified for the national PGA Assistants Championship four times and the national Club Pro Championship twice.

Three-time winner Adam Rainaud, a former assistant at Black Hall and four-time Section Player of the Year, was tied for the lead until he made a bogey and double bogey at the 14th and 15th holes. He sank a 10-foot putt for birdie 2 at the 17th but narrowly missed another birdie bid at No. 18 that would have got him into the playoff. He also wasn't eligible for the Travelers Championship because he's the pro at the Country Club of New Canaan, which is in the Metropolitan (N.Y.) Section PGA.

Rainaud tied for third with Jason Gobleck, 52, a teaching pro at Lyman Orchards CC in Middlefield, and former winner Chris Tallman, the PGA general manager at the Orchards Golf Club in Southwick, Mass., both of whom also had a share of the lead on the back nine.

Gobleck bogeyed the 14th and 18th holes, missing a 20-foot putt for par on the final green that would have got him into the playoff. Tallman, the three-time reigning Section Player of the Year, bogeyed the 14th and 15th holes in shooting 75. ■

## PALADINO CONTINUES TORRID ROLL

After a stellar amateur career that included time at Baylor University, Cody Paladino (pictured below) had a so-so five years in the professional golf ranks, though he says he thoroughly enjoyed most of the 22 countries that he visited while competing in 125 events on four tours worldwide, including nearly a full season in China.

Paladino turned pro in 2015, but frustration from a lack of consistent success caused him to decide to apply for reinstated amateur status in October 2018 after four seasons on the PGA Tour LatinoAmericana. It was what he called "an excruciatingly tough decision" that reached fruition in April 2020, but he hasn't regretted it while becoming Connecticut's No. 1 amateur by far, including an unprecedented run at the start of this year.

Paladino shot 7-under-par in winning the first two Connecticut State Golf Association One-Day Tournaments at Stonington Country Club and Topstone Golf Club in South Windsor. Then despite gusting 20-30 mph winds, Paladino was medalist in the U.S. Open local qualifying at the Golf Club at Oxford Greens to advance to the sectionals for the fifth time in hopes of earning his first berth in the national championship June 16-19 at The Country Club in Brookline, Mass. Then he and fellow reinstated amateur Nick Cook went 9-0 in leading the CSGA to a record fifth consecutive victory over the Connecticut Section PGA in the Julius Boros Challenge Cup at New Haven Country Club.

Paladino continued his stellar start to 2022 when he made an astonishing 11 birdies and only one bogey in shooting 10-under 134 in the 36-hole windup of the CSGA



Russell C. Palmer Cup at Wampanoag Country Club in West Hartford. The sterling 67-67 finish gave Paladino a three-round total of 10-under 206 and an eight-stroke victory over Chris Ayers, who closed with 68-72.

Paladino, 33, of Hartford Golf Club, was tied for ninth and one shot behind co-leaders Jack Junge and Arthur Ouimet after an opening 72 but obliterated the competition with a memorable double-round finish to capture the first CSGA major championship of the year. Ayers, of Goodwin Golf Club in Hartford, finished one stroke ahead of James Sheltman of Wallingford, the only one player to finish under par (71-69—215).

"I just kept hitting solid shots and hit a ton of greens in regulation," said Paladino, who continued his superior play as the wind increased appreciably as the day progressed.

Paladino said a 30-foot birdie putt on the first hole was "the spark that I needed, and I just kept telling myself to make more birdies."

Paladino won the 2021 New England Amateur to go with victories in the CSGA Public Links (2006), Palmer Cup (2013), CSGA Amateur (2013) and Tournament of Champions (2013). He was the CSGA Player of the Year in 2006 and 2013, and in 2007, he finished runner-up at the U.S. Public Links Championship, losing to soon-to-be tour professional Colt Knost. The following year, he was eliminated in the Round of 32 by a young Californian named Rickie Fowler and competed in multiple U.S. Junior Amateurs and U.S. Amateur and finished in the Top 20 in the prestigious Northeast Amateur at Wannamoisett CC in Rumford, R.I.

In pandemic-ridden 2020, Paladino earned his first CSGA Dick Tettlebach Player of the Year without a single victory. He ended his winless streak in the 2021 New England Amateur at Great River Golf Club in Milford to become the first state player to win the tournament since John VanDerLaan in 2014 and the first to capture the event in Connecticut since future PGA Tour player J.J. Henry at New Haven CC in 1998. Paladino's older brother won the title in 2007.

The victory was Paladino's first in a stroke-play event since the 2015 Connecticut Open. He later tied for second in the CSGA Mid-Amateur and then capped his impressive season by competing in the U.S. Mid-Amateur, where he reached the Round of 64 in his first USGA appearance since 2010. It all helped Paladino earn a fourth Player of the Year and become the first repeat winner since Jeff Hedden captured the award three times in a row in 2008-10. Paladino is now well on his way to joining Hedden in those ranks. ■

## CSGA WINS RECORD SIXTH STRAIGHT CHALLENGE CUP

Paladino and Cook (Tashua Knolls GC-Trumbull) dominated in the CSGA's Challenge Cup win. The amateurs were missing three eligible players because they were competing in the USGA Four-Ball Championship but still prevailed 40.5-31.5, though the pros still a lopsided 34-17 advantage in the series.

Other major contributors for the CSGA side were Patrick Griffin (GC of Avon) and James Sheltman (Wallingford), who earned 7.5 points, while the duos of seniors Dave Jones (Mohegan Sun GC-Baltic) and Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame member Bill Hermanson (Black Hall Club-Old Lyme) and Ben Conroy (New Haven CC) and Rick Hayes (Silver Spring CC-Ridgefield) each scored 5.5 points.

The Connecticut Section PGA was led by Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame member Fran Marrello (PGA Life Member) and Mike Martin (Tashua Knolls GC) with 7.5 points. Marrello had the shot of the day when he holed a 110-yard wedge from the rough for eagle 3 at No. 18.

The event dates to 1972 and honors World Golf Hall of Famer Julius Boros, Connecticut's greatest player who won the PGA Championship and the U.S. Open.

Sheltman and Dan Murphy (H. Smith Richardson GC) combined to shoot 1-under 141 for 36 holes and win the CSGA Two Man Championship at the Black Hall Club. They finished two strokes ahead of the teams of Ben Day (New Haven CC) and Ed Day (Wallingford CC) and Conner McGovern and Brad Tilley, both of Brooklawn CC in Fairfield. ■

## LYMAN ORCHARDS GC RECOGNIZED AGAIN

Lyman Orchards Golf Club & Golf Center in Middlefield was selected by the Connecticut Section PGA to receive the 2022 Walter Lowell Public Golf Course Distinguished Service Award. The club also was honored in 2003 and will be recognized for a second time at the Walter Lowell PGA Tournament on May 31 at Manchester Country Club.

In the mid 1960's, the Lyman family decided they wanted to leave the dairy business and transition into a new way of utilizing the land that they had owned since 1741. Their decision resulted in the creation of the Robert Trent Jones Course, which opened in 1969. In 1994, the

Gary Player Course opened as a dramatically different layout. Finally, in 2012, the Lyman Family built The Apple 9 Executive Course and practice facility to complement its two championship courses.

Besides a multitude of tournaments and events it hosts, Lyman Orchards prides itself on junior golf and player development. Its PGA Junior League program has grown from 23 participants in 2018 to almost 200 in 2021, ranking first in New England and seventh nationally. And the club has been a pioneer in women's golf and developed one of the strongest programs in the country with "Golf Fore Women," led by 2021 LPGA Teacher of the Year Marissa Kulig-Crow. In 2021, the program grew to 1,300 women across five levels of session offerings and included a 250-person ladies league.

Since 2001, the Walter Lowell award has honored a public golf course in the Section in recognition of its dedication to the promotion of the game. The award was inaugurated in honor of the Canton Golf Course for the standards it set serving the community and providing playing opportunities for all those who want to play and learn the game while operated by the Lowell family, led by Section PGA and PGA of America Hall of Fame member Walter Lowell. ■

## YOUNG AMONG 30 TO RECEIVE U.S. OPEN EXEMPTIONS

On May 23, former Bridgeport resident Cameron Young, who tied for third in the PGA Championship, was among 30 additional players to earn full exemptions into the U.S. Open. At the start of June, Young, whose father is the longtime pro at Sleepy Hollow CC in Scarborough, N.Y., had three runner-up finishes, most on the PGA Tour this year, and two thirds in his rookie season. He was 12th in the FedExCup standings and 30th in the Official World Golf Ranking.

Others to receive full exemptions included Zalatoris, major championship winners Adam Scott and Vermont native Keegan Bradley, 2012 Travelers Championship titlist Marc Leishman and Matt Fitzpatrick, who tied for fifth in the PGA Championship and won the 2013 U.S. Amateur at The Country Club. There are now 79 fully exempt players for the third men's major of the year. ■

**Bruce Berlet, the long-time sports writer for the Hartford Courant writes a Ct. Notebook in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com).**

## Kirby Qualifies for U.S. Senior Open

In a pressure packed one day qualifier, Ed Kirby (pictured below) opened with a birdie on the first hole to get to one-under.

After four straight pars, he dropped another birdie on the sixth hole to move to two-under and inside the projected cut line. However, a bogey on eight send him backwards, turning at 34. On the backside, Kirby parred seven straight holes before bogeying the 17th hole to drop back to even.

The Aquidneck Club pro needed a birdie on the last to get inside the cut and that's exactly what he did. Kirby drained the birdie putt on 18, pumped his fists in the air as the putt dropped and he was in the U.S. Senior Open. ■



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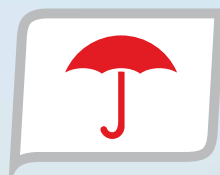
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# Head Golf Professional Martha Wells

## Shares Her Secrets About Excelling in a Male-Dominated Industry



**W**hen she was just out of Penn State where she majored in biology, Martha Wells, switched gears from medicine to golf. "I decided I had a passion for the game and just had to follow it," she said.

Now Head Golf Professional at Skaneateles Country Club, NY, Martha, 51, shares her experiences on her way to achieving her goals in an industry dominated by men.

**Q.** Where did you grow up?

**A.** Homer, NY (a small village near Cortland, NY)

**Q.** When did you start playing golf?

**A.** I started hitting the ball when I was 4. My backyard was the Cortland Country Club and my dad started taking me out to play.

**Q.** Was there an "ah-ha" moment when you switched from medicine to golf?

**A.** Not so much. I just knew I loved golf and wanted to be outside.

**Q.** How tough was it going through the educational process to become a pro?

**A.** There were a few challenges and at that time there was still that glass ceiling when it came to women in the field. It took me three times to pass the Player Ability Test (allowing me to get into the PGA program) but I finally did it. I also got passed over for a couple of jobs but it seemed when those doors closed others opened up.

**Q.** Where did you start out?

**A.** I was an assistant golf professional at Medicine Hat Golf & Country Club in Alberta, Canada. Later I got the job as head professional at Radisson Greens in Baldwinsville. I loved it, loved the golf course.

**Q.** Tell us about some of the special programs you created?

**A.** While at Ithaca and later Cortland, I created Swing Sister Sundays, where ladies learn the game through clinics in fun, stress-free environment. It's a great way to get out and enjoy golf with friends and make new friends. The day typically runs from 11:30-4:30 including lunch and after that girls can go out and play 9 holes. And one of my

biggest challenges has been to develop the PGA Junior League where junior golfers ages 7-14 play team golf.

**Q.** What about industry awards?

**A.** When I took the job as Head Golf Professional at the Country Club of Ithaca, I received three CNY PGA's Merchandiser of the Year awards and was finalist for National PGA Merchandiser of the year. Then at Cortland Country Club, I was named 2017 CNY PGA Golf Professional of the Year. This past year I got the CNY PGA Player Development Award.

**Q.** How do the hours impact your personal life?

**A.** It can be difficult but my family and my job have always been my priorities. (To be closer to her family, she moved back to Homer in 2009) Hours can be long running from early in the morning around 6:30 to 8 or 9 at night as well as weekends and holidays. But I have learned to balance my job with my personal life and really enjoy working and being with friends.

**Q.** If you had to pick another path or career, what would it be?

**A.** I wouldn't know what to do.

**Q.** What are the perks of being a woman in charge?

**A.** As a woman, I am recognizable. (Editor's note: Indeed. Martha is blond, pretty, personable) I am fortunate to be a professional in this time when we're working to build a stronger network of PGA women professionals in the golf industry.

**Q.** Any additional hurdles of being a woman in a job traditionally male?

**A.** Perhaps I had to work harder to prove myself that I can handle certain situations; when it came to certain rulings, I learned it was important to stand your ground. Mastering management responsibilities also had it challenges. But females looking to get into this industry will find this is a really great

business to be in offering a lot of different avenues and work-life balance opportunities.

**Q.** What do you see for the future?

**A.** The South. I'm a warm weather person. I particularly enjoy Jupiter and West Palm, Florida.

**Q.** What do you like the most about being a head professional?

**A.** Developing relationships with members... they are like my family. ■

*Katharine Dyson is a member of the Golf Writers of America and the Golf Travel Writers of America, has her own publication—CNY Golfer, and writes a women's column in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com)*

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## Chapman Has Had Wonderful Career

There are three golf courses in Norton. One, TPC Boston, is well known as the home of PGA Tour events, including the FedEx Cup playoffs.

There are two others: Norton Country Club, a tight, semi-private course, and The Links at Mass Golf, a par-3 layout operated by MassGolf, the state's governing body. Both clubs have pros, but due to the nature of the courses and their missions, their jobs vary widely. Here's a look at them.

### Drew Chapman The Links at Mass Golf

When it comes to mentors, Drew Chapman could not have been blessed with a better one.

Tom Tetrault was the longtime golf professional at Fall River Country Club where Chapman first worked.

During his career, Tetrault won numerous awards, including the Rhode Island Golf Pro of the Year in 2006. He was even nominated for the national Golf Pro of the Year. But here is perhaps his greatest honor, and a sign of how well-respected he was by the members: The bridge leading into Fall River CC was named for Tom Tetrault in 2017, three years before he passed away.

Chapman is now the head pro at The Links, the Massachusetts home of The First Tee, a national program aimed at teaching the game and its values to young people. The par-3 course with its easy walkability and short front nine also makes it an excellent place for beginners of any age to break into the game.

Chapman's gentlemanly manner, his devotion to the game and its tradition of etiquette, sportsmanship and good manners – much of it learned from Tetrault – make him an excellent role model for the many youngsters swinging clubs for the first time.

"You have to be a trained instructor," Chapman said of his role at The Links, "but you also want the kids to learn the other things golf teaches you, like being polite and honest. So, I've really enjoyed that aspect here."

But Chapman knows well the jack-of-all-trades duties of being a golf pro in a more traditional private



club. For 31 years, he was the head pro at Highland Country Club until that 9-home gem in Attleboro closed.

He can quickly rattle off a list of the many hats he wore at Highland: instructor, event planner, merchandiser, club fitter, personnel manager, rules official, handicapper, master of ceremonies. Learning the business aspect of the job was perhaps the most important lesson Tetrault passed down to Chapman.

"Being a good business manager in New England is especially important because most golf professionals around here derive a lot of their income from the pro shop," he said. Summers at Highland meant working seven days a week for 65 to 70 hours. "I'd be lucky to play once a month," he said.

The pace is a bit slower at The Links although he still consistently works more than 50 hours a week. He also gets to play about once a week now. But you will never hear him complain about the hours spent on a golf course with players who love the game like he does. "I've never had a boring day in my life as a golf pro," he said.

## Kevin Altham Norton CC



When Kevin Altham (above, right) was a teen, he worked at Highland CC for Drew Chapman. He found he enjoyed the job, even if it was just working in the bag room, washing carts or helping members in the pro shop.

He liked being on a golf course, working outdoors and spending time with fellow enthusiasts for the game. "I just enjoyed it so much I decided to make a career of it," he said.

After a series of other head pro and assistant jobs, he's been the head pro for the last four years at Norton CC, a wooded, Geoffrey Cornish design. Besides being an instructor and running the pro shop, he considers his primary goal to be the social director for the roughly 260 members who spend a fair amount of their time and money to be a part of something special.

"Everybody comes here to enjoy themselves," he said, "and it's part of my job to make sure they do."

Like all pros, Altham runs the traditional leagues and tournaments. But at Norton, members enjoy mixing it up a little. So around the Fourth of July, he will run a flag tournament in which players will be assigned a number of strokes corresponding to their handicaps. When they reach their given number, they plant their flags.

Another favorite is a cross country tournament in which players will tee off but must negotiate their way around to an entirely different green. In the warm weather months, the days can be long, and Altham is at the club six days a week. But there are no complaints.

"It can be a bit of a grind at times but it's what I'm passionate about," he said. "This is what I like to do." ■

**Mike Kirby writes an Eastern Mass. Notebook Column in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com) and can be reached at [mkirbygolf18@gmail.com](mailto:mkirbygolf18@gmail.com).**



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## Quabbin Regional's Breton and Beaupre are Head Pros



P.J. Breton



Colin Beaupre

Quabbin Regional in Barre has had some excellent golf teams over the years, but a lot of high schools can say that. Not as many high schools, however, can boast of having two graduates who are head golf professionals in the state of Massachusetts. Quabbin can.

This year, P.J. Breton, 35, became the head pro at Tatnuck Country Club, a nine-hole private club in Worcester, and Colin Beaupre, 31, was hired as general manager and head pro at Holden Hills CC, an 18-hole public course just outside Worcester in Holden.

Breton grew up in Oakham and helped Quabbin win the Central Mass. Division 1 championship his junior year. He was a co-captain as a senior.

Throughout high school, he worked in the bag and cart barn at Quail Hollow Golf & Country Club in his hometown where his father was a member. His job at that golf course enabled him to earn a Francis Ouimet Scholarship to help pay for his room, board and books at the State University of New York at Delhi.

Breton spent nearly eight years as an assistant pro at Framingham CC before Tatnuck hired him.

August 26, 2011, is a date that means a lot to Breton.

It's the day he stopped drinking alcohol.

He was working at the time as an assistant pro at Eastwood Golf Club in Orlando, Florida, after struggling as a mini-tour player for a couple of years.

"I had to quit drinking," he said. "I realized that playing competitive golf took a toll on me. The stress of not making any money, the desire to be perfect, kind of took a lot out of me."

Some days he needed a nip on the first tee to handle the pressure. Other days, after going with friends, one beer turned into 12 of 15 and even that didn't seem enough.

AA meetings didn't do much for him, so he joined a gym and got heavily into fitness, more recently into crossfit. "That community helped," he said. "Just being around healthy people changed a lot of things for me."

But he largely quit drinking on his own. "My wife calls me the anomaly," he said. He met his wife, Alise, after he quit and they married in 2017, and live in Dudley where he built a gym in their basement.

Breton used to be reluctant to talk about his drinking problem. "If you tell them you're a recovering alcoholic," he said, "they at first judge you a little bit." He's since

learned that talking about his recovery has helped others with theirs. Breton also helps others as a golf pro, running tournaments, giving lessons and making members feel welcomed and comfortable.

Four years ago, the NEPGA presented Breton with the Massachusetts Chapter Youth Player Development Award and he joined the Growth of the Game committee.

Tatnuck CC hired Breton in January to replace Tim Bishop, who left to become head pro at Northern Spy Golf Club in Townsend. Beaupre credits Bishop with encouraging him and his friends to consider golf careers. Beaupre, Lucas Langelier and Nick Kowal were junior members at Petersham CC at the time and Bishop was the general manager and head pro.

All three played golf for Quabbin and graduated in 2009. Beaupre was a three-year captain. At 17, he became the youngest club champion at Petersham and he repeated as champion the following year. In February, Beaupre was hired as general manager and head pro at Holden Hills after he served as an assistant pro the previous eight years at Winchester CC.

Langelier is the lead assistant pro at Cochecho CC, a private, 18-hole club in Dover, N.H. Kowal is a Titleist sales rep in Florida.

Petersham CC, a nine-hole Donald Ross design that opened in 1922, closed for good in 2013, but the Petersham trio keep its memory alive. In 2019, the NEPGA named Beaupre the Mass. Chapter Assistant Golf Professional of the Year. In 2020, Kowal was named Sales Professional of the Year by the North Florida PGA. In 2021, Langelier was named New Hampshire PGA Assistant Professional of the Year.

Beaupre and Kowal grew up next door to each other in Barre. Langelier was raised in nearby New Braintree. "We grew up playing together," Beaupre said. "It was always the same threesome, us three. Best friends."

They also played in a rock band together. Beaupre played the drums, Langelier played the bass and Kowal played the guitar and sang.

Bishop's brother, Brian, is head pro at Maple Bluff CC in Madison, Wisconsin, and he studied professional golf management at Methodist University in Fayetteville, N.C. So Bishop recommended that the three junior golfers attend Methodist as well, and they did.

The three have kept in contact. Beaupre texted the other two to inform them that Holden Hills had hired him.

Methodist won the NCAA Division 3 golf championship for the 13th time this month and Beaupre

made the team as a freshman, but not as a sophomore and then he decided to concentrate on his studies.

Bishop, 57, is proud that Beaupre has followed in his footsteps by working at Holden Hills, a club where Bishop served as head pro many years ago. "It just feels like full circle," Bishop said.

Beaupre graduated from Methodist a semester early in December of 2013 with a degree in business administration and a concentration in professional golf management. In 2012, he served a six-month internship at The Country Club in Brookline which will host the U.S. Open June 16-19. He served another six-month internship in 2013 at Winchester CC and then worked in outside operations at Bear Lakes CC in West Palm Beach, Florida, for seven months before returning to Winchester as an assistant pro in March of 2014. The last four years at Winchester, he was the lead assistant.

Beaupre met his girlfriend, Xiali Lin, when he worked at Bear Lakes. In February, they bought a home in Sturbridge. PGA Tour commissioner Jay Monahan is a member at Winchester, but Beaupre said he's hardly ever there. Monahan's father, Joe, plays the course regularly, however.

Beaupre jumped at the chance to become GM and head pro at Holden Hills where he shot his most-under-par, 18-hole round, a 5-under 66 while playing with his father, Andy, about five years ago.

Holden Hills is quite a change from Winchester. Holden Hills is an 18-hole public course and Winchester is an 18-hole private course. "It's really different," Beaupre said. "The operation is a lot smaller with the space, with the amount of rounds. It's much more casual."

As general manager and head pro, Beaupre is in charge of everything except for maintenance of the course. Superintendent Kevin White and his staff handle that.

Beaupre oversees outings, leagues and pro shop stock. He also gives lessons.

"I think they're going to love him there," Bishop said. "He's a great kid. This business is not the easiest thing so you'd better learn quickly if you're going to stay in it and do it." ■

**Bill Doyle, a member of the Golf Writers of America and a long-time sportswriter for the Worcester Telegram, writes a Central Mass Notebook column in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com).**

## Jordan Very Busy At Shaker Hill

**A**t only 37 years old, Andy Jordan is not only the head professional at Shaker Hills Country Club (pictured below) in Harvard, a popular, beautiful and perfectly-groomed track that will test you're "A" game. He's also the general manager.

Jordan grew up in Sangerville, Maine, about 45 minutes northwest from Bangor. Currently, Jordan lives in Ashland with his wife, Nicoleta and their five-year-old son, Luke. He recently took a break from his busy schedule and agreed to a golfing conversation.



**Q.** How did you get started playing golf?

**A.** My grandmother had some old wooden clubs in her garage and a big field behind her house. When I was very young, I just enjoyed going there and hitting balls for hours. I would then pick them up and hit them all again.

**Q.** Did you play other sports as a kid?

**A.** I played a lot of recreational basketball, but golf was number one. I played golf just about every day our course was open.

**Q.** What course was that?

**A.** I played Piscataquis Country Club in Gilford, Maine.

**Q.** Who did you play your first rounds with?

**A.** My grandfather, Jake Jordan and my uncles Greg Jordan and Bill Pinkham were all very good players and I owe a lot to them for helping me when I started playing golf.

**Q.** Tell me about high school golf

**A.** I played at Piscataquis Community High and was No. 1 on the team all my four years there. I was a 6 handicap as a freshman and one year finished first in the qualifying tournament for the state championship.

**Q.** What did you do after graduating from high school?

**A.** I went to the Golf Academy of America in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and in two years earned a degree in golf management. That became a good stepping stone to getting a job in the golf business.

**Q.** Where was your first golf job?

**A.** I worked at Blue Hills Country Club in Canton from 2006 to 2010 under head pro Lou Katsos. He was a great mentor and I learned a lot there especially about merchandising and tournament operations.

**Q.** After Blue Hills, where did your career take you?

**A.** I worked for one season at White Cliffs Country Club in Plymouth, a beautiful spot which I loved. Then I worked my way up to a first assistant job at Wollaston Golf Club in Milton. I came here to Shaker Hills in July 2016 as the head professional and three years later also took over as general manager. I've been here ever since and love this place.

**Q.** What are some of the reasons for your love of Shaker Hills?

**A.** We have a great, hard-working owner in Fred Curtis Jr., whose sons, Freddie and Adrian, are excellent players. The course is a fantastic layout in a great location that draws players from Central Mass. and the Route 2 corridor extending out to Lexington, Concord and Boston. We provide a top-notch, public play golf experience here. Our peak weekend rate of \$119 includes golf, a cart and range

balls. This is a very popular place. Since the pandemic, we've had over 32,000 rounds played in the last two seasons.

**Q.** What's the most unique feature of Shaker Hills?

**A.** Well, on the spots for teeing off on the par 3 sixth or 13th holes with quite a dramatic elevation and a very steep decline, there is now a Shaker House with a tee box on top of the house.

**Q.** What are your main duties as pro and general manager?

**A.** I manage all the departments and that includes about 72 employees, taking care of the payroll, billing and accounting. I also manage the pro shop and the buying, I give lessons and take care of tournament operations. I'm very busy, and these days it's hard to find assistant pros willing to help and put in the long hours. For me, though, this is a great place because my schedule and work/life balance is perfect. I try to take Sundays off for my family. I'm very happy and haven't even looked at other job postings in several years.

**Q.** With a last name such as yours, were you

a Michael Jordan fan?

**A.** Absolutely. I still wear my Jordan sneakers on my days off. But I'm also still a huge Boston Celtics fan.

**Q.** What is your career low as a player?

**A.** At Piscataquis Country Club, I shot a 63, which was, at the time, the course record. I was about 21 years old, and I still remember having a 10-foot putt to shoot 62. I was playing with my grandfather too. That's a good memory.

**Q.** How many holes-in-one for you?

**A.** I have two, and the first one came on a par 4 in a high school golf match. I've never had an albatross, although I've come within a few inches of having one.

**Q.** Describe the beauty of golf?

**A.** I don't get to play as much as I used to, but I still just love being around the wonderful game of golf. I love being outside on the fairways and greens. It's the good shots that always bring you back. ■

*Jay Gearan writes a Central Mass Notebook in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com).*

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# Tim Bishop

## Head Professional Northern Spy Golf Club

**TOWNSEND**—It was football, baseball, basketball and track and field for Tim Bishop when he was a high school student at Minnechaug Regional in Wilbraham in the early 1980s.

Not golf then for the young man, who is 57 years old now and has been a golf professional at several courses over the years including his current spot—Northern Spy Golf Club, a private venue in Townsend.

After high school graduation Bishop entered Ithaca College, hoping to play football for the Bombers as an offensive lineman. On a lark and a suggestion from a friend, Bishop, without much playing experience, tried out for the Ithaca men's golf team in 1983, carded two rounds of 88 and, surprising himself, made it.

Bishop was hooked on the game, and his future was mapped out in front of him. After college, he began working in the bag room at President's Club in West Palm Beach, Florida. When he returned to Massachusetts he became an assistant pro at The Country Club of Greenfield before later head pro jobs at Holden Hills CC, Petersham CC, Ellinwood CC and Tatnuck CC in Worcester for several years before his latest position at Northern Spy.

Bishop, who lives in Rutland with his wife, Karen, have three children: Thomas, 26, Sarah, 22 and Tyler, 20.

Inside the Northern Spy clubhouse recently, Bishop agreed to an interview exploring his career.



Tim Bishop & his dog, Sugar

**Q.** Since becoming a private club in 2020, how has Northern Spy been doing?

**A.** We're doing great. We went from 200 members to 400 members and we're doing about 150 rounds a day. It's a lot of work, but I don't mind the work.

**Q.** What are your primary duties as head professional?

**A.** I handle public relations and I also manage the merchandise in the shop, focusing on pricing and inventory. I'm also in charge of tournament operations, public relations and employee scheduling.

**Q.** What are some of your personal achievements as a golfer?

**A.** I went from not being much of a competitor as a freshman to winning the Cornell Invitational when I was a junior at Ithaca. I've never won a New England PGA event, but I've had some top 10s in some sectional events. As a player, I'm just a plugger, and I love the game.

**Q.** You and Northern Spy general manager and director of golf Derick Fors go back a long way, correct?

**A.** Yes. I coached the Worcester Polytechnic Institute men's golf team in the early 2000s when Derick was our team's best player. We've always stayed in touch. He's a smart guy and a really good golfer who has spent most of his golfing life here in Townsend going back to when it was Townsend Ridge Country Club. When the course turned private, Derick called me and said he was the one person he wanted to hire for the job.

**Q.** How did you meet your wife, Karen?

**A.** Now that's interesting. I was working in the bag room at Framingham Country Club and Karen helped mow the greens for her father, Bill Whitley, who was the superintendent. And the rest, as they say, is history.

**Q.** Your mother, Susan, was very influential in getting you into golf, wasn't she?

**A.** My mom was a golfer, going back to her days

playing high school golf in the 1950s as the only girl on the boys' golf team at Framingham High. She later worked at the Country Club of Wilbraham, and we would play together in the couples league there on Friday nights. When I told her I wanted to try out for the Ithaca golf team, she told me, "Tim, just try to make a 5 on every hole. That's a 45 for nine holes." My mom and my Dad, Jim, are in their early 80s now and are still helpful to me, and I like to think I've made them proud.

**Q.** Who are some other influential people who you credit for helping you in your career?

**A.** Definitely Betsy Clark, a former LPGA player who was an instructor at Ithaca. Also Kurt Sokolowski, who was the pro at Framingham Country Club, Joe Carr, who is now at Bedrock and was at Holden Hills, and my brother, Brian, who is also a golf pro. And, of course, my all-time favorite from Greenfield Country Club, Bucky O'Brien. I wanted to be like him. He was there for 55 years, and he was the man- just an absolute class act, funny and so good and so respected by all the members.

**Q.** How many holes-in-one do you have?

**A.** Four. And the most memorable came on my first swing of the day at the old Colonial Country Club in Wakefield in an Oldsmobile Scramble.

**Q.** What do you do in the winter?

**A.** We have a place at the Villages in Florida. After working 60 to 80 hours a week during the golf season, I enjoy being at a place where I can relax and recharge. I play golf early in the morning, then walk my dog, Sugar and later in the day bike between 30 and 50 miles.

**Q.** What's your perfect day?

**A.** After being in the golf business now for 30 years and everything that goes with that, I still love playing 18 holes of golf with my wife.

**Q.** In just a few words, can you sum up your thoughts about your golf career and where you are now?

**A.** You meet so many great people in golf. I love what I do, and I do what I love. ■

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## The Golf Profession is in the O'Neill Genes

Entering his eighth season as Director of Golf of Chicopee Country Club, Mike O'Neill (pictured right) just received his 25-year Class A pin. He has been involved with golf since an early age, growing up in a golfing family. He took time out from the golf grind to share his thoughts about the daily life in the golf business:

"Being director, it is more about overseeing the entire operation; it is as much of an office job now as it is being out there greeting the golfer and working behind the register in the morning I check all the paperwork from the previous day to make sure the numbers line up. Ever since I started thirty years ago in this business, you are up in the morning getting carts out...there are a lot of aspects. Let's put it this way, you are never bored."

### Is any day average?

"When the weekends come, it is more old school. You can take a tour of the golf course, making sure everything is where it should be. I have always been from the school that the golf pro and superintendent are like the husband and wife of the golf course. We have good communication and a good relationship there. Mike Bach, (head course superintendent) is phenomenal. The food and beverage do their thing. We work with a golf commission. It is done with communication and a team effort," O'Neill said. "It is a well-oiled machine whether running a tournament, making sure the first tee is running well with pace of play. You want that customer, whether it is his first day or 100th, to come back for another round of golf."

### What got you into golf business?

"My father was a PGA Class A pro for 43 years (Bob O'Neill, Oxford C.C., Ludlow C.C.). I grew up on a golf course. Worked in the bag room, played golf all day, practiced, I fell in love with the game at an early age. I still love organizing tournaments and organizing the pro shop. My uncle Roy, he was the first pro ever at Chicopee C.C. and he still helps me out. I grew up in a golfing family, it is in the blood." (Asked if he would have done anything different, one word "Nope!")

### Favorite or least favorite parts of the job?

"Least favorite – the long hours. It is not the least favorite, but it is what you sign up for going in. There are days when you get here at 5:30 in the morning and



you are not leaving till 7:30 at night. It is not an everyday thing. Being at a golf course like Chicopee, I park my car in the morning, I walk up to the pro shop and look over my right shoulder and there is the first hole, one of the most picturesque spots on the course. And I say I am pretty fortunate to have the job I have. I am not stuck behind a desk all day. I can come out here surrounded by acres of golf course. It is not bad. Not a lot of people can say they do a job their whole life that they wanted to."

### How do you find time to play with the busy schedule?

If I play a half dozen rounds a year that's it. When my day is done, I go home and decompress and get ready for the next day. I don't play a whole lot. There are not a lot of slow days since Covid, which is where we want it at. There will be time for that. My playing days are limited right now."

### State of golf since the Covid pandemic?

"I think golf is in a great spot. I think Mass. was the last state to open up for golf. It flourished. People who had not been playing got back into it. People that never played started getting involved. There were no tournaments, tournaments are back. Businesses are getting involved; right now, golf is in a good spot. I think private and public courses are all in a good spot right now."

### Funny moment that breaks up the day?

"One of my employees said one day we are going to write a book titled "What time is the 12 o'clock shotgun? Daily calls that make you shake your head like how many holes are on your putting green? I am in West Springfield, it is raining here, what's it like there? Common sense things that you just shake your head." ■

*Chris Miracle writes a Western Mass. golf column in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com).*

# A Day in the Life with The Orchards GM

South Hadley native Chris Tallman, has been general manager of The Orchards Golf Club since June, 2019. He has been in the golf business since age 16, turned professional in 2010 as he landed his first assistant's position at Holyoke Country Club.

## Give an overview of what an average day - if there is one- on the job is for you?

"As a PGA general manager operating a private club, each day can be a new adventure. This is something that I enjoy about my job. As someone who likes to be hands on and likes to pitch in wherever possible, I have the opportunity to do a wide range of tasks. I always tell my team that I will never ask anyone to do something that I would not do myself. This has put me on maintenance equipment on the golf course, turning wrenches on golf carts, washing dishes in the kitchen, picking the range, filling water coolers, working on air conditioners, cleaning bathrooms, bar-tending, expediting food, and just about any other task you can think of. While these are not all everyday occurrences, they bring variety into a typical day and can pop up at any time.

Most of my days start around 7:00 am where I arrive to the golf course. I assist my team in any of the opening responsibilities such as unlocking golf carts, making coffee for the morning play, wiping down carts, etc. Once I get into the clubhouse, I typically do a walkthrough of the clubhouse to see if there are any areas that need to be cleaned prior to members arriving. Once I get into my office, I utilize the morning to answer emails and complete any daily, weekly, or monthly financial reports. As someone who enjoys greeting members, I'll often bounce in and out of my office to say hello to those arriving to the club in between emails. Once my morning office responsibilities are complete, I'll touch base with the Chef, Front of House Manager, Head Golf Professional, Superintendent, and Accountant to see how they are doing and what they have on their agenda for the day. I will also update them on what I have on my plate and any areas of focus for the day. In the afternoon I usually have a couple lessons which I teach which will get me through until about



2:00 pm or so.

Following lessons, I usually check in with members on the range and those that are heading out onto the golf course. I also like to take a walk through the restaurant to say hello to the members having lunch to see how the golf course played that morning. With a very busy schedule at the club, there are usually club communications that need to go out to the membership on a daily basis. This could be relating to tournaments, committee updates, social events, restaurant specials, live music, and much more. I enjoy writing these member communications and will typically shave some time out of my afternoon for this. I also use this time to

approve invoices from the different departments through the club. With seven different membership committees at the club which I sit on, I often have 5:00 p.m. meetings which I like to prepare for. The average day for me ends between 8:00 pm-9:00 pm in the summer. As mentioned, there is really no average day as we often have tournaments, social events, leagues, and many other things going on at the club on a regular basis. “

### **What made you want to get into the club professional side of the golf business?**

“Having started playing golf at the age of 4, I had the opportunity to spend a lot of time around some great PGA Professionals. Most notably Via Wightman at Holyoke Country Club. Experiencing and seeing the difference that he made in peoples lives through the game of golf really stuck with me. He had a passion for growing the game and always had a smile on his face when you walked into the golf shop. I knew early on that I wanted to follow in his footsteps.”

### **What are the favorite parts of your job, and maybe the least favorite if any?**

“I feel very blessed to do what I do. It is difficult for me to pinpoint my favorite parts of the job because there are so many. I suppose it would have to be the membership and the people I get to meet. I have made a lot of lifelong friends through the game of golf, and we have a terrific and supportive membership. The golf course for many is a second home, and I enjoy making people feel welcome. Though I love being a golf professional, the biggest challenge is maintaining work life balance. It often seems like there is not enough time in the day. I am fortunate to have an amazingly supportive wife who understands my passion for what I do and an incredible team that gives me the opportunity to sneak away for the occasional family gathering.”

### **How do you find time to balance daily responsibilities at the club while trying to find time to maintain your golf game to compete in section tournaments?**

“As someone who loves to play the game competitively, it can be a challenge to find time to practice while managing my responsibilities at the club. While practice time is almost nonexistent, I do

compete in tournaments as frequent as possible. It may not be ideal, but I use competition to keep my game sharp. I feel it is the best way to get the most out my efforts.... every shot counts. A concentrated form of practice if you will. The mental game is also at the forefront. I may not physically swing a club as often as some, but that doesn't mean I can't train my mental approach to the game.”

### **Do you see golf on the rise post-Covid?**

“The golf game has seen a significant spike in the last couple years. It is great to see more people picking up the game, or getting back into it after a hiatus. In the private club sector, we have seen an increase in members at our clubs and that has been true here at The Orchards. The focus now needs to be on involving these new members at the club and integrating them with the rest of the membership. While golf is a great game, it is the people you meet that keep you coming back. At The Orchards, we have created an Ambassador Committee whose sole focus is helping members get the most out of their membership and get more involved at the club.”

### **What would you tell a young adult golfer interested in getting into the club pro business why they should become a PGA professional and what to be prepared for?**

“In the past month, I have had two individuals approach me interested in leaving their current industry and getting into the club pro business. It seems that recent events have led to many assessing their current careers and exploring other options. For someone with a passion for the game of golf, being a golf professional could be the right fit. It is an extremely rewarding profession where you get the opportunity to meet some amazing people. Though demanding, I enjoy going to work each day. I get to work at a place people enjoy going. I have the privilege to make a difference in people's lives through the game of golf. A good friend once told me that if you find something that you love where you have the opportunity to help others, and where you can make a living...you're doing alright. Being a PGA professional checks all those boxes.” ■

*Chris Miracle writes a Western Mass column in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com).*

## New England Golfers Flocking to the Myrtle Beach World Amateur Handicap Championship

The field for the 39th annual Myrtle Beach World Amateur Handicap Championship continues to fill, including 70 New England golfers who have registered to compete in an event dubbed the "Every Man's Major."

A 72-hole, net stroke play tournament, the World Am will be held Aug. 29 – Sept. 2 on 60 of Myrtle Beach's best courses and nearly 2,900 players have already committed to competing in golf's largest single-site event.

Entry into the tournament, which includes at least four rounds of golf, nightly admission to the World's Largest 19th Hole and a gift bag, is \$699. The World Am, which is again expected to attract nearly 3,500 players from all 50 states and 15+ countries, delivers a one-of-a-kind experience. Players enjoy the opportunity to compete under PGA Tour-like conditions, testing themselves over the course of 72 holes, a rare opportunity for "regular" golfers.

The World Am, which flights players based on age, gender and handicap, is open to all golfers 17 years of age and older with a verifiable USGA handicap. At the heart of the tournament's enduring popularity is its commitment to enforcing the handicap system, giving everyone a fair chance to win their flight and claim the mantle of World Champion.

The World Am flights players into nine divisions – men 49 and under, senior men (50-59), mid-senior men (60-69), super senior men (70-79), seasoned seniors (80+), women (59 and under), senior women (60+), the gross division, senior (50+) gross division, mid-senior gross division (60+) and women's gross division. There is also a "Just For Fun" flight, created for players who want to enjoy the World Am experience without the pressure of competition.

After four days of tournament play, all flight winners and ties advance to the World Championship Playoff, an 18-hole shootout that crowns the event's winner.

While the competition is initially what lures players to the tournament, it's only part of what keeps them coming back. At the heart of the World Am's appeal is the camaraderie among its participants and much of that kinship is fostered at the World's Largest 19th Hole.

Each night of the event, the 19th Hole overtakes



all 120,000-square feet of the Myrtle Beach Convention Center, providing participants with free food and drinks, live entertainment, celebrity guest appearances, a golf expo and more. Among the big names that have appeared at the 19th Hole in recent years are David Feherty, Brandel Chamblee, Charlie Rymer and John Daly.

Players also receive a gift bag that includes a polo, rain jacket, golf towel, logo'd hat, PGA Tour Superstore gift card and an assortment of other goodies valued cumulatively at \$250.

For more information, please visit [www.MyrtleBeachWorldAmateur.com](http://www.MyrtleBeachWorldAmateur.com). ■

***Bruce Vittner, the publisher/editor of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com) has played in 16 of these events and is looking forward to playing this year. "It is the highlight of my golfing year," said Vittner.***

# The International is Amazing



**W**e had the wonderful good fortune to visit The International Golf Club., the 36-hole private course in Bolton, Mass. recently. You probably remember hearing about the course over the last few years. “The longest course in the world at 8,100 yards (The Pines) was one of its claims to fame.

A few years ago, the notoriety was when the course, which originally dated back to 1899, went bankrupt. The media folks were paired with members of the course that has reopened after being purchased by Escalante Golf of Texas, a super high-end company that has fabulous courses around the country. Our member talked about the wonderful changes that are taking place, and that was affirmed after the round when Steve Brennan, the general manager, talked about the changes that have already begun, and will continue for years to come.

Renowned course architect Tripp Davis of Oklahoma talked about the work that they have done already on the Oaks course that opened in 2001. “We have redone every bunker on the course with special sand, and the shaping will really improve the overall quality of the bunkers and make them much for fun and playable,” said Davis in the Q and A after the round. “This is an amazing place, and it’s only going to get better, added Tripp when talking about the special grass that was being utilized.

The two courses are The Oaks and The Pines. Only the Oaks is open at the present time, but Bill Coore

and Ben Crenshaw’s firm has been hired to completely renovate the Pines and it will open in 2024. “It won’t be 8,100 yards, but it will be spectacular,” added Brennan who said that everything will be updated throughout the property.

Our playing member, who had been a member before the closing, talked about the wonderful and knowledgeable people who have taken over the running of the property. “This is so first-class. Everything the company does is so positive and it is where I want to always be a member,” he added.

Membership is growing rapidly for good reason. “We plan to have a national and an international (not a pun) membership, and being the only 36-hole private facility in the Greater Boston area will only make us more successful,” added Brennan.

The property has a wonderful website. It really does more to show off than this reporter can put into words. I’d strongly suggest that you visit [www.internationalgolf.com](http://www.internationalgolf.com) to get a first-hand look of what will become the most talked about facility in New England. ■

***Bruce Vittner is the publisher/editor of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com) and is a member of the Golf Writers of America and the Golf Travel Writers of America and can be reached at [bruce@snegolfer.com](mailto:bruce@snegolfer.com)***



# Looking Back to June 2001

The June 2001 issue (Volume 8 No. 2) of Ocean State Golf, our former title, had a picture of Brett and Paul Quigley looking up towards the green at The CVS Classic at Pleasant Valley—yes, CVS was hosting a PGA Tour event at the same time as they were hosting the Charity Classic at RI Country Club.

The headline on the cover was “Quigley’s PGA Career Looking Up” as he had won a [Buy.com](#) (forerunner of the Korn-Ferry Tour? the month before in Arkansas, then finished second in Greensboro and then tied for fifth in Texas on the PGA TOUR. The earnings from the PGA events were enough to secure his PGA Tour Card for 2002. This was Quigley’s second time on the cover as he had also graced it in 1994 with his dad and his uncle Dana.

Local pro Charlie Blanchard was featured in the issue as he won the TPC event sponsored by the U.S. Challenge Cup. Blanchard had twice been named the Rhode Island Player of the Year by OSG.

The Northeast Amateur was getting ready to start and we interviewed Tournament Director Denny Glass who had been running the event for the previous seven years. He stated that nine of the top 10 U.S. amateurs were scheduled to play. Another entrant was 16-year-old Ty Tryon, who had recently become the youngest player in 44 years to qualify for a PGA Tour event. He amazingly finished 39th overall at the Honda Classic with a score of 10-under par.

Some of the other entrants at the Northeast were Luke Donald, Bryce Molder—a four-time first team All-American at Georgia Tech, Lucas Glover, Erik Compton and Ricky Barnes. Locals in the field included Billy Lunnie, Charlie Blanchard, Dr. George Pirie, Paul Quigley, URI stars Mike Carbone and Michael Sims and Ben Tuthill who would later become the tournament director.

Another story featured Mulligan’s Island, the new family golf complex in Cranston, R.I. that had been a cornfield for 100 years. There was a driving range, a par-3 nine-hole course and a 36-hole miniature golf with an active waterfall. The property is still going strong under the direction of Michael Friedman.

The issue also featured a story about Al Vallante

with the heading—The new breed of golf pro. Vallante had started a golf school at the Atlantic Driving Range on Rte. 1 in So. Attleboro. Previously golf schools had been huge properties mostly in the South, but new smaller facilities were popping up all over New England.

We always tried to highlight women in golf, and we had a feature about Denise Turcotte and Cheryl LaFontaine who won an Ocean State Women’s Golf Assn. event at Quidnesset CC. We tried to get as many pictures as possible, and this issue had pictures of Ron Gigliodoro and Peter Hallas, Dr. George Pirie and his son, Jon and Chris Hurd and Roy Wagner who were all competing in the Four-Ball qualifier at Cranston C.C.

The U.S. Open was holding sectional qualifier and the four who qualified at Alpine CC in the first leg were Jeff Dantas, and Chris Van Der Velde who were co-medalists and Tom Johnson and Chris Congdon. It’s funny that Dantas and Congdon now own driving ranges and provide golf lessons in Warren, R.I. and No. Attleboro, Mass. respectively.

For the second year in a row Steve Forleo’s CCRI golf team qualified for the National Junior College Division III and the team was pictured in the issue. Johnson and Wales finished 10th in the NAIA Championships in New Mexico. Brad Adamonis was playing on the Hooters Tour and was currently in 71st in earnings.

George Braman did wonderful drawings of players and this month was Dr. Noel Jackson, the legendary turf instructor at the University of Rhode Island. There was a story about Newport National breaking ground for a new golf course in Middletown being designed by Arthur Hill.

It is advertisers who have kept this publication going and many of the same advertisers from 2001 are still with us today. Golfers Warehouse, Button Hole, 2nd Time Around Sports, Maplegate, Laurel Lane, Triggs, and until this year CVS who was the engine that kept us steaming ahead. ■

***Bruce Vittner is the publisher/editor of [snegolfer.com](#) and enjoys looking back at the issues that still seem so familiar.***

## Planning your Advertising Budget for 2022?

**S**outhern New England Golfer has been a large part of the golf scene in southern New England for 31 years. Some of the advertisers have been with us for all those years, and many have been advertising consistently for over 10 years.

We must be doing something right to have this dedicated following of advertisers. We think, and they must agree, that ads in our well-regarded and award winning publication must be good for business. One of the best features of our advertising is that all that ads are linked right back to the advertiser's website. Anyone who is reading the publication online can just click the ad and it goes right to you. No more putting the magazine down and going to the telephone, or writing it down and forgetting about it.

We would love to spread our wings and find some more businesses that would consider being part of this publication that was founded in 1990. We publish four issues per year. The first is always near the end of April and features the Masters and many local events that are being held or prepared.

The second is always in the beginning of June when tournaments are just getting underway. Our third issue is at the end of July and again features many major tournaments held on our area as well as many travel and personal stories.

The last issue is always similar to what you are reading now. Ryder Cups and Presidents' Cups always seem to be a staple. We always feature travel stories in every issue. We are looking for places where our readers would enjoy visiting and playing golf. If you have a resort or destination golfing area that you wish to promote, we can do a great job for you.

The medical field, financial industry, travel and so many other industries should certainly see the benefit of reaching this demographic of dedicated golfers who read our publication from cover to cover every issue.

Each issue of the publication is sent to 80,000 emails. Many people forward it to friends and relatives. You are certainly welcome to see our very competitive advertising rates or set up an advertising schedule for 2022 by visiting [www.snegolfer.com](http://www.snegolfer.com) or calling 401-464-8445.

Regards,

*Bruce Vittner*

## NAME THAT HOLE

Last issue we had used the 18th hole at Augusta National. We thought that it would be easy, but it took a few days for Tony Dore of Fairhaven to send in the correct response. This month you can mention the course (think northern). The winner will receive a 2022 Season Passport.



# ONLINE ISSUES NOW BEING EMAILED TO 80,000 GOLFERS

**W**e just completed our fourth year of online-only issues after 28 years as a printed newspaper. The benefits have been many. First we cut our advertising prices about in half. I then went to the advertisers with the lower prices and asked their thoughts. How many emails do you have? Where are they located?

We coordinated with a person who had been collecting emails from all the golf shows in southern New England and at different golf events. He had a list of almost 40,000 golfers. "I'll be happy to send out your publication as part of my weekly emails whenever it is completed," he said. "It will help my open rate because it is an excellent publication and my subscribers will enjoy reading it," he added.

The key for us has become the fact that all the ads and map listings are linked to the advertisers' websites. When you are reading the paper online with your computer or tablet and you see an ad that you are interested in, you can just click on the ad and it goes right to the advertiser's website. You can't do that with a paper!

I've found that reading a paper online is quite enjoyable. The white background makes it easier to read. The online paper reads just like a paper. You just scroll down, page after page. The print is bigger on my computer than it was in the physical paper. I've also been reading it on my tablet. It is not quite as large a print as the computer, but is easily readable while sitting in my easy chair watching a game. And just think of all the trees we are saving!

Our publication is now read by so many thousands more golfers than it ever did in print. Our advertisers are thrilled in seeing the clicks to their website, the readers are happy because the print is larger, and the access to the publication is right in their home.

We guarantee that there will never be a charge for the publication online. Some of the websites that I have visited have started for free, but then

a charge was made if you wished to continue to have access.

We would love to have you subscribe to [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com). Just go to [www.snegolfer.com](http://www.snegolfer.com) and click the subscribe button. The publication is produced four times a year. After this issue we will have issues in June 6, July 25, and October 3. Thank you for reading our publication. Please feel free to write in with any thoughts, questions or concerns. This vision of an online paper that looks and reads like a paper is something that has become successful. If you are an advertiser and think this might be a good place to run your ads and reach new customers, then we are happy to help. ■

*Bruce Vittner is the publisher/editor of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com) and can be reached at [bruce@snegolfer.com](mailto:bruce@snegolfer.com).*

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Hope you have enjoyed reading this latest issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com). Please tell your friends about it, or simply forward the link to your golfing buddies. The next issue will feature League Play, the Backbone for public golf courses. We will also have pictorials of all the major golf events in southern New England. Keep your head down and swing easy.

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401-539-2100 PS,CR,CH,SB,O  
[www.beaverrivergolf.com](http://www.beaverrivergolf.com)
2. **BUTTON HOLE (SC)** (9) P,X  
1 Button Hole Dr. Providence, RI  
401-421-1664 CL,CH,DR,PS, DR,Lessons  
[www.buttonhole.org](http://www.buttonhole.org)
3. **COUNTRY VIEW G.C.** (18) P  
49 Club Lane Burrillville, RI  
401-568-7157 CR,CL,PS,CH,O  
[www.countryviewgolf.net](http://www.countryviewgolf.net)
4. **COVENTRY PINES G.C.** (9) P  
1065 Harkney Hill Rd. Coventry, RI  
401-397-9482 CR,CH,CH,SB, DR, simul.  
[www.coventrypin.es.com](http://www.coventrypin.es.com)
5. **CRANSTON CC** (18) P  
69 Burlingame Rd. Cranston, RI  
401-826-1683 CR,CL,PS,CH,O  
[www.cranstoncc.com](http://www.cranstoncc.com)
6. **CRYSTAL LAKE G.C.** (18) SP  
100 Bronco's Hwy. Mapleville RI  
401-567-4500 CR,CL,PS,CH, O  
[www.crystallakegolfclub.com](http://www.crystallakegolfclub.com)
7. **EAST GREENWICH G.C.** (9) P  
1646 Division Rd. E. Greenwich, RI 4  
01-234-9836 CR,CL,CH,O,Rest.  
[CLICK HERE TO VISIT FACEBOOK PAGE](#)
8. **EXETER C.C.** (18) SP  
320 Victory Hwy. (Rt. 102) Exeter, RI  
401-295-8212 CR,CL,PS,CH,O  
[www.exetercc.com](http://www.exetercc.com)
9. **FAIRLAWN GOLF COURSE** (9) P,X  
3 Sherman Ave. Lincoln, RI  
401-334-3937 CR,CL,CH,SB,O  
[www.fairlawngolfcourse.com](http://www.fairlawngolfcourse.com)
10. **FOSTER COUNTRY CLUB** (18) P  
67 Johnson Rd. Foster, RI  
401-397-7750 CR,CL,PS,CH,O  
[www.fostercountryclub.com](http://www.fostercountryclub.com)
11. **GREEN VALLEY C.C.** (18) SP  
371 Union St. Portsmouth, RI  
401-849-2162 R,CH,Rest.,O  
[www.gvccri.com](http://www.gvccri.com) D
12. **HARBOR LIGHTS MARINA** (9) P  
150 Gray St. Warwick, RI  
401-737-6353 CR,CL,PS,DR,CH,O, Les.  
[www.harborlightsri.com](http://www.harborlightsri.com)
13. **JAMESTOWN G.C.** (9) P  
245 Conanicus Ave. Jamestown, RI  
401-423-9930 CR,CL,CH,SB  
[www.jamestowngolf.com](http://www.jamestowngolf.com)
14. **KINGS CROSSING GC** (9) P  
655 Old Baptist Rd. N. Kingstown, RI  
401-294-2872 CR,PS,CH,O  
[www.kingscrossinggolfclub.com](http://www.kingscrossinggolfclub.com)
15. **LAUREL LANE C.C.** (18) P  
Laurel Lane, W. Kingston, RI  
401-783-3844 CR,CL,PS,CH,O  
[www.laurellanecountryclub.com](http://www.laurellanecountryclub.com)
16. **MIDVILLE COUNTRY CLUB** (9) P  
100 Lombardi Ln. W. Warwick, RI  
401-828-9215 CR,CL,PS,CH  
[www.midvillegolfclub.com](http://www.midvillegolfclub.com)
17. **NEWPORT NATIONAL G.C.**(18) SP  
324 Mitchell's Ln. Middletown, RI  
401-848-9690 CR,CL,PS,SB,O  
[www.newportnational.com](http://www.newportnational.com)
18. **NORTH KINGSTOWN G.C.** (18) P  
]615 Callahan Rd. N. Kingstown, RI  
401-294-0684  
[www.nkgc.com](http://www.nkgc.com)  
CR,CL,CH,O,DR,PS Fat Belly's
19. **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
20. **RICHMOND CC** (18) P  
74 Sandy Pond Rd. Richmond, RI  
401-364-9200  
[www.richmondcountryclub.net](http://www.richmondcountryclub.net)  
CR,CL,PS,CH,O,DR
21. **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, Leagues
22. **TRIGGS MEMORIAL G.C.** (18) P  
1533 Chalkstone Ave. Providence, RI  
401-521-8460  
[www.triggs.us](http://www.triggs.us)  
CR,CL,PS,CH,O
23. **VALLEY CC** (18) SP  
251 New London Ave. Warwick, RI  
401-821-115  
[www.valleycountryclub.net](http://www.valleycountryclub.net)  
CR,CL,CH,DR,O, Restaurant
24. **WINNAPAUG CC** (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
25. **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

**A. BUTTON HOLE D.R.**  
1 Button Hole Dr. Providence, RI  
401-421-1664  
[www.buttonhole.org](http://www.buttonhole.org)  
2 putting greens, lessons

**B. D GOLF CENTER**  
324 Market St., Warren, RI  
401-919-3500  
covered+outdoor bays, high-tech  
teaching  
[www.dgolffrange.com](http://www.dgolffrange.com)

**C. MULLIGAN'S ISLAND GOLF & ENTERTAINMENT** (9) X  
401-464-8855  
1000 New London Ave. Cranston, RI  
[www.mulligansisland.com](http://www.mulligansisland.com)  
60 stall driving range, covered  
area, batting cages, mini-golf, par 3  
course, pitch and putt

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. **CAPTAIN'S COURSE** (36) P  
1000 Freeman's Way, Brewster, MA  
508-896-1716  
[www.captainsgolfcourse.com](http://www.captainsgolfcourse.com)  
CR,CL,CH,PS,O

28. **CHEMAWA GOLF COURSE** (18) P  
350 Cushman Rd. N. Attleboro, MA  
508-399-7330  
[www.chemawagolf.com](http://www.chemawagolf.com)  
CR,CH,O,CL

29. **EASTON C.C.** (18) SP  
265 Purchase St. Easton, MA  
508-238-2500  
[www.eastoncountryclub.com](http://www.eastoncountryclub.com)  
CR,CL,PS,CH,DR,O

30. **HAZELTON GC** (18) P  
329 Summer St. Rehoboth, MA  
508-557-1856  
[www.hazeltongolfclub.com](http://www.hazeltongolfclub.com)  
CR,PS,CH,O

31. **JOHN F. PARKER G.C.** (9) P  
17 Fisher St. Taunton, MA  
508-822-1797  
<http://www.johnfparkergc.com>  
CR,DR,CH,SB, Skins Thurs. 3:45

32. **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

33. **MAPLEGATE C.C.** (18) SP  
160 Maple St. Bellingham, MA  
508-966-4040  
[www.maplegate.com](http://www.maplegate.com)  
CR,CL,PS,CH

34. **THE LINKS @MASS GOLF** (18) P, X  
300 W. Main Rd. Rt. 123 Norton, MA  
508-222-0555  
[www.linksatmassgolf.org](http://www.linksatmassgolf.org)  
CL,PS,CH,SB,O

35. **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

36. **OLDE SCOTLAND LINKS** (18) P  
695 Pine St. Bridgewater, MA  
508-279-3344  
[www.oldsotlandlinks.com](http://www.oldsotlandlinks.com)  
CR,CL,SB,DR,O

37. **PINE OAKS GC** (9) P  
68 Prospect St. S. Easton, MA  
508-238-2320  
[www.pineoaks.com](http://www.pineoaks.com)  
CR,CL,CH,O, Retail Store

38. **SHINING ROCK G.C.** (18) SP  
91 Clubhouse Way Northbridge, MA  
508-234-0400  
[www.shiningrock.com](http://www.shiningrock.com)

39. **SOUTHERS MARSH G.C.** (18) P  
30 Southers Marsh Ln. Plymouth, MA  
508-830-3535  
[www.southersmarsh.com](http://www.southersmarsh.com)  
CR,CL,DR,Top Tracer,PS,CH

40. **WAUBEEKA GOLF LINKS** (18) P  
137 New Ashford Rd. Williamstown, MA  
413-458-8355  
[www.waubeeka.com](http://www.waubeeka.com)  
CR, CL, CH, PS, O, DR

41. **WENTWORTH HILLS GC** (18) SP  
27 Bow St. Plainville, MA  
508-316-0240  
[www.wntworthhillsgc.com](http://www.wntworthhillsgc.com)  
CR,CL,CH,PS,O

**D. ATLANTIC DRIVING RANGE**  
754 Newport Ave. S. Attleboro, MA 508-761-5484  
[www.atlanticgolfcenter.com](http://www.atlanticgolfcenter.com)  
heated tees, shop, mini golf, chip + putt

**E. STIX GOLF+BASEBALL FUN CNTR**  
582 Kelley Blvd. No. Attleboro, MA 508-695-0091  
[www.stixfuncenter.com](http://www.stixfuncenter.com)  
TrueStrike golf mats, grass tees, minigolf, batting cages, putting green, bunker, lessons

- 42. **AIRWAYS GC** (18) P  
1070 S. Grand St. W. Suffield, CT  
860-668-4973 CR,CL,CH,SB,O  
[www.airwaysgolf.com](http://www.airwaysgolf.com)
- 43. **ELMRIDGE GOLF CLUB** (27) P  
229 Elmridge Rd. Pawcatuck, CT 860-  
599-2248 CR,CL,DR,PS,CH,O  
[www.elmridgegolf.com](http://www.elmridgegolf.com)
- 44. **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, School
- 45. **MOHEGAN SUN G.C.** (18) P  
7 Dows Ln. Baltic, CT  
860-862-9230  
[www.mohegansungolfclub.com](http://www.mohegansungolfclub.com)  
CR,CL,PS,CH, golf packages, lessons
- 46. **QUARRY RIDGE** (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

- 47. **SHENNECOSSETT G.C.** (18) P  
93 Plant St. Groton, CT  
860-445-0262 (PS 448-1867)  
[www.shennygolf.com](http://www.shennygolf.com)  
CR,CL,CH,PS,Rest.,O
- 48. **SKUNGAMAUG RIVER GC** (18) P  
104 Folly Ln, Coventry, CT  
860-646-1151 CR,CL,CH,PS,O  
[www.skungamauggolf.com](http://www.skungamauggolf.com)
- 49. **TALLWOOD CC** (18) P  
91 North St, Hebron, CT  
860-742-9705 DR,CL,CH,PS,O  
[www.tallwoodcountryclub.com](http://www.tallwoodcountryclub.com)
- 50. **TWIN HILLS** (18) P  
199 Bread and Milk St. Coventry, CT  
860-742-9705 DR,CL,CH,PS,O  
[www.twinhillscountryclub.com](http://www.twinhillscountryclub.com)

## MAP KEY

- ( ) = Holes
- P = Public
- SP = Semi-Private
- X = Executive
- CR = Cart Rental
- DR = Driving Range
- PS = Pro Shop
- CH = Clubhouse
- O = Outings
- SB = Snack Bar
- CL = Club Rental

