

GOLF PENNSYLVANIA GOLF NORTHEAST

Vol. XXVII No. 3

July 2015

Sweet Summer Golf

Destination:

**Great Golf in the Poconos
Blue Ridge and Jack Frost**

US Women's Open at Lancaster C.C.

PGA PNC at Phila. Cricket Club

Jaworski Adds Downingtown

Baltusrol Hosts 2016 PGA Championship

Results; Philly PGA, PPGS and AGA

Arnold Palmer Interview

*Jack Frost National
Golf Club*

Blakeslee, PA - Hole #13



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Two Great Golf Courses In The Poconos



Blu Ridge Trail Golf Club Blue Course - Hole #1



Blu Ridge Trail Golf Club Ridge Course - Hole #7

By John Zimmich

The drone that you may see flying over **Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club** or already have seen isn't watching to see if golfers are replacing their divots or repairing ball marks on the greens.

It's just another of the many projects that management of the beautiful 27-hole complex is undertaking.

"We're taking images of the golf course from all angles," said Tony Barletta, club's general manager. "The drone is being utilized to give us a bird's eye view from tee to green."

Blue Ridge Trail and Jack Frost National Golf Club in the Poconos are two of the golf courses near Interstate 80 and 81. They can be easily reached via both super highways and are expected to attract golfers for a round or two before going onto Lancaster for the U.S. Women's Open in a few weeks.

"We have 27 holes of great golf," Barletta offered. "We came through the tough winter in flying colors and the course is in excellent shape. Improvements, such as drainage work and adding additional tees, is just part of our yearly plans to continuously improve our three nine-hole layouts."

Barletta stated the club has been very busy and besides area play attracts golfers from New Jersey, New York and Canada.

Those three nines at Blue Ridge

are the Blue, Ridge and Trail. The golf course was designed by Ault, Clark and Associates, who also did The TPC at Avenel in Washington D.C., and Toft-Trees in State College.

Par on the Blue and Trail is 72 while it's 71 on the Ridge. There are several sets of tees that can be utilized, including gold, blue and white for the men and red for the women. It is a golf course for everyone, from beginner to low handicapper.

There are scenic views on all three of the nines since the course was carved out of native trees and valleys. Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club is unique that it doesn't have any parallel fairways. Several of the holes have water that comes into play. Fees range from \$22 for nine holes of play with electric cart

that features full color GPS to \$37 weekdays and \$46 on weekends and holidays.

There's also twilight fees of \$24 for 18 holes after 3 p.m. weekdays and \$29 on weekends and holidays.

Seniors, 60 and older, can play Blue Ridge for \$32 weekdays while ladies pay \$28 on Thursdays.

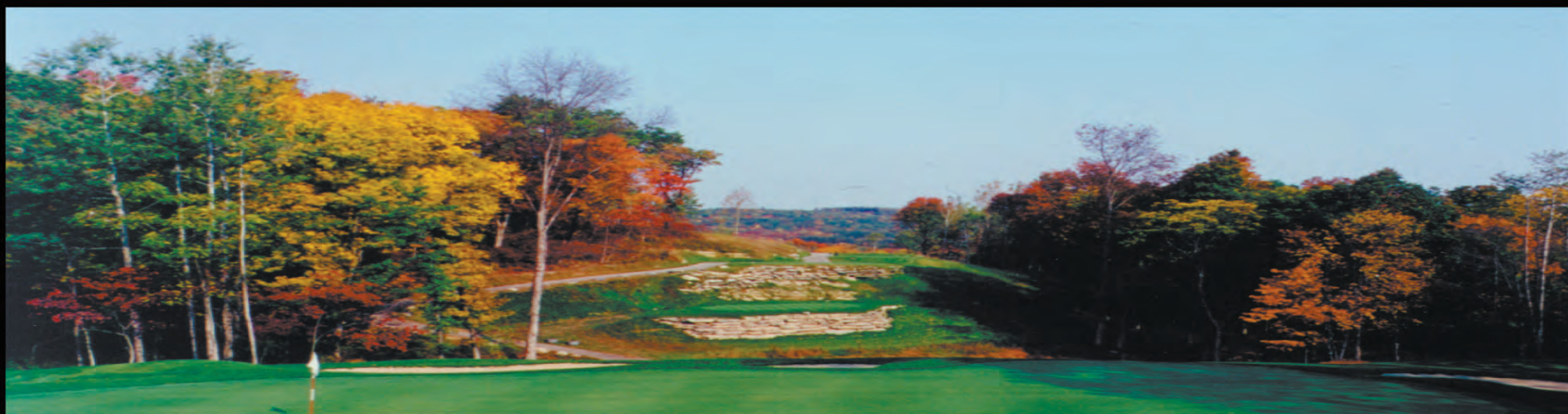
Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club has received high ratings from several media publications, including Golf Styles Magazine, Golf Traveler and the NGF.

Pro shop can be reached at (570) 868-4653.

Two Great Golf Courses
continued onpage 17



Blu Ridge Trail Golf Club Trail Course - Hole #1 View #2



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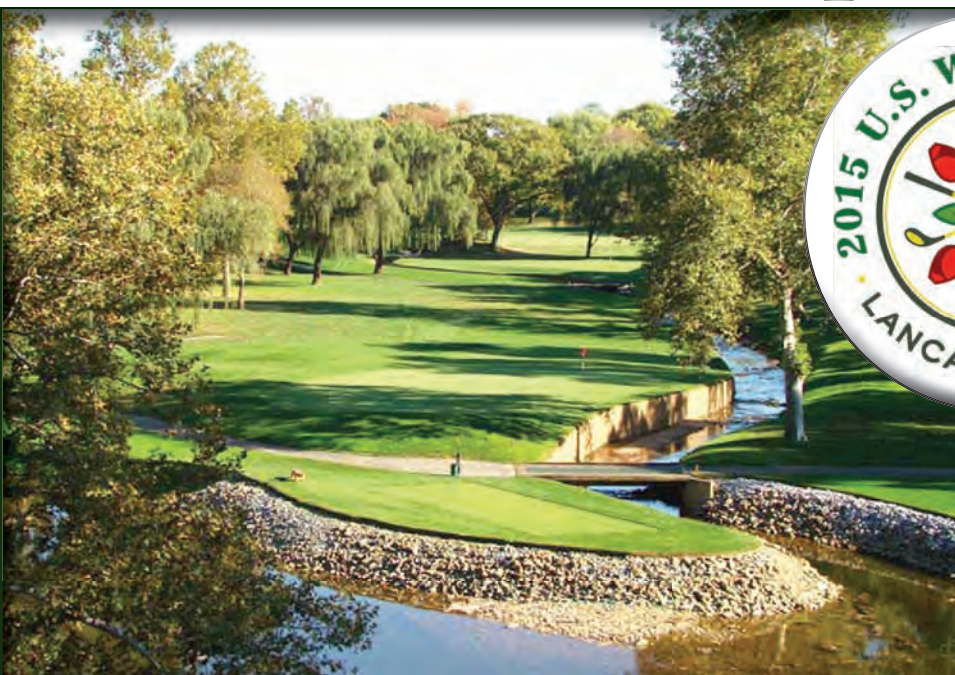
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US Women's Open At Lancaster C.C.



Lancaster County Club, Old Course Hole #4



Lancaster County Club Hole #3 William Flynn designed Old Course

BY Jason Fulginiti

LANCASTER, P.A. _ In a sleepy little sliver of the country, which each summer is predominantly known for its role as an Amish tourist destination, the excitement for this summer has been growing steadily since 2008 in other ways. An anticipation that's on pace to max-out **July 9-12**, when Lancaster Country Club's Old Course will finally host the 70th United States Women's Open.

"It's like waiting for a baby to be born," said Jerry Hostetter, a former LCC president who, in 2007, was integral in starting the talks that eventually brought the USGA to Lancaster, and who will serve as the General Chairman of the crown jewel of women's golf early this month. "There's a lot of excitement."

Especially in LCC's own back yard.

Fact is, Hostetter said 90 percent of the ticket sales and 90 percent of those who will serve as volunteers for the event are local. Projections, according to some USGA officials, are that this could end up being the most highly-attended U.S. Women's Open in history, with around 35,000 estimated to be on the property each of the four days.

Locals aren't the only ones embracing the tournament. Fact is, one year after setting an entry record of 1,702 players (all qualifying spots included) at Pinehurst No. 2, this year's tournament eclipsed that mark with 1,873 entry applicants. Those who have qualified for the actual event since then have been trickling into LCC over the last few weeks to play practice rounds. And most, if not all, have left the William Flynn design extremely pleased and with positive remarks. Not that it should come as a surprise considering the resume Flynn built by his passing in 1944 at the tender age of 43.

Aside from a little work known as Pine Valley (ranked annually as the top golf course in the world by Golf Digest), Flynn also has his name on USGA major championship venues like The Country Club (Brookline, Mass.), Merion Golf Club in Philadelphia (site of the 1934, '50, '71, '81 and 2013 U.S. Men's Opens), Shinnecock Hills on Long Island (1896, 1986, '95 and '04 U.S. Men's Opens) and Cherry Hills in Colorado (1938, '60 and '78 U.S. Men's Opens and the 2005 U.S. Women's Open).

Having played Cherry Hills approximately 20 times over the years, Hostetter can

easily see the USGA's desire to host a U.S. Women's Open at LCC _ a track that's been ranked among the top-100 on Golfweek Magazine's list of Best Classic U.S. Courses (built prior to 1960) for decades, and that's currently 65th on Golfweek's list of top-100 courses, putting it ahead of other major championship venues like East Lake in Atlanta (69th), Congressional (73rd), Medinah (76th) and Cherry Hills (90th).

Like at Cherry Hills, Hostetter said LCC's classic Flynn design was focused on taking a smaller piece of land and using that land's changes in terrain to test every element of a player's game: shaping the ball left to right, right to left, and possessing a deft touch around quick, unforgiving greens.

While the world's best female players will be trying to tackle those assignments this month, the biggest beneficiary _ thanks to Flynn's philosophy of building on small patches of land, where tees and greens are virtually neighbors on every hole _ could be the fans. Like Cherry Hills was for the U.S. Women's Open in 2005, according to Hostetter, and how the men's Open at Merion was two years ago _ when the USGA thwarted doubts that it can legitimately hold one of the world's biggest championships on a postage stamp of a golf course.

"We'll have at least 5,000 people (per day) sitting to watch golf from the grandstands," Hostetter said. "And it's a great place to view golf. (In many instances) people will be able to watch three or four holes at one time, from one grandstand. There will be a lot of excitement. When someone makes a putt, you'll hear the roar."

PLAYERS TO WATCH (GOOD OR BAD)

MICHELLE WIE: Out of respect, you can't omit the defending champion, who won this event by two shots over fellow American Stacey Lewis last year at Pinehurst No. 2. to claim her first major championship.

But the former teenage/media phenom _ who (if we're honest)



USGA Womens Open continued on page 15

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Philadelphia Cricket Club to Host PGA PNC June 28 to July 1



Tony Leodora - Traveling Golfer (Left) and Jack Connelly,
Former PGA of America President



Philadelphia Cricket Club Wissahickon Course was built by renowned golf architect A.W. Tillinghast in 1922.
Photo by Evan Schiller

Connelly, Former PGA President, Reflects on PGA Pro Championship at Philly Cricket Club

By **TONY LEODORA**

When the best non-pro tour professionals in the country arrive at Philadelphia Cricket Club for the PGA Professional National Championship, June 28-July 1, they will find an A.W. Tillinghast gem that has been polished to a brilliant luster for the event.

The Wissahickon Course at Philly Cricket, as it is affectionately known, was always considered one of the crown jewels in the heralded tiara of Philadelphia golf. And that was before architect Keith Foster got his hands on it.

The renovation/restoration that followed stands as one of the finest facelifts to be accomplished on a classic golf course in the Philadelphia region. The rave reviews have been coming in since the curtain opened on the new/old course in May.

"I honestly haven't heard anyone say anything bad about the course," reports Jim Smith, director of golf at Philadelphia Cricket Club. "The players who have gotten the chance to play a practice round love it. And the members love it. When you can serve both masters, you know you have something special."

Jack Connelly, retired head professional at Huntingdon Valley and a former president of the PGA of America, was extremely happy to see a national championship come to his home area.

"We have always said that the Philadelphia Section is a leader in the game of

golf," said Connelly. "The people who are outside the area – the USGA and the PGA Tour and now the PGA of America – are starting to learn that. We have so many great golf courses. To have 312 of the best club professionals in the country come here and experience what we get to experience on a daily basis is certainly wonderful."

The rest of the golf fans in the area will get their chance to see the wonders of Philadelphia Cricket Club and how the golf professionals from around the country handle the challenges during the PGA Professional National Championship. And the best part about it is the price – admission is free.

For more information on the event, parking details and access, go to <http://www.pga.com/nationalchampionship/>.



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Jaworski Adds Downingtown C.C. to Empire and His Celebrity Tournament



On May 20th, Downingtown Mayor Josh Maxwell, Ken Kochenour, Ron Jaworski and Joe Williamson cut the ribbon to celebrate the grand opening of Downingtown Country Club under the new ownership of Ron Jaworski Golf (RJG). Kochenour and Williamson are part of the ownership team

By **MIKE KERN**

Ron Jaworski got into the golf business when he was still quarterbacking the Eagles.

Now, he owns six courses in the Philadelphia area and another one near Morgantown, W.Va. The latest addition to his empire is Downingtown Country Club. Four of his properties are in South Jersey, with the marquee facility of course being Blue Heron Pines on the way to the shore.

So why has this pursuit become such a big part of his life?

“Passion,” he said, at the recent ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new Downingtown. “A lot of people just get involved with this because it’s a business. It’s an investment. And that’s not how my company rolls, and how I put things together. We’re all businessmen, and I’ve got to get a return on the investment for the people that believe in what I do. And since 1979, every club has generated a profit. So the model that we have works. And I’ve made mistakes along the way, like everybody does. And you learn from those mistakes.

“It’s pretty simple. You give people a really good product at an affordable price and service the hell out of them. And it sounds easy, you know. They’re words. But you have to get that done. What makes Ron Jaworski golf unique are the people. There are 100 things I could be doing. But the key is getting good people.

“A lot of management companies out there come in and manage assets for you. All my properties, that’s my hard-earned money I earned from football and broadcasting (with ESPN). So it’s more to me than just an investment. I worked hard for that money. I want to make sure it works. that’s the passion. Unless you have that ... I

The club is open to the public. Downingtown joins five other courses owned and operated by Ron Jaworski Golf. **PETE BANNAN — DAILY LOCAL NEWS**

think that’s the key. There’s a lot of really good golf courses. But if you don’t have some skin in the game, you honestly don’t work as hard.”

His stable also includes Valleybrook (Blackwood, N.J.), Running Deer (Pittsgrove, N.J.), River Winds (West Deptford, N.J.) and Honey Run (York, Pa.). And he’s operated a dozen other courses in the Greater Delaware Valley and beyond at some time. So he obviously must know something about creating a successful relationship. Especially in a time when not everyone is necessarily looking to get into the business.

“The economy scale helps me,” Jaws said. “The ability to buy and get discounts in everything we purchase gives us some buying power. That drops the bottom line, saves us money. We can pass it on. If we do a matrix, and we do, our price points are very good. We want to be affordable. We don’t want to be the highest-priced. We don’t want to be the lowest-priced. We want to be in the middle.

“But we will (still) deliver great conditions. Charlie Clark, my Executive Superintendent, could grow grass on the bar in there. You have to have smart people, and I’m fortunate. And my family’s involved. My wife (Liz) handles all the training for every social event possible. Our people love what they do. And my son (BJ) has been around me his whole life. He understands the game of golf. He got his degree in Business Leadership (at Delaware). He’s a helluva lot smarter than I am. I’m one of those guys, if you work until 10 then I’ll work to 11. If you sleep 8 hours, I’ll sleep 6. I’ll just outwork you. These kids are smarter. They’ll do a project in 10 minutes that it’ll take me a day.

“If you get good people, you’ve got a chance.”

Jaworski continued on page 11



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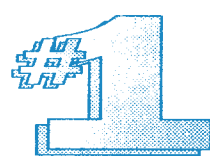


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Luc Jacobs of Berwyn tees off on the 12th hole at Downingtown Country Club

Jaworski from page 9

At Downingtown, he has a Senior Special for \$50 on Mondays through Thursdays anytime with cart.

“Hey, we’ve got to take care of those guys,” Jaws noted. “I’m one of them.”

Built in 1967 (so get ready for that 50-year anniversary celebration), Downingtown is a classic design by Norristown native George Fazio that is very playable/user-friendly. It’s one of those places you could play 2 or 3 times a week and not get tired of. It measures close to 6,700 from the tips, and features rolling terrain, subtle undulating greens and dramatic, well-placed bunkering. In short, a fair test that’s stood the test of time. And one that will probably only get better with the ownership change.

“The No. 1 thing is the new sand in the traps,” Jaws explained, who imported a whole lot of it from the South Jersey shore. “They used to call it Downingtown Dirt. We surveyed a number of members, and that was their biggest complaint. The bones here are tremendous. It’s a beautiful, traditional golf course. That’s not a whole lot to do but work on it. It gets a lot of play, but not what it should get. There’s competition. I respect all of them. That’s what motivated us.”

He’s even got a veranda outside the clubhouse that overlooks the 18th green and the first tee.

“Merion’s doesn’t have a green next to it,” he smiled.

Jaws hinted that he might even be expanding by one more in the near future, but wouldn’t give any details. So for the time being at least he’ll start to focus on his latest acquisition. With the same gusto that he focuses on all the others.

“Every time a golf course becomes available, my wife will ask me if I looked at that one,” Jaws said. “I may look at 20, to find that one. It has to be the right opportunity. It must pass the smell test. I’ll walk the golf course, envisioning what I think it’ll be.

“It is a lot of golf courses (to have). I want to continue to grow. I’ve love to take a crappy golf course and make it not like U.S. Open good but good. I can only buy so many as an individual. But with other people involved, you can spread the risk out a little bit.

“It’s pride. I could have retired a long time ago to Boca and relaxed. That wasn’t what I like to do. I like to be active. I like to see things improve. I like to give people opportunities. We’re now a big, big company. I think we have over 500 employees.



Downingtown Country Club classic design by Norristown native George Fazio

Having the multiple golf courses has really worked for us.”

And if you’ve been to his places and seen how much better they are since he took them over, you’ll know that he’s just trying to make it work for the public too.

“It starts with the golf course, it really does,” he said. “We all learned in 2007 and 2008 that the industry was really at rock bottom. It was bad. We had to change things up. So you lean more toward putting sports bars in the place, not just have the golf course be your profit center. How are you going to bring people in? Give them a great lunch, pack the place for an Eagles game, move my radio show around to give it that kind of exposure. You have to have all the components going. If you have a driving range, that has to be profitable. The merchandise, the bar. You don’t want any loss leaders. You can’t just say I’m running golf rounds.

“But the course is the hub of the wheel. I’m not sure now I would have done Running Deer. It was a mess. I didn’t realize what a big project it was. But the bones were there. If you don’t invest, you don’t have a shot. It’s really that basic. It’s a difficult business. I’m not going to kid anyone. That’s why you’ve got to be so passionate about it.”

And it shows, because he’s not about to hide it. Can’t wait to see what Downingtown looks like in a couple of years. Not to mention what the next project will be.

- Jaworski’s annual Celebrity Golf Challenge entered its fourth decade on June 14-15 at a new venue. Hosted in partnership with the NFL Alumni Association and Caesars Entertainment Atlantic City, this is the marquee event to benefit the Jaws Youth Playbook, an organization that promotes health and wellness for at-risk kids in under-served communities in our region as well as the NFL Alumni’s “Caring for Kids” charities.

Over the years it’s raised some \$5 million for these worthy causes. With the sale of Atlantic City Country Club, this year it’s moving to Ron’s own Blue Heron Pines. Among the football celebs participating are Joe Flacco, Merrill Hoge, Ickey Woods, Donte Stallworth and Everson Walls.

For more information visit www.jawscelebritygolf.com.



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Tickets Available for 2016 PGA at Baltusrol



Baltusrol Golf Club Lower Course hole #4



Baltusrol Golf Club Upper Course hole #9

By **MIKE KERN**

Just in case maybe you haven't been paying close enough attention, here's a reminder that the 2016 PGA Championship, which will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first one, will be coming back next summer to historic Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J. In late July for a change, actually, to accommodate the debut of golf at the Summer Olympic Games in Brazil.

And the PGA of America wants everyone to know that the public online process for ticket registration is beginning on June 1 at PGAChampionship.com. Those interested, and we figure there will be more than a few, have until Aug. 17 to be eligible to purchase tickets during the public sale.

Ticket seekers will be placed into groups based on the date they registered. So the earlier obviously the better, especially when it comes to the most popular packages. The PGA of America expects the allotment to go quickly, based on recent history. In fact, several categories to the last three PGAs, including Whistling Straits this August, sold out in advance.

Registration takes only a few moments, and there is no obligation to buy.

Daily grounds tickets for practice rounds are \$25 for Monday, \$30 for Tuesday and \$35 for Wednesday. Thursday's opening round is \$90, Friday's second round \$100. Both weekend days are \$115. The Wanamaker Club option, which includes access all seven days and VIP amenities, is priced at \$575.

Juniors 17 and under will be admitted free when accompanied by a paying adult. Each ticketed adult is permitted four junior grounds admissions per day at no additional charge. No registration is necessary. Junior tickets cannot be purchased in advance and will be available regardless of a sellout.



Baltusrol Golf Club Lower Course hole #18



Baltusrol Golf Club Upper Course hole #2

Also, complimentary passes are available for select military personnel (Active Duty, Retirees, National Guard and Department of Defense Civilians with ID and accompanying spouses.

"We look forward to ... presenting a world class sporting event and the best in championship golf," said Ryan Cannon, the Championship Director, at a recent media gathering at the club. "There are so many stories associated with this championship, and so many stories with Baltusrol. It's a rare opportunity to experience a major here."

This is the 17th time Baltusrol will be the site of a major. And it's the second time it's hosted a PGA. It started in 1901, with the U.S. Women's Amateur. A U.S. Open followed in 1903, and the U.S. Amateur a year later. In those days, the Amateur was probably considered just as prestigious if not more so. There was another Women's Am in 1911, and a second Open in 1915. All of those were played on the original Old Course, which was built in 1895 and no longer exists.

The renowned A.W. Tillinghast designed both the Lower and Upper Courses, the first contiguous 36-hole project in America. Opened in 1922, the Lower has seen eight majors, the Upper two (1936 Open, 1985 Women's Open). They were both used for the 2000 Amateur. Jack Nicklaus of course won the Open here in both 1967 and 1980, setting scoring records each time. And Phil Mickelson won the club's last major, the 2005 PGA, which because of weather had to be finished on Monday.

"When you join two great brands, the sky's the limit," said General Chair Rick Jenkins. "We put on a good show in 2005. We hope to do it again. We're blessed to be part of history."

And people in this section of the country are fortunate enough to maybe see it up close and personal if they choose. Just in case you might be interested, it only takes a few clicks on the computer to give yourself a chance. Because an opportunity like this should be a priority on wish lists everywhere. And who knows when the next one might hit home again?

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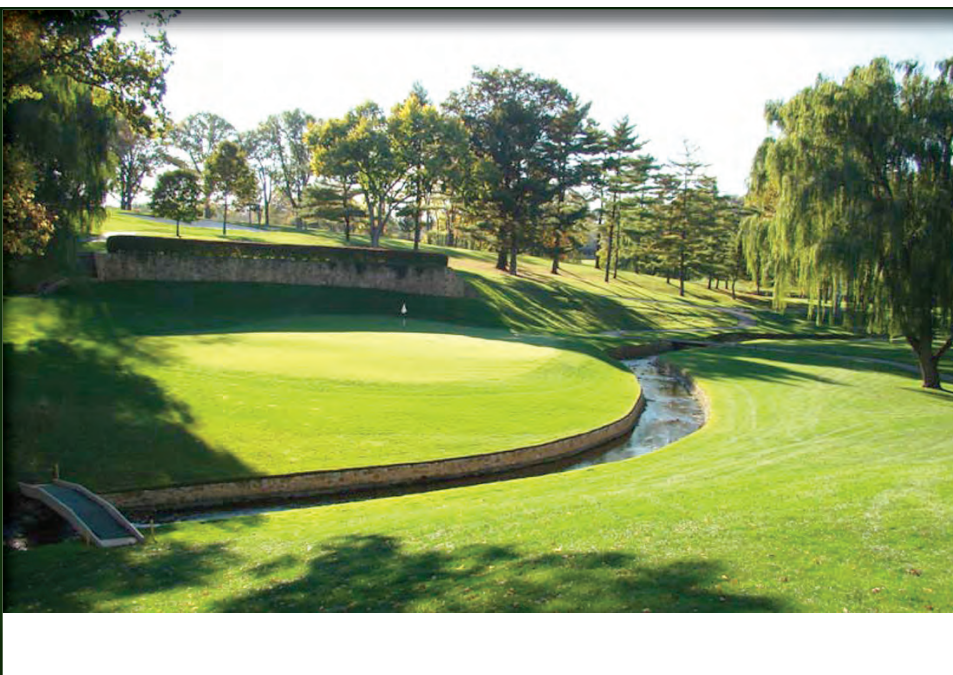
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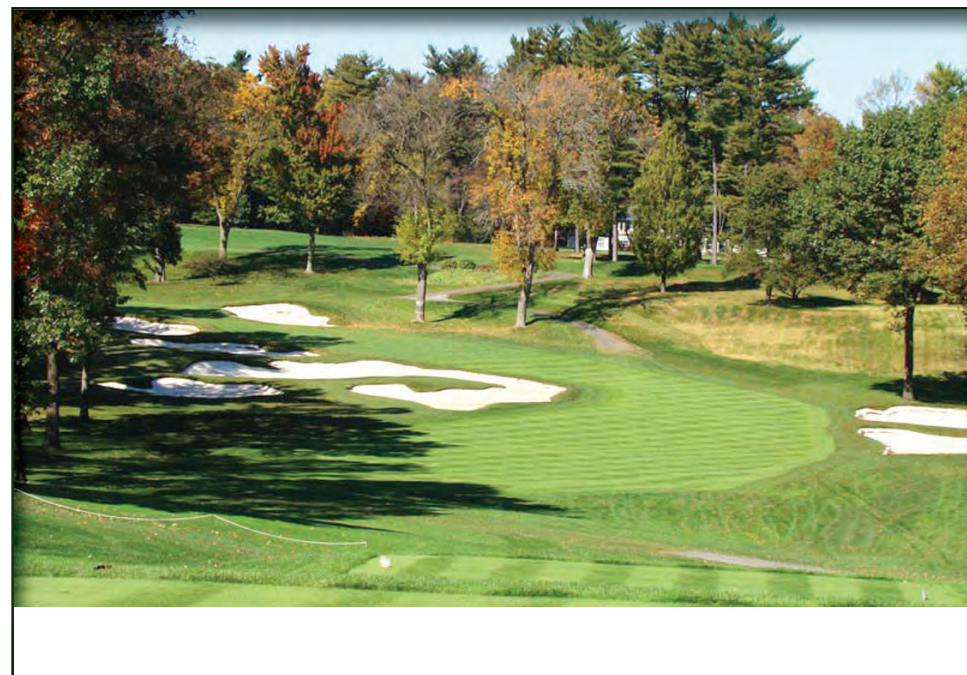
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Lancaster County Club Hole #5 Old Course



Lancaster County Club Hole #8 William Flynn design course

USGA Women's Open from page 5

finally gained some credibility for herself (after all those years of hollow promise) with her major win _ seems to be regressing again. After notching three top-10 finishes through February, the 25-year-old didn't sniff the top-10 in her next 10 starts, getting progressively worse along the way (14th, 18th, 22nd, 26th, 30th, 34th, 38th, 39th, 41st, 45th) _ the last coming at tour's last major, the KPMG Women's PGA Championship at Westchester Country Club in June.

INBEE PARK: Now that we've given due respect to Wie ... seriously, who's a bigger favorite to win this tournament _ or any tournament _ than Park?

By capturing her third consecutive KPMG Women's PGA championship (the LPGA's second major of the year) by five shots June 14th, the 26-year-old South Korean leapfrogged fellow countrywoman Lydia Ko for the No. 1 ranking in the world. Park won twice before that this spring. More importantly, Park has won five of the last 12 majors (including the 2008 and 2013 U.S. Women's Opens), besting Se Ri Pak's record as South Korea's all-time major winner.

Scary for the field coming to Lancaster is that Park didn't finish worse than tied for 18th in 13 events through the KPMG, with four-top top-4 showings, seven top-5s and eight top-10s. If you're superstitious, it might be worth noting that Park _ who has the same number of major championship victories as Jack Nicklaus did before turning 27 _ will happen to be celebrating her 27th birthday on the final day of this year's U.S. Women's Open (Sunday, July 12).

LYDIA KO: No. 2 in the world, Ko has a pair of LPGA wins this season. She missed the cut at the KPMG, which might be forgiven since it was her first missed cut in 53 straight events (as an amateur or professional).

STACEY LEWIS: The No. 3-ranked player in the world, Lewis finished in the top-12 in her first three events of the season, but has gotten progressively worse in her 10 starts since _ starting with a 16th and ending with a 49th.

SZUANN PETTERSEN: Like Wie and Lewis, Sweden's fifth-ranked player in the world finished in the top-10 in three events through February, but has finished progressively worse in her last eight starts (14th, 16th, 20th, 22nd, 26th, 29th, 33rd, 37th)..

PLACES TO PLAY LANCASTER FOR U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

In Lancaster and itching for a few places to play while you're here? Following are a few suggestions:

--- IRON VALLEY G.C., Cornwall, Pa. _ In regard to the theme regarding this year's U.S. Women's Open and architect William Flynn's design at Lancaster Country Club this is a must-play P.B. Dye treasure built on an old mine, with breath-taking cliffs and views, mysterious swamps (No. 4), a plethora of challenging shots and more undulation (as far as terrain) than a rollercoaster. Your ego might be a little bruised when you're done, but it's worth it, especially considering the \$30-59 price tag most days. Ranked 8th by Golf Magazine as Places You Can Play in PA. From Lancaster: Take Route 72 North (past the turnpike interchange), turn onto 322 West and follow signs.

--- PILGRIM'S OAK, Peach Bottom, Pa. _ It's about 15 miles south of Lancaster Country Club and in farmland, but worth the easy drive down to 272 toward Maryland (look for signs to Pilgrim's Oak). It has a links look on some holes, and a good-old PA farmland look on others. Very unique, challenging, fun and attractive layout that's currently ranked 13th by Golf Magazine for "Courses you can play in Pennsylvania," and annually receives Golf Digest's 4-Star Award. It's \$25-38 price tag during the week makes it worth the 25-30-minute drive from Lancaster.

--- ROYAL OAKS, Lebanon, Pa. _ Like Pilgrim's Oak (above), hard to explain, but more than worth the \$28-\$49 price tag (if you can't get hold of a coupon in a Lancaster paper for even less). Beautiful diversity in rolling fields in the suburban country side of Lebanon County. It opens with a fun, dog-leg-right par five with a ton of sand and OB. At the second, your tee shot is a 200-yard carry over wasteland to a 260-yard, par-4. The third hole is a tough, uphill par-3 and the fourth is a standard length par-4 with OB on both sides. The fun only goes from there ... all day. Take 72 North out of Lancaster (about 35-45 minutes).

--- OVERLOOK GOLF COURSE, Lancaster, PA _ The most played municipal golf course in Lancaster County for a million years running. Years ago, it's short, back-and-forth, uneventful layout was hardly respected. Now, with 50-year-old trees lining every fairway, beautiful greens that were replaced in the last 10-12 years and out of bounds looming on half of the tightly-lined holes, it's more than gained respect, while it's barely 6,000-yard track might look like a pushover on the scorecard. Don't judge a book by it's cover, in short. The \$25-45 greens fee is more than worth making the 10-minute drive from LCC.

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Jack Frost National Hole #13



Jack Frost National Hole #18

Two Great Golf Courses from page 3

If you play Jack Frost National Golf Club you'll be greeted by a friendly staff ready to care for all of your golfing needs.

This topnotch and beautiful golf course is another of the several outstanding layouts that can be found in the Pocono Mountains and is just a "chip shot" from Interstate 80.

The scenic 18-hole layout with several elevation changes was carved out of 200 mountainous and wooded acres.

It was designed by Terry LaGree and is one of the "youngest" courses in the region. Par for the 7,256-yard course that sits at the crest of Jack Frost Mountain is 72. Like the other Pocono Mountain golf courses there are several sets of tees to accommodate seniors, women and low and high handicap golfers.

One of the characteristics that sets Jack Frost National Golf Club from the other area courses is that it provides extremely wide fairways, easily identified target areas, no blind shots and few uneven lies.

There are several magnificent vistas that can be seen while playing Jack Frost National Golf Club. Four par-5s are part of the 18-hole course along with 10 par-4s and four par-3s. Longest par-

5 is the 12th hole that measures 599 yards from the back tees down to 428 yards from the forward tees.

Longest par-4 from the back tees is 491 yards while the par-3 eighth hole measures 222 yards from the championship or back tees.

Senior rates, 60 years of age and older, are \$40 Monday through Thursday while \$55 gets you to play this beautiful and well conditioned course for \$55 for the same period. Fees are \$75 Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

There is a twilight rate of \$45 after 2 p.m. weekdays and \$65 twilight on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

Twilight rate after 4 p.m. is \$35 Monday through Thursday and \$45 Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

Like Blue Ridge Trail, Jack Frost National is highly rated as courses to play and has received several awards for playability, beauty and well conditioned.

One can book a tee time by calling (570) 443-2414 or e-mail via jackfrostrnational.com.

Several other golf courses in Northeastern Pennsylvania easily can be reached either by Northeastern Extension of Pennsylvania Turnpike or I-80 or I-81 include Mountain Laurel Golf Club, Pocono Manor, Pocono Farms and Wilkes-Barre Golf Club.



Jack Frost National Hole #11

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Manley & Mcneil Claim AGA John Moore Tournament John and Chris Killiany Capture The "Flights"



Ryan Manley & Scott McNeil, captured the 2015 AGA John Moore Tournament

Crystal Lake, PA - Ryan Manley & Scott McNeil, captured the 2015 AGA John Moore Tournament. The two former Lackawanna College teammates led after an opening round of 66 at Pocono Farms Country Club, they came back on day 2 at Paupack Hills with another round of 66 (132 total) to extend their lead by 5 shots on the field heading into the final round Sunday at Elkview Country Club where they carded a round of 69 to finish at 201 and win the tournament by 7 shots.

Doug Nardella and Mike Peregrim finished 7 shots back in second place. Rounding out the top spots were John Olszewski and Joe Weiscager (208 total).

John Olszewski and Joe Weiscager are second heading into the final round and finished the tournament of 208.

In the Senior portion Carl Stackhouse and Matt Jones combined to shoot 209 and win the title by a shot over Robin Bonda and Bob Andrejko who were leading after round one.

In the "Flights" two father-son teams, both with strong AGA ties were in final pairing. First round leaders John Killiany and his son Chris Killiany, former AGA-USGA intern, were leading after round one at Huntsville Golf Club. In round two at Irem Country Club the Killiany's lead was erased by current AGA President John Mulhern and his son Zac who carded a round of 67 to put both teams at 5-under par (139) heading into Sunday's final round at Frosty Valley Country Club. The title came down to 18 on the final day and Chris Killiany made a par to capture the title by a shot over the Mulherns to capture the overall "Flights" title.



In the "Flights" 2- father-son teams John Killiany & his son Chris Killiany & AGA President John Mulhern & his son Zac were tied then Chris Killiany made a par to capture the title.



AGA Executive Director Patrick A. Lloyd (L), Bob Gill, Senior Champion (C), and Brandon Matthews, Open Champion(R)



Results	R-1	R-2	R-3	Total
Ryan Manley; Scott McNeil	66	66	69	201
Doug Nardella; Mike Peregrim	72	66	69	207
John Olszewski; Joe Weiscager	68	69	71	208
Jason Troutman; Steve Leitzel	67	72	70	209
John Mikiewicz; Tom Biscotti	74	71	67	212
Frank Osborne; John Pash	72	70	70	212
Brian Marzolino; Pat Ross	77	66	69	212
Dan Chernosky; Matt Rice	76	71	67	214
Jim Gardas; Eric Williams	76	68	71	215
Mariano Medico; Chase Makowski	76	72	70	218

Matthews shoots 68 to win AGA Spring Stroke Play Tournament.

Hanover, PA – Brandon Matthews captured the 2015 Anthracite Golf Association Spring Stroke at Wyoming Valley Country Club with a great round of 3 under-par 68 on the 119 year old A.W. Tillinghast golf course. Brandon, one of the top players in NCAA golf, continues to add to his AGA titles, he is a former AGA junior champion and AGA Coal Scuttle Champion.

Finishing in second was Wyoming Valley Country Club's Art Brunn Jr. who carded a round of 70 on the day. Vince Scarpetta III of the Scranton Muni. Golf Club finished in solo third with an even par round of 71.

Fox Hill Country Club's Bob Gill captured the Senior Division title with a round of 73. Finishing in second was Fran Hamm of the Country Club of Scranton who also carded a round of 73. Paupack Hills Country Club's Mark Bartkowski was third with a solid round of 74.



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The 2015 McCarthy Tournament Match Play Results - Sunday June 7th



Left to right McCarthy Champions John Olszewski and Eric Williams

By Nick Gill

The finals of the 2015 McCarthy tournament at Wyoming Valley Country Club pitted defending champions Todd Vonderheid and Marty Behm against five-time champions John Olszewski and Eric Williams.

It was Olszewski and Williams prevailing for an incredible sixth McCarthy tournament championship thanks to four birdies in the championship match.

"It's always great to win again. With so many great players and so many great teams it's not easy," Olszewski said. "Any time we lose, it's always our goal to come back the next year and win."

The pair ousted Temple University standout Brandon Matthews and his partner Ken Ralston in the semifinal match to advance to the finals. There, Olszewski and Williams used steady play in windy conditions to claim the championship.

The shot of the match came of the par 3, fifth hole, when Olszewski knocked his tee shot over the water to within a foot for birdie. The duo would go on to birdie Nos. 8 and 11 to take the lead and never look back.

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Semi-Finals

BEHM-VONDERHIED DEF WEISCARGER-GERSHEY
OLSZEWSKI- WILLIAMS DEF RALSTON-MATTHEWS

Finals

OLSZEWSKI- WILLIAMS DEF BEHM-VONDERHIED

CHAMPIONSHIP 1ST FLIGHT Consolation

1ST- BERRY-BISCOTTI 70
2ND-KARNES-KERSTETTER 71

1ST-KOSTALANSKY-MEDICO 76
2ND-RADO-OLSZEWSKI 77

1st FLIGHT
MAMARY-PLISKO

Finals
DEF SCHIEL-SCHIEL

2nd FLIGHT
DUDA-CROSSIN

Finals
DEF MIHALOS-CHIAVACCI
Consolation

GORMAN-GORMAN

DEF AMESBURY-AMESBURY

3rd FLIGHT
JAROLEN-COLEMAN

Finals
DEF BIENIAS-SKRIP
Consolation

BOLINGER-BRUNN,J

DEF MILLER-KOPEC

4th FLIGHT
PATRIZI-PATRIZI

Finals
DEF MARUT-WOLFE

HRITZIK-WASTAK

Consolation
DEF LEIGHTON,T-NICHOLSON

5th FLIGHT
MILESKE-MILESKE

Finals
DEF MORRASH-MORRASH

LULIS-McLAUHLIN

Consolation
DEF WHALEN-WEISCARGER

6th FLIGHT
KEMPINSKI, B -KEMPINSKI, C

Finals
DEF BRADY-BUKEAVICH

CORBA-MUCHLER

Consolation
DEF NOVAK-DINGMAN

7th FLIGHT
WOTHERSPOON-LEWIS, S

Finals
DEF SAMSELSKI-BROWN

TOMEK-CORNAIL

Consolation
DEF GRABOWSKI-JONES

8th FLIGHT
OWCA-OWCA

Finals
DEF MARX-MOORE

BARNO-ROSTOCK

Consolation
DEF SELIG-HOWES

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Sunnybrook GC - Plymouth Meeting, PA Par 72

	Total
Josh Rackley - Gulph Mills GC	70
Jamie Komancheck - RiverCrest GC & Preserve	70
Colin Corrigan Saucon Valley CC	71
John Pillar CC at Woodloch Springs	71
Andy Fisher Frosty Valley CC	71
Robby Bruns Merion GC	71
Jakob Gerney Trump National GC- Philly	72
Rich Steinmetz Spring Ford CC	72
Brian Kelly Bucknell GC	72
Matt Goudie Lancaster CC	73
John Cooper Green Valley CC	73
Pat Butkus Philadelphia CC	73
John Appleget Wildwood Golf & CC	73
Scott Reilly Philadelphia CC	73
Dave McNabb Applebrook GC	73
John DiMarco Laurel Creek CC	73
Barry Dear Twisted Dune	73
Chris Krueger Kings Creek CC	73
Mike Meisenzahl Shore Gate CC	73
Shawn Matthews Squires GC	73

29th Burlington Classic

Burlington CC - Westampton, NJ Par 70

	Total
John Appleget Wildwood Golf & CC	68 69 137
Chris Krueger Kings Creek CC	67 71 138
John Lynch Wild Quail G & CC	66 72 138
Kevin Nicholson Makefield Highlands GC	70 69 139
Mark Sheftic Merion GC	72 67 139
George Forster Radnor Valley CC	66 74 140
Stu Ingraham M Golf Range	68 72 140
Alex Knoll Bethlehem GC	65 75 140
Bertus Wessels Green Valley CC	68 72 140
Mike Meisenzahl Shore Gate CC	69 71 140
Dave McNabb Applebrook GC	72 68 140
Dave Quinn Links GC	66 75 141
Greg Farrow Deerwood CC	69 72 141
John Cooper Green Valley CC	74 67 141
Rich Steinmetz Spring Ford CC	67 75 142
Billy Stewart ACE Club	68 74 142
Eddie Perrino Eagle Rock Resort	70 72 142
Trevor Bensel Huntingdon Valley CC	69 73 142
Michael Wheeler Bellewood CC	70 72 142
Jeff Bonicky Sea Oaks GC	70 72 142
Brendon Post Ches. Bay GC - Rising Sun	68 75 143

Skee Riegel Senior Open

Radnor Valley CC - Villanova, PA Par 70

	Total
John Allen Huntingdon Valley CC	68
Jack Connelly North Hills CC	69
Mike Moses Concord CC	69
Brian Kelly Bucknell GC	69
John Appleget Wildwood Golf & CC	69
Terry Hertzog CC of York	70
Ron Weaver (a)	70
Don Allan Burlington CC	71
John DiMarco Laurel Creek CC	71
Greg Farrow Deerwood CC	71
Linda Nevatt ACE Club	71
George Forster Radnor Valley CC	72
Stu Ingraham M Golf Range	72
Don DeAngelis Center Square GC	72
Rob Shuey Colonial GC	72
Bob Lennon Wilmington CC	73
Harvey Williams Philly PGA	73
Dave Roberts Cedarbrook CC	75
Craig Susalka Edgmont CC	75
David Nevatt Philly PGA	75
Wayne Phillips Lehigh CC	77
Bob Kave GolfTEC Moorestown	77
Mickey Sokalski Philmont CC	78
John Kellogg Radley Run CC	78

Jack Jolly & Son Golf Pride Championship

Trump National Phila. - Pine Hills, NJ Par 71

	Total
John Lynch Wild Quail G & CC	34 32 66
Dave McNabb Applebrook GC	35 33 68
Jakob Gerney Trump National GC- Philly	35 33 68
Terry Hertzog CC of York	36 33 69
Curtis Kirkpatrick Indian Spring CC	34 35 69
George Forster Radnor Valley CC	34 35 69
Josh Rackley Gulph Mills GC	35 34 69
Hugh Reilly Twining Valley GC	34 35 69
Alex Knoll Bethlehem GC	35 34 69
John Spina Philadelphia Cricket Club	34 36 70
Billy Stewart ACE Club	36 34 70
Mark Sheftic Merion GC	36 34 70
Matt Episcopo Philadelphia Cricket Club	36 34 70
Stu Ingraham M Golf Range	35 35 70
Kevin Nicholson Makefield Highlands GC	37 33 70
Andy Watters Talamore Country Club	34 36 70
John DiMarco Laurel Creek CC	38 33 71
Matt Goudie Lancaster CC	35 36 71
Mike Moses Concord CC	36 35 71
Rich Steinmetz Spring Ford CC	35 36 71
Dave Quinn Links GC	35 36 71
Bill Sautter Philadelphia Cricket Club	36 35 71
Corey McAlarney Elkview CC	34 37 71

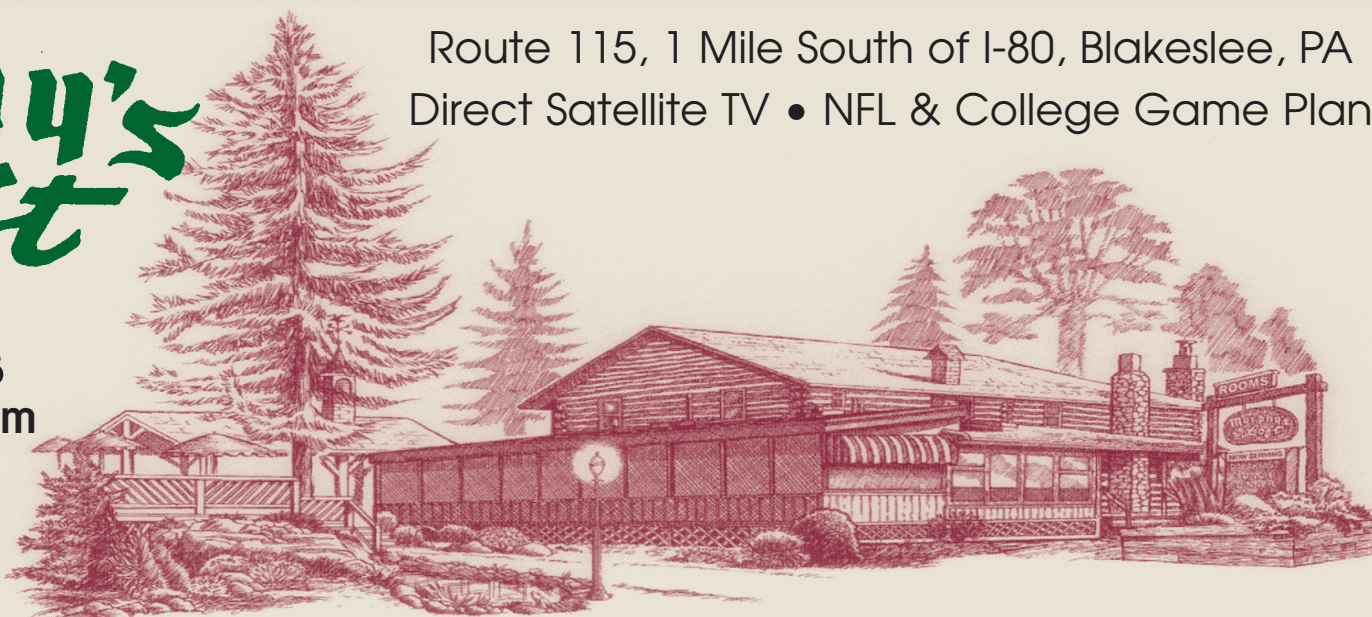
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Greg Meyer (Woodstone CC)	71
Mike Furey (Mahoning Valley)	72

LOW SENIOR PRO

Bob Fritz (Manufacturers G&CC)	69
John Kuhlhamer (Green Pond)	70
Greg Wall (Pocono Manor)	75

LOW AMATEUR

Ryan Kline (Green Pond)	70
Tom Fleige (Green Pond)	70
Riley Manley (GlenBrook)	74

TEAM LOW GROSS

John Kuhlhamer (Green Pond)	62
Greg Meyer (Woodstone CC)	64
Bob Fritz (Manufacturers G&CC)	65

TEAM LOW NET

Greg Wall (Pocono Manor)	59
John Pillar (Woodloch Springs)	61
Jeff Breiner (Blue Ridge CC)	61

Woodstone Pro-Am Woodstone CC, PA Par 72

LOW PRO

Mike Grabosky (Heidelberg)	73
John Pillar (Woodloch Springs)	74
Jeff Fick (Gasser's)	74
Mike Furey (Mahoning Valley)	74

LOW SENIOR PRO

George Petrole (Thru the Green)	76
Brian Boyle (Skytop)	79
John Kuhlhamer (Green Pond)	79

LOW AMATEUR

Brian Golembiewski (Heidelberg)	72
Mike Bowers (Heidelberg)	72
Brandon Rahl (Heidelberg)	73

TEAM LOW GROSS

George Petrole (Thru the Green)	64
Mike Grabosky (Heidelberg)	65
Mike Furey (Mahoning Valley)	65

TEAM LOW NET

Spencer Lungert (Scranton Canoe)	59
Jeff Fick (Gasser's)	60
Mark Monahan (Honesdale)	64

Great Bear Pro-Am

Great Bear Golf Club, East Stbg., PA Par 72

LOW PRO

John Pillar (Woodloch Springs)	69
Dustin McCormick (Wolf Hollow)	71
Jason Kuiper (Woodloch Springs)	73
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Exotics – Part of Tour Winner's Weaponry



Exotics E8 Mid-Range
Iron No. 6



Exotics CB PROh Iron



EXOTICS

Exotics E8 Hybrids
Angles 1 and 2

By Reid Nelson

The company doesn't spend money slapping its name on Tour players' hats and golf bags. But for decades, Tour Edge/Exotics has been designing and producing some of the highest quality, best valued equipment in golf, putting its dollars into R&D and superior components rather than marketing.

Even so, Exotics equipment has long been part of Tour winners' weaponry, hidden under headcovers bearing the crests of companies who actually sponsor the player whose name is on the bag. Brandt Snedeker carried an Exotics 3-wood under a Bridgestone headcover when he marched to the 2012 Tour Championship and FedEx Cup and 2013 RBC Canadian Open. J.B. Holmes, who represents Callaway, carried two Exotics hybrids while winning the 2014 Wells Fargo Championship at Quail Hollow.

Already this year, players with Exotics clubs in their bags have finished runner-up at the Farmers Insurance Open on the PGA Tour and Allianz Championship on the Champions Tour, as well as picked up a top 10 at Pebble Beach.

We could go on, but you get the idea. Tour Edge/Exotics has been making Tour-quality clubs for years – clubs that are so good that Tour players play them without getting paid to do so. So when we got a chance to test the Exotics E8 irons, the company's latest offerings, at recent demo days – one in Charleston, S.C., and again in Orlando, Fla., during the week of the PGA Merchandise Show – our expectations were high going in ... and we weren't disappointed.

What we found was, quite simply, the easiest to hit irons ever to sport the Exotics name. And thanks to similar demo days and media events sponsored by Tour Edge/Exotics in conjunction with the annual PGA Show, we have tried literally every club the company has offered since Tour Edge President David Glod introduced the company's high-end, boutique subsidiary.

What makes the E8 so forgiving and easy to hit is also what makes it so explosive. These irons feature the deepest undercut cavity of any Exotics iron to date. The cavity hides two tungsten weights positioned in the heel and toe, which help square and stabilize the face at impact while expanding the sweet spot. Further, the deep undercut combines with the weighting to increase the moment of inertia while allowing for a more free-standing face to deliver faster ball speeds and more distance over a larger portion of the face.

You can't see things like MOI and centers of gravity, but you can see their results in the launch characteristics of the E8 irons. These irons get the ball airborne and they do it with ease. What's more, the progressive set design that gradually shifts CG location, offset, blade length and face and top-line thickness throughout the set means the long and mid irons are as easy to elevate as the shorter, scoring irons.

The stock shaft offerings, both steel and graphite, further enhance the launch characteristics of the E8 irons. The stock steel offering is the premium KBS Tour 90, a lightweight, low-torque, mid-trajectory shaft that provides all the control of heavier steel shafts but without the added weight that can hurt swing speed. With the KBS Tour 90 shafts, an eight-club 4-AW set retails for \$600.

(Add \$100 if you want the heavier KBS Tour steel shaft.)

The stock graphite offering is the new Recoil shaft recently introduced by UST Mamiya, a shaft that costs between \$45 and \$70 from an after-market clubfitter. Mind you, this is the genuine article Recoil shaft, not some dumbed-down version of a premium shaft like some manufacturers use. (You know the difference when you see "ABC Shaft for XYZ Manufacturer" printed on the shaft.)

The entire Recoil series is designed to offer improved feel and increased clubhead speed, thanks to an expensive 19-layer design. For its softer L, A and R flexes, Exotics installs Recoil 450 and 460 series shafts in the 52- to 65-gram range. The 670 stiff flex weighs in at 78 grams, while the Recoil 680 x-flex is 84 grams. All are designed to deliver mid-high to high launch. With the Recoil graphite, the same 4-AW set is \$800. We're betting you can't buy eight Recoil shafts and have them installed in your present set for that!

For those who want to incorporate hybrids into their set in place of long irons, Exotics offers E8 hybrids in 2- to 6-iron lofts (17 to 28 degrees) with the same shaft options as the irons. The sleek black, compact hybrids feature a flexing Power Grid sole design with a changeable weight port so you can further 'dial in' the launch characteristics you desire. The hybrids can be purchased individually or as part of combo-sets.

And though we went to this particular demo day to specifically see the new E8s, we couldn't help but try the Exotics CB PROh irons, just for comparison sake. A club that presents a classic blade-look at address, the CB PROh is actually a high-tech, integrated iron "system" that offers two club designs in one set – solid, muscle-cavity blade design in the 8-PW and a fully hollow hybrid-style design in the 2-7 irons.

The result is a set of clubs that are easy to launch in the longer irons, easy to control in the scoring clubs and more workable than traditional cavity-back irons throughout. Holmes had 19- and 21-degree CB PRO hybrids in his bag at Quail Hollow when he won in May.

In particular, trajectory control, especially with the shorter irons, seemed easier with the CB models, as compared to the E8. While both models were easy to work right to left and left to right, the CB PROh would likely be preferable for the high-launch player looking to control their trajectory, while the E8 would better fit the player looking for a higher launch and more carry.

Stock shaft offerings for the CB PROh irons include both the Recoil (\$800 for an eight-iron set) and the Fujikura Fuel graphite (\$700), as well as the KBS Tour and Project X (\$700) or X-Lite 90 steel (\$600).

Like all Tour Edge/Exotics clubs, regardless of price, the E8 irons and hybrids and CB PROh irons come with a 30-day play guarantee and a lifetime warranty. For more about these or any Tour Edge/Exotics clubs, go to www.touredge.com.

And the next time you're shopping for golf clubs, broaden your horizons and look beyond the names you see on Tour players' bags. You might just be surprised at the quality your equipment dollars can buy when part of your purchase price isn't going to endorsement contracts.

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A Young Golfer's Dream Assignment: An Interview With Arnold Palmer



Arnold Palmer

Photo by Michael Holahan

Dan Furman is a resident of Blue Bell, Pa. and a graduate of Germantown Academy. He currently attends Franklin & Marshall College and is one of the star players on the golf team that reached the Division III national championship this year. He was the 2012 Montgomery County Junior Champion.

A passionate golfer – who takes his work and his play in the world of golf very seriously – he took a huge step forward in his career on one unforgettable day this year.

By DAN FURMAN

When I first got the news, I couldn't believe the opportunity that presented itself; I was going to interview a legend of the game of golf, the man they call the King, Arnold Palmer.

My summer intern position with TL Golf Services – a golf-specific public relations, marketing and event management company in Montgomery County – promised a lot of new opportunities ... but nothing like this.

The journey to Mr. Palmer's hometown of Latrobe began early on a Tuesday morning. I left my house at 5 a.m., with more than a four-hour drive ahead. I made the trip with GolfTalk Live radio show host Tony Leodora. Among other things, including a radio interview, he was shooting a video commemorating the 25th anniversary of Commonwealth National Golf Club, the first course Arnold Palmer designed in his home state.

Since my days in junior golf – and through my high school and college golf career – Commonwealth National has been my home course. It was an honor to hear what the architect had to say about the course where I have played the majority of my golf.

We traveled to western Pennsylvania to the exclusive Latrobe Country Club. When we arrived, ESPN was setting up cameras and lighting equipment for



Dan Furman gets chance of a lifetime

another interview. It quickly became evident how busy Mr. Palmer is.

The ESPN interview proved to be a history lesson. The range of questions they asked included the 1964 Open Championship when Tony Lema, a good friend of Palmer, won the major on the Old Course at St. Andrews. The interview proceeded, through the tragic death of Lema in an airplane crash. It concluded with the 2015 Open Championship -- the last for five-time champion Tom Watson.

An interesting side note included comments about Donald Trump – how he is helping the world of golf, why people should stop criticizing Trump, and an appeal to support the changes he is bringing to the golf course business all over the world.

It was amazing to hear one incredibly powerful man talk about another.

When ESPN completed the interview, Palmer went into his office with his personal assistant of 49 years, Doc Giffin, and Leodora. I was shocked at the invitation from Mr. Palmer: "You too, Dan. Come and have a seat."

While ESPN packed up its equipment and the next crew set up for the Commonwealth National interview, I was able to hear stories about Palmer's amateur career. One was of the Indiana Invitational, when Palmer was 16 years old. It happened to be against my uncle, Ken Steer.

"It was one of the greatest matches I have ever played," said Palmer. "It went to eight extra holes."

On the eighth extra hole, Palmer won with a par, while my uncle three-putted to lose the hole. Doc Giffin admitted he had never heard this story through all the years he worked for Palmer, and he also was delighted to hear about this match.

The other stories were linked to some of the memorabilia that was on the

Arnold Palmer continued on page 33

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Srixon – "Play Better Equipment"



Srixon

Z745 model Iron No. 6



Z745 model Iron



Srixon

Z545 model Iron No. 6



Z545 model Iron

By Reid Nelson

"Play a better ball."

That's the marketing catchphrase for Srixon, the golf equipment arm of international manufacturing giant Sumitomo Rubber Industries. But after some extensive, first-hand testing of the full line of Srixon products, we're wondering if that slogan isn't just a bit limited.

Maybe Srixon should be telling golfers to "Play better equipment, period."

OK, in an age when seemingly every manufacturer is producing technologically innovative and sound equipment, who's to say what is better than what? But one thing our day of testing did for sure was convince us that Srixon doesn't have to take a back seat to any OEM in today's golf marketplace.

SRI Sports Limited, Sumitomo's sports-specialty subsidiary, produces the popular line of Srixon golf balls, including the Tour-level Z-Star and Z-Star XV, as well as the Q-Star, Soft Feel, Soft Feel Lady and more.

But it also designs and manufactures an entire line of premium quality clubs under the Srixon, Cleveland Golf and Never Compromise brand names. And while these clubs might not show up in golf bags at your local club as often as clubs from other companies, given their quality, performance and price, it is difficult, if not downright impossible, to explain why.

Our day-long test session with the complete line of Cleveland/Srixon products did nothing to provide an answer. In fact, the only thing our tests did was left us wishing for a sack-full of new toys.

And at the top of our wish list would be Srixon's Z 745 model irons. Or would it be the Z 545s? The decision has nothing to do with quality – since both are Tour-level clubs made from premium materials – and everything to do with personal preference.

The Srixon Z 745 irons are sleek, compact, blade-like beauties at address, with little offset and a thin top line that appeals to a broad range of players, including Touring pros like Keegan Bradley. But their muscle-cavity design gives the Z 745s a level of forgiveness amateurs are sure to appreciate. And it does so without sacrificing responsiveness and workability. Our testing showed that even knock-down "punch" shots were easy enough to hit, despite the generous cavity.

But the most striking characteristic of the Z 745 irons is their feel, which can best be described as solid, yet velvety soft. That's largely because the clubs are forged from 1020 carbon steel. That may not mean much to those of us who aren't metallurgists, but maybe it should. According to the American Iron and Steel Institute, the last two numbers in carbon steel's designation indicate the amount of carbon in the alloy (as a fraction of one percent). Therefore, the 1020 carbon steel used by Srixon for its Tour-quality Z series irons has 0.20 percent carbon content.

Again, what does that mean on the golf course? Just this. As the carbon content increases, steel gets stronger but it also gets harder. (It also becomes less malleable or ductile, but then, we aren't really worried about when we're hitting a 5-iron.) Ergo, 1020 carbon steel is a bit softer than the 1025 grade used in some forgings. It may sound like a miniscule amount but think again; five one-hundredths of a percentage point represents a 20 percent difference in the amount of carbon contained in the alloy. And in a game where feel is vital, that 20 percent can make a noticeable difference in the hands of a good player.

And notice, we aren't even talking about the difference between 1020 and much harder stainless steel used in a lot of cast clubheads.

The Z 545 model is actually a two-piece head featuring an SUP10 steel face set into a 1020 carbon steel body. The "hotter" face enhances distance while the softer framework improves feel. The Z 545s also features a slightly larger face and thicker top line, as well as a bit more offset (0.136" vs. 0.119" in the 5 iron). And whereas the Z 745 irons boast a muscle-cavity design throughout the set, the Z 545s feature a pocket-cavity design in the longer irons, moving more weight farther away from the face to make it easier to launch the ball on a higher trajectory.

But so much for what's different between the two models. Let's talk about their similarities and why these clubs should be on the "must try" list of any golfer in the market for new irons. First, both models feature what Srixon calls its "Tour V.T." sole design. By increasing the leading edge bounce and decreasing the bounce in the trailing edge, Srixon engineers created a V-shaped sole that reduces turf resistance at impact, prevents "digging" and tightens shot dispersion. If you are having trouble envisioning how the V improves the interaction between club and turf at impact, think of a how a sled runner or the front of a ski interacts with the snow as either goes downhill.

True Temper's Dynamic Gold steel shafts are standard in both the Z 745 and Z 545 irons. But Srixon also offers the Nippon NP 950 Pro or the KBS Tour steel shafts with no "up charges." And a wide variety of steel and graphite shafts are available to custom fit your irons to your game.

Finally, both Z series irons are priced at \$875 for a 4-PW set with any one of the "standard" steel shafts. The standard grip is Lamkin's UTx Full Cord in red.

There's more we could talk about – like the tungsten weights integrated into the soles of the longer irons to improve playability or the double laser-milled faces that improve spin characteristics and distance control from both the fairway and rough. But once you experience the feel and workability of either the Z 745 or the Z 545 irons, you won't really care about why they perform so well.

You'll just be happy that they do.

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Commonwealth National Golf Club

Hole #7



Commonwealth National Golf Club

Arnold Palmer from page 29

wall in his office. If Palmer had told a story linked to every piece of memorabilia in his office he would have gone on for hours. The reminiscing was cut short by a return to work.

The Commonwealth National video was recorded for replaying at a gala celebration of the course's **25th anniversary** on **June 26**. He would say that it was a great honor to design a course in his home state. He joked that he told lead designer, the late Ed Seay, "All the golf course designers get the worst land to build a course on." Much of Commonwealth was built on and over protected wetlands. Palmer called the terrain "a swamp."

Later in the interview he talked about the mandate from the original owner of Commonwealth National, Bud Hansen, to create a championship course that would rival classic courses like Pine Valley and Merion. Palmer said, "Commonwealth will make good players better, and it will make every golfer that plays it better. It would also make other courses that golfers play seem easier."

After the Commonwealth interview was completed, Leodora also did two short videos: one for Atlantic City Country Club, and the other for Buzz Taylor, a member of the USGA, who recently passed away. It quickly became evident that, even though he is besieged by requests, Palmer tries to accommodate as many people as possible.

In the interviews, he talked about the days when he played Atlantic City Country Club, while serving in the U.S. Coast Guard and was stationed in Cape May, NJ. Then he gave a personal testimonial to the late Leo Fraser, owner of Atlantic City CC and a former president of the PGA of America. His heartfelt sentiments were very touching.

Even though I took many notes throughout the previous interviews – enough to fuel any story – I was allowed to ask my own question. I had given this days of thought. I didn't want to ask any thing that had already been covered. I wanted my one chance to show some forethought.

My question: "Where do you see golf in 10 years?"

His answer was quick and direct:

"Despite what you hear from a lot of people, golf has a bright future. If professionals stay connected to the public, and continue to inspire the next generation, people will continue to see that the sport is exciting and fun to play."

He touched on the woes of the golf course construction business, as many more courses close, than open. He recognized recent membership problems and acknowledged that clubs will have to find a way to get more members.

We topped off the visit by taking a few pictures with Mr. Palmer. As I quickly learned, he was gracious in obliging all requests.

I was more than grateful for the great experience – a young college golfer getting to meet and interview perhaps the greatest golf personality of all time. But he insisted on topping it off with a personal gift. He gave me a lapel pin – his signature umbrella logo -- as a souvenir for the long trip, and as a way to remember the day.

I appreciated the gift, but the experience of that day was already a gift I will never forget.



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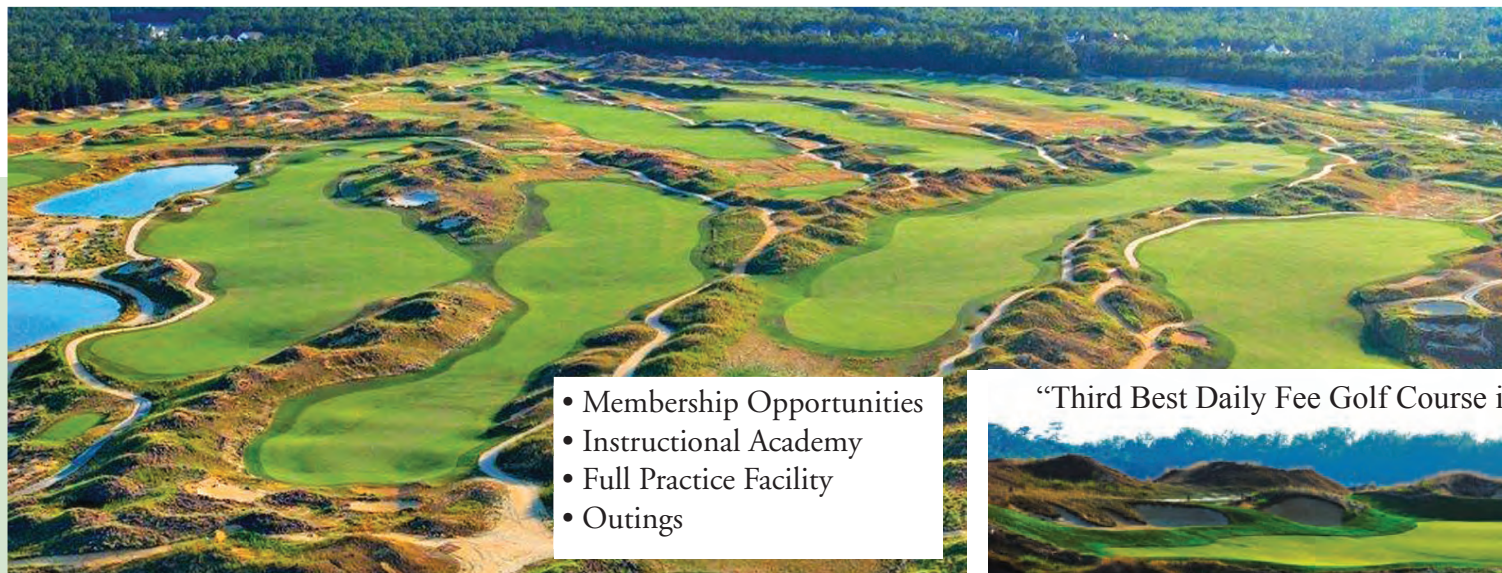
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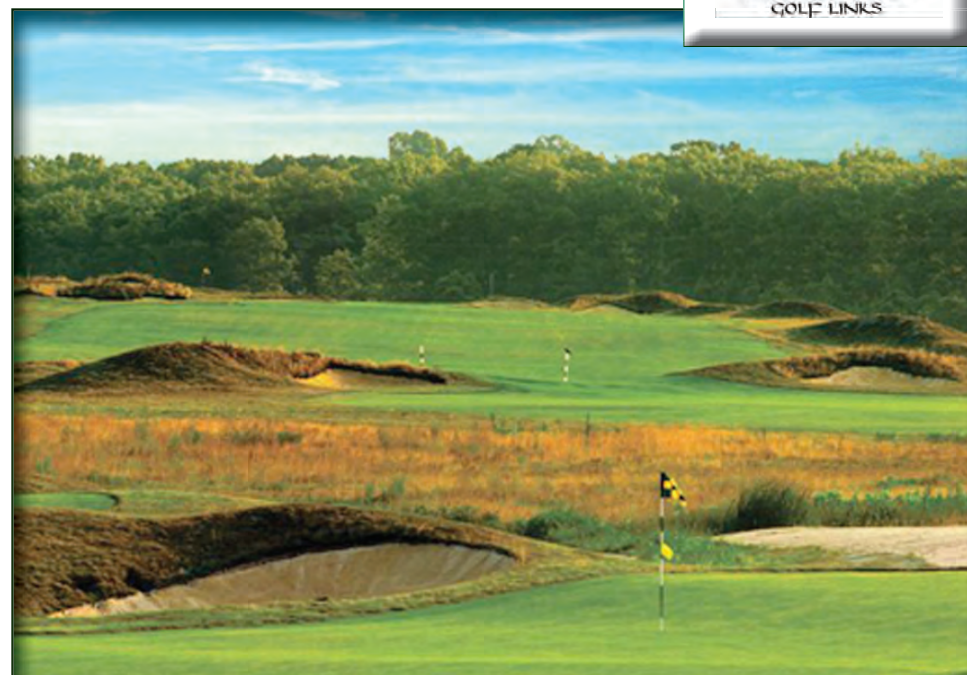
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The Amazing Story of McCullough's Emerald Golf Links



McCullough's Emerald Golf Links Hole #7



McCullough's Emerald Golf Links Hole #2

By Tony Leodora

It is a story of amazing reclamation. It is testimony that the world of golf is eco-sensitive. It is a shining example of business and government working hand-in-hand.

McCullough's Emerald Golf Links in Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, was once a landfill that was an eyesore in a municipality eager for growth. Thanks to the work of Mayor Sonny McCullough, the town government and architect Stephen Kay, it now stands as one of the most interesting, exciting and affordable golf courses at the Jersey Shore.

And it is the subject of the July episode of the award-winning Traveling Golfer television show.

Opened in 2002, the course stands as a tribute to the Irish/Scottish links style of golf. Wind-blown, devoid of trees, usually featuring firm conditions, the course invites golfers to play the ball along the ground – as is the style of the game “across the Pond.”

“It's very exciting for us to show McCullough's Emerald Golf Links to the world,” says general manager Tom Sullivan. “The course has matured well over the years and recent changes have brought about the best conditions ever. We believe in our mission statement at McCullough's, and now we hope the rest of the country will do the same.”

Sullivan and Kay, an accomplished architect who now makes South Jersey his home, tell the amazing story of taking a blighted property and transforming it into a beautiful golf course.

“I have been playing McCullough's every year since it opened – once, twice a year,” says Traveling Golfer host Tony Leodora. “I've seen it mature and I've seen it become a favorite of the people who visit the Greater Atlantic City



Tony Leodora Host of GolfTalk Live




area. The best way to describe the course is that it is an enjoyable and different golf experience.”

The episode from McCullough's Emerald Golf Links begins airing July 1 and runs throughout the month on The Traveling Golfer Network of websites ... including The Golf Director Network (see full list of sites on www.travelinggolfervideo.com). It also will air on Monday, July 13 as part of the Press Box television show in Myrtle Beach, 5 to 7 p.m. on HTC Ch. 4. As of April, the Traveling Golfer began airing in its entirety as a scheduled weekly feature show on Comcast SportsNet and The Comcast Network throughout the Philadelphia, Mid-Atlantic, North Jersey and Pittsburgh markets.

Responding to golfers' never-ending demands to learn more about interesting golf courses and golf resorts across the country and around the world, well-traveled host Tony Leodora created the Traveling Golfer so he could take viewers on video golf trips to some of the most exciting golf locations. The show won a first place award for golf television broadcasts in the prestigious International Network of Golf Media Awards, presented at the PGA Merchandise Show in January.

The Traveling Golfer appears as a series of monthly shows hosted by Leodora, who has 15 years of experience in televised golf shows. The featured destination stays on the website for one month, before being replaced by a new show. The old shows are archived for continued viewing on the home website, www.travelinggolfervideo.com. Past episodes can also be found on Xfinity On-Demand from Comcast.

For more information about the Traveling Golfer, call TL Golf Services at (610) 279-9220.



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By Mike Kern

One of the best things about going to the annual International Network of Golf Spring Conference — which this year was hosted by the Mission Inn resort near Orlando — is getting to find out about and test some of the best new products the industry has to offer.

It's probably the No. 1 reason to attend. And the most recent edition was no different. So here's a sampling of some of the latest items that can go a long way in helping you enjoy and enhance your game.

Let's start with the technological stuff first, since those who know me will tell you is not my strength. Doesn't mean I can't at least attempt to enter the 21st century at some point, right?

SkyGolf is the maker of SkyCaddie, the top-rated Rangefinder on the market. Its newest line of products includes the SkyCaddie TOUCH, LINX watch, AIRE II GPS rangefinders, a Mobile rangefinder app, Game Tracker, Swing Analyzer and SkyTrak Personal Launch Monitor. Got all of that? For someone with my limited knowledge of such innovations, it was a lot for me to take in. But Jay Hubbard, the vice president of marketing and former voice of Tour Edge clubs, did his best to make it understandable even to this novice. And it is quite impressive. I suggest you go to the website to really get the full scoop. And through July 5, the company is offering great gift ideas for Father's Day in the form of instant \$20 rebates on two of its products (SkyPro and SkyCaddie Touch), and a \$50 savings on LINX.

SkyPro is a small sensor that fits on your grip and monitors the club's motion during a swing, with the info then transmitted to your smartphone or tablet for instant feedback. TOUCH, the flagship of the new lineup, features a glove-friendly touchscreen with bluetooth connectivity. Coupled with the free 360 mobile app, it allows a member to do any number of functions including viewing game stats and chatting with friends. LYNX uses golf's "best-in-class" TrueGround course maps to help you get around the course. It's billed as the most legible watch out there. And you can connect with SkyGolf 360 to get insight into your game with advanced scoring and stats. With a nominal plan it's also upgradable to provide you with IntelliGreen technology. But the base features do not require an annual membership, which does have extra benefits that make the value more than worth the investment. If any or all of this sounds like something you might be interested in, by all means check it out. And take advantage of the specials now online. Feel free to browse. And please tell them I sent you.

Epson is a name you might recognize from office products. But it has come out with a swing analyzer, M-Tracer MT500GII. It comes with a premium price, about \$299, which is noticeably more than the competition. But the promise is that it will deliver much more. I was able to get a demo on the practice range, and it does leave an impression. I got to see my swing path, which is a little Jim Furyk/Nancy Lopez with the loop at the top, and all the vital numbers that went with it. Amazingly, it showed how I was able to get my club back on the proper plane at impact, which seemed to confuse even the instructor. They claim that their technology is more advanced, and hence so is the data. The device attaches very unobtrusively to the shaft, and tracks and records up to 200 swings and up to 4 hours continuously. Once the info has been collected and stored, the smartphone app shows the full swing path in 3D and allows a player to compare their swing against that of another golfer or their own previous recordings. It even has a freeze-frame option, and saves swings wirelessly to your iPhone, iPad, iPad Touch or Android device. All I know is it was fascinating, and enlightening. And I don't say that too often.

Eyeline Golf, which has been around for 15 years now, has putting and swing aids that are used at every level of golf, including over 300 touring pros. The most famous is Rory McIlroy, who used the Putting Alignment Mirror to make 55 consecutive putts from the 8 to 10 foot range. He carries it around with him around the world. I can't think of any better endorsement. They have almost too many things to list, but if you go to their website you can take a look for yourself and see if there's something that might work for you. It sure can't hurt. Just ask the guy at the top of the rankings. And the other 13 Ryder Cuppers who swear by them.

If you're looking for a new driver, you can do a lot worse than one of the models offered being offered by Dean Knuth. You might not have heard of them, but they work. His newest, the High Heat, was launched at the PGA Merchandise Show in January and was called a game changer by one prominent reviewer. I don't know what makes it work, although it might have something to do with the lower center of gravity and higher MOI compared to other brands, but I know I hit it straight and long. Maybe a good 20 yards longer than my usual. And that was with range balls. It's designed specifically for amateurs, which means it's nothing if not forgiving. It's not cheap, and it might take you awhile to get your hands on one, but I would highly recommend it to anyone who seriously wants to improve their ability off the tee. Because it's better to be playing from the fairway and be hitting a 7-iron instead of a 5 into the green. Do I have to add much more?

Another company that flies a little under the radar, Razor Golf, has always had some great stuff. Whether it be drivers, irons or hybrids. I should know. I've played enough of them. And now Mike Vandiver has unveiled a putting aid, which he calls "The Sorcerer," that won Best New Product at ING. It's a device that hooks up to two different putter models that lets you see just how far your alignment is off, which of course is the biggest fault for most of us. I couldn't believe how bad mine was until I tried to line the putter face up correctly to the target. It took me longer than I care to admit. And that's the whole point. I thought I was lining it up the right way. This aid teaches you to aim properly, and once you do that all you have to do is putt the ball and it should go where you want it to go. And by doing it over and over again it becomes habit. The right habit, for a change. It's definitely worth a look, especially if you're one of those folks who for whatever reason can't convert nearly enough on the green. This just might provide some answers.

Another innovation that generated a bunch of positive response was the Swingclick, a device that straps to a golfer's forearm and is small enough to carry in your bag. Its purpose is to develop good tempo, rhythm and timing, three things many of us mid-handicappers sadly lack. It makes a clicking sound when the forearm is in the correct position at the top of the backswing, at impact and through the finish. It's a matter of training your brain and your body to be consistently at the same place, and to slow down your swing. Simplistic in concept, yet effective. And the best part is it's very affordable, one of those gifts that could make the perfect stocking stuffer. But why wait until then? Judging by the results I saw and the testimonials, I would put it to use as soon as possible.

There you have it, a few products that could shave some strokes. It's up to the individual, to find what's right for them. But at least it's a place to start. Because we're constantly searching for something better. It's why we keep playing this goofy game.

Antigua's Spring Men's Collection Features Desert Dry Performance Cotton



Antigua Onyx Jacket



Antigua Structure
Polo shirt



Antigua Reserve
Polo shirt

PEORIA, AZ - The Antigua Group, Inc. - one of the nation's leading designers and marketers of lifestyle and golf apparel under the distinguished Antigua brand - has introduced its Antigua Spring 2015 Men's Golf Performance Collection that introduces Desert Dry Performance Cotton (D2PC).

"The Spring 2015 Men's Golf Outerwear Collection includes this amazing new fabric," says Ron McPherson, President and CEO of Antigua. "It combines the moisture-wicking features of our proprietary Desert Dry moisture management technology with the natural fibers of cotton, to create a performance product that offers the best of both."

Cotton as a fiber alone absorbs moisture quickly, but doesn't allow the moisture to travel across the cotton knitted fibers for quicker release -- like synthetic micro-filament fibers. By engineering fabrics utilizing synthetic micro-filament yarns and blending them with fine natural cotton fibers, D2PC offers the look and casual comfort of cotton while maximizing the wicking properties of a performance fabric.

This season's introduction of Antigua's Desert Dry Performance Cotton is a great addition to the Spring 2015 Performance 72 golf collection. The D2PC styles are being offered beginning in January and have been developed sharing the same color palette that's carried throughout both the men's and women's Spring 2015 fashion collections. It also offers an additional merchandising opportunity, including the reinvention of cotton into performance golf apparel. For more details on Antigua's Desert Dry Performance Cotton, visit www.antigua.com.

About Antigua

Headquartered in Peoria, Arizona, The Antigua Group, through its license sports division, holds license agreements with National Football League (NFL), Major League Baseball (MLB), Minor League Baseball (MLB), National Hockey League (NHL) and the National Basketball Association (NBA), Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC), along with numerous American universities and colleges for men's, women's and children's apparel, headwear and luggage. Antigua additionally designs, produces and supplies product for corporate America and specialty retail managed under its corporate division. Its golf division also holds license agreements with the PGA TOUR, LPGA and the PGA of America. Antigua products can also be found online at shop.antigua.com.



Antigua Blaze Striped Polo shirt

Spring/Summer Sunice Silver Apparel Collection



Sunice Silver Polo featuring X-Static® and XT2® fabrics."



Sunice Silver for Women featuring X-Static® and XT2® fabrics."

MONTREAL, QUEBEC - The 2015 Spring/Summer Sunice Silver Apparel collection is now on the shelves. The collection is focused on providing the golf market the best performance apparel available - while keeping the company's promise to provide a balance of style complimenting the technical aspects of the garments. Sunice 2015 is all about comfort and function - addressing the needs of the golfer and designing and developing garments that meet their specific use to allow them to perform better while playing. Sunice is continuing to expand its highly technical apparel line. Sunice Silver uses X-Static and XT2 fabrics in its polo collection. The success of Sunice's golf platform derives from its capability to offer innovation through research and development and diversification in all products providing the ultimate freedom to play, no matter the weather.

"In all our collections and categories of products we always look to our heritage in outerwear and the DNA of the brand that was a result of our focus on creating the best performance outerwear in the world that allowed the golfer to play in any weather condition", said Micheline Gallant, Sunice designer for golf. "Our silver collection is a manifestation of that same philosophy - the X-static technology used in all our sportswear polos provides cooling benefits to the player as it is thermal regulating, anti odour and UV protection. These shirts are more comfortable to play in as they do not cling to the body as most polyester shirts, allows you to manage your body heat and protects from the harmful UV rays of the sun. Wearing a polo using the Sunice Silver X-static technology lets the golfer feel confident when leaving the golf course after 18 rounds - they look as great as they did when they started their round."

Highlights of the 2015 Sunice Silver Collection

"In continuing to strive to be the leader in technical golf apparel - we at Sunice wanted to find the ultimate performance fabric for our polos that would reflect our commitment to bringing the best technical fabrics to our golf collection - to act as an extension of your golf equipment - as we believe what you wear is equally as important as what you play with", say Gallant. "In doing so we formed an exclusive partnership with X-Static - a permanent technology that uses 99.9% pure silver filaments in the fabrication of our yarns. Sunice is the only golf apparel company to have the silver technology in its garments, featuring X-Static® and XT2® fabrics."

The Men's Sunice Silver Spring 2015 Collection offers a wider selection of core basics including a performance pique short sleeve polo options and bottoms in a variety of plaids and solids. Bottoms are available in classic Black, Midnight and Charcoal. Full stretch fabric, fit and stain release are a few of the characteristics that make the "Peter moisture wicking shorts" the perfect complement to wear with your Sunice Silver Polo. Asymmetric colour blocking, subtle placement prints and an assortment of print stripes give the collection a sportier and cleaner look, which blend perfectly into our view of the collection as being more sophisticated and keeping with the Sunice DNA.

The Women's Sunice Silver Collection offers basics to merchandise back into the fashion collections and bottoms in solids and a new sew free knit skirt. The Berry Daring Collection is made up of vivid violet hues with pure whites enhanced for a fresh new look; Sheer Bliss is a play on the little black dress concept - where you can never have enough classic black - feminine and sporty a perfect fit for the links; Vanity Fairest collection is a perfect marriage between bold and bright - a non pink colour with tones of orange - a statement of the true Sunice lady. Sunice Silver for women provides clean lines with feminine fashion detailing to a technical shirt collection - no more boxy fits, something that women will finally be excited to wear on or off the golf course. www.sunice.com



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