

JULY/AUGUST 2022 | VOL 12 NO 3

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# SNE GOLFER

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## LEAGUE PLAY

THE BACKBONE OF PUBLIC GOLF

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Southern New England Golfer | SNEGOLFER.COM

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# EDITORIAL

Welcome to our third issue of 2022. This year has been about what makes golf a great and successful game. In the Spring issue we concentrated on how golf course superintendents made golf better as they made the courses playable and exciting for golfers. I was fortunate to see a superintendent from the National Assn. of Supt. in Lincoln, Nebraska at the U.S. Open who commented about how excited he was to read the issue and thankful for us writing about what superintendents do.

Our second issue in June was dominated by stories about club professionals in our area that make the game better for all as they provide lessons and keep the courses on track. In this issue we are switching to the golfers. Public courses are very dependent on league play to help their bottom line. I sent my writers out on a mission to talk to course owners to see how leagues impacted the bottom line of courses. The writers also were asked to talk to league presidents and leaders to find out what made their leagues successful and fun.

We have many stories that I think you will enjoy about leagues. Maybe there are some suggestions that would help your league improve. There might be golfers who would consider joining a league. This reporter will tell you how much fun and camaradie you have in golf leagues.

We certainly enjoyed our visit to the U.S. Open in Brookline, Mass. Thought the "England's Revenge" angle would make for a fun story. They did not approve us having a photographer there, but gave us access to all the photographs, so that is the reason we have so many.

There have not been as many travel stories in the last few issues, but we tried to rectify this with our trip to Sunday River and Bethel Inn Golf Courses in Maine. A good friend from Canada, and a fellow member of the Golf Travel Writers of America, asked if I could run a story that he had done about nearby resorts in Canada. Think you will enjoy reading it. We had done stories their about 15 years ago, and now we have an urge to return because of the great golf and accommodations.

Wasn't the British Open spell-binding. Thank goodness for taping on television. This reporter couldn't get up at 4 a.m., but never missed a shot in the whole event. Imagine Rory McIlroy having two putts on all 18 greens the final day? Doesn't seem possible, but Cameron Smith had his putter on fire and he deserved to win. They were right about all the talk about LIV for Smith. Do you know that LIV stands for the Roman numerals for 54, as in 54-hole tournament. Just thought you might want to know.

Enjoy the publication and we will see you on October 3 for our final issue of 2022.

## BRUCE VITTNER

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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Southern New England Golfer is published 4 times per year: Spring, June/July, August/September, and Fall. Occasional emails will go out to subscribers throughout the year.

Mail articles, releases & items to:  
**Editor, Southern New England Golfer**  
P.O. Box 10038, Cranston, RI 02910  
Materials will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self addressed envelope.

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# LEAGUE PLAY LED TO FRIENDSHIPS FOR A LIFETIME

**T**his 23-year-old, wet behind the ears kid started teaching high school in 1969. Will I make friends? Will I be accepted? Will it be a fun and enjoyable job?

These are the questions that most everyone has when starting a new position. What made mine so easy was a golf league. The first day of orientation I was approached by a couple of teachers and was asked if I played golf. I smiled as it had been my passion since playing for the first time as a twelve-year old with my dad.

"We have a golf league and we are always looking for more players," said one of the teachers. "Where do I sign up," was my reply and I started playing that same week. What a great way to make friends and have wonderful camaraderie.

The teachers room was where we all hung out during our free period, and golf was most always the topic of conversation. About one-quarter of the faculty played in the league, and it was so easy to make friends and have a common theme to our talks.

My career lasted thirty years, and the golf league made it more fun. We played at Melody Hill for the first couple of years, then a couple of years at East Greenwich, but most of the

years were at Cranston Country Club.

Some years there were teams of two, other years were teams of three or four based on the number of players. We always had an end of season tournament in the fall and one in the spring. Many of us served as commissioner, and it was always a labor of love. We couldn't wait to get the weekly update sheet to see what position our team was in. There was an awful lot of one-upmanship.

The picture below was taken at one of our tournaments at Foster Country Club. We recently had a breakfast with many of the teachers. Every one that showed up had played in the golf league. I

made the point that I had started in the golf league 53 years ago. I was surprised to find out that most had played in the league for a longer time than me. What a great remembrance, and golf was a central part of our relationships.

This issue is devoted to golf leagues and the people who run them. We also wanted to get the perspective of golf club owners about how important the leagues are to the bottom line for the courses. ■

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



# League Play— It's All About the Camaraderie

They start arriving in the late afternoons during the week. The clubs come out of the trunks and either get set down by the practice putting green or placed on the back of gas carts. A few balls are dropped on the green for some practice and maybe there's a trip up to the Rescue Pub to grab a cold one before teeing off.

Cigars are fired up, music begins wafting from several carts and it's party time. Five nights a week, during the warm summer months, league golf takes over at Triggs Memorial Golf Course in Providence.

In all there are 26 of them that call Triggs home, according to General Manager Karl Augenstein. "The bulk of our revenue comes from our daily fee play, but the leagues offer us a solid and reliable source of income in that time of the day when the course would generally empty," said Augenstein. "They consistently lock in revenue at that period of

the day. That's the beauty of having leagues."

In all Augenstein estimates that the leagues account for approximately 15 percent of Triggs' business. The remainder comes from season passes, the daily fee clientele and outings. Leagues provide a guarantee of revenue that those who operate public courses can count on before the season starts.

"I know there are courses that have leagues prepay in January, February and March to get that revenue during the winter," said Augenstein. "Some have them pay deposits. We used to do that, but we don't anymore."

The Portuguese-American Club is typical of most golf leagues. The PA Club's league has been in existence for over 40 years. "We started at Country View (in Burrillville) and moved here in 2007," said league president, Bob Degnan, who is also a member of the Triggs Men's Inner club.

Story Continues On Page 7

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"We have 26 guys, 24 of who have been pretty steady. Our league is a bar league. It's a good bunch of guys who get together every Friday night and play golf. What better way to start the weekend, Degnan added."

Another advantage of leagues is they provide exposure to the course. That potentially generates future business because leagues often have a lot of new players, and if they like the course they'll come back and perhaps become regulars as well as bringing in others to play. "If they like the golf course and like the way we run the place, hopefully they'll come back here and play on a regular basis," Augenstein agreed.

The other big bonus is that most league players retire to the pub/restaurant at the end of play where they eat and drink, maybe play cards and tell lies. "There are some who don't go in after play, but most do," said Augenstein. "It's a social event. It's got more to do with socializing than golf. It's a night to get out, have a good time, have a couple of beers afterward, maybe get a bite to eat. That's what it's all about for those guys."

It can get loud. Most of these players are not serious golfers. They want to just get out, have a blast with their buddies and howl a bit as they spray balls hither and yon.

Golf etiquette is not generally observed and often the most popular person on the course is the young lady driving the beverage cart.

"A lot of them are really good guys and we have a lot of fun with them, said Augenstein. "My office is right next to the 10th tee. They have the boom boxes in the carts with the music blasting. I sometimes have to yell out to them to tone it down a bit, but it's fun. They're supposed to have fun."

Too many times golf becomes too stiff and stoic. Serious players don't like distractions. League golf is the exact opposite. It's pretty much a bunch of Norms and Cliffs and the gang at Cheers outside in the fresh air. ■

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

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## How Strokes Gained Analysis Will Help Your Game

At the start of every lesson, I will spend a few minutes chatting with my students about the state of their game, among other things. They may have many complaints about their game, but what I'm most interested in is their score at the end of the day. I am looking to figure out where they are adding the most strokes to their score: Driving, Approach, Short Game, or basic Course Management skills? Once I can get the student to see where they are wasting the greatest number of strokes, we can get them a practice plan in place to shoot lower scores and lower their handicap. Welcome to the concept of Strokes Gained!!!

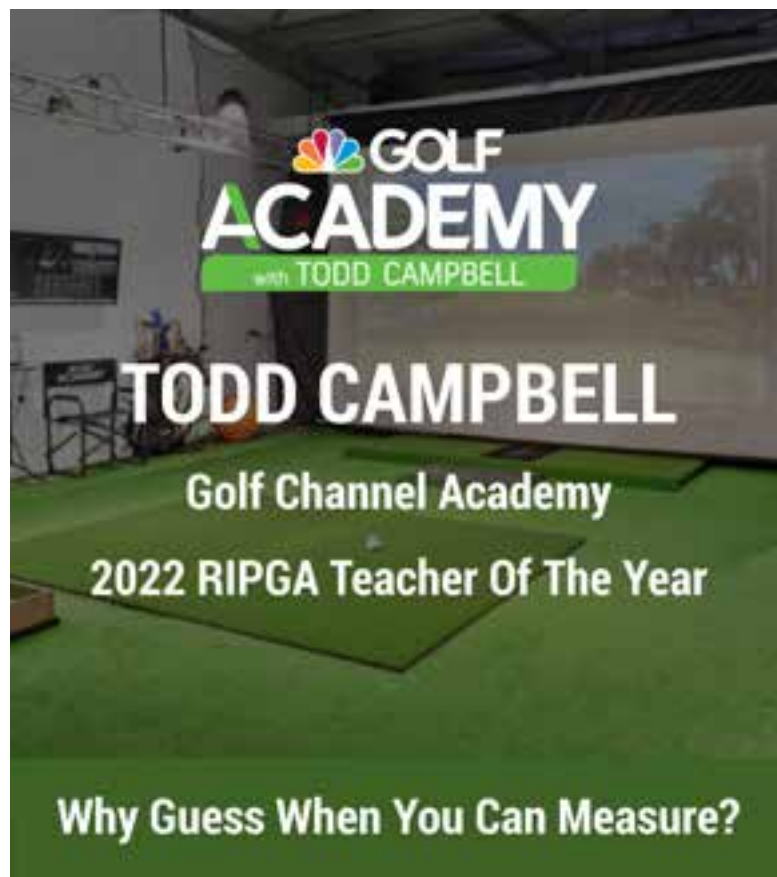
There are many stat tracking apps available to us today, some requiring manual input during or after a round, and others such as Arccos Golf--simply connect to a GPS receiver at the end of your grip and the data is immediately displayed on the app. The data you can view is truly amazing and can give you a much clearer picture as to where your weaknesses lie in your game. From there, my students can share their stats with me to help create more efficient use of their golf lessons and practice time.

Much of the data that is obtained through today's apps are displayed as Strokes Gained. In the past, most of us simply just tracked fairways hit, greens in regulation, putts per round and scrambling percentage. Although these stats have some value, they do not show a complete picture of your performance, particularly when you are trying to determine where the weakest parts of your game are. Strokes gained is the best way to track your true performance in every part of your game relative to other golfers. For example, let's say you were a 10 handicap looking to drop down to a 5. The advantage of seeing where you are gaining or losing strokes to a 5 handicap in every part of the game will give you a better view of where your improvement focus needs to be to get to the next level.

As great as this new technology is, it is only

useful if you utilize it every time you go out to play to get the most accurate picture of your game. In addition to the Strokes Gained analysis, you will also become more aware of how far you are hitting your clubs on average (It is usually much shorter than what you think because most players who are struggling only count their well hit shots in this average and discard any mis-hits!!!). You will also become more aware of your shot dispersion patterns (left or right). This is especially useful to determine proper target alignment based upon your patterns.

I recommend the Strokes Gained analysis for any golfer who is serious about taking their game to the next level. If you would like to book a lesson for a swing/game assessment, please go to my website at [www.toddcampbellgolf.com](http://www.toddcampbellgolf.com) and click on the Book Now button. ■





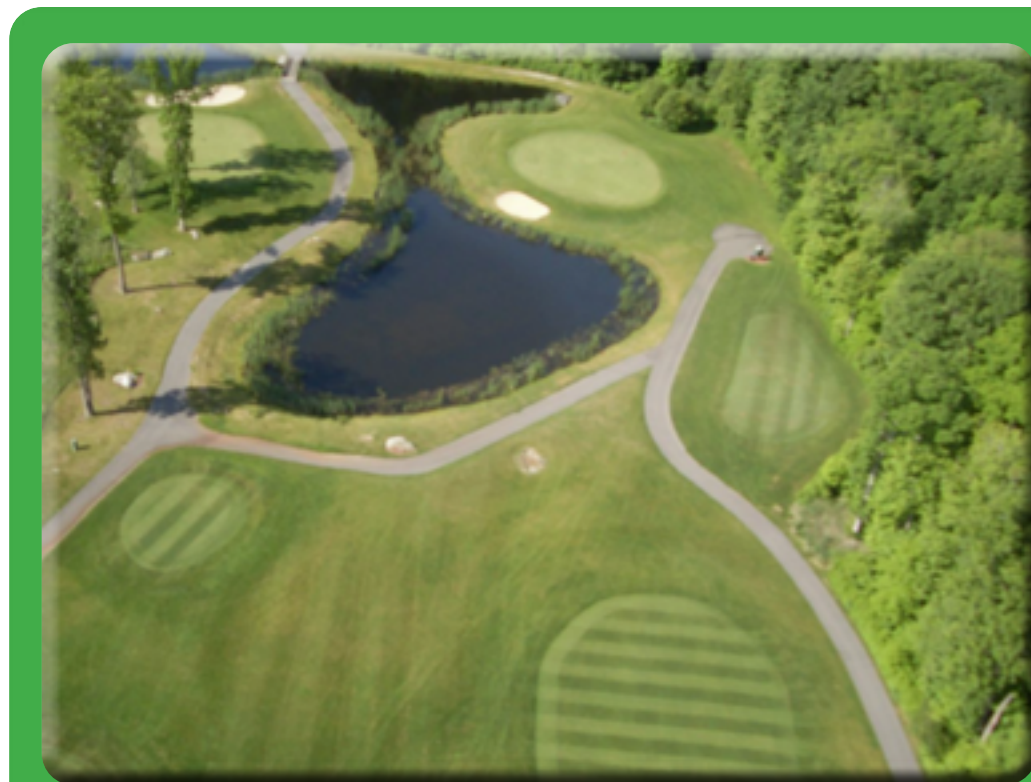
## Swansea Country Club has 38 Leagues

A beautifully maintained 18-hole Geoffrey Cornish gem, Swansea Country Club is undoubtedly one of the most popular golf courses in the Southeastern Massachusetts/Rhode Island area. Given its popularity, it probably wouldn't need many golf leagues to survive. However, league play is booming at Swansea Country Club, and we caught up with their General Manager Robb Martin to find out why.

Now in his 18th season as Swansea's GM, Martin is a veteran of the golf industry having worked at places like Golf Day, Atlantic Golf and more, and he has witnessed the sport of golf enjoy a boom in popularity, take a hit and get back off the mat for yet another resurgence.

"It's really amazing right now here at Swansea in that we have a total of 38 leagues between our championship and par-3 course," Martin said. "Most take place in the late afternoon from 3pm-5:45pm during the week and they really mean a lot to us."

Martin said that the golf leagues at Swansea CC include a diverse cross section of people from men to women, young to old, juniors, school teachers, couples, retirees and more. "I think back to when things were a bit more challenging, when I had to work really hard to solicit for leagues," he said. "I would think of different ways to create house leagues by picking someone



SWANSEA COUNTRY CLUB  
Par-3 Course

who had a great personality and a bunch of friends and we would build it from there."

Now, Martin and Swansea Country Club take calls regularly for league availability of which there is currently none, which is a tribute to his hard work and testament to the fact that the sport of golf is enjoying a bit of a renaissance after a few down years.

"Honestly, I think one of the things that has probably helped us a bit is the closure of some area golf courses like Rehoboth, Windmill Hill, Metacomet and others," Martin said. "That could

be either directly or indirectly in that maybe a member from Metacomet tried to join another local private club but membership was full, so he or she came to us to play in a league or join the club."

One thing that Martin has also noticed is what he calls the "COVID effect" on the sport. "As we all went through the first two years of COVID, many people realized that one of the few things that you could do socially to gather with friends was to get out and play golf," he said. "It really became the thing to do for groups of friends, and I think

that the industry has benefitted greatly from that," he added.

While most of the leagues at Swansea Country Club are 9-hole leagues and held during the week, there are a few weekend leagues, a few that are 18-holes and some that take place on the par-3 course like the Seekonk Junior League which features 55 kids playing the sport of golf on Sunday evenings.

"Weekends are generally for member contracted play, public tee times and an afternoon tournament or two," Martin said.

Having played in a golf league myself, I can certainly attest to the fact that they are something that people look forward to on a weekly basis during the summer months. Whether it is playing a 9-hole match with your designated partner against

two other friends in the league, or the social aspect of having a bite to eat and maybe an adult beverage after the round, our local clubs appreciate having these leagues as they are a big part of their business. As someone who has been a public golfer for many years, I also understand the dynamics of league play at our local courses which is generally why, when looking for a tee time and a place to play, I generally avoid weekday afternoons.

With that said, if you have the time and the opportunity to join a local golf league, I would highly recommend it! I would also recommend checking out Swansea Country Club if you haven't had a chance to play either of their courses.

The championship course is maintained so well from tee

to green with recent drainage improvements further enhancing the condition of the course. Many of the greens are sloped from back to front and roll very quickly so a tip would be to keep your approach shots below the pin.

I have always been a fan of the older, classic New England golf courses where you step up onto the tee box and see what's out in front of you without having to navigate lots of wetlands or play target golf, and Swansea Country Club certainly checks all of those boxes. ■

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



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## Menante Repeats at Northeast Amateur

**W**e could have used the same picture for the winner of the Northeast Amateur at Wannamoisett Country Club in East Providence, R.I. as last year. Dylan Menante went wire to wire for his second straight win at this prestigious amateur event that is now ranked number four in the United States.

We thought that he had a chance after the first round when he shot a 7-under score of 62 at this very difficult course that has a par of only 69. He followed that first round with two 64's the next two days to take a commanding lead. On the final day with temperatures near 90 degrees, Menante cruised to a final 67 for a four-day total of 257 that shattered the tournament record. His 19-under par total beat the tournament record that had been set by Peter Uihlein in 2011 at 12-under par.

An amazing statistic in this event was that Menante went 66 holes without a bogey (starting from last year's event and continuing for 42 holes this year). He made 23 birdies during the 72-hole event.

The Carlsbad, Calif. resident who competed for Pepperdine University for the last two years is going to transfer to the University of North Carolina for the 2022 -23 season.

Finishing in second place was Karl Villips of Australia at 10-under par. He had the second best round on the week in the final round when he shot a smooth 63. He was followed by Caleb Surratt or North Carolina who shot 8-under. Two players finished tied for fourth at 6-under, Bryce Lewis of Tennessee and Gordon Sargent of Birmingham, Alabama who had just played previously at the U.S. Open at The Country Club.

The low scorer from Rhode Island was Patrick Welch, formerly of Providence and a graduate of Classical High School who now lists his residence as California. Davis Chatfield of Attleboro, Mass. finished in a tie for 15th. Chatfield played his golf at Notre Dame and Welch played for Oklahoma.

Menante is the only player to win the title three years in a row. Jay Sigel, who had a long

amateur career before turning professional won in 1984 and '85 and again in 1991. Rhode Island golfing legend won the event back to back in 1964 and 1965. John Cook won in 1978 and '79. The last player to do it before Menante was Luke Donald of England in 2000 and 2001. ■

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



## Cranston Country Club Has 35 Leagues

“We might not have survived in the early 70’s if it wasn’t for leagues,” That was a comment made by Michael Lombardi about the value of leagues for Cranston Country Club in Cranston, Rhode Island. Now Cranston C.C. is a booming business that hosts 35 leagues on a weekly basis. That would be Monday to Friday, because weekends are saved for the people that work all week and can’t wait to fill up the golf course from early morning until late afternoon.

“My Dad (Anthony) purchased the Cornell Dairy Farm in February of 1968 when I was 12. My dad and his brothers and nephews started working on the course and got it open in the fall of 1970,” recalled Michael. “They built the first nine holes where the farm was, because it was easier than going into the heavy wooded area that was also part of the land,” he added.

“We had a few leagues that started about 3:30 p.m. on weekdays, but it was a struggle as golf was not that popular in the early 70’s. As we spoke, Michael remembered his dad talking about the Johnston Teachers League (see story on page 6). We at the high school got out of school at 1:30 p.m. because the buses had to make three runs for the high school, then junior high and finally elementary school. Our league started at 2 p.m. and the 24-32 teachers in the league filled in a time that wasn’t being used. “I’ll always remember that Giusti’s was one of our first leagues, and there are still remnants of it today,” said Lombardi who added that it was a very big league.

One of the saviors for early Cranston C.C. was morning leagues. “Both Leeson and Narragansett Brewery had morning leagues, and those guys would stay around and drink and play cards in the old barn after golf,” he recalled. The old barn was very popular on Thursday nights. “My dad would have three bartenders working hard to keep up with business,” said a smiling Lombardi.

The plan was always to have 18 holes and the Delfino Company came in to do the heavy work. “I



still use them for some work today,” said Michael. With 18 holes they were able to send leagues off of both sides, so the income grew quickly. Another factor was that more players could be accommodated in each league.

Asked how many players stay to eat and drink after league play, Lombardi guessed it is about half the golfers. “This is another way that helps the bottom line” he said. Some leagues play for 15 to 20 weeks, but others play from April into October. “We give a discount to leagues that pay the dues upfront, and about half do that. It certainly helps with cash flow during the slow months,” he added.

We decided to talk to a couple of leagues that play on Thursdays. One was easy, because this reporter has played in it for the past two years. It is called the DLT (Department of Labor and Training) league now and it started at Cranston CC in 1986.

It was started by Mike Mansour who worked for the State section that was then called Department of Employment and Security.

Ken Laverone was in the league and he took over as president in 1987. "Mike didn't want it anymore, and I agreed," said the affable Laverone who still runs the league. "No one else wanted to be president," so I agreed, and I'm still here," said Laverone who runs the league with a gentle charm. It helps that he is the best golfer in the group of 16. "I was given a program for golf leagues and it makes it quite easy," he added. We get the results of each week by the next day, and he has all the matchups printed for the following week when we get to the course.

This reporter will always be grateful to Laverone for allowing me to have my grandson as a partner. He was working part-time so he had Thursday afternoons off. It was the most fun this golfer has had playing golf in a very long time.

Domenic Coletta runs a league that goes out right after us. It is called ESCS and there are just over 70 members. "The league started back in 1986 as the R.I. Auto Body League," recalled Coletta who didn't start playing golf until 1994. He joined the league right when he started and became the president in 1997.

He must be doing something right, because the league has grown to just over 70 members. "I give them a lot for their money," said Coletta who runs two tournaments at private clubs during the year for the members at no cost.

When asked why the league is so successful, he answered, "I think it is more organized now and everyone is having a great time." He mentioned that he has a wonderful computer program that does almost all the work. "I have a computer business, so it helps," said the often larger-than-life Coletta. Ed Imondi of Cranston, a former president of the league who has been a member since back in the 80's said "Domenic is on top of everything. He does a great job running the tournaments and keeping everyone happy." ■

***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.***



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## England Gets Revenge for 1913 Whipping at The Country Club

**M**atthew Fitzpatrick (pictured right) of England won his first professional tournament at The Country Club in Brookline, Mass. last month. Only one Englishman had won the U.S. Open Golf Tournament since 1970. That was Justin Rose in 2013 at Merion Country Club. It was a stirring finale as Fitzpatrick held off Will Zalatoris, a Texas sharpshooter by one shot.

Fitzpatrick had also won the U.S. Amateur Championship in 2013, also at The Country Club. He became the first player to ever win the U.S. Amateur and the U.S. Open at the same course.

It was an amazing finish as Fitzpatrick, leading by one shot, hit his tee shot into a tough bunker on the left side of the 18th fairway. The announcers said he had little chance to get on the uphill green, but he hit a marvelous cut shot with a seven-iron to 20 feet above the pin and two-putted for the win.

Back at the turn of the 20th century it was a most common occurrence for Englishmen to win our United State Open Golf Championship. That is until Massachusetts amateur Francis Ouimet took care of two Englishmen, Harry Vardon and Edward Ray in the 1913 U.S. Open that required an 18-hole playoff.

Back in 1913 the U.S. Golf Assn. was trying to fill the field that was made up of many amateurs along

with the professionals, and many of the professionals were from England and a few were from France. An American professional, Walter Hagen of Rochester, New York was just starting his career, and he was entered in the tournament.

Twenty-year old amateur Francis Ouimet, who lived right across the street from the seventeenth hole at The Country Club, had recently won the U.S. Amateur and had other top finishes. He earned a spot in the Open by shooting 152 to qualify. Vardon had shot 151 and MacDonald Smith had shot 154.

Back then the U.S. Open was competed over only two days. They played 36 holes the first day and then 36 the next to determine the winner. Francis Ouimet teed off at 11 a.m. the first day with his young friend Eddie Lowery as his caddie. Lowery was the ripe old age of 10, but he managed to carry Ouimet's clubs the whole 36 holes that day (they didn't carry quite as many clubs then as they do now!).

A large number of fans followed Ouimet from the first tee forward. He shot 77 in the morning round and improved to 74 for a two-round total of 151, one less than he shot in qualifying. Edward Ray was at 148.

On Day 2 the crowds were even larger. It was estimated that 3,000 fans followed Ouimet from the



THE FITZPATRICK FAMILY  
CELEBRATES TOGETHER



JUSTIN ROSE WAS THE LAST ENGLISHMAN  
TO WIN THE TITLE. HE FINISHED ON THE  
FIRST PAGE OF THE LEADERBOARD

first tee onward during the morning round. Mary Ouimet, Francis' mother, sat on her porch with her rosary beads, but by the time they had reached the 17th, the crowd had grown to about 10,000 following Francis, and his mom decided to walk across the street and follow her son.

The second day saw Ouimet shoot 153 for the two rounds. Varden, who had the early lead, faltered to 157 and Edward Ray shot 155. All three players ended up shooting 304 for the four rounds, and an 18-hole playoff round was needed for the next day. Walter Hagan finished fourth at 307 to miss the playoff.

The playoff was even for the first two holes, then Ouimet and Varden birdied number 3. Varden birdied number 5 to take the lead, but all three were tied after 9 holes. Ouimet birdied 10 to take the lead and on number 12 both Varden and Ray made bogey to give Ouimet a two stroke lead. Varden made birdie on 13 to get back to one-down.

Edward Ray literally took himself out of the match

by making a double bogey on hole 15 and bogey on 16. Ouimet made birdie on 17 as both Varden and Ray made bogey. The final scores were Ouimet 72, Varden 77 and Ray 78. The crowd carried Ouimet off to the winner's platform after he parred the last hole for the win.

As Matthew Fitzpatrick was basking in glory on the 18th green after Zalatoris missed by inches of making his birdie putt, I wonder what the Ghosts of Seasons Past, especially 1913 in Brookline were thinking? When you think of the relationship of Massachusetts to England since the days of the Tea Party, the 1913 miracle win by an unknown amateur against two of the top English professional golfers, you wonder if Matt Fitzpatrick thought of a little redemption for Jolly Ole England on these sacred grounds of Brookline. His mom and dad and brother were on the green to hug Fitzpatrick after Zalatoris' putt rolled by the hole by only an inch or two.

Long Live the Queen. At least in 2022 on one of the best golf days this reporter has ever seen. ■



**WILL ZALATORIS, WHO WILL WIN ONE SOMEDAY, WATCHED HIS TYING PUTT ROLL BY ON 18**



**RORY MCILROY WAS ALSO CLOSE, BUT COULDN'T FINISH**



**KEEGAN BRADLEY WAS THE LOCAL FAVORITE, HE GOT CLOSE BUT FALTERED THE LAST DAY**



**MATTHEW NESMITH FOUND SOME OF THE WORST TERRAIN AT TCC**

# Rhode Island Notebook

## Blaser Wins Rhode Island Am

Kevin Blaser (pictured right [R] with RIGA President Pete Sozek [L]) won the Rhode Island Amateur at Wanumetonomy, beating Mike Hamilton on the 36th hole. It is Blaser's first state amateur title. "Yea, I played well. Played a lot of good competitors this week, didn't realize how long of a week it is until you actually do it. I mean 36 everyday is tolling on the back, getting up at 5, 5:30 a.m. every day to get to the course and on your feet all day, it's a long week," Blaser said after the round. Not just in this tournament, but overall, Blaser has been red hot lately. He won the Cape Cod Amateur near the end of last year, won the Burke Tournament last year and has found himself in contention in a number of other tournaments over the course of this season.



## Dickson Having Success as a Pro

By any reasonable expectation, Will Dickson's (pictured below) pro career is off to a good start. The former Moses Brown star has three professional wins, including his most recent victory at the Waterloo Open in Iowa where he took home a first place prize of \$50,000. Dickson has also Monday Qualified for three Korn Ferry Tour tournaments up to this point, making the cut in one of them. He will head to Korn Ferry Tour Q School in September.

## Jackson Heading to U.S. Junior Am

La Salle phenom Max Jackson is headed to the U.S. Junior Amateur at Bandon Dunes. Jackson took co-medalist honors in the qualifier earlier this summer at The Club at River Oaks in Connecticut. The two-time RI state champion posted a two-under 70 to tie with Ian Davis for medalist honors. The Junior Amateur begins on Monday, July 25, with the 36-hole championship match taking place on July 30.

## Leopold, Valois, O'Leary and Chatfield Heading to U.S. Am

Four Rhode Islanders are headed to New Jersey next month for the U.S. Amateur. Bobby Leopold, Brad Valois and Andrew O'Leary all went through qualifying in Connecticut, Rhode Island and Maine respectively, while Davis Chatfield is exempt into the U.S. Am field after making it to match play last year. The U.S. Amateur is set for August 15-21 at The Ridgewood Country Club in New Jersey.





# Schauffele Captures Dramatic Travelers Championship

When the final putt in a golf tournament drops, the question often is if one player won or another player lost, especially when there's a stunning three-stroke swing on the final hole.

But that certainly was the storyline in the new "normal" Travelers Championship after Xander Schauffele ended a 31/2-year individual victory drought on the PGA Tour by surviving a topsy-turvy final nine holes at TPC River Highlands in Cromwell, Conn.

An unlimited number of fans allowed to attend Connecticut's biggest sporting event for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic hit in 2020 saw Schauffele shoot 7-under-par 63s without a bogey in the first 36 holes to take a one-stroke lead that expanded to five early in a final round played in 90-degree heat and gusting 15-20 mph winds down the stretch. Schauffele, winless in PGA Tour stroke-play events for more than 1,600 days since the 2019 Sentry Tournament of Champions, held the lead until animated rookie Sahith Theegala birdied the 15th and 17th holes to move to the top for the first time. Then the fickle nature of golf struck suddenly – and harshly – again.

Theegala made the questionable decision of hitting a driver on the par-4 18th hole, and it proved disastrous when a 277-yard drive ended up near the front lip of a fairway bunker. After a lengthy discussion with caddie Carl Smith, Theegala hit a shot that ricocheted off a mound and back into the sand. After he blasted his third shot into the fairway, wedged to 12 feet and lipped out a putt, he had made a double-bogey 6 and fell one behind. It was Theegala's only over-par score of the day and only the second double bogey on the hole in the final round.

Schauffele, watching Theegala's escapades in the final group behind, hit a 336-yard drive, a 104-yard wedge shot to 3 feet and made the birdie putt for a closing 2-under-par 68, 72-hole total of 19-under 261 and a two-stroke victory over Theegala (67)



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and J.T. Poston (64), a co-leader after an opening 63. After his final stroke disappeared, Schauffele calmly exhaled, pumped his fists and maintained his usual reserved demeanor before celebrating his one-year anniversary with wife Maya with some of the record \$1.494 million that he earned.

"On 18, my mind was telling me to hit a good drive and you're going to have a sand wedge or lob wedge in there and a really good look at birdie with that pin kind of on a slope," said Schauffele, 28, the gold medalist in the 2021 Summer Olympics who had had 23 Top-10 finishes in 74 starts since his previous win. "And to sit there and watch sort of what happened was a bit of a shock obviously. I really had to try and focus on the task at hand. Sitting there waiting, not really knowing what's going on, but kind of having an idea is a strange thing. So I was happy to just hit that tee shot straight down the fairway." It helped Schauffele "feel really good."

"Everyone talks about how hard it is (to win), and I only had the Olympics to sort of fall back on having a lead and kind of closing it," he said. "I've never done it on the PGA Tour, so it was nice. I mean to do it in Japan and then sort of have that experience, I really tapped into that today. ... It's been a year where my stats have been very solid, but I just haven't really put in four good rounds. So I think subconsciously or without myself really knowing I was getting a little impatient. And this week I was just trying to be self-aware as possible to just stay as patient as possible. Just realize that I put the work in, and if I can just sort of do what I've been doing and just focus a little more throughout the day that it will pay off in a big way and fortunately it did."

Theegala, shooting for his first PGA Tour win in his 38th start, vaulted into the lead when he drove the 291-yard, par-4 15th hole and two-putted and then made his fifth birdie of the day from 11 feet at No. 17. Then, unfortunately, came his "double sandy" double bogey thanks largely to his usual fade off the tee going straight into the fairway bunker.

"I put a great swing on it, hit it right in the center (of the club) but just didn't cut," Theegala said. "Maybe it was adrenaline, squared the face a little sooner than normal. Then I knew it was going to be close to the lip but not that close. We were just trying to figure out what the best way was to make 4 was and try and force Xander to make birdie. I knew exactly where we stood but never in a million

years did I think I would allow myself to blade it. All I had to do was chunk it. Then I hit a perfect putt, but somehow it just broke left at the end and lipped out."

Theegala dropped his putter and dropped to his knees in disbelief. Minutes later, he was officially a co-runner-up at 263.

"Obviously I know all the guys out here and how hard it is to win and how few opportunities there are to win," said Theegala, who tied for third in the Phoenix Waste Management in February after leading on the back nine. "That's why something like this is really, really going to hurt but just going to grow from it. I feel like I'm playing really well, and if I just keep doing the same, keep loving the game. I love the process. I've never loved it more than I have now. So I'm just really excited to see if I can do it again, keep putting myself in these positions."

It was the second win of the year for Schauffele, who captured the Zurich Classic of New Orleans with close friend Patrick Cantlay in April. They had been paired in the Presidents Cup in Australia and played in the final group for the final two rounds. But after shooting 63 in the third round to move with a stroke of the lead, the sixth-ranked Cantlay had 10 holes of bogey or worse, his most in a PGA Tour event other than a major championship, in carding 76 that dropped him into a tie for 13th at 270. The 2021 FedExCup champion and PGA Tour Player of the Year had had only four bogeys in the first three rounds, but he made five on the front nine Sunday and later hooked his drive out of bounds on the 12th hole and made double-bogey 6. This on the course where he shot 60 in the second round of the 2011 Travelers Championship playing on a sponsors' exemption that is still the lowest score by an amateur in PGA Tour history.

Amateur, Michael Thorbjornsen of Wellesley, Mass., was another major story. He hit a 261-yard second shot at the par-5 sixth that stopped inches from a double eagle and then made four consecutive birdies, starting at No. 8, to get within a stroke of the lead. Errant drives led to bogeys on Nos. 12 and 13, but five closing pars gave him a closing 66 for 265 and fourth place. The junior-to-be at Stanford University didn't become the first amateur to win a PGA Tour event since two-time Canon Greater Hartford Open champion Phil Mickelson in the 1991 Northern Telecom Open, but he did have the best finish by an amateur in the 70-year history of

the tournament. The previous best was a tie for sixth by Connecticut Golf Hall of Famer Jim Grant in 1966 on his home course, Wethersfield Country Club, where the tournament began in 1952 as the Insurance City Open.

"It was incredible. It was surreal, crazy," Thornbjornsen said of the applause that greeted the 20-year-old as he walked up the 18th hole waving to the crowd. "It was very welcoming, better than how I dreamt about it, and I think it was louder than it was at the U.S. Open. I felt really calm, really cool, until a few hiccups near the end, which happens sometimes."

Thornbjornsen's stellar showing came a week after he missed the cut in the U.S. Open at The Country Club in Brookline, Mass., about 10 minutes from his hometown of Wellesley. His caddie was childhood friend and high school classmate Drew Cohen for the second straight week, but he didn't know he was only one back after his fourth consecutive birdie at the 11th hole.

"I figured I was around the lead, but I was thinking, 'Okay, well, let's go. Let's keep it going. Let's try to hit some good shots,'" he said. "It got a little difficult, two holes straight into the wind, and I mishit two drives. But overall, it was a lot of fun. I can't wait to come back next year and the following years. The hospitality here is amazing. I love the course, love the way it fits my game. I guess the only thing is it might be a little too hot, but I will definitely come back if I can."

Thornbjornsen, whose father/swing coach and some other family and friends followed him, said he would be returning to Stanford and then take it a year at a time. But did the week help him know he belonged on the PGA Tour.

"Yeah, I definitely would say so," he said. "It gives me a lot of confidence. I think the thing is I played well, but I didn't feel like I played incredible. Definitely left a couple shots out there, had some miscues, mental errors throughout the week. But it feels good. I played solid and finished fourth."

Masters champion and No. 1-ranked Scottie Scheffler shot 270 to tie for 13th. No 2 Rory McIlroy, who led after 36 holes, and defending champion Harris English shot 271 to tie for 19th. Ben James, 19, of Milford, Conn., the top-ranked junior player in the country who graduated from Hamden Hall Country Day in May and will be attending the University of Virginia in the fall, received a sponsors' exemption

but missed the cut after shooting 2-over 142 for 36 holes.

But in the end, they were all afterthoughts to Schauffler, who was late for his warmup before the first round on Thursday.

"My wife tells me I'm the worst multi-tasker on the planet, so that usually bodes well if you can only focus on one thing," Schauffler said. "I think in the past when I had 54-hole leads or was close to the lead my Sundays feel really fast. And I'd be kind of sitting back in the hotel or at a house on Sunday sort of thinking, what happened today? So this I really wanted to stay present and really just focus on the task at hand, which was each and every shot. And I told (caddie) Austin to hold me accountable on the first hole walking up there, and he did a really great job and both of us were pretty much dialed in from the first hole.

"I really think this was, in a small way, a big win for me mentally. Just because I sort of had to check myself, you know what I mean? When you've been out here and things are going easy you just expect to play well all the time. Sometimes it's good to take a step back, and I thought I did that this week. Like I said, I don't know if that's the reason I won, but it definitely made me feel more comfortable and helped my process throughout the week."

Another feel-good story was Morgan Hoffmann, who is fighting facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy and finished at 282 in his third and final tournament of the year on a three-event medical exemption. The 32-year-old, who took several years off from the PGA Tour to focus on his health, nearly holed his final approach, which stopped 2 feet from the cup. Hoffman, a New Jersey native now living in Costa Rica, said he's hoping to get a few sponsors' exemptions this summer and is cherishing the golf while trying to inspire others by staying healthy.

"I'm just going to keep doing what I'm doing, cleansing monthly, eating nourishing food and working out hard and keep gaining muscle, and in the meantime, I'm building a wellness center (in Costa Rica) to help other people do the same," he said.

The tournament raised a record \$2.5 million for more than 130 local charities, surpassing last year's previous record of \$2.2 million. The event has raised more than \$25 million since Travelers became the title sponsor in 2007. The 2023 tournament is June 22-25. ■

## Bessette, Edwards Enter Connecticut Golf Hall Of Fame



**O**n Monday of Travelers Championship week, Travelers executive Andy Bessette (L) and the late Bruce Edwards (R), a longtime caddie on the PGA Tour for Hall of Famers Tom Watson and Greg Norman, were inducted into the Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame at the Hartford Downtown Marriott.

Bessette, 68, is the executive vice president and chief administrative officer at Travelers and on the board of trustees at the University of Connecticut, his alma mater, and was an All-American hammer thrower and on the 1980 U.S. Olympic team that boycotted the Summer Games in Moscow. He received the Congressional Gold Medal that he called the "highest civilian honor" and is given for distinguished achievement and appreciation on a national level. Each member of the 1980 U.S. Olympic team that would have participated in the Summer Games received one, and Bessette went to the White House to get his.

Bessette also serves on the UConn Healthcare board of directors and the board of governors at Hartford Hospital. He has helped

extend the title sponsorship between Travelers and the PGA Tour three times, with the current deal running through 2030.

As usual, Bessette was his modest self, saying he was "honored, humbled and very appreciative" of being inducted, giving credit to tournament director Nathan Grube, whom he accompanies to several PGA Tour events every year, and Travelers, which provides thousands of volunteers every year.

"I'm so thankful for their support in getting me inducted," Bessette said. "And when I met Tom Watson, he told me how great person that Bruce was. I congratulate him for something that's well-deserved." PGA Tour commissioner Jay Monahan, CBS-TV personality Jim Nance, caddie John Wood and former Travelers champions Bubba Watson, Kevin Streelman and Marc Leishman gave video tributes about Bessette. Longtime ESPN personality Chris Berman, who has done a lot to promote the tournament for years, introduced Bessette.

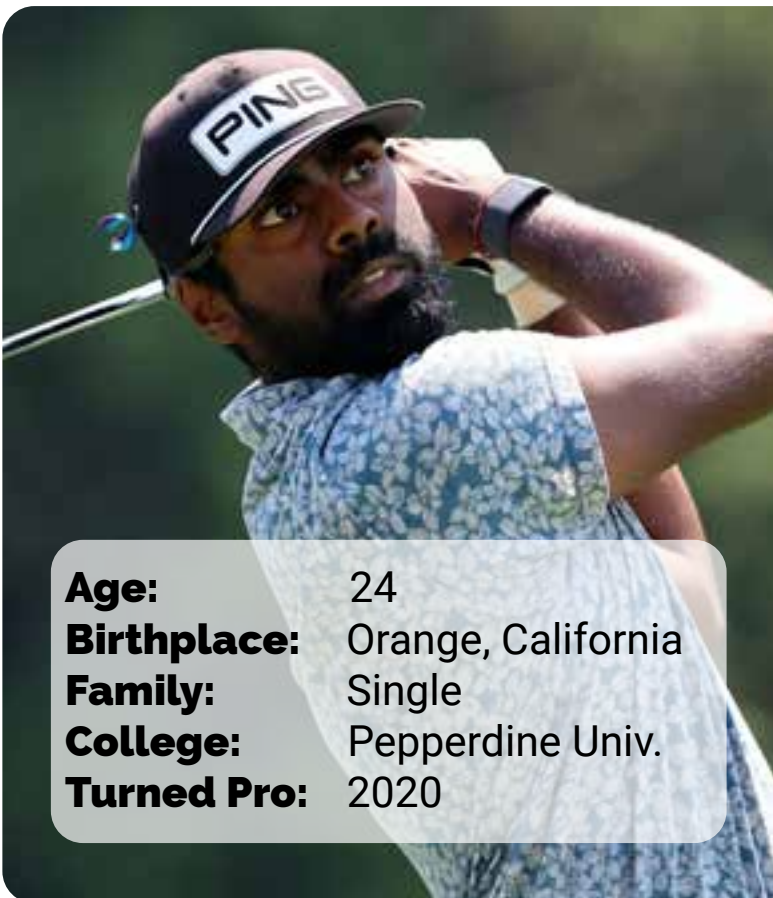
"The Travelers Championship is the best marketing tool for the state, and Andy is a big reason why," Berman said. "It's an honor well-

deserved,” Monahan said. “Andy is a major reason that the Travelers Championship is one of the strongest events in New England and on the PGA Tour.” Edwards was nominated for the Caddie Hall of Fame in 2003 by Jim “Bones” Mackay, who worked for Phil Mickelson for 25 years and now carries for PGA Championship winner Justin Thomas. Edwards, a Wethersfield native who began caddying during the Greater Hartford Open at Wethersfield Country Club, originally declined Mackay’s invitation but eventually relented and was inducted not long before he died of ALS at the age of 49.

Among those in attendance were eight PGA Tour caddies, including Joe LaCava of Newtown, who was inducted into the Caddie Hall of Fame in 2019. LaCava, 61, has worked on the PGA Tour for more than 30 years, mostly for Fred Couples and now Tiger Woods since 2011. He was in “semi-retirement” waiting for Woods to decide if he was going to make his third start this year in the Open Championship at St. Andrews in Scotland. LaCava and Woods were finally back at work again at “The Home of

Golf,” where he won two of his three Open titles and 15 major championships, including in 2000 when he became the youngest to complete the career Grand Slam thanks to a modern-day, eight-stroke victory. Woods, still recovering from horrific injuries sustained in a serious car crash in February 2021,

“Bruce showed a liking for me and kind of took me under his wing when I came out on the Tour in 1987,” said LaCava, who began his caddie career looping for his cousin, Danbury native Ken Green. “He was great to be around and very receptive with all of the caddies, which a lot of guys weren’t. When I started with Fred, we played a lot of practice rounds with Bruce and Tom, and I always watched how they acted as a team. He was very competitive but a really genuine person.” Eric Larson, 61, who has worked on the PGA Tour for more than 40 years and now carries for 2021 Travelers Championship winner Harris English, called Edwards “the Godfather of caddies.” He said Edwards was one of the leading forces behind elevating caddies to a higher and more appreciated level. ■



**Age:** 24  
**Birthplace:** Orange, California  
**Family:** Single  
**College:** Pepperdine Univ.  
**Turned Pro:** 2020

## Sahith Theegala

It was fun watching Sahith Theegala play the final round of the recent Travelers Championship in Connecticut. He led the final round all day, until a poor drive on 18 led to a double bogey and a second place finish. He was very gracious afterwards talking to the media.

He turned professional in 2020 after attending Pepperdine University where he had much success. 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 has been in the lead at Phoenix and also at the Memorial this year, besides the close call at the Travelers. He currently has earned \$2,597,627 through July 21, 2022. He currently stands at 38 in FedEx standings.

RISING STAR

## Blue Fox Run & Fairview Farm Golf Course Enjoy Leagues

**M**onday through Thursday during the golf season, Blue Fox Run Golf Course (pictured right) in Avon, Ct. is hopping with league play. General Manager of the 27-hole course, Barry Wilson, said his course hosts three leagues a night early to mid-week, all with anywhere from 20 to 40 players. Leagues are vastly important to golf courses. They are a guaranteed source of income, and many pay up front early in the year when income is scarce.

"We have several hundred golfers who take part in leagues," said Wilson. "Some pay up front and others pay as they go. In addition to the golf leagues, we have a men's club that sees as many as 80 players playing each Sunday during the golf season. They are very important to our success, and I make it clear that they are welcome."

The weekday leagues all play nine holes. They start in late afternoon and stretch into the early evening. In addition to the greens fees, many league golfers purchase refreshments while they play and then sit down in the Blue Fox Run restaurant for drinks and food, all of which helps the F&B segment of the course's operation.

Wilson said the leagues usually wind up their seasons in early fall, although some play well into October. "Some wrap up in September and a few go longer," said Wilson. "It really is up to the individual league how long they want to keep going."

The demographics of golf leagues skews older. "I would say the average age of someone playing in a league here is in their 40's. We don't get many young guys in the leagues. It is common for a league to form in the workplace. We would like to see more young players, but they want music and IPAs when they play, and that doesn't fit with the guys in the leagues at present. We do have some younger players in the Sunday men's club." Wilson said there are several women's leagues at his course. "I would like



to see more women in leagues," he said.

Wilson said golf courses would be wise to attract leagues. "We don't want to be like bowling. They used to cater to guys who wanted to smoke and drink while they bowled. The bowling alleys took the money and didn't seek to bring new, younger bowlers into their alleys. They tried to alter things up with night bowling and glow pins, but by then it was too late and we see what has happened to bowling around here. Many of the lanes closed when the bowlers in leagues got older and stopped bowling and there were no younger bowlers to take their places. The same thing can be said for golf if we aren't careful. We need to attract more young players who will continue on with the game for many years."

The "Better Than Most" league at Blue Fox Run has 20 golfers with their age ranging 35 to 75, said organizer Brian Farrell. "I give the winning team the choice to name the league the following year," he said. "We have 20 players, with two-man teams. There are 21 available points each week and all scoring is net."

The players take it seriously but it's a "fun" league. With \$120 up for grabs each week, the score you shoot counts so players take it somewhat seriously. Said Farrell, "We have been at Blue Fox Run since we started and the club treats us very well."

The Brothers In-Law league at Fairview Farm Golf Course in Harwinton, Ct. numbers 32 players," according to Mark Eucalitto, who runs the group. The age of the members is wide, ranging from 18-years-old to one gentleman in his nineties. The league started in 1972 at Eastlawn Country Club in Torrington with four brothers-in-law playing regularly. It steadily grew and the league moved to Fairview Farm when the 18-hole course opened in 2000. Said Eucalitto, "The league is more about the camaraderie during and after the matches than the golf, and the rules are slightly loose."

Like most leagues, the brothers-in-law league uses a handicap system to equalize competition between two-man teams. Prizes are awarded during the season and at the end of the year banquet. Teams are changed up every year.

It is important for clubs to make league players feel welcome and important. "The wait staff is amazing and the food is always delicious," Eucalitto said of Fairview Farm's restaurant, which offers pleasing views of the surrounding countryside. Many golfers enjoy the scenery and down a few beers and grab a bite to eat while sitting on a large wrap around terrace. A number of players head to the bar once play is done and they purchase food and beverages from the "beer cart" that makes its rounds during play.

It isn't a stretch to say that leagues are vital in order to pump up the bottom line by bringing a steady and dependable source of revenue for a club. ■

*John Torsiello writes a Ct. Notebook in most issues of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com).*

# John N. Calvino, Esq.

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Rory and Cameron were playing a match. Rory hit his ball in the gorse. He reached down to pick it up, but it wasn't his. He put it back down and then picked up another he saw wit out telling Cameron. Is this a penalty?

Calvino Ruling: Yes, a player must tell his opponent that he is picking up a ball that he could not identify. It would be a one stroke penalty for Rory.

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## A Hard-To-Believe Tale For Alexandra Lapple

The Connecticut Women's Open proved to be a classic example of what goes around comes around. Four years ago, after the Lapple family returned to Ridgefield from Southern Pines, N.C., eighth-grader Alexandra (pictured right) and her father Bob contacted Connecticut State Golf Association Women's Golf Competitions and Development director Marsha Rupp about where the youngster could play to try to continue to improve her game.

Rupp's advice has proven to be quite valuable. After Alexandra notched several notable national junior victories, the Lapples were back in Connecticut in June for the Connecticut Women's Open at Hop Meadow Country Club in Simsbury. As fate would have it, Rupp ended up presenting Alexandra with trophies for being low amateur and the overall champion of the premiere women's tournament in the state.

Lapple, 17, overcame a shaky start in the final round that included a four-putt from 15 feet for a double-bogey 5 at the third hole, then a three-putt bogey from 25 feet on No. 18 dropped her into a tie with pro Samantha Morrell. But Lapple, who will be a senior at The O'Neal School in Southern Pines, N.C., quickly put the late miss that gave her a closing 5-over-par 77 and 36-hole total of 2-over 146 out of her mind. She managed to two-putt from 60 feet, making a 3-footer for par, on the first extra hole while Morrell missed a 4-foot to extend the competition.

"It was very frustrating four-putting, and it didn't put me in a great position for the rest of the way," said Lapple, who started the day with a two-stroke lead after an opening 69. "The fourth hole (a bogey) was a cooling down, and I've played a lot of tournaments where I've been in that position, so I didn't let it bother me."

Lapple had 12 pars and two bogeys the rest of the way in windy conditions that got worse as the round progressed. "I hit a lot of good shots, hit 15 greens in regulation and made every putt," Lapple



said of her first round that was the low score of the tournament by two strokes. "(In the final round) I was less consistent and had a lot longer (birdie) putts. But I'm very excited, very happy."

The win put Lapple in a good frame of mind for a full schedule in the summer, including several American Junior Golf Association tournaments and qualifying for the U.S. Girls Junior Championship and U.S. Women's Amateur. The Notre Dame commit has already won two AJGA events and played in three U.S. Girls Junior Championships and two Girls Junior PGA Championships, including at Keney Park GC in Hartford in 2019.

Though Morrell would have liked to receive the winner's trophy, she was more than happy to accept a winner's check of \$3,000. The teaching pro at the nine-hole Milbrook Club in Greenwich and Durland CC in Naples, Fla., opened with 75 but quickly got into contention with three birdies in the first seven holes in the final round. After a three-putt bogey at the eighth hole, she hit a 7-iron shot on the 165-yard 12th that stopped two feet from the cup. Bogeys at the 14th and 16th holes dropped her a stroke back, but she stayed alive



with a deft chip to 3 feet for a saving par at No. 17 and got into a playoff when Lapple had her three-putt bogey in the final group.

"I really had no expectations, and that was the key of the round," Morrell said. "I just focused on getting out and playing, and I birdied the first hole (from 15 feet) and that set the tone for the day. I didn't really know how I stood all day, and that's better sometimes."

Morrell, who grew up in North Kingston, R.I., and began playing golf at 9, said she putted a lot better and made some good saves than in the first round, especially as the wind kept getting worse. "I would have liked to win, but at this point, the \$3,000 is a little more consolation," she said. Morrell added the low pro finish to winning the Rhode Island Girls High School Championship in 2007-09, the 2018 Metropolitan (N.Y.) Women's Stroke Play and qualifying for the KPMG Women's PGA Championship the last two years.

Tied for third at 149 were 2011 winner Jordan Lintz of Oronoque CC in Stratford, defending champion Melissa Siviter of the Golf Club of Georgia and Fairfield University junior Sydney Nethercott of MGA eClub-Connecticut. ■

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*Roy Wagner is the designer of The Perfect Pants & sells them online.*



# How Leagues Help Grow the Game

How many times have you jotted down an interesting event...perhaps a Nine & Dine...but the date came and passed you by? It's another story when you have committed to showing up on a consistent basis for (let's say) a league. Golf leagues do more than just give you an outlet where you can play every week. They motivate you to be there. Can't make the league? Then you have to expect additional blow-back. Maybe you have to spend a lot of time on your cell to get a sub, disappoint your playing partners or give up and skip golf altogether, a measure that could label you as flaky or irresponsible.

## Important Income for Clubs

The more people play golf, the more your club receives in income from green and cart fees, dues, food and other sources of revenue. Clubs need these revenue streams to survive. The key is for management to provide attractive opportunities to play and keep the play going. Special events are like Member Guests work, but leagues are even better, they are the bread and butter of a healthy golf club.

## Having Fun

Today, during this post Covid era, women especially want to eliminate stress and simply have fun. That means angst-free golf as well. I found even low handicap ladies are tending to avoid the more competitive leagues. "They are too serious," a friend told me who had dropped out of her district league even though her handicap of 18.3 qualified her to play.

Take "Friends on Friday," This is a no-stress league with teams of men and women

playing at the end of the day for a simple prize followed by dinner. Each week there is a team competition like "Texas Mulligan Scotch, Square Dance, Stableford Money Ball and Square Dance.

I asked the organizer (a member) why he came up with these games. He said, "Everyone likes a scramble because they are playing together, but traditional scrambles can be so mundane. Often you are constantly using just one person's ball so less experienced players are left out. I found there were just not a lot of decent games out there for a four-person scramble.

In Lucky Sevens Casino Scramble, you use only your seven iron on the 7th hole and can earn deductions in points for a score-card's best (and worst) poker hand; in Texas Mulligan Scotch Scramble, pairs alternate shots and both get 2 shots; and in Square Dance Scramble you swap partners every other hole. Score cards are theme-designed and include graphics, score bar, and detailed instructions on each card.

## Meeting New People

Leagues promote sociability and provide a quick fix to meeting new people especially for those moving into the area. One golfer told me, "We didn't know anyone when we moved in, but the pro was great at setting us up to play with other couples also anxious to meet new people. It's been wonderful."

## Easier to Set Up Golf Games

It takes more work to set up the tee times yourself. Whatever system you use, most courses require you make a tee time. You

can do it through Foretees-style systems on line, through websites like Golfnow or simply calling the courses themselves. All take time. Leagues set you up for the season. All you have to do is read your emails and show up.

## Who Organizes These Leagues?

Depends. Typically a golf club offers men and women ongoing leagues on a certain day each week. The pro shop staff sets up the leagues. Some are run as match play events. For example, in our Ladies Night Out, you play 9 holes with the same partner each week against different opponents until the end of the season when you have played with everyone. It's a best ball format so for each hole you win, you receive 1 point; if you tie, each team gets a half point. The points are totaled and accumulate so you know each week where you stand. There is an A league and a B league. You are grouped according to the combined handicaps of each pair. With a

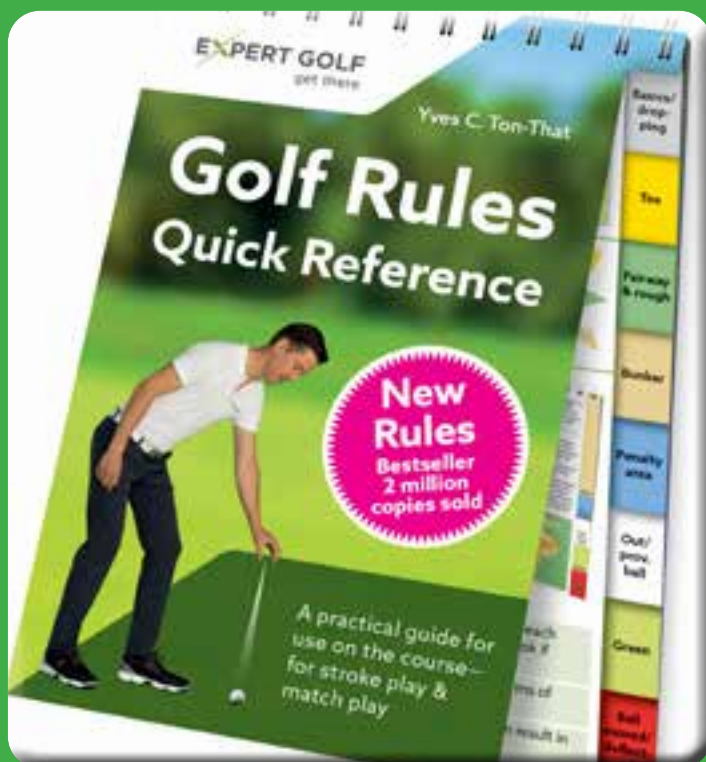
shotgun start, you all finish at the same time and then come into dinner.

The pro shop also organizes weekly 9 and 18 hole leagues with input from the club's women's golf committee. An annual calendar lists each week's formats and prizes, usually pro shop credit, a good thing for the club as well as the players.

In some cases, the golfers themselves make up their groups and are responsible for getting tee times for the players. They often give themselves a name i.e. "The Wedgies" or the "Bandits" and either play each week at their local golf courses or travel to other courses.

Whatever leagues do, the bottom line is they help promote golf and if they're doing a good job, bring new players into the game. ■

***Katharine Dyson is a member of the Golf Writers of America and the Golf Travel Writers of America and writes a Women's column in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com).***



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By Yves C. Ton-That, ISBN 978-3-906852-15-7, 52 pages, 180+ colored illustrations, spiral-bound, \$18.95, Artigo Publishing International. ■

## Golf Leagues Great For Business

There's a lot of work involved in running a golf league. Just ask Peter Calderone.

For 30-plus years, he ran the Falls A.C. Golf League, which started in the early 1980s when two brothers, Angie and Corby Cavalieri, purchased a bar in North Attleboro by that name.

The league had various presidents and jumped around to a couple of different courses – Heather Hill Country Club in Plainville and Rehoboth Country Club – before temporarily disbanding. When Chemawa Golf Course in North Attleboro expanded to 18 holes in the late 1980s, Joe Rezza, a local business owner, decided to resurrect the league.

He enlisted Calderone, a league member, to assist. Soon, Rezza and others dropped out. "It kind of fell in my lap," Calderone said of running the league.

The Falls A.C. Golf League didn't have to worry about leadership for more than three decades after Calderone took over. The North Attleboro native, now a retired postal worker and part-time Florida resident, handled all the chores involved in the league: securing a course and time to play, setting up competitive divisions, organizing the four events held each year, buying the shirts that are part of the dues and the jackets that serve as prizes as well as the weekly closest-to-the-pin cash awards.

"I tell you, it's a lot of work," he said.

Calderone also enlisted others over the years, most importantly Bill Yoder. A fellow North Attleboro resident and a software engineer, Yoder played for years but now is mostly a spectator. But he has been the official record-keeper, using his technical skills to more quickly post scores as well as operate the league's website. "I can't tell you what a big help he's been," Calderone said.

Calderone also had one other duty--league starter. Each week, he grabbed a cart and sat at the first tee, organizing foursomes.

The Falls A.C. League features match play

but does not require opponents to tee off in the same group. Scores are turned in and winners are determined after matching cards. Players arrive, sometimes in two or fours or often as singles, and are sorted out at the first tee.

"I wanted to keep things moving along," he said. "I knew who got along and who didn't, who played fast and who was slow and so I'd match guys up so things didn't drag."

The league, which started at 48 players, quickly grew to 56 and then 80 players.

Membership took a huge leap about a dozen years ago when it was able to play on Wednesday afternoons at Highland Country Club, a private, pristine nine-hole course in Attleboro. The opportunity to tee it up weekly at a course with country club conditions enticed more players to join.

At one point, the ranks had swollen to 112 players, far more than the usual two to four dozen players in most leagues.

"Each week, we were bringing in \$6,000 to \$7,000 to the club," Calderone said. "It was good for us but it was good for the club too."

The same holds true for other golf courses. Easton Country Club, a semi-private course in the town by the same name, operates several leagues, ranging from 24 to 60 players, for non-members. "It's an important segment of our business," said Mark Lombardi, Easton's general manager.

Not only does Easton receive virtually guaranteed greens fee revenue from the leagues, but the club also opens the clubhouse for players to enjoy a post-round beverage and bite to eat.

"It's pretty robust in the clubhouse after some of the leagues," Lombardi said.

Perhaps more importantly, the leagues have allowed players to experience not just the course but the entire club, he said.

"It's been a great feeder for members," Lombardi said. "They'll play, enjoy themselves and then realize that if they pay a little more, they can

play three times a week and experience the full benefits of membership.”

As for the Falls A.C Golf League, Calderone this year turned the reins over to Kyle Cornetta, a 36-year-old member who joined the league in high school when his father would pick him up after classes. With Yoder’s help, Cornetta is modernizing the league with all communication in the form of emails or texts.

More importantly, the league is also experimenting with computerized scorekeeping. Players are emailed a link each week that opens to a scorecard on their phones. They post and transmit their scores on their phones right after playing, and with simple voice instructions, Yoder can compile the results for all 76 players in seconds.

“That will save a ton of time,” Cornetta said.

“When they asked me to do this, that’s one of the ways I thought we could bring the league into the 21st century,” he added. “I wasn’t going to sit there each week and add every score into a spreadsheet.”

The league, which moved to Wentworth Hills Golf Club in Plainville in 2018 after Highland closed, has seen an influx of younger players the

last couple of years, Calderone said.

“That’s great as far as I’m concerned,” he said. “It’s good to see younger guys playing and also helping out, like Kyle is. Maybe they can keep the league going for another 30 or 40 years.” ■

**Mike Kirby, the former editor-in-chief of *The Sun Chronicle of Attleboro, Mass.*, can be reached at [mkirbygolf18@gmail.com](mailto:mkirbygolf18@gmail.com).**

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## A League Player for 50 Years

**H**arry Manoogian (pictured right) has played in the Thursday afternoon golf league at Heritage Country Club in Charlton for more than half a century. And he has no plans to stop anytime soon.

Manoogian, 89, of Worcester said he began playing in the league in 1968 or 1969. He's the oldest golfer in his league and he believes he could be the oldest golfer in any league at Heritage. "It makes me feel OK that I'm still up and about," he said, "but I still think of myself sometimes as 50. I still think young. I am fairly healthy."

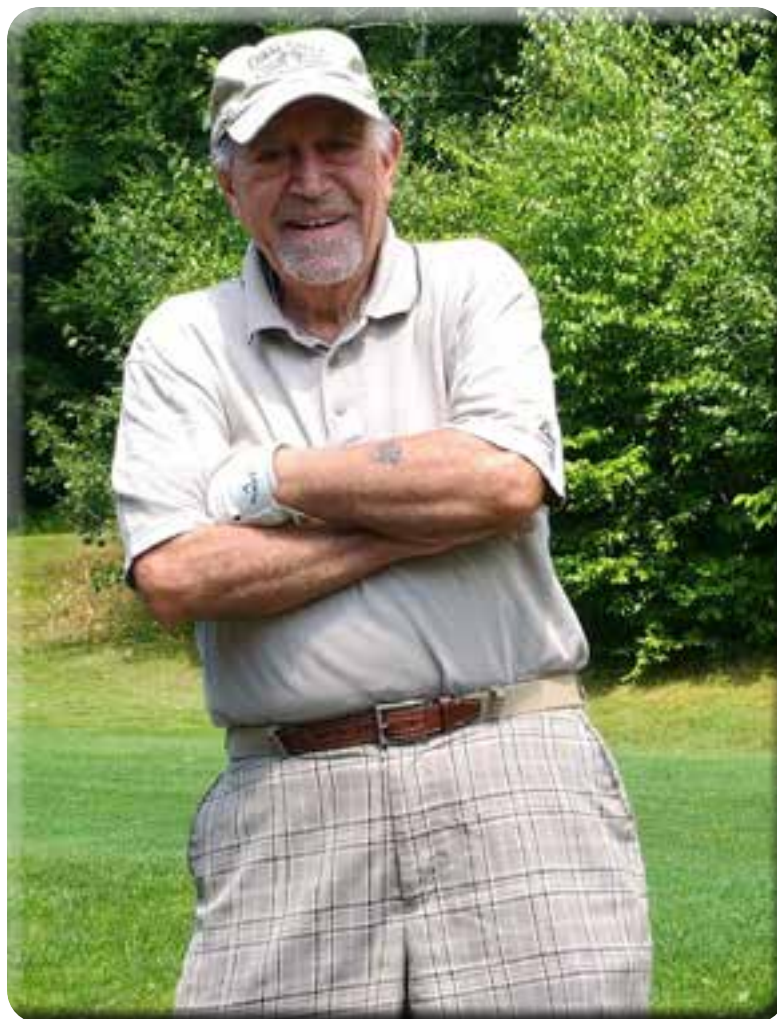
Manoogian said his league hasn't changed much over the years. "But the real estate has," he said. "It seems to me that the trees are taller and the ground is farther away than it used to be. I say that because when I bend down to pick the ball out of the hole on the rather few times that it goes into the hole, it's tough to bend that far."

He also finds it longer from tee to green than it used to be. "I can't understand that, but it's a fact of nature," he joked.

Heritage has 10 golf leagues, eight men's, one women's and one coed. Most consist of two-player teams and conduct season-long competitions from late April until Labor Day and some through the first week of October. Owner Bill Plante estimated that leagues account for 30-35 percent of play at Heritage.

"Obviously, they're very important," Plante said. "It's important to have the people there and the play there and of course the spinoff of the lounge, the restaurant, the food, the driving range and the culture of your club to have active people there enjoying themselves and we certainly have that at Heritage."

Plante, 57, isn't sure if Heritage would be as busy late in the afternoons without league play, but he doesn't plan to find out because he's a big believer in leagues. He plays in one of them,



the Wednesday night Sweeps, that he started 30 years ago when his late father, Joe, bought the club. Teams are drawn and prizes and skins are awarded each week.

Plante said one of the biggest changes in league play over the years is that golfers now check the weather on their phones and cancel if rain is forecast. Many years ago, they played no matter what. Most league players at Heritage are members so for league play they pay only the \$15 cart fee if they want to ride. Non-members pay \$35 to ride nine holes when they play, but nothing when they cancel.

At the end of the season, Heritage donates a buffet for each league. Because the leagues play nine holes, non-league golfers can usually start on the other nine.

Manoogian and Jose Garcia, 74, of Worcester form one of the 14 teams in their league. The Budweiser League of 58 golfers plays later on Thursdays.

Manoogian and his former partner won the league many years ago, but the owner of a 10-handicap for nine holes readily admits he's not the best golfer. "Don't make me look like too much of a professional because they'll be lowering my handicap," Manoogian said.

He's happy to break 50 from the forward tees. "I can't wait until I'm about 110 so I can shoot my age," he said. Manoogian is a retired stockbroker. "And I wasn't too good at that either," he said with a laugh. Manoogian obviously doesn't take himself too seriously.

"I enjoy being out with the guys," he said, "and the competition is sometimes interesting. I like to get together with them afterward also. The 19th hole is always a good time for us. In the summertime, we're able to sit outside on the patio and not only have a few beers, but maybe a cigar or two. It's the comradery."

Clyde Chapman, 58, of Spencer has played in the Budweiser League on Thursdays nights for 10 years and has served as league president for four.

"It's very competitive," Chapman said. "There are some great players of all ages."

Fifty-eight players with nine-hole handicaps ranging from 2-10 form two-player teams. Higher handicaps aren't allowed because the league doesn't want to award two shots on a hole. "If you don't like it, you can leave," Chapman said, "or get better. Go see a pro."

Cash prizes are awarded each week and at the end of the season. "It's just a great place," Chapman said, "where you can chinwag with the guys and bust each other. It's a real nice group of guys. If we have anyone bad, they get voted out by the committee." That doesn't happen too often because no one wants to be known for being out of their league. ■

*Bill Doyle is a retired sports writer for the Worcester Telegram and writes a Central Mass. column in each issue of [snegolfer.com](http://snegolfer.com)*

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## Central Mass. Golf Leagues Flourish at Gardner Municipal and Templewood

**D**an Berry, Gardner Municipal Golf Course's Pro Shop Manager, loves the golf leagues at his course in Central Massachusetts. "We have many leagues playing just about every weekday here, with tournaments scheduled throughout the season on weekends too," said Berry. "The leagues provide a great source of revenue and also help with gaining new memberships and overall interest in our course and in golf in general. Over the years I've watched many friendships build because of the team pairings in the various leagues."

Some of the leagues at Gardner Municipal include the Napoleon Club, Monday and Tuesday night leagues, the Zoe's Restaurant League, the Mixed Scotch League, the Polish American League, the Acadien Club League and the GMGC Women's morning league.

"What the leagues do is give us a regularity at the course and everyone is aware of the scheduled tee times and afternoons when each league is given priority for play after arranging for times," Berry said. "The competition is exciting for the players and there's a certain pride everyone takes in belonging to a league and contributing- from the low handicap golfers to the high handicap ones, because that's the beauty of golf in terms of the handicap system being the great levelers of scoring. I'll often look out and see the handshakes happening as the evening darkness approaches on the final holes and it gives me a great feeling of how great a sport golf can be."

Next year at Gardner Municipal will mark the 70th anniversary of the South Gardner Golf Association which began on an early spring day back in 1954 when a group of South Gardnerites sat down in the South Gardner Hotel and discussed plans for a golf league. That group included the late Pete and John Kraskouskas and the late John Budwick, Stan



**TOY TOWN GOLF LEAGUE'S FORMER PRESIDENT JOHN WALKER & CURRENT PRESIDENT VERN YOUNG**

Smith, Paul Deveikis and Dr. Edward Blake.

"It was just a group of guys getting together and having a lot of fun playing golf," Budwick told me for a story in 1993 when the SGGGA was celebrating its 40th anniversary. "We never thought it would last this long."

Then John Kraskouskas, who was 84 at the time, told me his favorite, comical South Gardner Golf League story: "We had Bernie Gurlakis, who was a big, strong guy and who was a tremendous swimmer in his day," recalled Kraskouskas, adding with a chuckle, "Well, we started putting some small stones in his golf bag when he wasn't looking. Then we'd just keep adding some rocks every week when we would play. By the end of the season his bag was getting pretty heavy."

"The South Gardner League has also

traveled to other golf courses on special occasions, recalled retired teacher Allen Goguen, who, with different playing partners, has won the South Gardner League championship many times: "In our 50th year, we went to Captains Golf Course (two 18's) on Cape Cod, staying over Saturday night and playing one 18 Saturday and the other on Sunday. We had John and Pete Kraskouskas as the last two original members of the league and were not playing as often as they used to, so we arranged for John and his wife Kitty and Pete and his wife Loretta brought down by limo for the Saturday night dinner. They were picked up after breakfast on Sunday and driven home on Sunday. That may be the best thing the league has ever done!" He added, "In our 60th year, we went to Green Mountain National and played that great course both days and stayed over again on that Saturday."

At Templewood Golf Course in Templeton, only a few miles from Gardner Municipal, there is a flourishing golf league with players flocking to the course weekly for fun, camaraderie and competitive golf.

It's called the Toy Town Senior Men's Golf League, which began 28 years ago in 1994 at the former Winchendon Country Club, which later became the Winchendon School Golf Course, which closed a few years ago leaving the senior golfers in the league in search of a new golf course.

They found Templewood, and they're happy they did. "They came to us after the Winchendon course closed, and we were happy to accommodate them," said Templewood pro shop manager Rena Amidon. "They're just a great bunch of guys."

"We had 38 original members back in 1994. The dues were five bucks for the year and we had 17 tournaments. I'm one of only three from that group still living," said John Walker, who was president of the league from 2004 to 2019. Vern Young, from Rindge, N.H., is the current president.

"Before the pandemic, in the summer of 2019, we had over 50 members, but that dropped a bit," said Walker. "We have a variety of golfers, mostly retired from different occupations. The main prerequisite for anyone

wanting to play in this league is they must want to have fun."

Golfers belonging to the Toy Town Senior League must have a GHIN card indicating their handicap. The tournaments from week to week vary in format, usually beginning the month with two-man quota completion and varying from there.

Adding to the seniors' delight in the league is playing from the forward tees at Templewood and what is also appreciated is that they have shotgun starts on holes 1, 2 and 18.

"Templewood has been wonderful to us since we came here," said Young. This is my seventh season in the league and all the guys have been so welcoming right from the start, plus I had my only (so far) hole-in-one when I was playing in this league. It was July of 2016 on the 16th hole at Winchendon." A great golf league memory for sure. ■

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

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## Senior Golf Travel League is a Huge Success

**D**ick Lisi of Sturbridge, Mass and Joe Condelli of Auburn, Mass. met by chance playing golf a few years ago. Like some people you meet, it just clicks and a new friendship is started. That's one of the best parts of golf. It wasn't long after that the two men realized that they both went to Lowell Tech during the same years.

Not long after the two started talking about golf and maybe making new friends through golf. "Why don't we start a traveling club" they brainstormed in 2019. You need to remember that they had just met and were already thinking of making something fun and exciting for men and women golfers that they hadn't even met yet! "We had 32 people in our first event," recalled Lisi.

The group plays from May to October at least one a month, and occasionally twice a month. "The key is to get confirmation from the golf courses, and we try to get that done by March," said Condelli. They are always looking for new places to try in the Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut area. "If a course owner is reading this story and would like to have the group play at his/her course, they can contact the group at [wcsgolffclub@gmail.com](mailto:wcsgolffclub@gmail.com)," said Condelli.

The group has grown since 2019. They have almost 150 players in our organization that does not cost anything to belong. We do ask our players to make a \$25 donation to the Shriners Children's Hospital in Springfield, but that is strictly voluntary," said Joe. "Dick sends me an email about where we are going to play, and then I get all the info about the event to our mailing list," said Condelli who is quite versed in computers.

"Our organization is just a golf traveling group for men and women. We play mostly on Thursdays and each man and woman antes up \$5 for the day. We give out small amounts of cash, so we have many winners each event. The prizes are first, second and third for closest to the pin on all par 3's" said Lisi who added that you can only win one



prize a day. They also have prizes for closest to the pin if you chip with any club except the putter. Women get two shots towards the hole when chipping.

"Members of the organization come mostly from Central Mass., but we have other players from Western Mass, some from Connecticut and even one from Rhode Island," said Lisi who added "We are always looking for new people to be part of our group."

The logistics of bringing people from all over the region seems difficult, but the two fellows seem to have handled it well. "We have designated captains (in the email that is sent out for the event) who set up near the clubhouse and collect all the greens fees for their foursome to make it easier for the pro shop. These captains can also set up different games for their foursome. "It's all for fun and it's great to see many getting little prizes at the end of the day," said Lisi.

When they first started in 2019 they averaged about 32 players, but now they average about 75 and sometimes there are almost 100. "This is a great way to meet new people and have a great day on the golf course," said Condelli. ■

# Western Massachusetts Notebook

**M**aking the most of an opportunity and only 16- years-old, Ryan Downes (pictured right), from Longmeadow and a GreatHorse member, entered the 114th Massachusetts Amateur Championship at Concord Country Club as the youngest player in the field, making a run all the way to the finals of match play, falling to eventual champion Connor Willett, a 19-year-old from Wellesley, who won the final 36-hole match 4 & 2.

It was the first time two teenage players squared off in a Mass Amateur final. Downes, with a few days to reflect, shared his thoughts on his recent Mass Am run.



**Q:** Looking back now after a few days from the final, what are your biggest takeaways from the experience playing in the 36-hole final?

**A:** "My biggest takeaways from this week and especially in the final were that I could compete with anybody. Obviously, it was a very long week with 36 holes for me in each day during match play so that was exhausting. I learned that I could stay more patient with my attitude and game this week and it led to some good results. The final was a very hard match for me personally. I have known Conner for a couple of years and it was extremely hard to play with the crowd in his favor, obviously for good reason. (Willett's father, Rick Willett, passed away unexpectedly one day before the championship began.) I learned that I could pretty much handle anything and that I could compete with anyone."

**Q:** At one point during the week - maybe the putt to make the playoff - did you feel like you were ready to make a long run in the tournament?

**A:** "The turning point for me in the tournament was probably the 11th hole in my second round. (Hole 2, started on back nine). I was

really struggling in the hard conditions during the second round and I didn't look like I was going to make match play. I had just made a double bogey on the hole prior and 2 played as the hardest hole all week. I made birdie which helped me make the cut on the number and I got through the playoff."

**Q:** Name a few of the key points of certain matches that stick out in your mind that maybe propelled you through each round of match play?

**A:** "One key point in my second match was holes 7-10. I was already playing well during my match against Xavier Marcoux but nothing was incredible. Then I happened to birdie those four holes to take a massive lead. In my match against Matt Naumec, I was 1 down through 12 holes and not playing too well. I made a nice 10-foot birdie putt to tie the match and never looked back."

**Q:** You have also had a very successful junior season this summer; how beneficial was that for your confidence going into the Mass Am?

**A:** "I have been playing well the last couple of

weeks leading into the Mass Am. I qualified for the JR PGA Championship which kind of gave me a nice confidence boost. Then I went down to Pinehurst to play in the Junior North & South and played really well. I knew that my game was in a good spot coming into the week and it paid off well."

**Q:** How did it feel being the youngest player in the field? Any intimidation factor at all with the older players?

**A:** "I don't think that I was intimidated this week. I have been friends with a lot of the guys from Eastern Mass just because of golf. I know them all well and I have played with them a lot. I think playing with people older than me actually benefits me because I get great experience." ■

## U.S. Open Memory

The chance to walk within the ropes of a professional golf tournament doesn't come along often. At last month's U.S. Open at The Country Club in Brookline, the opportunity to work as a standard bearer presented itself for Kate Markowski.

"I got to work in this event because of the First Tee organization. I got selected for this opportunity and was very grateful," Markowski said. "It was a dream come true being with the pros. I got to be with some of my all-time favorite golfers and it was the coolest thing in the world. I could see every shot perfectly and super up close without worrying about anyone getting in my way and I got to stand next to the pros quite often."

Markowski, from East Longmeadow, and a member of the Spartan high school golf team shared a few cherished memories from her U.S. Open golf experience.

"Some exciting moments were when I was with Collin Morikawa - the crowd was constantly excited and hyped up and yelling his name and cheering him on. At the 18th hole, everyone was cheering for him and Patrick Rodgers. It felt like I was famous walking down and everyone cheering for me," Markowski said. "When I was in the group of Cameron Young, Will Zalatoris, and Joaquin Niemann, it was a close match between Zala-

toris and Niemann. It was super cool to watch because they would hit the same shots and it was a super close round."

Markowski also pointed out another highlight, getting to stand in the practice area. "Pros such as Patrick Cantlay and Jordan Spieth walked right by me and I got to be super up close and it was absolutely amazing. After my last round, I stood next to Jordan Spieth inside the fence and got to watch him play with his baby, which was super adorable. I'll remember that forever and always tell everyone I got to see him playing with his baby," Markowski said. "It was also memorable when golfers like Cameron Young and Patrick Rodgers came up to me and introduced themselves and asked for my name and made an effort to be kind and I will forever remember that." Cherished memories indeed. ■

## Path to Drive

Chip and Putt Nationals at Augusta started at a local qualifier held at Springfield Country Club Tuesday. Local junior golfers that advanced to the regional round on August 11 at Lyman Orchards Golf Center in Middlefield, Conn. include: Matthew Laporte (Boys 7-9, East Longmeadow), Addison Regan (Girls 7-9, Granby, MA), Jack Arnold (Boys 10-11, Longmeadow), Joslyn Sexton (Girls 10-11, Holyoke), Will Lord (Boys 12-13, Suffield, Conn.), Ryley Regan (Girls 12-13, Granby, MA), Ryan MacGregor (Boys 14-15, South Hadley, MA), and Lauren Connor (Girls 14-15, Westfield). ■



## Conner Willett Wins Mass. Amateur

**CONCORD, Mass** – Winning the prestigious title of Massachusetts Amateur champion, now in its 114th edition, is an extreme test of physical and mental durability unlike any other competition. When the final putt is holed, the winner would play 144 holes over five days, that includes the 36-hole qualifier, four 18-hole matches followed up with the 36-hole final match.

When 19-year-old Conner Willett edged Ryan Downes 4 & 2 on the 16th green – and 34th hole of the championship match – at Concord Country Club July 15, his victory was even more impressive because his father, Richard Willett, died unexpectedly at age 52 on July 10, one day before the start of the biggest tournament of his rising golf career.

Conner Willett knocks down a 10-foot birdie putt on the 34th hole of match play-final against Ryan Downes (l) to win 4 & 2 and capture the 114th Mass Amateur title at Concord CC July 15.

The heartbroken youngster discussed the decision to play or withdraw with his mom, Beth, and sister, Kaitlyn. Despite a somewhat unremarkable amateur career to date the family made a decision that Conner should play and it's one they'll forever cherish.

Last week Conner Willett, of Charles River CC, captivated the golf community in Massachusetts and beyond not only by playing through the heartache, but by winning the esteemed Arthur G. Lockwood Trophy, one of the longest-running amateur championships in the United States. After his semi-final win, Conner pointed to a conversation he had with his father that helped him get his mind right to play for the Bay State's most coveted crown, and his incredible, courageous accomplishment.

Conner Willett and his caddy, Ethan Whitney, engage in a long emotional embrace on the 16th green at Concord CC moments after he wins the 2022 Mass Amateur.

"It changed my whole attitude, and I've just been kind of rolling since then," said Willett, a sophomore at Georgetown University. "I haven't thought about my swing in over a month. I just walk out there and just keep doing the same thing."



"I was really anxious and really nervous going into rounds," the Wellesley native added. "I was really scared of shooting 80, and my dad just gave me a boost of motivation just to be the top dog and just have the confidence or have a little positive self-talk, and it definitely paid off."

2022 Mass Amateur champion Conner Willett embraces his mom, Beth, and sister, Kaitlyn, moments after receiving the Arthur G. Lockwood Trophy at the awards ceremony.

During the six-plus-hour finals match, a large and supportive gallery of friends, including his mom and sister walked alongside Conner wearing blue ribbons with the initials "R.W." After the teenager tapped in the winning 10-foot birdie putt, he celebrated with a huge fist pump, and the emotions flowed out bonding with an extended chorus of clapping and cheering.

His caddy, Ethan Whitney, shared a lengthy embrace. Conner's friends from Wellesley and Charles River CC poured onto the green for more hugs and high-fives. Finally, his mother, Beth, and sister, Kaitlyn, emerged from the gallery. The threesome stood off the green with their arms wrapped around one another. The tears and sniffles were plentiful. ■

*Tom Gorman is the publisher/editor of NewEngland.Golf. He is a member of the Golf Writers of America and the Golf Travel Writers of America.*

## LIV Event at International Club in Boston Labor Day Weekend

**BOLTON, Mass** – Many of golf's biggest names are migrating from the PGA Tour to LIV Golf – the newest, richest most attractive professional golf tour – and it is quickly growing in star power to the benefit of LIV Golf Invitational Boston scheduled Sept. 2-4, the Friday-Sunday of Labor Day weekend, at the International golf club in Bolton.

Only 6,500 tickets are available to golf fans daily and the event is expected to sell out all three days. Grounds passes cost \$70 per day or \$185 for all three days. Hospitality packages range from \$275 per day or \$800 for all three days up to \$4,250 for all three days. Visit [tickets.livgolf.com/2022-boston](https://tickets.livgolf.com/2022-boston)

With a 120-year history, the International is greater Boston's only 36-hole private club. The Oaks Course is 7,100 yards long and plays to a par of 72. Architect Tripp Davis worked with a construction company to strip and laser level the tees at the Oaks Course last year. The bunkers, which stand out because they are filled with crushed limestone, were renovated as well.

"The members have been overwhelmingly supportive of the event," said General Manager Steve Brennan. "The International is a world-class property and this is another way to showcase the club internationally. Our job is to have an exceptional golf course and let the pros come play, the rest of the stuff doesn't really come into our life. This is a big deal and we look forward to hosting the tournament."

The LIV Golf Invitational Series has drawn criticism in its first year because it's funded by Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund. The most recent LIV Golf event June 30-July 2 outside Portland, Oregon, drew a few protests while some accuse the Saudis of using LIV Golf to sanitize their image of abusing human rights.

Nevertheless, the LIV Golf event outside Portland sold out on the final day and the three-day tournament was successful on a local level and watched live on YouTube by tens and thousands



THE OAKS COURSE AT INTERNATIONAL

of fans. On July 1, LIV Golf donated \$1 million to support local environmental and community-based organizations in Portland (OR). LIV Golf has said they will donate \$1 million to local charities in and around Bolton (MA). The estimated economic impact is \$30 million according to tournament officials.

"The membership at International looks forward to showcasing the club to a worldwide golf audience when LIV Golf is here over Labor Day weekend," said longtime member Evan McCullough. "The Oaks redesign is phenomenal. The elevation changes, scenic views and greens are in the best condition ever and the new laser-level tee boxes are awesome. The best professional golfers in the world will be impressed."

Even though the PGA Tour suspends all golfers who jump to the rival league, several golfers have found LIV Golf's money too good to pass up. Phil Mickelson was reportedly paid \$200 million to join LIV, Dustin Johnson received \$150 million and Bryan DeChambeau got more than \$125 million.

Prize money for each event is \$25 million and first place pays \$4 million. Brooks Koepka, Patrick Reed and Sergio Garcia are other big names playing in LIV Golf events. Each event consists of 48 golfers, 54 holes, shotgun starts and no cut. Every player is guaranteed a check.

The field should be even stronger at the International than it was at Pumpkin Ridge outside Portland because more PGA Tour golfers have since committed to play LIV Golf.

This week, Henrik Stenson, Jason Kokrak and Charles Howell joined LIV Golf. As a result, Stenson was stripped of his captaincy of the European Ryder Cup team.

Cameron Smith, recent winner of the Open Championship, is reportedly close to signing with LIV Golf as well. Several of the LIV golfers are past their primes, but Smith certainly isn't. He's the No. 2 ranked golfer in the world. Others reportedly considering jumping to LIV include No. 14 Hideki Matsuyama, No. 39 Adam Scott, No. 57 Marc Leishman and No. 84 Bubba Watson. Matsuyama, Watson and Scott have each won the Masters.

The LIV Golf event at the International will be held at the Oaks Course, a Tom Fazio design that opened in 2001, on the week after the PGA Tour's Tour Championship. There's no PGA Tour event scheduled that weekend so there's a chance even more PGA Tour golfers could decide to play in the LIV Golf event at the International.

On Aug. 31, LIV appointed team captains will each draft three golfers to form 12 teams for the team competition and the pairings for the Sept. 1 pro-am will be decided.

The International and Pumpkin Ridge are both owned by Escalante Golf, a private equity firm based in Fort Worth, Texas, that owns 20 golf courses in the U.S.

South Africans have won the first two LIV Golf events, Charl Schwartzel in London and Branden Grace in Portland. The third of eight LIV Golf events in 2022 is scheduled for July 29-31 at Trump National Golf Club Bedminster in Bedminster, N.J.

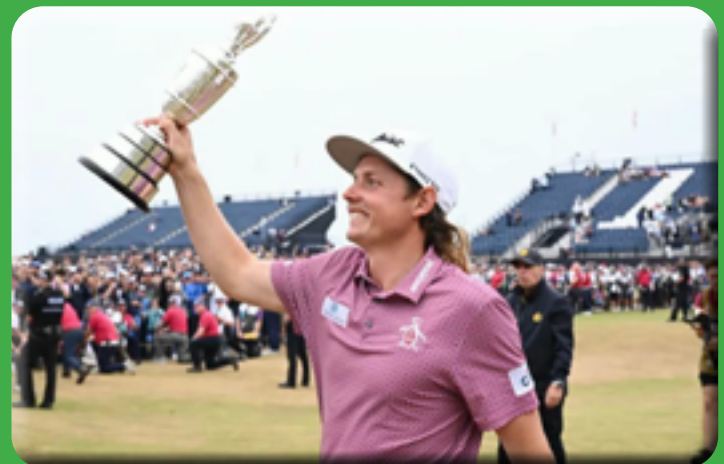
LIV Golf lacks a national television contract, but live coverage is available online at [LIVGolf.com](https://www.livgolf.com), YouTube and Facebook. Veteran golf announcer David Feherty left NBC this week and is expected to beef up LIV Golf broadcasts. [livgolf.com/events/the-international-boston](https://www.livgolf.com/events/the-international-boston) ■



**TEAM CAPTAIN BRYSON DECHAMBEAU  
OF CRUSHERS GC**



**PAT PEREZ, TALOR GOOCH, TEAM CAPTAIN  
DUSTIN JOHNSON & PATRICK REED  
OF TEAM 4 ACES GC**



**CAMERON SMITH –  
CHAMPION GOLFER OF THE YEAR**



## Five Must-Play Daytona Beach Golf Courses

**DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.** – Daytona Beach has become a destination of choice for savvy group leaders in search of good golf, good times and value, leading an influx of newcomers to search for the area's premier layouts.

Home to nearly 20 golf courses, including a pair of Donald Ross designs, a U.S. Open qualifying site, and three layouts that have hosted major professional tournaments, identifying Daytona Beach's "best" courses is by nature a subjective exercise. With that being said, here are five must-play Daytona Beach golf courses in 2022:

LPGA International, a 36-hole property, is Daytona Beach's most acclaimed facility, and the Jones Course challenges players with some of Central Florida's best greens complexes, sprawling waste bunkers and natural marsh areas. A favorite of the world's best female golfers when the LPGA held its titleholders event in Daytona Beach, the Rees Jones layout also features generous fairways framed by mounding, creating the memorable visuals players enjoy.

Golfweek has ranked Victoria Hills among Florida's top 15 public layouts and it doesn't take players long to figure out why. The course plays along naturally rolling terrain and pine tree-lined fairways, an atypical look for a Florida layout, and players love it. For golfers in the western part of Volusia County, playing this Ron Garl design is a priority.

A greens restoration project has moved Halifax Plantation to the top of many must-play lists. The new Champion Ultra dwarf bermuda grass has made the Bill Amick course's greens among the area's smoothest. Halifax plays among centuries-old oaks, adding scenery to a layout in pristine condition.

For many, Daytona Beach is home to the "World Center of Racing" Daytona International Speedway, so it's only natural that one of the area's fastest rounds of golf is also among its most enjoyable. Crane Lakes Golf Club, a par 66 that includes eight



par 3s and a pair of par 5s, can be played in under 3 ½ hours, but it's not just a "short course." Crane Lakes has several par 4s that play over 380 yards and its shortest par 3 is 151 yards.

The U.S. Women's Open was played on a Donald Ross design this summer, shining the spotlight on America's most revered golf course architect. Ross designed a pair of area layouts - the South Course at Daytona Beach Golf Club and the New Smyrna Golf Club - both of which are municipal courses that allow players to enjoy the work of one of the game's legends at a value price. For golfers in southern Volusia County, New Smyrna, with its small undulating greens, is a treat to play.

For information on all of Daytona Beach golf offerings, visit [DaytonaBeach.Golf](http://DaytonaBeach.Golf) ■

# Swing into Fredericton, New Brunswick A No-Hassle Golf Vacation

Traveling is such an issue these days for golfers reserving international and domestic golf holidays now facing the possibility of cancelled flights or lost baggage. So forget the hassle and drive a short distance north [5½ hours from Portland, Maine] and discover Fredericton, New Brunswick, the province's capital and the hub for ten distinct golf courses within ninety minutes of downtown.

Situated along the shores of the Saint John River or as the local First Nations designate it "Wolastoq" [beautiful and bountiful river], it is a city of tree-lined streets, historic homes and river walks. An outdoor lifestyle to enjoy!

Fredericton prides itself on "farm-to-table" where farmers' markets and restaurants offer locally grown and harvested products be sure to ask for Fiddleheads [furred fronds of the ostrich fern], a local delicacy. If you enjoy craft beer then you have come to the right place as the area is known as Atlantic Canada's "Craft Brewing Capital" with twenty-five to experience along the "Taproom Trail."

If music is part of your life then this is where you should be; eclectic, foot-stomping, reflective or energizing, local bands, international stars, bars and restaurants, festivals or concerts music is an important part of the personality and vibrancy of the city.

## Golf

Many of Canada's internationally respected golf course architects have embraced New Brunswick's distinct topography creating signature golf courses throughout the province.

With ten golf courses within a ninety-minute drive, there are numerous choices but as vacation time may be a factor consider the following three and you will see why you will have to return to see what the rest of the province has to offer.

Visually stunning but playable, unique and non-repetitive holes is the philosophy of the lead

architects, in the design of two of New Brunswick's finest golf courses, Kingswood and West Hills. "We like to include the flowing landforms, expansive water features, contrasting turf varieties with creative bunkering to accent the strategic character of the courses". Huxham Golf Designs

## Kingswood Golf Club

Recognized as one of Canada's finest golf courses and the best course in the country by Golf Digest when it opened in 2003 it continues to receive accolades from players from around the world. Designed by the international course design firms of Darrell and Warren Huxham and Graham Cooke the course is part of Radisson Kingswood Hotel and Suites, a four-season masterplan that now features onsite Raddison Hotel and Canada's only Sam Snead's Oak Grill and Tavern.

Less than fifteen minutes from downtown, Kingswood is a beautifully crafted championship course that measures 7,000 yards from the back tees. This is a course that should be remembered for its many design features: inviting fairways, stands of white pine, and cavernous bunkering with picturesque water features add to the beauty and dynamics of Kingswood. If you have time, you should experience the nine-hole 3900-yard Executive course. Beautifully manicured and a pleasure to play.

## West Hills Golf Course

Across the St John River, less than seven minutes from downtown West Hills Golf Club is Fredericton's newest signature championship course. The latest design by Huxham Golf.

This is a course where the owners understand the benefits of treating their guests with service and respect and providing them with a golf experience that will be memorable for years to come.

Though located around a housing community the builders took great care on minimizing any signs of homes. From the first tee, the course has

the feel of a private country setting.

There are numerous elevated tees and vantage points as the Huxham design philosophy is to ensure that all hazards are visible to “excite and entice” golfers and to allow an opportunity for a “heroic tee shot”. This is definitely a risk-reward course so the only one to criticize an incorrect execution will be the individual who made the decision to go for it!

Though new and not long by today’s standards at 6,520 yards West Hill has a feeling of maturity. Every hole is individual in its make-up with deceptively contoured multi-sized greens creating challenges for golfers.

There is no doubt that West Hills will soon be rated in Canada’s “Top 100”.

### The Algonquin at St. Andrews by the Sea

Less than ninety minutes from Fredericton lies the historic, chateau-inspired Algonquin Resort and home of one of Canada’s most revered courses: The Algonquin at St. Andrews-by-the Sea (photo on next page) takes its name from Scotland’s St. Andrew’s “Royal and Ancient”.

Located along the shores of the picturesque Bay of Fundy, with Maine across the waters the Algonquin Golf Course was opened in 1894 as a short nine-hole layout. Today the original clubhouse is still standing and is recognized as the oldest clubhouse in Canada. Now a new clubhouse overlooks the beautifully manicured fairways and greens and blue ocean waters.

This course has seen a few transformations over the last 100 years. Legendary Donald Ross drafted the plans for an expanded course in the early 1920s; award-winning Canadian architects Thomas McBroom and then Rod Whitman have re-crafted the course to take advantage of the incredible views of the Atlantic Ocean.

Playing to 7,135 yards from the back tees many holes face toward the prevailing winds. Par 3, 14th creates a sense of Pebble Beach’s Number 7. Continually ranked in the “Top 100” courses in Canada and Golf Digest’s Editor’s Choice Award in 2021.

So swing up north, swing to the music; practice your swing and visit Fredericton, New Brunswick, where you can count on a hassle-free memorable golf vacation.

Check out [www.tourismfredericton.ca/www.tourismnewbrunswick.ca](http://www.tourismfredericton.ca/www.tourismnewbrunswick.ca)

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### What To See

Natural wonders that include the world’s highest tides, some of the best whale-watching anywhere, and the warmest saltwater swimming north of Virginia.

**Hopewell Rocks Provincial Park** - Dramatic rock formations known as sea stacks are caused by tidal erosion in the Hopewell Rocks. They stand 40–70 feet tall. Walk the beach and six hours later kayak through ancient arches. [thehopewellrocks.ca](http://thehopewellrocks.ca)

**Kings Landing** - A living history open-air museum, this 19th century features 70 historic buildings with costumed characters and farm animals. [kingslanding.nb.ca](http://kingslanding.nb.ca)

**Kingsbrae Gardens, St. Andrews** - International award-winning gardens and “Top 5” in North America. 50,000 perennials. [kingsbraegarden.com](http://kingsbraegarden.com)

**Beaverbrook Art Gallery** - One of Canada’s premier art museums showcasing British, Canadian and Maritime art as well as J.M.W. Turner, Freud and a magnificent Dali. [beaverbrookartgallery.org](http://beaverbrookartgallery.org)

**Harvest Jazz & Blues Festival** - September 13-18. Regional and international jazz, blues, and rock artists perform in Fredericton’s beautiful and historic downtown. [harvestmusicfest.ca](http://harvestmusicfest.ca)

## Where to Stay

### Fredericton

**Crowne Plaza Lord Beaverbrook Hotel** - Centrally located on the banks of the Saint John River. Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Playhouse and national historic sites are nearby. In the heart of downtown and on the walking trails.

[ihg.com](http://ihg.com)

**Radisson Kingswood Hotel and Suites** - Located on the grounds of the Kingswood Golf Club. On-site Entertainment Center.

[radissonhotelsamericas.com](http://radissonhotelsamericas.com)

### St. Andrews by the Sea

**Marriott's Algonquin Resort** - Historical elegance the chateau-style hotel is close to the ocean, golf course and quaint village.

[marriott.com](http://marriott.com)

## Where to Dine

There is a wide variety of local and international dining to choose from.

**11th Mile** - Local ingredients, shareable plates. Well known for creative craft cocktails  
[11thmile.ca](http://11thmile.ca)

**Picaroons Brewing Company** - Award-winning craft beers. Burgers, bowls and salads  
[picaroons.ca](http://picaroons.ca)

**Isaac's Way** - Very good food located in a nostalgic and eclectic art gallery  
[isaacsway.ca](http://isaacsway.ca)

**Sam Snead's Oak Grill and Tavern** - Golf nostalgia and good food, Kingswood Golf Club  
[kingswoodpark.ca](http://kingswoodpark.ca)

**St. James's Gate** - Fish dishes are delicious!  
West Hills Golf Club  
[st-jamesgate.ca](http://st-jamesgate.ca)



## Golfing in Maine

**W**e recently have the opportunity to stay and play golf at Sunday River Golf Club in Newry, Maine. I had been at the ground breaking for the course in 2003, but foolishly had not gone back to play the course that was designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr.

Jones was at the ground breaking along with a couple of his staff members and about 15 members of the press. The writers looked at each other and said. How are they going to build a golf course on such mountainous terrain with all these rocks and trees?

It took a whole year to finish the project as the course opened in the summer of 2004. The results are amazing. The views and topography make for great pictures, and even better shot selections. The first hole is a great example. It is a par 5 that must travel about 300 feet downhill. That's a guess, but it felt like it was 1,000 feet.

You wondered which direction you were going to go next. Actually we were excited to see what was coming next. We went uphill, downhill and occasionally level. What a treat. The vistas were amazing and I was glad I had golf shoes instead of ski boots.

The course measures just over 7,000 yards from the Black tees. We did not see anyone playing from that distance. The blues are a difficult 6,470 yards and the whites at 5,736 seemed much longer than a 6,000 course on level terrain. The women played from 4,969, but even that was a test.

The course is in fabulous condition. The greens are large and well-bunkered. Occasionally you would see a large rock outcropping. Guess Jones felt it was better to leave it than use a lot of dynamite.

A few of the holes are very memorable We talked about number 1, but the favorites were number 9 that had a forced carry to a very

sloping green, 12 that went slightly uphill and then steeply downhill, number 10 that required an almost blind drive over a huge gully and then uphill to the green.

One of our favorites was the short, but very downhill par 3 16th that measured only 106 yards from the white tees. Short of the green was high fescue and over the green was a drop of hundreds of feet. Number 18 brought you downhill to the very nice clubhouse.

Everyone was talking about what a great experience they had playing the course. What a great job that Jones did. The conditioning was excellent. I'm sure the carts take a tough beating, but they were solid and very functional as you traversed the brooks, rocks, trees and everything else that you would find in the mountains of Maine. We did not see any bears, but we did see their droppings.

The Jordan Hotel was our lodging for two days. It sits about three miles uphill from the golf course. The rooms were very nice and the staff was helpful. We all took advantage of the huge pool and whirlpools that were in back of the hotel.

Our second day we ventured over to the Bethel Inn in nearby Bethel. We have written about this resort four times over the span of the last 20. The hotel is large and has a wonderful dining room and an excellent pub in the basement.

Bethel Inn Golf Course plays much flatter than Sunday River, but the views of the mountains are still there. The course was designed by New England legend, the late Geoffrey Cornish who designed hundreds of courses in New England. Our favorite hole was number 12, a long par 3 to a double green. You need to walk back and over a bridge to get to the teeing area. Alsas, you have to hit your tee shot over that creek that you just walked over.

Bethel Inn runs a wonderful Couples Tournament every July, and the stay and play packages are excellent. It takes about four hours to get to Sunday River from Providence. Take Route 95 to Gray, Maine and then Route 26 almost right to the course. You will be glad you did.

You can find out more about Sunday River

at [www.sundayrivergolfclub.com](http://www.sundayrivergolfclub.com) and Bethel Inn at [bethelinn.com](http://bethelinn.com). ■

*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.*



SUNDAY RIVER'S 17TH

## Looking Back 20 Years

The July 2002 issue of Ocean State Golf, Vol. 9, No. 3 had a picture of Len Mattiace (picture right top) on the cover with the headline "Adopted Rhode Islander." Mattiace, who was doing quite well on the PGA Tour bought a summer house in Warren right on the water. Mattiace played in the CVS Charity Classic that year.

Another story was titled Nick Cioe, Mr. Consistent. It was written by Bob Dickson and talked about how Cioe was always near the top of the leaderboard in most Rhode Island tournaments. "I love to compete and test my play even when I see the things I do," said Cioe who was 57 at the time. "Some of what I do is good, some of what I do is real bad, said the outgoing Cioe who is liked by most everyone. The next page had a story by Dickson wher Cioe teamed with Paul Quigley to win the Senior Four-Ball at Quidnessett Country Club.

Brad Adamonis (pictured right bottom) was featured as he won the Providence Open. He cashed a check for \$4,000 that I'm sure helped twenty years ago. Adamonis is about to turn 50 and the Senior Tour better watch out, as his game is still sharp.

Another story was titled "Newport National set to open." The Arthur Hills design was highly anticipated on Aquidneck Island, and it is certainly a gem today.

George Braman did a caricature feature in each issue of the publication. Charlie Gibbons was featured in this issue. Gibbons loved golf and he was a track coach hall-of-famer as well as being in the URI Hall of Fame. He was a long-time member of Green Valley C.C, and sadly he is no longer with us.

The CVS Charity Classic was getting ready to start when this issue came out. We had all the bios, pictures and stats for all the players. A new face that year was Shigeki Maruyama who went on to win many championships.



There were many advertisers in this issue. CVS had the back page like always—they kept our head above water many years. Other advertisers included Newport National (as it was opening that week), Credit Union Central Falls, Hurd Buick/Chevrolet, Blissful Meadows, Golf Nut Heaven (no longer there), Firefly (also gone), Rose Hill, BankRI, Swansea CC, Tiffany's For Men, New England C.C., Golfers Warehouse (still one of our best), Maplegate, Garden City Center, Button Hole, Wood River, John Calvino Law, Narragansett Driving Range, Coastway Credit Union, Rehoboth CC, Videtta Management, Foster and Rehoboth. ■

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# NAME THAT HOLE



LAST ISSUE WE HAD BETHEL INN'S 9TH AND 18TH HOLE AS THE NAME THAT HOLE ANSWER. LUCIEN GARAND OF VERMONT (DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD MANY READERS FROM VERMONT!) WAS THE FIRST TO RESPOND WITH THE CORRECT ANSWER. BRIAN GALLAGHER OF UPTON, MASS. WAS A CLOSE SECOND SO WE GAVE BOTH OF THEM A 2022 SEASON PASSPORT. THANKS FOR PLAYING GUYS.

CAN YOU GUESS THIS ISSUE'S PICTURE ABOVE?  
THE FIRST PERSON THAT EMAILS [BRUCE@SNEGOLFER.COM](mailto:BRUCE@SNEGOLFER.COM) WITH THE CORRECT ADDRESS WILL RECEIVE A 2022 SEASON PASSPORT (THERE IS STILL HALF THE GOLFING SEASON TO USE IT) AS WELL AS A COUPON FOR ANY OF THE GOLFER'S WAREHOUSES.

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**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 of the 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 features Ryder Cups and Presidents' Cups as 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*

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**Remaining Issue in 2022: October 3rd**

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Hope you have enjoyed reading this latest issue of Southern New England Golfer Magazine. Please tell your friends about it, or simply forward the link to your golfing buddies. 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  
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01-234-9836 CR,CL,CH,O,Rest.  
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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  
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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)  
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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  
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401-364-0700  
[www.woodrivergolf.com](http://www.woodrivergolf.com)  
CR,CH,SB,O

**A. BUTTON HOLE D.R.**  
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26. **BLISSFUL MEADOWS G.C.** (18) SP  
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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  
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508-393-2444  
[www.juniperhillgc.com](http://www.juniperhillgc.com)  
CR,CL,PS,CH,SB,O

33. **MAPLEGATE C.C.** (18) SP  
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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  
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CR,CL,CH,PS,O

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[www.stixfuncenter.com](http://www.stixfuncenter.com)  
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42. **AIRWAYS GC** (18) P  
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860-668-4973 CR,CL,CH,SB,O  
[www.airwaysgolf.com](http://www.airwaysgolf.com)

43. **ELMRIDGE GOLF CLUB** (27) P  
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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)  
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45. **MOHEGAN SUN G.C.** (18) P  
7 Dows Ln. Baltic, CT  
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CR,CL,PS,CH, golf packages, lessons

46. **QUARRY RIDGE** (18) SP  
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860-788-2845  
[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  
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50. **TWIN HILLS** (18) P  
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## 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

