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Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority

May 2018, Vol. 22 No. 3

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HARDY GOES PRO AT RUST-OLEUM

OUR ULTIMATE GIFT GUIDE FOR MOMS, DADS, AND GRADS

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TOP-5

7

TOP-10

15

TOP-25

29

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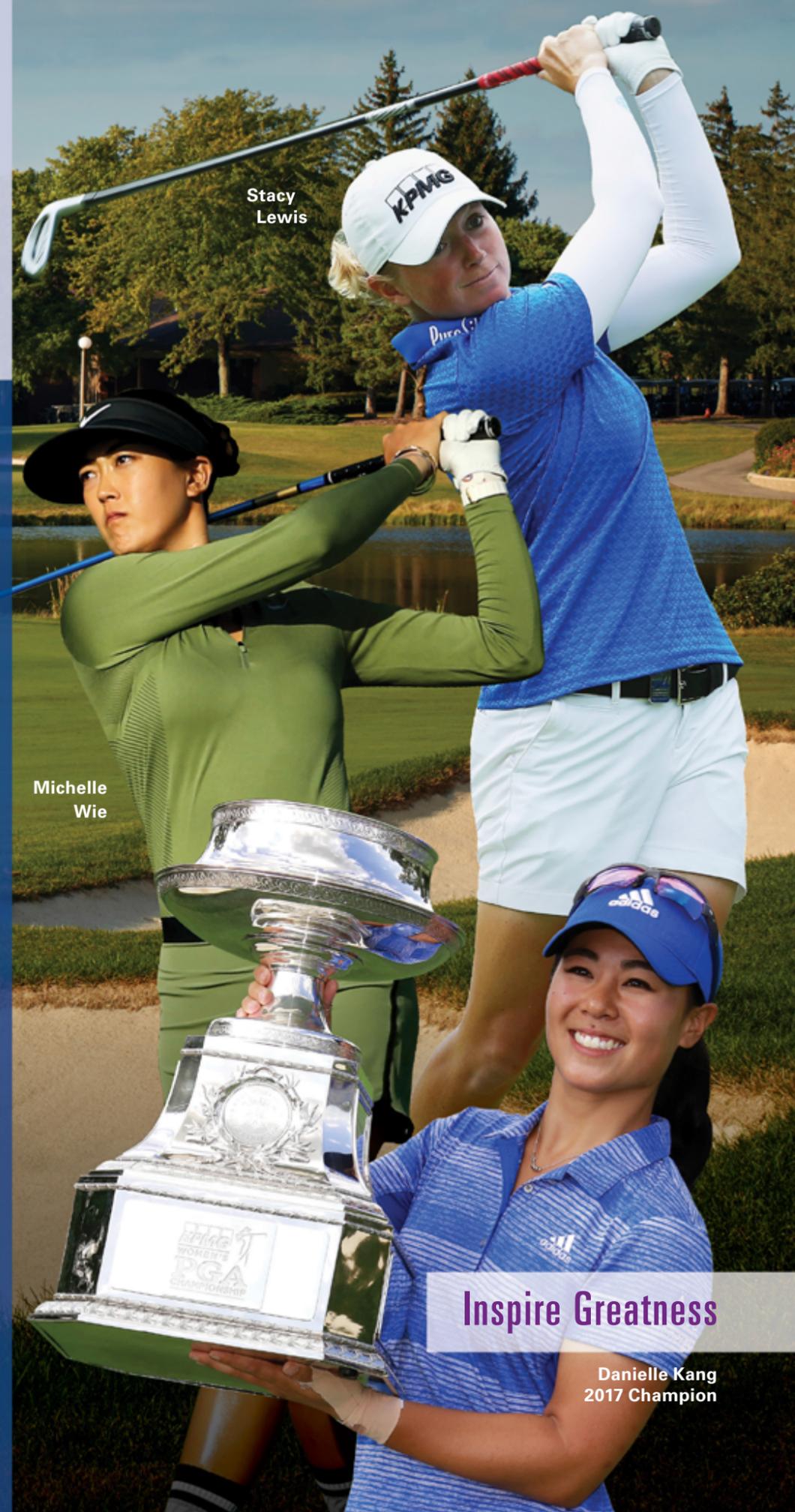


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Kildeer, Illinois
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KPMGWomensPGA.com



Stacy Lewis

Michelle Wie

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Danielle Kang
2017 Champion

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Cover: Danielle Kang

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OPENING SHOT

DAVE
AND
TIM

Here we are in May, and finally the weather is generally cooperating with the idea of playing golf, which through the first half of April was, thanks to unseasonable cold, merely an idea.

May allows us to leap from spring to summer, evolving as the sporting calendar does. To some of us who follow more than golf, it starts with one form of horsepower in the Kentucky Derby and ends with quite another in the Indianapolis 500 – where the Brickyard Crossing golf course will get a day of rest while the gentlemen, and one or two ladies, start their engines.

With Patrick Reed now sporting a green jacket, the golf calendar rolls on nationally, with the month's feature attraction the Players Championship.

It also ramps up locally, and much of our issue concerns itself with that. Herein, Neal Kotlarek previews late June's KPMG Women's PGA Championship at Kemper Lakes Golf Club, with a focus on defending champion Danielle Kang,



"I see you broke your golf clubs again. Apparently, golf is not only a 'good walk spoiled,' it's also an expensive one."

whom he interviewed, and the tournament's second straight year in the Chicago area. It's the biggest spotlight for Kemper Lakes since the 1989 PGA Championship, won by Payne Stewart.

Neal also looks at the Chicago area's season opener, the return of the web.com circuit's Rust-Oleum Championship to the Ivanhoe Club the week before the U.S. Open. It's notable this year for the professional debut of

Northbrook's Nick Hardy, whose stellar career at the University of Illinois wraps up at the end of May with his graduation.

Within these pages you'll also find what we're bashfully calling the Ultimate Gift Guide for Moms, Dads and Grads. Todd Mrowice put that and this issue's edition of The Good Stuff together.

On various pages, we also focus on the golf's rules, which are in flux, try to help you keep it in the fairway through instruction, and try to keep – or get – you in shape through our focus on fitness. Oh, and our Stephen Hawk once again provides tips on what wine to have at the 19th hole. As always, we beseech you to please exercise, and tip the goblet back in moderation.

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THE GOOD STUFF

Compiled by Todd Mrowice



Rife

For

Birdies

A staple in the putter category comes storming back for 2018 as Rife re-introduces the Two Bar. The putter brought patented Roll Groove Technology to the market, which is still featured in the new models. The grooves allow the ball to roll, rather than skip, upon impact. Off-center hits also produce a solid roll and increased forgiveness. The Two Bar mallet is available in silver, black, and red with heel and center shaft options. All models have an adjustable weight system allowing the head weight to be 360 or 380 grams.

\$199.99 | rifegolf.com

Jacked-Up Socks

You may own socks of all colors and patterns, but we'll bet you don't own socks with the golf GOAT on them. Stance, the self-proclaimed "uncommon thread," is the leader in the sock game. Their latest addition commemorates Jack Nicklaus' victory at the 1986 Masters, the socks capturing his famous pose on the 17th green. The normal Stance logo patches are replaced with a Golden Bear logo. The socks are left/right engineered for arch support and have 80/20 moisture wicking fibers. Do you really need these? Answer: "Yes, sir!"

\$18 | stance.com



Going

2 The

Mat

This isn't your dad's boring old putting mat. The Par2 mat actually brings some purpose to your practice with its unique design. Each hole is a par 2 (get it?) and if you're on the green in regulation, try and sink that birdie. If you miss, the graphics on the mat determine the location of your next putt. Anywhere from three to six feet depending on your miss. The smaller hole and extra wide mat makes it a real challenge. Great for singles, foursomes, or more.

\$99.95 | par2golfgame.com



Belt It Out

Nothing is more vital to a successful golf outfit than the proper accessories. Particularly the one that keeps your pants up. C4 is a modern and innovative company that produces high-quality belts from a rubber-like material. They have an array of colors and styles including solids, patterns, animals, symbols, and the Chicago flag! You even get to customize the buckle. \$1 of your purchase goes to a charity C4 supports, your choice which one.

\$29.99 | C4belts.com



Smack These Macks

Aside from having the coolest name in the wedge category, the Callaway Mack Daddy 4 delivers superior results for your shots around the green. Upgraded from its predecessor, the Mack Daddy 4 has more spin from Groove-In-Groove technology, making it easier to hold the green. The soft carbon steel and precise center of gravity locations provide a great feel. With a variety of sole grinds, lofts, and bounce combinations, these Daddy's are made for any player. Available in chrome or black matte finish.

\$149.99 | callawaygolf.com

The Hidden Edge

Tour Edge continues its legacy of producing the most forgiving irons at a consumer-friendly price with its Hot Launch 3 irons. The follow-up to the wildly popular Hot Launch 2, the HL3 irons bring an expanded undercut cavity which allows weight to be distributed to the sole, producing a higher moment of inertia (which improves accuracy) and launch angle. Tour Edge boasts the HL3 irons have "unsurpassed forgiveness" with an elongated sweet spot. The sleek design proves not all game improvement irons have to look like game improvement irons.

\$489.99 (4-PW graphite)

\$419.99 (4-PW steel)

touredge.com



Sweet Home Chicago

Ghim Does Us All Proud

It's pretty good to be Doug Ghim these days.

The pride of Arlington Heights was the low amateur in the Masters – the only one of the six to make the cut – and heads into the end of his senior year as the leader of the Texas Longhorns with all the big ones, starting with the Big XII Championship, still to come.

"This week will be a huge confidence boost, I would say, going into those events," he said before heading to the Butler Cabin for a cameo appearance on television. "Those events feel so big when you're a collegiate player."

Now, they should be more like practice rounds, given the pressure of the Masters.

"This week is probably the most difficult I've ever had just because it meant so much to be here, all the close calls and the heartbreak from the Public Links a couple of years ago, but having this under my belt and being able to perform even under those circumstances I feel like it will get easier from here on out," Ghim said.

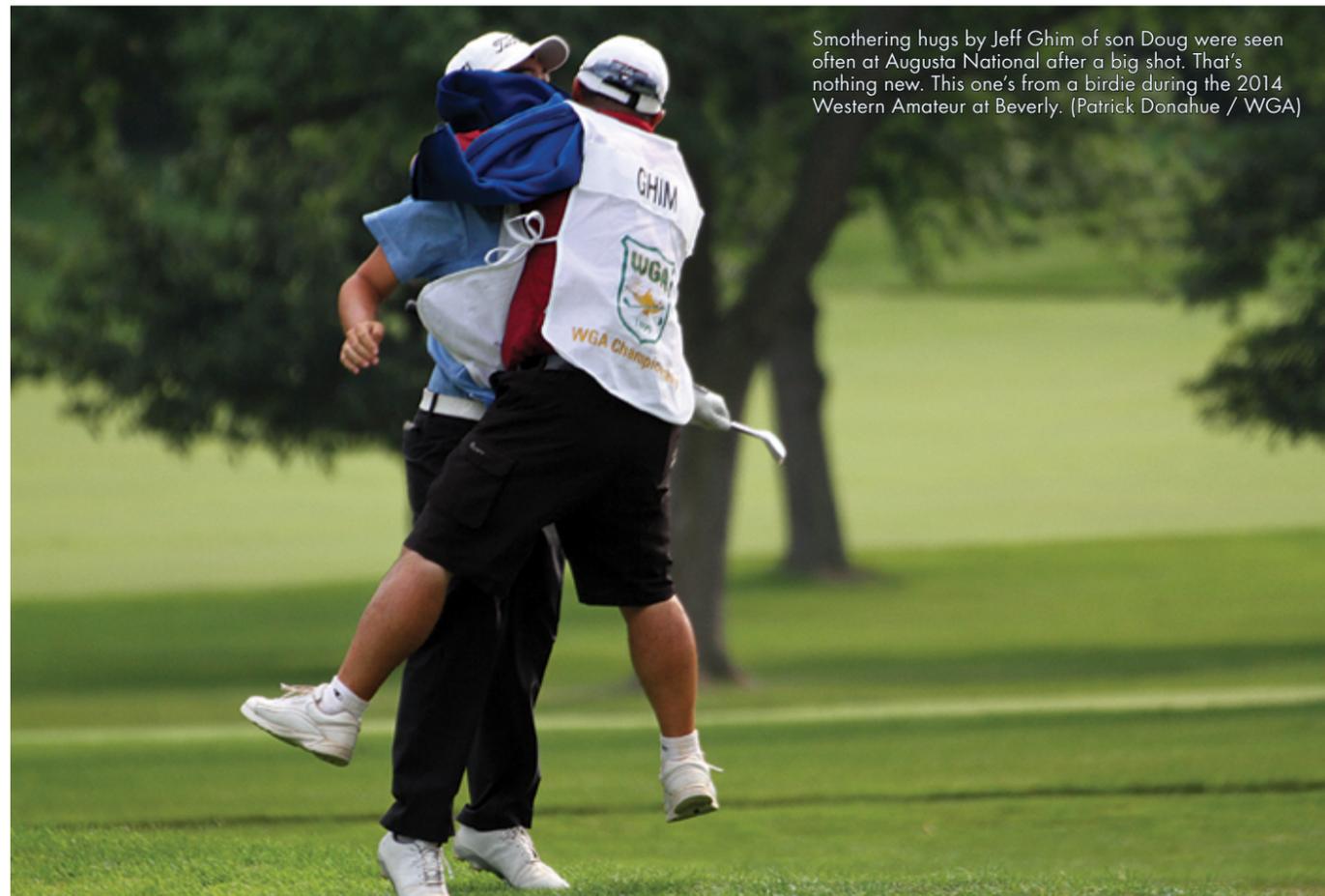
Ghim, who starred at Buffalo Grove High School and made his first big national splash as runner-up in the 2014 – and last – U.S. Amateur Public Links, lived up to the promise he made after finishing as runner-up in the U.S. Amateur and had dad Jeff on his bag. He'll be there again at the U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills, likely for the final time. When Ghim turns pro, he'll want a pro caddie as well.

"It's Father's Day weekend and hopefully we'll make another run at another low amateur honors and maybe even furthermore, but it was an absolute blessing to have him out here and to get a firsthand look at what the Masters tournament is about."

To say the least, Ghim had a better family week than Masters winner Patrick Reed, who has been estranged from his parents since they questioned his engagement to now-wife Justine. They live three miles from Augusta National, but watched him win the Masters on television.

You can sense that would never happen with Ghim, where hugs from dad for birdies and eagles come as naturally as his smooth swing produces them.

The funny thing about Masters week is where the Longhorns were playing. They were in a tournament at



Smothering hugs by Jeff Ghim of son Doug were seen often at Augusta National after a big shot. That's nothing new. This one's from a birdie during the 2014 Western Amateur at Beverly. (Patrick Donahue / WGA)

Pasatiempo in California. Ghim had to pick one Alister MacKenzie-designed course over another.

After the NCAA Championship, Ghim will return home and get ready for the world of pro golf.

"So there's a lot of logistics and obviously just trying to figure out what I'm going to do and where I'm going to live and all that stuff, but I'll be back in Chicago for the two weeks between national championships and the U.S. Open, and I'll enjoy a little bit of time off and to be able to digest whatever has happened in the last month or two, which will be nice. And preparation for the exciting things to come."

Which almost surely will include a return trip to Augusta National – and soon.

The Exmoor, The Merrier

Back when Ameritech had succeeded Illinois Bell and was running a senior golf tournament for promotional jollies, its PR firm came up with a nifty slogan that has to be said out loud for full effect: "Senior favorite golfers lately?"

Get it? Seen your...

We thought you did. This year, the seniors – Palmer and Trevino having been supplanted by Steve Stricker and Vijay Singh – visit the area twice, first at Harbor Shores in Benton Harbor, Mich., on Memorial Day weekend, for the Senior PGA Championship, and then at Exmoor Country Club in Highland Park for the 36th Senior Players Championship.

That takes place on July 12-15, and with the news that Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio, will host the Senior Players for at least the next four years beginning in 2019, it's best not to wait for the next time it plays through Chicago. And there hasn't been a senior major in Illinois since the 1997 U.S. Senior Open.

So why not volunteer? A limited number of opportunities are still available, according to the Western Golf Association, which is assisting in conducting the tournament. Volunteers perform key tasks inside and outside the ropes during tournament week, including working as marshals, standard bearers, assisting with player and VIP transportation, and helping welcome thousands of spectators to Exmoor during the championship.

Down Memory Lane

The Babe Leads The Way

The Forthcoming Women's PGA Championship At Kemper Lakes Golf Club Has A Sponsor's Initials Attached: KPMG. Some might turn up their nose at that, but sponsors have been a part of golf for over a century. And women's professional golf might never have advanced beyond the larval stage without them.

The LPGA was born in 1950 from the ashes of the Women's Professional Golf Association, which ran out of money in its second year. Fred Corcoran, whose promotional exploits built the American men's tour on the back of Walter Hagen, was contracted to do the same for the ladies.

In this case, chambers of commerce willing to put up money for a pro tournament were hard to come by. But he received \$15,000 in seed money from Wilson Sporting Goods and, after too many "no thanks" to count, Corcoran had a short schedule, empty from mid-March to the end of May.

Then Alvin Handmacher called. His Weathervane Sports Clothes needed an outlet to publicize its duds for men and women. He had \$15,000 to spend, and Corcoran convinced him to spend it on a four-tournament coast-to-coast series of Weathervane Opens. They would only be 36-hole tournaments, but with a hook: There would be an overall prize for low score across all eight rounds.

That enticed every big star to enter, including the tour's drawing card, Babe Zaharias. The second tournament was even played where the Babe was head pro, Skycrest Country Club.

The Babe won the opener at Pebble Beach, but Louise Suggs scored a seven-stroke victory over her at Skycrest to grab the \$750 prize. The two split the next two titles as well, but the Babe had the last laugh, taking the \$5,000 grand prize via the 144-hole aggregate of 626 to Suggs' 632.

You may have never heard of Skycrest, but you probably have heard of Twin Orchard Country Club. That's the current name of the Babe's old place. It's just two miles down Old McHenry Road from Kemper Lakes.

– Tim Cronin



Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and commit to work at least three shifts during tournament week. Shifts range from 4 to 6 hours in length, depending on assignment. They are asked to purchase a volunteer package for \$75. The package, valued at \$353, includes two Peter Millar golf shirts, a hat or visor, a commemorative pin, four one-day grounds tickets, an invitation to the Volunteer Appreciation Party, and food and beverage vouchers.

You might see a big name win, or a surprise champion like last year's winner, Scott McCarron. For more

information on volunteering, and for tickets, go to www.cspgolf.com.

For tickets to the Senior PGA at Harbor Shores, go to www.pga.com/events/seniorpgachampionship and click on Tickets.

Lend A Hand To Freedom Golf

The fifth annual fundraising outing for the Burr Ridge-based Freedom Golf Association, a non-profit support group for disabled golfers, is at Cog Hill Golf & Country Club on Friday, June 8. For \$200, individuals get a round of golf, breakfast and on-course lunch, a shot

at trophies, the chance to participate in a silent auction, and the opportunity to marvel at trick-shot artist Dennis Walters, who is himself disabled.

A foursome in the FGA outing is \$750. Disabled golfers play for free.

Walters is an inspiration to many. His one-hour show came about after he was paralyzed from the waist down when he was 24, changing his life and ending a promising golf career. He's been on golf's stage since 1977, and will be awarded the USGA's Bob Jones Award at the U.S. Open on June 13.

"He inspires all of us with his belief that anyone can play the game, delivering life lessons through golf, and showing that anything is possible in both life and golf if you're willing to work hard enough," USGA executive director Mike Davis said.

"I have been on tour for 41 years, just not the tour I imagined," Walters said. "I started this path for myself as a mechanism to cope with what I considered to be a hopeless situation. I never knew what I could accomplish with my show or how many people it would reach. I made up my mind and was determined to do whatever I could to still make golf my career and a part of my everyday life. What I didn't know was how it would extend past the golf community to show others what is possible under almost impossible odds."

For more information on a group which gave 3,300 lessons last year, go to www.fgagolf.com, write playgolf@fgagolf.org or call (855) 342-4465.

Team Golf With A Twist

There are a number of long-standing tournament operations in the Chicago area, including NIMAGA and the Weekly Challenge Golf Tour.

Now enter the Tito's Tee Time series. This is different, a two-man best-ball stroke-play format tournament wherein pals play together, and with the top two teams at each site on the tour qualify for the series championship.

There are a pair of tournaments in the area: June 2 at Prairie Landing Golf Club in West Chicago, and July 28 at Itasca Country Club in Itasca. The championship is Aug. 17-19 at Geneva National in Lake Geneva, Wis.

Entry fee for the one-day tournaments is \$149 a player. For more information: titosteetime.com.

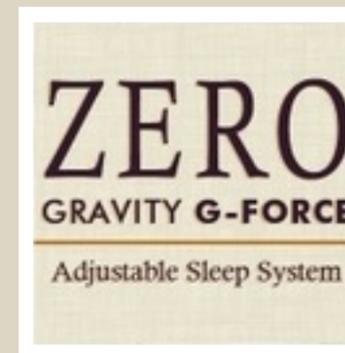
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Getting On The Right Track

April's weather was a bit of a roller coaster ride; one day it's 70 degrees and two days later it's snowing. Living in the Midwest can put a damper on your golf game, so it's important to make sure you start the season with a swing and equipment tune up.

The first thing I like to do once the golf season is here is make sure all my clubs are in good working condition. I want to check all my grips to make sure they are clean of dust and oil before I take them out to the range. A lot can happen to your clubs while they sit in your garage, basement, or attic over the winter, so you need to take a quick look through all your clubs and give them a once over before you take them out. With spring taking its time getting here, we haven't had a chance to get out and practice and play as much as we would have liked to. Here are a few good tips and practice habits we all should be implementing into our golf routine.

Let's start the season off on a good note and take a lesson from your local PGA professional. With the lingering cold, it might not be a bad idea to get a one-on-one lesson to start the season practicing good habits rather than reverting back to

last season's bad habits. As an instructor, I encourage my students to get in a lesson before the season goes into full force so we can implement new routines and drills they can use while practicing. We all know how important practice can be so we need to be sure to practice with a purpose rather than just going to the range and hitting a large bucket of balls just to say we did.

To get better, go to the range or putting green with a goal in mind while practicing. Whether you're trying to work on a swing fundamental or a swing thought, it's best to practice on something very specific. I see this happen to a lot of people when they are hitting balls at the range. They don't have a plan or a goal in mind but just want to hit as many balls as they can, waiting for the results they want. Practice is important, but even more important is to practice with a purpose and a goal.

Teaching aids and practice drills are important for a student to understand the fundamentals. A teaching aid and practice tool I like to use is an alignment stick. You can find these sticks at any golf store or even a hardware store. I take the alignment sticks and lay them down on the range and point them at my intended target. Doing this helps me train my eyes

to ensure I am aiming at my target and my body is aligned up to that target as well. This is a great tool all golfers should have in their bag to use while practicing.

Let's not forget about chipping and putting. In the beginning of the golf season we are all eager to get out and play, but we need to remember that putting is by far the most important aspect to the game of golf. Grab your alignment sticks again and place them parallel to each other about the width of your putter pointing at your intended target; picture a train track.

The same principle applies when using the alignment sticks on the putting green. We want to make sure our eyes and our body are working together to get the ball rolling towards our target. I see this a lot when giving a putting lesson that people are not pointing their shoulder and putter face in the same direction. Using the two alignment sticks will help you visualize the path of the putter and the direction you are aiming and hopefully making more putts. 

Andrew Ogata is the first assistant golf professional at Arrowhead Golf Club in Wheaton.



Alignment sticks pointing down target line.



Alignment stick (railroad tracks) for putting.

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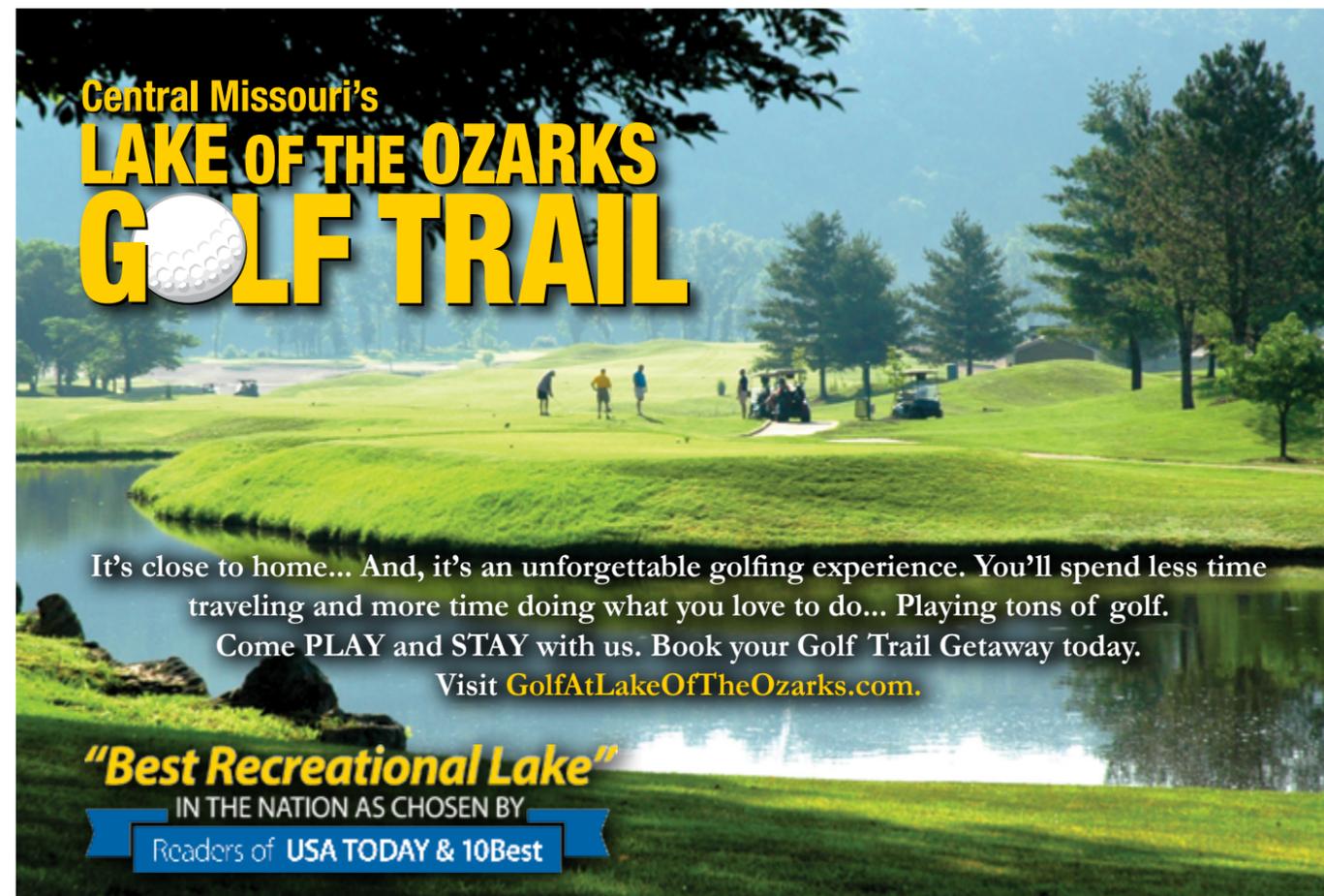


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Check out the article about Royal Fox in the April edition of GOLFChicago Magazine • www.golfchicagomagazine.com

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Mother's Day

G/FORE The Ladies

G/FORE is at the center of trendy golf wear these days. With Phil's logoed shoes, Bubba's bright pink kicks, and a slew of cool colored cabretta gloves on TV, the company has come a long way in a short time. G/FORE's line of women's clothing is no exception. Their Striped Rib Polo is a bit of classic and a bit of new. The lightweight polo features contrasting ribbed detailing on the collar with matching design on the sleeve. 94% polyester, 6% spandex. The Golf Pleat Skort is a cotton/nylon blend that completes the outfit. **\$125 (polo), \$155 (skort) | gfore.com**



Get Sassy

Just like she does at work or out for dinner, Mom wants to style on the golf course. Sassy Caddy, a Colorado based company, strives to recognize women that want something "fashionable and functional." Sassy Caddy cart bags offer 14 full-length dividers, putter well, velvined valuables pocket and easy access pouch. A coordinating detachable purse and rain hood are included. You can also coordinate with a leather clutch to go right from the 18th to the 19th hole. **\$298 (cart bag), \$57 (clutch) sassycaddy.com**



Be Cool With Callaway

Callaway outfits some of the game's best in the club category, but also in apparel. The Women's Opti-Cool Tonal Pullover is perfect for our weather in the Midwest. Long sleeved, but keeps you cool. The half-zip, mock collar design is fashionable, but doesn't sacrifice your ability to swing away. The tonal printed sleeves and arcing ribs have a floral pattern for a nice contrasting look. Opti-Dri moisture wicking keeps you comfortable, allowing you to wear this pullover out on the course or out on the town. **\$80 callawayapparel.com**



Pounce With Puma

Puma Golf is one of the best at bringing together a golf shoe design that is comfortable, stable, and looks cooler than a comfortable and stable golf shoe. The Ignite Blaze Sport Disc Golf Shoe is eye-catching and innovative. Puma's DISC Technology is a fast and easy lace that gives a consistent fit every time you put them on. The Pro-Fit insole and IGNITE Foam might make you contemplate wearing them to sleep. One year warranty, waterproof, and available in three colors. **\$120 | cobragolf.com**



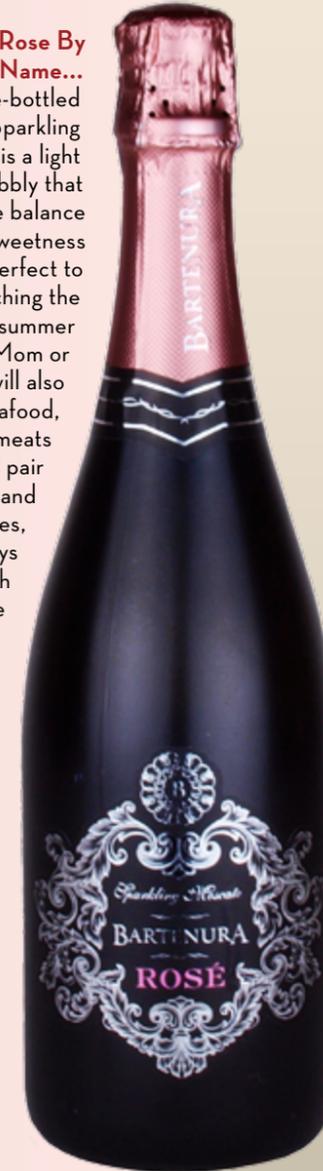
In The Pink With Titleist

The #1 ball in golf has never been brighter. Aside from the traditional white and citrus inspired orange, the 2018 Titleist Velocity is also available in a shade of pink that sure does stand out. The softer, high speed LSX core provides a fast initial velocity for big distance. The Velocity doesn't skimp on playability around the green, and its high flight gives you that extra soft landing you're looking for. **\$26.99 | titleist.com**

Father's Day

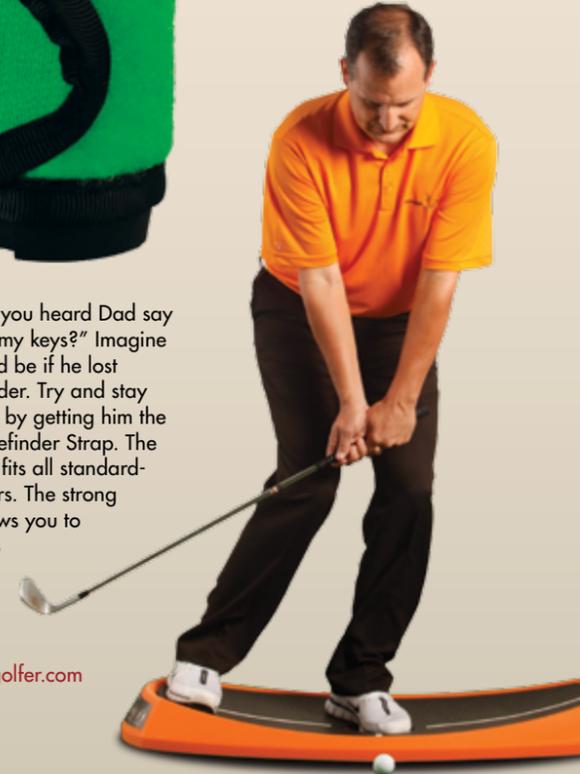
A Rose By Any Other Name...

This estate-bottled Bartenura Sparkling Moscato Rosé is a light refreshing bubbly that maintains a nice balance between the sweetness and the acidity. Perfect to drink while watching the sunset on a summer night with Mom or Dad, it will also accompany seafood, lighter grilled meats and veggies, and pair especially well with fruits and dessert. Great for parties, too. With warmer days soon upon us, enjoy it with hors d'oeuvres on the patio or sipping ice-cold poolside. It has been flash pasteurized for mevushal certification. **\$22 | bartneura.com**



Always In Range

How many times have you heard Dad say "Now where did I put my keys?" Imagine how unhappy he would be if he lost his expensive rangefinder. Try and stay ahead of that situation by getting him the Stick It Magnetic Rangefinder Strap. The nylon adjustable strap fits all standardized laser rangefinders. The strong magnetic backing allows you to attach to several areas on a golf cart or to metal push carts. Available in black, green, blue, and red. **\$29.95 | monumentgolfer.com**



This Has A Peel

From the people that brought us one of golf's most popular training aids, The Orange Whip, comes The Orange Peel. This concave shaped device may look a bit unnatural, but it's actually quite stable and allows your body to get into its natural stance. Proper hip turn is key for added distance and The Orange Peel promotes a rotational golf swing while preventing the dreaded sway. Weighing only 15 pounds, the Orange Peel easily travels to the driving range. Pick one up, it's a slice! Well, wait, not that kind of slice. **\$179 | orangewhipgolf.com**

See The Savings

Raise your hand if you've lost or broken expensive sunglasses. Frustrating, right? If only they were shatter proof. Or only cost you fifty bucks. Reks Optics hears you and has solutions. The company strives to be "several shades from ordinary" by producing high quality sunglasses at an affordable price. With Leisure and Active designs, Reks lenses are made from optical grade polycarbonate. With superior clarity, all designs are lightweight and offer 100 percent UV protection. **\$30-\$50 (most designs) | reksoptics.com**



Steel And Graphite Do Mix

The hard line in the sand: steel or graphite. One is for young guns, one is for guys that have lost a step. Right? Not so fast. Aerotech Golf Shafts gives the golf world the most uncommon marriage with its SteelFiber shafts. The power of graphite and the stability of steel. Perfect for those with commitment issues. These game-changers have quickly become the No. 1 graphite iron shafts in the game. A steel fiber surface layer and a graphite inner core provide an optimum ball flight without sacrificing a classic feel.

\$50.99 (per shaft) | aerotechgolfshafts.com

Get Your Cub On

The gang at apparel brand johnnie-O have a pair of new shirts that Cubs fans will love. The North Siders' logo on the left front and pinstripes mimic the Cubs uniforms, and moisture wicking, side vents and a UPF50 rating equal increased comfort. Both the Albatross and Birdie Prep-Formance models are available in sizes from small to XXL, and are made of 92 percent polyester and eight percent spandex.

\$95 (Albatross), \$90 (Eagle) | johnnie-o.com

Use code [golfchicago](#) by June 15 for 10% off your order.

Power On Demand

Here's something that, like so many gadgets today, resembles science fiction. Imagine something barely the size of a couple smartphones that can jump-start your car (or golf cart), or power just about anything this size of an aircraft carrier. It's myCharge's AdventureJumpStart, a 6600mAh emergency power battery that packs a punch. For phones and other electronics, use the micro-USB cable. For vehicles, use the supplied jumper cables.

\$99.99

myCharge.com

Swing Data For Less

A launch monitor doesn't have to be a sizable investment. It's also one of those items Dad won't buy for himself. So why not give him the gift of data and results? The Swing Caddie SC200 is the latest installment from the company that brought such devices to the masses. Voice Distance Output politely tells you how far each shot went. Other data to chew on includes swing speed, ball speed, and smash factor. The unit stores stats for each club, including the last 100 shots. Includes a remote for easy use.

\$349.99

voicercaddie.com

Grads



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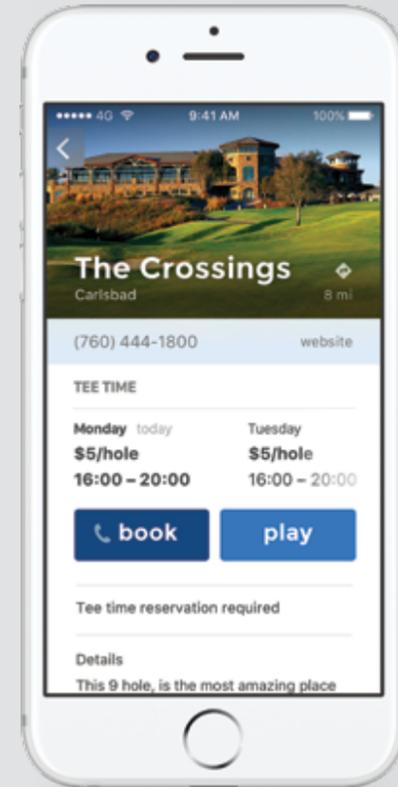
\$3,995
home.goldentee.com

LX3 GPS Watch

SkyCaddie has been involved in the golf GPS arena since the beginning. Doesn't your recent grad deserve a brand that's tried-and-true? The SkyCaddie LX3 watch does so much more than just distance from the hole (although it does that too). Preloaded with 35,000 maps, the LX3 is ready to play worldwide. The Bluetooth-enabled mobile app connects to your phone giving you features such as incoming texts, calls, voicemails, and emails.

It also has custom watch faces for daily use. There are also digital scorecard and pace-of-play timing options.

\$199 (includes one-year basic membership plan)
skygolf.com



Egull Is Right On Time

Are the days of your choices being only 9 or 18 holes over with? A revolutionary golf app, eGull, sure makes it look that way. The app allows you to play as many holes as you'd like with a pay-per-hole rate. A bucket of balls is no longer the way if you have an hour to kill. Much like Uber or Lyft, eGull uses your smartphone GPS to see where you're at on the course and charge you accordingly. Among the local courses using the app are Big Run, Cantigny, Foss Park, and Eaglewood. Available in the App Store or on Google Play.

Pricing varies | gull.golf

If You Can't Get Away

USB ports are essential to everyday life. Whether you're charging your phone, GPS, or Bluetooth speaker, the golf course is no exception. Sun Mountain brings convenience to the course with the Supercharged 4.5 carry bag. With two external USB ports (one standard, one rapid charge) wired to a portable power pack, it can recharge a phone three times before recharging. The bag is equipped with the usual high quality materials and zippers from the brand. Available in black, navy/white/blue, and desert camo.

\$249.99 | sunmountain.com



A New Penguin Look

Original Penguin by Munsingwear has roots in golf that date back decades. With unmistakable designs that are classic and trendy, Penguin has released an entirely new golf line for 2018. Among the sweet threads is the Alpha Harrington Golf Jacket. The name is even cool. A two-toned design through the body, this full-zip also has sleeve cuffs that pop and a sleek banded collar. Stretch fabric gives this piece ultimate comfort.

\$139 | originalpenguin.com



Kang Pumped For Women's PGA Repeat

By Neal Kotlarek

Only a year ago, Danielle Kang entered the KPMG Women's PGA Championship with something to prove. Following a remarkable amateur career that included two U.S. Women's Amateur Championship titles, the San Franciscan found herself winless on the LPGA Tour after six years of playing as a professional. Considering the fact that Kang had been touted for superstardom since childhood, this was not the way the script was meant to be written.

Any and all thoughts of doubt in Kang's mind regarding her golf game were erased over four magical days in July at Olympia Fields, when she fired rounds of 69-66-68-68-271 on the North Course to win both her first major championship and her first professional title by one stroke over Canada's Brooke Henderson.



In many ways, the 18th hole affirmed all of the time and effort she had put into her game over her lifetime. First, she watched Henderson precede her with a birdie on the par-5 final hole to tie for the lead. A par would put Kang in a playoff while a birdie would secure the victory. After ripping a three-wood approach shot onto the green, she needed two putts to win her first title. A testy two-footer found the bottom of the cup as Kang became the first player to birdie the 72nd hole to win the title by a single stroke since Meg Mallon performed that feat back in 1991, when it was the LPGA Championship.

Reached at her home in late January just prior to starting her 2018 schedule, Kang recalled the circumstances, and what led up to the triumph, vividly.

"I was not hitting the ball very well going into the tournament," Kang said. "Then Thursday (the first day of the WPGA) happened. And I kept playing well for the entire tournament going into the last hole. I didn't think about needing par to tie. All I thought about was birdie."

Immediately after she made the winning putt, Kang was greeted on the 18th green by her mother who hadn't been able to observe either of Danielle's U.S. Women's Amateur victories. Following that greeting, Bo Wie, mother of fellow LPGA veteran Michelle, also embraced her. How close is Michelle to Danielle? Wie's Twitter account following Kang's victory simply read: "She's a MAJOR WINNER Y'ALL!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

Like Wie, who qualified for the U.S. Women's Amateur Public

Links Championship at 10 and won the Hawaii Women's Amateur at 11, Kang was a child prodigy who qualified for the U.S. Women's Open as a 14-year-old.

"I had only played golf for a year before I qualified," Kang reflected. "My brother signed me up!"

After winning the 2010 and 2011 U.S. Women's Amateur and the 2011 North and South Women's Amateur at Pinehurst, Kang turned pro in 2012 and made 13 cuts in 19 events to finish fifth in the rookie of the year competition. The next four years were made more difficult by several injuries and the death of her father K.S. Kang in 2013. He had caddied for her during both U.S. Women's Amateur Championships.

Kang earned a career record \$505,316 in 2016 and made 23 cuts in 27 events, including three top 10 finishes. While she missed nine cuts in 2017, her victory at Olympia Fields and five other top 10 finishes placed Kang 17th on the money list for the season at \$1,005,983. A second career highlight was qualifying for the Solheim Cup team and posting a 3-1 record to help lead the U.S. squad to a resounding 16½-11½ victory over Europe. Kang even got to play two of the matches paired with pal Wie.

"That experience was absolutely great," Kang said. The fan vibe and the team vibe made the event special. The fans rooting on the U.S. team wore red, white and blue and cheered us on every hole. I've never experienced anything like that before."

While Kang said that making the team and playing for coach and LPGA legend Juli Inkster were a thrill, she hadn't actually made the Solheim Cup experience a career goal. "I never thought of it," she said. "Of course, I wanted to qualify for the team as that meant that I played well to get to the matches. But I didn't specifically aspire to play in the matches. Once I got in, I was obviously excited to play for my country."

At 5-foot-6, Kang is challenged to keep up with bombers like Maude-Aimee Leblanc, averaging 283.4 yards this season, and Lexi Thompson (277.3). Kang averaged 248.7 yards in 2017 and is at 259.0 yards so far this year.

"I want to be longer," she said. "I'm always looking at ball speed and distance. A lot of people get caught up in distance, but I truly believe that accuracy is the key to success on the tour." Supporting the belief is her 79.8 percent fairways hit statistic in 2017, 18th on the tour.

Kang looks forward to defending her KPMG Women's PGA Championship crown when the event returns to Chicago June 26-July 1 at Kemper Lakes Golf Club in Kildeer. Designed by Dick Nugent and Ken Killian, the private north suburban course has been ranked as one of the top 100 layouts in America and previously hosted the 1989 PGA Championship won by Payne Stewart and the 1992 Women's Amateur Championship, where Vicki Goetze, now an LPGA executive, came from behind to beat Annika Sorenstam.



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Those who watched Nick Hardy evolve from a high school prodigy in Northbrook to Big Ten Freshman of the Year at the University of Illinois to a two-time U.S. Open participant as an amateur could have predicted a bright future in professional golf for the two-time All-American. The future is now for the college star, as Hardy will make his pro debut at the Rust-Oleum Championship at Ivanhoe Club in Mundelein beginning June 7. He'll play for

cash the week after completing his senior year at Champaign-Urbana with a last appearance in (presuming the Fighting Illini make it) the NCAA Championship at Karsten Creek in Oklahoma.

Hardy, who was given a sponsor's exemption by tournament director Scott Cassin, will battle a field of 155 others at Ivanhoe, including former PGA Tour title holders as well as future stars as eager as Hardy to break through. Along with the tournament trophy, participants earn

points toward earning coveted PGA Tour playing privileges. Recent alumni of the web.com Tour include Jason Day and Keegan Bradley. The 72-hole event runs through Sunday, June 10.

It won't be Hardy's first pro tournament – along with the two U.S. Opens he qualified for, he's also teed it up at the John Deere Classic – but it'll be the first one where he's in pursuit of more than silverware and pats on the back. He'll be changing gears in short order.

Rust-Oleum Hails Hardy's Professional Debut

By Neal Kotlarek



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Okay Doak On All Aspects Of Architecture

In the 1990s, Bud Shrake took Harvey Penick's red-covered notebook of swing tips and great thoughts on the game and turned it into a four-volume series anchored by Penick's "Little Red Book."

Georgia-based golf writer Bob Crosby has done the same thing for golf course architect Tom Doak, the wizard of Traverse City, Mich., whose famous critical 1996 screed, "The Confidential Guide," put him on the map as a gimlet-eyed observer of what is good and bad on courses before Pacific Dunes placed him among the elite of those who design playgrounds for this vexing game.

In *Tom Doak's Little Red Book of Golf Course Architecture*, Crosby and Doak deliberately used the same style as Shrake did in codifying Penick's wisdom: a few paragraphs on each topic. Rather than long original essays, Doak's

thoughts are taken from his many posts on the Golf Club Atlas website, where a discussion group – long ago called "The Treehouse" by those of us who inhabit it – includes golf nuts of all stripes, from architects including Doak to rules gurus to fine players to even a few lowly sportswriters. (It is co-owned by Ran Morrissett, whose brother John is GOLFChicago's rules expert.)

Had Crosby not hit on the idea of putting Doak's thoughts on paper, they might have stayed mere pixels in the GCA orbit. Instead, the best of them are collected across 215 pages.

Here, for instance, is Doak on minimalism, a word he sometimes rejected to frame his style, but now admits to:

"One of the reasons I lean toward what is now called 'minimalism' was that I could see how hard it was for architects to control expectations in the modern era where anything is possible," Doak wrote. "I prefer to let the land and the routing place some limits on the outcome, though of course we still follow Tillinghast's maxim that if a hole is not up to the rest, it has got to have quality knocked into it until it can hold its head up in polite society."

"Every golf course is a compromise with the terrain – that's what makes them special or not special. Necessity is the mother of invention."

Some of the entries run several hundred words. Doak's analysis of modern Redan greens—including the famed seventh at Chicago Golf Club—takes a page and a half, and is

followed by a shorter analysis of the original Redan at North Berwick, and why the original still stands tall. Other entries are a sentence or two, as with his abrupt analysis of good players: "We don't wish the good player ill, but we don't want him to overstate his case."

Read a bit, and you can see what Doak likes and dislikes about modern golf. Read more, and you can see how he goes about designing holes and courses to counteract the big-hitting portion of the game that has come to dominate the pro game. To Doak, more short holes will take the advantage away from the Dustin Johnsons of the world and open up the competition to more players.

Thus, his preference for a wide fairway for a 350-yard par 4. He wrote, "I once told an associate that if he made the green look as different as possible from opposite sides of the fairway, that would be a great start to an interesting hole. Conversations about short par 4s often turn into conversations about drivable par 4s. Drivable par 4s were rare in the Golden Age, but all of those architects spoke of the value of drive-and-pitch holes."

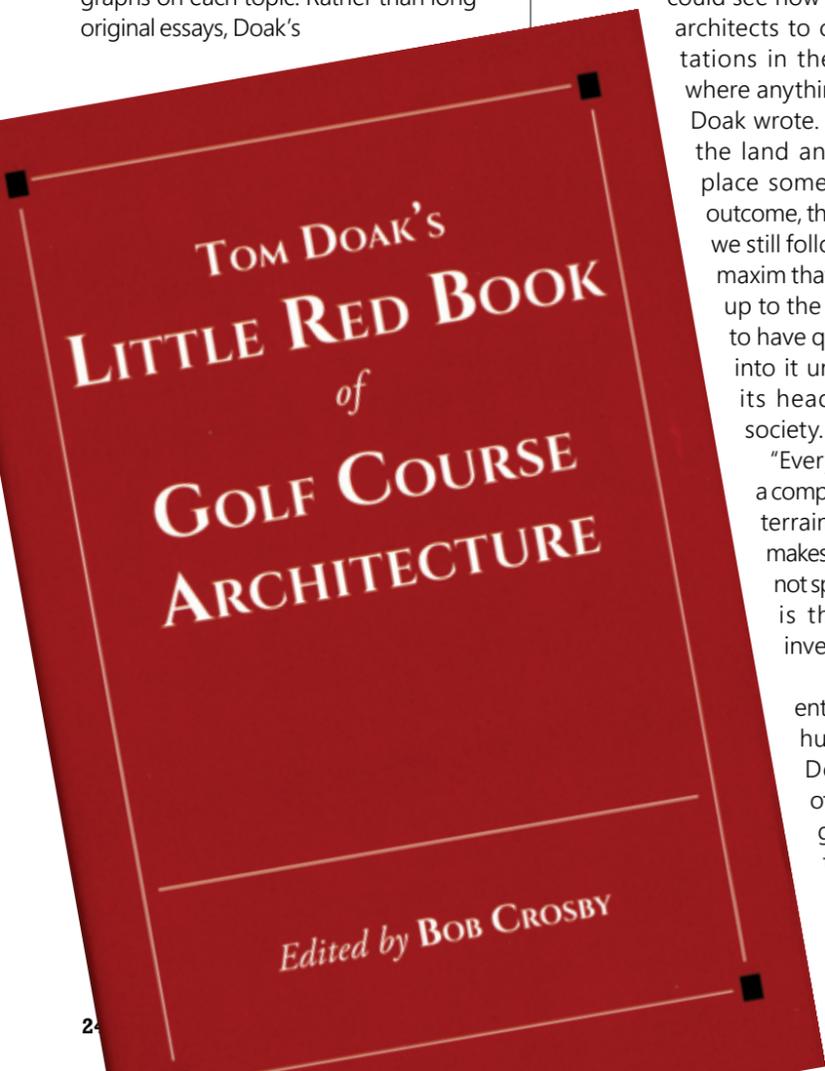
Doak is a huge fan of Pete Dye, because Dye kept players off-balance with his innovative designs. And he confesses he works the same way as Dye, starting with a design on paper but freewheeling when he gets on the property.

"I work more by intuition, as the dividend from having spent so much time on so many great courses," Doak wrote. "I just have a good feel for what will work, and I learned to trust that by working for Mr. Dye, who did it the same way."

Clearly, Doak is not bashful in print, which is what makes this book so worthwhile, whether digested a few pages at a time or in big gulps. Either way, it's a fulfilling meal.

Tom Doak's Little Red Book of Golf Course Architecture

Edited by Bob Crosby
Renaissance Golf Publishing (2017)
\$32.50 including shipping
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It's Still 2018 in Rules World

As announced by the R&A and USGA in March, a very different version of the Rules of Golf takes effect on January 1, 2019. Unlike in other sports, the Rules are not changed on a whim, and are amended only after much thought. To ensure that, the game's governing bodies create a self-imposed revision period for such changes. This process also makes sure that there is a sense of continuity for the game, with the Rules not changing frequently. The year 2019 is that rare year when everyone in golf needs to make an effort to learn the Rules changes.

In the history of the Rules of Golf, there are now four particularly significant years: 1744, when the first known code was written; 1952, when the USGA and R&A first agreed on a joint set of Rules for the world; 1984, when the Rules were substantially reorganized and improved; and now 2019, when the format and style of the code receives a makeover in both substance and appearance.

This modernized code contains a number of benefits in content, structure, and style. Just a few of the highlights:

- Plain, simpler language
- A format emphasizing the player's perspective
- More intuitive procedures and results
- Several changes that should improve the pace of play
- More consistent relief procedures
- The incorporation of several hundred current Decisions into the Rules themselves.

To elaborate on the above topic of pace of play that is near and dear to all of us, there are a number of changes that, when combined, should result in a quicker pace, whether in recreational or competitive rounds:

- A shorter search period for a ball (three minutes instead of five)
- A new Local Rule for a ball lost or out of bounds
- The ability for committees to define more areas as "penalty areas" that do not require a return to the tee for a lost ball
- Official encouragement to play "ready golf"

- Reference to a specific amount of time to make a stroke (40 seconds)
- An alternative form of stroke play setting a maximum score that a player can take on a hole.

While the prospect of learning a very different set of rules is daunting to both players and officials, those who have devoted time to studying the current Rules of Golf will have a fair amount of "unlearning" to do while they learn the new code. My advice: so as not to complicate matters and potentially make a mistake in applying the Rules this year, wait until after this season to spend any significant time on next year's code. Knowing and applying one set of Rules is hard enough – don't challenge yourself by trying to keep track of two different codes at the same time (and mistakenly apply a 2019 rule in 2018).

Here in the Midwest where the weather dictates a shorter golf season than we would like, for once we can take advantage of the off-season. Except for perhaps one or two golf getaways, most of us will have from November until March

or April to learn the 2019 Rules of Golf before we need to apply them. Especially when armed with all of the educational material that the USGA will roll out later this year, that timeframe allows plenty of opportunity to become comfortable with the new Rules. The USGA's use of video, diagrams, and summaries on its website to help explain the 2019 Rules will nicely complement the new code and make it less intimidating for all of us.

Compare our need to learn the Rules by the Spring of 2019 to the PGA Tour's need to play by the new Rules in early January in Hawaii; not that there is any downside to playing golf in Hawaii in January! It will be interesting to see from television next winter how visible the Rules changes are.

In the meantime, just remember that we have a full season ahead of us to which the current Rules of Golf apply. In other words, no knee-high drops until January!

John Morrissett is the Competitions and Marketing Director at Erin Hills.



Rust-Oleum

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"I've had a great college experience at the University of Illinois and have learned a lot from coach [Mike] Small," Hardy said. "I look forward to a strong finish with my teammates and then moving on to the next phase of my golf career. I know how valuable a sponsor exemption is and I am very appreciative to the Rust-Oleum Championship for giving me this opportunity."

Among the hopefuls joining Hardy at the tournament will be Wheaton's Tee-K Kelly, 23, who currently competes on the Latinoamerica Tour. Kelly, who cut his teeth on Medinah Country Club's trio of courses, was an All-American at Ohio State and currently lives in Estero, Fla. He was also awarded a sponsor's exemption. In his first year as a professional in 2017, he won the Puerto Plata DR Open in the Dominican Republic and recorded four other top 10 finishes on that circuit. Kelly is a two-time Illinois Amateur champion whose mother, Blue Kinander Kelly, was a member of the 1988 NCAA champion University of Tulsa golf team.

"We know they intend to compete at a high level and use the tournament as a springboard to future success," Cassin said.

This will be the third consecutive year that the Rust-Oleum Championship will be played on the regal grounds of Ivanhoe Club after originating in Cleveland in 2014. Last year's winner was Stephan Jaeger of Germany, whose 14-under-par score topped American Ted Potter Jr., by two strokes. (Both Jaeger and Potter were qualified for the following week's U.S. Open, and Jaeger made the cut.) The 2016 winner, the tournament's debut at Ivanhoe, was Max Homa.

The move to Mundelein brought the tournament within a few miles of Vernon Hills, the headquarter city of Rust-Oleum, which manufactures paints, wood stains, and roof coatings, among other consumer products. Reached at his corporate offices, company president and chief operating officer Tom Reed said that Rust-Oleum and the web.com Tour were a natural fit as business partners.

"We feel that golfers fit the profile of Rust-Oleum customers," Reed said. "Golf is an outdoor game played by active people who are often do-it-yourselfers. Golfers also play their game whether rain or shine. So

continued on page 36

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A Smart Exercise With Dumbbells

Last month my colleague Don Morris explained how stability helps the swing. Here's another way to build stability, and more, so you can concentrate on the scoring aspects of the swing.

It is the time-honored push press, which you can use to build strength both in your torso and your legs. You will need small dumbbells for this.

The push press is a simple movement that builds strength and power for your whole body. The exercise is all about explosive power and should be performed with an element of speed. It also helps you learn how to transfer energy from your lower body to your upper body, important in the golf swing.

Standing upright, hold the dumbbells shoulder width apart, as in the upper right photo. Bend your knees and push your hips back slightly, as in the lower left photo, and then push explosively through the ground while raising the dumbbells up in a straight line, as in the lower right photo.

Hold the top position of the press for one second and then slowly lower the weight for a three-second count. Then repeat. Start out with light weights and learn the proper form.

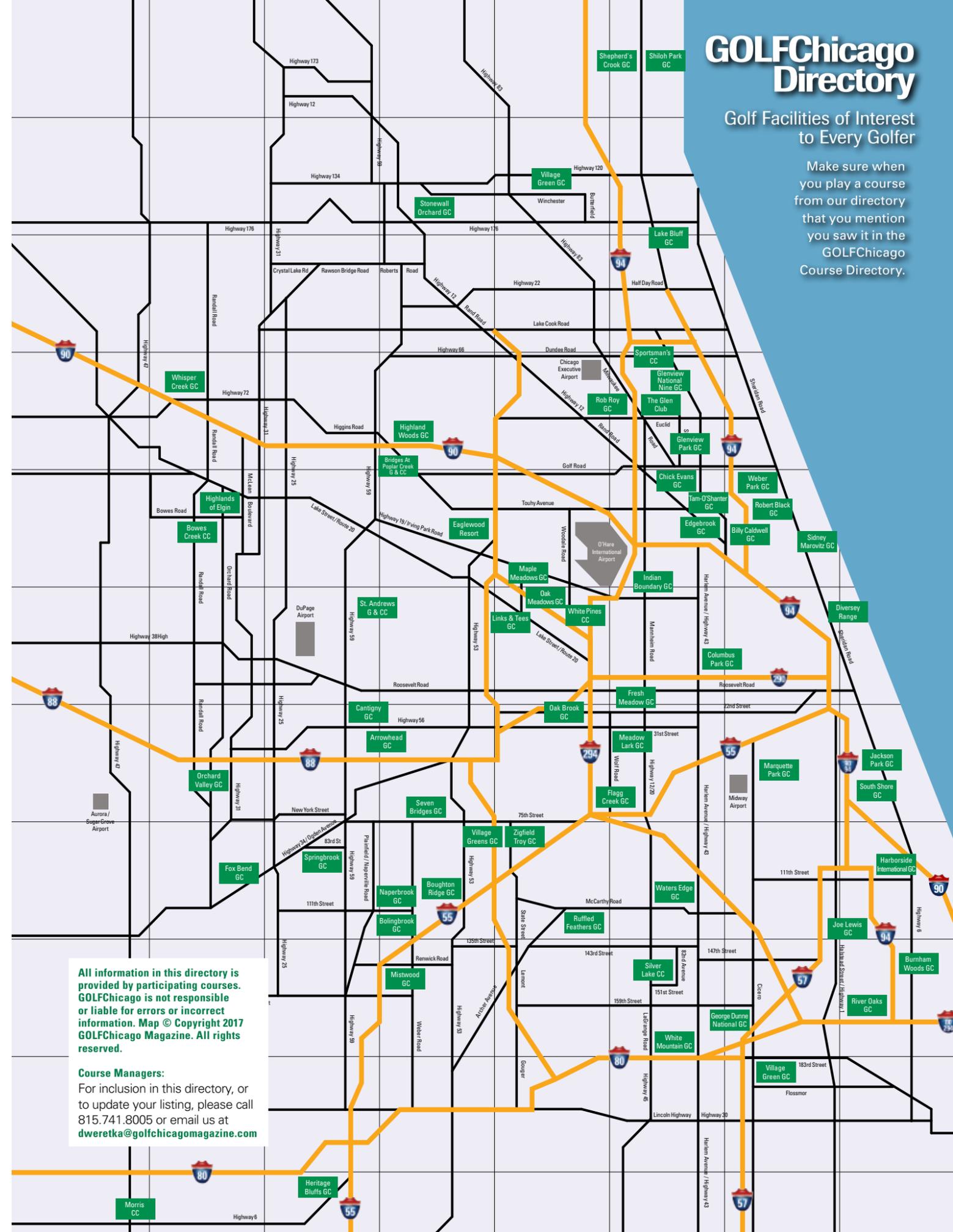
You'll find the correct repetition is like a proper golf swing in that it yields results. Now you're on your way to better golf.

Matt Bailey is the fitness instructor at Midtown Athletic Club in Chicago.



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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 & 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.



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
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.



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 recently renovated 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

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 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.



Tam-O-Shanter Golf Course & Learning Center

6700 West Howard Street
Niles, IL 60714
847-965-2344
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!

OPENING EARLY JUNE.



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



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!



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
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.



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

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

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

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White Pines Golf Club

500 W. Jefferson St.
Bensenville, IL 60106
630-766-0304
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 within minutes of O'Hare, White Pines feels like you are getting "away from it all."

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.



Women's PGA

continued from page 20

The course for the third women's major of the year will look very familiar to gallery members who played it as a public course when it opened. Local designer Rick Jacobson performed a three-year bunker renovation which increased challenge and aesthetics.

Kang has never played at Kemper Lakes before but is not concerned about her unfamiliarity with the 7,345-yard track.

"I actually don't like to play a course prior to the tournament," Kang said. "I enjoy the surprise of seeing a course for

the first time in practice sessions where I can focus on the mission at hand."

Expected to join Kang in the field taking on Kemper Lakes is Kris Tamulis, who grew up in a golf family in Lapeer, Mich., and moved to Florida as a 7-year-old. She played college golf at Florida State and joined the LPGA Tour in 2005.

"I've been blessed," Tamulis said on a winter promotional visit to Chicago. "I've enjoyed a nice career and continue to have lots of fun out there." Tamulis captured the 2015 Yokohama Tire LPGA Classic, shooting 71-68-67 in the first three rounds before finishing with a sizzling 65

to defeat Austin Ernst and Yani Tseng by a stroke at 17-under. Her winner's share was a check for \$195,000.

"Everyone asks me if that tournament was the highlight of my career," Tamulis said. "It wasn't, actually. In fact, the best moments of my career occur at random times when I meet someone at a pro-am or at some kind of social gathering and touch their lives in some way. I talked to my Mom a while ago and she told me she ran into a woman I had played with in a pro-am. The woman told my Mom how much fun we had together. That kind of story makes me really proud and happy."

Tamulis said she looks forward to playing at Kemper Lakes and has heard "great things" about the course. In four tournaments this year, she made the cut three times and has one top 10 finish. "I can't wait to come to Chicago," she said. "I know the tournament is going to be spectacular."

In mid-April, the PGA of America announced a number of affordable ticket packages designed to create excitement at the tournament and bring families to Kemper Lakes. The "Family Four Pack" is \$69 plus tax and includes two flex tickets good for any day of the event and two already complimentary junior tickets (juniors under 17 are

free if accompanied with a ticketed adult). The packages, available Tuesday-Sunday, include four concession meal vouchers.

The "Upgrade Your Weekend" Ticket Package is \$99 plus tax per day and offers easy main entrance access to the tournament with one on-site VIP parking pass and grounds tickets for two on either Saturday or Sunday. Both the Family and Upgrade packages are available for a limited time only and quantities are limited.

Other ticket offerings include a \$35 flex ticket for any one day of the championship and \$79 for a weekly grounds ticket. Active duty, retirees, active reserve and National

Guard veterans and their accompanying guest (limit one) receive complimentary daily grounds tickets upon presentation of a military ID at the tournament's Will Call office. More information is available at www.KPMGWomensPGA.com.

"We are thrilled to be able to offer fans in the Chicagoland area these new ticket options in addition to our standard championship grounds tickets," said championship director Jackie Endsley. "These new options will give fans the opportunity to elevate their championship experience with affordable ways to entertain friends, clients and family at a major golf championship."

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100% of advance ticket sales will be donated to local charities.

Check out **FAMILY ZONE** June 9-10
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Rust-Oleum

continued from page 27

we make products that obviously appeal to do-it-yourselfers. Those products are used outdoors and were developed to hold up in all weather conditions. In short, golfers are our type of people."

As important to Reed as the connection between golf and Rust-Oleum products is professional golf's long-standing commitment to donate tournament proceeds to charitable causes. "Ever since the first Rust-Oleum Championship was held, we've sought out local charities both small and

mid-sized to help them get going," Reed said. "After we identify the charities we are working with, we publicize what they do, what their causes are and then support them each with sizable donations."

One of those causes is Orchard Village. Founded in 1972, Orchard Village empowers people with developmental challenges to achieve integrated and fulfilling lives within their communities. Today, more than 70 clients live in residences spread throughout Skokie, Glenview, Morton Grove, and Niles. This non-profit organization has been a charity partner of Rust-Oleum Championship and earns money by sell-

ing tournament tickets prior to the event. Along with those funds, Rust-Oleum Cares has donated \$35,000 to the organization which is also a designated charity in 2018.

"Beyond raising money for great causes, we encourage tournament participants to get involved in these efforts," Reed said. "Last year, four players joined a group of Rust-Oleum team members in doing recreational things with Orchard Village residents. I'm pretty certain that everyone involved in those events would tell you it was both a fun and rewarding experience."

Other participating charities partnering with the tournament this year are The Sports Shed, Partners For Progress, and Glasa. Over the history of the Rust-Oleum Championship, the company's charity arm has donated over \$800,000 to charitable causes.

Reed explained the tournament venue was an important element when the vision for the Rust-Oleum Championship was being created.

"We were looking to work with a club who shared our values, who offered excellent facilities that galleries would enjoy and who operated a golf course that challenged the players. Ivanhoe is that club," Reed said. "All the players tell us how much they love the course and its excellent conditioning," he added.

Designed by legendary architect Arthur Hills, Ivanhoe Club consists of three distinct nines – the Forest, Prairie and Marsh – which wind through and across varied topography as indicated by their names. The tournament course is drawn from those 27 holes. In 2017, *Golf Digest* magazine recognized Ivanhoe Club as one of the 20 best golf courses in the state along with the likes of Chicago Golf, Medinah Country Club, Cog Hill Golf & Country Club, and Flossmoor Country Club.

The final field for this year's Rust-Oleum Championship will be announced in coming weeks as players finalize their schedules. As of press time, volunteer opportunities to assist in running the tournament were still available.

"Volunteering at the Rust-Oleum Championship is an excellent opportunity for volunteers to see some of the world's top golfers up-close, meet new friends, and support the tournament's charity mission," Cassin said. Volunteers can register at the tournament's website, www.rustoleumchampionship.com, plus order tickets, get directions and more information.

ON THE CORKSCREWS

STEPHEN HAWK

Médoc is Bordeaux's largest and best-known wine region, and includes the lower-elevation Bas-Médoc and higher-elevation Haut-Médoc subregions. The Haut-Médoc is where the best and most famous Médoc chateaux are located.

Truly one of the legendary Médoc houses, Chateau Lafite Rothschild is situated in the famous wine-producing village of Pauillac. The estate was founded by Gombaud de Lafite in 1234. In the 17th century, the property was purchased by the Ségur family, including the 16th-century manor house that still stands. Lafite was one of four Bordeaux châteaux originally awarded First Growth status in the 1855 Classification, which was based on the wine quality at that time, and is the benchmark for French wines even today.

Your humble scribe bought a bottle of the then just-released 1987 Lafite Rothschild for \$65, and that was quite a splurge. The 2016 is going for about \$715, and if you still need a unique Dad's Day gift, a shop in the UK is offering an 1812 (no, this is not a typo) for \$55,600 (not a typo, either).

But this isn't about *that* Lafite Rothschild. In addition to the wines produced from their prestigious vineyards, the Barons de Rothschild have for many years created a range of more accessible wines for everyday drinking; hence Rothschild's Légende line (formerly known as the first-growth's "third" wine, Réserve Spéciale). The relaunched Légende has been available in the U.S. since April 2016.

For the Légende lineup, winemaker Diane Flamand buys juice from 15 different growers and co-ops, then handles the élevage (which includes blending, fining, filtering, aging, and bottling). The full range includes Bordeaux Rouge, Bordeaux Blanc, Médoc, Saint-Émilion, and Pauillac. The Pauillac and Médoc wines are produced both from Lafite's own vineyards and from neighboring vineyards. The remaining fruit is sourced from partner suppliers.

2016 Légende Bordeaux \$18
Deep crimson in color, this straightforward Bordeaux is a blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Merlot. It starts with hints of tart berry fruit, bitter green

I Am Legend

herbs, and wet soil. The palate continues with flavors of red currant, raspberry, and pomegranate. The nicely oaked tannins are a fine support to the berry flavors. It ends with a fresh and fruity finish, and is ready to drink now.

Enjoy with beef stew with onions and red wine, stuffed lamb baked in pastry, or rabbit marinated in vinegar and herbs.

2016 Légende Médoc \$27
This wine is also a 60/40 Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot blend. The color is Intense red with hints of brick. It has a nose of cedar, black cherry, vanilla bean, and wet clay. With a surprising depth and complexity, the palate features sweet spices, red fruits, and licorice, plus a bit of iron before a rich, caramel-like finish.

Pair with pan-broiled steak, lamb stew with spring vegetables, or cassoulet.



smhawk@ayainc.com

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Chicago – The LPGA's Kind of Town

The 2018 season bodes well for Chicago and the suburbs, with the LPGA Tour and the United States Golf Association staging major women's championships here. We are especially blessed to be hosting the inaugural U.S. Senior Women's Championship at Chicago Golf Club in Wheaton in July. We are also fortunate to have the KPMG Women's PGA Championship return, this time to Kemper Lakes Golf Club in Kildeer on the weekend ending July 1, after playing last year at Olympia Fields.

The tournaments give the area three straight years of women's pro golf, counting the 2016 International Crown at Merit Club. That's how it used to be here. Between the Women's Western Open and George S. May's Tam O'Shanter bashes, Chicago was a regular stop for the LPGA. But the Kemper Lakes tournament will be only the 13th individual tourney for the ladies since the 1960s.

Both of this year's courses have a history with women's golf. At Chicago Golf Club, Chicago's own Bessie Anthony was crowned as the U.S. Women's Amateur Champion back in 1903. Now that's history! As for Kemper Lakes, they hosted the 92nd U.S. Women's Amateur Championship where Vicki Goetze defeated up-and-comer Annika Sorenstam one-up in match play. I went to that 1992 tournament as a spectator and saw the young Swede in action. Who knew back then that this shy young player from Sweden would blossom into one of the best LPGA pros in history!

In 1992, while it was still open to the public, Kemper Lakes hosted the 25th U.S. Women's Public Links Championship, where Candie Kung defeated Missy Farr-Kaye two-up. Coincidentally, I also covered this event for this very magazine due to my connection with the Farr family and Missy's late sister, LPGA pro Heather Farr, which eventually led to my career in golf.

There is so much history with Chicago Golf Club, the oldest 18-hole course in the United States, and was, in 1894, one of the five founding clubs of the USGA. It's a private course, so this will be a great chance to walk the fairways of this venerable old course while watching some of our favorites from the LPGA's formative years like Laura Davies, Jane Blalock, Jan Stephenson, Betsy King, Patty Sheehan, Juli Inkster and crowd favorite Nancy Lopez. We're hoping all the aforementioned play.

For Liselotte Neumann, one of the original Swedes on tour, it will be a chance to claim another USGA title. Neumann held off Sheehan, a future Hall of Famer, by three strokes at Baltimore Country Club in 1988 to win the 43rd U.S. Women's Open. At the time, she was only the fifth international player to capture the Open since its inaugural staging in 1946. Unbeknownst to us at the time was the significance this victory would have on the LPGA down the road and the impact international players would have.

Last year's KPMG Women's PGA Championship at Olympia Fields was a huge success, drawing thousands of fans and top media coverage. Danielle Kang held off defending champion Brooke Henderson for her first win on tour. The Californian has played very well since that win and could be a player to watch along with Henderson, the uber-talented Canadian golfer who at age 20 already has five wins on the tour. Who will make history this year? There are so many talented players who can pull off the victory and their skills will be on full display this year at Kemper Lakes.

The U.S. Senior Women's Open, while being played on a historic course, will have to make its own history since this is the inaugural event. Players from the Legends Tour – the senior ladies circuit – will be well represented and, let's be honest, if there is a golfing god and Lopez is in the field, she has to win this Open. The U.S. Women's Open was the elusive major title Lopez could not claim in her illustrious Hall of Fame career.

Flash back 20 years: the setting was Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club in suburban Portland, Ore. Sorenstam was the sole focus entering the tournament, aiming for a third consecutive title, but she struggled and missed the cut. That turned the stage over to Lopez and little-known Brit Alison Nicholas. At age 40, Lopez was prepared to settle the score with the U.S. Women's Open after being a runner-up three times. It was a tearful Lopez at Pumpkin Ridge, once again coming in second.

Will Lopez get her revenge at Chicago Golf? Will Neumann show once again how Swede it is to win a Women's Open Championship, no matter how many years have passed? Or will a "young" tart named Juli Inkster take the prize?

The end of June can't get here soon enough.

Sheri Warren is a freelance writer.

Last year's KPMG

Women's PGA

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drawing thousands

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