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Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority

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Flower Power at SentryWorld

Legends at French Lick

Jerry Taft Interview

Dad's Day Gift Guide

Beyond Bunkers

Dave Pelz: Short Game Advisor

Journey To Better with Carl Rabito

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SentryWorld Hole 16

Cover: SentryWorld Hole 7

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NOTES FROM GREG AND DAVE

Ahhh, breathe in the fresh aroma of freshly cut grass as the first putt of the day surges ahead of a rooster tail of dew. A round of golf as the sun rises is pure morning glory for all the senses. Is there a better annoyance on the first tee than a hot cup of java steaming your glasses as you bring the caffeinated nectar to your lips? That first sip leaves little doubt that life is good. Golf is a sensual game: our eyes are surrounded in beauty with lush greens and dramatic skies. Sure, the conversations of our feathered friends sing the songs of nature, but a distant mower reminds us that crisp fairways are ahead of us. Not to mention a tink or click as a ball meets the sweet spot on your club. Lastly, we have touch. Some say you can spot a golfer the minute his hands touch the club. A golfer's hands are more active than a nervous teenager giving a speech about an Egyptian pharaoh. Soft hands steer a magical short game, while a firm grip blasts from the bunkers and removes our mis-hits from the rough. Just like imagery in poetry, this game adds sprinkles to our senses.

This issue we deliver a few courses and products that will renew your relationships with the game's subtle nuances. SentryWorld, in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, has finished their renovation project that ensures a Midwestern classic course



"Let's just say I needed to get my confidence back."

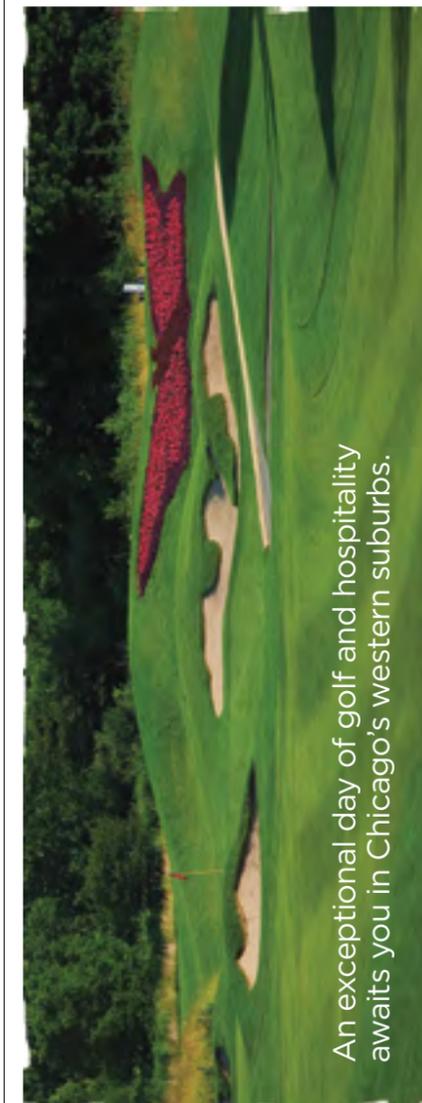
will remain iconic for the next generation. At SentryWorld, there is no need to remind you to stop and smell the roses. We also travel down to French Lick, Indiana, to sample Donald Ross and Pete Dye at the French Lick Resort. Hosting this year's Seniors PGA Championship, French Lick Resort brings nearly 170 years of experience to welcome our seasoned legends and all of the fans

of tournament golf. We love the golden-age Ross course, and we are still trying to tame the Himalayan challenges on the Dye course. Both SentryWorld and French Lick are great destinations without the hassles of air travel. We'll be looking for you early birds and dew sweepers, but join us and steal a few twilight rounds at your local golf course. The season is young, so be sure to shoulder your bag and make a habit of walking the course. It is sensory overload; especially when you stop to smell the grass clippings.

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Hip to be Square

Cleveland Golf is back in the putter game! The company's new Smart Square putter series ends your alignment woes and makes four-foot putts look like gimmies. The dual-axis alignment aid provides an ideal track to the hole and removes the guesswork of setting up on the correct line. Cleveland's test results claim that golfers make 23% more putts with the Smart Square—our test drive concurs. We found that the dual axis alignment inspires far more confidence than Odyssey's Two-Ball putter, which may be reason enough for diehard Two-Ball users to switch to squares. We especially liked the copolymer face insert, which provided ample feedback and a pleasant sound. We also love the fact that a putter with premium results is also highly affordable.

The Smart Square is available in center- and heel-shafted models. \$140 www.clevelandgolf.com



The Renegade

The latest golf shoe from Allen Edmonds pays homage to the Golden Bear. Renegade, from the Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Collection, is a sporty, spikeless golf shoe that offers superior craftsmanship and comfort. Moreover, the Renegade shoe is crafted with 360° Goodyear welted construction, which involves 212 steps to manufacture. With interchangeable Ortholite® athletic insoles, you will wear out the soles before you tire of the comfort and performance. Allen Edmonds shoes are made in Port Washington, Wisconsin, and the Renegade can be recrafted for many years of use. If you are ready to upgrade your footwear, then Allen Edmonds is the pinnacle of panache and a deserved luxury that performs on the course.

\$245 www.allenedmonds.com

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If you are looking for an uber-comfortable summer slip-on, the Skechers GOwalk 3™ is for you. This third-generation GOwalk has been engineered for maximum bounciness through the use of a two-piece sole constructed of Resalyte® and Go Pillars™ that help absorb shock and provide extreme cushioning. Comfort is further enhanced by the Goga Mat™ insole. Finally, a perfect fit is assured by the Performance Fitknit™ upper that's ultra-lightweight and breathable. Although specifically designed for walking exercise, we found they would work just as well for a casual round.

\$70 www.skechers.com



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\$250 www.clicgearusa.com



Call Your Shot from the Sand

When I ask the average golfer how they control distance hitting shots out of greenside bunkers, the standard responses are: Vary where the club hits behind the ball, swing harder or softer, grip up or down on the club, or just pray! Only one of those answers is correct: gripping up or down on the club. Praying may help, but we have yet to prove that theory. Gripping up or down on the club can help vary your distance control, but that's not the whole story.

Throughout my amateur and professional playing career I never really had a good understanding of proper distance control in the bunker. For shorter shots, I would try to hit four, five, even six inches behind the ball, and for longer shots about one or two inches behind the ball. But I never really became very good at the guessing game, nor did I become a very good bunker player. I now understand why. I didn't have the correct knowledge on how to hit the shot properly. Most amateurs also lack that knowledge.

When watching golf on television, one rarely hears any mention of what club is being used out of greenside bunkers. Last summer I did hear Ian Baker Finch announce on a broadcast that a player was probably using a pitching wedge or nine iron on a twenty-five yard bunker shot, and not a sand wedge. That was the first time that I remember ever hearing of a club, other than a sand wedge, being used out of a greenside bunker. I think most golfers assume that because the club has "sand" written on it, that it is the club we are suppose to use for all bunker shots. But the name of the club doesn't have anything to do with its performance in the sand or anywhere else.

The easiest way to vary the distance of your sand shots is to use clubs of different lengths and lofts, while keeping your backswing the same. The backswing length should be at 9:00 o'clock, where your leading arm is parallel to the ground at the top of the backswing.

We recommend using four wedges. The 64-degree and 60-degree wedges have more loft than the standard 56-degree sand wedge, and work wonderfully well on shorter bunker shots. The 50-degree pitching wedge through the 6 iron are also clubs of choice. All eight

clubs will work with pleasantly surprising results, provided you play the ball forward in you stance, off your forward instep, and open the clubface so the leading edge doesn't dig in the sand (the bottom and back of the club should bounce and scoot through the sand). Go to your practice area and calibrate

your 64-degree through 6 iron distances. (See photo 1.)

These distances should cover any distance situation from just around the green to 45 or 50 yards away. With practice you will blast your way to shots closer to the hole and lower scores.

INSTRUCTION

SHORT GAME ADVISOR



Dave Pelz



Photo 1



Photo 2

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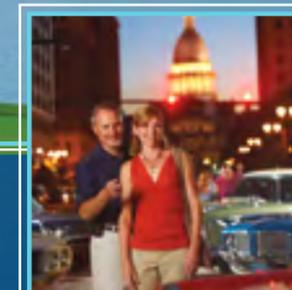
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Check Your Fundamentals

INSTRUCTION

POINTERS FROM THE PROS

Derek Domaleski
Chris Kendall
Donnie Moline

We want to encourage you to take the time this spring to get your season off to the right start. The first step in this process is to review last year's season, and set some goals for 2015. Be specific, and write them down. Here are some things to consider when formulating your goals and plan for 2015: handicap, practice habits and schedule (don't neglect your short game), low score, number of rounds, putts, fairways, and greens per round.

Sound fundamentals should be your number-one priority as you make your way back onto the driving range. At the beginning of each season, Jack Nicklaus would ask his instructor, Jack Grout, to teach him as if he were an absolute beginner. They would spend the majority of their time reviewing proper fundamentals. This exercise may seem simple, but Jack knew that solid fundamentals were always the foundation to his game. This holds true for all golfers.

Start by reviewing your golf posture and set-up in front of a mirror. Good posture affects how your body turns, where the club contacts the ground, and the direction of your swing path. Make sure that you bend forward from your hips so that your upper body tilts forward (photo 1) without rounding your upper spine

(photo 2). When done properly, your arms will hang directly below your shoulders. Slightly flex your knees, but be careful not to add too much knee flex as this will cause your spine to

become too upright. When you achieve perfect posture you should feel stable and balanced. Your weight should be centered in the middle of your arches on your feet.



Photo 1



Photo 2

Once you have achieved a solid set-up position which includes posture, alignment, and grip, it's time to make sure that you are rotating properly. The way that your body rotates in the backswing and the downswing determines everything from power and speed generated, to club path and angle of attack. Proper rotation and the ability to maintain posture while rotating at speed is a major factor in hitting the ball solidly.

A great drill that we utilize with our students is simply called the coil drill. Hold a golf club across your chest and hold it in place by crossing your arms over the club and pressing it against your chest (photo 3). Then get into your golf posture. Once you are in this position, rotate your lead shoulder under your chin into a fully coiled backswing position. While doing this, your lower body should remain stable with just a slight amount of hip turn. When done properly, you will maintain the same amount of forward tilt that you started with, and the club across your chest will be at a perpendicular angle to your spine (photos 4 and 5).

Get your season started right by reviewing your fundamentals. These two exercises

will help you with that process and get you on the right track. Seek out a PGA or LPGA professional to make sure that your fundamentals are in order so that you get more enjoyment out of this season. Happy golfing!

Dynamic Golf Institute is comprised of a team of PGA Professionals that focus solely on helping golfers of all ages and abilities improve their golf game. For more information, visit www.dynamicgolfinstitute.com or call 773-316-6693.



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Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5

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The Easy Way to Work the Ball Shape

There are a number of ways to curve (draw, hook, fade, slice) a golf shot. You can manually rotate or hold off the club face with your hands, through impact. This requires the highest level of skill. You can adjust the ball position and/or adjust the path of the club through impact. The easiest way for most players to predict how much a ball is going to curve is to have the club face pre-set at address (closed or open). The challenge then becomes how much to close or open the club face at address.

Using the bottom scoring line on the club face as a guide will make determining how much to pre-open or close the face more certain. Scoring lines are the grooves on the club face. When hitting a fade or draw, for example, two things need to be considered, where the ball starts and where the ball lands.

Try this: Stand behind the ball, with the ball between you and your initial target. Next, before taking your grip, hold your club parallel to the ground with the bottom scoring line of

the club face pointing to the sky and in line with the initial target (photo 1). If you want to hook or draw the ball, for instance, now rotate or point the bottom scoring line to the intended final target, i.e., the pin (photo 2). Next, take your grip with the desired club face position and now you can have the club face pre-set with some accuracy (photo 3). Address the ball, make your normal swing, the ball will start off on the original target line and then curve to your second and ultimate target, the pin!



Photo 1: Straight Shot



Photo 2: Draw or Hook Pre-set Clubface

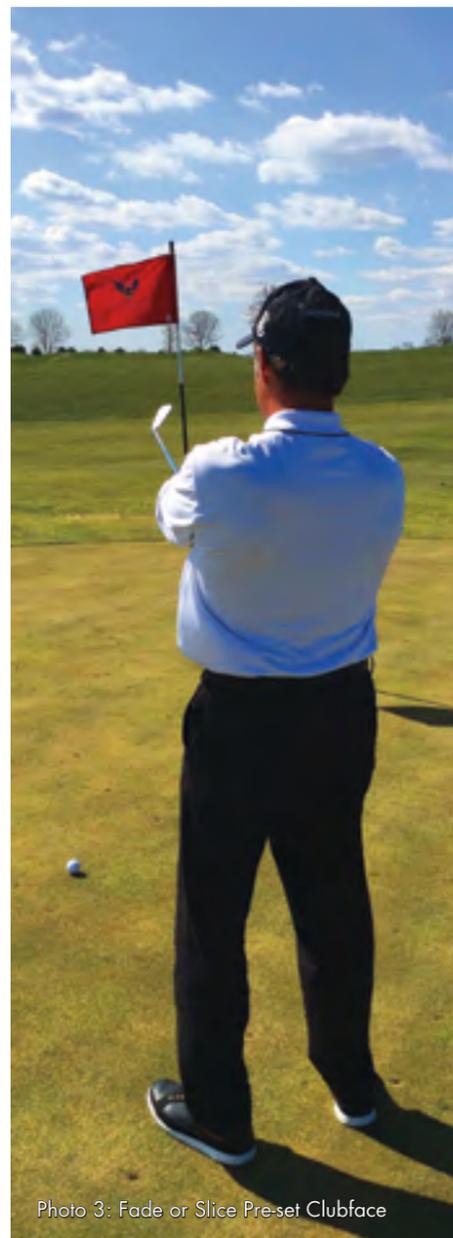


Photo 3: Fade or Slice Pre-set Clubface

INSTRUCTION

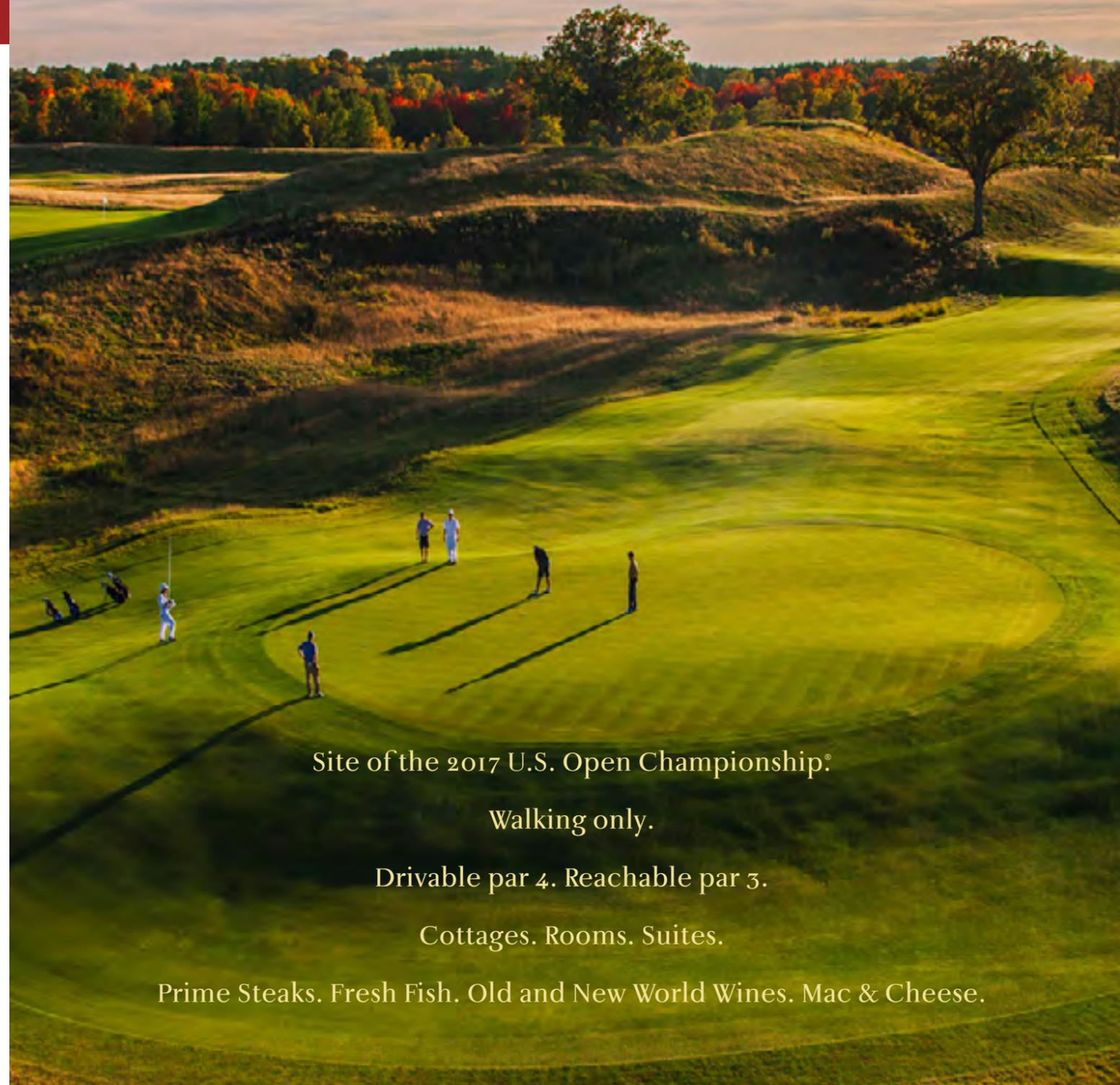
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Man vs. Golf at Treetops

DESTINATIONS

Greg Jourdan

It came across my desk as a challenge. One of America's premier golf resorts dared me to test my stamina and intestinal fortitude on their turf. The challenge was 63 holes in one day: Man vs Golf. The battlefield was Gaylord, Michigan's Treetops Resort. I placed a call to my brother in Wausau, Wisconsin. I had a partner, and we set a date.

Initially, the thought of shelling out cash to rush through four spectacular courses did not sound appealing to my wallet, but with Man vs. Golf rates as low as \$129, my ego couldn't resist. The challenge pits golfers against three 18-hole courses and the most exciting par-3 track in the country. All four courses share a clubhouse, so we'd use the same cart, which was loaded for bear, and check in with the pro shop after each round. Obviously, ball hawking for Pro-V1s would not be an option if we were to beat the setting sun.

Preparation involved more packing than practice. Our cart hauled extra socks, shoes, jackets, beef jerky, trail mix, and an arsenal of golf balls and tees. Advil and sunscreen were applied after a breakfast sandwich was chewed between gulps of black coffee. The item we forgot was a camera.

At 7:05am, we teed off on the Premier Course. The sun was yawning across the first hole when we arrived. The starter had

us pegged as 63-holers and wished us good luck. He also commented, "They have Mojos on sale in the pro shop." The maintenance staff was just leaving the green when we rolled to the tee box.

Touted as Michigan's only Tom Fazio course, the Premier course is a 6,832-yard layout with exceptionally wide landing areas and Fazio's signature mounding. Both of our drives split the fairway. We began our quest with a couple of pars—a fortuitous sign. "That should do it. It's all downhill from here," commented my big bro after he sank a twelve-foot putt. The rolling layout provided stunning panoramas across the heavily forested property, which seemed to be accentuated by the early morning fog.

The 195-yard No. 11 is unique as it's the only hole on the property that serves water as a hazard. The green on this par 3 runs diagonally across the tee alongside the water's edge. When the flagstick is on the front side of the long green, the hole plays quite easily. When the flagstick is diabolically placed on the far right side, another two clubs are needed to clear the lake. This hole depleted our arsenal. It was bogey golf on a stunning track.

On the 18th green, with steely nerves, I knocked my third putt dead center from 8-inches at 9:54am. Our pace was better than our scores. continued on page 33





Flower Power in Wisconsin

SentryWorld Re-Opens To National Acclaim
by Neal Kotlarek

Once upon a time, the state of Wisconsin was considered to be a great place for only three things: cheese, the Dells, and bratwurst. Today, the Badger State has evolved into the epicenter of the championship golf world as it plays host to the 2015 PGA Championship, the 2017 U.S. Open, and the 2020 Ryder Cup Matches. How the heck did this happen?

While the game has long been part of Wisconsin's DNA with celebrated courses in Green Lake, Door County, and Lake Geneva, the state's

reputation as a golf haven didn't really take off until June of 1982 when Sentry Insurance president John Joanis teamed up with Robert Trent Jones Jr. to open a wondrous golf course over 200 acres. The parkland-style layout was immediately celebrated across the nation for its design, its conditioning, and its iconic signature "Flower Hole" featuring some 36,000 begonias, petunias, salvias, celosias, and zinnias.

It can be persuasively argued that the investment by Joanis and the creative genius of Trent Jones Jr. spurred the development of other championship venues across Wisconsin—specifically Blackwolf Run and Whistling Straits in Kohler, and Erin Hills in Hartford. While SentryWorld has maintained its lofty status among the state's premier courses since its grand opening, designer Jones returned in 2013 and collaborated with fellow architects Bruce Charlton and Jay Blasi to oversee a major renovation to the property with upgrades on everything from the greens, the grasses used on the course, the sand bunkers, and the irrigation system. Fairways were widened and even some of the routing was changed. The layout was also stretched from 6,900



yards to 7,237 yards to keep up with the technological changes in golf balls and equipment. Finally, two completely new holes were added to improve playability.

Early reviews of the new SentryWorld have been overwhelmingly positive. Gary D'Amato of the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* praises the finished product. "In a word? Spectacular," he said in his October, 2014 review. Bradley Klein of *Golfweek* magazine calls it "more fun to play than ever." Already the course has shot up in *Golf Digest* magazine's annual rankings, from No. 10 best golf courses in Wisconsin (inclusive of private clubs) in 2013-14 to No. 5 on the 2015-16 list.

Lovers of the original design will immediately notice some of the adjustments made, particularly the reduction in bunkers to allow run-ups to some of the greens. But these same aficionados will take comfort in the fact the designers took special care to maintain the character of the original work. They will experience the same outstanding shot values of the original design along with its impeccable conditioning and the stone-lined lakes. All of these elements resulted in SentryWorld



Hole 8



Hole 4



Hole 13



Hole 16

being named the "Best New Public Course in the Country" in 1983, according to *Golf Digest* magazine.

Even though the early 1980s saw lots of acclaimed golf courses opening around the country, SentryWorld caught the golf world's eye due to its sweeping course design with holes framed by towering mature trees. From the very start, Jones called the layout "my Mona Lisa." When he returned to make the upgrades 30 years later, his singular objective was to enhance the experience for loyal regular guests of the course while accommodating higher handicap players with various options to reach the greens.

The first new hole on the course is the 151-yard No. 3, a par 3 that starts from an elevated tee and heads downhill with the property's major lake serving as a backdrop to the putting surface. Two large sand bunkers front the left side of the green, thus demanding that a mid-iron shot should be directed away from hazards to leave a long putt for birdie.

The 161-yard No. 12 is located on the northeast corner of the complex and plays over a slice of the property's biggest lake. "Adding this hole allowed us to update the course for

continued on page 35

SWEET HOME CHICAGO

Chicago Spotlight

Rich Harvest Farms to Host Palmer Cup

The 2015 Palmer Cup will bring the best collegiate golfers from around the world to Sugar Grove's Rich Harvest Farms, June 12-14. The 19th playing of this prestigious event will pit the ten best American-born and ten best European-born collegiate golfers against one another.

The first playing of the Palmer Cup was at Bay Hill in 1997, after the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) asked Arnold Palmer to lend his name to an international collegiate event. Palmer, a collegiate player himself, has been called America's greatest ambassador for the game of golf.

"Rich Harvest Farms [was] a wonderful venue for the competitors in the highly-successful Solheim Cup a few years ago, so it will surely provide a worthy test of the talents of the finest collegiate golfers in the 2015 Palmer Cup," said Arnold Palmer.

What started out as an eight-man team event between Great Britain and Ireland versus the United States, has now grown to incorporate players from all over Europe. Counting its coaching staff, the 2015 Team Europe is represented by a Palmer Cup record 10 countries.

Former Ryder Cup player, Jean Van de Velde will coach Team Europe and be assisted by 2009 Solheim Cup player Janice Moodie. Team USA will be led by Georgia Tech's Head Coach Bruce Heppler. Chris Hill, Pacific's head coach, will act as assistant coach.

"Everyone here at Rich Harvest Farms is excited to see the final rosters for the Palmer Cup released," says Rich Harvest Farms' Tournament Director Vicky McGowan. "The field is comprised of some amazing talent on both sides, and we can't wait to see them show off their skills on this challenging course. The whole week is expected to be wonderful, and we are excited to see everything come together in the next month."

The top six players for both teams were chosen based on their final Palmer Cup Ranking, which uses Golfstat's NCAA Player Ranking as a base and then awards bonus points for wins and high finishes as well as negative points for poor finishes. The ranking also included a strength of schedule component. Jon Rahm of Arizona State (Spain) leads the six players from Europe selected by the ranking. He is joined by his Arizona State teammate Max Rottluff (Germany), Rowin Caron of Florida State (Netherlands), ETSU's Adrian Meronk (Poland), Clement Sordet from Texas Tech (France) and Thomas Detry from Illinois (Belgium). Lee McCoy of Georgia, Stanford's Maverick McNealy, Vanderbilt's Hunter Stewart, Alabama's Robby Shelton, Florida State's Jack Maguire and Beau Hossler of Texas are the six United States players selected by the Palmer Cup Ranking. Beau Hossler is the defending Western Amateur Champion (an event that will

be played August 3-8, 2015, at Rich Harvest Farms).

After determining the top players, the teams were rounded out with committee and coach selections. Gary Hurley of Maynooth (Ireland) and Vanderbilt's Matthias Schwab (Austria) were chosen by the European committee. Baylor's Kyle Jones, Georgia Tech's Ollie Schniederjans and Carr Vernon of CSU Monterey Bay were committee selections for Team USA. Vernon is the designated non-Division I player. Pep Angles of Central Arkansas (Spain) was Jean Van de Velde's pick. Anders Albertson of Georgia Tech was Coach Bruce Heppler's pick. Mathias Eggenberger of Stirling (Switzerland) qualified for

Team Europe by winning The R&A Foundation Scholars Tournament. Rahm, Detry and Angles were members of last year's victorious European squad, while Hurley was a member of the 2013 team at Wilmington Country Club. Meronk is the first Palmer Cup player from Poland while Schwab is the first

from Austria. Maguire and Schniederjans were members of the 2014 American team that fell to Europe at Walton Heath. Eight of the members of Team USA are in the Top 100 of the World Amateur Golf Rankings.

Unlike professional golf events, spectators will be able to walk the fairways of one of *Golf Digest's* "America's 100 Greatest Golf Courses" alongside the PGA Tour stars of tomorrow. Free public parking for the event will be on Granart Road, north of the club's entrance. Signs will be posted to direct traffic.

Starting on Thursday, June 11, the public is invited to the 2015 Palmer Cup Opening Ceremonies. The tournament play will tee-off at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, June 12th with foursome matches starting at 1:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday's singles matches will begin at 8:30 a.m. Sunday will culminate with the Closing Ceremonies, including a trophy presentation to the winning team at the completion of the matches.

Past Palmer Cup players include: Luke Donald, 2009 U.S. Open Champion Lucas Glover, 2010 U.S. Open Champion Graeme McDowell, Rickie Fowler, Hunter Mahan, Ryan Moore, Dustin Johnson, and Billy Horschel. The USA leads the all-time series 9-8-1.

For more information on the event, visit www.palmercup.org.



Down Memory Lane

Byron Nelson at Calumet

Byron Nelson was the talk of golf when he arrived at Calumet Country Club for the Chicago Victory National Open in 1945. He had won seven straight tournaments, a feat unfathomable. But he was feeling the heat. He had opened with a 69 and a 68 at the Homewood club, but come the morning of the final 36 holes, Nelson was ailing.

"My back hurts so, I don't think I'll be able to play today," he told officials.

But, he rested for a bit, then played. Later, the back trouble was diagnosed as stress-related at the Mayo Clinic, brought on because he was running the table every time he played.

The end result was no different at Calumet. His final 36 of 68-70 for a 72-hole aggregate of 13-under-par 275 brought him a seven-stroke victory over old friend Harold "Jug" McSpaden and Ky Laffoon. It also brought him a \$2,000 war bond first prize.

Eventually, it brought back memories. In 2001, when Calumet celebrated its centennial, Nelson was the guest of honor, and he was thrilled to be back. It didn't matter that the construction of the Tri-State Tollway forced a realignment of several holes in 1957. When Nelson came back, one old favorite was foremost in his mind.

"I remember the 14th hole, a par 3, because of the difficulty, the slope of the green," Nelson recalled. "When I played the hole, I didn't have any problem. I was hitting my irons well. And I remember the first hole."

His triumph pushed his record streak to eight, and it would famously reach 11 before ending. But there was another streak he advanced as well. It was the second of four straight tournaments he'd win in the Chicago area, and the fifth of seven area successes in only 15 starts. Until Tiger Woods came along to win five Western Opens and two PGA Championships within shouting distance of the Loop, nobody could touch Nelson's mark. In some ways, nobody has.

—Tim Cronin



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Golf with a Mission

"Honey, by golfing today I will have made a difference in children's lives." How many opportunities will you have to say this in your lifetime?

On June 1st An Orphan's Prayer will host its annual celebrity golf outing at Stonebridge Country Club. Proceeds from the event assist in providing care to orphans in locations such as Haiti and Uganda. In addition to your round, AOP is offering a full day's itinerary, which includes breakfast, lunch, silent and live auctions, and a chance to mingle with celebrities.

During a 2010 mission trip to Haiti, Chris and Kelli Wilson visited an orphanage and learned that 15% of Haitian children are orphans. Inspired by what they learned, the Yorkville residents founded An Orphan's Prayer, which is providing much needed help to the impoverished,

parentless, children in Haiti and around the world. AOP helps provide safe, secure facilities for the orphaned children and restores their lives with stability and sustainability through various funded programs.



For more information and to register for AOP's celebrity golf outing please visit www.anorphansprayer.org.

Up from the Ashes

A brighter day appears to finally be on the horizon for Oak Meadows Golf Club in Addison. After a 2009 fire demolished the club's historic clubhouse, Oak Meadows has been looking for significant improvements to continue its

great legacy in Chicagoland. After three years of planning, design, permitting, and approvals, the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County has approved construction on the full redevelopment of the course and preserve.

Set to re-open sometime in 2017, Oak Meadows will be rehabilitated with a re-engineering of Salt Creek (the source of chronic course flooding), expansion of wetlands, upland habitat enhancements, storm-water management, and native plant restoration.

Martin Design is spearheading the reconstructive surgery of Oak Meadows with architect Greg Martin looking forward to bringing life back to an old favorite.

"Ultimately, the golfers will benefit, the Forest Preserve District will benefit, and the community will benefit," said Martin.

When all is said and done the newly designed Oak Meadows will boast a 7,100-yard par-72 layout which will include some of the original layout, but will also feature an assortment of new holes.

"Oak Meadows Golf Course, first and foremost, needs to appeal and satisfy a variety of golfer interests," said Martin. "The greater goal is to establish a unique 'sense of place' for Oak Meadows."

Jackson Park G.C. To Host Chicago Women's Open in June

Women ages 17 and older will tee off Saturday June 13 - Sunday June 14th in the 2015 Chicago Women's Open at Chicago's beloved Jackson Park Golf Course. The tournament begins at 1 PM that Saturday with the field split into three flights for the ensuing day's round. Winners in each flight will receive bragging rights and \$100 gift cards. Runners-up receive \$50 gift cards. The golfer with the overall low gross score wins the 2015 Championship Trophy and complimentary entry fee to the 11th Chicago City Amateur at Jackson Park, July 23rd - 26th.

Registration is \$120 per golfer before May 15th and \$150 after May 15th (\$200 on tournament day). The fee includes

golf, a gift bag, lunch, and range balls.

Located 15 minutes south of downtown Chicago, Jackson Park G.C. is a 5,444-yard par-70 course designed by Tom Bendelow and managed by Billy Casper Golf. For more information and to register, visit jacksonpark.cpdgolf.com/2015-chicago-womens-open, or call 866.223.5564.

Saving Lives on the Course

Life Saver Golf shines a light on something most of us have never thought twice about: CPR availability on the golf course. According to Life Saver Golf's founder, Danielle Lenaway, at least one golfer dies every week in the U.S. due to heart-related issues and not having the proper equipment available at their time of need. Lenaway also notes that 75% of golf courses in the U.S. are not equipped to handle cardiac emergencies. LSG seeks to improve CPR, first aid, and AED- readiness at all golf facilities. According to the American Heart Association, the average age of people who suffer cardiac arrest is 65, an age when many have retired and are spending more time of the golf course. Most heart attacks occur between 6 AM and 11 AM, peak tee times.

To learn more and support Life Saver Golf visit www.lifesavergolf.org.

Maryville Academy's Million Dollar Challenge

In a fundraising effort to raise funds for Maryville Academy JEN School INVEST and the Illinois PGA GolfWorks youth mentoring program, golfers can swing for a chance to win \$1,000,000 dollars. From June 5 to 8, Golf Center Des Plaines will host The Million Dollar Mulligan competition, which is a hole-in-one challenge. The Million Dollar Mulligan is a fundraising event designed to encourage golfers to attempt to qualify for a grand finale—a single shot for \$1,000,000 dollars.

Each hour there will be a 'closest to the hole' contest. The player whose ball finishes the closest to hole for each hour will qualify for one shot at the million dollar prize on June 8th. The challenge is divided into male and female division competition. To compete, players can purchase qualifying shots at a 130-yard target green. Cost is \$5 for three shots, \$10 for eight shots, \$25 for 20 shots or \$40 for 35 shots.

The hours of the event will be Thursday, June 5th: 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM, Friday, June 6th: 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM, Saturday, June 7th: 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM, and Sunday, June 8th: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. The finals will be contested at 5:00 PM on Sunday. Golf Center Des Plaines is located at 353 N. River Road, Des Plaines, Illinois.



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Jackson Park G.C.



Bolingbrook Golf Club's Guaranteed Improvement

Ben Hogan advised golfers that there is only one way to build a solid golf swing—dig it out of the dirt. Bolingbrook Golf Club's "Journey to Better Guarantee" is an innovative program geared to encourage golfers to build their entire game with practice, practice, practice. In an effort to differentiate itself from every other driving range across Chicagoland, Bolingbrook GC has created a program that utilizes its superior short-game practice facilities and their stable of top-tier teaching professionals. In a game where improvement is incremental, the first of its kind "Journey to Better Guarantee" is a platform for dedication, grit, and lower scores.

With a membership rate that is \$999 for individuals and \$649 juniors, this program is much more than a comprehensive range pass. In addition to unlimited use of all the club's practice facilities, this quest includes a one-hour club-fitting session, a one-hour private golf lesson, and a round of golf at Bolingbrook Golf Club. Under the

guidance of Bolingbrook GC's professional staffers, each golfer's path to improvement also includes weekly supervision of practice sessions and discounted lessons to continue the fine-tuning of his or her game.

The program is geared to all ages and abilities. Bolingbrook GC Head Professional Eric Aldrich shares, "The beauty of this program is that short game improvement is the most proven way to lower scores." Aldrich adds, "Whether you are a 30-handicap or scratch, being able to consistently hit pitch shots, flop shots, and other targeted short game shots is where all golfers will benefit from our program." With 70 lighted, bent grass hitting stations, two chipping greens, short practice holes, and putting greens, the addition of the Journey to Better Pitching Zone propels Bolingbrook's practice facilities among the best in the nation. Eric Aldrich said, "We have it all in one place with a talented staff to guide our players." The program also includes two dozen personalized Srixon Z-Star golf balls, a Srixon shag bag

and practice balls, and a CDGA handicap to help track improvement. The club will be offering numerous rewards bonuses throughout the season.

The crux of Bolingbrook's "Journey to Better Guarantee" is that if a golfer's scores do not improve, then the club offers a \$300 credit toward instruction or \$300 credited toward next year's program. The only requirement for the rebate is that golfers must utilize both the short game lesson and the short game fitting session (included in the membership), and post at least ten rounds at any golf course during the 2015 season. As Aldrich stated, "The goal of our 'Journey to Better' is to give golfers an encompassing program. If they get fitted, utilize the practice facility, and work with our staff, then they will get better. Participants will get out what they put into their game. I'm excited for people to join and go after better scores."

For more information about "Journey to Better Guarantee" visit www.bolingbrook-golfclub.com or call 630-771-9400.



PROFILES

Greg Jourdan

THE GOOD STUFF *EXTRA*

Mizuno JPX Irons

Before we start, I have a confession to make: While all other avid golfers around me seem to change out irons sets as often as Zsa Zsa Gabor went through husbands, I happily stayed with my last set for 18 years. The set was functional, I figured, and the mere thought of changing out irons and relearning my distances seemed scary. I knew it was time to make the change, however, when a member of my foursome grabbed an iron out of my bag and just marveled at the club as if it were an ancient artifact.

I needed to put this preface into my review simply because my recent fitting of Mizuno JPX-850 Forged Irons brought about startling results. While my previous set of irons was custom-fit, much has changed over these past two decades, starting with my swing speed. As critically, golf technology has changed dramatically during this time frame as lighter materials have allowed engineers to increase the center of gravity on the clubface to allow greater forgiveness.

My fitting began with a question-and-answer session with PGA golf professional Tim Overton. I told him the glum facts: the distance on my irons had been reduced these past few years by at least half a club and my long-iron shots started low and stayed low.

Tim observed me take a few swings. Next, he attached Mizuno's "Shaft Optimizer" on the shaft of my club to receive key data that told him what shaft would work best for me.

The next step in the fitting process was when the fun began. Just as an optometrist fits you for glasses by changing out lenses until your vision reaches 20/20, Tim spent the next 15 minutes changing out club heads on my shaft until we found the one that works the best for my swing.

Voila! The Mizuno JPX-850 increased the height of my shots significantly, and my distance increased on my 7-iron shots by at least eight yards. Beyond the game improvement, the Mizuno irons feel great when they meet the ball and they look great, too. Those two factors, says Tim, are just as important as the leap in technology. "You can hit the ball a lot better if you believe you are going to hit the ball better," he says. To quote Neil Diamond: I'm a believer.

The Mizuno JPX line spans across five different iron heads and a hybrid. The JPX EZ, JPX EZ Forged, Women's JPX-860, JPX-FLI-HI, JPX-850, and JPX Grain Flow Forged. The clubs are available at pro shops and golf retailers across Chicagoland.

—By Neal Kotlarek



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On a late September day back in 1924, Walter Hagen defeated Jim Barnes in match play to win the PGA Championship and notch his sixth of what would become 11 major titles. On the 4th of July, 1960, Mickey Wright won her second of four career LPGA Championships on that very same Donald Ross-designed course. Fast forward 55 years to May 21 – 24th, 2015 when French Lick Springs Resort & Casino will host the 2015 Seniors PGA Championship presented by KitchenAid. It seems only fitting that one of the major title holders in the field—which includes Corey Pavin, Nick Faldo, Curtis Strange, Nick Price, and Bernhard Langer—will hoist the Alfred S. Bourne Trophy at tournament’s end to maintain this historic resort’s championship legacy.

While tournament golf has been a tradition at this deluxe resort property virtually since the Ross Course was opened in 1917, every other aspect of the resort has been renovated, updated, or improved since the days that Hagen, Wright,

Indiana’s French Lick Resort

A Championship Course to Dye For

By Neal Kotlarek

Gene Sarazen, and Patty Berg roamed the grounds. Indeed, the 2015 Seniors PGA will not be played on the aforementioned Ross Course but on the dramatic, award-winning Pete Dye Course which opened on the grounds in 2009. Colin Montgomerie, 31-time winner on the European Tour and defending Seniors PGA Championship champion, visited the course in late April and walked away impressed. “This is a terrific, terrific venue,” he said. “I’ve played a lot of Pete Dye courses, but this is right up there. It’s right up there with the best of them. This golf course is a championship golf course in every way you can imagine.”

Built through and around the hill-tops of the Hoosier National Forest, the course stretches to a robust 8,100 yards, but will be pared down to a “modest” 7,147 yards for the tournament. Mammoth bunkers, undulating greens, and elevated fairways create drama and challenge from No. 1 to No. 18. Dave Harner, PGA Director of Operations at

French Lick Resort, is looking forward to observing how the field attacks the layout. “When you see the course on TV or here in person, it’s hard to imagine that this particular piece of land is in Indiana,” he says. “Most people associate Indiana with flat terrain and lots of cornfields. This course is high on a ridge line and plays along ridges where you can see for 20 or 30 miles. It’s very hilly. If you hit it off the fairway, you’re going to have a very awkward shot back.”

The Pete Dye Course will play differently during the tournament than it does when resort guests play it. The two nines have been juxtaposed with No. 1 playing as No. 10 and vice-versa. The switch was made to accommodate the hospitality villages arranged across the property. As it turns out, the change in routing will add to the championship’s drama as the 18th hole transitions from a sprawling, birdie opportunity par 5 to a grueling dogleg left 431-yard par 4 featuring an elevated fairway that falls off

dramatically with thick rough and Dye’s in-your-face bunkers lurking all the way along the hole’s right side.

Brendan Sweeney, director of media operations for the resort, says he can’t wait for the tournament to start. “Look at the roster of former PGA Tour and European Tour stars who are looking to add another major championship to their tournament legacy,” he states. “Add up all the Masters champions, U.S. Open champions, British Open champions, and PGA Championship champions in the field and you can’t help but get excited. The only question is which golf great you’ll want to follow. It wouldn’t surprise me if the final pairing on Sunday will put two-time Masters champion (1985 and 1993) Bernhard Langer together with last year’s Seniors PGA Championship winner Colin Montgomerie. Then again, how can you go wrong following six-time majors champion Sir Nick Faldo or two-time U.S. Open champion Curtis Strange? Depending upon the pairing



sheet, those two could play together and recreate their 1987 U.S. Open playoff when Curtis shot 71 and Nick shot 75.”

Whoever wins the 2015 Seniors PGA Championship will have to share top billing with the magnificent French Lick Springs Resort property. While golfers visit to take on one of the four courses managed by the hotel, many guests come to experience the other entertainment options available, including spas, elegant restaurants, a casino, two spas and horseback riding. The resort actually consists of two separate complexes—the fully restored French Lick Springs Hotel established in 1845, and the “Eighth Wonder of the World,” the West Baden Springs Hotel with 243 luxury guest rooms and an atrium that spans 200 feet. The hotel is considered a national historic landmark and was listed as the No. 1 hotel in Indiana by *U.S. News & World Report* in 2013 and 2014.

Built in 1855 to capitalize on the abundance of mineral springs in the area, West Baden Springs Hotel was fashioned after one of Europe’s great mineral spas, Baden Baden. When the original hotel was destroyed by a fire in 1901, owner Lee W. Sinclair became determined to build the hotel of his dreams. He unveiled a

design complete with a 200-foot atrium and a fireplace that burned 14-foot logs. The hotel had its ups and downs over the decades and was closed in 1989 for safety reasons. In 1994, the property was sold to Minnesota Investment Partners for \$500,000. The Cook Group, a global medical device manufacturing company headquartered in Bloomington, Indiana, proceeded to inject tens of millions of dollars into the hotel with a goal of restoring its grandeur. In total, the group spent some \$450 million to preserve, restore and expand both the West Baden Springs hotel and its sister property, French Lick Springs Hotel. Beyond the resurrection of two dated but historic properties, the French Lick community benefited with 1,600 jobs.

One of the cornerstones of the restoration project was investment in the classic Donald Ross Course and the construction of the Pete Dye Course. While located only a few miles apart, the two layouts are distinctly different in terrain and character. The Ross Course was given a \$5 million makeover with input from the Donald Ross Society to ensure that the master architect’s original design intentions were honored. The end result is a majestic 7,030-yard course

featuring 80 sand bunkers with flat bottoms and deep, gnarly faces. While those hazards come into play on most every hole, the course is very accessible to players of all handicap levels. *Golfweek* magazine ranked it as the No. 2 golf course in Indiana in 2011–2014.

And the No. 1 best golf course in Indiana, you ask? None other than the Pete Dye Course which hosts the Seniors PGA Championship in May. Ranked as the best new course in America by virtually every golf publication when it opened in 2009, the par-72 tract is today ranked among the top 100 publicly accessible courses in America. “The Pete Dye Course, even day-to-day, is in championship conditions,” says Harner. “It’s as good as anything people can play anywhere in the country.”

The other two courses operated by French Lick Resort are the Valley Links—a Tom Bendelow design that now plays to nine holes with a special configuration designed for kids and beginners—and Sultan’s Run, located 25 minutes from the resort and which stretches over 224 acres of rolling hills, woods and water.

For more information on French Lick Resort, visit the property’s website: www.frenchlick.com.



The GOLFCChicago Interview

It takes a certain kind of individual to want to be a meteorologist in Chicago. Here you are, night after night, delivering your forecast to hundreds of thousands of people and you will become their best friend or their worst enemy in a matter of seconds. You could call a Chicago meteorologist a "glutton for punishment." You could also apply that term to anyone who has taken-up, and stuck with, the game of golf.

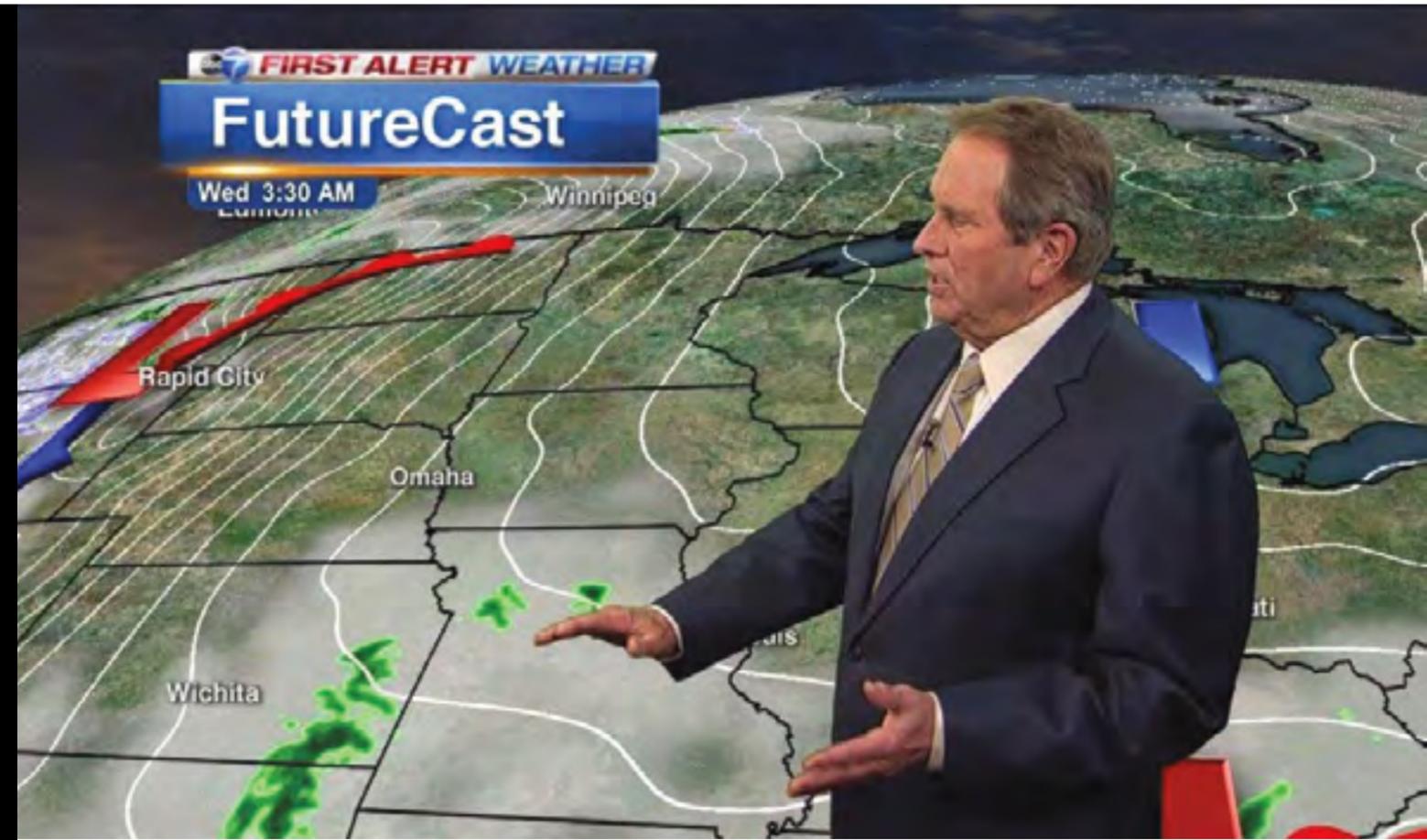
Enter: Jerry Taft.

Since 1984 Taft has been a meteorologist at ABC 7 and a fixture on Chicago television. And if the cameras panned low enough you might be able to catch him wearing a pair of golf spikes. Underneath Taft's formal TV attire there may even be a polo shirt and a pair of golf shorts, just in case. When Jerry Taft isn't telling us about the Polar Vortex or how our family reunion picnic is going to get rained out he's working on a single-digit handicap. Even at 72 years of age, we wouldn't want to get ourselves in a match with Mr. Taft. Not unless he's giving a lot of strokes that is.

We caught up with Jerry Taft to discuss life on the putting green and in front of the green screen.

Chicago's Jerry Taft on Golf

by Todd Mrowice



GOLFCChicago: When did you start playing golf?

Jerry Taft: I started when I was in my twenties, when I was in the Air Force. We had a lot of downtime and some of the other guys played so I gave it a shot. Honestly, I caddied when I was a kid, and I thought it was the dumbest game. It's hot out, you're sweating, looking for your ball. It just didn't make sense to me.

GC: So when you started playing, did the bug bite hard?

JT: For sure. When I started I immediately was playing 36 or 54 holes per day sometimes. It's the reason I was a 1-handicap within my first year of playing the game.

GC: How did you excel so quickly?

JT: I played a lot of sports in high school. I think golf comes natural to anyone who's made an athletic move in their life. That, and I had so much time to devote to the game.

GC: What's your current handicap?

JT: Right now I'm about a 4.

GC: What's your lowest score?

JT: I shot my age when I was 65. It was in a tournament actually. I also shot my age when I was 69. Those are memorable rounds for me. I'd like for my scores to go down as my age goes up but unfortunately that's not how the game works.

GC: Are you a big practice guy or are you on the course a lot?

JT: I hardly ever practice. Going to a driving range doesn't do me much good at all. I'll always prefer to be on the course.

GC: Where do you normally play?

JT: I live on Ruffled Feathers in Lemont so most of my rounds are played there. I'm also a member at Sand Creek in Indiana. I was a member at Beverly for 15 years. I still play a little at Calumet. I used to play Sunset Ridge with Tim Weigel a lot. I like different courses.

GC: We've heard you're an equipment junkie. How bad?

JT: Oh boy, ask my wife. Truthfully, I buy about 10 sets of irons every year. Right now I'm sitting on about 13 sets. I



think I've owned every driver and fairway wood ever made. Every time I watch a tournament I'll go out and buy the clubs and bag of someone that played well. I'm one of the few *real* junkies. I rarely, if ever, play an entire round with the same clubs.

GC: *As in, you'll switch a driver or a putter?*

JT: Sometimes. I've switched entire bags though. I always have other clubs with me.

GC: *Any brands that you stick with?*

JT: I've owned everything. Titleist, Ping, Taylormade, everything. I shot my lowest round with Callaway irons so I guess if I lean one way with a brand it would be to Callaway.



GC: *Does knowing the forecast ahead of everyone else allow you to snag prime tee times?*

JT: Not really. The main thing my job allows me to do is play as much golf as I want. That's the beauty of working evenings. I can play all morning and afternoon before I'm on the air at night.

GC: *Did you ever think about skipping Chicago television and going on tour?*

JT: No. My approach to the game is pretty relaxed, but I do enjoy competition. For me, I'd rather play at Fresh Meadows out here with three equally competitive players than go to Pebble Beach with three non-competitive players. That's just me though.



Destinations

continued from page 15

We rolled to the starter and were directed to Threetops, a nine holer that is regarded as the most exciting par-3 course in the country. On the first hole, our tee balls flew wide right at 10:11am. These nine holes are like a roller coaster ride; especially maneuvering the golf cart down the switchbacks from tee to green. My first ache was my brake foot.

The original intention of this shockingly fun and tricky par-3 course was to provide a challenge to foursomes who like to gamble. As every green is reachable off the tee (the longest hole is 219 yards and the shortest hole is 140 yards), each hole provides a new wagering opportunity. We were playing for lunch. When we reached hole 7, I had visions of Lee Trevino's ace during the 2001 ESPN Par 3 Shootout. Trevino pocketed \$1.09 million on this hole, while I secured a free lunch. At 12:13pm we tried to catch our breath as I steered the golf cart toward my free turkey wrap.

We dined in our cart, which was running low on golf balls and jerky. My watch read 12:36pm when we approached the starter at the Signature Course. The Signature Course is my favorite track at the resort. The Rick Smith design is cut through forests and laid across dramatically rolling land; the course is a true celebration of nature. The extra width in the landing zones brought par back into play and our Peg 'n Pound tee philosophy proved to quicken our playing pace. Tree-lined fairways on most every hole provide an intimate setting. We played our best rounds and began planning our retirement cabin along these fairways. While all of the par-3s are picture-postcard perfect, No. 17 serves up a feast for the eyes. We didn't want this round to stop, but at 4:38pm we were ready for the final round.

The trek to the Traditions Course is on a dirt road and provided time to chew a few Advils and assess our arsenal of reserves. We grabbed cold beverages at the starter house and jettied for the first tee. Tradition is Treetop's walking golf course, which wasn't a reasonable option after playing 45 holes. The course is well named as it features "traditional" wooden pins and pennant flags. The irony is that it's also home to the resort's Foot Golf course, a soccer-styled version of a game that doesn't need adaptations. We loved the course and began to count the holes vs. remaining daylight. By the middle of the back nine, we knew we were going to match the challenge. A couple of Treetops staffers met us on the 17th tee. We felt like celebrities as we re-lived a few of our flops.

At 7:40pm we shook hands on the 18th green. In twelve hours and thirty-five minutes we played brilliantly, lost our swings, found our swings, and enjoyed one of America's treasures in Gaylord, Michigan. My score totaled 290 (90/84/37/79), while big bro carded a 313(92/90/42/89), which was solid considering he was nursing a recent hernia

surgery. We have already set the date for this year's Man vs. Golf at Treetops Resort, but the question is, can *you* beat 63 holes in twelve hours and thirty-five minutes? I say, prove it.

For more details on the Man vs. Golf Challenge, visit www.treetops.com, or call (866) 348-5249.



Reconciling The Masters

At the intersection of talent and purpose lies inspiration. Alistair Mackenzie provided the talent, Bobby Jones and Clifford Roberts provided the purpose. The result was inspiration: Augusta National Golf Club and The Masters.

It is hard to reconcile the phenomenon that is The Masters. Augusta National is both incredibly contrived and spectacularly genuine. For all its pomp and ceremony, it is quite unique. It is tailored, manicured, nostalgic, and fixated on order. Simultaneously, it is spectacularly beautiful, filled with graciousness and the antithesis of commercialism. Augusta National has rejected the standards of capitalism to rewrite the rules. The result is worthy of admiration.

The golf course itself is splendid—filled with angles, risks and rewards, thoughtful hazards, nuance, charm, devilish greens, and mostly temptation...all the things that produce great golf courses. The beauty is dazzling: Television cannot fairly represent the topography, the slopes, and character of the golf holes. The pines are towering and the colors are rich and deep as if extracted from an impressionist painting. The scale of the property is magnificent. Like a great public garden, it presents a sense of awe and high-level consciousness that cannot be dismissed.

Yes, The Masters creates inaccessible expectations that frustrate any golf course superintendent. Golfer expectations rise and local clubs are challenged to meet unattainable maintenance expectations. The magnitude and intensity of the turf care is justified considering the incredible beauty of the grounds and the drama of the event, its history, and the strategic charm of the golf course. Maintenance demands are an industry-wide problem that will not easily be addressed, and The Masters is not the sole culprit. The Masters only exacerbates the expectations for premium maintenance.

Non-golfers perceive The Masters as a rich man's sport that promotes excess and self-indulgence. On the surface, some of those criticisms are warranted and scrutiny is earned because of success. The success is well documented, but the reasons for that accomplishment are due to smart planning, thoughtful branding, and considerate development. Slow to embrace a more diverse membership, Augusta National should be a more modern model. Progressive? No. Slow-moving? Yes. However, as a private club, aren't they allowed a certain degree of self-determination?

Quietly, Augusta National utilizes some of the most forward-thinking sustainable practices, and benefits the golf industry

BEYOND BUNKERS

Greg Martin

far beyond the resulting "bump" in play immediately after Masters week. Charitable donations are substantial to a variety of recipients including, The First Tee, amateur golf, and health care. It is estimated that the golf industry generates 70 billion dollars of economic productivity yearly. I can only wonder how much of that can be directly or indirectly attributed to The Masters.

Augusta National has created a sporting event using a backdrop of history, tradition, and beauty. What was once a stopover tournament is now an indelible rite of spring for anyone who loves the game and for many who don't follow golf. The Masters is the Super Bowl of Golf...less the corporate deluge. This is the real genius: Augusta National limited commercialization and corporate visibility from the start. That policy has served it well. While the rest of the world scrambles for greater corporate participation, the leadership at Augusta restricts corporate visibility to validate its authenticity with independence.

I have long loved The Masters...the ritual, the expectant beauty and the drama. But I was skeptical of The Masters "effect" on the game, the industry, and our collective perception. No longer. I am a fan and I continue to resolve my suspicious impressions of The Masters and Augusta National. It remains confounding and, yet, beautifully inspirational.

Flower Power

continued from page 19

both enhanced enjoyment and challenge," Jones said. The lake is lined by large boulders which obviously need to be avoided at all costs.

The designer made a wise decision to not fiddle much with No. 16, the aforementioned par-3 "Flower Hole" that has graced the front covers of dozens of golf publications over the years. In fact, the number of flowers has actually grown to around 50,000 and provides a true feast for the eyes. While the 176-yard par 3 looks intimidating off the tee and on the scorecard, the major obstacles to getting a par on the hole are the sand bunkers which can snatch even good tee shots if they are slightly misdirected. With the advent of cellphone cameras, it is hard to imagine any foursome walking off the course without at least one snapshot of this creative and gorgeous hole.

The 18th hole is listed as the No. 6 handicap hole on the course. Don't be lulled into overconfidence. At 446 yards from the back tees, the slight dogleg left plays even longer due to two sand bunkers that reside on the right side of the landing area and another bunker in the middle of the fairway designed to capture long tee shots. A large green is made tighter by three more mischievously placed bunkers on the left, right, and in front of the green.

No visit to SentryWorld is complete without a stop at PJ's Sports Bar, which is located inside the newly renovated clubhouse. Food options include an ingenious concoction blending our favorite beverage with our favorite snack food to form hearty beer cheese soup. PJ's also offers handmade burgers and 25 tap beers, including PJ's White Ale brewed exclusively for SentryWorld customers.

Along with the outstanding golf course, SentryWorld offers group and individual lessons from PGA professional Brian Dumler and LPGA professional Katie Kreuser.

While SentryWorld does not offer lodging, nearby hotels offer Play & Stay Packages including Comfort Suites, Country Inn & Suites, and the Holiday Inn. The Eagle package provides two rounds of golf at SentryWorld and one night's accommodations at the Comfort Suites or Country Inn & Suites for \$225 until May 31st, and \$285 from June 1 through September 21 (note: prices are subject to change). Packages are per person and do not include tax or gratuity, and are based on single or double occupancy. The Holiday Inn offers a similar package at a slightly higher cost.

For tee times and more information, visit the web at www.sentryworld.com.



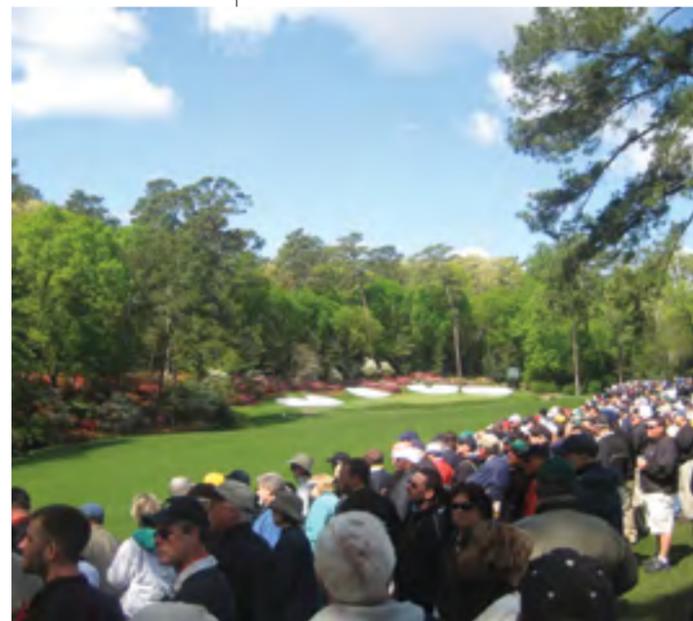
Whether you're playing the front nine or the back, looking for the challenges of professionally designed courses or trying your hand at the more relaxed atmosphere of a local favorite, the tee time is always set.

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Seamus, an Oregon-based headcover manufacturer, has the gift that will give dad's putter a taste of the land where the game was born. Their patchwork, baby-boot style putter covers are ideal for blade-style putters. Each headcover is designed to withstand the elements and promises not to fray. \$65.

www.seamusgolf.com



Twillory has made it easy for dad to look his best at all times. This family-owned business offers finely-tailored men's dress shirts that use only the finest of materials. Twillory can only be purchased online at www.twillory.com.

Devereux's Brunner is a shirt collection that features a plethora of colors. Known for style on and off the course, Devereux is dad's go-to shirt for the action on the 18th green and at the 19th hole.

www.dvrxgolf.com

What could be more appropriate for Father's Day than a wine named Family Reserve Generations? This 2012 Charles Krug offering is a wine that pays homage to the contributions of four generations of the Peter Mondavi (who is still working at 100!) family that have owned Krug since 1943. (The winery is Napa's oldest, established in 1861.) This estate bottled, limited-edition blend was first produced in 1991. It spent 20 months in 100% new French oak. The nose features aromas of boysenberry and red currant. Blueberry, blackberry, and cherry are the dominant flavors, backed up by notes of cinnamon and cedar. \$60.

www.charleskrug.com

A touch of class for your Top Pop

Dad's Day Gift Guide



BottlePops themed bottle openers make fun sounds as they help dad open his favorite bottled beverage. Choose from golf, baseball, football, basketball, soccer, and more. Each opener has 15 to 25 fun, exciting sound clips related to that sport. \$14.95.

www.bottlepops.com



Stonehouse Publishing offers over 958 different prints, as well as other accessories such as humidors and desk caddies from the world's finest courses. Each image captures the nuances of the course and will transform dad's man cave into a rich, tasteful den of honor.

www.stonehousegolf.com



Grip It to Rip It

A well-constructed golf swing is balanced, fluid, and powerful. When performed correctly the golf swing is a work of art. But the true beauty of the golf swing is in the movement of your hands. The golfers' hands need the strength to transfer the power of the swing through the golf ball. The hands also need the touch to guide the club face to meet the

ball on the elusive sweet spot. Deservedly, much emphasis is placed on the trunk and lower extremities to develop an awesome swing. But the silkiest swing on the course is wasted without good hands.

The tendons in your forearm and hand glide within a thin protective sheath. The glide of the tendons gives you the ability to perform delicate tasks and handle heavy



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

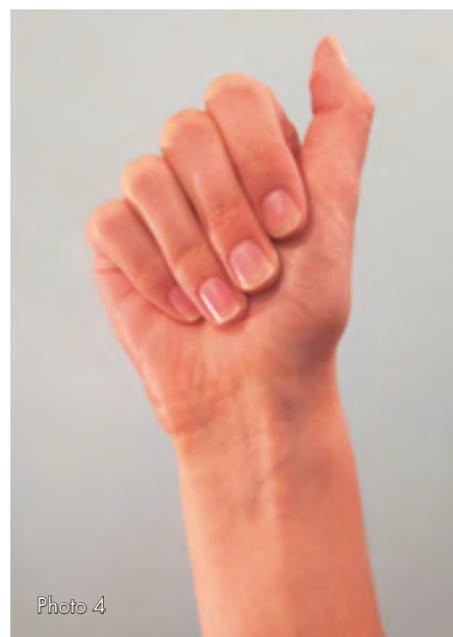


Photo 4

THE FITNESS EDGE

Brad Jourdan

weights. Whether you are an ironworker, computer analyst, neurosurgeon, or professional golfer, the activities of our typical day stress our tendons and muscles in the forearm and hands. Over time the repetitive activities may cause pain and create stiffness, which decreases your ability to grip the club. Fortunately, there are exercises that can rejuvenate these tissues and prevent injury that occur due to our daily activities.

Tendon glide exercises are simple movements you can perform anywhere and anytime. You should move your hands within your full pain-free range. Tendon glides are not meant to be high effort or painful, so avoid the 'no pain no gain' mentality. If your fingers and hands are stiff when you first start the exercises, then they will gradually improve over time without forcing the motion. All the exercises start with the fingers, hand, and wrist straight (picture 1), and you will move into the positions smoothly.

The first position is a hook fist (picture 2). Perform the movement by bending the middle and fingertip joints while keeping the knuckles straight. Try to get the tips of your fingers to the pads at the top of the palm, but be sure to keep your knuckles straight.

The second position is a full fist (picture 3). As the name describes, you will make a full fist without tucking the thumb underneath the fingers.

The third position is a straight fist (figure 4). Bend the knuckles and middle joints while keeping the fingertip joints straight. The goal of this movement is to reach as far as you can to the base of the palm.

Each of the exercises should be performed five to ten repetitions at a time. Unlike other exercises that are performed several times a week, tendon glides can be done daily. During a round of golf, consider performing five repetitions prior to the first tee, at the turn, and immediately following the round.

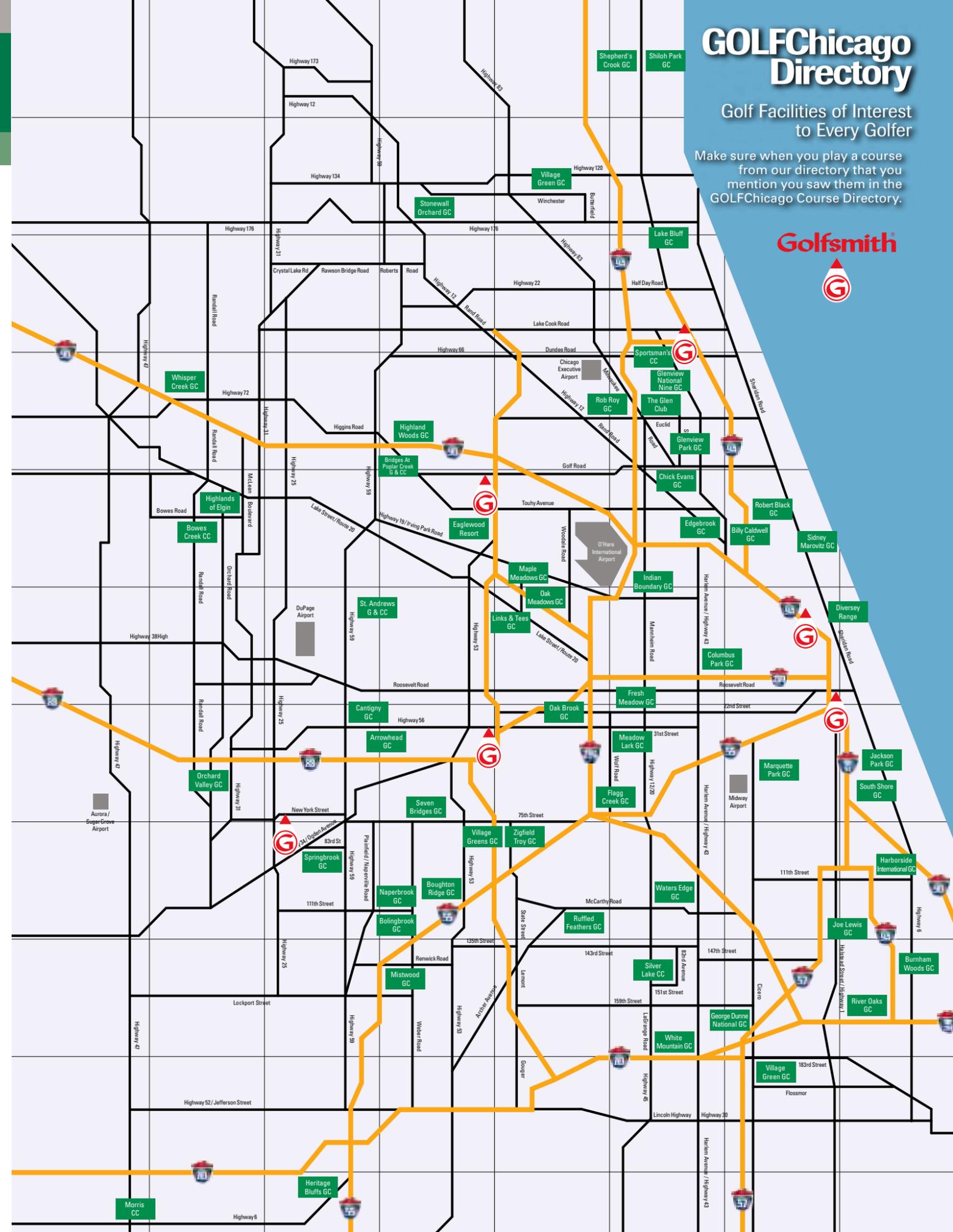
The magic is in the hands, and tendon glides will lubricate the tendons, maintain flexibility, and prevent repetitive injuries. Good flexibility in the hands will allow you to hold the club with the softer touch and the strength needed to score well on the course this season and for years to come.

GOLFChicago Directory

Golf Facilities of Interest to Every Golfer

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

Golfsmith





Arrowhead

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

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

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



Bolingbrook Golf Club

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

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

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



Bowes Creek Country Club

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

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



Cantigny Golf

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

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

The Red Oak Club rewards program is new for 2015 and free to join.

The Cantigny Golf Academy is a prime practice and learning center. Junior golfers thrive at the 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links.

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



Golfsmith

6 Chicagoland Locations
golfsmith.com

South Loop
312-792-3490

Fox Valley 60504
630-585-0872

Highland Park 60035
847-579-0219

Lincoln Park 60614
773-281-1494

Downers Grove 60515
630-495-4880

Schaumburg 60173
847-969-0347

Buy it. Try it. Keep it. Or return it and get another. If for any reason you are not satisfied within the first 30 days after your club purchase, return your clubs to Golfsmith and receive a credit of up to 90% of the original purchase price toward your next club purchase.



The Highlands of Elgin

847-931-5950
875 Sports Way
Elgin, IL 60123

highlandsofelgin.com

The new quarry nine and the original nine holes flow over beautiful rolling terrain, creating a diverse collection of holes. The new nine holes reclaim an old stone quarry, and are routed to take maximum advantage of the unique and dramatic landforms that were left behind. 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.



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.



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 bent grass fairways and greens. The club anxiously awaits hosting the 44th Annual Lake County Amateur this July 25 and 26. Other amenities include a full-service golf shop, private and group instruction, and exceptional dining experience at the new Hel's Kitchen.



Chicago Park District Golf

312.245.0909
cpdgolf.com

Great Golf in the Heart of the City.

With six courses, three driving ranges and two miniature golf courses there's golf enjoyment for the whole family. PLUS... save EVERY DAY, secure early tee time access and more with the CPD Players Advantage Card!

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



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800.460.0010
forestpreservegolf.com

Affordable GOLF. Friendly SERVICE. Fantastic EXPERIENCE.

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

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



The Glen Club

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

Chicago's finest semi-private golf experience.

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

Enjoy the grand 48,000 sq. ft. clubhouse, superb dining, 21 overnight guest rooms, a grand ballroom, and the finest in corporate amenities and Membership.



golfTec

10 Chicagoland Locations
golftec.com

Chicago - Halsted Row
773-755-4653

Chicago - Lincoln Park
773-871-4653

Deerfield 60015
224-330-4020

Des Plaines 60016
847-299-5431

Downers Grove 60515
630-932-4653

Fox Valley 60505
630-723-5215

Naperville 60563
630-579-9390

Oakbrook Terrace 60181
630-396-2020

Schaumburg 60173
847-517-1845

Vernon Hills 60061
847-327-0605



Mistwood Golf Club

815-254-3333
1700 W. Renwick Rd.
Romeoville, IL 60446
www.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"



Oak Brook Golf Club

630-368-6400
oak-brook.org/recreation
18 Holes – Par 72
Yardage: 5341 - 6541

The Oak Brook Golf Club is a classic playing experience with a superb blend of challenges where every hole requires solid shot-making from tee to green. The par 4s will utilize every club in the bag – the par 3s are a devilish balance of risk and reward – and the par 5s offer multiple playing strategies from conservative to bold...and all on manicured greens and fairways. The course features a well-stocked pro shop, delightful grill and outdoor patio, men's and women's locker rooms, expansive all-grass driving range with three chipping and putting greens, and six PGA teaching professionals.



Orchard Valley Golf Course

2411 West Illinois Avenue
Aurora, IL 60506
630-907-0500
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, waterfalls 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

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

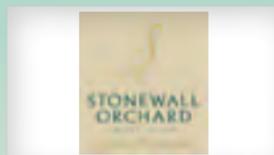
Winding through 51 acres, the beautiful 9-hole Rob Roy Golf Course will challenge golfers at any skill level. The 3,022-yard course is narrow and tree-lined, requiring accuracy with water, sand traps, and other strategically-placed obstacles around the course. Rob Roy also includes a lighted driving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



St. Andrews Golf & Country Club

2241 Route 59
West Chicago, IL 60185
630.231.3100
standrewsgc.com

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



Stonewall Orchard

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

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

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

To learn more, visit stonewallorchard.com or call 847-740-4890.



Water's Edge Golf Course

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

Best Places To Play By *Golf Digest*.

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

PLUS...a program for everyone!

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



Whisper Creek Golf Course

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

Luxury Golf at a Whisper of a Price!

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

PLUS...a program for everyone!

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

Hamilton County Golf

Indiana's Premier Golf Destination!
indianaspremiergolf.com

Kids Golf Foundation of Illinois

Golf Changes Kids' Lives
630-466-0913
P.O. Box 610
Sugar Grove, IL 60554
kidsgolffoundation.org

Links & Tees Golf Facility

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

Maple Meadows Golf Club

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

West 18 - Par 70
Yardage: 6,438 - 5,339 yds.
Weekday: \$32 walk
\$49 ride
Weekend: \$41 walk
\$58 ride

*Frequent specials on course website

East 9 - Par 34
Yardage: 2,815 - 2,427 yds.
Rate: \$16 walk / \$25 ride
Discount Program: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Naperbrook Golf Course

630-378-4215
22204 W. Hassert Boulevard
Plainfield, IL 60585
golfnaperville.org

Par 72
Yardage: 6677
Weekday: \$39.50
Weekend: \$49.50
Mid-day Rates: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Super Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Course Managers:

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



White Mountain Golf Park

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

Learn. Practice. Play.

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

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



White Pines Golf Club & Banquets

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

36-hole championship course situated on over 240 acres, has been a favorite among Chicago area golfers since 1928. Ten minutes from O'Hare International Airport, White Pines in Bensenville is a perfect choice for anyone looking for a challenging game of golf any time of the year.

White Pines Golf Club offers a superb setting, sure to make you feel like you are "away from it all."

Arlington Lakes Golf Club

847-577-3030
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Blackberry Oaks

630-553-7170
Bristol, IL 60512
blackberryoaks.com

Bonnie Brook GC

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

Boughton Ridge

630-739-4100
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

Eaglewood Resort and Spa

630-773-3510
1401 Nordic Rd.
Itasca, IL 60143
eaglewoodresort.com

Par 72
Yardage 6,015 - 5,410 yds.
Weekday: \$39.00 w/cart (Spring Rate)
Weekend: \$45.00 w/cart (Spring Rate)
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Fox Bend Golf Course

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

Par 72
Yardage: 6,890 - 5,325
Weekday: \$38 walk
\$54 ride
Weekend: \$43 walk
\$59 ride

Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes
Resident rates available

Green Meadows Golf Club

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

Par 30
Yardage: 1,888 - 1,545 yds.
Weekday: \$14 walk
\$22 ride
Weekend: \$16 walk
\$24 ride

*Frequent specials on course website
Discount Program: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: No
Banquets/Outings: No

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twitter.com/GolfChiMag



Shiloh Park

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

Springbrook Golf Course

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

Par 72
Yardage: 6,896
Weekday: \$41.50
Weekend: \$51.50
Mid-day Rates: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Super Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Western Golf Association / Evans Scholars Foundation

westerngolfassociation.com

Zigfield Troy Par 3

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

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Summer Reading List

Toss back your e-readers, tablets, and smart phones and pick up a book. *GOLFChicago* is assigning a summer reading list for golfers. We have a handful of titles that are an entertaining (and educating) lot that will send you to Amazon and eBay looking for deals. This is not an all-inclusive list, but it is a great start to building your golf IQ. We are assuming that *Golf in the Kingdom* and the other tomes in our games genre are already proudly displayed on your bookshelf.

Chicagoan Al Barkow is one of the game's greatest historians. *Golf's Golden Grind* is a history of the PGA Tour that begins at an event in 1895 with a \$200 purse and ends at the 1974 Jackie Gleason Classic. From cover to cover, Barkow's narrative channels the roots of the PGA Tour with the prose of a passionate beat writer, "Whereas Hogan's golf was a German symphony, perfectly scored but full of somber, brooding passages..."

Kevin Cook's 2007 biography of Old Tom and Young Tom Morris was written through the lens of a historian. *Tommy's Honor* is thoroughly researched and written with the engaging style of David McCullough. Cook's comprehensive history of the father and son should be required reading before crossing the pond to play St. Andrews. Readers will be inspired to begin planning their first pilgrimage to the motherland of the game. A breezy evening on the patio with a heart-warming beverage and the smoke of a cigar sets the table for an enriching reading experience about the origins of modern golf.

Sticking with the history theme, *The Eternal Summer* relives the summer of 1960, which became the springboard for the sport. The names who challenged for the top of the leaderboards are a roll call for the World Golf Hall of Fame; Palmer, Hogan, Nicklaus, Venturi, Player, and Rodriguez. Arnold and

Jack were just a couple of kids chasing their heroes. Author Curt Sampson captures the excitement of each major while detailing the changing of professional golf's guard.

Our final pick is just for Chicagoans. *Chicago Golf: The First 100 Years* is a digest-style account of golf in Chicago. The 1990 edition is difficult to find; however, it does occasionally appear on eBay. Author Tom Govedarica's account of the game in the Windy City reads like a fireside chat. The charm of Govedarica's efforts is that it was written before the golf course building boom. *Chicago Golf: The First 100 Years* is a gem for golfers looking to reminisce about life before GPS and titanium drivers.

You have your list. Remember to annotate, and be prepared to discuss the content in Socratic circles. You are dismissed for summer break. If you need a few giggles, pick up anything written by Dan Jenkins.

ON THE SHELF

Between the Covers

We the People (who Drink Wine)

The Federalist, later known as The Federalist Papers, is a series of tracts written in support of the ratification of our nascent nation's Constitution. The Federalists believed in strong national government, supported modernization, manufacturing, and industrial development, and the use of a tariff to fund the Treasury. (That's the IRS, folks.) They supported a national Bank of the United States, and funding national and state debts incurred during the Revolutionary War. In foreign affairs the Federalists opposed the French Revolution, and sought a strong army and navy. Noted Federalists were: Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, John Jay, George Washington, and John Adams, the only Federalist president of the U.S.

The Federalist wines are produced by the somewhat mysterious 2Sons Winery, which is owned and managed by the Terlato Family wine empire. The vineyards and winery were founded in 1981. Three friends, John Grace, Mark Rafanelli, and Philip Staley (so why isn't the winery named 3Sons? See? Mystery), joined forces and purchased the site that was formerly the Alderbrook Estate. In 2000 the Terlatos were asked to develop a long-range plan to produce world-class wines and market 2Sons throughout the U.S. The Terlatos later purchased a majority share, and invested in both vineyard sources and winery to provide the winemaking team with the best grapes and equipment available. This has helped position the winery to produce single vineyard and estate wines with an on-going focus on Zinfandel. 2011 Chardonnay \$20 This golden Chardonnay hails from the Russian River Valley AVA's northern end near Healdsburg, approximately 80 miles north of San Francisco. Things start out with aromas of lemon and green apple. The lemon continues on the palate, with the addition of lime and pear. All of this means a bracing acidity, of course. The oak is certainly present, adding to a round, rich mouth feel, as is just a hint of sweetness. The nicely long finish features hints of cinnamon and bitter almond.

Separate Chardonnay blocks were barrel fermented in 30% new oak and aged in barrel for nine months. 2500 cases were produced.

This food-friendly wine calls for an Artichoke and Leek Frittata, Dungeness Crab

Risotto with Lemon and Parsley, or Steamed Mussels with Saffron Aioli. ■■■■■ 2013 '1776' Lodi Zinfandel \$18 We now travel from 80 miles north of San Francisco to 80 miles east, to the vineyards near Lodi, which produce about 18% of California's wine grapes, more than Sonoma and Napa combined. The area is particularly hospitable to Zinfandel, a uniquely American grape, and this wine is no exception.

The nose reveals red fruits: cherry with a bit of plum. This dark-purple wine features flavors of blackberry, plum, and cinnamon. It also includes Zinfandel's characteristic pepperness, which some winemakers are moving away from.

Enjoy this Zin with Bruschetta with Cherry Tomatoes, Wine Braised Short Ribs with Balsamic Glaze, or Grilled Rib-eye Steaks with Roasted Garlic Butter. ■■■■■

ON THE CORKSCREWS

Stephen Hawk



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Think Inside the Box

Summer's finally here, and it's time for all things casual. And nothing says casual like wine out of a box. But, yuck!, you say. Who wants cheap swill like that? Well, you don't, and neither do I. Even though it delivers the convenience and economy only a boxed wine can offer, Bota is nonetheless a line of first-rate wines.

The Bota Box design makes it possible to keep the wine fresh for at least 45 days after opening because there is no exposure to wine's enemies: light and air (The poly bag inside the box collapses as the wine is removed.) The box itself is made from environmentally-friendly packaging consisting of 100% recyclable, unbleached, post-consumer fiber printed with soy-based inks.

And the box is highly portable. Take it camping, boating, poolside, to picnics, to the beach, or to your next barbecue. And, you don't have to remember to bring a corkscrew.

Each box holds three liters, or the equivalent of four bottles of wine. With a retail price of about \$22, that's equivalent to \$5.50 per bottle. Hard to beat these days.

Bota Box includes ten wines: Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Malbec, Merlot, Moscato, Pinot Grigio, Old Vine Zinfandel, Riesling, Shiraz, and a red blend called RedVolution.



Golf vs. Gym

It's spring cleaning for the house, the car, and more importantly, the finances. Time to review discretionary spending and start making choices. Must you eat at McDonald's twice a day? Is NFL Redzone a necessity? Aside from the bacon-cooking alarm clock, can you reduce the Skymall purchases?

Finally...gulp...golf membership or gym membership?

On the surface it's an easy decision. The average gym membership costs \$800 per year. Let's say the average golf membership is five times that, or \$4,000. Bump that to \$5,000 to account for incidentals. Huge margin, right? And the gym is a great place to "get your heart rate up," and "build core strength" blah blah.

Well, if you've cancelled your membership at your club, there'd better be a grace period, because after much careful, totally biased research, I've come up with the Top 5 Reasons a Golf Membership Beats a Gym Membership. If you're not the CFO of your household, make sure he or she reads this.

It's Social

Meeting new people at the gym is at best pathetic, at worst creepy (see John Travolta). Those troglodytes chatting next to the weight bench didn't just begin a lifelong friendship; they're buddies who are Googling pickup lines for the bombshell on the treadmill. Not only is a golf course void of the gym's predatory climate, you can meet a friend for life; perhaps even more remarkable is that you can spend four hours and say nothing and not feel awkward. Golf provides a natural rhythm, a give and take with an implicit understanding that you can reveal as much or as little as you like; over time this can lead to real relationships.

It's an Escape From the Onslaught of Digital Technology

Notice that, increasingly, gyms are feeding our screen addiction. First there was one TV, then there were 30, now every machine has one. We can hook up our cell phone so we can listen to our music but watch their TV. We're distracting ourselves from ourselves. We're doing something we hate, so we trick our brains into thinking we're elsewhere. As we agonize toward the 30-minute mark on an elliptical, we jump between Dr. Phil, TMZ, and Arkansas-Pine Bluff vs. Weber State. The golf course, on other hand, is nature plus play. No screens necessary (shame on those of you who use a phone app for your rangefinder. Sacrilege!) Even when we're playing poorly, we've walked several miles in a natural, serene environment, mimicking the hunter-gatherers of yesteryear (some hunt more than others).

AGAINST THE GRAIN



Rory Hughes

It's Food-friendly

I don't mean energy bars and "juices" with unpronounceable ingredients. I mean real food and drink: bacon-egg-cheese sandwiches, hot dogs, hamburgers, coffee, Pepsi, beer. Some guys have a system. My uncle starts every round with a full house (three Advil, two beers), then a Red Bull and vodka at the turn. I only drink water until I know I won't break 80. Can you imagine drinking a beer on the treadmill? I don't think the software can add calories.

It's a Game

We say "I'm playing golf today." versus "I'm going to the gym today" in the same way we might say "I'm going to the doctor for a prostate check today." These poor souls schlep around the gym with a clipboard, tick-marking every lift, tracking progress—they've added three pounds in two weeks—hooray! What they're trying to do is turn the gym experience into a game. But it's not a game. It's an obligation, the same way taking the trash out or flossing is an obligation. I'm going to modify Joan Rivers' famous quote about jogging: "The first time I see (someone at the gym) smiling, I'll consider trying it." Even during my worst round of golf my face does not show the pure anguish of a gymrat. Fine, there's a brief "workout high" for 15 minutes afterward, but how about a "golfer's high" for four hours during?

It's Story-worthy

"I had just hit 3,346 steps on the treadmill. Cavuto barked on one TV, Van Susteren on the other. The manager was interviewing a prospective personal trainer..." Gripping, right? Dying to read on? Nothing great ever happens at the gym. Conversely, things happen on the course that you can't help sharing, even with people who don't care. When my wife asks, "how was golf?" I tell her about the hook 8-iron on 5 that I stuffed to two feet for a double save. She doesn't care per se, but I still want to relive it. When she asks, "how was the gym?" I either change the subject or lie about how long I was on the Stairmaster.

Remember, I'm not talking about tour players—they play golf for a living, so this meathead fad—sorry Rory, I preferred you doughier—is for the world-class golfer who wants to hit it 325 instead of 320. We mortals simply want to play as much as possible; if you're like me, you're dividing your membership fees by the number of times you play in order to justify the cost. Make this the year you stop doing that. Acknowledge the gym as an unnecessary evil, the course as much more than a line item on your budget—as your beacon of physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual health.

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