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RYDER CUP

& GOLF STORIES
THAT YOU LOVE TO TELL

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TRIVIA

ARNOLD PALMER TRIVIA

1. What year was he born?
 2. What decade was he named AP's Athlete of Year?
 3. How many PGA Tour victories?
 4. Year of first PGA Tour victory?
 5. Where?
 6. How many Masters titles?
 7. How many U.S. Opens?
 8. How many British Opens?
 9. How many PGA Championships?
1. 1929, a month before the stock market crash.
 2. 1960's
 3. 62
 4. 1955
 5. Canadian Open
 6. Four
 7. One, Cherry Hills in 1960
 8. Two, 1960 and '62
 9. None, but he finished second three times.

EDITORIAL

Welcome to our fourth and last issue of 2023. Last issue we talked about the highs and lows of golf. This issue we are concentrating on golf stories you like to repeat often and also about the Ryder Cup that will be held in Rome on Sept. 29-Oct. 1. The Ryder Cup is one of the gems of golf. Matching the Europeans against the Americans is sometimes caustic, but it is great fun to watch and fun to root for your favorite team. Our writers' picks are inside this issue.

The Rhode Island Golf Assn. has just announced the most recent inductees into their Hall of Fame. Paul Kenyon and the Adamonis family are a major part of this publication and we have written about it in this issue. Rockland Mass. native Megan Khang recently won her first LPGA event and she was a long-time participant in Challenge Cup events run by the Adamonis family. I have a little story about Megan also in the issue.

Tim Geary wrote a very interesting story about Jay Amado who plays out of Triggs Memorial in Providence and is doing much to promote junior golf, especially in the groups who don't have enough resources to belong to private clubs and get tons of lessons. We need more people like him.

As always Bruce Berlet does a fine job covering most of what happens in Connecticut golf. He gives us plenty of golf news that has happened in the Nutmeg state. Robert McNeil and his son, Bill have rehabbed and opened up the former Bristol Golf Course in Bristol, Rhode Island. They are calling Bristol Golf Park and it is a nine-hole layout.

One of this reporter's favorite events is the World Amateur in Myrtle Beach. It was held at the end of August and we have the results and pictures. A sidebar of that story is the local golf writer and publisher Tom Gorman won his flight and qualified for the finals. You can look inside to see where Tee Talk Tom finished.

Wasn't that a great Solheim Cup? Rockport's Megan Khang played brilliantly and almost led the Americans to victory. She won three matches and tied a fourth, and scored $\frac{1}{4}$ of all the American's points. But why was there all that celebration when Carlotta Ciganda won her match near the closing of the Solheim Cup? Europe had only gotten to 14 points, and the American's still had a chance to tie the match? In fact they did when Lexi Thompson made a great putt on 17 to close out her match. Isn't 14 to 14 a tie? I can understand that Europe could still keep the Cup in their possession, as they already had it in their possession since they had won the last event. But this match was a tie. There is no need for a huge celebration until you win! Please change the rule for the sake of being fair. The match was tied and there was no need to start a huge celebration.

Golfing in the Fall is always a great time. Try to get out and enjoy many more rounds of golf.

Enjoy the issue and we will see you again in April 2024.

BRUCE VITTNER

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Change & Consistency

I'm fortunate to have Dr. Michael Edwards, owner of Shore Golf Performance, working next door to me at the Golf Academy. We have almost daily conversations ranging from personal and family life to business ideas and, most importantly, students and patients. Michael has a motto of "Nothing Changes if Nothing Changes," and I've included this concept during my Coaching this year at the Academy.

When giving lessons, I listen to the "pains" my students have regarding their golf game. Now, when we are talking about "pains," I'm not necessarily talking about physical pain, although sometimes that is in the equation. I'm looking to see where they struggle the most (off the tee, fairway shots, chipping, putting, distance, etc.) and what is their desired outcome. After an initial evaluation of

their swing, we discuss the adjustments needed to get the ball flight and contact they seek. Without fail, the first words out of the student's mouth are, "This feels uncomfortable!!!" The students who are aware that change is not only necessary but part of the solution quickly get past this and start to work on the correct feels, awareness and a proper impact. Students afraid to make the change because they feel they will hit the ball worse tend to be more uptight and fight any difference to what feels normal. The truth is, it's too easy to stay in the normal, comfortable patterns, but unfortunately, "normal" feels have gotten them into their mess. It takes a defining moment for the student to say enough is enough, and I'm willing to do what it takes to improve.

From the consistency side of things, most students say they "should" be more consistent. When I ask them why they believe this, they usually have a bunch of flawed responses ranging from: I've been playing for 20 years (what does that have to do with it???) If you had terrible fundamentals from the start, no amount of milestones will ever

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get you consistency), or I hit a bunch of balls at the range every week (if you are not practicing the right things correctly (Slowly), you get no credit on this one either). The list could go on and on.

The truth is, no one golfer is consistent. Most PGA Tour players (take out the top 10 for this example) earn 80% of their yearly winnings in only about 20% of the tournaments they play. And look, I get it. The competition on Tour is very tough, but you can see a player win an event in a dominating fashion one week and miss the cut in the very next tournament. It's crazy! Golf is an evil game from a consistency view, and we will never go out and play well every time we hit the course. Neither does a PGA Tour Player. How is it that they can shoot a 64 and follow it up with a 74?

When was the last time you went out and shot your career-low round and then followed up by a score 10 shots higher? Why is it acceptable for a Tour player (they understand the numbers game and law of averages), and it's not acceptable for you? A 10 shot spread in scores is normal. A golfer who averages 85 can shoot 80 one day and 90 the next. It still averages out to 85! But after

shooting that 80, their expectations change, and their goal posts shift only after 1 low round to now think they should be breaking 80 every time. Golf is challenging, from course and green difficulty to weather conditions to our ever-changing body and how we feel from day to day.

A player heading out onto the course with high expectations of consistency and perfection will more than likely wish they hadn't played at all that day. In contrast, the player just going out and managing their expectations to their current ability will have an enjoyable experience.

So, whether it is making that uncomfortable change to your golf swing to get the ball flight result you want, you've hit a wall and its your defining moment or adapting your expectations to enjoy the game, we are here to help you on your journey to play the best golf of your life! If you would like to discuss as further, you can contact me at toddcampbell@pga.com ■

Todd Campbell writes an Instruction column in each issue of sne golfer.com.



Brian Harman

Not your typical Rising Star, this lefty is only 5' 7" and has only won three tournaments since turning professional in 2009. He was a standout in college at Georgia and was named second-team All-American for three straight years. He was the 2003 U.S. Junior Amateur champion.

Last month he won The Open in England, his biggest win ever. His straight drives, great up-and-downs and excellent putting allowed him to beat Rory McIlroy, Jon Rahm and Tommy Fleetwood who will be part of his competition when he plays in his first Ryder Cup in Rome later this month.

Being left-handed, rather short and a relatively short hitter has not kept him from being very successful on Tour as he has now won over \$32 million in career earnings. You can be sure that all the lefty golfers in the world will be rooting for this short, bald and unassuming golfer in this year's Ryder Cup.

RISING STAR

Play with 4 Clubs

A lot of golfers lose touch with their creativity as they grind their way through more rounds of golf. Playing with a set of 4 clubs can help you rediscover some of your own natural capabilities because it will force you into more creative shot making – with little at stake because you always have a good excuse. You can select any 4 clubs but most golfers take a wedge, putter, long club and a mid iron. You'll discover that you can hit a 7 iron onto the green anywhere from 10-150+ yards. It's actually how great links players play "on the ground."

Playing with your full set or clubs locks you into a restricted mind set, where you are always trying to duplicate standard shots without the chance to explore the freedom of a more fluid, fearless, and free golf swing. Go out with 4 clubs and have some fun trying more creative shots. You will discover a new sense of confidence in being innovative that will carry over into your regular play in very positive ways.

Sometimes it takes moving out of the usual way of doing things to open up new abilities. There is a lot you will discover about your game and yourself when you plan a 4-club round to escape from the confines of your routine. ■

Dr. Rich Goldberg is a Professor of Psychiatry at Brown University, Founder of Dr. Rich Golf (www.drrichgolf.com) a golf mental coaching program, and author of "Better Golf Better Life" available on Amazon and Kindle.

Dr Rich works with golfers of all levels, nationally and regionally on the mental aspects of their game. You can contact him at drrichgolf@gmail.com .



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New England's Megan Khang Gets First Win on LPGA Tour

Megan Khang earned her first win on the LPGA Tour as she won the CPKC Open in Vancouver, Canada the last week of August. It wasn't easy as she saw a two-stroke lead disappear over the back-nine, and it had to be decided in sudden-death again Jin Young Ko who has won quite a few tournaments in her career and was actually Number 1 for a while..

The 25-year-old Khang from Rockland, Massachusetts has been on the LPGA Tour for eight years and has been close to winning quite a few times, but had never closed the deal. Ko, playing in the group in front of Khang saw her tee shot just brush against a tree on here drive on 18. She made a marvelous shot on to the green, and then made a winding putt for a birdie to take a one-stroke lead over Khang, who was in the last group.

Khang striped her tee shot on the difficult 18th hole and then hit an excellent iron shot to eight feet and made the birdie putt to force extra holes. The putt went right in the middle of the cup and she had a huge smile and a look of relief.

Ko had the honor on the playoff hole, and maybe thinking about her lucky drive on 18 that went right off the tee, duck-hooked her tee shot left into a huge bush. Khang, who had been driving well all day but didn't see many putts fall in, blistered her drive right down the middle of the 18th fairway.

Ko had to take a penalty to get the ball out of the bush and then hit a quite amazing hooking shot that caught the bunker in front of the green. Khang followed with a wonderful iron that landed just where her first shot did during regulation, but it rolled back to the fringe about 15 feet from the hole. Ko's shot from the bunker landed about 20 feet from the pin (still outside of Khang's ball). Ko hit her fifth shot that just missed and tapped in for a six. All Khang had to do was three-putt for her first win, but she did even better as she cozied her third shot to a foot and tapped in for her first win and a huge smile.



Going into the event Megan Khang had already won over \$5.1 million in her eight years on Tour and this win was worth \$375,000. She has also represented her country in International play. She is one of the best liked players on the LPGA, and everyone seemed very happy to see her get her first win. ■

Megan Khang Leads USA to Tie with Europe at Solheim Cup

Less than a month after earning her first win on the LPGA Tour (see previous story on page 8), Megan Khang helped the United States Solheim Cup team to a tie with the European team at the 18th event that features America women against ladies from Europe. The matches were held in Spain and the scenery and course looked amazing. The event turned into a Draw as each team earned 14 points over the three day event. The score was slightly disappointing as Europe had won the last event and thus had the right to keep the Cup until the next event that will be at Lake Nona in Florida.

Khang, who was sent off first by the American captain the last day (Singles), played against Linn Grant from Sweden, a power hitter that outdrove Khang by quite a bit on most every hole. Khang birdied the first two holes and never trailed in the match. Coming to the last hole Khang was up by one, but Grant reached the par 5 in two. Khang was about 100 yards from the pin after two excellent shots on the last hole, but hit a great pitch to within six feet of the hole. Grant hit her third shot to about 15 feet, but missed the eagle putt and was given the birdie by Khang.

Khang's putt was downhill. The captain and co-captains had rushed to the green to see the putts. Khang calmly rolled the putt into the hole for the lead-off win to get the Americans ahead. Many of the last of the 12 matches were close, and when the last match ended the score was even at fourteen.

Khang played wonderfully all three days. She teamed with Lexi Thompson in the opening two matches and had a win and a tie. The second day she played in one match and won and finished off her week with a record of three wins, one tie and no losses.

This was the third Solheim Cup that Khang has participated in, and it was her best showing. Two wins and a tie in representing your country

is something that makes this 25-year-old from Rockland, Mass. very proud and we were very proud to watch her do so well. ■

Megan Khang started playing golf in the hugely popular and extremely successful Challenge Cup Golf Program that was started by the late Dave Adamonis and a few of his golfing friends in the 1980's. His son, Dave, Jr. has run the program since Dave, who died in 2007, moved to Florida and started the Johnson and Wales Golf Program in the late 90's. Most every good young golfer in New England and beyond has played in the Challenge Cup events.

Megan started before she was a teenager and always showed great promise. This reporter sat with Megan when she was 17 after a Challenge Cup event at Wannamoisett Country Club in East Providence, RI. "Where are you going to go to college" I asked, as I heard that Duke University was offering her a full scholarship. Always pleasant and soft-spoken Megan said, "I think I'm going to turn professional instead." I guess my worries were for nothing! Congratulations to Megan and I'm sure she is going to have many more victories. One of the perks of being successful on the professional golf tours is to have sponsors. It was great to see her clothing and hat emblazoned with logos. ■

Jay Amado is Giving Back

He blends prodigious power from the tee with a velvet touch around the greens. That combination, along with his natural competitive fire, has been instrumental in Juan "Jay" Amado's ascension from a promising player to one of Rhode Island's emerging stars.

This past summer Amado captured his sixth consecutive club championship at Triggs Memorial in Providence. Four times he accomplished the feat in the stroke play (medal) format but last year Triggs went back to the traditional match play competition and Amado demonstrated that regardless of the style, he has the game.

Amado, 47, began "dabbling" in golf at age nine when his grandfather would take him to Firefly Golf Course in Seekonk. "He'd have a group every Saturday and I'd caddy for him. I'd tote his bag and every now and then he'd let me drop a ball and hit a couple of shots. So I was introduced to the game at a young age."

Young Jay had a couple of introductory lessons at Firefly from Frank Cuite. "He was a really good guy. Very patient with me." But golf really wasn't at the forefront then. Growing up, he played a variety of the traditional sports, especially baseball and basketball.

"I loved everything, but baseball and basketball were my favorites," he said.

He played baseball until age 15 when he discovered tennis. His baseball highlight was pitching a no-hitter at age 13 against the Darlington Americans at McCoy Stadium.

At East Providence High Amado was the starting point guard on the Townie's basketball team. The highlight was reaching the state championship game, in his senior year of 1993, at the Providence Civic Center. Tennis came into his life during his sophomore year at EPH. He earned All-State honors as both a junior and senior and then played a year in college at Lynchburg in 1994.

Amado later coached tennis at Bay View Academy for two years and was a regular on the



USTA regional circuit until he hurt his knee in 2008.

It was at that point that golf came roaring back into his life. "I think after my tennis career was over, at age 32, I went back to the sport I played first as a kid," he said. He had been playing a bit, but it was in a once-a-week league with his friends. After the injury golf became his focus.

"I knew that I loved the sport and I knew I had the feel for it," he said. "By my mid-30s I decided to devote myself to the game. I broke 80 for the first time. From there it became a challenge to get to the point where I could be really competitive."

Amado joined Triggs in 2007. Before that, he had never been a member anywhere, despite living right next to Agawan Hunt, where he would sneak on as a kid and play a few holes until the ranger showed up. "That's where I learned how to hit the ball." "Triggs has always been my first love. I grew up at Firefly and playing the Rehoboth courses."

What Amado loves about golf is what also

drew him to tennis. "I grew up playing team sports, which I love, but the first time I picked up a tennis racquet I realized it was all on me. I like to know that whether I win, lose, or draw, it's all on me. There's nobody else to blame. I'm comfortable with that. And the transition from tennis to golf was seamless in that aspect."

A 25-year employee of RI Energy (formerly Providence Gas) as a customer service technician, Amado credits many of his co-workers for "really jump-starting me back into playing golf at age 23". That's where he discovered Triggs, playing in the gas company's league.

He and his wife, Jessica, have been married for 22 years and have three children; son Jordan, who will be in graduate school at Bryant University in January, Jada, in the 8th grade and Janelle (7th grade). Both daughters play soccer and basketball and Jordan is just now taking up golf.

"Family is what really keeps me focused and grounded," he said. "One of the biggest challenges for me is the balance needed from work (lots of overtime), family (where he has many of his kids' games and events to attend), and golf. Without an unbelievable patient and understanding wife I wouldn't be me."

Amado is of Cape Verdean descent and as a person of color, he hopes to be a role model for minority children who may aspire to play golf. "I hope so", he said. "If I can be a beacon to any kid, hopefully, they can see what I've been doing and ask, 'why can't that be me'? If they can look at that then it's all positive."

For Amado it was the emergence of Tiger Woods that lit the fire. "That was a huge part of my inspiration to play golf," he admitted. "We're the same age and watching him dominate the game of golf from a junior through his professional career was a huge inspiration. "Unfortunately, after the Tiger boom and where he currently is in his career today, these kids don't have an identifiable figure to watch nowadays."

How to bring the game to minority children is a very real concern for Amado. "That's the question", he said. "How do we reach the inner city kids? Golf hasn't always been inclusive. Golf hasn't always reached out into the inner city with specific tactics. You need access; to a golf course, to equipment. It's not your normal inner-city activity. It's a niche sport. And it's a hard sport.

"There are great programs. The Buttonhole program was made for that specific reason. But we need to do more. The First Tee program is coming to Rhode Island. (Director) Orlando Peace is coming and he's ready to make an impact with the program. That's the big trick. How do we get (kids) involved? It's such a great game. It teaches so many positive life skills; honesty, integrity, and perseverance. That's invaluable. I learn more about myself every time I play."

Amado hopes that he can mentor young minority children in a newly formed First Tee Program that his friend and fellow Triggs member Roland Snead has been helping formulate with Governor Dan McKee and Peace.

"The biggest gift that golf has given me are not just the qualities like honesty, integrity, and respect, but the way golf brings people of all races and social-economic backgrounds together. "I have met people that I wouldn't probably have met in life (if not for golf)." ■

Tim Geary writes a column in each issue of snegolfer.com.

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So Many Great Golfing Memories

By Being asked to recall your favorite highlight in golf is like being asked to pick your favorite child, which is to say impossible to do! Having been introduced to the sport at an early age as a caddy, I really didn't fall in love with the sport until a couple of years after I graduated from college. And, fortunately, I can honestly say that I am very lucky to have many favorite highlights in the sport. Here is a list of a few of them:

Breaking 80 for the first time back in the early 90's stands out as one such highlight. And I didn't just break 80, I did it comfortably by shooting a 75 at the par-72 Trull Brook Golf Course in Tewksbury, Massachusetts.

My friends and I played there every Sunday morning at 7:30am – the same friends that had introduced me to the sport only a few years earlier. It was quite a thrill and still a goal that I shoot for each time out. There is something very satisfying for me when my final score begins with a "7".

Another thrill for me was being asked by CVS Charity Classic tournament co-hosts Brad Faxon and Billy Andrade to be the starter from their tournament from the very beginning in 1999. What an honor it was to be asked to introduce the two of them and the many great PGA, LPGA and Champions Tour players on the first tee at Rhode Island Country Club each June.

It was an extraordinary thrill to be able to introduce the likes of Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player, Lee Trevino and others over the years. And, of course, I always loved introducing the locals like Billy, Brad along with Brett and Dana Quigley. Wow!

As a member of the media, I was also able to cover many great events up close and personal including the 1999 Ryder Cup competition at The Country Club. With the Europeans leading 10-6 heading into Sunday's singles matches, they needed only 4 points to retain the Cup. But the Americans staged a furious rally capped off by Justin Leonard's 45-foot birdie putt on 17 which

proved to be the clinching shot for the U.S. and sent the fans in Brookline into an absolute frenzy!

For years, my annual pilgrimage to South Florida for five days of golf capped off by attending the Patriots-Dolphins game in Miami was a highlight. The beautiful courses we played while enjoying many laughs with great friends is something that I still cherish to this day.

My career-best round of golf was also a highlight. It was a 73 from the tips at Fenner Hill in Hopkinton, Rhode Island. I really believed that I had a chance to break par for the first time in my life that day, but it was not to be. I had to settle for a workman-like 1-over score that afternoon.

For many years, as a fulltime sports talk show host on The Score, we hosted an annual golf tournament for our listeners. We held both summer and fall events at courses like Triggs, Newport National, Fenner Hill, Richmond and others and they were lots of fun. What I liked best about those tournaments was that it brought together so many of our listeners who shared a love for sports together for a great time each year.

For my bachelor's party in 2001, my friends and I went to the Bethel Inn in Maine to play for a couple of days. After playing 18 in the morning, let's just say that we had a few adult beverages.

As the beer flowed, so too did the smack-talk. It led to a 1-club challenge where everyone would put in 10 bucks and we would play holes 10 & 18 which were side-by-side par 4's.

My club of choice was a 7-iron but it and my game did not lead me into the winner's circle. That honor went to my best friend Paul Souse (a.k.a. Dolphin Paul) who parred both holes. We had a lot of laughs that day!

Lastly, as I have written before in this space, maybe my biggest thrill in this sport is what has been achieved these last two years. My son, Jack, took up the sport of golf and absolutely loves it! To be able to head out to the golf course and play 18 with your son is pretty darn special and something that this golfer does not take for granted. ■

Scott Cordischi has been a sportscaster for many years in Rhode Island and writes a column in each issue of snegolfer.com.

Rhode Island Round Up

It was a busy month of August and into September for the Rhode Island golf community. Here is this month's Rhode Island Round Up.

•Agawam Hunt member Joel Harvey qualified for and played in the U.S. Mid-Am at Sleepy Hollow Country Club earlier this month. "The experience thus far has been tremendous. The USGA really knows how to host an event. They have been doing it for hundreds and hundreds of years. It's almost like you get to feel like a touring pro, you know, for the time on site. They just really know how to take care of the participants," said Harvey prior to the tournament. However, he missed the match play cut. Harvey finished at 23-over for the tournament with rounds of 80 and 84.

•Kirkbrae's Mike Hamilton and Tom McCormick have qualified for the 2024 U.S. Four-Ball Championship. The duo carded a best-ball score of seven-under par 64 on Tuesday at Point Judith and advanced. Former URI star Ben Spitz and David Spitz also fired a seven-under 64 to advance as well. The U.S. Four-Ball is set for May 25-29 2024 at the Philadelphia Cricket Club.

•Former Rhode Island Amateur champion Andrew O'Leary has begun his journey through PGA Tour Q-School. He advanced though the pre-qualifier in Ohio and is now onto Stage 1 of Q-School in early October.

•TopGolf Rhode Island, located in Cranston is set to open in early October. The venue features three floors, over 100 all venue bays, a bar and restaurant and a massive TV wall. This TopGolf will be one of two New England locations, the other being in Sharon, Massachusetts.

•The 30th Rhode Island Mid-Amateur Championship will be held at Quinnatisset Country Club on September 26-27. Kirkbrae's Larry Lafauci enters the tournament as the defending champion. ■

Bristol Golf Park Now Open

The former Bristol Golf Course in Bristol, R.I. is now reopened as the Bristol Golf Park. The course was refurbished by the Northeast Golf Company that owns Kings Crossing in No. Kingston, R.I.

Bill McNeil, son of Robert McNeil, owner of Northeast Golf, is handling the day to day responsibilities of the cute little nine-hole par 3 that has holes ranging from just under 100 yards to 210 yards. Hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. with last tee time moving back with daylight.

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- Club Rentals** \$10/\$15

For more information you can call the course at 401-363-2648.



Ryder Cup is Must Watch Television

We just watched the most exciting Solheim Cup in history probably. Imagine Spain's star golfer winning the final match to tie the event in her home country. Now we look forward to the Ryder Cup, an event that started way back in 1929 in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Italy is the host this year, and the pictures from the golf course just outside of Rome look wonderful. It won't be easy for the Americans to keep the Cup that they won two years ago at Whistling Straights in Wisconsin.

It has been 30 years since the Americans last won in Europe. I asked all my writers to give me their picks and it sure looks like the Europeans will keep the Cup if we agree with their predictions. It's difficult to change a 30-year tradition! Let's hope we have an event as exciting as the one that the women just put on at the Solheim Cup. Check out our writers Ryder Cup picks to the right.

Being in Europe means that the events will start early. Better set your VCR's. It should be fun and for sure it is must watch television. They had 250,000 tickets to sell and they had over 750,000 requests for tickets. MUST SEE TV! Enjoy the event. ■

USA Team

- Sam Burns
- Patrick Cantlay
- Wyndham Clark
- Rickie Fowler
- Brian Harman
- Max Homa
- Brooks Koepka
- Collin Morikawa
- Zander Schauffele
- Scottie Scheffler
- Jordan Speith
- Justin Thomas

European Team

- Rory McIlroy
- Jon Rahm
- Robert McIntyre
- Viktor Hovland
- Tyrrell Hatton
- Matt Fitzpatrick
- Tommy Fleetwood
- Sepp Straka
- Justin Rose
- Shane Lowry
- Nicolai Hojgaard
- Ludvig Aberg

Vittner — I'd love to pick the Americans, but 7 straight wins by European on home soil, and the fact that most of America's twelve have not played a competitive match in over a month leads me to pick Europe 15½ to 12½

Doyle — Europe to win the Ryder Cup, 16-12. Viktor Hovland, Rory McIlroy and Jon Rahm lead a strong European team. I pick Rahm as MVP

Cordischi — Europe has the home course advantage and always seems to have the better camaraderie and team mentality than the Americans. The advent of LIV Golf has only accentuated the divide amongst America's star players. Europeans 16-12 to win back the cup

Dyson — Will be rooting for Americans, but their turf, better at team play, and always seem more relaxed. Europe 17 ½ Americans 10½

Berlet — Americans Squeak out win 14½ to 13½ Koepka shines

Geary — The Europeans are too strong, should be close but Europe will win 14½ to 13½

Kirby — At least Justin will have fun with his friends, but Europe will win 17-11

Gearan — In Europe the golfers did soar, In the Ryder Cup they will some more. With Precision and drive they make birdies arrive and the USA team they outscore 17-11

Miracle — Just a gut feeling, but with the match being held in Rome, Italy, I think divine intervention favors the more passionate Europeans. Team USA comes close, but falls by one point.

Calabro — 30 years of European dominance on home soil continues. USA will be left with a lot of questions, Europe 17 Americans 11

Rhode Island Has a New Course, South Shore Golf Club

Rhode Island's newest golf course, the South Shore Golf Club that is part of South Shore Village, a 55-plus community in South Kingston, R.I., has a feature that makes it unique to any other layout in the country. Not only can the par-35 design be played from four sets of tees that range from 3,054 yards to 2,058 yards, but in addition, every one of the nine holes can be played as a par-3, with the nine totaling 1,400 yards.

The challenging and fun layout meanders through the coastal forest and alongside stonewalls dating back hundreds of years, with hole corridors wide enough so that adjacent homes don't interfere with golf.

Standout holes include the double dogleg par-5 fifth; the short par-3 third; the par-4 first hole, drivable for the longest of hitters; and the par-3 seventh, with its massive two-tiered putting surface. The South Shore greens are chalk full of rolls, undulations and have an abundance of hole locations, sure to entertain players of all skill levels.

The golf club also has one of the finest practice facilities in the region including a driving range with a 30,000-square-foot grass teeing area as well as a chipping green, practice bunker, and putting green.

The course will open to residents of South Shore in October. In the spring of 2024, it will be open to residents and their guests. Golfers can walk or ride and South Shore residents can own their own golf carts. The Rhode Island Golf Association has already been out to the property to have it rated.

South Shore Village will have 303 homes when completed. Over 200 have been built and sold, thus far. The final phase of construction begins in the spring of 2024. Home prices range from \$748,400 to \$1,245,865.

The four styles range in size from 1,640 square feet to 2,028 square feet. All come with two



bedrooms, two bathrooms, two-car garage, large deck, den or office, a full basement with interior access as well as maintenance-free landscaping. The largest model, the Nantucket, has a three-car garage and extended lot that will round out the "executive" offering on a double lot.

Residents of South Shore have the use of nature trails that run throughout the property, a large community center with state-of-the-art workout equipment along with indoor and seasonal outdoor heated swimming pools besides other lifestyle events such as gaming, pickleball, corn hole tournaments, and social gatherings.

This Active community is close to hospitals, beaches, the University of Rhode Island, and fine dining in both Narragansett and Newport. South Shore is a convenient driving distance from Mystic, Connecticut, Cape Cod or Providence. TF Green International Airport is 30 miles away.

For more information, please go to Southshorevillageri.com or call 401-601-0074 for information on home sales or the golf course. ■

Rhode Island Golf Assn. Announces 2023 Hall of Fame Members

Paul Kenyon, Adamonis Family & Three Others

The Rhode Island Golf Association recently announced the new inductees into the Rhode Island Golf Hall of Fame. The inductees are Paul Kenyon, Fred Bruno, Harry Kenworthy, Betty Mines, and the Adamonis family (Dave Adamonis, Sr., Dave Jr. and Brad Adamonis).

This class has special meaning for this reporter. Paul Kenyon has always been my mentor in the golf journalism world. A friend since 1975 when he covered high school tennis for the Providence Journal and I was the fledgling President of the Rhode Island Tennis Coaches Assn. We later became closer friends after this publication began in 1990 and I covered the 1994 U.S. Open at Oakmont and the 1995 event on Long Island.

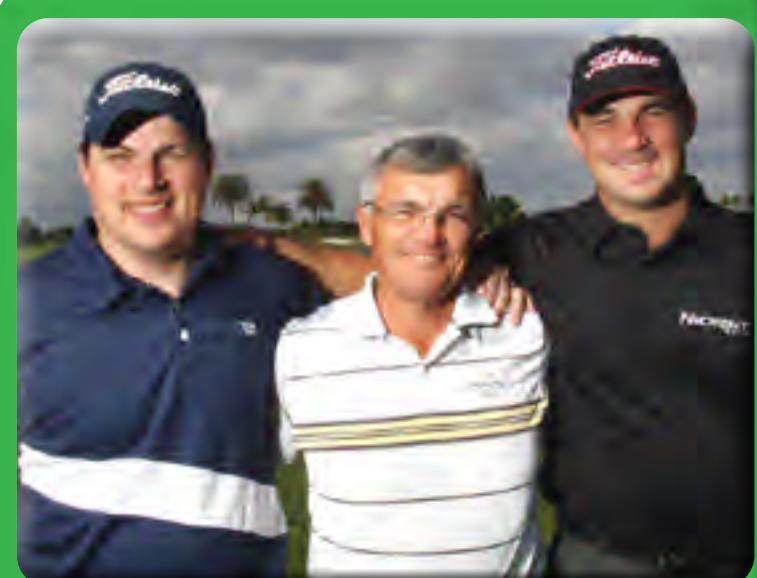
When Paul retired from the Journal we quickly chose him to write columns in every issue of this publication. His articles were always so well written and offered so much insight. He is truly a star and his writing about golf for the Journal definitely enhanced the reputations of Brad Faxon, Billy Andrade and so many other good golfers in Rhode Island.

I would not be writing this column if it wasn't for Dave Adamonis, Sr. He had started the U.S. Challenge Cup in 1980 with a couple of friends. He had played college golf at Providence College. His goal was to provide more opportunities for young golfers in Rhode Island and New England to have more chances to play golf competitively and provide more publicity for possible scholarships for players.

In 1990 when Dave and I were both teaching at Johnston High School, he walked into my classroom and said, "Would you like to help me get a golf publication started?" When I asked why, he talked about the Challenge Cup and the chance to get much more publicity for the players by



PAUL KENYON



DAVID JR. (L), DAVE ADAMONIS SR., & BRAD (R)



FRED BRUNO

writing about them. We incorporated and started a golf magazine that lost money, but then four years later we started a newspaper called Ocean State Golf that proved successful and it is what you are reading right now.

Dave moved to Florida after retiring in 1998 and became the very successful coach of the Johnson and Wales golf team in Miami. In 2000 I became the sole owner of this publication and Dave Jr. started writing for us about the many events for juniors. He started running the numerous Challenge Cup golf events to keep the program prospering while Dave Sr. was in Florida for most of the year.

In 2005 Dave Sr. was diagnosed with cancer and Dave Jr. took over the full reins and is still running a wonderful program now. When the Deutsche Bank Championship started in Mansfield, Mass. Dave Jr. connected with Seth Waugh who was the president of the bank at that time and has now become the president of the PGA of America. That connection led to even bigger and better tournaments for the Challenge Cup.

The young players who have played in Challenge Cup events are like a who's who in New England and beyond golf circles. James Driscoll, Keegan Bradley, Anna Grzebien, John Curran, Dave's son, Brad who is trying to earn a spot on the Champions Tour and played in many events on the regular Tour, Megan Khang who is on the Women's Tour and just won her first event (see story in this issue) and so many more golfers who have gone on to work in the golf industry.

Another inductee into the Hall of Fame is Fred Bruno. He started playing at eight years

old at Triggs. He won the Rhode Island Caddy Championship at 14 and the New England Championship a few years later. He worked for 31 years at Rhode Island Country Club, the last 27 years as head professional until his retirement in 2002.

The other two inductees are deceased. Harry Kenworthy was a finalist in eight Rhode Island Amateur finals. He won three of the events. He played in seven U.S. Amateurs and qualified for match play in 1911 and 1922.

Betty Mines grew up in Newport and started playing at four years old. A member of Wanumetonomy, she won three R.I. Women's Amateurs. She competed in two U.S. Women's Amateurs and four U.S. Women's Opens.

The date and time for the event will be released in early October and will serve as the RIGA's year-end banquet. It will be held at Kirkbrae Country Club. ■

Bruce Vittner is the publisher/editor of snegolfer.com and can be reached at bruce@sne golfer.com.

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Amateur Becomes Youngest Winner Of Hartford Women's Open

Aoife Devaney admitted her legs felt like jelly during the final few holes of the Hartford Women's Open, though it was certainly understandable considering she is only 17 years old. But the junior at Kennedy High School in Waterbury focused on her breathing and trying to remain calm, with help from her brother/caddie Aidan.

"We only talked about our shot when we got to the ball," Devaney said. "Between shots, we talked about everything else and just had fun." The strategy ended up working perfectly as Devaney rallied from a one-stroke deficit with nine holes to go to shoot her first under-par total for 36 holes, 4-under 136, to edge fast-closing pro Camden Morrison by a stroke at Keney Park Golf Course in Hartford.

"Last year, I was (shooting) in the 80s, maybe the high 70s," said Devaney, who was nine years old when the first Hartford Women's Open was played in 2016. "Junior year is just so important for college and everything else. I'm just so thankful."

Devaney had a two-stroke lead after a career-low 66 in the first round, but a 1-over 36 on the front nine of the second round dropped her one behind pro Linda Wang of Plainview, N.Y. But Wang shot 3-over on the back nine to finish at 1-under 139 and tied for third with Annie Dai of Longmeadow, Mass., who birdied the 17th hole and then capped her tournament with her second career hole-in-one at the 158-yard 18th for 70. The spectacular finish for the 17-year-old Dai, a playoff loser to two-time champion Angela Garvin last year, was witnessed by dozens of players and spectators gathered around the

18th green.

Devaney, playing in the final group behind Dai and Morrison, heard the celebration. "When I heard that, I thought that was it," said Devaney, the fourth consecutive amateur to win the event. "Annie's been playing so well the past few tournaments."

But Devaney ended up having to be more concerned with Morrison, of Ipswich, Mass., who won \$1,200. She started the final round with three bogeys but had an eagle 3 at the 10th hole and three birdies, including a 12-foot putt at No. 18, in a back-nine 30 for a 67 that enabled her to finish second at 137. Amateur Mia Grzywinski of Farmington, the 2021 champion, struggled on the back nine in a closing 74 for 142 and fifth place. ■



AOIFE DEVANE

Dai, Lopez Excel In Girls Junior Ranks

Annie Dai and fellow teenager Arabelle Lopez also earned plenty of plaudits and notoriety on the girls/women's scene. Dai, 17, of the Connecticut PGA Junior Association, shot even-par 144 for 36 holes to win the Connecticut Girls Junior Amateur at Fairview Farm CC in Harwinton. She finished two strokes ahead of Devaney and three in front of the 13-year-old Arabella Lopez of Redding CC.

"I am really excited to have won," said Dai, who was a member of the 2019 PGA Junior League Fairview Farm team. "I've never been more confident in my game, and it's such an honor to win the second Connecticut Girls' Junior. It was a really exciting two days for me."

The following week, Lopez prevailed thanks to help from Dai on the final nine holes of the Connecticut State Women's Amateur at Tashua Knolls GC in Trumbull. Dai shot 2-under 70 in the first round for a two-stroke lead over Lopez, but a 5-over 41 on the back nine of the windup gave her a closing 75 for 145, two more than Lopez, whose final-round 71 included a 2-under 34 on the back nine.

Lopez, the 2022 New England Girls' Junior champion and winner of the American Junior Golf Association event at renowned Bethpage on Long Island in May, survived a two-hour rain delay and rallied to become the youngest winner since the tournament began in 1966. She was several months younger than Liz Janangelo when Janangelo won the first of a record five consecutive titles in 1997. World Golf Hall of Famer and LPGA Tour legend Nancy Lopez is the youngest to capture a state title at 12 in New Mexico in 1969.

"I've worked really hard for these events, and I'm really happy to finally hold the trophy," Lopez said. Lopez maintained her composure throughout the tournament, staying focused and not allowing the difficult playing conditions to affect her mentality. "I really tried to not think about what (Dai) was doing," said Lopez, who was 11th in the

Hartford Women's Open. "It didn't matter at that point. There was so much golf left to play."

Dai maintained control over her game as she went on to birdie Nos. 2, 7, and 9 and made the turn at 4-under and ahead by five over Lopez and Gryzwinski. After the delay, Lopez adjusted to the wet conditions well as she continued her steady play late into the final round, including a key birdie on the 16th hole. Sydney Nethercott (EClub of Connecticut) finished third at 146, one ahead of Grzywinski, a graduate of Quinnipiac University in Hamden. ■

Four Victories For Fern-Boros

Lisa Fern-Boros shot a 4-over 76 to notch her fourth victory in the championship division of the Southern New England Women's Golf Association Championship at Hunter GC in Meriden. The win enabled Fern-Boros to extend her record of being the only player to sweep Connecticut's two major women's amateur championships. In June, she parred the first playoff hole to defeat Jean Sennett and win her second Connecticut Women's Golf Association Championship. She also captured the two events in 2017.

"Retirement has been good for my golf game," said Fern-Boros, who retired as an engineer in 2020. "It's nice to have more opportunities to play state events than the men. And I'm cherishing this more, especially after the health problems I've had. A year ago, I had surgery on my pituitary and had to take medication. My golf is a barometer of my life."

Fern-Boros, 60, a member at Fairfield Wheeler GC in Bridgeport and the Highfield Club in Middlebury, also captured the Connecticut State Golf Association One-Day Tournament at Blackhawk CC in Stratford in June. She added a fourth title when she shot 4-over 76 for a two-stroke victory over Cheryl Ziebka in the SNEWGA Senior Championship at Simsbury Farms GC. She shot 176 for 36 holes to finish seventh in the

CWGA Senior Championship at Watertown GC that she won in 2016, 2017 and 2022. Mercedes Large (Wampanoag CC-West Hartford) shot 153 for a 14-stroke victory over Sennett.

Fern-Boros has a connection to Fairfield native Julius Boros, the greatest player in Connecticut golf history and a member of the World Golf Hall of Fame and Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame who won three major championships. Her deceased husband, Lance, was Julius' nephew, and she has played in six USGA championships. The longtime member of the Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame selection committee previously won the SNEWGA Championship in 2016 and finished third in 2014 and 2017, fourth in 2019 and fifth in 2018.

Jen Holland (Lyman Orchards GC-Middlefield), winner of a record 10 SNEWGA titles, and Carole Oat (Stanley GC-New Britain) tied for second at 79 in the SNEWGA Championship, where the first round was canceled due to rain. Fern-Boros and Holland played in the 2022 U.S. Senior Women's Amateur in Anchorage, Alaska. In the Regular Division, Jane Sanford (Fairfield Wheeler GC) won with a 90.

Darlene Tranquilli of The Villages in Florida shot a 5-over 76 to win the Women's Tournament of Champions at Hartford GC. Tranquilli finished a stroke ahead of Rumbidzai Masamyu (Stanley GC-New Britain) and two in front of five-time champion Holland. ■

LISA FERN-BOROS

Graham, Thomas Capture Borck Junior Titles

Henry Graham and Isabella Thomas notched titles in the prestigious Borck Junior Tournament at The Patterson Club in Fairfield. Graham (Greenwich CC) won the first two holes in the final and never trailed on the way to a 2-and-1 victory over Harrison Browne (Great River GC-Milford).

"I'm just so happy," said Graham, a sophomore at the Brunswick School in Greenwich. "I hadn't won in a really long time so I am super happy to get it done. It was definitely a grind with 36 holes back-to-back days. I am almost in disbelief. There were some times where I thought I had lost it but I got it done. Thomas (Tashua Knolls GC-Trumbull) also won the first two holes and led throughout a 3-and-1 victory of Lila Reiling (CC of Fairfield).

"It really means a lot to me to get this win," said Thomas, a freshman at the University of New Haven. "I haven't always been the best so anytime I get a chance to prove myself and to improve and see my score drop and feel good about myself on the course makes me feel so good about sticking with my gut and continuing to play golf because I was shooting high 80s last year, and this year I am shooting lows 80s and the scores really show. It helps me push through. This one was really something special."

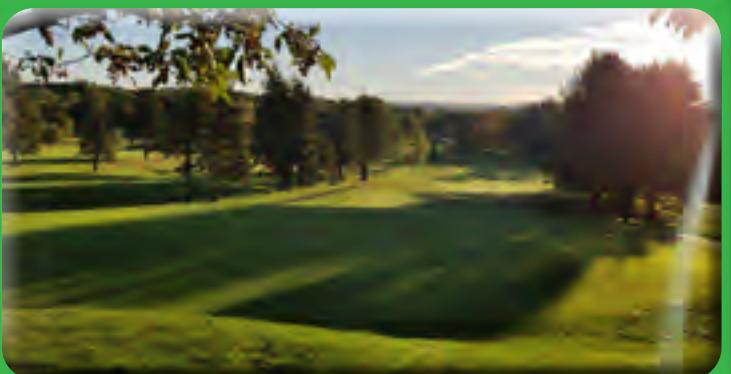
Jason Denker and Jordan Levitt (Rockrimmon CC-Greenwich) combined for a 5-under 66 and a three-stroke victory in the CSGA Mixed Team Championship at Race Brook CC in Orange. Playing in the Chapman format and starting on the par-4 first hole, Denker and Levitt birdied four of the first five holes en route to a front-nine, 5-under 31.

"We excelled as a team," said Denker, a retirement estate planner. "It was great to complement each other's games. Jordan gave me a lot of good looks (for birdie). That is the beauty of this format. If I hit a nice drive and then she is so good with her irons and she puts me on the green we are going to have a lot of good looks. It was almost stress-free for the entire day."

Kate Hong (Greenwich CC) and Matt Williams (Boston GC) tied for second with Laniah Moffett (EClub of Connecticut) and Will Lord (Suffield CC). In the net division, Diane McCauley and Kyle Crosby (EClub of Connecticut) won with a 65.

Rich and Connor Quinn combined to shoot 4-under 66 and win the CSGA Parent-Child Championship at Goodwin GC in Hartford. The duo from Madison CC earned their first CSGA victory by finishing three ahead of past champions Les and Brett Zimmerman (Hunter GC-Meriden). ■

Goodwin Park Receives Lowell Public Golf Distinguished Service Award



GOODWIN PARK GOLF COURSE

Goodwin Park Golf Course in Hartford was selected to receive the Connecticut Section PGA Walter Lowell Public Golf Course Distinguished Service Award. The award is presented annually to a public golf course for their dedication, promotion, advancement and accessibility to the game of golf. It will be honored at the annual Walter Lowell PGA Tournament at Pequabuck GC in Bristol on May 30, 2024.

"The City of Hartford's Goodwin Park is one of the oldest municipal golf courses in Connecticut," Section president Bob Sparks said. "The improvements in the past several years have restored the golf course and reinvigorated the

surrounding community. Goodwin's programming for golfers of all abilities and backgrounds is exactly what this award is all about."

In 1906, a nine-hole course was laid out on a meadow in the newly founded Goodwin Park, followed by another nine holes in 1911. Before an additional nine holes were built in 1927, the land served as an emergency landing field for airplanes during World War II. In its current state, the course features an 18-hole, 6,015-yard South Course and the nine-hole North Course, also known as the "flat nine," for the enjoyment of golfers of all skill levels.

During the spring of 2014, the City of Hartford contracted the Connecticut Section PGA to serve as the consultants to help restore the course operations to its heyday. Under guidance and restoration of its original design, the course returned to excellent conditions and customer service. ■

Bruce Berlet is the retired sports writer for the Hartford Courant and writes a Connecticut Notebook in each issue of snegolfer.com.

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2023 Travelers Championship Generates More Than \$3 Million For Charity

HARTFORD, Conn., Sept. 14, 2023 –

The Travelers Championship today announced the 2023 tournament generated a record amount for charity – more than \$3 million for more than 180 nonprofits.

The historic announcement was made at the tournament's annual Charity Celebration held at TPC River Highlands, which featured many of the great organizations the Travelers Championship is proud to support. Speakers included Nathan Grube, Travelers Championship Tournament Director; Andy Bessette, Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer at Travelers; and Marissa Weidner, Chief Corporate Responsibility Officer at Webster Bank, which sponsors the tournament's Birdies for Charity program.

Keegan Bradley, this year's tournament winner who set a new Travelers Championship 72-hole scoring record, recorded a video that was aired during the event.

"The Travelers Championship has meant so much to me over the years, from when I was a little kid until I got on the PGA TOUR, all I wanted to do was win that amazing tournament," Bradley said. "One of the things I'm most proud of is what they give back to the local charities. ... It's just an unbelievable thing that Travelers does, every single year."

The Travelers Championship donates 100% of its net proceeds to charity. Since 2007, when Travelers became title sponsor, the tournament has generated more than \$28 million for over 900 nonprofits across the region. More than \$52 million has been generated for charity since the tournament began in 1952.

"Our most important goal is to help as many people as we can through our net proceeds, and having the opportunity to celebrate with charities that benefit from our tournament is always extremely special," said Grube. "We want to thank Travelers and all of our corporate sponsors, Travelers employees, volunteers, the best fans in golf and our community for helping make this

event such a success."

The 2023 Travelers Championship was a Designated Event on the PGA TOUR, with an elevated purse of \$20 million and a standout player field, featuring eight of the top 10 in the Official World Golf Ranking and 38 of the top 50.

"This year's Travelers Championship was highlighted by the best player field we've ever seen and the largest donation we've ever delivered," said Bessette. "The charitable impact continues to drive Travelers to support this event year after year, and it's one more way we make good on our promise to take care of our community."

Preparations have begun for the 2024 Travelers Championship, which will take place June 17-23 at TPC River Highlands in Cromwell, Connecticut. For more information, visit TravelersChampionship.com. ■

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Travelers Championship Part Of 'Signature Series' In 2024



PGA Tour officials again demonstrated what they think of the Travelers Championship by making it an "elevated" tournament again in 2024.

Connecticut's biggest sporting event was among 16 tournaments to be "designated" this year and will be part of "The Signature Series" next year.

"When you look at what we've done and the potential for what can be done over the next few years for our fans, our sponsors, I would say the best is yet to come," tournament director Nathan Grube said. "We're fortunate to have such a dedicated and involved title sponsor in Travelers. It's truly an honor to host this tournament, and as the event has grown, it's been incredibly rewarding to see the impact it has made on local business owners and the people who benefit from the nonprofits we support."

The 2024 Travelers Championship will be June 20-23, the week following the U.S. Open at Pinehurst Country Club in North Carolina. When the PGA Tour designated certain events to offer a vastly expanded purse, \$20 million in 2023, and require the top golfers to play nearly all of those tournaments, the Travelers Championship was among those selected and hosted a star-studded field at the TPC River Highlands in Cromwell.

Grube and Andy Bessette, VP and chief administrative officer at Travelers, worked aggressively to secure continued elevated status

for the PGA Tour stop and were confident in getting it. The deal was completed in late July.

"Our negotiations went pretty smoothly," Bessette told the Hartford Courant. "I would say they were very excited to have us as one of the Signature Series, so much so that they made it more mutually beneficial as we got through it. The No.1 thing that helped us was player support. All the players kept saying 'you have to make Travelers as a signature event, it just has to be!'

The two-tiered structure was created to combat the threat of Saudi-backed LIV Golf, which was luring top players from the PGA Tour. The agreement between the rival organizations, reached in June, could eventually mean more changes in the future, but Bessette said his agreement for the Travelers to be a Signature Series event runs several years into the future.

The Travelers is committed as a title sponsor through 2030 and hopes to add to the 15 awards that it has received from the PGA Tour, including "Best Tournament" selected by the players twice. The talented field, which included the top eight and 70 of 77 players in the world rankings, scorched the TPC course this year, with Vermont native Keegan Bradley winning at 23-under-par 257, a record at River Highlands. There were 1,844 birdies, shattering the Travelers record by 70, and eight rounds of 62 or under. Afterward, No. 3 Rory McIlroy suggested the second-shortest course on the PGA Tour was "obsolete" for such a high-level field, and Bessette and Grube quickly worked on updates to make it more difficult. They toured the course in July with PGA designers and officials to brainstorm for more than four hours about possible changes to the course.

"It was so intriguing to listen to these people talk," said Bessette. "There are going to be some opportunities on a couple of holes, make them 30 or 40 yards longer, a couple of greens we can improve a bit, moving of the tee box left or right. It's a two- or three-year strategy to make the course

just a little bit more than it is today."

In 2024, Signature Events will have a smaller field, 70 to 80 competitors, but with no cut. To qualify, players must finish in the top 50 in the 2023 FedExCup standings through the playoffs, be in the top 10 of the current year FedExCup standings through the 2024 U.S. Open, be one of the top five FedExCup point earners through a certain number of events, win a PGA Tour event during the 2024 season or be one of the top 30 PGA Tour members in the world rankings through the U.S. Open, or, like Bradley, be a defending champion.

"It's a Saturday and Sunday all week," Grube told the Courant. "I can go to my sponsors and they're going to be able to invite their guests for the whole week. This was one of the things where, you build this field, work hard to get these guys here, and if a guy doesn't play well, he could have a late Thursday tee time and an early Friday tee time and he is in your market 24 hours. Now, they can say, you have the weekend field all week."

Bradley earned \$3.6 million for his win this year, when the tournament raised a record of more than \$3 million for more than 160 local charities, increasing the totals since Travelers became title sponsor in 2007 to \$28 million and 900 nonprofits. That success kept the tournament in position to remain among a series of top-tier events, and it is likely to increase its charity dollars with marquee players being around for four rounds.

"We did kind of feel like the last year was an audition," Grube said. "Nobody has a definition of what an elevated event is. What we did well was we asked a lot of questions going into it about what we could do better. When you put people's answers into a bucket, it starts to make sense. That was our mentality for an 'audition,' and people reacted really, really well to it."

The other Signature Series events include the four major championships, the three FedExCup playoff events, The Sentry, which will open the 2024 season on Jan. 4-7, the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, Genesis Invitational, Arnold Palmer Invitational, RBC Heritage, Wells Fargo Championship and Memorial Tournament. The Genesis, Arnold Palmer Invitational and Memorial will have a 36-hole cut to the top 50 and ties and any player within 10 shots of the lead with a redistribution of prize money that allocates 20 percent to the winner (\$4

million), up from 18 percent. The other Signature events will have an 18 percent first prize.

"We are excited what the 2024 season will offer to our fans: a January start with stars competing head-to-head more often, alongside the weekly drama of life-altering moments and the emergence of next stars," said PGA Tour commissioner Jay Monahan, a graduate of Trinity College in Hartford. "While winning on the PGA Tour continues to be the ultimate – and most difficult – challenge, we have further connected every tournament, with more at stake each week. From The Sentry through the FedExCup playoffs and into the FedExCup Fall, this new cadence will create consistent excitement for our fans and reward players like never before. We are grateful to the membership, especially the Player Directors and Player Advisory Council, as well as our tournaments and partners for the collaboration that has set us up for an exciting 2024."

For more information on the Travelers Championship, visit www.TravelersChampionship.com or follow the tournament on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. ■

John N. Calvino, Esq.

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Brooks and Rory were playing a match. Rory's ball was in the line of Brooks's putt on the green and Brooks asked him to mark his ball and move it one clubhead to the left. After Brooks' putt was attempted, Rory replaced his ball on the marker and then moved it one clubhead to the left again and then putted. Is this a penalty?

Ruling: Yes, an improperly replaced ball incurs a loss of hole in match play and a two-stroke penalty in stroke play. Another common fault seen often is that a player does not put a mark where his ball currently is located and then moves the mark a clubhead. The ball must be marked where it lies first.

They Did What?

As a golf writer, I frequently get calls from people passing on stories they think I might like to write about. The day I got this call, was a total shock. "What? Really? They won what?" I exclaimed. "This is my family you are talking about. My son, my grandson!" I soon learned they were the first American team to win a prestigious father-son golf tournament in Scotland in more than eight years.

I knew my son, Doug Pinckney, had decided to celebrate his son's high school graduation by taking him to Scotland to play some links courses including St. Andrews, the birthplace of golf. It would be a trip of a lifetime for young Dougie. Two years earlier my son had applied to play in the St Andrews Links Father & Son Tournament sponsored by the Old Course Experience for the St Andrews Trust in Scotland. They would be competing against an international field of 25 teams including last year's winning pair from Ireland. The best-ball format required that at least one of the pair had to score well on each hole. Talk about teamwork!

Certainly these two had the passion and the skills to compete well, but this was entirely another level. Still Doug had played and practiced continuously from the time he was a toddler while Dougie had followed in his father's footsteps, banging a whiffle ball around the back yard with a kid's plastic club and eventually going on to play on his high school golf team when his handicap dropped as low as 1.

Over the years, the boys played often together, traveling to places like Pinehurst, Charleston and Naples, Florida. They played in father-son



tournaments at their local club and became the team to beat. So why not Scotland?

Ultimately the pair prevailed, winning by five strokes after playing four days at the world's best courses: Carnoustie, The New Course, Kingbarns and finally, the Old Course. They accepted their trophies at the final dinner wearing kilts supplied by the organization for the event. Highlights of the dinner, recalls my son, was the ceremony of carrying in the haggis and receiving cups that were replicas of the Claret Jug awarded at each year's Open. Especially sweet was having his father there to share the joy. He had flown over with them to watch the action.

"It was unlike anything else I've ever done," said Dougie. "I don't know if I can ever top this: to

be up in that setting with my Dad was unbeatable."

Having grown up in the northeast with its harsh, fierce winters, the two Dougs were somewhat prepared for the blustery Scottish weather which turned out to be true to form on the first day as they battled windy, bone chilling cold and occasional drizzle. In fact the tournament started out on the first day at the New Course, where the winds blew at a sustained 47 mph with gusts as high as 65. "It definitely added a different dimension to the game," said Dougie. "We had to keep the ball low." Playing a two ball, best ball, my Dad and I hammed and egged it well together.

The second day they played Carnoustie, which has been a British Open course for many years while the third day was Kingsbarns which Doug described as, "the best course I've ever played. The weather was gorgeous. It's right on the bay. I've played Pebble Beach, and it feels just like Pebble Beach," he said. "It's absolutely stunning. We both played very well that day and took a big lead into the final round."

Dougie added, "On the 15th hole of Kingsbarns while I was down searching for my ball in the North

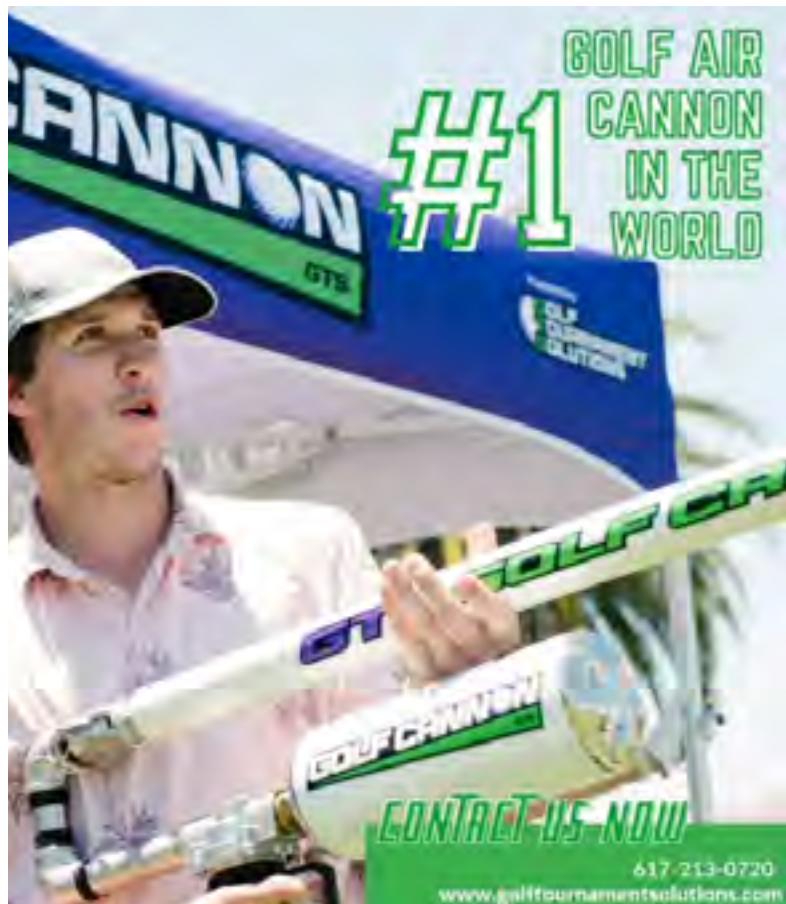
Sea, Dad ripped a 9 iron over the water to a couple feet short of the hole and tapped in for a birdie."

With a seven-stroke lead, my boys entered the fourth and final round at the Old Course where the wind was again a factor. "You'd hit a shot, and you'd be chasing your hat down the fairway," Doug said.

Looking back, Doug says, "The entire week was incredible. When we were walking down the final hole knowing that we had probably won the event, I thought doing this with my son and Dad along, will be a treasured memory for my entire life."

Dougie adds, "My favorite part was getting to experience all of that with Dad and Grandpa. Yeah, the courses were great, but getting to do that with people you love is what made it really special." ■

Katharine Dyson is a long-time member of the Golf Writers of America and the Golf Travel Writers of America and writes a column in each issue of snegolfer.com.



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Wonderful Golf Memories

Over the past 50 years, I've had the pleasure and privilege of spending at least 50 days at PGA Tour events. I've attended one Masters, three U.S. Opens and dozens of other PGA Tour events, including the Pleasant Valley Classic, a Travelers Championship and several rounds every year at the Deutsche Bank Championship at TPC Boston. These are stories I like to tell.

Any golf fan who has attended a big-time tour event knows you can't really follow the tournament in person. If that's what you want, you're better off watching it on TV. But attending a PGA Tour event is a must for any hard-core golf fan.

No other sporting event compares to golf when it comes to access. Tom Brady was not much more than a mere speck for most Patriots fans at Gillette Stadium. Even Fenway Park, often described as "intimate," can't bring you the up-close access that you get watching the Masters at Augusta National.

Often from a distance of just a few feet and divided by only a rope, you can witness the amazing power generated off the tee by even modest-sized pros, the precision of their well-placed approach shots and the delicate touch of their putts. The steepness of the slopes on the fairways and greens are much clearer in person than on even the most high-def screens.

Attending a PGA Tour event also means you collect stories you can later share. Here are a few I've collected over a half century of attending pro tournaments.

Mid-1970s, Pleasant Valley Country Club

After I began playing golf my freshman year in high school, my mother would drop off my brother Dan and I at Locust Valley Country Club, a public nine-holer carved out of old farmland in Attleboro, Mass. Once a year, she also gave us a treat,

dropping us off an hour away at Pleasant Valley for the Monday qualifier or Tuesday practice round, I think because they were free. We marveled at the length of the holes, the size of the greens and the quality of the course maintenance compared to the low-fare public tracks we played.

Practice rounds were different then. The pros didn't care if you tagged along provided you were quiet and let them work. Some would even talk to you, which Dan and I found out one day when Hubert Green, then an up-and-coming pro and a future U.S. Open champion, asked us our names, where we were from and what club we played out of. We're a bit stumped about the club question, having never entered a private course except to attend a Boy Scout banquet.

After a hole or two, Green, in his thick Southern accent, said, "cuse me boys" and disappeared into the woods. We hold back the giggles while we watch a PGA Tour pro relieve himself, re-emerge and resume our conversation.

1977 Pleasant Valley Classic

Now old enough to own a car and drive, my buddy Dave and I travel to Sutton to watch an actual round of the tournament. That's because the biggest name in golf, and my idol, Jack Nicklaus is playing. Nicklaus hated Northeast grass and so he avoided Sutton whenever he could. However, the PGA Tour had a rule that required every pro to play at least once every five years at every stop. So, Pleasant Valley enjoyed one of its best-attended events ever.

Dave and I follow Nicklaus for several holes. After the legendary Golden Bear finishes putting, he walked to the next hole, passing a few feet away from us.

Just a second later, Dave, who didn't have much of a filter, blurts out, "Gee, he's pretty short," drawing chuckles from all around us. Nicklaus,

thankfully, keeps looking straight ahead.

2003 Deutsche Bank Championship, TPC Boston

It is before 7 a.m. on the Thursday before Labor Day, and I am standing near the first tee covering the first official appearance of Tiger Woods – perhaps the world's most famous athlete – at the Norton golf course just a few miles from the newspaper where I worked.

It is pro-am day, and Woods, who is an unofficial host of the tournament, insists on the first tee time of the day. Woods is talking to someone who appears to be a tournament official. There is frequent pointing to the nearby clock. Finally, 7 a.m., tee time arrives, and Woods and his amateur partners are introduced and begin play.

After they finish the first hole, a golf cart speeds up to Woods carrying a well-tanned man and his golf clubs. It's Seth Waugh, CEO of Deutsche Bank America, who greets Woods, shakes his hand and looks like he is explaining something to the superstar. Meanwhile, the spectators are all asking themselves, "How can you be late for a tee time with Tiger Woods?"

2013 U.S. Open, Merion Golf Club

I'm with six guys. We debark the train from Philadelphia when one of us says, "Hey! There's Sergio!" We hustle to the tee where Sergio Garcia, the Spanish superstar, is teeing off. He rips his driver, immediately points it right and lets out an F-bomb for the ages.

2016 Masters, Augusta National

My wife – #best_wife_ever – wins two tickets in the Masters' annual lottery. She's a little nervous about going but suggests I take my brother-in-law Dan – yes, I have a brother and a brother-in-law named Dan—a fellow dimplehead who has been cancer-free for a year.

We are among the first to enter the gates, hit the merch tent early and then walk Augusta National.

As beautiful as it looks on TV, it is more spectacular in person. The grass is greener, the

hills steeper, the azaleas more radiant than CBS cameras can convey.

And, we ask each other, how do they cut the grass to the very top of Rae's Creek?

We are especially impressed with the restrooms. At every other tournament I've attended, you take care of business in port-o-johns. Not at Augusta National.

Gleaming white cabins greet fans – I mean patrons – who form a line. When it's your turn, an usher directs you to your urinal.

"Number 9 is available, sir," he says. Standing nearby is an attendant in a white jumpsuit holding a mop in case a patron fires an errant shot.

Ah, the Masters. A tradition – and restrooms – like no other.

2022 U.S. Open, The Country Club

Six other guys again. It's the Friday round, and we are following Keegan Bradley, not just because he's a fellow New Englander but because he's SO intense.

Bradley's tee shot on the par-3 16th settles into deep rough just left of the flag.

After several signature flips with his wedge, Bradley takes a swift swing. The ball pops up and lands less than a foot away, still nestled in the rough. We try not to laugh.

He stands straight, takes a deep breath. Flip, flip, flip. This time the ball comes to rest a few feet from the hole. He makes the putt and walks away with a bogey.

"Look at this," one of the guys in our group says, holding his phone. He's the lone millennial, and naturally he's recorded the event for posterity. He quickly shares it with all of us.

For the next few weeks, I will wear a U.S. Open hat or shirt whenever I play. When someone asks if I went, I pull out my phone and show them how a former major champion can sometimes play just like us. It's another story to share, this one with visual proof. ■

Mike Kirby, former editor-in-chief of The Sun Chronicle of Attleboro, Mass., can be reached at mkirbygolf18@gmail.com.

[Walking the Golf Course]

Whoever said golf is a good walk spoiled obviously didn't like golf. But I think that golf is spoiled without walking and I know other golfers who agree. Most of the golfers in the first few groups off the tee each weekday at Green Hill Municipal Golf Course in Worcester walk the course. My group has the second tee time and we usually all walk and we range from 67-75 years old.

As you can tell by its name, Green Hill is hilly, especially the two uphill par 5s on the back nine. Shoving a push cart up those hills can be tiring, but that's one of the reasons we walk - to exercise. The hills get the heart pumping. Plus, walking is less expensive than riding in a cart.

Ron Lohnes, 73, said he walks the course for exercise, and he can chat with more golfers in his group than if he rode in a cart with just one other golfer. He believes walking has kept him fit.

"I know a lot of people who are 73 who can't walk across the street," he said. Lohnes rides carts the few times he plays at courses other than Green Hill. "I don't think I play as well," he said. "I don't really like a cart. If I ride in a cart, I may not concentrate as much. I'm not sure what it is."

His Fitbit calculates that he takes about 13,000 steps during an 18-hole round at Green Hill, 14,000 if he doesn't hit the ball as straight. That works out to about six miles or a little more. During the winter, I walk six miles every other day, including up a steep hill for the last mile. I don't have to push my cart up that hill, but I'd much rather play golf than just walk.

Dave Rudman, 71, has mostly walked since he began golfing at age 15. He tees off in the first group of the day at Green Hill, plays nine or 18 holes just about every day. He has a 6 handicap and this year he came within a shot of shooting his age at Green Hill.

"I walk for the exercise, and I find that I play better if I walk rather than ride," he said. "You've got time to think about the shot before you get to it instead of rushing up to it with a cart, hitting it

and then jumping in the cart and going. I prefer the walk."

Ed Gibbons, 74, pushes his cart not only for 18 holes each weekday, but for the seven-tenths of a mile from his home to the course and then back home after his round. The walks to and from the course take about 12 minutes each, depending how long he has to wait at the traffic light on Lincoln Street. "I know a lot of people from walking up here," he said. "They honk, they wave. When I go home, they're always saying, 'Did you lose your ball?' I've gotten to know all the neighbors on the street." Lohnes thinks PGA Tour Champions golfers, who are aged 50 and older, are wimps for riding carts. He's 23 years older than some of them.

"Twenty-three years ago, I could have walked around here twice," he said of Green Hill. "If we can walk, why can't they walk? They should be in better shape or at least in as good shape as we are."

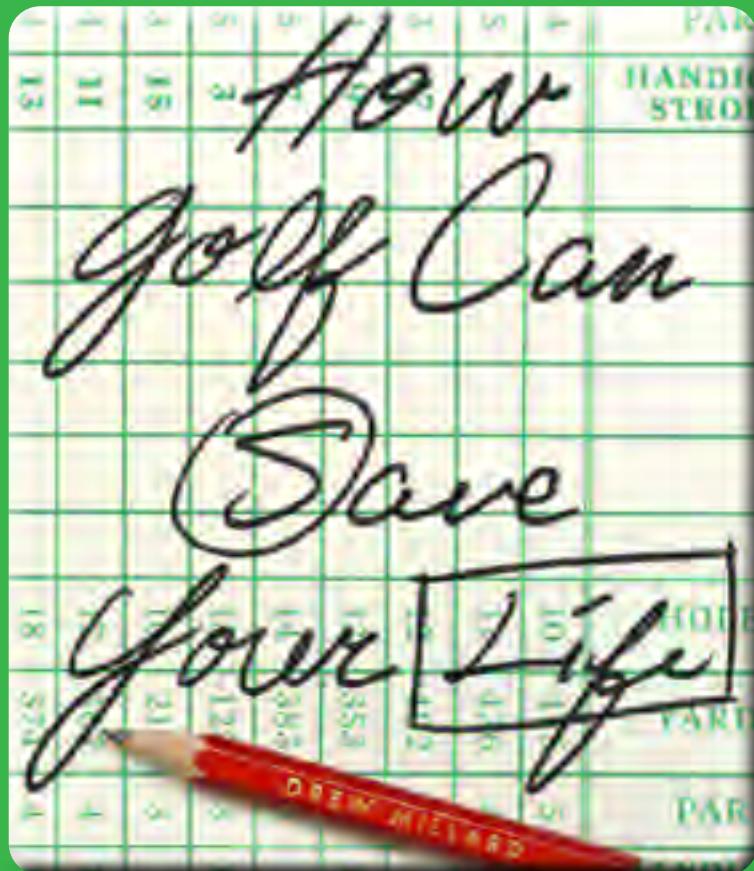
Ann Zelesky, 71, walks Green Hill three or four times a week, usually with Christine Foley, 53, and they finish in about 3:15 if no one ahead of them slows them down. Zelesky pushes her cart and Foley carries her bag. "I feel like my bag has become a part of me," Foley said, "and my golf game. On the competitive side, it keeps me very focused. I just love having my bag with me, walking up the fairway, knowing where my ball is and going right to my ball and getting ready to hit. I love that it's fantastic exercise, especially walking the hills of Green Hill."

Foley paid for the mandatory cart in Green Hill's Labor Day Four-Ball, but she carried her bag anyway. Even when she took a ride to keep up with play, she sat with her bag at her side. She realizes that sounds crazy.

Of course, some golfers aren't physically able to walk nine or 18 holes. Others prefer to ride in golf carts even if they could walk. Green Hill golf pro Matt Moison estimated that only 15-20 percent walk his course, but he wished it were more.

"I'm a big fan of walking," he said. "I think the pace is better." Moison pointed out that some golf courses require the golfers to ride in golf carts, sometimes to speed up play. But our group of walkers usually take less than 3½ hours, sometimes 3:15, to walk 18 holes. We're more than fast enough. ■

Drew Millard's “How Golf Can Save Your Life”



As the 2023 golf season churns inevitably toward its final weeks with rounds played in colder weather, and the autumn leaves surely foreshadowing the days when many New England courses will be snow-covered and closed, perhaps—to keep your mind on the links—you may enjoy curling up with a good book about golf. I would highly recommend for your first golf book of the off-season the very readable and interesting “How Golf Can Save Your Life” by Drew Millard.

Published by Abrams Co. and released to Amazon, other websites, and bookstores for sale in early May, Millard’s book, a 240-page memoir really, is a page-turner in its own unique way. After a bout with depression while in his 20s, Millard

returned to golf after several years away from the sport that he enjoyed as a kid, but never excelled in.

By getting back into golf, though, Millard marvels at how his mental health improved, even if his game didn’t (not so much). He also discovered on the links so much about the beauty and the challenges of golf and the simple joy of just being outside walking the fairways.

“When I’m out on the golf course,” Millard writes, “my focus is entirely on myself. This isn’t selfish; rather, it’s necessary. We give so much of ourselves away for free online, in the form of our time, energy, emotions, data, words, and all else, that we need a place to be private.” As one of the

blurbs on book jacket states: "Golf saved Drew Millard's life and he wants it to save yours too."

To be sure, "How Golf Can Save Your Life" has something for everyone- the beginning golfer to the scratch player and low handicapper and even the reader who has never played but is interested in taking his or her first swings on the course.

Millard, through insightful stories and observations, explains how golf helped him become a better person overall, one with more gratefulness and appreciation for just being alive. In his book Millard explains, "Golf is the perfect vessel for getting together with people and sharing the feeling of being a kid again, because what is golf if not dressing up in the costume of "a Golfer" and playing with toys?"

After deciding to separate from his cell phone while golfing, Millard observes: "We could always be looking at something more interesting, distressing, or exciting than what's in front of us, but every time we whip our phone out while playing it breaks the groove that we cultivate from one shot to the next, causing our swings to falter, our hands to shake, our minds to wander when they ought to be governing it all. Experience the havoc wrought by this broken spell enough times, and soon the temptation to check in on the outside world dissipates. In other words, golf encourages one to be fully present."

Writing in clear, fascinating prose, mostly while living in Durham, North Carolina within 20 minutes of several golf courses, Millard also injects humor and positive psychology into his sentences and paragraphs as when he questions the practice of golfers taking mulligans.

"One of the great tragedies of life is that we cannot take back what we have already put into the world," Millard writes. "But golf, with its focus on self-regulation, without outside oversight, creates the ideal conditions to bend the rules in the hope of changing our fate. It's instructive that this rarely works out. Even if I artificially engineer a better result in the short term, soon enough the contradictions pile up and overload my brain. When I hit a bad shot and try to move forward from there, I'm accepting the world as it exists. Taking a mulligan offers no such relief, only the illusion of the quick fix." Interestingly, Millard adds, while using an oxymoron-like expression, that, "Even a bad golf swing can produce a good golf shot."

His take on the GHIN handicap system includes the following: "Maintaining a handicap is an exercise in monastic self-discipline." And he's very critical of golfers who artificially inflate handicaps in order to hustle and win amateur tournaments. "Handicaps require good faith," Millard writes.

Also interesting is Millard's praise of classic instructional books such as Ben Hogan's "Five Lessons" and even offers his own easy-to-understand golf tips, from his own experience, on how to improve in golf and lower one's scores.

And how many veteran golfers would nod their heads in agreement while reading this perfect description by Millard of the wonderful game we all love and cherish:

"A round of golf will always contain highs and lows, miracles and crushing defeats, and the trick, always, is to maintain an even keel, to tell yourself that you are defined by none of it. You simply are, and that is enough. This, I learned, is the true secret to golf. Hell, and probably to life too." ■

**Jay Gearan writes a column in each issue of
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My Favorite Golf Memory

Looking back, certain moments on the golf course stand out in the fuzzy memory bank more than others. My journey toward one of my biggest golf highlights achieved began during my freshman year of high school. After a less than glorious attempt at trying out for football, I listened to my dad's advice and started devoting more attention at trying my hand at golf.

Back in 1986, attending Chicopee Comprehensive High School, the golf season was held in the spring from March to May, and contrary to today's high school scene, we played 18 holes in our matches. Now playing for the golf team was not as glamorous as suiting up for the gridiron, but classmates were envious of me when I was dismissed early from school to go play a golf match.

Practice started as soon as the snow cleared from the fairways near the end of March. Most practices were at Chicopee Country Club where our home matches were held, but to get a jump on the season, some of the team would sneak out to the closed-for-good Oxford Country Club, which was a very busy public golf course back in the day for the blue-collar crowd.

Sophomore year, there were some fairly talented upperclassmen that shot around even par consistently. Thanks to no cuts being made for anyone who tried out, I was on the practice squad trying to consistently shoot in the 90s that season. Now hooked on the game, I found a job working at The Orchards Golf Club in the summer, allowing me to play at the course as well. The work on my game paid off as I continued to improve going into my junior season, playing in varsity matches as the sixth man on the team. Also, a copy of "Golf My Way" by Jack Nicklaus, was now on the book shelf- the only instructional book to this day that I have read cover to cover. Inspired by Nicklaus' written tutelage, so hooked on the game, I would even shovel some snow away for enough grass to hit balls in the backyard toward the woods in the

winter months.

Dedication or insanity paid off as I entered my senior golf season very prepared. Starting at the three spot on the roster, I worked my way to the top position for a few matches culminating with shooting my lowest round of the season at Springfield Country Club. Playing well enough allowed me to qualify for the Western Mass. Championship held at Hampden Country Club (now Great Horse) and secure the Most Improved Player trophy at the senior sports banquet, a trophy still in my possession to stir a great memory from time to time. ■

Chris Miracle writes a Western Mass story in each issue of snegolfer.com.

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Rainey Wins World Amateur at Myrtle Beach

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There was a five-way tie for first place at -3 before Rainey made net birdie on the par 4 18th to earn the win, finishing one shot ahead of Joe Day (Conway, S.C.), Samuel Bland (Surfside, S.C.), Tom Fahringer (Valrico, Fla.), Mike Zeeb (New Carlisle, Ind.).

Christopher Schultz (La Porte Ind.) fired a three-round total of 209 to best David Hunt

(Orlando, Fla.) by nine strokes to win the Men's Gross Division title. Russell Burnham (Dallas, Texas) edged Daniel Constantino (Greer, S.C.) by two shots en route to victory in the Men's Senior Gross Division crown.

Mark Gardiner (North Salt Lake, Utah) finished seven strokes ahead of second place Michael Barclay (Cartersville, Ga.) to capture the

Men's Mid-Senior Gross Division championship. Heidi Rittenhouse (Smithfield, N.C.) cruised to victory in the Women's Gross Division, finishing 14 strokes ahead of second place finisher Beth Gutteridge (Rindge, N.H.).

Mike Zeeb (New Carlisle, Ind.) and Brock Zeeb (New Carlisle, Ind.), a father-son duo, combined to win the Casa de Campo Pairs Competition. By virtue of winning, the pair received a 4-day, 3-night stay at luxurious Casa de Campo and unlimited golf.

Entry into the event, which included at least four rounds of golf, nightly admission to the World's Largest 19th Hole and a gift bag, was \$699. The World Am places players into 11 divisions – men 49 and under, senior men (50-59), mid-senior men (60-69), super senior men (70-79), seasoned seniors (80+), women (59 and under), senior women (60+), the gross division, senior (50+) gross division, mid-senior (60+) gross division, and women's gross division. There is also a "Just For Fun" flight, created for players who want to enjoy the World Am experience without the pressure of competition.

After four days of play, all flight winners and ties will advance to the World Championship Playoff at TPC Myrtle Beach, an 18-hole shootout that crowns the event's winner. While the competition is initially what lures players to the tournament, it's only part of what keeps them coming back. At the heart of the World Am's appeal is the camaraderie among its participants and much of that kinship is fostered at the World's Largest 19th Hole.

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

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

For more information, please visit www.MyrtleBeachWorldAmateur.com. ■



The recently completed World Amateur Tournament in Myrtle Beach had a distinctive New England touch as Tom Gorman (pictured above) of Dedham, Mass. won his flight by four strokes that qualified him for the finals to determine the overall winner in this event that had over 3,200 entrants.

Gorman finished the first day with a four stroke lead in Flight 29 for men aged 60-69. He was able to hold his lead for the first three days of the tournament, and luckily for him the fourth day was canceled by heavy rains caused by Hurricane Lee.

In the championship playoff Tom finished in a tie for 14th, the best showing by anyone from New England. Tom's wife, Janet, had won her flight three years ago, but finished in the middle of the pack in the finals. Both plan to return to the World Am next year to see if they can repeat.

Looking Back— July 2000

The cover of the July 2000 issue, Vol. 7. No. 1 had Billy Andrade and Brad Faxon on the cover with the headline CVS Classic Returns. This was going to be the second year of the tournament that was the brainchild of CVS chairman Tom Ryan. With any event, you don't know what the reaction will be from the fans, sponsors, players, golf course and myriad other items. The fact that they were getting ready to host the second year, meant that everything had gone well the first year. John Daly, Justin Leonard, Davis Love III, Craig Stadler, Jay Haas and Jeff Sluman were just some of the names on the roster for the 2000 event. Greg Norman had been on the docket, but he had to pull out of the event for hip surgery two weeks before this two-day tournament. ESPN was again going to televise the event.

Larry Lambrecht of Westerly, a noted golf photographer, was featured in an article. Lambrecht had photographed most every major event for many years and was at the coronation of Tiger Woods who had just won the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach. One of Lambrecht specialties is photography of golf courses and he has been a regular contributor to most all the national and international golf publications. He still does golf calendars that highlight his great photos, and he worked for many years with Rees Jones.

The Northeast Amateur had just finished and the winner was Luke Donald of England, who went on to have a great career on the PGA Tour and is still playing. Another story was about Cranston Country Club holding its 1st Million Dollar Madness Hole-in One Contest. The event was being held to promote its new driving range and raise money for Button Hole Kids Course. Scott Cordischi (who has been writing for this publication for many years) was going to broadcast the final rounds live on his 790 The Score broadcast. Editor's Note: Nobody made a hole-in-one.

Another story featured Reggie Parker who won the RIWGA Championship by defeating Julie Greene 2 and 1 in the finals. Parker, who summers in Rhode Island and belongs to Misquamicut, also belongs to Seminole CC that just held the charity event last month. Parker's husband Larry was her caddie. When asked about his caddying ability he said, "I showed up, I kept up, and I shut up, just what a caddie is supposed to do." In other divisions Jeanette James of Alpine won the President's Bowl by defeating Kibbe Reilly 2-up and Sharon Novembrino of Alpine beat Kirbrae's (and Channel 12's) Karen Adems 3 and 2 in the Past President's Cup.

The Course Profile for the issue was New England Country Club in Bellingham, Mass. Formerly a nine-holer named Winnesucket C.C., it had now become a championship 18-hole layout designed by Hale Irwin. The course features many elevation changes and some great risk/reward holes and is easily accessed by golfers from Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Stow Acres Golf School in Stow, Mass. was another story in the publication. They had a unique way to get their story out to the public—they just invited a group of golf writers—including this intrepid reporter—to come to the school for a free day of golf lessons. It was my first lesson in 42 years of playing golf (yes, that's right, I have now been playing for 62 years). The school used a five-to-one ratio of teachers to students, so everyone got plenty of attention. I still have the handouts that they gave to us that day and we also were videotaped. I think my posture is even worse than it was 20 years ago.

Many of the advertisers in that issue are still with us today. CVS took the back page, and they were planning to do plenty this year until the coronavirus pandemic struck and cancelled the event. Clubhouse Capital was a huge sponsor in those days as the company was doing golf course financing as well as course

sales and acquisitions. Golfers Warehouse has been advertising with us since we began and we appreciate their support. The same goes for Rehoboth CC, Maplegate, Blissful Meadows, and Laurel Lane.

Looking at the map page, there are many driving ranges that advertised then that no longer exist--Eagle Quest Dome, Dartmouth Golf Dome, Golf Central Driving Range in Wyoming, Ironwood in Smithfield, Mike Harbour's D.R.,

Seekonk D.R. Sherwood Golf Center in Seekonk and Smithfield D.R. Too bad! ■

Bruce Vittner is the Publisher/Editor of snegolfer.com and enjoys looking back at old publications. We have every issue on file if there is something you would like to look back on. He can be reached at bruce@sne golfer.com.

NAME THAT HOLE



Can you guess this issue's Name That Hole picture above?

Hint: Not in USA

To win, be the first person to email bruce@sne golfer.com with the correct answer.

Winner receives a **2024 Northeast Golf Pass**,
Thank you for playing!

Last Month's Winner:

Jake Bailey of Connecticut

Answer:

16th hole at Cabot Cliffs, Nova Scotia

Ironically, one of my best friend's sons, Matt Kane, had two holes in one at that course on the same day last year. The odds against that are 60 million to one.

Northeast Golf Pass 2024

**Experience top courses in the region
at discounted rates!**

Valid until December 31, 2023



\$64.95

Massachusetts | Connecticut | Rhode Island

\$15 Off Coupon

Regular Price \$64.95 | Sale Price \$49.95

Must mention SNEG2023 when ordering

401-464-8445 or visit www.snegolfer.com

2024 Northeast Golf Pass Available in December

Golfers from around New England have been enjoying the great golf discounts from the Northeast Golf Pass since 2010. This combined coupon book offers over 250 individual deals at over 75 golf courses. Most of the courses are in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, but there are also deals in New Hampshire and Vermont.

There are discounts if purchasing three or more of the passports, if you want to buy it with your golf buddies. The Golf Northeast Golf Pass will include discounts at many of the best public courses in New England including Blackstone National, Country View, Cranston, Cranwell, Crystal Lake, Crumpin Fox Club, Foxborough, Fox Hopyard, Gardner Municipal, Green Mountain, Fenner Hill, Laurel Lane, Manchester CC, Portland, Quarry Ridge, River Ridge, Shattuck, , Tekoa CC, Triggs, Winnepaug and dozens more. There are also some nine-hole courses for those that would rather just play nine including Coventry Pines, Kings Crossing, Louisquisset, Midville and Pinecrest in Rhode Island. Returning this year is the fine Brattleboro CC in Vermont. The Golf Northeast Golf Pass can be used through December 31, 2024.

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

Thousands of golfers from around New England have enjoyed the Northeast Golf Pass and have saved hundreds of dollars while golfing. You can purchase your pass at www.golfwesternmass.com or at www.snegolfer.com or call 401-464-8445.

While you are on the website, please register for information about golf events for your area. The Massachusetts group runs tournaments from time to time at some great courses, and regularly has over 100 players per event. We have played The Crumpin Fox Club, The Ledges Golf Club,

Metacomet Country Club, Crestwood Country Club and Blackstone National GC along with many others. You can also get a \$10 off coupon from the Golfers Warehouse stores in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. Ron Joseph who has a large group of golfers that play every Wednesday had this to say about the Northeast Golf Pass; "We save hundreds of dollars each year on our golfing fees with the Northeast Golf Pass. Each week we look at books and decide where we are going to play the following week. Since some of the courses have more than one coupon, we often go back to the courses we like the most."

The book makes a great gift for the golfers in your life and you will definitely save money on your golfing experiences next year with the Northeast Golf Pass. Please call or visit the websites for more information or to make a purchase. The cost for the Northeast Golf Pass remains the same as 2023 at \$65. Purchase three or more and the cost reduces to \$50 per book. The Northeast Golf Passes are mailed the same day the order is received. ■

SWING INTO SAVINGS

Elevate your golfing game and save big with our Northeast Golf Pass!

**Unlock over 250
exclusive deals &
discounts at top
New England golf
courses.**

Online Issues Now Being E-mailed To 50,000 Golfers

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

We coordinated with a person who had been collecting emails from all the golf shows in southern New England and at different golf events. He had a list of almost 30,000 golfers. "I'll be happy to send out your publication as part of my weekly emails whenever it is completed," he said. "It will help my open rate because it is an excellent publication and my subscribers will enjoy reading it," he added.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bruce Vittner is the publisher/editor of snegolfer.com and can be reached at bruce@sne golfer.com.



Planning your Advertising Budget for 2024?

Southern New England Golfer has been a large part of the golf scene in southern New England for 34 years. Some of the advertisers have been with us for all those years, and many have been advertising consistently for over 10 years. We must be doing something right to have this dedicated following of advertisers. We think, and they must agree, that ads in our well-regarded and award winning publication must be good for business.

One of the best features of our advertising is that all that ads are linked right back to the advertiser's website. Anyone who is reading the publication online can just click the ad and it goes right to you. No more putting the magazine down and going to the telephone, or writing it down and forgetting about it. We would love to spread our wings and find some more businesses that would consider being part of this publication that was founded in 1990.

We publish four issues per year. The first is always near the end of April and features the Masters and many local events that are being held or prepared. The second is always in the beginning of June when tournaments are just getting underway. Our third issue is at the end

of July--just like the one you are reading now--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 50,000 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 2024 by visiting www.snegolfer.com or calling 401-464-8445. ■

Regards,

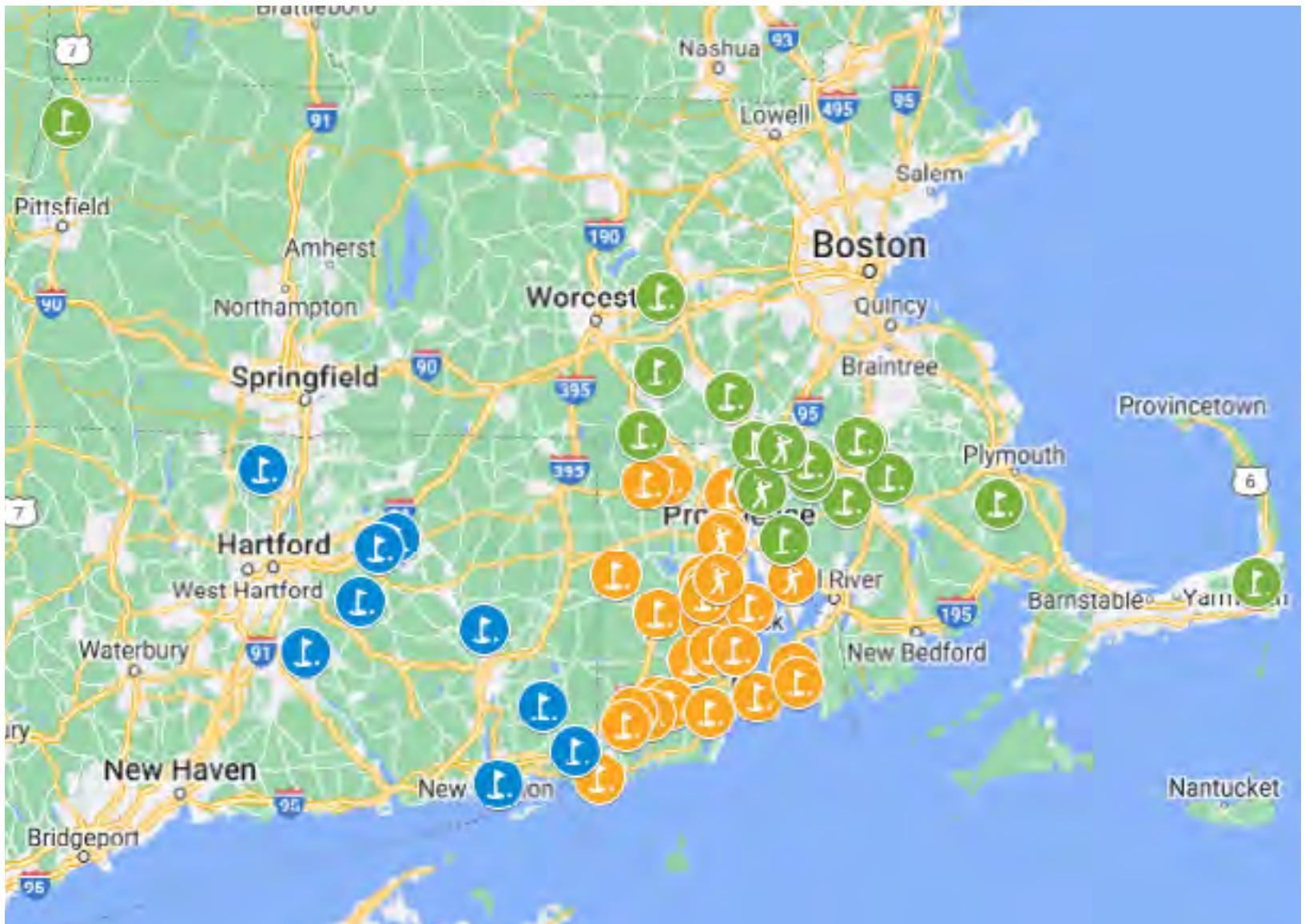
Bruce Vittner

**Advertise your business
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SNEG's 50,000+ subscribers**

**Next Issue
April 2024**

Featuring:

Travel Stories
Product Reviews
Tournament Results
& much, much more!



**Click anywhere on this page
to view the details of our
listings on Google Maps**

**To list your course on this
interactive map, please call
401-464-8445**

1. **BEAVER RIVER G.C.** (18) P
343 Kingstown Rd. Richmond, RI
401-539-2100 PS,CR,CH,SB,O
www.beaverrivergolf.com
2. **BUTTON HOLE (SC)** (9) P,X
1 Button Hole Dr. Providence, RI
401-421-1664 CL,CH,DR,PS,DR,L
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
4. **COVENTRY PINES G.C.** (9) P
1065 Harkney Hill Rd. Coventry, RI
401-397-9482 CR,CL,CH,SB,DR,S
www.coventrypines.com
5. **CRANSTON CC** (18) P
69 Burlingame Rd. Cranston, RI
401-826-1683 CR,CL,PS,CH,O
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
7. **EAST GREENWICH G.C.** (9) P
1646 Division Rd. E. Greenwich, RI 4
01-234-9836 CR,CL,CH,O,R
www.egcountryclub.com
8. **EXETER C.C.** (18) SP
320 Victory Hwy. (Rt. 102) Exeter, RI
401-295-8212 CR,CL,PS,CH,O
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
10. **FOSTER COUNTRY CLUB** (18) P
67 Johnson Rd. Foster, RI
401-397-7750 CR,CL,PS,CH,O
www.fostercountryclub.com
11. **GREEN VALLEY C.C.** (18) SP
371 Union St. Portsmouth, RI
401-849-2162 CH,R,O
www.gvccri.com
12. **HARBOR LIGHTS MARINA** (9) P
150 Gray St. Warwick, RI
401-737-6353 CR,CL,PS,DR,CH,O,L
www.harborlightsri.com
13. **JAMESTOWN G.C.** (9) P
245 Conanicus Ave. Jamestown, RI
401-423-9930 CR,CL,CH,SB
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
15. **LAUREL LANE C.C.** (18) P
Laurel Lane, W. Kingston, RI
401-783-3844 CR,CL,PS,CH,O
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
17. **NEWPORT NATIONAL G.C.** (18) SP
324 Mitchell's Ln. Middletown, RI
401-848-9690 CR,CL,PS,SB,O
www.newportnational.com
18. **NORTH KINGSTOWN G.C.** (18) P
]615 Callahan Rd. N. Kingstown, RI
401-294-0684
www.nkgc.com
CR,CL,CH,O,DR,PS,R:Fat Belly's
19. **PINECREST GOLF CLUB** (9) P
25 Pinehurst Dr. Richmond, RI
401-364-8600
www.pinecrestri.com
CR,CL,CH,SB,O,LG
20. **RICHMOND CC** (18) P
74 Sandy Pond Rd. Richmond, RI
401-364-9200
www.richmondcountryclub.net
CR,CL,PS,CH,O,DR
21. **ROSE HILL GOLF CLUB** (9) P,X
222 Rose Hill Rd. So. Kingstown, RI
401-788-1088
www.rosehillri.com
CR,CL,CH,SB,LG
22. **TRIGGS MEMORIAL G.C.** (18) P
1533 Chalkstone Ave. Providence, RI
401-521-8460
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
CR,CL,CH,DR,O,R
24. **WINNAPAUG CC** (18) P
184 Shore Rd. (Rt 1A) Westerly, RI
401-596-1237
www.winnapaugcountryclub.com
CR,CL,CH,DR,SB,O
25. **WOOD RIVER GOLF** (18) P
78 Woodville-Alton Rd. Hope Valley, RI
401-364-0700
www.woodrivergolf.com
CR,CH,SB,O

- A. **BUTTON HOLE D.R.**
1 Button Hole Dr. Providence, RI
401-421-1664
www.buttonhole.org
2 putting greens, lessons
- B. **D GOLF CENTER**
324 Market St., Warren, RI
401-919-3500
covered+outdoor bays, high-tech teaching
www.dgolfrange.com
- C. **MULLIGAN'S ISLAND GOLF & ENTERTAINMENT** (9) X
401-464-8855
1000 New London Ave. Cranston, RI www.mulligansisland.com
60 stall driving range, covered area, batting cages, mini-golf, par 3 course, pitch and putt

26. BLISSFUL MEADOWS G.C. (18) SP
801 Chocalog Rd. Uxbridge, MA
508-278-6110
www.blissfulmeadows.com
CR,CL,CH,DR,PS,O

27. CAPTAIN'S COURSE (36) P
1000 Freeman's Way, Brewster, MA
508-896-1716
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
CR,CH,O,CL

29. EASTON C.C. (18) SP
265 Purchase St. Easton, MA
508-238-2500
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
CR,PS,CH,O

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

32. JUNIPER HILL G.C. (36) P
202 Brigham St. Northboro, MA
508-393-2444
www.juniperhillgc.com
CR,CL,PS,CH,SB,O

33. MAPLEGATE C.C. (18) SP
160 Maple St. Bellingham, MA
508-966-4040
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
CL,PS,CH,SB,O

35. NORTON COUNTRY CLUB (18) SP
188 Oak St. Norton, MA
508-285-2400
www.nortoncountryclub.com
CR,CL,CH,SB,O

36. OLDE SCOTLAND LINKS (18) P
695 Pine St. Bridgewater, MA
508-279-3344
www.oldescotlandlinks.com
CR,CL,SB,DR,O

37. PINE OAKS GC (9) P
68 Prospect St. S. Easton, MA
508-238-2320
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

39. SOUTHERS MARSH G.C. (18) P
30 Southers Marsh Ln. Plymouth, MA
508-830-3535
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
CR, CL, CH, PS, O, DR

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

D. ATLANTIC DRIVING RANGE
754 Newport Ave. S. Attleboro,
MA 508-761-5484
www.atlanticgolfcenter.com

heated tees, shop, mini golf, chip + putt

E. STIX GOLF+BASEBALL FUN CNTR

582 Kelley Blvd. No. Attleboro, MA
508-695-0091
www.stixfuncenter.com
TrueStrike golf mats, grass tees, minigolf, batting cages, putting green, bunker, lessons

42. **AIRWAYS GC** (18) P
1070 S. Grand St. W. Suffield, CT
860-668-4973 CR,CL,CH,SB,O
www.airwaysgolf.com

43. **ELMRIDGE GOLF CLUB** (27) P
229 Elmridge Rd. Pawcatuck, CT 860-
599-2248 CR,CL,DR,PS,CH,O
www.elmridgegolf.com

44. **LAKE OF ISLES C.C.** (18) P
Foxwoods Casino, Mashantucket, CT
860-312-3636
www.lakeofisles.com
CR,CL,PS,SB,Rest, O, School

45. **MOHEGAN SUN G.C.** (18) P
7 Dows Ln. Baltic, CT
860-862-9230
www.mohegansungolfclub.com
CR,CL,PS,CH, golf packages, lessons

46. **QUARRY RIDGE** (18) P
9A Rose Hill Rd. Portland, CT
860-788-2845
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
CR,CL,CH,PS,Rest.,O

48. **SKUNGAMAUG RIVER GC** (18) P
104 Folly Ln, Coventry, CT
860-742-9348 CR,CL,CH,PS,O
www.skungamauggolf.com

49. **TALLWOOD CC** (18) P
91 North St, Hebron, CT
860-646-1151 DR,CL,CH,PS,O
www.tallwoodcountryclub.com

50. **TWIN HILLS** (18) P
199 Bread and Milk St. Coventry, CT
860-742-9705 DR,CL,CH,PS,O
www.twinhillscountryclub.com

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

R = Restaurant

L = Lessons

LG = Leagues

S= Simulation

