

GOLFChicago

Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority

Golf Show 2020, Vol. 24 No. 1

RAVISLOE: MODERN THROWBACK


HEAD FOR HORSESHOE BAY

Summing Up the Decade


GOLFChicagoMagazine.com

BOYNE
GOLF




 2019 National Golf Course of the Year
Awarded to *The Heather*

 Best Golf Resorts in America by Forbes.com
BOYNE Golf, Pebble Beach, Destination Kohler, Pinehurst, Bandon Dunes, Kapalua

 Golf Digest 100 Greatest Public Courses
The Heather #92 and Links/Quarry #80

 Golf Digest Editor's Choice
Best Golf Resorts in the Americas
Bay Harbor Golf Club and Inn at Bay Harbor

 GOLF Magazine | GOLF.com
Top 100 Courses – Double Winner
*Buddies Trip – BOYNE Golf
Luxury – Bay Harbor Golf Club and Inn at Bay Harbor*

Bay Harbor Golf Club
The Quarry • Hole #9

TEN COURSES. THREE RESORTS. ONE AWARD-WINNING DESTINATION.

Take 10 extraordinary golf courses. Set them among three incredible resorts less than 30 miles apart, each a unique destination all to itself. Add in long days and perfect northern Michigan golf weather. And what you have is, quite simply, the ultimate golf vacation spot... all a short flight or six-hour drive from Chicago.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN



BOYNEgolf.com/chicago

844.241.6361



SETTLE FOR NOTHING LESS.

There is golf, and there is *this* golf. 11 spectacular locations, 26 uniquely challenging courses and more than 400 championship holes make up Alabama's Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail. It is the high bar. And it is yours to challenge.

» ENJOY UNLIMITED GOLF THIS SPRING, INCLUDING CART AND RANGE BALLS, STARTING AT \$119 A DAY* «

Choose your special and reserve a tee time today. Call 1.800.949.4444 or visit rtjgolf.com.  [facebook.com/rtjgolf](https://www.facebook.com/rtjgolf)



*Offer valid March 18 – May 26, 2020. Specials cannot be combined with other discounts and must be paid in full and booked with Reservations at least 48 hours prior to play. Valid at Ross Bridge starting at \$210 per person per day. Specials do not include play at Lakewood Golf Club. Specials do not include tax or lodging. Not valid with previously booked packages. There is a \$10 surcharge for each round on the Judge at Capitol Hill. Some restrictions may apply. Offers subject to change.

Features

- 12 Ravisloe: South Suburban Gem**
The spirit of Donald Ross lurks in every corner of this intriguing once-private layout in Homewood
- 16 Head to the Hill Country**
Grab your 10-gallon hat and make for Texas, for you won't want to miss teeing it up at Horseshoe Bay Resort
- 20 It's Showtime!**
The Tinley Park Golf Show is back, better than ever, and we have all the details



This pot bunker lurks some 50 yards off the 18th tee at the foot of the fairway, daring those who top shots to miss. (Photo: Tim Cronin)

Media sponsor of



Departments

- 5 Opening Shot**
- 6 The Good Stuff**
Todd Mrowice Prowls the Aisles
- 8 Instruction**
Mike Carbray On the Wedge in Your Swing
- 9 Profiles**
Dave Lockhart is Home in the Sports Zone Dome
- 10 Sweet Home Chicago**
- 23 GOLFCChicago Map and Directory**
How to Get There
- 28 Off The Shelf**
How To Play Faster
- 29 On The Corkscrews**
Say What? (Part 3)
- 30 Final Putt**
Neal Kotlarek Sums Up the Decade

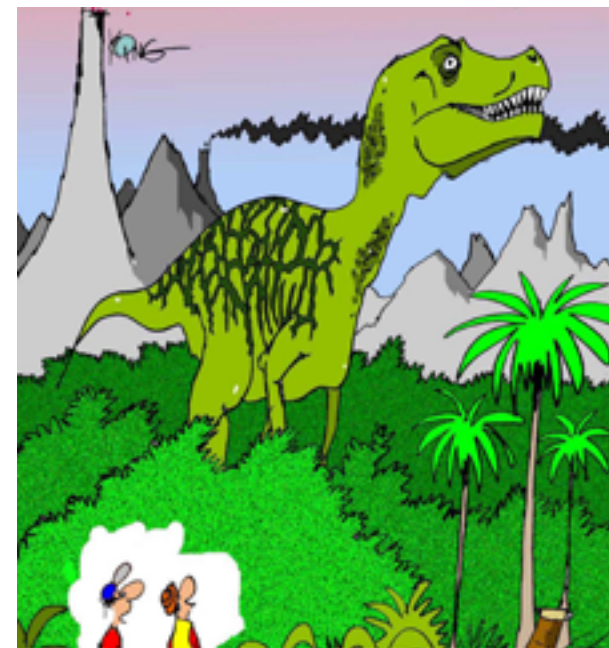
OPENING SHOT

DAVE
AND
TIM

Here We Go Again!

It's amazing how quickly the leaves fall off the calendar, isn't it? Seems like yesterday we were raking leaves off the lawn and it's already time to get serious about a new golf season.

This is season 128 for golf in Chicago, if you're counting, going all the way back to the time Charlie Blair Macdonald sank a handful of soup cans in the ground on a pal's estate in Lake Forest and proceeded to tee it up.



"When you said this golf course was 'untouched' by time, you weren't kidding."

Hey, it was a beginning. This issue start's GOLFCChicago's 24th year of service to you, and we commence with stories on a pair of delightful places to play, one near and one far.

First, Neal Kotlarek, who has played more courses than he can remember, takes you to Ravisloe, the private course that went public about a decade ago, enabling one and all to play a Donald Ross course that was

freshened by David Esler a few years before veterinarian Claude Gendreau bought it and the gates opened.

Next, Neal details a trip to Horseshoe Bay Resort, located down yonder in the Texas Hill Country. The location, speckled with three Robert Trent Jones courses and one members-only course by Jack Nicklaus, proves the Lone Star state is more than flat cattle ranches.

We have instruction for you as well, with Mike Carbray of Butterfield Country Club explaining how keeping a wedge in your swing will lead to more consistent play.

All of the usual suspects – er, departments – you've become accustomed to over the years return, from Sweet Home Chicago to ace designer Stephen Hawk's On the Corkscrews column about wine. His writing is always a fine vintage.

If you've picked up the print version at the Tinley Park Golf Show, check for the directory on page 22 of exhibitors eager to let you know about their wares.

And don't forget, GOLFCChicago is also online at www.golfchicagomagazine.com, with current and past issues, links to videos, and more.

Listen carefully, and you'll soon hear the first robin of spring.

Visit our
GOLFCChicago
Magazine
Fan Page
on facebook.



**SUBSCRIBE TO
GOLFCHICAGO**

**Free Golf* with Your
Paid Subscription**

Chicago's Premier
Multimedia Golf Source
& Authority Delivered
To Your Door

Visit
www.GOLFCChicagoMagazine.com
for details

GOLFCChicago
Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority

Founder: Bill Daniels
Publisher: Dave Weretka
Editor: Tim Cronin
Art Director: Stephen Hawk

Senior Writers: Neal Kotlarek and
Todd Mrowice

Instructional Staff: Andy Mickelson,
Andrew Ogata, and John Platt

Editorial Contributors: Stephen Hawk,
Rory Hughes, Dave Lockhart, Greg Martin,
and John Morrissett

Photography: GOLFCChicago Staff

© Copyright 2020

Editorial Inquiries
Tim Cronin
tcronin@golfchicagomagazine.com
PO Box 541
Worth, IL 60482

Advertising and Marketing Inquiries
Dave Weretka
dweretka@golfchicagomagazine.com
PO Box 9745
Naperville, IL 60564
815-741-8005

No part of this publication may be reproduced without express written permission of the publisher. No part may be transmitted in any form by any means, including electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without prior written permission from the publisher. Publisher accepts no liability for solicited or unsolicited materials that are lost or damaged. Opinions expressed by editorial contributors do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher.



THE GOOD STUFF



Stability Putter Shaft

Tinkering with your putter can be a slippery slope of investments. Breakthrough Golf Technology produces an answer that doesn't sacrifice your favorite putter design. The Stability Putter Shaft is designed to help your distance control by delivering a more square face at impact. The shaft, by design, is a bit heavier and stiffer than standard putter shafts which allows for less flex and rotation in your stroke (hence the name). Available in standard and tour models, Stability is bound to help you win some of those skins.

\$199 - \$249 breakthroughgolftech.com



SkyGolf SX400

Why limit yourself to front, back, and center distances when you can have it all? The SkyCaddie SX400 from SkyGolf is a 4-inch touchscreen GPS with full HD graphics for crystal-clear viewing. Preloaded with over 35,000 ground-verified course maps, this unit is also durable and highly water-resistant. The ultra-fast multi-core processor means quick connection on the first tee and beyond.

\$299.95 web.skygolf.com



Srixon Q Star

Srixon debuts its third generation of the Q-Star Tour golf ball, available in Pure White and Tour Yellow. This tour-caliber ball delivers a softer feel at impact and is enhanced by new FastLayer Core which drives more ball speed and distance.

\$32.99 srixon.com



Cobra Speedzone Driver

Cobra's 2020 lineup is led by the new Speedzone driver, which takes inspiration from Formula 1 race cars. With a CNC Milled Infinity Face, the driver has six different zones for maximized performance. A 360-degree carbon wrap crown covers 50 percent of the club body, increasing forgiveness and speed. Available in standard or Xtreme models for 10-25 handicaps.

\$449 cobragolf.com



Ecco Biom Cool Pro

Ecco continues producing the highest quality golf shoes with the new BIOM Cool Pro. Fluidform Technology frames and anatomically supports your foot. Tri-Fi-Grip outsole maximizes stability, durability, and rotational support. 100 percent waterproof construction and Ecco Yak leather uppers make these shoes all you'll need for a comfy day on the links.

\$230 us.ecco.com



Indi Golf Wedge

Indi Golf is producing some of the best wedges you can buy, but you might not know who they are. The company promotes "colossal spin" with more grooves (22) and increased precision and forgiveness. Testing shows Indi Golf wedges spinning near 10,000 rpm compared to 7,500 from other manufacturers. Available in matte black and satin chrome.

\$149.99-\$159.99 indigolfclubs.com



Flying Wedges

One of the easiest and quickest ways to lower your scores in 2020 is to improve your *distance control* with your wedges. Bombing long drives is fun, but what good does it do when your wedge shot misses the green? Here are a few things I see the best wedge players in the world all have in common. If you can devote some of your practice time to these concepts, you will see your wedges ending closer to the hole and rapidly dropping scores.

What the Best Do

1. Slightly Open Stance in relation to the target. This allows your hips and your chest to turn through the shot.
2. Narrow Stance: Feet will get closer together depending on the distance of the shot.
3. Center Ball Position: The ball should be in line with your sternum, and head centered over the ball. Having a head position either too far back or too far forward will effect the angle of the club hitting the ground and will give fat shots or too steep chopping motions.
4. Slightly Forward Weight Distribution: I like to see 70% of your weight on your front leg throughout the entire swing.
5. Slower than Average Club Speed: Your feel will be better when you swing the club slower. The best wedge players judge their distance by the length of their backswing and not the speed of the club.



Use Geometry to Wedge it Closer

To paraphrase the geometric definition for a *wedge*, it's a triangular-shaped simple machine used for lifting. If we can relate this to our golf wedge game, we can lift our ball to the desired distance easily.

How To?

Keep the angles created at address between your lead arm and club constant through the swing. To control distance, limit the amount of wrist hinge and unhinge during the swing. This keeps the width of the swing and the loft of the club consistent. It also helps you to create a shallow angle of descent and a small divot. This is the real secret to success for *wedge play*. Set up to the ball and draw a line from your lead shoulder (the one closer to the target; left shoulder for a right-handed golfer) down to the center of the club face. This line will be the longest side of the wedge. You want that distance to remain the same back and through to the finish of the swing. If you then make your lead arm to the grip the second line and then grip to the end of the shaft the third line, you will see a *wedge* has been created. Keep that wedge from changing its shape and you will be able to control how far the ball travels every time.

How Not To?

When the player adds extra wrist hinge in the back swing or flexes the lead elbow, the width of the swing changes, which leads to inconsistent contact and angle of attack. Also, if the wrist angles change around



impact, the loft of the club changes and distances change swing to swing. These things make it difficult to develop consistent distance control.

Now that you have the basics, let's develop three different carry distances derived from three different backswing lengths. You can practice these shots with three distinct backswing positions and find out what your distances are.

Distance 1: When the backswing length has the shaft parallel to the ground. The follow-through will be a similar distance but slightly longer.

Distance 2: When the lead arm is parallel to the ground. Similar follow-through length.

Distance 3: Hands to head backswing. This third length has the backswing ending when your hands reach the level of your head.

I like to use a mirror or record a few swings with my phone to see these different backswing lengths. Once you have the feel of the three different lengths, hit 10 balls with each, starting with the shaft parallel to the ground and working up to see how far these positions carry. Take it to the course and make 2020 the Year of the Flying Wedge.

Mike Carbray is Director of Instruction Butterfield CC and Journey 2 Better Golf 2018 IPGA Teacher of the Year
www.mikecarbraygolf.com
<http://www.linksvideo.net/instruction>



Home in the Sports Zone Dome

Many claim that there's no place like dome. Oh wait a minute, that's supposed to be home! However, after one visit to the Ultimate Sports Zone Dome in Aurora you may want to embrace this statement.

Need a place to hit balls and hone your game during the arctic Chicago blast? We found a cool spot where you can actually see the full flight of the ball with the only exception being if you hit moon shots like Dustin Johnson! The area where the dome is located is surrounded by solid courses such as Phillips Park, Fox Bend, and White Eagle Country Club in Naperville. The problem is that you can't play any of these places during old man winter.

The Ultimate Sports Zone Dome is by far the largest golf dome in the region reaching nearly 100 feet high and over 100 yards long. It is also the largest indoor golf range and longest tenured opening in 1990. This fully rejuvenated facility is an indoor escape, which is clean and well lit, plus it features eye-catching suspended aiming banners, and target collection nets along the turf so you can dial in your accuracy.

The Ultimate Sports Zone Dome can also help get your competitive juices flowing with skins games and golf leagues for men and ladies. They have a snack shack with food and various cold drinks, but if you want to have something with more giddy-up, you are welcome to bring in your own adult libation.

Deals galore can be found here, including \$100 memberships for golfers of all ages with all the balls you can hit (for an hour) weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. At other winter golf facilities, you might be dropping that kind of dough on just one visit!

There's also a true rolling contoured putting green so you can get some time in with the flat stick. It's always comfortable inside this friendly and spacious venue, which is open from now until mid-April. I guess there really is no place like dome, the Ultimate Sports Zone Dome in Aurora!

<https://ultimatesportzone.com/golf/>
 1900 Hill Ave., Aurora
 630-820-8624



Sweet Home Chicago

A Full Plate in 2020

Has it really been 17 years since the big guys took on Olympia Fields?

Yes. Back in 2003 – four years before the iPhone, which is to say, when dinosaurs walked the earth – Jim Furyk survived a wacky U.S. Open on Olympia's famed North Course. While scores were low early, he was only one of four players under par when his final putt dropped, several holes after a stripper wished him luck on a fairway.

This August 20-23, the BMW Championship, the PGA Tour's playoff semifinal, rolls in. It's the first visit for the former Western Open to Olympia since 1971, when Bruce Crampton triumphed. Jack Nicklaus did so in 1968. And in 1920, a century distant, the Western saw Jock Hutchison win at Olympia, when the North Course hadn't even been blueprinted and the clubhouse was a two-building set of red-painted plywood.

Given that Justin Thomas scored 25-under 263 on Medinah's theoretically-testing No. 3 Course last August, one can only imagine what the winner will manage on the North, which is testing but not as long as No. 3. Members already committed to a toughening of both courses will likely be seeing red, numbers and otherwise.

The cause is tremendous, benefitting the Evans Scholars Foundation's caddies-to-college program. That's also the beneficiary of the area's first tournament, the Evans Scholars Invitational, May 21-24 at The Glen Club in Glenview on the Korn Ferry Tour.

Hundreds of charities benefit from the biggest thing in the Quad Cities, the John Deere Classic, which raised over \$13 million in 2019. This year's 50th playing, set for July 9-12 at TPC Deere Run, should be special. Deane Beman, who won the first two before becoming commissioner of the PGA Tour, might be on hand to smack the first Spalding.

Biggest of all this season on the pro side is the Ryder Cup, two hours north of Chicago at Whistling Straits from Sept. 25-27. Thank Jack Nicklaus for the suggestion in the mid-1970s to open the British Isles side to continental Europe, which brought in Seve Ballesteros and made an biennial walkover the most compelling competition in golf.

There's more a stone's throw from the Loop, including the Senior PGA Championship at Harbor Shores in Benton

Harbor, Mich., from May 21-24, the Senior LPGA at French Lick, Ind., from July 23-26, and Western Amateur at Crooked Stick in Carmel, Ind., from July 27-Aug. 1. Illinois' best amateur and pros clash in the Radix Cup at Oak Park Country Club on June 10, and in the Illinois Open from Aug. 3-5.

And there's one more. ...

Illini and Wildcats Fans Take Note

When the NCAA golf championships were played at Rich Harvest Farms in 2017, people were astonished by the size of the gallery following Illinois' men's team. They didn't win, but they sold tickets, with some 3,500 to 4,000 on hand when they reached match play.

A similarly-sized crowd might make the trek to Sugar Grove this May 1-3, when Jerry Rich hosts the Big Ten championships in his backyard playground for the first time.

Nine of the Big Ten's 14 schools are within 200 miles of Rich Harvest – Wisconsin is 132 miles out, just 10 more than Illinois's Champaign campus, with Northwestern around the corner at 54 miles – but Illinois figures to be the big draw.

Under Mike Small, the Fighting Illini have won the last five Big Ten team titles and 10 of the last 11. A continually-changing cast of Illini players has captured seven of the last nine conference titles outright and shared the other two.

In other words, the Illini are the team to beat. Don't be surprised if Tommy Kuhl of downstate Morton, the lone Illinois resident on Small's current squad, draws the biggest gallery.

Rich Harvest needs volunteers for the weekend. Those interested can apply at Rich Harvest's website (www.rich-harvestfarms.com) and follow the links.

Pete Dye Left a Legacy

Had Pete Dye remained a successful insurance salesman all his life, he would have been well off, probably miserable, and golf would have been the poorer.

Dye, supported by wife Alice, decided he wanted to be a golf course architect, never mind that at least once when he was course chairman at the Country Club of Indianapolis, he managed to kill most of the greens. He somehow wangled an



assignment for a nine-hole course south of Indianapolis and designed a layout that crossed a creek 11 times while Alice grew the bent grass for the greens in their front yard.

It took several years, but Dye was able to eventually leave the insurance business – not before the company sent him to a psychiatrist – and make course design his calling.

Golfers have been calling him names ever since, so vexing were some of his designs. Teeth of the Dog. PGA West. The Players Course at TPC Sawgrass. Those are just three of his challenging layouts that are now pillars of a legacy that stretches around the world of golf following his death of Alzheimer's-related illness on Jan. 9 at 94.

His courses, both original and remodels, dot the Indiana landscape. Notable creations include Crooked Stick in Carmel, his French Lick layout that hosts the Senior LPGA Championship, and Brickyard Crossing at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. There, rather than use his trademark railroad ties – a concept borrowed from the Scottish layouts he studied in the 1960s – he used discarded portions of the concrete track walls.

North of our border, he found a kindred golf spirit in Herb Kohler, who brought Dye in for the two courses at Blackwolf Run and then two more at Whistling Straits, which will host this year's Ryder Cup.

"Pete Dye transcended golf course design as we know it today," Kohler said. "I am honored to have had the extraordinary opportunity to be a business colleague and personal friend of both Pete and Alice the last 30 years.

"While Pete designed to torment the most accomplished professional, his forward tees allowed the most inexperienced to play. I loved this simple man and artist extraordinaire who built Kohler, without a computer, four of America's top-rated public courses that have hosted six of golf's majors."

In Illinois, Dye was less active, though one of his first layouts was the par-3 Yorktown Golf Course in downstate Shiloh. Oakwood in Coal Valley, an early site of the John

Deere Classic, followed in 1964. In the Chicago area, he and son P.B. collaborated on Ruffled Feathers in Lemont, which tightens like a vise from start to finish.

"I think he's more artist than architect," longtime Crooked Stick Jim Ferriell once said.

Sadly, the artist paints no more.

Around the Greens

Sad to report we've also lost long-drive champion and teacher Marty Joyce, who died Jan. 16, and Paul Fullmer, 85, the former Chicago-based executive director of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, on Jan. 10. The late Alice Dye once called Fullmer, "The glue that held ASGCA together." Joyce, who battled cancer in recent years, was a fixture for years in the White Pines Golf Dome, and was a long-time assistant coach of Fenwick High School's boys team. ... Speaking of big hitters, Cog Hill gets back in the competition business next year with a five-year deal to host a stop of the World Long Drive Tour.



As the regular range barely holds low-handicappers in the titanium age, plans call for setting up a special range across Archer Ave. from Cog on the mammoth field long used for Western Open parking. It'll probably be 400 yards long.

Central Missouri's LAKE OF THE OZARKS GOLF TRAIL
Where one great course leads to another

It's close to home... And, with 13 incredible courses at one unforgettable destination, it's a golfing experience you'll treasure. You'll spend less time traveling and more time doing what you love to do... Playing tons of golf. Come PLAY and STAY with us. Book your Golf Trail Getaway today. Visit GolfAtLakeOfTheOzarks.com.

"Best Recreational Lake" IN THE NATION AS CHOSEN BY Readers of USA TODAY & 10Best

Ravisloe

The Modern Throwback Course

By Neal Kotlarek

In his celebrated poem, Carl Sandburg extolled the virtues of the city of Chicago, referencing its role as hog butcher to the world, tool maker, stacker of wheat and player with railroads. Perhaps Sandburg was referencing the city's love for golf when he wrote about the awesome amount of "shoveling, planning, building, breaking and rebuilding" that some of America's premier golf architects were undertaking in Chicago's suburbs at the time. By the turn of the 20th century, businessmen and women had fallen madly in love with the game as clubs scrambled to accommodate demand.

In fact, players were using railroads to choo-choo from downtown to the south side by the time the great poet's work was published in 1916. Follow the Illinois Central rail line's path and you locate some of the nation's premier original clubs, including Calumet, Flossmoor, Idlewild, Olympia Fields and Ravisloe. As cars were not yet fashionable 100 years ago when these clubs opened, the standard practice to entertain clients was to hop aboard the southbound and arrive at the first tee an hour or so later.

Even through changing times, all of the courses mentioned above – just a few miles apart – share century-old legacies in common. And while all five can still be reached by rail, Ravisloe was the first to shake free of its status as a members-only property and is open to the public. In 2009, the 160-acre property was purchased by prominent veterinary surgeon Dr. Claude Gendreau, who proceeded to invest millions to restore both the clubhouse and the course back to their original elegance.

The original course is believed to have been designed by James Foulis, winner of the second U.S. Open in 1896. William Watson, head professional Robert White, and Aleck Bauer revised the layout in the early teens, when an adjacent parcel was acquired, and master architect Donald Ross did a thorough revision through annual visits from 1917 to 1919.

In 2002, local architect David Esler performed a \$1 million renovation on the course, focusing on restoring the sand bunkers to Ross's original specifications.

Along with improving the grounds and investing heavily in conditioning the course to country club standards, the new owner made major improvements to the club's majestic Spanish Mission-style clubhouse (designed by George Nimmons, who also designed the Olympia Fields clubhouse) to restore its opulence. Every part of the building was renovated, including the ballroom, the bar and grill, and the auxiliary rooms to their original Gilded Age splendor. Indeed, this season one of these rooms is home to indoor golf simulators sponsored by *GolfNow*.

"The primary goal of the clubhouse renovation was to provide our guests with the same experience that the country club members had," director of golf Bob Carpenter said in a mid-January interview. "There is a lot of history in the clubhouse, and we wanted to preserve everything we could as both a historical archive and to honor the club's great legacy."



The 17th green is typical of the Donald Ross look as recreated by David Esler, with a grass-faced bunker and a flat sand base (Photo: Tim Cronin)

Over its illustrious history, prominent players including Harry Vardon and Chick Evans visited the club regularly. Club members included A-listers of Chicago society. Even the club's first pro was a larger than life figure. Born in St. Andrews, Scotland, the aforementioned Robert White served the club from 1902 to 1914. During that time, he founded the long-forgotten Western Professional Golfers' Association, and shortly after moving to New York, became the first president of the PGA of America. White also studied course design and agronomy at the University of Wisconsin from 1902 to 1913. Historians argue that White's specific interest at school might have made him American golf's first turf student and perhaps even the country's first professional superintendent.

Step onto the first tee and you feel as if you've taken two steps back into golf architecture's Golden Age. A wide fairway allows players to swing from their heels yet be vigilant of a bunker poking out into the fairway 250 yards away. Once you reach your ball, marvel at the deviant grass embankment Ross placed at the back end of the hazard to force players to choose a lofted club to evacuate.

The 490-yard third hole may seem like an easy par 5 from the tee, but the hole gets more difficult the closer you get to the flagstick. The pushed-up green is protected by massive sand bunkers, and the putting surface itself has three tiers. Wind up on the wrong one and you can expect a very difficult two-putt.

The sixth hole plays to a short 135 yards. Built by any other designer, the par 3 would seemingly be a juicy birdie opportunity. In fact, yawning bunkers short left and right of a small, rolling green make this one of the toughest pars on the front nine.

The best stretch of holes at Ravisloe are the 11th to 16th. While the front nine with three par 3s serves up multiple birdie opportunities, this grouping serves up a long par 3, three long par 4s and a long par 5 to go with a mid-length par 3. The 226-yard 11th hole is far and away the toughest par 3 on the course. Adding to the hole's difficulty is a bunker just to the left of the green which snags all tee shots steered away from the bunker short and just right of the green.

While players might not like their score on the 550-yard 13th hole, they should enjoy the classic beauty of



the crossing fairway and greenside bunkers on this tough par 5.

The course finishes with a surprisingly short par 4. At 355 yards, the hole allows players a chance to redeem their rounds with a possible birdie. Avoid the deep bunkers protecting this small-sized putting surface.

Ranked by *Golfweek* as the No. 1 classic (pre-1960) public golf course in all of Illinois and the No. 11 overall public course, Ravisloe celebrates the work of Donald Ross and provides a fun, stress-free round of golf due to the limited number of water hazards across the property.

Every round at Ravisloe should end with a tour of the renovated clubhouse and a stop at the clubhouse bar and grill. Golfers making a day out of the trip to Ravisloe are encouraged to enjoy dinner at the course's sister property, the 18-room La Banque Hotel and La Voute Bistro Bar located a few minutes away from the club. Located in downtown Homewood and established in 2015, the bistro serves French-inspired farm-to-table cuisine. Specialties include beef au poivre and a killer double cut bone-in pork rack.

"On occasion," Carpenter said, "we are stopped by players who used to caddie at this club or are former members. To a person, they tell us that they appreciate the work we've done to restore these beautiful grounds to the way they remember them back in the glory days of the club."

The club's long heritage within the community is recognized with special rates and discounts for seniors each Tuesday during the season.

While time marches on, Ravisloe Country Club has found the secret formula to revitalize one of Chicagoland's premier golf experiences. Were he alive today, Donald Ross would most assuredly be proud and fascinated by the efforts taken to bring a country club experience to public golfers from across Chicagoland.



The fifth green is guarded rigorously by bunkering featuring Donald Ross' distinctive grass faces, in this case following David Esler's restoration, hiding much of the putting surface from the fairway. (Photo: Tim Cronin)



The Ravisloe monogram is carved into a hedge on the far side of the pond on the seventh hole, a touch that goes back to its private club days. (Photo: Tim Cronin)



Head for the Hill Country

Horseshoe Bay Resort is a real stay-and-play destination

By Neal Kotlarek

While I strongly doubt I will ever discover a diamond or an emerald mine over my lifetime, I am delighted to report unearthing a gem of a golf destination just a few months ago. Hidden in plain sight about an hour's drive west of Austin, Tex., Horseshoe Bay Resort has spent decades under the radar as a real estate development featuring a wide variety of amenities. All throughout its 50-year history, however, the property continued to expand its scope with golf courses built by master designers Robert Trent Jones Sr. and Jack Nicklaus. Today, the resort features four championship courses, an 80,000-square-foot practice and instruction center, 385 rooms, suites and villas, a marina, and an elegant spa.

The story surrounding the resort is as fascinating as the property. Brothers Norman and Wayne Hurd saw the potential of a real estate development built along the shores of a 23-mile-long lake near the city of Marble Falls. In 1970, Wayne purchased the Lupton Ranch for \$2 million and conferred with his brother on what to name the property. As the lake had been drained by the Colorado River Authority during construction of a power plant, the brothers strolled across the dry lake as they surveyed the property. Wayne stumbled across a rusty horseshoe stuck in the caked mud and the brothers agreed that their discovery was a sign from above. And so began the legend of Horseshoe Bay.

Once the power plant was built and the lake was restored,

the brothers began construction of condominiums, a yacht club, a marina, stables and even a lighthouse. Logic dictated homeowners would enjoy other recreational options, so the Hurds contracted with Robert Trent Jones Sr. to design an 18-hole championship course named Slick Rock, after the area's sandstone surface.

Over the ensuing 15 years, that course was complemented by two others designed by Jones: Ram Rock and Apple Rock. In 2012, the stunning 18-hole Summit Rock was designed by PGA Tour legend Jack Nicklaus specifically for use by club members.

"It's a remarkable story," said director of golf Anthony Holder in a January interview. "What really impresses me is how both Robert Trent Jones Sr. and Jack Nicklaus used the property's natural assets to build these courses. The Texas Hill Country serves up a breathtaking landscape of steep hills, dales, boulders, prickly pear cactus, wildflowers, ash junipers, and live oaks. Trent Jones was a man ahead of his time as he designed his courses in the 1970s and '80s incorporating all of these natural features into his courses. Nicklaus echoed that same philosophy on the Summit Course."

The drive from the Austin airport to the resort reminds guests that they are a long way from Aurora (either the Illinois or the Colorado versions). The rugged landscape teems with rocks, stones, and native vegetation. Lyndon Baines Johnson, the nation's 36th president,



Slick Rock Hole 12



Ram Rock Hole 4



Slick Rock Hole 9



Ram Rock Hole 6

was born in the Hill Country in Stonewall. Much of his personal and political life was shaped by the region, which is prone to long stretches of dry conditions and hot summers. The reservoir upon which Horseshoe Bay Resort rests is named Lake LBJ both to honor his heritage and to recognize his work to enact the Rural Electrification Act which allowed the Hill Country and other isolated farm communities across the country to subsist. The lake is the epicenter of the Horseshoe Bay

community and thrives with boating, water skiing, and fishing.

The lakeside resort was built in 1971, almost immediately after the sprawling 7,000-acre development community was founded. Over the years, the amenities offered by the resort have expanded to include swimming pools, a business conference center, outdoor reception areas, and even an elaborate 18-hole putting course complete with natural grass fairways, waterfalls, rose gardens and a trail. Over the past two

years, the resort underwent a \$70 million upgrade that encompassed room remodeling, grounds renovations, a glass-enclosed bar with a 360-degree view of the property and a 9,000-square-foot pavilion for parties and events.

All three of the Trent Jones-designed golf courses at the resort have received upgrades. "Each of the three courses is distinct from one another," said Holder. "Each was built on unique parcels of land which provide different perspectives of the Hill Country. All of them feature dramatic elevation changes and great views. Returning guests will notice how the \$7.5 million renovations invested in the courses have included improved conditioning, smoother greens, and even new green collars."

Ranked among the top 25 courses in Texas by *The Dallas Morning News*, the 6,867-yard Slick Rock course was built over 170 acres and was renovated in 2016 with the assistance of the Robert Trent Jones II team. The course, containing over 70 bunkers and 12 water hazards, has a number of distinct features which include Texas granite outcroppings, pampas grass, and Eldarica pine trees.

The highlight of the Apple Rock course is the photogenic 14th hole. Called the Million Dollar hole due to both its beauty and the work it took to construct, the par 4 begins from an elevated tee above a wide river valley that is home to rare Guadalupe river bass. Positioned above the far bank of the river is a multi-tiered waterfall which must be overcome to reach a generous landing area framed by sand bunkers to the left and a large tee to the right. No matter where your tee shot lands, enjoy the cart ride to the fairway as the pathway somehow bisects the waterfall.

The 6,999-yard Apple Rock course spans 147 acres and is touted by some observers as the most scenic in all of Texas. The par-72 layout begins in high, rocky terrain and finishes along the shoreline of Lake LBJ. The course was rated among the best new courses in America by *Golf Digest* when it opened in 1985 and has played host to the Texas State Open.

The highlight of the Apple Rock course is actually the trio of holes 10 through 12, taking players from the top of the Horseshoe Bay Resort property and down into – and even

across – scenic Lake LBJ. Bring out your cellphone camera on the tenth tee to memorialize a stunning view of the lake and the tree-lined hillside. The par-5 10th is followed by the only-slightly-less-dramatic par-5 11th. The tee of the 179-yard par-3 12th hovers just above a stretch of the lake and aims toward a large elevated green protected by three massive, distinctly Trent Jones-designed sand bunkers. Escape with a par on this hole and you will have a story to tell over a cold beverage at the 19th hole.

If your schedule allows, save the Ram Rock course for last, as you will need your best game to challenge this par-71 layout, considered one of the toughest courses across the state. The course features more than 60 bunkers, granite outcroppings, blind tee shots and a formidable number of streams and even rock gardens.

If your goal is to maintain your handicap index on Ram Rock, you must somehow survive the first four holes, which flow across dramatic hills and dales. Following a 414-yard opening hole, which plays shorter due to the descent into a valley, the 488-yard second includes stands of mature trees, a vast fairway bunker, and three

more large bunkers greenside. The 422-yard third is followed by a daunting 193-yard par 3 over water. If you finish this sequence at or around par, a second career as a member of the Champions Tour player may be in your future.

No review of golf at Horseshoe Bay Resort is complete without a reference to the aforementioned Summit Rock which is exclusive (with limited guest access) to club members. Provided a palette of 1,600 acres of spectacular landscape, Nicklaus was obviously in a giddy mood when he designed this course with some fun short par 4s and a few long and challenging par 5s. The view from atop the world on No. 10, a par 5, will make even lifetime Chicago residents consider a move to the Texas Hill Country.

No visit to Horseshoe Bay Resort is complete without a lesson or stretching exercise from director of golf instruction Bobby Steiner. A syndicated columnist and author of three books on golf, Steiner is as nice a guy as he is a teacher. Over his years as a professional, Steiner has developed a unique perspective on how players can maximize both their physical and

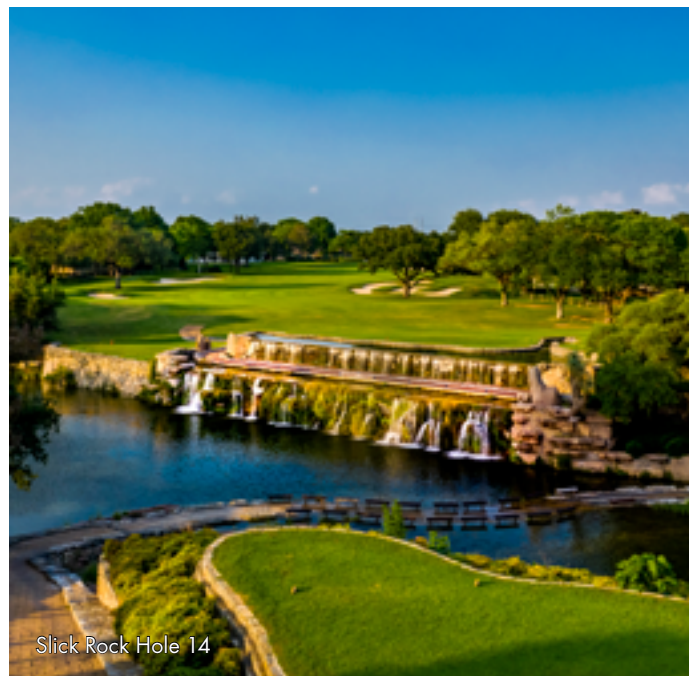
mental skills. His system takes inspiration from yoga positions, meditation, and even music tempos.

Along with great golf, the resort features outstanding and diverse dining options. Enjoy hand-crafted cocktails and scrumptious bar food at the Whitewater 360 Waterfall Club and the Slick Rock Grill & Bar. No visit to the resort is complete without the unforgettable Chicken Fried Lobster

available exclusively at the Yacht Club. Once you've taken your first bite of this delicacy that celebrates Texas cuisine, you will never want your lobster served differently.

Golfers are invited to discover their own diamond in the rough (and in the fairways) with an extended visit to Horseshoe Bay Resort.

www.hsbresort.com
877.611.0112



Slick Rock Hole 14



Whitewater Putting Course



Cap Rock Clubhouse



Apple Rock Hole 10



Welcome to the Show

By Tim Cronin



An interesting thing happened last year at the Tinley Park Convention Center. People showed up on the weekend of the Tinley Park Golf Show. For days before, the phones rang off the hook with golfers wondering when the show would take place.

That's an audience eager to be served.

There was no Golf Expo last year, but now it's back, under new management – that of the convention center itself. The same bright, airy room and many of the same faces manning the booths, eager to talk golf – and perhaps, to sell you a club or three.

If you picked up this issue on Feb. 7-9, you picked it up at the reborn Tinley Park Golf Show, run by the center itself.

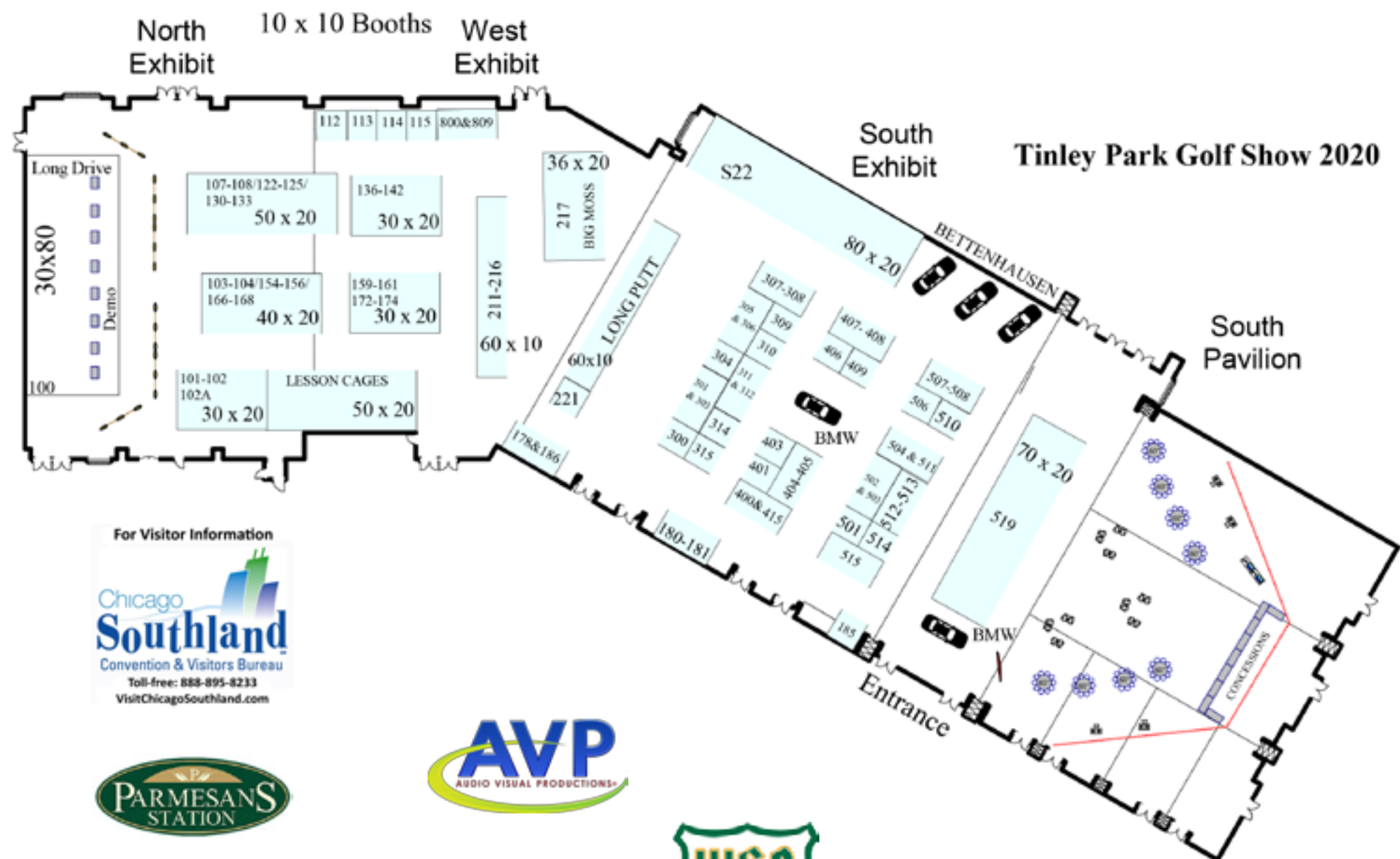
“By popular demand,” said center managing director Daniel Fitzgerald. “There were so many disappointed folks last year.”

They should be smiling this year. Fitzgerald brought in Brad Grey of Silver Lake Golf Course – a sponsor of the first show – to help run the three-day festival of golf and help bring back the exhibitors that filled the hall for seven years the first time around.

At press time, the Demo area was expected to feature representatives from Wilson, Tour Edge, Callaway, Cleveland, Cobra, and Mizuno, all major players in the game, with the new equipment introduced at January's PGA Merchandise Show expected to be there for hands-on tryouts.

There will be more than 50 exhibitors in all, including apparel manufacturers, over a dozen courses near and far, a number of area golf shops bringing their best and their cash registers to the floor, and something for kids as well, with First Tee of Greater Chicago setting up a youth golf area. The WGA's BMW Championship, being played at Olympia Fields in August, will sponsor the Longest Putt competition. And big hitters can participate in the Long Drive competition – at a simulator – in the Demo area.

Parking is free and the admittance fee isn't much more, \$5 on Friday and \$10 on Saturday and Sunday. The show runs from noon to 8 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.



Exhibitors

Audio Visual Productions . . . None
 Balmoral Woods 178 - 186
 Bender Gloves 300
 Bettenhausen of Tinley Park Promenade
 Big Moss 217
 Callaway 110
 Cam Golf 211 - 216
 Cardinal Creek Golf Course 310
 Chicago Bills Golf 107/08 - 133
 Chicago Southland CVB 309
 Chiro One Wellness 506
 Cobra 114
 Eaglewood Resort and Spa 305 - 306
 Edward Jones 501
 EVEN Hotel Tinley Park TBD
 First Tee of Greater Chicago 102A
 Formula Putting 401 - 414
 Fox Hills Resort 504 - 511

Geneva National Resort 403
 Glenwoodie Golf Club 404 - 405
 GOLFCicago Magazine 185
 Golf Dotz 221
 Golf Etc. 180 - 181
 Green Garden Country Club 510
 Heather's Haus Florist Registration Table
 Herbs Golf 107/08 - 133
 Its Games 19th Hole
 J & M Golf Inc 519
 Kernel Sweettooth 311 - 312
 L. A. Fitness 502 - 503
 Lincoln Oaks Golf Course 409
 Lost Marsh Golf Course 406
 Mizuno 115
 Nevada Bob's Golf S22
 Nothing Bundt Cakes 301 - 303

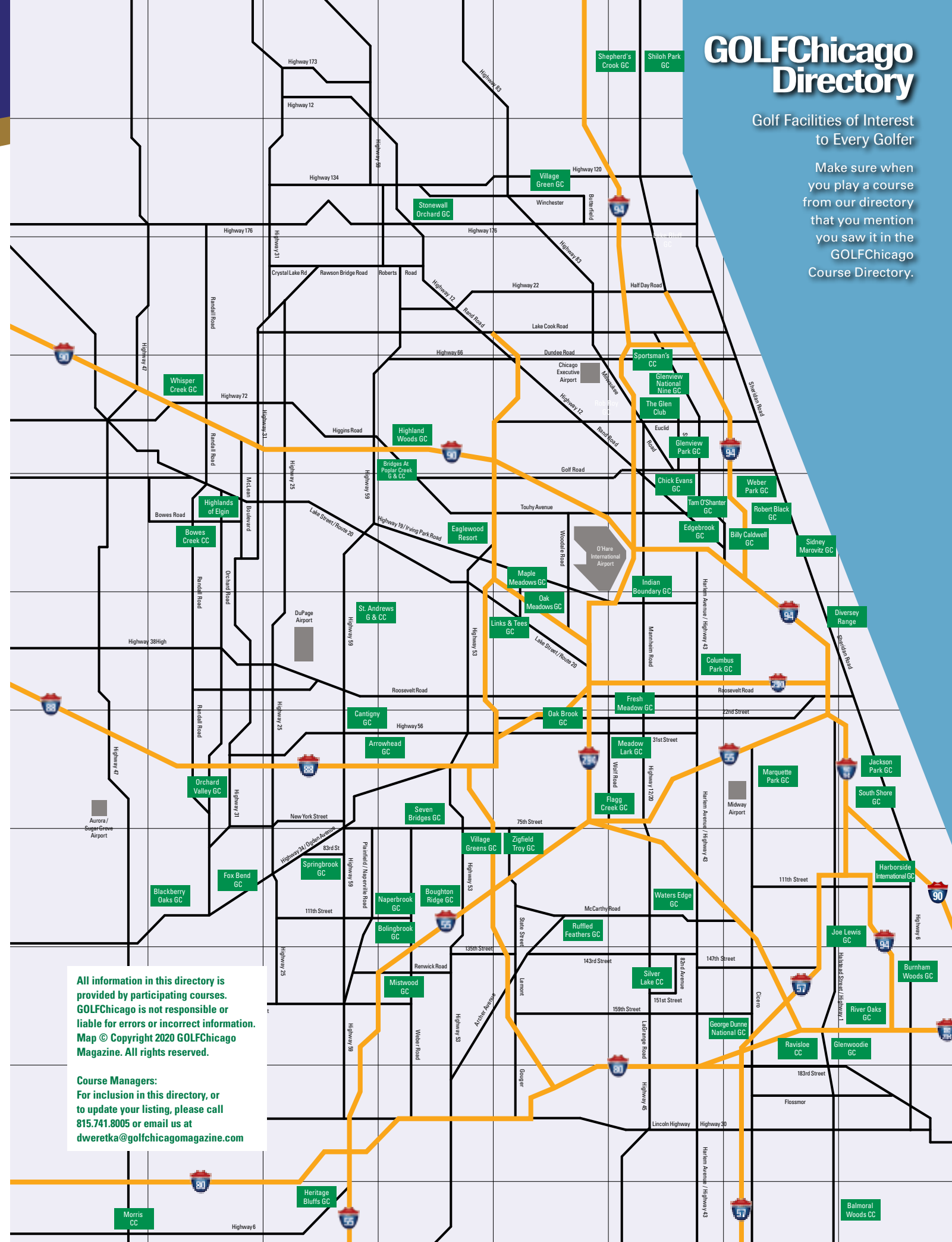
Oak Terrace Resort 407 - 408
 Odyssey Golf Foundation 512 - 513
 Palos Golf 103/154/168
 Parmesans Station 19th Hole
 Pop Tag 401
 Pre-Driven Golf Balls 500 - 515
 Renewal by Anderson 304
 Saints Golf Tinley Park 136 - 142
 Silver Lake CC 400 - 415
 SMT Events 314
 Tour Edge Golf 112
 Tullymore Golf Resort 307 - 308
 Western Golf Association/ BMW Championship 800 - 809
 White Mountain Family Fun Center 507 - 508
 Wilson Sporting Goods 113
 Zeigler BMW Entry



GOLFCicago Directory

Golf Facilities of Interest to Every Golfer

Make sure when you play a course from our directory that you mention you saw it in the GOLFCicago Course Directory.



All information in this directory is provided by participating courses. GOLFCicago is not responsible or liable for errors or incorrect information. Map © Copyright 2020 GOLFCicago Magazine. All rights reserved.

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



Arrowhead

630-653-5800
26W151 Butterfield Rd.
Wheaton, IL 60189
arrowheadgolfclub.org

Arrowhead Golf Club is recognized for its beautifully maintained course and inviting atmosphere.

Arrowhead is a public course which offers impeccable golfing conditions at affordable rates on three separate par 72 18-hole layouts surrounded by forest preserve. The West, East and South Courses feature new bunker renovations and enhancements. The practice area includes a lighted driving range, putting green and chipping green. Group and individual golf lessons are available.



Balmoral Woods Golf Club

708-672-7448
26732 S. Balmoral Woods Dr.
Crete, IL 60417
www.balmoralwoods.com

A fun public golf course on IL-394 in Crete 40 minutes south of Chicago. The 18-hole course with a driving range is spread out over undulating terrain and features a number of holes with mature oak trees. Also the annual home to the Will County Amateur in the Spring. A "must play" course on the south side and a great venue for your next event or function. Book tee times online or check out other information about the property at www.balmoralwoods.com.



Blackberry Oaks Golf Course

630-553-7170
2245 Kennedy Rd.
Bristol, IL 60512
www.blackberryoaks.com

Located just forty minutes west of Chicago, Blackberry Oaks Golf Course was built to blend and enhance the natural assets of the property, such as Blackberry Creek, the wetlands, the prairie lands and mature oak groves. Blackberry Oaks is a true "Link with Nature." Blackberry Oaks Golf Course features 18 holes of golf, a practice range, an exceptional junior golf academy and a fantastic restaurant. Please visit www.blackberryoaks.com to learn more and to reserve a tee time.

Home of the Blackberry Amateur, the premier Midwest amateur golf event.
www.blackberryamateur.com



Bowes Creek Country Club

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

Ranked as *Golfweek's* Best Courses You Can Play, Bowes Creek Country Club gives you every option to play your ideal round of golf. Along with annual memberships, we offer a "member-for-a-day" pass, allowing you the privilege to play unlimited golf with cart as well as full use of the practice facility. If playing a quick round of nine or eighteen holes suits your game better, we offer that as well. Bowes Creek allows the public golfer to experience the private club, without an annual membership.



Maple Meadows Golf Club

630-616-8424
272 Addison Rd.
Wood Dale, IL 60191
DuPageGolf.com

Maple Meadow's Championship "West 18" features a modern prairie design, and is honored to be a qualifying site for the Illinois Open and the host course for the DuPage Junior Classic.

Choose from four sets of tees and enjoy immaculate bent grass fairways and greens.

Maple Meadows' convenient location features easy access from O'Hare, I-290, I-355, I-294 and Route 83.

Find our best specials and promotions only on www.DuPageGolf.com.



The Preserve at Oak Meadows

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

After extensive renovations, the 288-acre The Preserve at Oak Meadows is a new world-class 18-hole course, practice facility and environmental haven—designed by golf architect Greg Martin.

- *Golf Digest* Green Star Award Winner
 - *Golf Inc.* Renovation of the Year
 - *Golf Digest* Best Courses You Can Play
 - ASGCA Design Excellence Award
- The Preserve's location features easy access from O'Hare, I-290, I-355, I-294 and Route 83.
For news and tee times visit DuPageGolf.com



Forest Preserve Golf Courses | Cook County

800-460-0010
forestpreservegolf.com

Affordable GOLF. Friendly SERVICE. Fantastic EXPERIENCE.

Forest Preserve Golf offers something for every golfer. PLUS ... save EVERY DAY with the FPG Golf and Rewards Card!

- Billy Caldwell: 9 Holes
- Burnham Woods: 18 Holes
- Chick Evans: 18 Holes
- Edgebrook: 18 Holes
- George Dunne National: 18 Holes
- Harry Semrow: Driving Range & Mini Golf
- Highland Woods: 18 Holes
- Indian Boundary: 18 Holes
- Joe Louis: 18 Holes
- Meadowlark: 9 Holes
- River Oaks: 18 Holes



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 lush 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.



Cantigny Golf

630-668-8463
27w270 Mack Rd.
Wheaton, IL 60189
cantignygolf.com

Designed by Roger Packard, Cantigny is both challenging and breathtakingly scenic.

Cantigny Golf's Red Oak Club loyalty program rewards customers with free golf and other benefits.

The Young Executive Program offers reduced green fees for golfers 39 and under.

Cantigny's 27 holes are ideal for outings ranging from 16 to 220 golfers. The course employs a full-time golf-event coordinator to ensure an exceptional experience for planners and guests.

Cantigny Golf Academy offers clubfitting, all-weather practice, golf fitness and more.



Chicago Park District Golf

312-245-0909
cpdgolf.com

Great Golf in the Heart of the City.

With six courses, three driving ranges and two miniature golf courses, there's golf enjoyment for the whole family.

PLUS...save EVERY DAY, secure early tee time access and more with the CPD Players Advantage Card!

- Robert A. Black: 9 Holes
 - Sydney R. Marovitz: 9 Holes
 - Jackson Park: 18 Holes
 - Columbus Park: 9 Holes
 - Marquette Park: 9 Holes
 - South Shore: 9 Holes
 - Diversey Range
- The only double-deck range in Chicago.



Coyote Run Golf Course

708-957-8700
800 Kedzie Ave.
Flossmoor, IL 60422
www.coyoterungolf.com

Coyote Run, which opened in 2005, sits on the former site of Cherry Hills. It has been completely redesigned by Greg Martin. A hidden gem in the southern suburbs, Coyote Run's course conditions rival that of the best country clubs in the area. Only 20 minutes from Chicago, Coyote Run is conveniently accessed from I-80, I-294 and I-57. Great senior rates are available Monday through Friday. Visit www.coyoterungolf.com for the best rates available.



Green Meadows Golf Club

630-810-5330
18 W. 201 W. 63rd St.
Westmont, IL 60559
DuPageGolf.com

Green Meadows is a fun nine-hole gem that offers quality conditions in a traditional parkland setting.

Featuring three par 4s and six par 3s, the Green Meadows layout is the perfect blend of challenge, enjoyment and value for all skill levels!

Senior discounts are available every day, and DuPage Golf Discount Card holders save on every round.

Look for Green Meadows behind the Westmont water tower on 63rd St.

Find our best specials and promotions only on www.DuPageGolf.com.



The Glen Club

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.

Enjoy the grand 48,000 square-foot clubhouse, superb dining, 21 overnight guest rooms, a grand ballroom and the finest in corporate amenities and membership.



Glenview Park Golf Club

847-724-0250
Shermer Rd.
Glenview, IL 60025
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.



Glenview Prairie Club

847-657-1637
2800 W. Lake Ave.
Glenview, IL 60026
golfglenview.com

- Meticulous conditions like no other 9-hole course
 - Affordable Rates.
 - 4 sets of tees to meet all skill levels
 - 90 minute pace of play for a quick 9
 - Challenging, fun and enjoyable for all.
- After your round stop in for a cold beverage in our beautiful clubhouse setting overlooking the 9th green. Craft Beers, Fine Wines sport and soft drinks available.

Make Glenview Prairie Club your home club for a premier 9-hole experience!



Glenwoodie Golf Club

708-758-1212
19301 S State St.
Glenwood, IL 60425
glenwoodiegolf.com/

Glenwoodie, just 25 minutes from Chicago, has been a favorite championship course for serious and recreational golfers in Chicago and Northwest Indiana for over 90 years. Consistently ranked in the top 35 public courses, the 18-hole, par-72, 6902-yard course features bent-grass fairways and large rolling greens surrounded by groves of majestic oaks.

- 14,000 sq. ft. Clubhouse and Community Center with Fully Stocked Golf Shop
- Full Service Bar and Grille and Outdoor Patio
- Electric Cart Fleet
- Lighted Practice Range/PGA Professional Staff





Golf Center Des Plaines

847-803-GOLF
353 N River Rd.
Des Plaines, IL 60016
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 Fall-Fall. The 80-bay lighted and 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.



Harborside International G.C.

312-782-7837
11001 S. Doty Ave. East
Chicago, IL 60628
harborsidegolf.com

Located just south of the loop in the City of Chicago, Harborside features two championship-style links courses designed by renowned architect Dick Nugent.

Harborside is home to Chicago's largest practice facility, a prairie-style clubhouse and The Pier at Harborside restaurant.

Harborside's Port and Starboard courses rank annually among the Midwest's list of best courses you can play.



Heritage Bluffs Public Golf Club

815-467-7888
24355 W. Bluff Rd.
Channahon, IL 60410
heritagebluffs.com

18 Holes: Par 72
Yardage: 5,035- 7,171
Located near the intersection of Interstates 80 and 55 just south of Joliet, Heritage Bluffs is the pride of the Channahon Park District. The tranquil surroundings make a day playing golf fun and relaxing.

Along with our award-winning course we also feature a large all-grass practice range along with a large putting green and a separate chipping green and bunker. After your round you can relax in our Grille Room or out on the patio, enjoying a full menu of delicious food and beverage choices.



The Highlands of Elgin

847-931-5950
875 Sports Way
Elgin, IL 60123
highlandsofelgin.com

The Highlands of Elgin has become a premier destination for thousands of golfers throughout the region. Nine new holes reclaim an old stone quarry, and take maximum advantage of the unique and dramatic landforms that were left behind, including a twelve-acre quarry lake. Four holes hug the top of the bluff thirty to forty feet above the water, providing golfers with incredible views and numerous shot options on each hole. The prairie-style clubhouse features an expanded golf shop, locker rooms, event rooms and a full-scale food and beverage operation.



Ravisloe Country Club

708-798-5600
18231 Park Ave,
Homewood, IL 60430
ravisloe.com

Ravisloe Country Club has been one of the most acclaimed golf courses in Chicagoland since its inception. Bearing the signature of world-renowned course designer Donald Ross, it has played host to many great golfers and features rolling mounds, deep bunkers and challenging greens. Located just 25 minutes from Chicago, 10 miles from the Indiana state line and across the street from the Homewood Metra Station, Ravisloe is your one stop destination. Wine-Dine-Stay-Play with Ravisloe, La Voûte Bistro and La Banque Hotel.



St. Andrews Golf & Country Club

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

36 Holes:
Course #1: par 71,
5116 - 6920 yards
Course #2: par 72,
5341 - 6818 yards
Since 1926, golfers have sought out St. Andrews for its two championship courses. With its vast rolling terrain and mature trees, St. Andrews offers a high-quality golf experience for players, golf outings, leagues and permanent tee-times. Guests will also enjoy the award-winning 32-acre Practice Center with premium range balls and 10 heated, sheltered hitting bays. Other amenities: golf carts with GPS, J.J.'s Bar & Grill, exquisite lakeside ceremony site and live entertainment.



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. The facility features a challenging, parkland-style championship course, a practice facility with a one-acre turf practice tee, a large practice putting green, and two short-game practice greens with bunkers. Golfers of all skill levels return time and again to play. Enjoy post-game refreshments on the expansive patio with great views of the course. Springbrook also offers lessons, outings, a well-stocked golf shop, and more.



Stonewall Orchard

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



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."



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 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!



PGA TOUR Superstore

1017 Butterfield Rd.
Downers Grove, 60515
1319 E. Golf Rd.
Schaumburg, 60173
295 Center Dr. Vernon Hills,
60061

PGA TOUR Superstore carries the largest selection of golf clubs, clothing, footwear and accessories for your game. With the most advanced technology for club fitting, we also offer the Fitting Van Experience which is a TOUR caliber assessment. With three Chicagoland locations, come see why nothing compares to PGA TOUR Superstore.



Tam O'Shanter Golf Course & Learning Center

847-965-2344
6700 West Howard Street
Niles, IL 60714
golftam.com

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! Year-round instruction available!



Water's Edge Golf Course

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



Weber Park Golf Course

847-674-1500, ext. 3600
skokieparks.org
9 Holes: Par 27
Yardage: 1,095

Located just twenty minutes north of Chicago on I-94, all ages will enjoy Skokie's Weber Park Golf Course. This 9-hole, par-3 golf course features bent grass greens, beautiful landscaping and is ideal for learning to play golf, working on your short game, or gathering a few friends for a fun round of FootGolf.



Whisper Creek Golf Course

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



Get on With It!

Everybody complains about slow play, not just those playing with or behind Bryson DeChambeau. For all the griping, there have been few concrete examples of how to avoid playing slowly.

Oh, there's the Keep Pace system pioneered at Village Links, and other cattle prod techniques. When applied, those often serve to antagonize as much as get the turtles moving more spritely.

Thus, it was a pleasure to discover Sam Dunn's *The Art of Fast Play*, a breezy – 122 pages – softcover book on how to play faster. In about the time it

should take someone to play nine holes, here's just about everything needed to pick up your pace.

Dunn isn't an expert golfer or someone with a hand in the business. He's a smart observer and someone who was able to explain, aided by diagrams by Melissa Detroy, exactly how to save a few seconds here and there. Do that enough, and many a minute has been shaved off your round. (If, that is, the group in front of you, and the one in front of them, and so on, has also read this book. Perhaps

it should be required for juniors entering the game and for new members at clubs.)

As Dunn notes in his introduction, "it isn't a very glamorous subject. A swing coach can become a celebrity, but who wants to be known as the great theorist of bag management or cart placement?"

Dunn is the de facto expert on that and more. He makes the great point that it isn't the quality of the golf that determines a round's tempo, but what players do between their shots. Do they walk briskly to their ball? Do they keep an eye on shots that stray off line? Are they ready to play when it's their turn?

Yes, yes and yes means there's an opportunity to play in four hours or less. Throw in a no, and you'll go slow.

Dunn covers how to use carts smartly – even when stuck on the path during and after a rain. Some of his advice is obvious, such as not parking carts in front of the green, but how often do we see the group in front of us doing everything the wrong way, while we're waiting to play a shot.

The one area where Dunn reaches is in putting the duty of assuring fast play on the ranger, the guy who has to tell players to get a move on. This is rarely advice that prompts a cheery response. Rather than cajole and criticize and hope for a better pace, courses should offer incentives to those crossing the finish line in less than four hours. A discounted beer in the bar, for instance, or, for regulars, a punch card that can be redeemed for a free round or something in the pro shop.

Give a player a goal, and he'll try to reach it. Brandish the whip, and he may go to another course. He'll be slow there as well.

One thing has improved since Dunn's book, which is best found online, came out. The limit for looking for a lost ball has been cut to three minutes from five. That's a start. So is this book.

The Art of Fast Play
Solving Golf's Maddening Problem of Slow Play
By Sam Dunn
Vineyard Stories
\$14.95

Welcome to the third opportunity to review some wine terms you may not be familiar with, but should prove helpful.

Oak, either French or American, is the usual wood for making barrels and other containers in which wine is aged. In addition to the storage itself, oak imparts flavors and tannins to the wine. Almost all red wine sees some time in wood. This is less so for whites, due to the current concern for "over-oaking," particularly with chardonnay.

Oxidation occurs when wine is exposed to air. This can be desirable for short periods, allowing the wine to "breathe." Longer exposure, however, is detrimental, leading to a stale, dull, sherry-like smell and flavor, as well as a brownish cast. Eventually, exposure will turn the wine into vinegar.

Phenolic compounds are present in grape skins and seeds, and are extracted from oak barrels as well. Also called **phenols** or **phenolics**, they include tannins and pigments, and contribute astringency, bitterness, color, and antioxidants.

Phylloxera [fihl-LOX-er-uh] is a tiny aphidlike insect from the eastern United States that attacks the roots of grapevines, usually to devastating effect. Phylloxera sucks the nutrients from the roots and slowly starves the vine. It has been a serious threat to vineyards around the world for over 150 years, and winemakers are ever-vigilant for its appearance.

Plonk is slang for any ordinary, low-quality wine. The term was coined by Australians during World War I as they drank French vin blanc, whose name somehow eventually morphed into "plonk."

Pomace is what's left over after the grape juice has been extracted. It can be processed to make raw brandy.

Premier Cru is French for "first growth." In the Médoc and Sauternes regions of Bordeaux, premier cru is the highest sub-category of cru classé, or "classed growth."

Pumping over is the process of, yes, pumping juice over the cap during fermentation to expedite extraction of color, flavor, and tannins.

Racking is the process of siphoning off the juice from the sediment that has fallen

Say What? (Part 3)

to the bottom of the container. Racking can occur three or four times before the juice runs clear.

Sommelier [saw-muh-LYAY] is French for a wine steward, who is expected to have an extensive knowledge of wines, their suitability with various dishes, and how to serve and decant them.

Sur lie [soor LEE] Lees is the sediment that accumulates during fermentation, and sur lie is French for "on the lees." Winemakers believe that certain wines, usually chardonnay and sauvignon blanc, benefit from an aging period on the lees.

Tannins are astringent substances found in all parts of grapes as well as oak barrels. They are important in the production of good red wines and contribute to aging potential. If you are familiar with the astringency of strong black tea, that's tannins.

Terroir [tehr-WAHR] literally means "soil" in French. For winemakers there it implies much more, as is increasingly so for vintners around the world. More broadly, terroir encompasses not only the earth in which the grape vines grow, but other factors such as vineyard altitude, the angle of the sun on the grapes, the slope of the incline of the plot, and water availability and drainage. The impact of terroir on the quality of the finished wine is controversial, however, particularly in the New World, with some producers believing viticulture and viticulture play a more profound role.

Veraison is the change of ripening grapes from green to red or yellow, occurring in mid to late summer and celebrated as a sure sign of the coming harvest.

Vin de Pays [van deu pay-YEE] or "country wine" in French. This is the third tier of quality in the French system, behind Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée and Vin Délimité de Qualité Supérieure. It is followed by Vin de Table.

Viniculture is synonymous with enology, the study or practice of winemaking.

Viticulture is the cultivation of grapevines, or the study of wine grapes themselves.

For additional terms and wine reviews, be sure to visit winervana.com.

And Now for Something Completely Different

The Exitus winery is located in Parlier, California, about 20 miles south-east of Fresno. I don't know how badass the folks of Parlier are, but it's certainly the image that Exitus is trying to cultivate. Their one current offering is Exitus Bourbon Barrel Aged Red Wine. It is fermented in the usual stainless steel. But, rather than using traditional barrels expressly made for wine, Exitus is matured for three months in charred barrels that were previously used for the production of Kentucky Bourbon. The schtick is supported by distributing the wine in clear liquor bottles.

Exitus is a blend of Zinfandel, Petit Verdot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petite Sirah, and Merlot, sporting a robust 15.9% ABV. The wine displays a dark but bright cherry color in the glass (as well as the bottle). The alcohol is evident on the nose of the first pour, but gives way to aromas of dark berry, leather, and tobacco thereafter. After about an hour, Exitus becomes surprisingly well-behaved, with flavors of ripe dark stone fruit, dusty chocolate, and spices. Things wrap up with a bit of oak, vanilla, and balanced tannin. Interestingly, Exitus had me thinking about a glass of port for after dinner.

Try this with sweet and sour baby back ribs, thyme-scented pork loin with grapes and port, or sloppy joe burgers. But do it soon. As clever as that clear bottle is, the wine won't age gracefully in it.
<https://www.exituswines.com/>





A Decade of Memories

While we don't know quite yet how the past decade will be appraised by historians, it will surely be remembered for its rancorous politics, devastating meteorological events, bizarre infatuation with superhero movies, and, of course, the continuing saga of the fabulous Kardashians.

In sports, we will surely recall the decade as the Tom Brady or LeBron James era and – depending on your preference – perhaps the Roger Federer or maybe even the Lindsay Vonn era.

The world of golf was marked by milestones, bizarre occurrences, Olympian achievements, Ryder Cup highs and lows, grand course openings, municipal course closings and tour player comebacks, all fighting for decade naming rights. The FedEx Cup Era? The Dog Ate My USGA Rules Book Era? The Keep the Flagstick in the Hole And Stand There Like A Dumbass While I Attempt This Three-Foot Putt Era?

Perhaps we need more time to review, reflect and analyze before making a declaration. Here are just a few memorable highlights and lowlights:

Decade's Best Response To A Loss

On the 2019 Argentine Open's third playoff hole, Brandon Matthews missed a putt when a fellow yeller yelled during his backswing. After learning the perpetrator was not a heckler but a special needs person, the DuPont, Pa., pro met him, autographed a glove, and assured him of no hard feelings. "I wanted to make sure he didn't feel badly," said Matthews, adding he had visited group homes of special needs residents growing up.

Worst rules violation – PGA Tour

Trouble and controversy follow Patrick Reed like "e" follows an "i" (except after "c"). Playing in the Hero World Challenge last December, the 2018 Masters champion twice moved sand behind his ball in a waste bunker. Assessed a two-stroke penalty for improving his lie, Reed protested he did not intend to gain an advantage. PGA Tour officials disagreed.

Video clips show Reed took two swipes prior to his shot, both moving sand. So why wasn't Reed assessed for both infractions, instead of only one of the two?

Sextuple Bogey Squared + 9?

In October's Senior LPGA Championship at French Lick, Lee Ann Walker was assessed 58 penalty strokes over two rounds for allowing her caddie to line up putts behind her. She missed the 2019 rule change forbidding that. (Another caddie informed her five holes into the second round.) Officials had her count

the number of times it happened. The answer: 21. "This (was) my first competitive round since 2011 or 2012," Walker explained. "Now that I don't play on the LPGA Tour anymore, I don't watch golf."

The penalty strokes gave Walker rounds of 127 and 90. She did not make the cut.

Best New Golf Course Opening – Midwest

Tie for first – on the same property, no less! The spectacular Sand Valley Course designed by Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw opened to rave national reviews in 2017. A year later, David Kidd's Mammoth Dunes opened and was cited as 2018's best new course by most national golf magazines. Also in 2018, Coore and Crenshaw unveiled their 17-hole par-3 Sandbox course.

The new decade promises continued design excellence at Sand Valley as master architect Tom Doak works on a sub-par-70 course tentatively called Sedge Valley.

Worst Tip – PGA Tour

PGA Tour nice guy Matt Kuchar somehow forgot to properly give a little something extra for the effort after winning \$1.3 million at the 2018 Mayakoba Classic. He tipped his fill-in caddie a mere \$5,000 instead of something remotely close to the traditional 10 percent "caddie's cut," which would amount to \$130,000. Local caddie David Ortiz substituted for Kuchar's regular caddie, agreeing to work for a modest fee with a promise of an unspecified amount of Kuchar's winnings.

Offended, Ortiz went public with his demand for \$50,000 from the 2012 Players Championship winner. After some behind-the-scenes negotiation, Ortiz got his wish.

Worst Penalty Ruling – NCAA

Playing together in the 2017 NCAA Women's Championship at Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove, Northwestern's Sarah Cho and Kent State's Kelly Nielsen were assessed two-stroke penalties for taking cart rides to the bathroom. NCAA rules say a player taking a cart to relieve themselves is not automatically authorized – even though Nielsen was driven by a Kent State staffer. Cho commandeered a cart herself.

What competitive advantage did either player gain by using carts for bathroom breaks? On behalf of all golf fans, I hereby invoke the Lee Ann Walker Sentence on the NCAA big shots. Here's 58 penalty strokes, you illogical, unsympathetic rules dudes. And don't forget to tip your caddies!

The world of golf

was marked by

milestones, bizarre

occurrences,

Olympian

achievements, Ryder

Cup highs and

lows, grand course

openings, municipal

course closings,

and tour player

comebacks, all

fighting for decade

naming rights.

DIAMONDS GO FOREVER



The EXS 220's revolutionary Diamond Face technology features different thick and thin diamond shapes or "mini-trampolines" behind the face, producing faster ball speeds and a massive sweet spot.

Introducing a huge leap forward in tech and the best pound for pound performance in golf, the all new Exotics EXS 220 Driver from Tour Edge.

The EXS 220 Driver features an all new Diamond Face and amazingly high M.O.I. properties that help make the most stable and forgiving driver Tour Edge has ever produced.



BECAUSE I WIN WITH IT

Tour Edge
EXOTICS

It's Time to Experience

"ONE OF THE BEST GOLF RESORTS IN THE SOUTHWEST"

2019 GOLF DIGEST EDITOR'S CHOICE



HORSESHOE BAY RESORT
TEXAS LAKE & HILL COUNTRY

ENJOY ALL OF OUR AMENITIES:

- THREE RENOVATED ROBERT TRENT JONES SR. GOLF COURSES
- LUXURIOUSLY RENOVATED ACCOMMODATIONS
- EIGHT RESTAURANTS FROM SPORTS CLUBS TO FINE DINING
- LAKE LBJ WATER SPORT RENTALS
- SPECIAL GOLF-FOCUSED SPA SERVICES
- THREE SPARKLING POOLS AND HOT TUBS
- STAY & PLAY PACKAGES



45-MINUTES WEST OF AUSTIN | 833.521.6720 | HSBRESORT.COM

