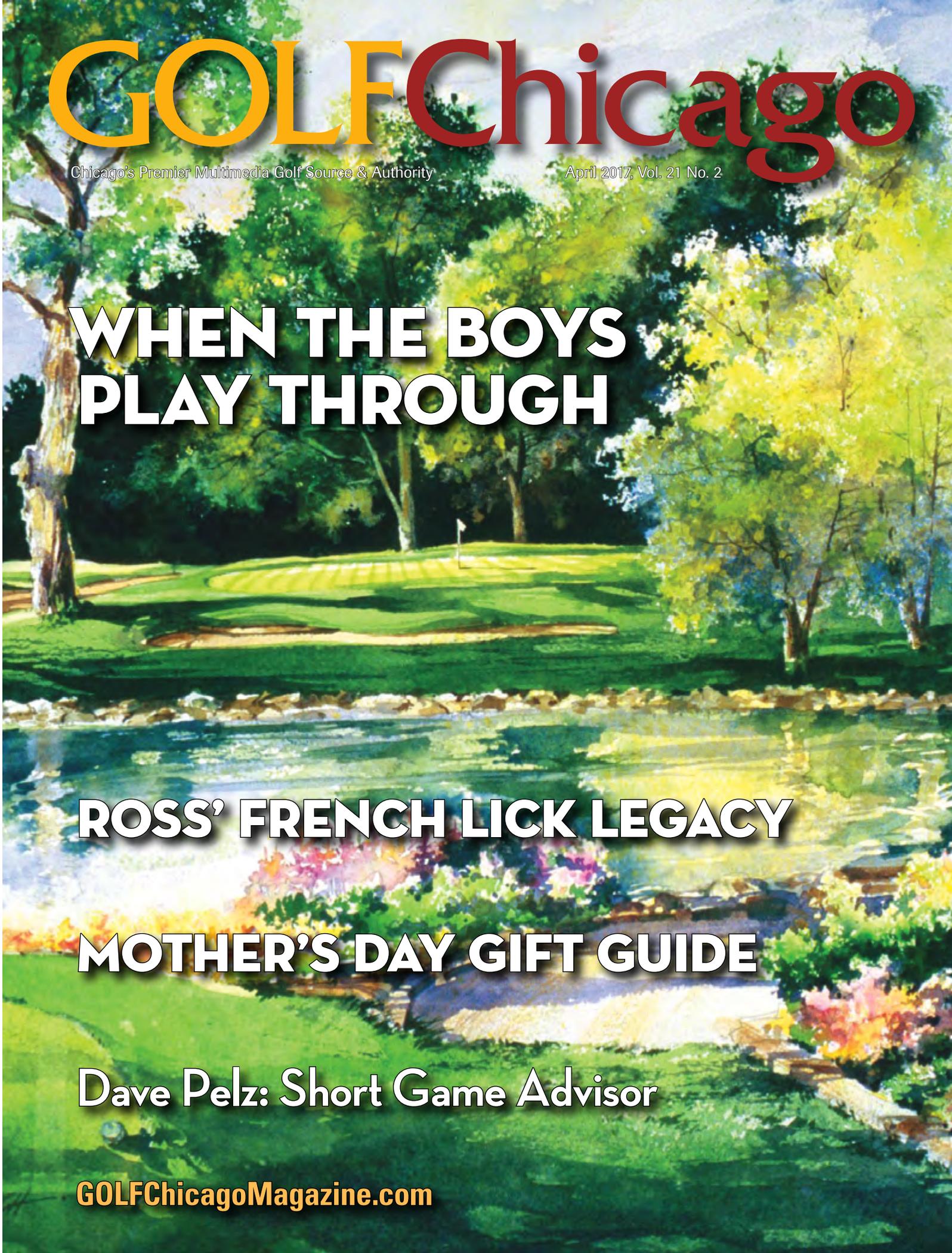


GOLFChicago



Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority

April 2017, Vol. 21 No. 2

WHEN THE BOYS PLAY THROUGH

ROSS' FRENCH LICK LEGACY

MOTHER'S DAY GIFT GUIDE

Dave Pelz: Short Game Advisor

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OPENING SHOT

**DAVE
AND
TIM**

It's a special time of year. Can you smell the perfume of the wisteria? Feel the breeze wafting through the dogwoods, rustling the pines? Have a sudden need for a pimento cheese sandwich?

Funny how that happens this time of year, no? It's almost as if there's music – a little tune with piano and strings that you can't get out of your head, one as familiar as your fingerprints – in the air.

There is no more familiar tournament to television viewers than The Masters. There is no more familiar back nine than that of Augusta National, a thrill-ride golf course that annually offers drama and pathos amid a familiar setting that changes subtly from year to year – and sometimes not so subtly – but offers a living canvas of history to viewers eager to get their own season on the way.

Augusta National is, truth be told, the most artificial natural-looking place on earth. Features are adjusted from year to year without warning. The old joke

was that the first tee didn't move back each year, the pro shop it was adjacent to moved forward.

There's a virtual reality feeling to the place. Walk around and you never see a squirrel. Never does a bee buzz near a refreshment stand. The fairways are the greenest green you've ever seen. You could make a jacket from one.

Everyone is on their best behavior at The



"I don't care if you do need to practice your bunker game, the cat needs her litter box. Maybe you should just go get a lesson."

Masters. Nobody runs, those who yell are banished, and cell phones are verboten. That's fine, because there are areas with phones set up for free long-distance calls, and when you're hungry the prices for food and drink are rock-bottom. You can eat lunch three times and still have change from a twenty to apply toward an ice cream sandwich. Try that at any other professional sports event.

No operation is better-organized. It's a four-day garden party with a \$10 million purse, not that CBS would dare mention the money.

It is also the best possible promotion for golf. Whether you are lucky enough to get there this year or are a mere couch patron, revel in it, pass the peach cobbler, and then tee it up.

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THE GOOD STUFF

Compiled by Greg Jourdan

Get Your Oh Face On

Odyssey Golf's O-Works putters have added Micro-hinge technology to send the ball rolling toward the cup. The stainless steel Hinge Plate is backed by a soft thermoplastic elastic inner layer and incorporates "micro hinges" that flex and rebound to promote a spin on the ball. In other words, the ball gets rolling as soon as it leaves the putter face. The Micro-hinge insert and elastomer inner layer require a 23-step production process, so sweet rolls off the O-Works putters happen by design.

\$229.99 www.odysseygolf.com



Sunshine on your Shoulders

When you trim a stand bag down to four pounds, there are convenience compromises that usually leave you with a glorified Sunday bag. Sun Mountain's 3.5 LS stand bag delivers the features that will make it your go-to bag for all occasions, not just when you are walking an executive course. Weighing in at 3.5 pounds, the 3.5 LS has a four-way, 9-inch top to carry 14 clubs, and it provides seven pockets plus a hydration pouch. For walkers, the X-System dual straps are wide and thick to ensure a comfortable trek.

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Frogger Connects

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy suggests that a towel is the most useful item you can carry during interstellar travel. True that for golf as well. Following up Frogger Golf's TRAX Towel with Latch Technology last fall, the company has introduced Latch-It Ecosystem, a line to attach, detach, and reconnect your expensive accessories to your golf bag or cart. New to the product line is a Latch-It for your range finder and smart phone. Both units include a strap with a Catch Latch magnet, while the Latch-It receiver has a lock to keep your devices secure while in motion. Whether you are looking to attach your towel, or a smart device worth more than your driver, Latch-It with Frogger Golf.

\$17.95 Range Finder Latch-It **\$22.95 Phone Latch-It** www.froggergolf.com

A Rising Star

Designed for better players, Srixon's Z-STAR XV is a tour-caliber golf ball with a new 338 Speed Dimple pattern for less air resistance. Another new feature in the Z-STAR XV is the third-generation Spin Skin coating that will encourage more spin around the green. An early-season round by a GOLFCicago staffer returned positive reviews. While firm around the greens, Z-STAR XV responds with results similar to other premium balls; however, it did fly straighter off the tee than its price-point counterparts did. Z-STAR XV is available in Pure White and Tour Yellow.

\$39.99 (dozen) www.srixon.com



Performance Knits

Carnoustie Sportswear is rooted in their tried and true performance knits. For this season, Carnoustie developed new colors appropriate for the season—such as amethyst, melon, spearmint, and sky. This season's mélange fabric is nuanced and has a dimension that ordinary piece-dyed solids cannot approach. Also featured in the new performance collection is a mini-floral print that is small enough in proportion to create an all-over look. The small prints are very much on trend for 2017.

A beautifully simple jacquard is offered to complement the collection. It introduces a sophistication and affords elegance with performance features. All of Carnoustie's performance styles include moisture management properties, stretchable comfort, odor management, and UV protection.

www.carnoustiesportswearonline.com

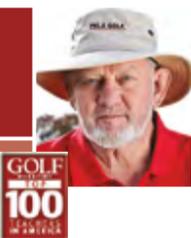


Air Jordan Tees Off

It has been over 30 years since Nike introduced their Air Jordan 1, the shoe that built a brand into a global platform for athletic gear. The iconic basketball shoe that Nike morphed into a retro-hip golf cleat is a limited offering. The shoe has favorable changes that include extra padding around the ankle, a soft spike sole, and a waterproof upper. The Air Jordan 1 golf shoe is at select retailers. Get 'em while you can.

\$200
www.nikegolf.com





Face Facts

Every golfer misses short putts from time to time. When you start to miss three- and four-footers on the same side of the cup regularly, it's time to find out why you're missing and address the problem.

At the Pelz Golf Institute we used to wonder: Are golfers simply leaving the heel of the putter face and missing left? Cutting across the putt and pulling putts? Really, it's none of the above.

According to our research conducted and data we take weekly at our Dave Pelz Scoring Game Schools, most short putts are missed because the golfer has the putter face slightly closed at impact, which leads to missing along the left edge of the hole.

Frequently, I see amateur golfers swing the putter face slightly open (relative to

the line of the putt) on the backstroke and rotate the face slightly closed on the through-stroke. Add a little anxiety or pressure – say when you need to tie or win a hole or your match – and the face rotates more quickly, meaning it is ever so slightly closed at impact. But that “ever so slightly” closed face is enough to cause many misses.

Golfers who practice their putting stroke usually are careful to work on following through straight down the line toward the hole. They seldom think about getting the putter face square at impact. But my research proves that errors in face angle have a much greater effect on putting success than errors in path – which means that if you are practicing your putting at all, you're probably practicing

the wrong thing. When you do practice your putting, getting the putter face square is a good place to start.

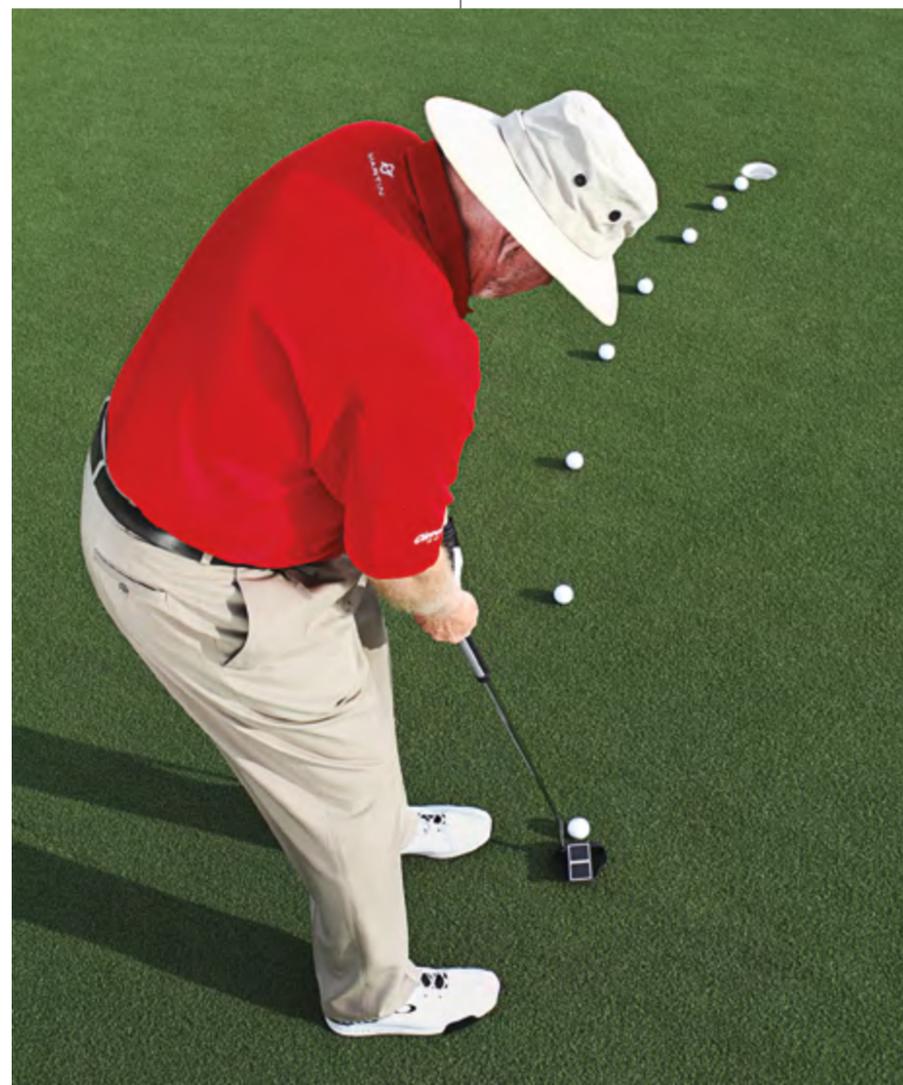
Many golfers swing the putter head along a path from slightly outside the putt line to slightly inside the line, while the putter face rotates from slightly open to slightly closed. To most players, this stroke looks good, and they assume the path is on-line and the face is square at impact. But they still miss too many short putts.

Our tests have proven that face-angle errors are most costly (cause a greater degree of misses) than putter path errors. For example: On a three-foot straight putt, making a stroke with the face angle shut 30 degrees closed, with the putter path essentially perfect, results in a putt that misses dramatically wide to the left of the hole.

Meanwhile, making a stroke with just the putter path exaggerated 30 degrees to the left of the desired putt line on the same three-foot, straight putt, and a face angle held perfectly square to the putt line, results in a putt that misses only slightly to the left of the hole. The amount of error – the degree to which they deviate from a perfect stroke – is the same in both strokes, but putts roll more closely to where the face angle is aligned at impact than to where the putter path is heading. Mistakes in face angle are much more serious.

So stop worrying so much about the path of your stroke and focus your attention on putter face aim. To get a good feel for proper face angle, address putts with the back of your left hand square to your intended putt line, then keep it square throughout the stroke. The putter face aims where the back of your left hand aims. If you can keep the back of your left hand perpendicular to the intended line all the way – from address, in the backstroke, through to the finish – your putter face should be square at impact, and you'll make more of those testy short putts.

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Don't Forget the Brakes

There is no question, the game of golf has become one of power and distance. With players on the professional tours hitting the ball ridiculous distances now, it's no surprise that one of the biggest topics among junior golfers is creating speed. I agree this is an extremely important physical ability that should be developed starting at a young age, but another idea I see that gets overlooked is the junior's ability to transfer the speed and energy created to the golf club. Just like a high-end sports car, it would not do us any good to go really fast without a brake system that can slow us down.

To demonstrate why it's important to put the brakes on, I want to share an example of some speeds created by a player using K-Vest, a 3D measuring device. When you look at the graphic below, the first number from left to right is hip rotation speed, second is torso, third is the lead arm and fourth is the club.



This player starts off by rotating his hips 527 degrees per second. This then translates into 643 degrees per second for the torso. These two numbers are on the high end of PGA Tour ranges for these movements. However, rotating the body fast can be detrimental, because it doesn't allow the lead arm to pick up speed, which only allows the club to reach a peak speed of 1443 degrees per second.

What happened for this student? This junior understands how to slam on the gas pedal but he was unable to apply the brakes. He could get his body to start rotating, but he wasn't able to stop himself from spinning. This doesn't allow the arms or club to pick up speed and deliver it to the ball. This creates a very noticeable gap in the sequence of events and getting some speed to the clubhead and ball. Let's look at this same player who did some work on getting his brake system in order.



In these measurements, you can see the hips and torso (the body) slowed down the turning speed. This helped him speed up his arm, which drastically sped up the club to 1739 degrees per second. This is now an effective transfer of energy which will lead to more club speed and hopefully more distance.

How would you go about building your brakes system as a junior? The No. 1 way is to find a Titleist Performance Institute-certified trainer and work with that person on any areas he or she sees fit. But from a golf standpoint, I have a favorite drill that shows people how the body needs to be stable to allow the arms and club to go by.

As you see in photo 1, I've taken my setup with a medium to short iron and

have closed my stance dramatically to the right with the feeling that my back is to the target.

I'll then make a swing doing my best to keep my body as still as possible, while only swinging my arms, hands and club. (photo 2). At first, you might struggle to hit the ball, but with practice, you should be able to make solid contact and hit the ball straight. This should be done at 40-50 percent speed. By doing this, your body will start to get the feel of what it's like to slow down and let the arms and club accelerate. This will help your braking system develop in your body, so you can apply it at the right time.

It is important to be able to generate speed, especially with juniors. But understanding how to control it and apply the brakes will ultimately allow

that speed to turn into more distance and control. As we all know, if you are hitting it longer and straighter, this game becomes a lot easier!

Scott Hogan is a PGA Certified Professional in Teaching and Coaching, a designation earned by three percent of all PGA Professionals. He is also TPI certified and is certified in several areas of golf biomechanics. His academy works to develop juniors into champions in golf and in life by helping them open opportunities through golf. His programs run at two locations: Stony Creek Golf Course in Oak Lawn and Inwood Golf Course in Joliet. For more information about how you can attend a junior session for free, visit his website at www.scotthogangolf.com.

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The GOLFCChicago Interview

Golf and hockey. Not exactly the most similar of sports, right?

Skates, ice, sweaters, and checking versus soft spikes, manicured fairways, polos, and Luke Donald being chased by a goose. While golf and hockey may seem worlds apart, it's quite amazing how many people can excel at both. Whether it's the hand-eye coordination or the plain insanity to want to play either, golf and hockey just might be the perfect odd couple.

The Chicago Wolves have been our city's premier source for NHL-affiliated minor league hockey since 2001. A large number of Wolves players will see NHL action with the St. Louis Blues. In the interim, they're skating in every game hoping to stay at the top of the call list. Not to mention they fight a lot more in the AHL, which we all want of course. Speaking of fights, the Wolves made a roundhouse of a move this past offseason by bringing in Craig Berube as their new head coach. For those of you that didn't watch Berube's playing career, he skated in 1,054 games from 1986-2003. In that tenure he amassed a total of 3,149 penalty minutes, good for seventh all-time.

A former head coach of the Philadelphia Flyers, Berube backed down from no one as a player. Want proof? Search his name on YouTube, and you'll find page after page of Berube against the other big fighters of his day, from John Kordic to Tie Domi.

An avid golfer, Berube holds a handicap index "somewhere between a 3 and 4" and is a student of John Mueller, PGA Professional at the PGA Tour Superstore in Schaumburg.

If your hockey viewing is more Blackhawks-focused you'll be familiar with another Wolves employee, Billy Gardner. After his playing

From the Ice to the Links

by Todd Mrowice



career, spanning 13 years (all but 26 games in a Blackhawks sweater), Gardner could be seen and heard across Chicago as a Blackhawks analyst including four years alongside Pat Foley. He's currently in his 15th season with the Wolves as their color analyst and also holds a 4-handicap index, although he and Berube have not squared off on the links quite yet. Fun fact: Gardner might be the only person that's played a round with Phil Mickelson in the morning and an afternoon round that same day with Fred Couples. All by happenstance.

We caught up with Berube and Gardner to get their thoughts on golf and hockey.

GOLFCChicago: When and how did you take up golf?

Craig Berube: I started playing when I turned pro; I was about 20 years old. I really started taking it seriously in 1992 when I was playing for the Washington Capitals. I joined a country club and hooked up with some really good players out there. Would sometimes play 54 holes in a day. That's when I started enjoying the game as well.

Billy Gardner: I was 12 or 13 years old when I started playing. I grew up in Toronto and my dad had a permanent tee time, so I'd go out with him. Early on I never had a lesson. Emil Esposito was the first person

to point out my baseball grip and fix that. It helps that my best friend for 36 years has been *Chicago Tribune* writer Bob Verdi (a member of both the Hockey Hall of Fame's writers wing, and the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame). We've played probably a thousand rounds together.

GC: *What are your favorite courses in our area?*

CB: Well, that's the funny thing. I know there's a ton of great golf here in Chicago but I just haven't had a chance to get out since I took the [head coach] job. So the only place I've played around here is Schaumburg Golf Club, but I really liked that course.

BG: I love Medinah; it's such a treat to play there with all of the history. I always look forward to playing

Kemper Lakes. I actually worked there in the 80s. Being an Elmhurst resident I can't wait for Oak Meadows to re-open. Also a big fan of Maple Meadows.
GC: *What are your favorite courses outside of Illinois?*

CB: I live in Pennsylvania, so most of my rounds are played out that way. I belong to Lookaway Golf Club (Rees Jones design, ranked 18th in the state by *Golf Digest*), it's a great course. I also play a lot out in New Jersey and Philadelphia. I like to get around to different places. Pine Valley is one of the best I've ever played though.

BG: For years I've traveled with Denis Savard, Steve Larmer, Pat Foley, and other hockey guys. We've gone to PGA West and TPC Sawgrass. I've been lucky

enough to play Pinehurst, I've also played St. Andrews. I actually played St. Andrews when I was 12 years old. I still have my ticket!

GC: *Can you take anything from your career in hockey and apply it to golf?*

CB: Mechanically, it was hard to change the over-the-top hockey swing. I think if you're naturally competitive you can draw from that. Otherwise, golf is just more of a mental game. There's more touch involved. You also don't see the same results if you work hard at both of them.

BG: As an athlete, you're driven no matter what. With hockey it's every shift, every shot, you're going as hard as you can. With golf, you have to take your foot off of the pedal. Plus, it's only you out there. No teammates to rely on or

back you up.

GC: *Craig, you were the epitome of an enforcer. Is seventh all-time in penalty minutes a point of pride for you?*

CB: [Laughs] Back when I played, fighting and playing hard was just part of the game. I had pride in knowing that I was important on the ice for my team. I wouldn't change anything I did.

GC: *Including fighting Bob Probert on multiple occasions?*

CB: Bob and I didn't dislike one another at all. We just always seemed to find a time on the ice to drop the gloves. I got called up during the '86-'87 season from the minors and we had a good fight when Detroit came to town and it just sort of continued from there.

GC: *Give us your scouting report of the 2016-17 Chicago Wolves.*

CB: Our team is very hard working. That's how they practice, that's how they play, and they get results. There's a lot of talent on this roster and we're very well rounded. As a coach, I stress that hard work and team first mentality. Our guys who have been here all season get it and the guys that get called up fit right in.

BG: This is a very unique team. They work so hard and you can see the payoff in how they play. Craig is a great coach. It's not easy to mold a team together in your first year, but he's done a fantastic job. This team is deep, they're solid, and a lot of fun to watch. Being an AHL team, you're always at the mercy of your parent team, but I think Craig has done a great job.

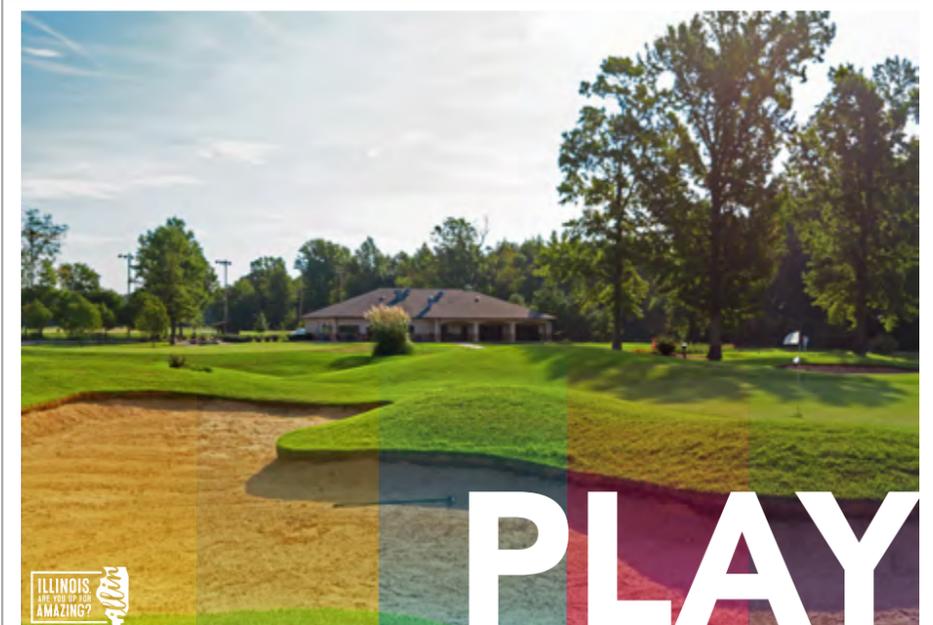



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When the Boys Play Through

By Tim Cronin



Never win a hole with a nine.

This warning is not based on firsthand knowledge, but it is solid advice.

Bad things can happen when you win a hole with a nine. You could get shot on the next tee. Five times.

Honest. It's one of the many strange but true tales of the connections between the mob and golf in the Chicago area.

We start with the most recent and most heinous, what happened to Alfred Pilotto at Lincolnshire Country Club back in 1981, on an otherwise lovely Saturday morning in July. He and three pals – at least he thought they were – were out for a friendly round. Pilotto had just managed the uncanny on the seventh hole of Lincolnshire's West Course.

"I can't believe I won the hole with a nine," Pilotto said. His fellow competitors had played like a trio of hacks en route to the hole.

Thus Pilotto, an accomplished mobster for decades and at that moment under indictment – and the man in the south suburbs in control of various and sundry businesses that the authorities held in high dudgeon, plus a pal of Tony "Big Tuna" Accardo – should have suspected something, but he blissfully went to the eighth tee, and teed off first, having won the honor.

At which point Daniel Bounds introduced himself to Pilotto. Rather, he jumped out of some bushes with a revolver in hand and with nefarious intent. Authorities later estimated that he fired up to seven times.

Pilotto dropped to the tee. Bounds ran off, eventually hooking up with a getaway car. The others in the foursome, showing remarkable dedication to their games, proceeded to tee it up and kept playing.

SCARFACE AL CAPONE IS ACCIDENTALLY SHOT BY OWN GUN AT GOLF LINKS

Chicago—(AP)—“Scarface Al” Capone, ruler of Chicago’s gangland, has been shot, but not by the gangland which months ago decreed his death.

The gang lord, whose every move is guarded by no less than twelve of the most watchful gunmen ever assembled, shot himself, accidentally, according to reports today.

Capone today lies in St. Margaret’s hospital at Hammond, Ind., suburb of Chicago. He is wounded in the right and left legs and in the groin.

According to the current story, Capone shot himself last Saturday morning after he and a familiarly known as ‘Machine Gun’ Jack McGurn had a round of golf on the Burnham.

Reports say that Capone was discharged a few days later.

Sam Giancana, seen here in a court hallway, was an avid golfer who didn’t hesitate to take midnight lessons to improve his game.



Jack “Machine Gun” McGurn, was a good enough player to tee it up in the 1933 Western Open using his real name, Vincent Gebhardi, when he was head pro at Evergreen Golf Club.

This aroused suspicion.

It’s bad enough when someone gets shot on the golf course, but for his fellow competitors to neither notify someone in the clubhouse – or in a nearby home, in this case – nor at the very least drag him along, was considered both uncouth by the police, and a sign of a conspiracy.

Given that this is a golf magazine, this is the point where it would be written that, like Harvey Penick, Bounds, revolver in hand, took dead aim. Only he did not. Bounds was as good a hit man as Pilotto was a golfer. He hit Pilotto, 70 years old but still strong, five times, in the right thigh, left arm, elbow and shoulder.

Pilotto survived the barrage. It was the following group which found Pilotto, gasping for breath, on the tee, and went for help.

Two of Pilotto’s foursome that day were indicted and convicted of plotting what would have been a classic mob hit, were it not for Bounds’ poor aim. The other guy, Sam Guzzino, an underling in Pilotto’s realm who ran a dive in Chicago Heights?

A few months later, he was found by a farmer in a ditch one Saturday morning with his throat slit and shot in the head. Unlike Bounds, who was Guzzino’s son-in-law and quickly went into the federal witness protection program, Guzzino’s assailant made no mistakes. Guzzino was very much dead when the farmer found him.

Appeals court judge Harlington Wood Jr. wrote in his opinion affirming the convictions of Richard Guzzino and Robert Ciarrocchi, the two survivors in Pilotto’s foursome, “This ... demonstrates that in some circles golfing is a very serious business. It appears that you cannot always trust the other members of your foursome, not just because they may fudge a little on their scores, but because one of them may have you murdered before the game is over.”

Pilotto had the last laugh. He lived until he was 88, dying of natural causes at home seven years after serving a prison term for the white-collar crime he was suspected of when he was shot.

He outlived Accardo, in fact, who was suspected of ordering his demise in the first place. Accardo was the odd mobster in that he wasn’t into golf, unlike most of his contemporaries, including his wheelman Jackie Cerone, and Accardo’s flamboyant underling, Sam Giancana. He was a

regular player at Fresh Meadow Golf Course in Hillside, and his foursome had regular company – a following foursome from the FBI.

“At the golf course, I’d follow him to the men’s room and stand next to him,” retired FBI agent Bill Roemer once said. “He had shy kidneys, so when I was there he couldn’t go. Sam was about a 14, although he cheated a lot. Kicked the balls out of the rough.”

Roemer’s group would hit into Giancana’s group, properly yelling “fore,” and eventually Sam got tired of it. But rather than pull a 15th club out of his bag and shoot back, Giancana went to federal court and won an order keeping the FBI two foursomes behind, Roemer said, “even though I told the judge that I never once hit Sam with a ball.”

Giancana might have been a 14, but he desperately wanted to improve. Sometimes his methods were unorthodox, as in the late night in July of 1963 he placed a call from the Chez Paree nightclub. The phone rang at the home of Mission Hills Country Club head pro Harry Pezzullo at close to midnight.

“Get your ass down to the club,” Giancana barked.

“Now?”

“Now.”

Pezzullo, used to hanging out with the likes of Bing Crosby and Perry Como, wondered about the timing until his wife said, “Get your ass down there. I don’t want them coming here.”

Yes, dear.

When he arrived, he found eight cars with their headlights shining on the range. Seven black Cadillacs and a Ford.

“Sam always drove the Ford,” Pezzullo recalled in a 2002 interview with the *Palm Beach Post*.

Dave Kindred wrote in a 2003 issue of *Golf Digest* that Giancana was stylishly attired in a silk shirt and tie. Pezzullo watched him swat a few, then adjusted his grip. Sam hit a few more. The ball began to go straight. He hit a few more. Lesson over. Sam handed him a single bill. Pezzullo thought it was a \$100 bill. He was miffed.

“Think I’d come out here at midnight for a golf lesson for \$100?” Pezzullo said.

“Give me my change,” Giancana said.

Pezzullo looked again. It was a thousand-dollar bill, featuring a fine portrait of Grover Cleveland. He had to open the clubhouse safe to get change. Giancana gave him \$300 for his troubles.

Mobsters are eager learners, it seems. A few decades earlier, Vince Gebhardi was an up-and-coming player. In 1932, an Oak Park Country Club member told professional

Horton Smith, who recently had come off the pro tour, that his friend Gebhardi might happen by. One day, Gebhardi called and asked for a lesson. Smith beckoned him over. A friend came along but never pulled a club from his golf bag on the lesson tee.

“Gebhardi was a good player and very keen about golf,” Smith and Marian Benton wrote in *The Velvet Touch*, Smith’s autobiography. “He returned for several more lessons. The friend was always along but he just stood nearby. Soon, Horton realized he was giving lessons to ‘Machine Gun’ Jack McGurn.” The friend? He kept an eye on traffic along Thatcher Road, ready to pull a tommy gun out of his golf bag to take care of a threat.

McGurn was an alias that exposed rather than hid. Gebhardi was the football player-sized man’s real name, and Smith quickly found reasons to no longer school an Al Capone cronic who was tabbed as a leader of the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre of three years earlier.

This hardly dissuaded Gebhardi’s golf interest. He found honest work – so it was written – as the head pro at Evergreen Golf Club on the edge of Chicago’s southwest side, next door to Beverly Country Club. This, with countless other courses, was said to be a Capone hangout, though Capone was more likely to frequent Burnham Woods, where it was said the guns used in the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre were buried.

Capone wasn’t a good player, hooking everything and putting poorly, losing more than he won even when a friendly caddie found balls far closer to the fairway than a neutral observer might have suspected, but his worst day on a golf course came when the .45 he kept in his bag somehow went off when he picked up the bag. The bullet went through his right leg and stayed in his left leg. He was in the hospital and off the course for a week. Gebhardi, meanwhile, fancied himself a player, so he entered the 1933 Western Open at Olympia Fields Country Club. He opened with an 83 on Course No. 4, today’s North Course, and was in the process of climbing within the range of the 36-hole cut in the second round, played on No. 1, most of today’s South Course. He was 1-under through the first six holes when Chicago’s chief of detectives, with a coterie of Chicago and Cook County police in tow, arrived on the seventh green.

“You’re under arrest,” county Lt. Frank McGillen said, reading the warrant that permitted apprehending “Public Enemy No. 5” under a new “criminal reputation” statute.



The French Lick Hotel

Ross' Enduring Legacy At French Lick

By Neal Kotlarek



The French Lick Hotel Lobby

Two names appear on all lists of America's greatest golf architects: Donald Ross and Pete Dye. The master works of both designers are generally recognized as among the top 50 courses in the country.

While the design styles of this dynamic pair contrast greatly, Ross and Dye do share some fascinating history together. When Dye was stationed in the army at Fort Bragg, N.C., in the 1940s, he regularly played golf at nearby Pinehurst No. 2, among Ross' best works.

Over that time, Dye got to know Ross, who lived in Pinehurst and had built both that course and the Fort Bragg course where Dye served as superintendent. While Dye didn't begin his golf course design career until his mid-30s, Pete followed Ross's lead as a prolific designer, with over 200 courses credited to Dye Designs, which incorporates five family members.

When Ross died in 1948, he left behind an extraordinary legacy of over 400 courses, including the aforementioned Pinehurst layout, Seminole Golf Club in Florida, and the South Course at Oakland Hills Country Club in Michigan. The list of elite Dye courses includes TPC Sawgrass in Florida, Whistling Straits in Wisconsin, and Teeth of the Dog at Casa de Campo in the Dominican Republic.

Dye's career in golf came full circle in 1995 when the American Society of Golf Course Architects bestowed upon Dye the coveted Donald Ross Award. Which, amazingly enough, is scheduled to be presented to Pete's wife Alice in May.

The work of these two remarkable men intertwines at French Lick Resort in southern Indiana. Named 2017 Course of the Year in February by the National Golf Course Owners Association, the Pete Dye Course rests on dramatically hilly land that was home to the resort's



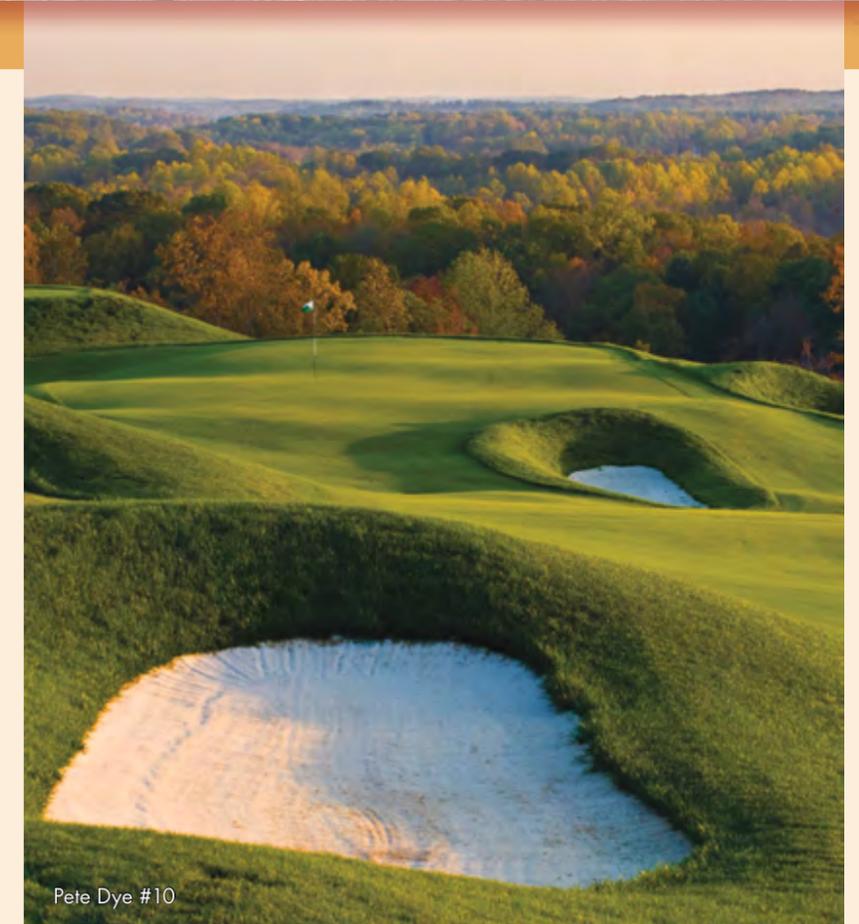
Walter Hagen



1924 PGA

longtime owner – and long-ago chairman of the Democratic National Committee – Thomas Taggart. Drenched in history, the Donald Ross Course resides on 60 acres of rugged landscape that takes golfers on a journey back to American golf's origins. Host to the 1924 PGA Championship as well as to LPGA tournaments and Senior PGA events, the layout has been perennially ranked among the state's top courses and in 2005 - 2006 was lovingly restored to its original look and feel.

The Donald Ross Course will steal at least part of the golf spotlight away from its counterpart this year as the resort celebrates the layout's 100th anniversary. Following the construction of the Tom



Pete Dye #10



West Baden Atrium

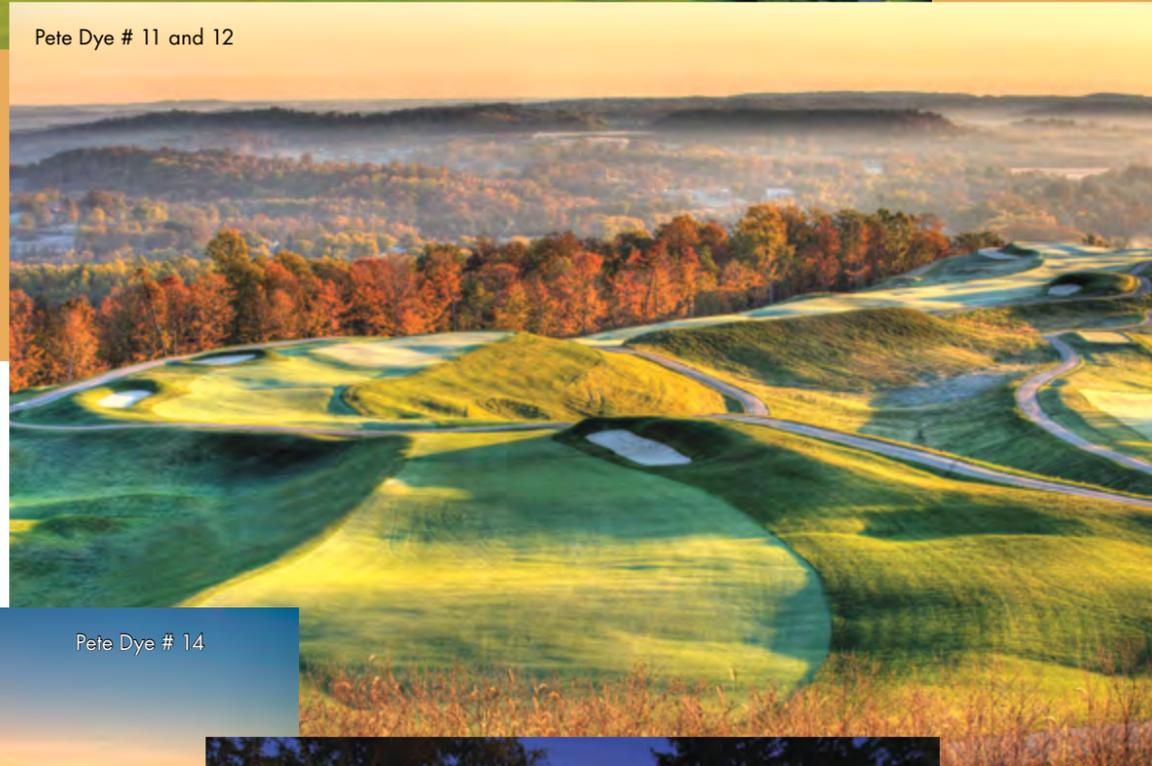


Pete Dye # 9 and Clubhouse

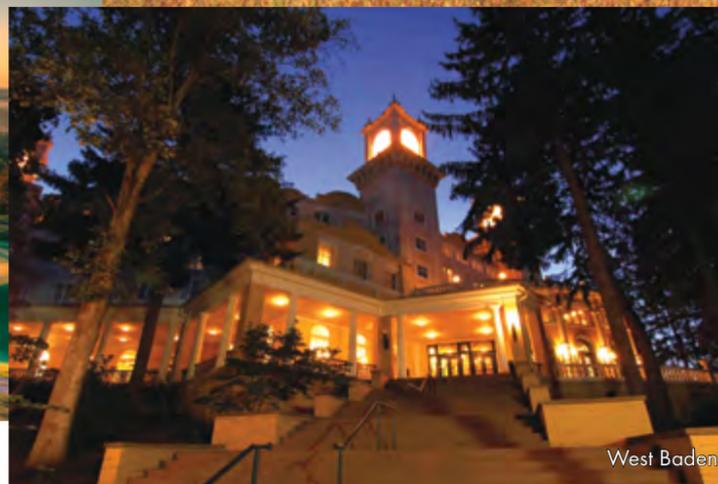
Pete Dye # 11 and 12



Pete Dye # 9



Pete Dye # 14



West Baden

Bendelow-designed Valley Golf Links in 1910, resort owner Taggart made a series of visits to Pinehurst Resort to consider the possibilities of constructing a second, grander course which could host a national championship. Upon his return to Indiana, Taggart purchased a piece of rolling property three miles from downtown French Lick and invited Ross to visit the site.

The rest, as the saying goes, is history. None other than the great Walter Hagen went on to win that 1924 PGA by downing Englishman Jim Barnes on the final hole of a 36-hole match. His earnings for the victory were \$6,830. The course hosted both the 1959 and 1960 LPGA Championships which were won by legends Betsy Rawls and Mickey Wright, respectively. Not incidentally, in 1957 a young insurance salesman a few years displaced from military service named Pete Dye captured the Midwest Amateur on the Hills Course.

Over the past century, the Ross Course has hosted dozens of celebrities drawn here by both the golf experience and the elegant resort. Among those guests were Chick Evans, Gene Sarazen and crooner Bing Crosby. Future Basketball Hall of Famer and French Lick native Larry Bird worked at the golf course as a youngster.

If Ross were to visit the course today, he would undoubtedly be delighted to see his work kept essentially intact through 10 decades of golf technology advances. Indeed, a \$5 million restoration effort completed in 2006 was performed using archived photos and maps to ensure that the course's original look and spirit were captured. Wide fairways allow golfers to swing from the heels off most tees, yet strategically placed bunkers, fescue grasses, and elevated greens, some over 6,000 square feet, make the course challenging for all levels of players.

"Golfers come off the Donald Ross Course telling us how much they enjoyed themselves," said Dave Harner, director of golf at the resort. "The goal of the restoration project was to



Donald Ross Course



Donald Ross Course



Donald Ross Course



Donald Ross Course



Sinclair's Restaurant

present this traditional golf course the way Ross originally intended. Last year, one national golf magazine ranked the Pete Dye Course and the Donald Ross Course as the best two public layouts in the state. They are very different from one another, but they both deliver exceptional experiences."

Special events and amenities have been planned to provide golfers an experience worthy of the 100th anniversary of the Donald Ross Course. Staff will wear traditional attire of plus-fours and argyle knee socks throughout the season. On July 7-9, a new Symetra Tour 54-hole event will be held on the course with a winner's payout of \$30,000. Also throughout the year, every guest who finishes play on the Ross Course receives a Moon Pie—a delicious southern confection introduced to the world – of no small coincidence – way back in 1917.

Poetically, the past meets the present at French Lick Resort July 10-12 when the aforementioned Pete Dye Course hosts the inaugural Senior LPGA Championship presented by Old National Bank. The 54-hole event will feature a collection of past LPGA Hall-of-Fame players, current tour members, and major champions over the age of 45. Golf Channel will televise.

The Dye Course the ladies will attempt to conquer is, in a single word, breathtaking. Built through and around the hilltops of the Hoosier National Forest, the course can stretch to a robust 8,102 yards from the back tees but plays to a modest 6,115 yards from the white tees and 5,151 yards from the reds. Mammoth bunkers, undulating greens and elevated fairways create drama and challenge from Nos. 1 to 18. Harner stated that golfers are always amazed at the size, scale and topography of the property.

"When you see the course on TV or here in person, it's hard to imagine that this particular piece of land is in Indiana," said Harner. "Most people associate the state with flat terrain and lots of cornfields.

continued on page 30

Bringing Back a Ghost

Veterans of the golf business will tell you flat out that once a course closes, it doesn't come back.

Greens overgrow or go to seed. Rough becomes a jungle. Geese feast on bentgrass. Gophers then ... well, just ask Carl Spackler. And the regulars find somewhere else to play.

Then there's University Park Golf Club, the 55-year-old course in south suburban University Park. The Larry Packard design opened as Urban Hills in 1963, and hummed along as a mom-and-pop business under founders John and Wilma Urban for years.

University Park bought it in 2003, brought in Greg Martin to tweak the architecture on the 6,724-yard par-72 course, built a 7,000-square foot clubhouse, and the village has been paying for it ever since. After the 2008 financial crisis, the general downturn in rounds played hit hard, and village was losing \$35,000 monthly when it was decided in February of 2016 to shutter the course and seek an operator.

Last June, Billy Casper Golf stepped up, and the village hired the company, which runs more than 150 courses across the country, to manage it.

Amazingly, the course was reopened in early September, after superintendent Marty Smith – the secret weapon rehired by Bob Geppert, the longtime Casper employee brought in as general manager to bring the operation back to life – and his crew did a year's worth of rehab work in two months to make it happen.

"The village made it clear they wanted to open, and they prepared to lose a lot of money to do it," Geppert said. "We spent a little over \$150,000 in just bringing the golf course back."

He ticked off a list of repairs and replacements, from machinery in the pump house, to clubhouse air conditioning units, to overseeding the greens to upgrade their quality, to bringing in tons of sand for the bunkers. And while he let Smith do his thing on the grounds, he had one order.

"I want you to widen the fairways," Geppert said.

Why, Smith wondered. Geppert's response was simple.

"I want to make it easy for people to play golf here."

The reopening last year was welcomed by the regulars who had driven by in the spring and saw weeds replacing their old paradise. Geppert said he was most pleased by the comment he heard when he told customers he was with Billy Casper Golf.

"We know you guys will fix it," he was told. "So our reputation has preceded us, and our customer knows it better than we do."

The expectation is that the expenditure by the village and Casper will pay off down the line, with the great majority of those old customers returning and new ones finding the course to their liking. Already, the clubhouse banquet card is being filled in with wedding receptions and other parties, as well as the resumption of the Friday night "Steppin" dance parties that Geppert calls "the best party I've ever had in a clubhouse in my life."

It's that potential for repeat business that any business needs to succeed, and golf courses are no exception. The experience, more than the score a golfer puts on his scorecard, is the key to that. Regulars become attached to courses, and University Park is no exception.

"There are a number of people who love this golf course," Geppert said. "This is home. Everybody cares about this place. That has been the surprise for me as a manager."

Now 'those who care' have to drive out and play it, then hang around for lunch.

"This is a nice, solid piece. It can survive a long time," Geppert said. "The other side of it is, we need the food and beverage, the weddings and banquets, to survive. We can't make it just on golf fees."

That's a common theme in an industry that for years charged relatively low prices for golf, knowing that players would congregate in the bar later and drink a course to profitability. But the combination of drunk-driving laws and the pressure of time on almost everyone saw a downturn in clubhouse revenue in the last generation. Green fees, already rising, had to rise faster.

For Geppert, who has traveled the country for Casper – and has lived in a

motorhome since 1982 – the University Park saga is the latest in a long line of turnaround stories, including the Cook County Forest Preserve courses, which were Casper's entry into the Chicago market.

"In November of 2002, I read a newspaper story that said the Forest Preserve District had a \$2 million loss on their golf courses," Geppert recalled.

That set the wheels in motion for Casper to win the right to take the courses over, bring in the proper personnel, and by the

end of 2003, said Geppert, "We handed the county \$1 million as their share of the profits the first year. It was an immediate success, and big for our company. We love Chicago. And Chicago liked us."

While Geppert says the University Park turnaround is more difficult than a startup, in that things had to be fixed rather than created, the old layout has a couple of things going for it. First is the old, the individuals and leagues that used to call it their course. Second is something

new, an interchange on Interstate 57 at Stuenkel Rd. a few miles west that will send players directly to the course. No longer will players have to exit at Sauk Trail and zig-zag through Richton Park.

First, though, the GPS firms have to catch on.

"My GPS keeps telling me to make a U-turn when I go over there," Geppert says of the interchange.

Trust us. It's there. And so is University Park Golf Club. To stay.



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Sweet Home Chicago

KemperSports To Run Huntley's Pinecrest

KemperSports, the leading high-end course management firm in Chicago, will oversee operations at Huntley's Pinecrest Golf Club beginning this season. The 18-hole park district-owned course resides over 130 acres and was opened in 1972. Along with mature trees and five lakes, it features 63 bunkers. Amenities include a practice facility, new clubhouse, PGA-trained instructors, and open golf leagues Monday through Friday.

"Pinecrest Golf Club has maintained a strong reputation locally for their commitment to excellence and continues to draw golfers from the entire metropolitan Chicagoland area," said KemperSports' Steve Skinner. "We look forward to working with the Huntley Park District to ensure a bright future for Pinecrest."

For tee times and reservations, call (847) 669-3111.

NCAA Is On The Way

If the prelude is any indication, the upcoming NCAA championships at Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove will be a great success.

Some 300 supporters crowded into the University Club's main ballroom on a cold February day to hear from officials of Northern Illinois University, the host school, and other notables boosting the first appearance of the college golf carnival in the Chicago area in 20 years.

With the women's and men's championships now co-sited to allow for television coverage of both, the Rich Harvest fandango will be twice as big as the men's championship at Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest in 1997.

The growth of college golf in general is even more significant, starting with television coverage.

"It obviously has gotten bigger for Golf Channel to take an interest in our sport," Purdue women's coach Devon Brouce said. "We complained for years that we weren't getting coverage. One of my concerns about playing a championship in a big city, whether it was Atlanta, Chicago, or wherever, is we kind of get lost in the sport page with our results. Golf Channel has changed that."

Brouce was at Conway Farms coaching the North Carolina men's team in 1997, and remembered it being a gallery of friends and members. Rich Harvest should be different. Jerry Rich's club, in conjunction with NIU, is selling corporate hospitality along with regular tickets, and is hoping to have several thousand people on hand each day.

Illinois coach Mike Small, whose teams have won everything but the NCAA title in the last decade, hopes for a home-state advantage.



The home hole at Rich Harvest Links will be the scene of drama for two straight weeks when the NCAA Championship for both men and women comes to Sugar Grove at the end of May. (Tim Cronin)

"Last year, we lost to Oregon in the semifinals, and there had to be 1,000 to 1,500 people there at Oregon," Small recalled. "We saw the intensity. It's good to see it happen in golf."

Northwestern director of golf Pat Goss has already experienced it. Conway Farms is one of the Wildcats' home courses.

"We played in the final pairing on the final day, and to have Northwestern people there wearing purple was a great thing," Goss said.

Both tournaments open with stroke play which determines the individual champion and qualifies eight teams for match play to determine the team title. The women's tournament is May 19-24, the men's May 26-31. Each finish on a Wednesday, all the better for Golf Channel's coverage.

The Real Man Behind The Jackson Park Redevelopment

One of the odder aspects of the \$30 million Jackson Park-South Shore golf course renovation plan was from whom the idea apparently originated.

Mark Roling, although an Illinois native, has lived in Hawaii for decades.

Good idea or bad – and people disagree on the merits – Roling's involvement at fund-raising would be at a very long distance.

How could he raise \$24 million, 80 percent of the announced total?

Turns out someone closer to the scene, and very well connected, will be doing the heavy lifting.

Michael Ruemmler is a founding director of the Chicago Parks Golf Alliance along with front man Roling.

Ruemmler was Chicago mayor Rahm Emanuel's campaign director. Before that, he worked on Emanuel's White House staff when the future mayor was president Barack Obama's chief of staff. He often played golf with Obama in that time.

"It's not something the mayor asked me to do," Ruemmler told the Chicago Sun-Times of the Jackson Park initiative. "Golf is something I grew up with."

It is hardly a coincidence that the Obama Presidential Center, which could cost up to \$1.5 billion when an endowment to operate it is included, is slated to be built in Jackson Park, not far from the golf course.

And people say Chicago is no longer the city that works.

Early Birds Take Note

Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles is offering a series of packages starting on April 1, including one targeted to those who simply can't wait to play in the morning. The Rise & Nine package is available Monday-Friday from 6-9 a.m. and includes nine holes of golf plus cart for \$29 per person with complimentary coffee.

For those who might want to sleep in, the Links & Leisure package includes an overnight golfers' getaway for two, inclusive of deluxe accommodations, green fee, cart, \$25 dinner credit, and a \$75 spa credit, plus breakfast or Sunday brunch. The package begins at \$289 per night plus taxes and resort fee, based upon availability.

Pheasant Run head professional Jamie Nieto stated that the Pheasant Run course is a great layout to sharpen one's game. "We welcome golfers of all skill levels," he said. Call (630) 584-4914 for more information or visit www.pheasantrunresort.com.

A Win-Win For Vagabond Golfers

A decade and more ago, the way for public golfers to assure a chance to play at a reasonable hour on the weekend was the standing tee time. Players would sign up at a course for a season, and show up every Saturday at 8:54 or Sunday at 7:15 or whatever, and tee it up, rain or shine.

Much to the dismay of many course owners and operators, the Great Recession cut deep into that clientele. The ranks of the regulars diminished, thanks to the loss of jobs, less disposable income, kids soccer practice, and whatnot. Full tees were now empty at an early hour.

But as nature abhors a vacuum, so do courses. And in 2011, in from Toronto came a company with an idea. Partner with enough courses in the area and offer a discount rate for players joining what is called the Chicagoland Golf Club.

The idea took off, and the CGC is back for a seventh season, offering access to 25 courses for a reduced rate in various packages starting at \$139.99 for weekday access

and \$159.99 for seven-day access. Members book through the CGC website and the course, and pay member rates rather than the course's advertised rate.

Area courses include Arboretum, Arrowhead, Broken Arrow, Klein Creek, Makray Memorial, Ruffled Feathers, and Thunderhawk, with prices running the gamut from \$12 for Vernon Hills any day of the week to \$55 on the weekend for Makray Memorial, Prairie Landing and Thunderhawk. For those on the move, there's also the ability to play some 70 courses in the greater Toronto area.

For more information, see the website: chicagolandgolfclub.com/ or e-mail memberships@chicagolandgolfclub.com.

Tinseltown in Chicago

Perhaps it'll be a green carpet in front of the AMC River East movie theater on Thursday, Apr. 13. That's when The First Tee of Greater Chicago will host the local premiere of "Tommy's Honour," the story of Old and Young Tom Morris, with a fund-raising evening.



Peter Mullan plays Old Tom Morris in "Tommy's Honour," for which the Chicago premiere is April 13. (Gutta Percha Productions)

For \$125, donors will take part in a pre-movie cocktail reception at Bellwether Meeting House and Eatery, 302 E. Illinois St., next to the theater, including an open bar and heavy hors d'oeuvres. After the movie, there will be a question and answer session with principals from the movie, including actors and director Jason Connery, along with a live auction, followed by a party back at the Bellwether.

Proceeds from the evening are earmarked for The First Tee's local character education programs.

"We're thrilled to host the makers of the film in such an enjoyable evening with our guests," said Pat Goss, the board chairman of The First Tee of Greater Chicago. "This movie really speaks to the values that The First Tee of Greater Chicago emphasizes with our participants: discipline, struggle, triumph, and fulfilling dreams. We're very proud to share in the message of the movie. Hard work and perseverance in golf, as in life, will lead to success. We look forward to seeing everyone there."

For more information: www.thefirstteegreaterchicago.org/tommys-honour/.

Down Memory Lane

Imagine a year with no U.S. Open, no PGA, and not even a thought of a British Open being played.

That was golf life during both world wars in the last century, when the major golf associations pushed aside their regular programs in favor of winning the war. With little tournament play, something more important took its place: golf fund-raisers.

Three men made them a hit, and took golf into the charity realm that has set it apart from all other sports. Two were the great amateurs Chick Evans and Bobby Jones.

Evans, the pride of Edgewater Golf Club, was the “double crown” champion, having won the U.S. Open and the U.S. Amateur in 1916. He played Canadian champion George Lyon in a 1916 fund-raiser in Canada, that country already in the war, and thought the idea had potential. The beneficiary would be the American Red Cross.

Jones was the prodigy from East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta, a 15-year-old who had won the Southern Amateur, was the talk of the game, aside from Evans, for making it to the quarterfinals of the same U.S. Amateur at Merion that Chick had captured. They began to team up, each bringing a partner for best-ball matches. For Jones, it was often 18-year-old Perry Adair, another East Lake product, and they were sometimes joined by a third Atlantan, Alexa Sterling.

The exhibition at Flossmoor Country Club on June 17, 1917 showed the potential of their star power. Jones paired with Hinsdale’s Bob Gardner, the 1915 U.S. Amateur champion, against Jones and Adair, and a gallery of 2,500 – believed to be the largest in the 25-year history of golf in Chicago – poured in to watch the local heroes tee it up with Jones and Adair. Chick and Bob won the match, but nobody lost, for at least \$1,000 was raised for the Red Cross.

Flossmoor member Charles Thompson was impressed, and thought, as did Evans, that more could be done. Thompson was the president of the Western Golf Association, and pushed the WGA to organize a Red Cross series in 1918. Some \$5,000 was raised in one day at Beverly, and up and up the numbers went, right up to the \$35,000 raised at Lake Shore one magical afternoon.

Evans played in 48 of the WGA-connected exhibitions that summer, and was responsible for raising more than 80 percent of the \$302,713.50 the WGA turned over to the Red Cross in 1918. Charity and golf were thus paired together forever.

– Tim Cronin



These badges were auctioned for hundreds of dollars, the money going to the American Red Cross, for a Red Cross Match at Beverly Country Club in 1918. (Beverly Country Club)

Ross' Enduring Legacy

continued from page 25

This course is high on a ridge line and plays along areas that allow you to see for 20 or 30 miles. It’s very hilly. If you hit it off the fairway, you’re going to have a very awkward shot back.”

Colin Montgomerie, who won the Senior PGA Championship on the Pete Dye Course in 2015, called it “one of the iconic golf courses in America.” Truth is that the Pete Dye Course must be played to be believed. When Dye originally walked the proposed site for the layout, he concluded that the terrain was too rugged and the slopes were too severe to build 18 holes on the land. Not long after making the declaration, Dye returned to the property with a topographical map of the area and preliminary drawings sketched on a paper napkin. He said he would build a course on the property “whether they want me to or not.”

The resulting course showcases dramatic holes from start to finish. Its features include three man-made lakes, panoramic vistas that stretch for 40 miles in the distance, “volcano” bunkers, and dramatic elevation changes across the property.

The 534-yard No. 7 begins from an elevated tee and calls for a drive launched over wild grasses and between mounding on the right side of the landing area and trees and heavy rough on the left side. Succeed on that shot and you are still left with a second shot avoiding sand bunkers on both sides of the fairway to set up an approach to a small green surrounded by mounds, rough and an intriguing assortment of sand bunkers on the right side of the green.

The 383-yard No. 15 features wild grasses in front of the tee, a long bowling lane-like sand bunker stretching along the entire left side of the fairway, huge directional sand bunkers on the right side of the landing area, and a fairway with more drama than a Donald Trump press conference. A punch-bowl green features a bail-out area on the right side along with a pair of evil sand bunkers protecting the left side.

Around at the Dye Course isn’t complete without a sandwich and a cold beverage on the patio of The Mansion. Once the home of former Indianapolis mayor Taggart, this stately manor has been fully restored and leads to an outside dining area that provides a spectacular view of the property from one of Indiana’s highest points.

While golf may be the centerpiece of the French Lick resort experience for our

readers, the namesake hotel which towers above the downtown area dazzles with its array of amenities and activities. One hundred and seventy-two years ago, Dr. William Bowles built an elegant hideaway for those seeking the miraculous healing powers of the area’s mineral waters. While the classic spa wing of the French Lick Springs Hotel, built in 1901, remains part of the complex, the hotel has undergone a remarkable renaissance over the past 10 years, and now offers four-star dining, swimming pools, a world-class spa, bike rentals, hiking trails, carriage rides, and even a 51,000 square-foot casino. The French Lick Springs Hotel’s counterpart is the stunning West Baden Springs Hotel.

Known to many as the “Eighth Wonder of the World,” the hotel was fashioned after one of Europe’s great mineral spas, Baden-Baden. When the original facility was destroyed by a fire in 1901, owner Lee W. Sinclair became determined to build the hotel of his dreams. He unveiled a design complete with a 200-ft. atrium and a fireplace that burned 14-foot logs.

That hotel had its ups and downs over the years and was closed in 1989 for safety reasons. In 1994, the Cook Group, a global medical device manufacturing company headquartered in Bloomington, Ind., bought the property for \$500,000 and proceeded to inject tens of millions of dollars into the hotel with a goal of restoring its grandeur. The end result exceeds all expectations. The hotel is today considered a national historic landmark and is perennially listed as the No. 1 hotel in Indiana by *U.S. News & World Report*. In total, the group spent in the neighborhood of \$450 million to preserve, restore and expand both hotels. Beyond the resurrection of two dated properties, the French Lick community benefited with 1,600 jobs.

In celebration of the Donald Ross Course 100th anniversary in 2017, French Lick Resort offers a limited edition package available from March 15 to April 30. The package includes a one-night stay at either resort hotel, two days of unlimited golf on The Donald Ross Course with cart, breakfast at Hagen’s Club House Restaurant, and a limited edition collectible gift, which by itself has a retail value of \$299. Package prices start at \$399 per person based on double occupancy. To get the entire Ross/Dye experience, the package can be upgraded to include The Pete Dye Course for an additional charge. Visit the resort’s website, www.frenchlick.com for reservations and more information.

When the Boys Play Through

continued from page 19

“Can I finish my game?” Gebhardi asked.

“Sure,” McGillen said. He knew Gebhardi couldn’t get away, not with his wife Louise on hand.

An impending arrest can affect one’s game. McGurn double-bogeyed the seventh hole, then made a 7-over-par 11 on the eighth hole – today’s sixth on the South Course – with the grabbing of a photographer by the shirt after a click of the shutter during a putt added for spice.

“You’ve busted up my game,” Gebhardi growled.

“Whose bright idea was this?” cracked Mrs. Machine Gun.

So around the final 10 holes went McGurn, McGillen, his officers, the tanned Louise, and a coterie of reporters, photographers, and regular gallery who had never seen such a spectacle. Leader and eventual winner Macdonald Smith played in comparative solitude that day.

Gebhardi finished with an 86, missed the cut by 14 strokes, and was off to the station for booking.

“Just put it down that I’m booked for carrying concealed ideas,” Gebhardi said before his escort from Olympia Fields.

Less than three years later, Gebhardi was dead, killed by three gunmen seven years and a day after the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre.

Capone had several alibis for that sordid event, and one of them was created through golf. He was conveniently out of town, playing golf in Palm Island, Fla., on Feb. 14, 1929, and he had proof. Just in case, he’d called Cog-Hill Golf Club before leaving town and talked to a kid from the pro shop whom he’d met the year before in the parking lot. He needed four sets of clubs, bags, the works, delivered to the Kankakee station on the Illinois Central line the next morning.

Sixteen-year-old Joe Jemsek negotiated a price of \$110 a set, which included a golf glove and a dozen balls in each bag, then drove to Kankakee and made the delivery. Capone gave him a \$100 tip on top of the \$440.

Capone had an alibi. Jemsek had a story he’d tell for decades.

And Capone made sure never to win a hole with a nine. You never know.

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Compiled by Greg Jourdan

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\$40.50 www.loudmouthgolf.com



Sure Out Wedge
Moms love their toes in the sand, but not their golf balls. Callaway's new Sure Out wedge makes easy escapes from the silica a breeze. Designed with a high bounce to glide through sand and rough, the Sure Out wedge is designed to be played with a square clubface and stance. Sure Out is a simple solution to sand sorrows, but make sure dad doesn't snatch this club from mom's bag. Available in premium steel and graphite shafts and in 58- and 64-degree lofts.
\$120
www.callawaygolf.com

Rogue Polo from Antigua
The women's Rogue is the most creative and fun polo style in Antigua's 2017 apparel line. Rogue mixes the entire color palette in an all-over linear sublimation print. This style is versatile and an easy match with just about any color short, skirt, or pant, along with any white or black, that mom might already have at home. Antigua also offers the bold print from Rogue in its knit skort called Cinch. Antigua also carries Cinch in solid colors; it's one of their best-selling bottoms.
\$66 (polo) www.antigua.com



Walt 2014 Sierra Mar Pinot Noir
Lift a toast to Mom with this hearty, well-rounded wine. It opens with aromas of black plum, violet, forest floor, and star anise. The palate features vibrant energy and a tannic grip, with dense, dark cranberry, tangy fruit skins, a touch of vanilla, and a minty element on the finish.
\$75
www.waltwines.com



Compact 3 Push Cart
At just 15 pounds, Bag Boy's Compact 3 Push Cart keeps mom strolling the course with a user-friendly folding and unfolding cart system. The Compact 3 can go from trunk to tee box in less time than it takes dad to tie his shoes. The cart's compact storage, a mother's mantra for all things seasonal, is smaller than most airline-approved carry-on luggage. Mom will be ready to grace the fairways and roll with her new trolley.
\$199.95
www.bagboycompany.com

Exotics EX10 Driver
Batavia's Tour Edge Golf just released their latest addition to the Exotics line of imposing drivers and dynamic fairway metals. The EX10 driver features a new chassis with enhanced aerodynamics and thinner face for more forgiveness on mis-hits. EX10's driver is available with a 12 degrees of loft, but can be adjusted an additional 2 degrees with the new hosel design. Mom will be swinging with confidence with the latest weapon from Tour Edge Golf.
\$349.99 www.touredge.com



Wilson D300 Irons
Designed to deliver more power to each swing, Chicago's Wilson Golf supplies a Mother's Day treat with their D300 women's iron set. The stock Winn grips and UST Mamiya D300 graphite shafts will place mom's hands on a turbo-charged iron. With Speed Sole technology, the D300s present an ultra-thin face that transitions to a wide sole to encourage a higher trajectory ball flight. The extreme heel-to-toe weighting dispenses loads of forgiveness. A set of these irons will get mom in the game with a premium set of sticks.
\$899.99 www.wilsongolf.com



Tour Edge Clubs Have Chicago Feel

We are a loyal bunch here in Chicago, aren't we? We love drinking beverages brewed within our city limits. We take pride in eating at local establishments over chains. We even support our athletes when other cities would have sent them packing.

So it's no surprise that when you take a loyal city, fill it with people that are nutty about golf, and toss in a company that relishes being different and innovative, you make the perfect storm. Well, actually, you get Tour Edge Golf.

For 31 years, Tour Edge has thrived on being your company, not everyone's company. From president David Glod's humble beginnings doing club repair out of his father's garage to their stellar 2017 lineup, Batavia-headquartered Tour Edge has seen it all as a golf company.

The ground floor at Tour Edge is a nice open layout with a slew of offices. The formal part of my interview with David Glod was in their boardroom. Think if Ben Hogan designed the set for "The Apprentice." Lots of dark wood, a twenty-foot slab of granite which makes up the conference table, and fully stocked Tour Edge golf bags lining the walls. Quite impressive.

"We've come a long way as a company," said Glod. "After I graduated from Florida Southern I came back to where I worked in high school, Village Links of Glen Ellyn. I started teaching, turned pro, but ultimately I started designing a set of irons. Specifically, the widest sole on any iron in the industry. This was back in 1987, so I feel like I had a vision of where the industry was going. I saw that there was room for me among Wilson, MacGregor, Hogan, and Ping."

When titanium hit the golf industry, Glod jumped on producing an affordable driver that stacked up with the Big Bertha. Tour Edge's Bazooka line was born and is still a staple in their lineup. Glod also attributes the rise of the hybrid to the company's success as he was also one of the first to the line nearly 20 years ago. The Ironwood is yet another piece of the Tour Edge legacy.

Then, in 2004, Glod introduced combo-brazing technology, a process where a steel cup face is molded with a titanium body. The original Exotics CB fairway woods from Tour Edge are still sought after and hold a very high resale value. The CB technology moves forward even into their 2017 lineup, led by the EX10 series.

"With the EX10, I feel like we've really hit with combining the right technology and the right shape. It really goes," said Glod. "It's a material advantage because we can make everything so much thinner so it's more responsive."

The EX10 driver will be offered in 10- and 12-degree heads with an adjustable hosel that can go +/- 2 degrees. It features a new 8-1-1 titanium chassis with a new TSP 910 Beta Ti face plate. The end result is a larger face, increased sweet spot, and maximum launch speed. Who couldn't use all of that? The EX10 fairway woods will be offered in 3, 4, 5, and 7 woods. The hybrids will be offered in 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 models. Both the fairway woods and hybrids feature a combo-brazed steel cup face with a hyper-steel body.



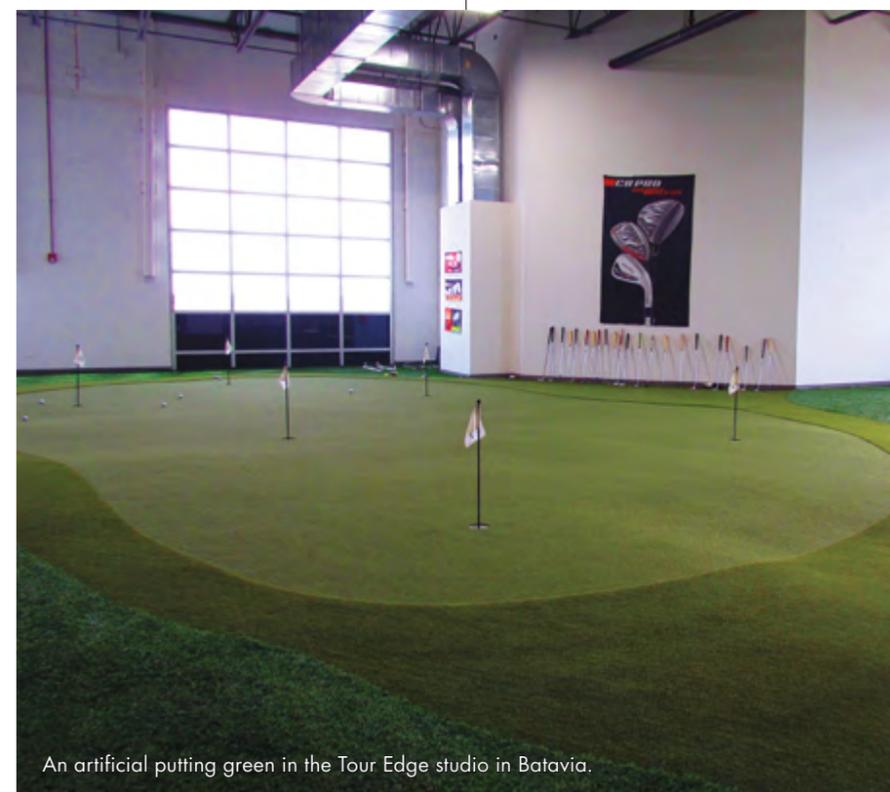
Tour Edge founder David Glod in his showroom.



A portion of the Tour Edge factory in Batavia.



Iron and hybrid heads and shafts ready for assembly at the Tour Edge plant.



An artificial putting green in the Tour Edge studio in Batavia.

A huge asset to the EX10 lineup is the fact that Tour Edge is the only OEM stocking the insanely popular Graphite Design Tour AD shaft, available in all EX10 metal woods.

While the lower level of Tour Edge headquarters features their offices, warehouse, and assembly, it's upstairs where the magic happens. Complete with two Trackman hitting bays, an enclosed simulator, and a full short game area, I found myself looking for a place to lay down a sleeping bag and ask how much rent costs.

In addition to the Exotics lineup, Tour Edge continues to offer game improvement with their Hot Launch 2 series, featuring ironwoods, hybrids, irons, fairway woods, and drivers, and a full line of junior clubs and women's clubs.

If there's one thing that moves the needle for club manufacturers, it's who's playing their equipment. There's something to be said for Tour Edge, which does not pay for play, but still has some of the best players in the world using the Exotics line.

"Our CB Pro Tungsten irons are played by the likes of Brandt Snedeker and J.B. Holmes. We also have Aaron Baddeley playing our fairway woods," said Glod. "It means a lot because we don't pay players to use our equipment, but they still know that our brand is solid. It's a big feather in our cap."

Going forward, David Glod and Tour Edge will continue to man their corner of the market. While I'm sure he would welcome being in the club industry's Big 3, my sense is that Glod is more than comfortable knowing that Tour Edge offers superior products and that more and more people are figuring that out. He understands that the success of his company would not be possible without his bread and butter.

"Chicago is still our largest market, even though we serve the entire U.S. and beyond," Glod said. "Our heritage is right here in the Midwest and our clients know our brand much better here. Chicago is part of who we are as a company. Everyone that works internally here is from the Midwest so they carry the same mentality as I do, which we proudly put into our business."

The Rules, They Are A Changin'

In the history of the Rules of Golf, there have been three milestones: in 1744, when the earliest known code was written; in 1952, when the R&A and USGA issued the first joint set of rules for the world; and in 1984, when the code was significantly reorganized and improved. With their recent release of a draft of a substantially different code that will take effect in less than two years, the R&A and USGA have added 2019 to that short list.

The draft code released for review and comment raised the eyebrows of many in golf, and all for positive reasons. Among other things, the new code (a) is easier to understand in

both language and format, (b) eliminates several philosophically unnecessary penalties, (c) streamlines relief procedures, (d) removes some unnecessary complications, and (e) helps speed up the game.

Some of the many highlights:

- It will be permissible to touch your line of putt, as long as you don't improve it. This change follows the "no harm, no foul" approach currently used off the putting green. In addition, players will be allowed to repair spike damage to the putting green, even when on their line of putt.

- The Rules for playing from bunkers and water hazards, soon to be called

"penalty areas," have been simplified to give players the same rights as when the ball lies through the green. Specifically, the player may remove loose impediments, e.g., leaves, and touch the ground or water, but the prohibition against testing the condition remains.

- There will no longer be a penalty when a player's ball is accidentally deflected by the player, the player's partner, either of their caddies, or their equipment. In such situations, a poorly played stroke is almost always involved, and occasionally there is even physical pain!

- To help with the pace of play, the search period allowed for a ball has been

reduced from five minutes to three minutes. At first this may seem to be a harsh change, but it is a welcome one. As anyone who has actually timed a full five-minute search can attest, five minutes is a long time!

- There will no longer be a penalty for striking an unattended flagstick with a putt. This change should also help the pace of play.

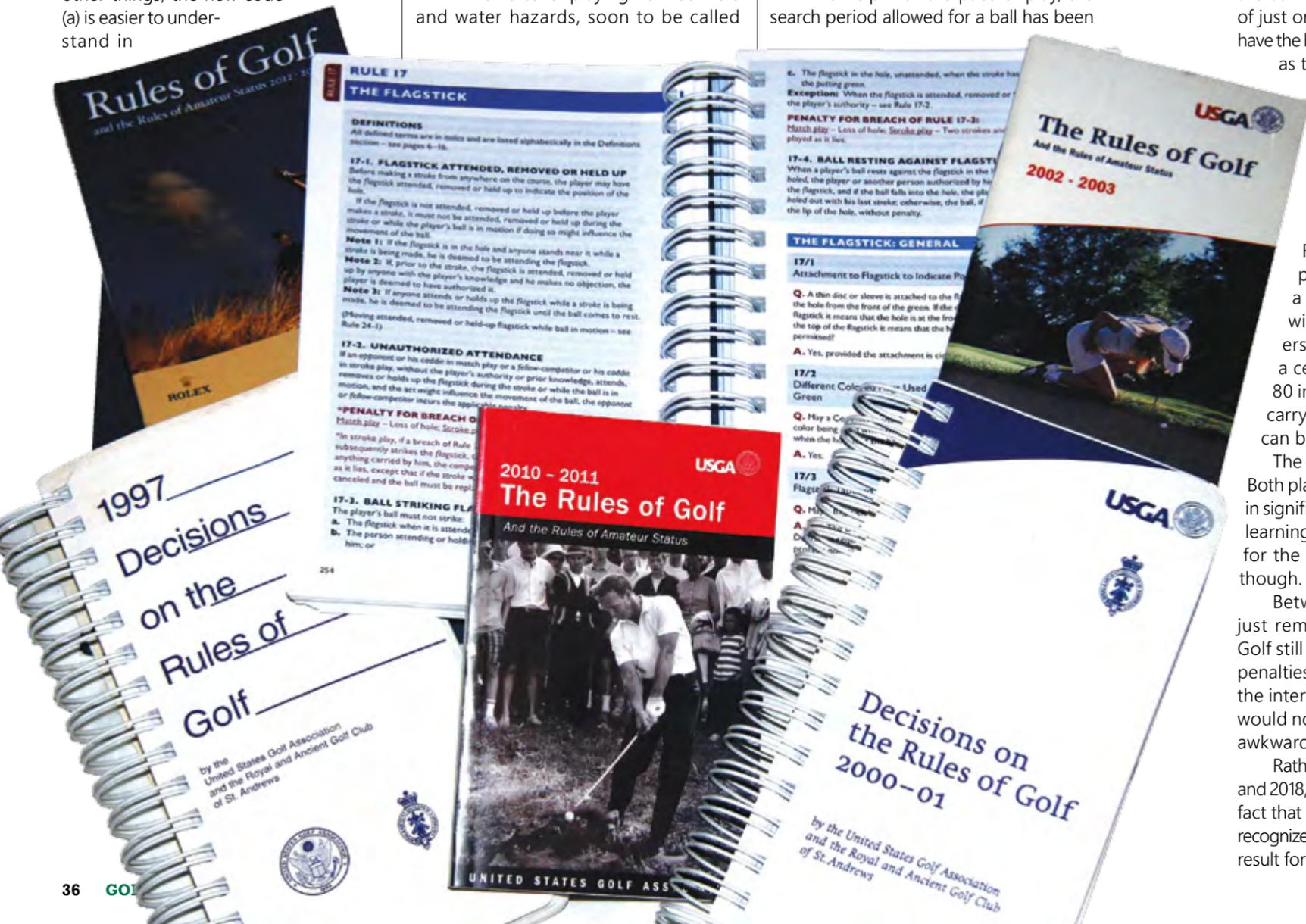
- The dropping procedure has been significantly changed. Under the new code, a player who is required to drop a ball must simply release it from above the ground (no longer shoulder height). Therefore, the ball could be dropped from a height of just one inch. This new procedure will have the benefit of requiring fewer re-drops as the ball is much less likely to roll out of the prescribed area and thereby help the pace of play.

- All players, regardless of the clubs they carry for that round, will be required to drop the ball in the same area when taking various forms of relief. For example, no longer will a player with a long putter have a larger drop area over a player with shorter clubs. Instead, players will be required to drop within a certain fixed distance (e.g., 20 or 80 inches). So that players need not carry a tape measure, such a distance can be marked on a club's shaft.

The one downside for the 2019 code? Both players and officials will have to put in significant time unlearning the old and learning the new – a small price to pay for the long term future of the game, though.

Between now and January 1, 2019, just remember that the 2017 Rules of Golf still apply! It is inevitable that some penalties will have to be enforced during the interim that the golf world will know would not be a penalty in 2019, but such awkward situations cannot be avoided.

Rather than cursing the penalty in 2017 and 2018, people should take comfort in the fact that the R&A and USGA have already recognized the undesirability of that particular result for 2019 and beyond.



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Keep on Trunking

If life seems a bit frantic and leaves you feeling extended beyond a comfortable level, you are not alone. A good solution to get away from all the obligations might be to sneak in a round of golf, or at least hit a bucket of balls at the local driving range. But this golf season I encourage you to extend yourself just a little more by adding trunk extension into your game and life.

Because we spend so much of our day in a car or camped in front of a computer, we do not extend our spine as much as we should. In the long term, this can make you more vulnerable to injury and affect your golf swing. The golf swing is a complicated movement that requires significant trunk rotation. Rotation is a complex movement that also requires trunk flexion, extension, and side bending to happen correctly. Trunk extension, or bending backwards, tends to be a motion of the spine that decreases first. But there are some basic exercises you can do to maintain trunk extension.

Standing trunk extension is a simple exercise (photo 1), but with a few things

to keep in mind. As you are bending backwards, the focus is on arching the spine rather than collapsing backward. When you lean backwards, try to lengthen the spine to promote a good arch while placing your hands on the crest of the pelvis to help stabilize the spine. A touch of bend in the knees is OK, but be careful and avoid using your knees rather than the spine. Once you are extended, hold the position for two to three seconds and then return to your starting position.

On the golf course try doing a few reps at each tee box rather than looking for an unbroken tee to snag off the ground. This is also a great exercise to do throughout the day to balance out the amount of time we spend bent forward.

Prone press-ups are another way to maintain or improve trunk extension. Start the exercise by lying flat on the ground with your hands in a push-up position (photo 2). Then lift up your head and shoulders while arching your back and keeping your pelvis on the ground (photo 3).

If you are stiff into extension, then resting on your elbows may be enough. Just make sure your pelvis is on the floor. Prone press-ups are meant to be a passive exercise so the back is relaxed. Perform the exercise one to two times a day for five reps, holding two to three seconds. This exercise can be done on the golf course, but may not be as convenient.

Both of the exercises may feel stiff initially, but should not create sharp pain, radiating pain into the legs or numbness/tingling. If you experience any of these symptoms there may be a more significant problem that you should have evaluated by your physician. And if you know you already have a back problem, make sure to check with your doctor first.

Maintaining good movement in your spine will help to prevent injury and keep the distance in your game as long as you golf. So extend yourself just a bit more this coming golf season, and enjoy the benefits. Golf well!

Photo 1

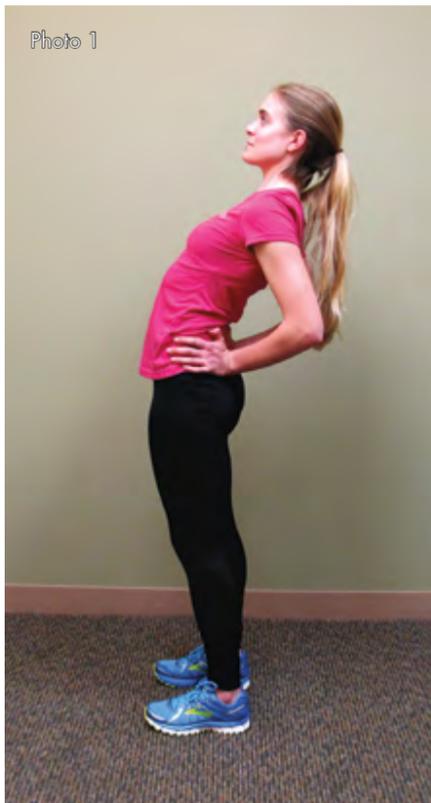


Photo 2

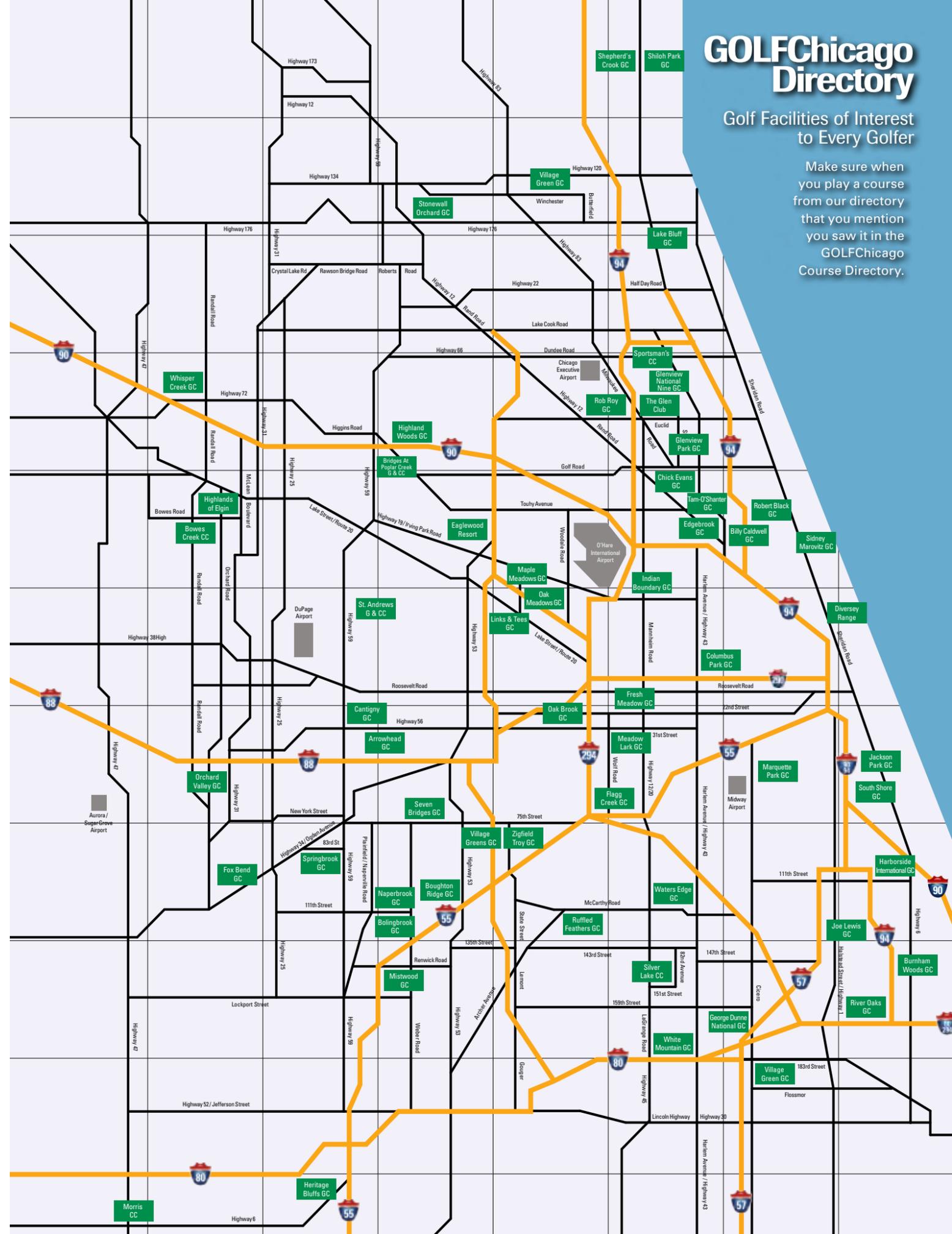


Photo 3



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arrowheadgolfclub.org

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Bolingbrook Golf Club

630-771-9400
2001 Rodeo Dr.
Bolingbrook, IL 60490
bolingbrookgolfclub.com

Bolingbrook Golf Club features a championship golf course designed by Arthur Hills and Steve Forrest, an exceptional practice facility with a learning academy, state-of-the-art GPS-equipped golf carts, and a 76,000 square-foot clubhouse with men's and women's locker rooms, lounges, two full-service restaurants, and full banquet facilities. Memberships are available.

Bolingbrook Golf Club was named #28 in the 2010 *Golf World* Readers' Choice Awards for best public course in the country; named to the 2009 *Golfweek* Best Courses You Can Play list; and received 4½ stars from *Golf Digest*.



Bowes Creek Country Club

847-214-5880
1250 Bowes Creek Blvd.
Elgin, Illinois 60124
bowescreekcc.com
bowescreekcountryclub.com

Here at Bowes Creek Country Club, our patrons are not treated like an everyday customer. You can buy a membership for the year or you can pay to be a Member for a Day! Instead of standard green fees, we offer a daily membership. The Member for a Day Fee will allow you to play unlimited golf with cart, and allow you full use of the practice facility. There will be no limit to the amount of golf you can play that day because you are ... Member for that Day!



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630-668-8463
27w270 Mack Rd.
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cantignygolf.com

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Fox Bend Golf Course

630-554-3939
3516 Route 34
Oswego, IL 60543
www.foxbendgolfcourse.com

Fox Bend is Oswego's own welcoming and challenging public course. This 18-hole, par-72 course boasts plush fairways, mature trees, and challenging greens. With 34 well-positioned bunkers and water coming into play on 11 holes, the course tests skills of all levels. USFGA FootGolf is also available on select days. Enjoy a drink or dinner on the deck overlooking the scenic course at Pearce's restaurant, or book the Pavilion for your next outing or special event. Take advantage of tee time specials and book online.



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847-724-7272
2901 W. Lake Ave.
Glenview, IL 60026
theglenclub.com

Chicago's finest semi-private golf experience.

The Glen Club is a stunning Tom Fazio designed championship course located on the former site of the historic Glenview Naval Air Station. In the heart of a 195-acre refuge, The Glen Club features rolling terrain, dramatic elevation changes, tranquil lakes, and striking vistas.

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Glenview, IL 60026
golfglenview.com

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DuPageGolf.com

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The Preserve at Oak Meadows

630-595-0071
900 N. Wood Dale Rd.
Addison, IL 60101
DuPageGolf.com

COMING THIS SUMMER – After two years of extensive renovation, the 288-acre The Preserve at Oak Meadows will reopen this summer as a new world-class 18-hole course and practice facility.

This transformation, designed by Golf Course Architect Greg Martin, took 27 flood prone, 1920s' era golf holes, and produced a 288-acre environmental haven that is best described as a "golf preserve."

The Preserve's convenient location features easy access from O'Hare, I-290, I-355, I-294, and Route 83.

For updates and previews visit DuPageGolf.com.



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312-782-7837
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harborsidegolf.com

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847-931-5950
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highlandsofelgin.com

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Glenview Park Golf Club

847-724-0250
Shermer Rd.
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golfglenview.com

Experience pure golfing enjoyment at the Glenview Park Golf Club. After a complete renovation in 2014-2015, the course has re-opened to rave reviews. Bent grass from tee to green, rolling fairways, and meticulous landscapes await you on this 18-hole, 6,133 yard par-70 course. The Glenview Park Golf Club offers the amenities of a private club, but is open to the public and close to home.

Golf Inc magazine voted the Glenview Park Golf Club the Best Renovation of the Year in 2016. Come out to see what everyone is talking about. Host of the USGA - 2017 U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball Qualifier.



Golf Center Des Plaines

847-803-GOLF
www.GolfCenterDesPlaines.com

9 Holes: Par 27
Yardage: 80–210
Chicagoland's only fully-lighted 9-hole course is open late year-round, and until midnight May–August. The 80-bay lighted & heated Driving Range is one of the Top 50 Ranges in the country: automatic ball tee-up, 300-yard outdoor landing area, plus 11 grass tees. The 1-1/2 acre Short Game Area features three sand bunkers and multiple putting greens; you can practice chip shots from up to 60 yards out. Unlimited Memberships are available for the Course and Short Game, and the Driving Range. Restaurant, Sports Bar, Pro Shop, and GolfTec Lessons.





Lake Bluff Golf Club

847-234-6771
355 W Washington Ave.
Lake Bluff, IL 60044
lakebluffgolfclub.com

Located on the scenic North Shore of Chicago, Lake Bluff Golf Club offers a beautiful and challenging layout in a traditional parkland setting. The course measures 6,589 yards from the back tees and offers three additional sets of tees to accommodate all skill levels. Lake Bluff Golf Club takes great pride in the immaculately conditioned bentgrass fairways and greens. Other amenities include a full-service golf shop, private and group instruction, and an exceptional dining experience at the new Hel's Kitchen.

The club hosted the 44th Annual Lake County Amateur.



Mistwood Golf Club

815-254-3333
1700 W. Renwick Rd.
Romeoville, IL 60446
mistwoodgc.com

Mistwood Golf Club, with its recent multi-million dollar renovations and new state of the art golf-learning center, has become one of the premier golf experiences in the Chicagoland area

Mistwood, host of the Illinois Women's Open, features new Scottish-style stacked sod-wall bunkers, which are not something seen in traditional American golf. Other amenities include a full-service pro shop, golf instruction, and wonderful dining.

- *Golf Magazine's* "2013 Best U.S. Renovation You Can Play"
- Golf Range Association of America "2013 Top 50 Golf Ranges."



Mt. Prospect Golf Club

847-259-4200
600 See Gwun Ave.
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
www.golfmtprospect.com

The newly restored Mt. Prospect GC will take you back to a style of architecture made famous by names like Raynor, MacDonald, and Ross, with low square tee boxes, strategic cross bunkers, and challenging plateau greens, all in our quiet parkland setting. The redesign features most of the original routing, plus five new holes and historic "template holes" with names like Redan, Eden and Punchbowl.

Mt. Prospect is the closest thing to the conditions and feel of an old private club, with a daily fee rate. Come back to a new 90-year-old classic.



Naperbrook Golf Course

630-378-4215
22204 W. 111th St./
Hassert Blvd.
Plainfield, IL 60585
golfnaperville.org

Located in Plainfield, scenic Naperbrook Golf Course is a "links style" course that features rolling hills, native prairie grasses, and wide fairways. Challenges in the way of ponds, a double green, and hidden bunkers await golfers of all levels. Additional amenities include a ten-acre driving range, separate lesson tee, and practice putting greens. Enjoy post-game refreshments on the picturesque patio; Naperbrook also offers lessons, outings, a well-stocked golf shop, and much more.



Orchard Valley Golf Course

630-907-0500
2411 W. Illinois Ave.
Aurora, IL 60506
orchardvalleygolf.com

6th Best Public Course in Illinois by *GOLF Magazine*. One of Chicagoland's best public courses, *Golf Digest* ranks Orchard Valley 4½ Stars! A true championship layout featuring wetlands, lakes, roughs, water hazards, marshes, and more.

PLUS...a program for everyone!

- SAVE on every round with the OV Rewards PLUS program.
- UNLIMITED twilight golf and range with the PPP card.
- Annual Memberships and MORE!



Tam-O'Shanter Golf Course & Learning Center

6700 West Howard Street
Niles, IL 60714
847-965-2344
www.niles-parks.org

One of the most important courses in popularizing the game of golf in America is located right here in Niles, Illinois. In 1953, Tam O'Shanter Country Club hosted the first-ever nationally televised golf tournament.

Today, a public 9-hole par-33 course remains, maintained with the goal of providing playing conditions reminiscent of those Hogan, Palmer, and Nicklaus enjoyed years ago. Swing out for a scenic round and walk in the footsteps of legends at Tam O'Shanter! Instructional programming available year-round!



Water's Edge Golf Course

7205 West 115th St.
Worth, IL 60482
708-671-1032
watersedgegolf.com

Rated Best Places To Play By *Golf Digest*. Water's Edge is Chicago's south side destination course. This championship 18-hole golf course offers bent grass greens and fairways, and a complete day/night practice and range facility, along with The Edge Bar & Grill for great meals and daily specials.

PLUS...a program for everyone!

- SAVE on every round with the Edge PLUS Pass
- UNLIMITED twilight golf and range with the Edge Practice Club



Whisper Creek Golf Course

12840 Del Webb Blvd.
Huntley, IL 60142
847-515-7680
whispercreekgolf.com

Luxury Golf at a Whisper of a Price!

Whisper Creek Golf Club is a fair test for a gamut of golfers. From beginners to scratch golfers, anyone who appreciates a day on the course will come away feeling rewarded by a round at Whisper Creek.

PLUS...a program for everyone!

- SAVE on every round with the Whisper Rewards PLUS program
- UNLIMITED twilight golf and range with the PDP card
- Annual Memberships and MORE!



Rob Roy Golf Course

847-253-4544
505 E. Camp McDonald Rd.
Prospect Heights, IL 60070
robroygc.com

Winding through 51 acres, the beautiful 9-hole Rob Roy Golf Course will challenge golfers at any skill level. The 3,022-yard course is narrow and tree-lined, requiring accuracy with water, sand traps, and other strategically-placed obstacles around the course. Rob Roy also includes a lighted driving range with 52 hitting stations. Bring the whole family for mini golf, and grab lunch overlooking the course at the 10th Hole Bar & Grille. There is something for everyone at Rob Roy!



St. Andrews Golf & Country Club

2241 Route 59
West Chicago, IL 60185
630-231-3100
standrewsgc.com

36 Holes:
Course #1: par 71, 5116-6920 yards
Course #2: par 72, 5341-6818 yards
Located 30 miles west of Chicago in West Chicago. Since 1926, Chicago-area golfers have sought out St. Andrews for its two championship courses and top-ranked Practice Center. With its vast rolling terrain, mature trees, and historic setting, St. Andrews offers quality facilities for discerning golfers, golf outings, and leagues, as well as permanent tee times. Guests will also enjoy premium range balls, motor carts with tablet GPS, and selections from J.J.'s Bar & Grill.



Springbrook Golf Course

630-848-5060
2220 W. 83rd St.
Naperville, IL 60564
golfnaperville.org

Springbrook Golf Course commands some of the finest views of Naperville's open space and trails. Built in 1974, the facility features a challenging 18 holes, 28-stall natural turf driving range, two practice putting greens, and a short-game practice green with bunkers. Golfers of all skill levels return time and again to play. Enjoy post-game refreshments on the picturesque patio; Springbrook also offers lessons, outings, a well-stocked golf shop and much more.



Stonewall Orchard

25675 West Highway 60
Grayslake, IL 60030
847-740-4890
stonewallorchard.com

Cutting through hundred-year old oak and pine trees, Stonewall Orchard Golf Club has quickly become one of Chicago's most prolific public golf courses.

Since opening in 1999, The Arthur Hills-designed gem located in northwest Grayslake has served as Final Stage Qualifying site for the U.S. Open and currently sits in rotation with Olympia Fields and Medinah Country Club as host site for the Illinois PGA Section Championship held every Fall.



White Mountain Golf Park

9901 179th St.
Tinley Park, IL 60477
708-478-4653
whitemountaingolfpark.com

Learn. Practice. Play.

- Executive course offering 9 holes of competitive golf
- Practice Range with artificial and grass hitting stations, and heated, covered stalls
- Mini Golf park offering 18 holes
- Professional instruction for all levels and abilities
- Fully stocked golf shop
- Party room perfect for events, fundraisers and more!

PLUS...earn FREE stuff with the Playback Rewards program – join TODAY!



White Pines Golf Club & Banquets

500 W. Jefferson St.
Bensenville, IL 60106
630-766-0304
www.whitepinesgolf.com

East Course 18 Holes:
Par 70
Yardage: 5,150 - 6,371
West Course 18 Holes:
Par 72
Yardage: 5,751 - 6,624

Located minutes of O'Hare, White Pines feels like you are getting "away from it all."

Open year round and situated on over 240 acres, the club has been a favorite among Chicago golfers since 1928. The Clubhouse offers a fully-stocked golf shop, an elegant banquet facility, and 37 Bar & Grill which offers patio dining. Call for senior and youth rates and specials.

Bonnie Brook GC

847-360-4735
2800 N. Lewis Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60087
waukegangolf.org

Glencoe Golf Club

847-835-0250
621 Westley Rd.
Glencoe, IL 60022
www.glencoeclub.com

Par 72, 18-Hole Golf Course
Grass Tee Practice Range
Weekday rates as low as \$23

Senior Discount Memberships
Adult & Junior Golf Programs
Twilight & Ladies' League
Early Bird, Twilight, and Super Twilight rates available Mon – Fri
Visit us online for more information.

Links & Tees Golf Facility

630-458-2660
Addison, IL 60101
Recognized in 2011 by *Golf Range* magazine as one of the Top 100 Learning Facilities in North America.
addisonparks.org

Sentry World

866-479-6753
Stevens Point, WI 54481
Par 72 / 18 holes
6,951 yards
sentryworld.com

Shepherd's Crook

847-872-2080
351 N. Green Bay Rd.
Zion, IL 60099
shepherdscrook.org

Shiloh Park

847-746-5500
23rd and Bethesda Blvd.
Zion, IL 60099
shilohparkgolf.com

Zigfield Troy Par 3

630-985-9860
1535 W. 75th Street
Woodridge, IL 60517

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Course Managers:

For inclusion in this directory, or to update your listing, please call 815.741.8005 or email us at dweretka@golfchicagomagazine.com



Music to Your Ears? Maybe.

Warning: This month's edition of Tech Talk might not be suitable for people that tap their ceiling/floor with broomsticks after 8 p.m., strictly listen to AM radio, or generally "don't like loud things."

It's time to face the music, people. Literally. Music has arrived on a golf course near you. You may have noticed it sparingly throughout the years, but now it's much more commonplace. I remember back in the mid-90s I had some friends who would throw their boombox in the basket of the golf cart and blast Green Day during a six-hour shotgun outing. That took brains! You needed to buy a lot of D batteries to make that baby portable.

You could call those guys the forefathers to the technology we have now.

On any given Sunday you can hear a group two fairways over blasting their tunes by way of a Bluetooth speaker. Please, don't perceive that small percentage to be the majority. Having some music on the golf course can be a lot of fun, as long as you bump responsibly.

In what has become a crowded market, I found one product line that stood out for several reasons. The OontZ family of Bluetooth speakers are durable, multi-functional, affordable, and pack a punch in the sound department. The unit I have is the Oontz Angle 3 Plus. It's the latest offering from Cambridge Soundworks, and is ideal for golfers because its triangular design fits like a glove in your cart cup holder.

Weighing in at a slender 13 ounces and 6.5 inches long, the OontZ Angle 3 Plus actually pumps out 10 watts of distortion-free power. The unit connects to your phone in seconds with the Bluetooth option, and there is an auxiliary jack if you choose to go that route. One of the most

appealing options for use on the golf course is that the Angle 3 Plus is water resistant if you get caught in the rain. Also useful in the event your beer, Baileys, or White Zinfandel go a splashing.

Aside from the golf course, the Angle 3 Plus could be used in the car as a safer option than trying to juggle your Starbucks and phone (it has a built-in microphone). Also take it in the shower, to the pool, Oak Street Beach, dorm room, or office. You get it. Anywhere. I love the 30-hour battery life almost as much as I love the price of \$35.99.

Maybe music on the course isn't your thing. What about while you're practicing? The OontZ BudZ 2's are wireless Bluetooth ear buds that are sleek and versatile.

I've tried hitting the range with ear buds before and it's been a disaster. If

muted. The OontZ BudZ 2's are also noise cancelling, so you can easily drown out that screaming baby on your flight while being reassured the guy in seat 32F can't hear you blasting your Nickelback tunes. You'll also find them useful at the gym, at your desk, or as your hands-free phone option with a built-in mic and play/call controls.

Keeping it uniform with all of the other OontZ offerings, the BudZ 2 ear buds outperform their modest price of only \$29.99.

I'm fully aware that not everyone will warm up to music on the golf course. Know that if you do, there are cost efficient, high quality products out there from OontZ. And for those who won't, at least put down the broomsticks. More information at www.theoontz.com.



the cord isn't getting caught in my swing the buds are falling out due to my profuse sweating. OontZ BudZ 2's come with iso-fit cushions, so they stay in place, plus they are more resistant to moisture. Bonus.

I was pleasantly surprised with how much bass the ear buds have. I've had similar products in the past and they've been a bit

The Good Earth Makes Us Better

Bonterra vineyards has been a pioneer in organic farming in California. The vines were planted in 1987, and the first wines were released in 1992, long before organic products were widely available in America. Bonterra believes that organic grapes produce the purest expressions of the varietals and land on which they are farmed.

Bonterra's three estates (Blue Heron, McNab, and Butler) are certified Biodynamic® by Demeter, a not-for-profit with the mission of enabling successful farming in accordance with Biodynamic practices and principles, which are simply to create and oversee a living organism which is self-contained, self-sustaining, and follows the cycles of nature. Biodynamic farming harkens back to how farms functioned centuries ago. It is a holistic view of agriculture with a high awareness of the interconnectivity among earth, plants, animals, humans, and even the moon.

There are nine Demeter-certified preparations made from herbs, minerals, and manures. These are applied to the soil and vineyards in very small doses to enhance soil fertility with increased micro-organism development and photosynthetic activity.

Yarrow, chamomile, stinging nettle, oak bark, dandelion, and valerian each play a role in strengthening, and in some cases remedying, weaknesses in the vineyards. Teas and tinctures are made from fresh or dried plants, and are sprayed to increase active regeneration on the farm.

In addition, animal "partners" play an essential role in the ecosystem. The vineyards provide chemical-free sanctuaries for bees, supported by native plants which bloom throughout the seasons. Chickens roam the rows, eating weeds and insects that can harm the vines. Their scratching and pecking aerate the soil and provide additional nutrients to the vines. December through March, around 2,000 sheep snack on the cover crops and weeds as they "landscape" the vineyards, adding beneficial fertilizer to the soil as they graze.

2014 Mendocino Chardonnay \$14
This wine opens with a hint of crème brûlée, followed by aromas of pineapple and citrusy lemon. The palate features flavors of green apples, pears, and citrus, supported by a clean

minerality. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation in previously-used or neutral oak in order for its fresh fruit characteristics to shine through. New oak was used for just 16% of the wine to provide a vanilla note.

Enjoy this best-buy wine with seared swordfish with avocado relish and roasted broccoli, or crunchy pecan chicken with lemon ginger sauce. ■■■■■■

2014 Cabernet Sauvignon \$16
This red is very much in the European style, with relatively subtle flavors of cherries and currants. Those are present on the nose as, well, with the addition of a bit of toasted oak. The wine finishes with astringent tannins and a lingering finish.

Serve this up with grilled chicken on rosemary skewers, lamb chops with juniper berry marinade, or sirloin tips Quasimodo. ■■■■■■



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Spring and Lefty are Eternal

In the spring, I have counted one hundred and thirty-six different kinds of weather inside of four and twenty hours. – Mark Twain

Phil Mickelson matters, especially in the spring. At 46 years old, Mickelson is proof to many quadragenarians that golf is not a journey. Nor is it a destination. Repeat: Golf is not a journey. Those are blasphemous words for golf-as-a-metaphor zealots, but allow me to ramble.

After just a week of hitting golf balls to get ready for the new season, America's favorite southpaw scrambled to a 4-under opening round at PGA Tour's CareerBuilder Challenge event. The five-time major champion did not take home the trophy, but a ripple went through my text messages. *Checkout Phil on Golf Channel.* In authentic Phil fashion, at the following week's Farmers Insurance Open, his driver misses could be measured in acres. On Saturday, he hit just four fairways in regulation and carded another 4-under round. He scrambled like a one-eyed squirrel and left the course on Sunday with a T-14. That was it for me. He has his irons and flat stick dialed in. Phil would be on my radar for another green jacket.

While Dan Hicks and Johnny Miller speak my language, Phil speaks Dave Pelz's logarithms. Yet his on-course gravitas captivates me. He is playing for millions of dollars, usually with just as many eyes on him. Most of us second-guess our club selection in a tight \$2 Nassau with a no-good brother-in-law from Alabama watching us. Phil encourages hackers to keep hacking. Phil dares us to swing a 60-degree spatula from the shaggy rough.

Adding to my new fondness for Phil, his off-season included two sports hernia surgeries. At 46, this is not small potatoes for a golfer. Here lies the connection to past-their-prime athletes. Phil came back too early because he knew that he could swing through the pain. I cannot think of a golfer who hasn't ignored a physician's order to lay off the game. It seems that every foursome that I play with includes someone on the mend. Phil has joined the ranks of my walking wounded playing partners. Phil is one of us.

Phil will be heading to Augusta National soon. I am not sure how he can be left off your Masters betting pool. That is, unless you are under 35 and your backswing is still longer than your driveway.

Golf is not a journey. Golf is a get-it-while-you-can game. Toss the metaphors out with that crusty golf glove; this is a game where, unlike baseball, you get to be all-time hitter. How can you beat that?

Back to spring ...

Spring happens. The season of rebirth cannot be coaxed into an early arrival, nor can the season be trusted. Last month, Chicagoland's golf courses were packed to the gills with players. A spring teaser in mid-February had many golfers on the course in shirtsleeves. I was there.

At Bliss Creek Golf Club in Sugar Grove, I had to park along the street and wait in line to check in for my afternoon reservation. Bliss Creek's general manager and head professional Dan O'Neal rallied his staff to handle the unexpected sunshine. When I wanted to pay for 18 holes and play until dark, he replied, "Bring the cart back after nine holes. It is packed out there and you'll run out of daylight." In other words, Hey buddy, don't get greedy.

The season began with a solid par. Three thoughts raced between my ears as I strolled back to the golf car; drive back to my car, trunk the sticks, and rest on my laurels until Father's Day. I made a few more pars and got the golf car back to the corral after nine holes. Although the horizon had a few more swings for me, I went inside and replenished fluids.

The next weekend I am back in a stocking cap and puffy parka walking from the garage to the golf show in Rosemont. Completely underwhelmed because all I could think about was playing the game, I stopped at a handful of vendor booths while prospecting travel stories, thought about replacing my putter, and chatted about the NCAA Championships with Keith Rich from Rich Harvest Farms. The latter conversation included stories of the young guns like Jon Rahm and Ollie Schniederjans from the thrilling Palmer Cup in 2015.

Rahm and Schniederjans are barely old enough to rent a car. Phil and his caddie, Jim "Bones" Mackay, were partners before either young'un was born. The drive back to the homestead was spent sulking that thrashing turf and chipping for par was not in the near future. I should have brought that putter home.

~~Golf is an oasis.~~ *Golf is like an oasis.*

I am ready for the morning frost to soften into a misty dew. Mother Nature dealt another spell of reparation in mid-March with a snow storm. I pulled my clubs from the truck. I am left wondering if Amy Mickelson nags Phil about leaving his golf bag in the dining room. Somewhere in Mexico, Phil shot three rounds in the 60s.

Each spring, the prospect of juvenescence is just a tee time away. Don't waste those precious hours raking mulch.

Phil will be heading

to Augusta National

soon. I am not sure

how he can be left

off your Masters

betting pool. That

is, unless you are

under 35 and

your backswing

is still longer than

your driveway.

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