

# GOLFChicago



Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority

Fall 2017, Vol. 21 No. 7

**MORE THAN  
A CADDIE  
MASTER**

**OOH LA LA!  
THE RYDER CUP IN FRANCE**

**HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE**

**ARIZONA GOLF BECKONS**

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Cover: Caddie Master Greg Kunkel Photo: Nick Novelli/Illinois PGA | Above: Chateau Versailles

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**OPENING SHOT**

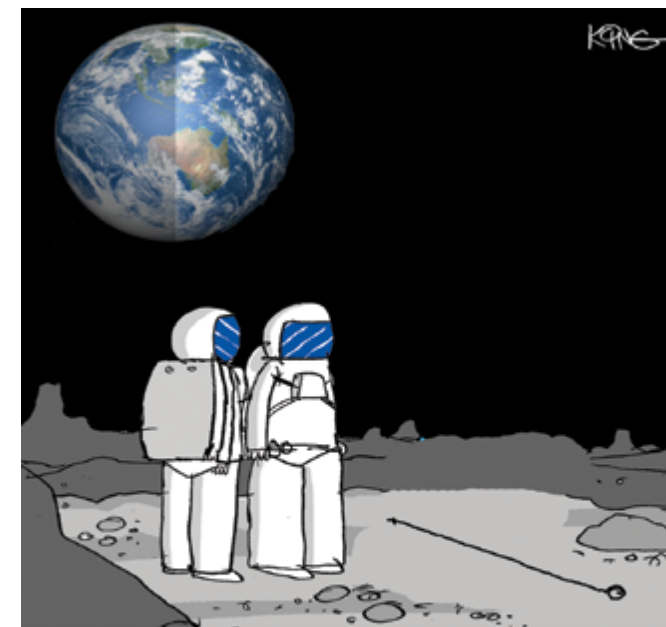
**DAVE AND TIM**

The real last day of summer is not on a calendar. Sure, there's one on paper, but that's arbitrary, set by the sun and the scientists who eons ago figured out the planetary reasons for each season and all that comes with them, from the galactic magic of a total eclipse to the quirky individuality of each snowflake.

For us, for the romantics, the last day of summer is that last day outdoors without wearing multiple layers, or perhaps an overcoat. A walk in sunshine without needing to evacuate to a warmer latitude, a warm day in an unlikely month, a surprise the weatherman didn't anticipate.

A day to play hooky from work.

A day for golf. A day to grab one more round and chase the dream.



*"It looks like a ball retriever. This may be the proof that there was once water on the moon that we've been looking for!"*

It's the last day with a club in hand and a keen eye toward making one more good shot, one more long putt with more curves than a winding road, one more birdie.

An Indian Summer day to savor.

That day is coming for this year. It's the day we'll remember when winter's chill arrives, when the fireplace is roaring and the Bears likely are not. From Thanksgiving to St. Patrick's Day,

more or less, we will savor the memory of that one last good shot, that one final putt that fell, that one last shining moment of a summer on warm turf, rather than frozen tundra.

We waste days during the summer – work gets in the way, real life intrudes – that could otherwise be spent playing golf.

Harry Vardon once said, "Don't play too much golf. Two rounds a day are plenty."

Nobody plays too much golf. Certainly not now, as the days fall off the calendar, growing noticeably shorter, and we get as antsy for one more round – nine holes will do! – as we do in the dead of winter, when the anticipation of the big year ahead sustains us.

So what are you waiting for? Perhaps today is that last day of summer. Savor it.

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\*At participating golf courses

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# THE GOOD STUFF

Compiled by the GOLFChicago Staff



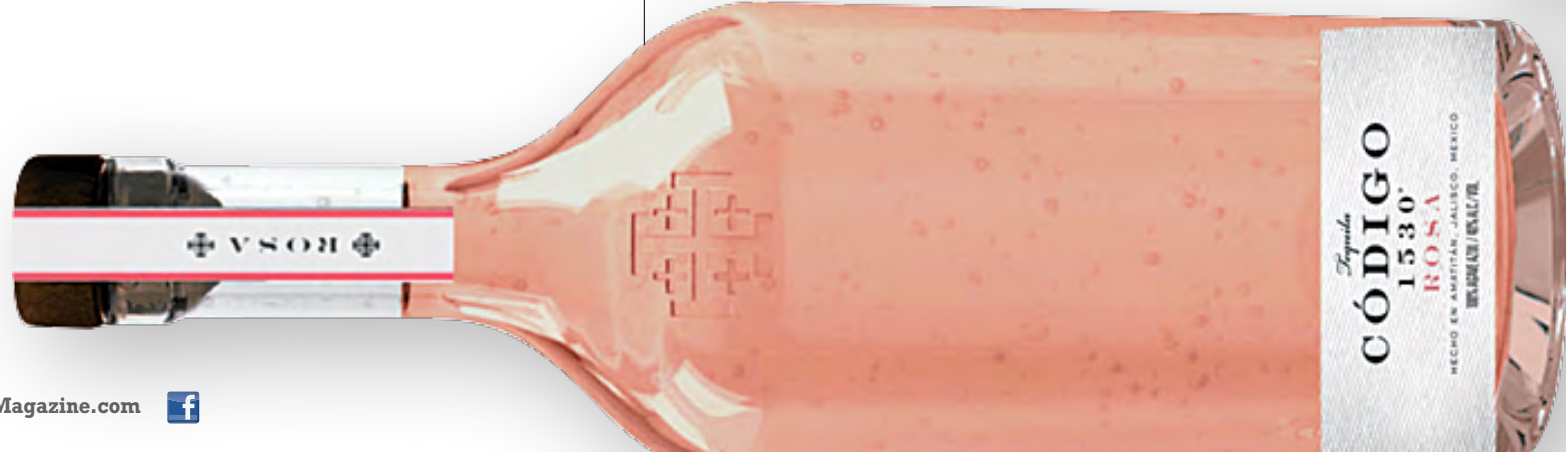
### Something New To Swat

Bridgestone has rolled out an entirely new line of tour golf balls for 2017-18 with its Tour B lineup. The four different models replace the wildly popular B330. The Tour B X and B XS are designed for low handicap players and produce ideal distance, accuracy, and feel. The Tour B RX and R XS models are for low-mid handicaps and offer a little more forgiveness and distance on your miss hits. Bridgestone boasts their new SlipRes cover is their most durable to date and Dual Dimple technology gives a more efficient ball trajectory. Note: Freddie Couples' tempo not included with each dozen. **\$44.99 dozen** [www.bridgestonegolf.com](http://www.bridgestonegolf.com)

### And For A Post-Round Libation

Entrepreneurs Frederico Vaughan and Ron Snyder got the bug to start a tequila brand while they played a round of golf together at Cabo San Lucas in Mexico. Vaughan's favorite local distillery was located in Amatitan where a family had been producing tequila for five generations. "The secret of Codigo 1530 tequilas begins with the best blue agave in Mexico, the purest water in all of Mexico and yeast from a local bakery," Vaughan said. "We then age the tequila in French oak wine barrels out of Napa Valley." The varieties of tequila that come from this process differ based upon the resting time and the charring of the barrels.

Blanco is an unrested tequila that's clear and pure. Rosa has a pink tint from the aging in the wine barrels and is a delicious sipping tequila. Reposado is aged for six months and serves up a smooth vanilla and caramel flavor to pair well with food. <https://codigo1530.com>



### Time To Get A Grip

The grip market, especially putters, is a bit overcrowded these days. So if you're standing out, chances are you're doing something right.

TourMARK is known for several popular licensed grips (MLB, NFL, NHL, NCAA, U.S. Armed Forces, and even superheroes) but they also produce the RD2, RD3, and RD5 lines. All feature patented Reverse

Dimple Texture to give you better feel and control. As an added bonus, all TourMARK grips include a magnetic ball marker conveniently attached to the top of the grip. Available in red and black, the company also produces standard swing grips with the same technology.

**\$19.99**

[www.tourmarkgrips.com](http://www.tourmarkgrips.com)



### Sock It To Us

Stance is responsible for making socks an essential part of your golf outfit planning. The company endorses Bubba Watson along with numerous NBA players. Their energetic designs can be seen across all major sports in addition to casual and business wear. To commemorate the 2017 President's Cup, Stance has released two designs to get your USA on. The Presidents Cup Crew has stars, stripes, and the official tournament logo. The Presidents Cup Qtr (available in navy or white) has an embroidered USA logo. Pretty sure Uncle Sam wears these under his striped slacks.

**Presidents Cup Crew: \$16; Qtr: \$14** [www.stance.com](http://www.stance.com)



### Luxury South Of The Border

The beauty and luxury of Mexico's Cabo San Lucas area is the stuff of legend. Diamante Cabo San Lucas now offers direct booking on the company's website for vacation rentals. Choose from studios to six-bedroom villas to enjoy all of the amenities of this resort-style private community located along 1.5 miles of stunning Pacific Ocean coastline and dunes. Golf at Diamante starts with the Dunes Golf Course designed by Davis Love III and ranked No. 36 in the world by *Golf* magazine. The Dunes is complemented by El Cardonal, the first Tiger Woods design in the world which features natural arroyos, dunes and magnificent ocean views. <https://diamantecabosanlucas.com>





# Sweet Home Chicago

## Arlington's Ghim is U.S. Amateur Runner-up

There's a neat little tradition at The Masters few people outside of the contestants know about. When a competitor checks in, whether he's a multi-time champion or a little-known amateur, he's asked his jacket size.

Just in case.

Doug Ghim of Arlington Heights will hear that question next April. Ghim came within a missed birdie putt of winning the U.S. Amateur in August at Riviera Country Club, dropping the championship match to Doc Redman of Raleigh, N.C., in 37 holes.

Redman eagled the 17th hole and birdied the 18th hole in the afternoon round at Riviera to come from two holes down with as many to play, then won the match with a conceded birdie on the first extra hole, the famed par-4 10th,

when Ghim's tee shot found trouble, and subsequent shots found more.

Against anyone but Redman, whose putter was molten, Ghim would have been awarded the Havemeyer Trophy. But Redman sank a curling 45-footer for his 3 on the par-5 17th and ran down a 10-footer for his bird at the last. A 3-3 finish at Riviera? Honestly.

"I felt like I did everything that I could to force him to make incredible shots," Ghim said. "He stepped up and did it, and kudos to him. I'm very happy for him."

But it hurt. The eagle shook Ghim, but he still parred the 18th.

"That's quite a blow," Ghim said. "I reminded myself that I was still 1-up with one to go. You know, my dad kept reminding me on the next hole that you are still winning. He might've just made the putt of his life, but you are still winning this and you have to make him go get it from you."

"I mean, I didn't hit a particularly great iron shot coming into 18, but I thought I did just that with the chip. I chipped it close enough. I felt confident enough – I had the same putt this morning for birdie."

Ghim missed his birdie putt, Redman – the runner-up to Norman Xiong in the Western Amateur at Skokie Country Club a fortnight before – made his, and they were off to the fateful 37th.

For consolation, Ghim received not only an invitation to The Masters as a U.S. Amateur finalist, but a berth on this year's USGA Walker Cup team. He was on the same squad with Redman and a host of other amateur notables against Great Britain and Ireland in the biennial match at Los Angeles Country Club. Not a bad way to soothe a wound.

## Senior LPGA to Return to French Lick

A date change may offer more pleasant weather conditions for next year's Senior LPGA Championship at the French Lick Resort in that southwestern Indiana getaway. This year's edition was in the heat of July, when Trish Johnson outlasted a wind-whipped field of notables to win the inaugural, billed as the first major championship in senior women's golf.

Next year, it will be played Oct. 15-17, when fall colors are in full bloom and temperatures are temperate. Golf Channel will be back to show the field of 81 players, a collection

of past greats in the women's game including LPGA Hall-of-Famers, current LPGA members and major champions over the age of 45, competing on the resort's hilltop Pete Dye Course. The 54-hole event offers a total purse of \$600,000.

The Semetra Tour's Donald Ross Classic, a \$200,000 showcase for the LPGA's developmental tour, will also return to French Lick, set for July 12-14.

## Raoul to Pebble Beach

It doesn't get much better than teeing it up at Pebble Beach. For 16-year-old Abdel Raoul, it's almost beyond words. The 16-year-old junior at Mount Carmel High School will do just that in September's PURE Insurance Championship, a Champions tour tournament conducted with seniors and First Tee standouts paired in the field. Raoul will represent The First Tee of Greater Chicago.

"Being only the third person to be given the opportunity to represent The First Tee of Greater Chicago at Pebble Beach is one of the greatest achievements of my life thus far," Raoul said. "I am truly honored to have been selected."

It was six years in coming, said program director Cole Hyland.

"I am very excited that Abdel has this honor to represent The First Tee of Greater Chicago at this very prestigious event," Hyland said. "Abdel exhibits the Nine Core Values on a daily basis. He set a goal to go to The First Tee Open at age 10 and it has been a privilege to watch him achieve this goal six years later."

Raoul, who will play on both Pebble Beach Golf Links and Poppy Hills during the tournament, is a seven-year First Tee veteran, currently an Eagle Level participant. Throughout his time with The First Tee, he has attended other national events, including the Nancy Tenant Leadership Academy in Benton Harbor, Mich., as well as the Golf to Paradise First Tee Challenge at the Chubb Classic in Naples, Fla., where he and his partner took first place in

continued on page 43

## Down Memory Lane

### Johnny Dawson, Chicago Golf's Forgotten Man

The best Chicago-area player you never heard of almost won the U.S. Amateur 70 years ago. He was a semifinalist in the British Amateur 88 years ago. Chicago-born, he grew up cavorting on the fairways of Glen Oak and Green Valley country clubs near Wheaton, and saw each of his brothers win the Illinois Amateur twice.

Outside of the 1936 Trans-Mississippi Amateur, Johnny Dawson never won an Illinois or national amateur title. He dropped three first-round matches in the Western Amateur.

Yet Johnny Dawson is regarded as among the best players the area has produced.

What happened?

The picayune rules of the United States Golf Association are what happened. Dawson was a regular participant in exhibition tours by professional stars Gene Sarazen and Joyce Wethered in the 1920s. He wasn't paid for those appearances, but he was on the payroll of the Spalding Sporting Goods Co., making a princely \$16 a week for part-time work.

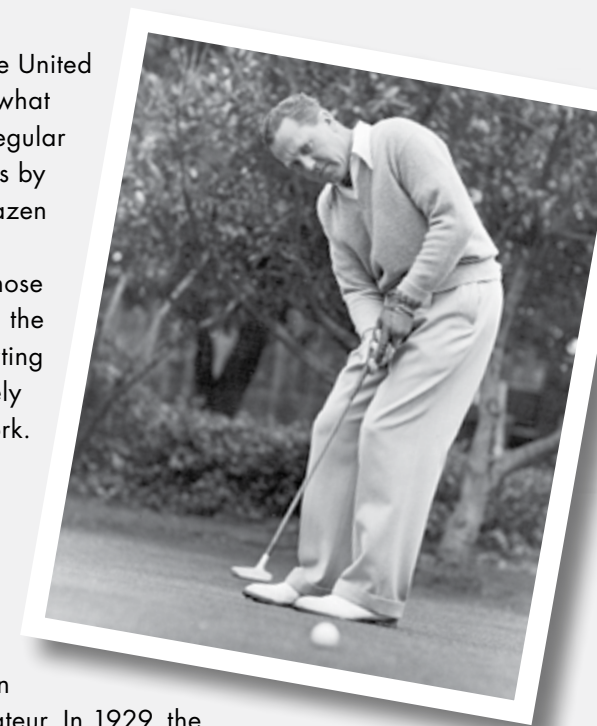
Even in the 1920s, that wouldn't go very far, but the USGA bluebloods thought that making one penny from a company that sold golf equipment was enough to consider Dawson a pro, even though he played as an amateur. In 1929, the year he made the British Amateur semis and after he had broken the course record at Pebble Beach during a practice round for the U.S. Amateur, a USGA executive handed Dawson a list of the top 20 amateurs.

His name wasn't on it. The inference was as cold as a gale coming off Carmel Bay, even if the USGA didn't say so. He wouldn't be allowed to play.

He left Pebble Beach and in was amateur limbo on the national stage until the mid-1940s, when, having moved to California and into the real-estate business, he regained his amateur status and roared through the 1947 U.S. Amateur field – fittingly, at Pebble Beach – until meeting Skee Riegel in the title match. Riegel won 2 and 1, but Dawson, at 44, had made his point. He belonged.

Ironically, his biggest victory came in the Bing Crosby National Pro-Am. Dawson beat pros Lloyd Mangrum and Leland Dawson early in 1942, the only amateur to win the Clambake – and in the last playing at Rancho Santa Fe in San Diego, before it moved to Pebble Beach. Later that year, he won his lone state title, the California Amateur – at Pebble Beach.

– Tim Cronin



Father and caddy Jeff Ghim encourages son and player Doug Ghim on the eighth green during the final match of the U.S. Amateur at Riviera Country Club. (Chris Keane / © USGA)







## 'Chipputt' to Erase Nagging Three-putt

Every golfer could improve their handicap if they practiced their lag putting a little more. While lag putting is not one of the more exciting or glamorous skills you can work on, minimizing three putts is a worthwhile goal for most players, even the pros.

It probably won't surprise you that our research shows the longer the putt, once you get past about six feet, the lower the probability you'll have of sinking it. On putts longer than 35 feet, the probability of sinking it drops off significantly and the chance of three-putting from this distance certainly goes up, too. If you want to reduce your three-putts, try these techniques and drills:

### Learn to 'Chipputt' on Long Putts

The longer the putt and the more uphill it plays, the more likely you are to leave it short, because your stroke and everyone else's naturally evolves to favor accuracy over power. That said, on longer putts,

a common tendency is to sacrifice the necessary power needed to get the ball close for aim (direction and accuracy).

You can overcome this tendency by adding a chipping motion to your putting stroke. Think of it as chipping with your putter. On super-long putts, stand upright for a better perspective on distance, and then putt with the same body motion you use to chip (adding a slight body turn). On 50- to 110-foot putts, every golfer the Pelz Golf Institute has tested, including Tour professionals, lags closer to the hole with the chipputt method.

### Turn Three into Two (or Better)

On all putts longer than 35 feet, imagine that the hole is a 6-foot circle and try to get your ball within the circumference of it. This makes the putt look much easier, and you'll actually end up holing one every once in a while. You can also use this circle rule on putts from less than 35 feet, but make sure you get the ball past the cup. I call

this region the "Safe Zone." When you're rolling the ball into the Safe Zone, you're rolling the ball well and giving yourself a great chance to two-putt.

### Test Yourself

Take six balls to a practice green and use tees to mark off 10 feet from 50 to 100 feet from the hole. Putt six balls from each distance – putt three with your normal stroke and three chipping. Start at 50 feet and move out until the difference in your lag ability makes an obvious improvement with all or most of your putts in the Safe Zone.

Alternate this drill on flat, uphill and downhill putts. Most players will find that they're most comfortable and successful chipping from the longer distances. They also find an approximate distance in feet from where they consciously switch from their normal putting stroke to the chipputt set-up and motion. Once this happens, they're likely three-putting a lot less and improving their scores as a result!



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# The Loyal Looper

Show up, shut up, and keep up!" Those are the famous words that any good caddie must know and abide by.

Never a big fan of Chicago winters – who really is? – I was fortunate enough that I had a break in my TV/video work roughly from January to April each year. I decided that south Florida would be a nice place to go to escape the cold and dreary Midwest.

So why not look into caddying at one of the many private courses in the beautiful Jupiter, Fla., area? After all, I have played the game since I was 14 in all situations at a number of courses around the world. It turns out that caddie work is quite a competitive profession in winter in the warmth of the Sunshine State. But hey, these places can use experienced "older" guys with a solid knowledge of the game and all its nuances, right?

Luckily a good friend knew someone at the Tom Fazio-designed McArthur Golf Club in Hobe Sound, Fla., owned in part by a few Chicago businessmen, and is the home course of one Nick Price, who aided Fazio in the design.

There were a variety of characters who looped this gorgeous and secluded parcel of golfing pleasure. We had a number of Jamaicans who were mostly solid caddies who spoke a language that was part English, part Rasta. They were occasionally funny and definitely never dull! Some caddies were fine players who had college experience and were teetering on trying to be a Tour pro or becoming a club pro. McArthur was certainly a good place to work, and to cut one's teeth.

I remember this English caddie master who thought he was running the military. He kissed the members' asses a little too much, though that's a requirement for the job. He wanted everyone there by 7:30 a.m. even if no one was playing until noon. We might sit in the caddie shack for hours watching movies, reading books, texting, etc.

It would be extremely tough to pull the energy together to carry two bags, or chase a cart with four players over four or five hours in an 18-hole round. Filling in divots, raking bunkers, cleaning balls and

reading putts were all par for the course. (Sorry, I couldn't resist!)

I often have nightmares of this whacked-out, overstressed (for some reason) Englishman. But we could play every Monday and Tuesday afternoon so it was all worth it. However, at times it seemed like a bad summer camp for adults.

After my second year at McArthur I started thinking about caddying somewhere out west during the summer – at a really special place. One such venue is the truly iconic Alister MacKenzie masterpiece on the Monterey Peninsula: Cypress Point. I was lucky to get the name of someone to call out there, and the gentleman said, "We could use you part-time."

I said, "Great, I will be out there in a month. Are there any playing privileges?" "If you're doing a good job after a few loops you can play once a week."

For the next five months, I worked at a venue that could be compared to a Picasso or a Rembrandt right next door to Pebble Beach on the big blue Pacific Ocean! The caddies were mostly 35 to 55 years old and had been caddying there for years. At the time there was no real dress code for the caddies. No bibs, jumpsuits or any other type of uniform. A very laid back California attitude for sure.

When I was at McArthur, the course was marked with sprinkler heads so it was fairly easy to walk off and determine yardage. I remind you this was in the days before rangefinders. At "The Point," nothing is marked on the entire layout.

Huh?!

I was given a yardage book that had distances marked on particular sprinkler heads. On a massive piece of land like Cypress Point, it was tricky to learn the book and figure which sprinkler head was which to determine the correct distances. Occasionally I would give out the yardage in a hesitating, questioning manner to my players, and hope that I gave them the right number.

One Sunday afternoon, the caddie master said, "You are going out in a little bit, we are just waiting for Mr. Eastwood." It didn't really ring a bell until I spoke with another caddie in the same group that confirmed this was indeed Mr. Clint Eastwood. Yes, he is a member. After all, he was the mayor of Carmel for a bit in the mid 1980s. His game could be described as one of his spaghetti westerns that he starred in: "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly!"

He was playing with a couple of business partners and his longtime buddy and

former PGA player Don January. Don was great to be with, laughing, cordial and a terrific player even though he was about 75 years old at the time. During the round I kept thinking about that famous Dirty Harry slogan but with a golf twist: "Go ahead, make that putt!"

On the 14th hole he hit one of the strangest shots I can remember. He had about a 12-foot putt, and as he came through the stroke the bottom of his putter grazed the top of the ball where nothing happened for about a second and then the ball starts rolling out with overspin and just missed going in. The group has a bunch of deadpan looks and no one says anything except Clint: "Hey, that didn't turn out too bad." No, that was just plain ugly!

When it came time to play this great gem I ended up playing by myself, with only a couple of groups on the entire course. The experience was almost like it was happening in slow motion. When I came to the famous par-3 16th hole where you hit directly out and over the ocean, I decided to phone a friend to see if I was playing or just dreaming. There was a light fog coming off the Pacific, adding to this almost out-of-body experience. It's just stunning to play there, or to work there!

I had to arrange my once-a-week tee time and they didn't like it if you changed it. So for the rest of my time at Cypress Point I didn't pass on playing no matter rain, fog or cold temperatures. Yes, it can be chilly on these links. Before I came out to work there, I thought I might play the course once or twice in my lifetime. It is one of the hardest courses in the world to get on. So I said if I caddie there, I will really get to know the place inside and out and get in more than just a couple of rounds. All in all I know I was pretty lucky as I teed it up 20 times on this treasured track.

The benefits of being a caddie are many: exercise, working outdoors, meeting different people practically every day, getting paid in cash, and playing unbelievable courses.

Show up, shut up and keep up. Yeah, I can do that!



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The upscale Hall and Walt wineries are offering a number of luxurious gift sets for 2017, including this Heritage Set, a two-bottle pairing with gift box that is sure to please any wine fan on your list.

The 2015 WALT Bob's Ranch Pinot Noir Ripe features lush black cherry and raspberry. It is smooth and medium-full bodied on the palate, with medium acidity.

The 2014 HALL Kathryn Hall Cabernet Sauvignon is a masculine wine featuring flavors and aromatics of crème de cassis, mocha, sweet cigar box, and black cherry. This intense wine is supported by hints of minerals and huge tannins. Although it should easily evolve over the next ten years or so, I suggest drinking it sooner to enjoy its lively youthfulness.

\$260 | \$235 (members)  
[www.hallwines.com](http://www.hallwines.com) | [www.waltwines.com](http://www.waltwines.com)



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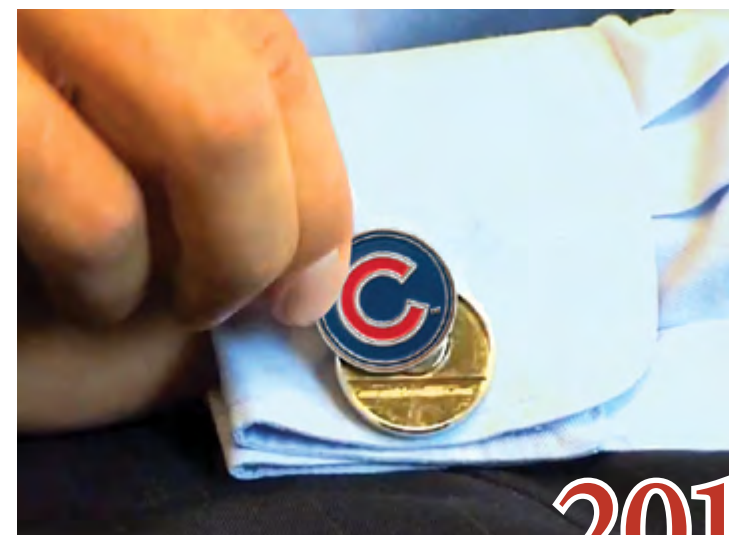


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**2017 HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE**







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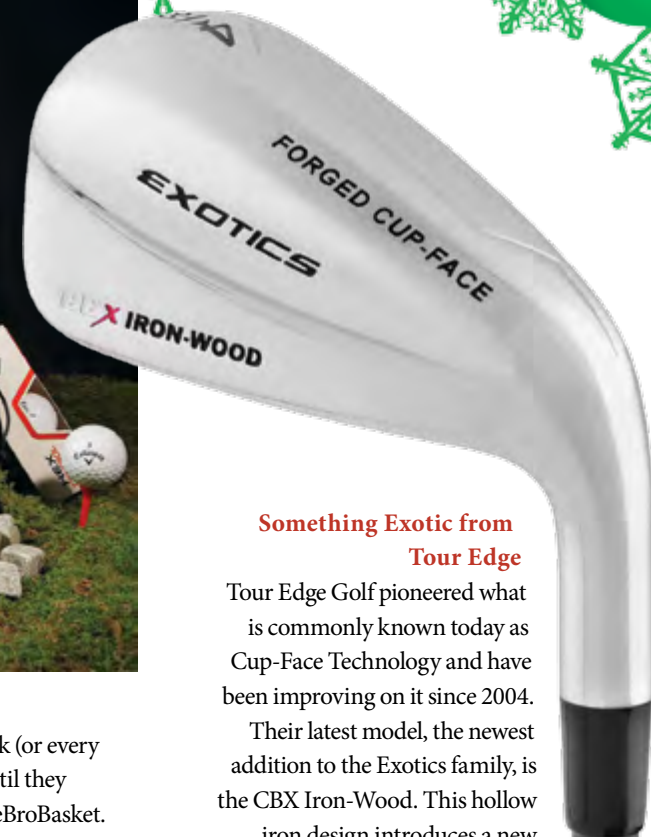
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**2017 HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE**



# THE MAN FROM K.U.N.K.E.L.

by Neal Kotlarek

Step through the bag room at Sunset Ridge Country Club in Northfield and you enter a cozy office filled with a couch, a countertop and a cluttered desk. While the office's primary occupant is caddie master Greg Kunkel, the room is a whirl of activity as caddies walk in every few minutes to confirm schedules, receive wages and just hang out with "Kunks," as he is known to caddies, members and friends.

Attired in a Northwestern University sport shirt, Kunkel looks up at the pictures lining the office walls and points out that three current college coaches are members at Sunset Ridge, including Northwestern's football and men's basketball head men, Pat Fitzgerald and Chris Collins. The office is a virtual sports hall of fame, incorporating bobbleheads, pucks, baseballs, team photos, mini football helmets and autographed golf balls. Most if not all of the memorabilia are tokens from Chicago professional sports heroes who have been members or guests at the private North Shore club at one time or another.

While Kunkel has developed close friendships with many of these athletes and has dozens of stories to tell

about each, many of his favorite mementoes from his 31-year career at Sunset Ridge rest inside a drawer. He reaches in and retrieves a stack of postcards and notes from caddies he has mentored over the years. He randomly opens one from a summer intern who had served double duty as a tournament scoreboard keeper due to her impeccable handwriting. Indeed, the card is written in calligraphic strokes and serves as a thank you note to Kunkel for the intern's great experiences and education at the club. Kunks studies the note for a second and nods his head.

"These kinds of cards are what make my job so fun and fulfilling," he says. "I've been at Sunset Ridge for over three decades and I still love coming to work."

Kunkel remarks that the character of the club makes it special if not unique across all of Chicagoland.

"We are a true family club," he says. "Everyone knows everyone here. Caddies and employees are extended members of the family. And we treat guests as new members of our family, as well." His point is underscored by the fact that some members' sons and daughters are also caddies at the club.

At least part of the success of Sunset Ridge's caddie program, Kunkel explains, can be attributed to a strategy of pairing up golfers with caddies who fit their needs and preferences. "We work to match the caddie to the player," he says. "Some members ask for a specific caddie who knows their games and knows how every putt breaks on our greens; other members like to work with new and younger caddies, and some guests look for a caddie who can teach them about the course."

In total, Sunset Ridge hosts over 120 caddies during the prime summer season, including ten this year who participate through the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Foundation which provides high school financial assistance and educational support to Chicago school kids from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. These caddies take residence at nearby Lake Forest College and commute to the club daily.

The caddie program at Sunset Ridge Country Club has been referenced as one of the finest in the nation, as walking the course with a caddie is strongly encouraged for members and guests. The course was designed by William Diddel in

1923 and underwent a renovation by Libertyville architect Rick Jacobsen in 2004. His work was recognized in 2006 as "Private Club Golf Course Renovation of the Year" by *Golf Inc.* magazine. Most holes are lined by mature trees with greens and fairway landing areas protected by sweeping sand bunkers. On a chilly week in 1972, the course hosted the Western Open, Jim Jamieson the winner.

Club members and managers have been enthusiastic supporters of the Evans Scholars Foundation, which awards college scholarships to caddies with limited financial means. Administered by the Western Golf Association, the program is funded by contributions from over 30,000 Evans Scholars Par Club members across the country, as well as proceeds from the BMW Championship, played this year at Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest. Kunkel says he has hopes and expectations that as many as eight to 10 caddies currently at Sunset Ridge are in position to earn the Evans scholarship in coming years.

"The entire group at the Western Golf Association is incredible," Kunkel says. "I'm a huge fan of (president and



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CEO) John Kaskowski and the Evans Scholarship program.” Kunkel’s affection for the WGA was reciprocated in May 2015, when he was inducted into the association’s Caddie Hall of Fame.

“Greg has shaped the lives of thousands of Sunset Ridge caddies, Evans Scholars Alumni, four current Evans Scholars, and another Sunset Ridge caddie awarded the scholarship in fall,” said WGA chairman Dennis O’Keefe at the ceremony. “Greg cares about the caddie training and performance; the golfer’s experience; and perhaps most important, about the lives of his caddies,” said Bob Caldwell, a club member and WGA director. “He is a friend to many and a giver in countless ways, taking care of those in need in his own, inimitable style.”

Kunkel began his golf career in 1969 when he caddied at Winnetka’s Indian Hill Country Club – the same club where comedian Bill Murray and his brothers caddied at and which inspired the movie “Caddyshack.” In a remarkable coincidence, Kunkel’s first loop was real life club member Mrs. Havercamp whose name was inserted into the movie script by Murray. “I waited three weeks to get my first loop and it was Mrs. Havercamp,” Kunkel marvels. Brothers Bill and Brian had already moved on from Indian Hill when Kunkel arrived, but he says the exploits of all of the Murray brothers at the club and around the community remain the stuff of legend.

Despite what must have been a rough 18 with Mrs. Havercamp, Kunkel fell head-over-heels in love with golf and caddying. He showed enough skills to earn the bag of touring pro Marty Fleckman at Medinah Country Club in the 1975 U.S. Open. Winner of the 1967 Cajun Classic Open and a three-time college All-America, Fleckman fired a first round even-par 71 to tie for ninth at that stage, three strokes ahead of eventual winner Lou Graham.

Over his caddie career, Kunkel has carried bags leading to two Illinois Open champions and over 30 titles in Illinois PGA Section tournaments over his career. Of all those titles won, Kunkel says his favorite occurred just a year ago when friend (and WGA director) Ron Waytula won the 2016 Illinois Senior Open at McHenry Country Club.

“Ron really wanted to win that tournament for his father who had

passed away,” Kunkel remembers. “It was a real emotional final round and trophy ceremony. I can say that it was a special experience to be with Ron through his final putt.”

When he’s not caddying or managing the caddie program at the club, Kunkel can often be found on the golf course. He has played to a handicap as low as 2 but plays to a 9 today as he continues his recovery from a catastrophic illness.

In August 2014, Kunkel survived a three-hour surgery to remove a cancerous bladder and prostate. An ileal conduit procedure required taking a piece of Kunkel’s intestine and connecting it to one of his kidneys. The prognosis prior to the cancer surgery was dire, yet his body’s response following 11 total procedures was nothing short of miraculous. While Kunkel gives full credit to Dr. Michael McGuire, the urologic oncology specialist who performed the surgery, he heaps equal praise on his wife, Debbie, and the prayers and good wishes of hundreds of family members, friends, club members, caddies and former caddies who helped him get through the entire process.

“I am a blessed man,” Kunkel states categorically. “I not only survived a Stage 5 kidney disease, I got reminded of how many friends I have in the world.”

Kunkel counts among those friends Blackhawks Hall of Famer Pat Foley, Bears former linebacker Brian Urlacher and the greatest basketball player of all time, Michael Jordan. “Michael spent a lot of time at the club,” Kunkel says. He’d stick around after a round and challenge the caddies to ping-pong matches.”

One of Kunkel’s favorite stories involving Jordan was a request from the friend of a member who asked if she could meet Jordan before or after he played at the club. She was dying from cancer and had hoped to meet the basketball superstar sometime in her life. “The lady approached him and he sized her up. ‘You are beautiful,’ he told her. It was a great moment.”

Kunkel’s family includes four children, all of whom were caddies at Sunset Ridge. What are his instructions to all would-be caddies? “The basics of the profession,” he says with a laugh: “Show up. Shut up. And keep up!”

Beyond those basics, Kunkel says the best caddies are those who are students

of the course and who look forward to spending time with their loops. “I really think we have the best caddies in Chicago,” he says. “Over the years, they learn how to help their loops choose the right clubs and aim putts on the correct lines. But, more importantly, they give them a great Sunset Ridge experience.”

While not every caddie qualifies for the Evans scholarships, the club has developed secondary scholarship programs for those who don’t. The Sunset Ridge Scholarship Fund provides \$155,000 of support for caddies who qualify. Caddies also contribute to a fund that provides up to \$10,000 in scholarships to worthy colleagues that include workers at the club’s pool and snack bar. Kunkel states that one of his proudest achievements is the creation by the club of a Greg Kunkel Scholarship that allows him to choose the recipient based upon academics, need and caddie skills.

Over his 31 years at Sunset Ridge, the man known to all as “Kunks” has guided thousands of caddies through their paces and touched the lives of thousands of members and their guests. Somewhere in heaven, Mrs. Havercamp must surely be proud.

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# France's Golf Cup Run neth Over

By Dave Lockhart



Le Golf National



Chateau Versailles



Chateau Versailles

The golf world was in a state of shock back in 2011 when France was awarded the privilege of hosting the world's premier professional golf event: the Ryder Cup matches. Thanks in part to donations from players in The French Golf Federation, the near-equivalent of one's community golf association, along with financial assistance from the French government, this massive worldwide golf event will take place next year. In hindsight, France seems like the perfect country to host these historic matches, as golf has been played here dating all the way back to the 1800s. The game remains an integral part of French culture with over 400 courses strewn throughout this diverse, beautiful and fantastical land mass.

France has seen more than its share of wars, but the Ryder Cup is a battle of a different kind that takes place every two years. The twelve best players from the United States versus the twelve best from Europe. The Europeans were on a nice run winning six of the last seven matches until the Americans triumphed by the score of 17-11 in 2016 at Hazeltine Golf Club in Minnesota. So come 2018 in France, the European side will look to settle the score.

With the great international showcase going to France comes the opportunity to indulge in golf on Gallic turf, as well as taking in the sights. Herewith, a brief review of some of France's best golf courses and more: The host course for the 2018 Ryder Cup matches is Le Golf National located just outside of historic Versailles and about 40 minutes from Paris. The Albatross course is a water-laden design that brings to mind the Tournament Players Club in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. The layout is full of risk reward shots; as such, it is an ideal venue for match-play formats used in the Ryder Cup event. Robert Von Hagge and Hubert Chesneau are credited as the course's primary architects and collaborated with Pierre Thevenin to serve up an interesting combination of Scottish links and target-style golf. One of the great virtues of the layout is that it is open to the public. As of press time, one deal offered through the renovated Novotel Hotel, located right on property, includes an elegant room with a round at the Albatross course for less than \$230.

This stadium-like venue is much in the vein of a TPC track with large mounding providing ideal views of the action for the fans. In fact, there are a number of spots where you can see three to four holes at one time. If you thought





the crowds at the 2016 Ryder Cup in Minnesota at Hazeltine National Golf Club were massive, the folks managing the French event anticipate crowds of 60,000-plus patrons per day, much like the final day of the 2012 Ryder Cup at Medinah Country Club. Now that's a lot of cheese and wine!

The Palace of Versailles (known in France as the Château de Versailles) is the world's largest palace spread over 2,000 glorious acres. Louis XVI and Marie-Antoinette spent some serious time here back in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. After two years of work, a replica of the original 80m wrought iron and gold leaf gate now graces the entrance to Louix XVI's former power base. One of France's most visited tourist sites, the palace, west of Paris, has been undergoing renovation work since 2003, when the government launched a 17-year "Grand Versailles" project to fully restore it to its former glory. Hall of Mirrors, Gallery of Battles, the Queens Bed Chamber and the huge and beautiful Palace Gardens are just a few of the area highlights. When you think about this being built in the 1600s it really is mind-blowing. The only way to tackle this architectural marvel is to have a guide like my escort on the trip, Denis Verdier-Magneau, who can depict all of the history inside and out at this fascinating palace.

Up in the north of France lies the charming seaside towns of Honfleur and Deauville, Normandy. Honfleur has a feel that is pure France with a scenic harbor that is surrounded by numerous restaurants serving delectable food and tasty wine. There's also a variety of street musicians adding a background ambiance that puts you in a total chill mode.

For the past 42 years, the city of Deauville has hosted one of the world's largest film festivals, oddly named the American Film Festival. Over that amount of time, the event has attracted a virtual Who's Who of Hollywood including the likes of Jack Nicholson and Angelina Jolie. When in town, be sure to check out the Hippodrome – a thoroughbred horse racing track—as well as a sprawling and spectacular beach.

The Golf Barrière Deauville boasts three nine-hole courses (Red, White and Blue) that wind their way up and down the undulating property wrapping around the stately hotel. There are some fun shots to encounter here where negotiating the land is paramount to scoring well. Only a couple of hours from Paris places you in a relaxed environment enjoying courses designed by Tom Simpson and the immortal Henry Cotton. Here you can take in spectacular views of the town of Deauville and the Atlantic Ocean from high above. The highlight of your round is an interesting ruin of a castle wall to the right of the 12<sup>th</sup> hole of the White Course. A number of movie stars have teed it up at Golf Barrière, including Samuel L. Jackson and Morgan Freeman.

As great as the golf is in this region, all Americans need to set aside a few hours of their trip to visit Normandy. Stroll the sands of Omaha Beach and you can still feel the history and turmoil that took place here on June 6, 1944. At Pointe Du Hoc, many remnants of World War II can still be found.



Honfleur Harbor, town of Honfleur, Normandy



D-Day Landing on Omaha Beach, Normandy



D-Day Landing on Omaha Beach, Normandy



Le Chateau Course

Be sure and get a tour guide like the engaging, knowledgeable Phillip Carey, who tells the amazing story of D-Day in a way that puts you practically in the middle of the action. The American Cemetery is also nearby where 9,387 brave soldiers rest. Visiting the memorials and grave sites here is a truly a humbling, moving and unforgettable experience that every American needs to see.

Omaha Beach Golf Club is a worthwhile golf experience, all while taking in a bit more history. Here you will find a wide assortment of golf holes and breathtaking views on two different 18-hole layouts. The La Mer championship course goes right up to the scenic blue Atlantic Ocean. World War II is memorialized here as each tee marker represents key figures in the war, including Dwight Eisenhower, George Patton and Winston Churchill. Just behind the sixth green you can walk into an actual bunker from the war to look out at the sea and attempt to comprehend those monumental battles. There's also a number of interesting plaques dedicated to the men and moments that happened right here.

In the south part of the country, just outside the city of Nice, is continental Europe's No. 1 golf resort in the Terre Blanche Hotel Spa Golf Resort. World-class touches abound in this secluded all-suite and villa hotel that certainly has it all.

Nestled in unspoiled lush nature of rolling, scenic terrain, Terre Blanche is easy to reach via a 35-minute drive from Cannes, and 45 minutes from Nice International Airport. The five-star resort is designed like a Provençal village on a hillside, with 115 suites and villas, each with a private terrace. The hotel's infinity pool overlooks the resort, offering a breathtaking panorama of the hills and their perched villages. The magnificent spa is the ideal place to work off the various pains of the day with a massage or take a dip in the vitality pool. If want to toughen yourself up a bit, you can hit the fitness center where you can pump some iron and build some muscle for your next round.

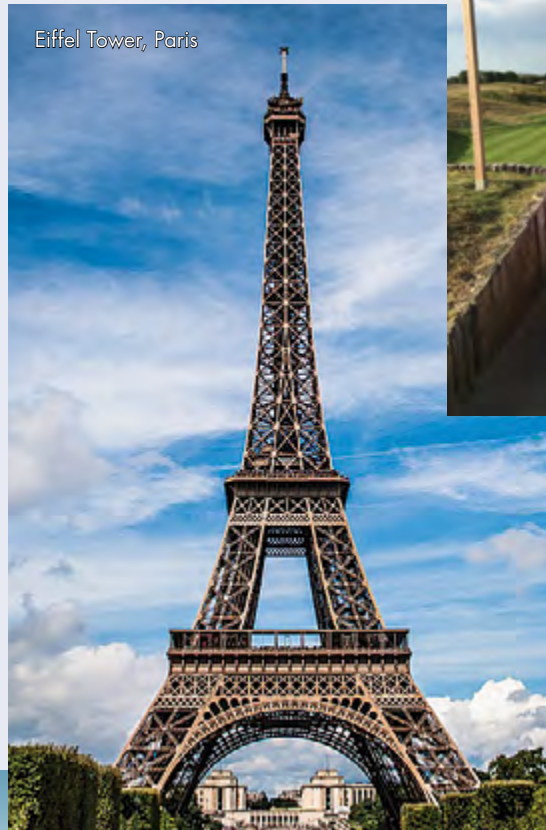
Terre Blanche Golf offers two 18-hole championship golf courses designed by ex-professional golfer and renowned golf course architect Dave Thomas called Le Château and Le Riou. If want to fix up your game then you will want to check out the state-of-the-art Albatross Golf performance center, complete with a David Leadbetter Golf Academy. American favorite Matt Kuchar is a regular guest at the property.

Le Château is an outstanding 18-hole public course that is 7,235 yards long and is the more demanding of the two courses. The bunkers and greens enable players to experience the true playing conditions of a championship course.

Its water hazards are beautiful, yet treacherous. A multi-tiered waterfall flows downhill in front of an elevated green on the par-3 second hole. Each year in September Le Chateau Course hosts the French Riviera Masters, the only Senior European Tour championship in France. The course is strong, ranked No. 14 in Continental Europe by *Golf World UK*.

Le Riou (The River), built in 2004, is 6,567





Eiffel Tower, Paris



The author in US Ryder Cup Captain Jim Furyk's cart



Tee sign at Omaha Beach Golf Club

yards long and features fairways with significant drops and greens that will test your stroke. This course was a joy to play and not as testy as Le Chateau. The par-4 ninth hole stands out, playing uphill with a waterfall and a pond along the right side. The par-5 18th starts with a tee set high on a plateau playing down to brilliant water features along the entire right side, making it an ideal and scenic risk-reward finishing hole.

The gourmet restaurant at Terre Blanche's Le Faventia is quite prestigious, with Michelin-starred status due to its unsurpassed cuisine and service. Treat yourself to choices that are inspired by the seasons, the Provençal land and local products.

While French-U.S. relations have sometimes been chilly over the years, know that Americans are today warmly welcomed across the country. You will note that most countrymen and women are fit and happy. This may come as a surprise due to the vast quantities of bread and amazing rich butter that are served everywhere you go.

The 2018 Ryder Cup Matches should serve to educate and win over golf travelers to the spectacular country of France. What's not to love? Encompassing medieval cities; alpine villages; Mediterranean beaches; the famed fashion houses and classical art museums of Paris; and, of course, the Louvre and the iconic Eiffel Tower. Versailles might just be the best place the Ryder Cup matches have ever been held. Fantastique!

For more information on France and its golf offerings, visit: <http://us.france.fr/>

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When the snow begins to dust the streets across Chicagoland, Arizona is where Windy City golfers jettison the street slush and their snow shovels for a Sonoran retreat. From the greater Phoenix metropolitan area to Tucson, great golf is as abundant as sunshine. With nearly 300 sunny days per year, this destination tops the country in sunshine, especially during the winter months.

*Ditat Deus*, the state's motto, translates to "God Enriches." From the cooper-and-orange banded mountains to the cactus-dotted deserts, this region is bursting with colors. Arizona golf is a paradise with sunscreen and shorts. In addition to the ideal temperatures, the varieties of golf courses offer Chicagoans a unique experience that cannot be found in the Midwest.

# ARIZONA THE GOLF STATE



When you think of the ultimate Arizona golf experience, what comes to mind? Is it the stunning scenery, on-course and off? The glorious mountain vistas in every direction? Do you envision gently rolling fairways ribboning through a lush desert landscape, with every hole framed by southwestern flora?

We-Ko-Pa Golf Club, located just minutes from Scottsdale, is that special place you're thinking of.

Since December 2001, all talk of We-Ko-Pa's Cholla Course has revolved around the gifts that nature has bestowed and rightly so. Located on the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, We-Ko-Pa is blessed with jaw-dropping mountain vistas in every direction. In fact, "We-Ko-Pa" is the Yavapai pronunciation for "Four Peaks Mountain," a rugged rock formation that looms imposingly to the northeast.

Throughout one's round, players are greeted with all sorts of amazing light displays, as the shadows that are cast by the interplay of sun and mountains approach the artistic. At sunset, the colors and textures approach the surreal.

We-Ko-Pa's Cholla Course is the handiwork of architect Scott Miller. So spectacular are the views on the Cholla Course that the sound, strategic playing value of the holes that Miller designed could possibly get overlooked. Your first trip around will convince you otherwise. The variety in the routing and pacing of the holes will keep all levels of golfers entertained from opening tee shot to final tap-in.

The Cholla Course features an ideal blend of dog-legs and straightaway holes, a mix of slender and ample fairways, a balance of benign and rugged green complexes. The long and strong will challenge all of Cholla's 7,225 yards, but well-spaced multiple tee boxes allow every type of player to enjoy the course, especially from the friendly front tees, which measure 5,289 yards.

The noted golf course architectural team of Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw designed We-Ko-Pa's second 18, the award-winning Saguaro Golf Course. Open since December 2006, Saguaro has design elements not commonly found in the desert Southwest. Saguaro is much like the older more traditional courses found on the east coast, where greens are close to tees and the course follows the natural movement of the land making walking easy and enjoyable.

In Saguaro, Coore and Crenshaw re-introduced the all-important art form of tying the entrances to the greens into the greens themselves. The majority of the greens are open in front to allow for run-up shots. It is the subtle pitch and roll of the terrain on the approach to the greens that give each hole much of its unique playing characteristics.

Stretching 6,912 yards from the tips and playing to a par 71, Saguaro has been featured in numerous golf publications, including *Golfweek*, which currently ranks it as the No. 1 public access course in Arizona. In addition, *Golf* magazine named Saguaro one of the "Top 10 Best New Courses You Can Play" in the United States in 2007 and it currently sits at No. 98 on *Golf Digest's* list of "America's Top 100 Public Courses."

We-Ko-Pa's two courses, Cholla and Saguaro, have much in common – both are meticulously maintained, both have received high praise from the golf media and consumers alike and both offer a tranquil golf experience free of houses and roads, thus preserving the unobstructed mountain views of the Sonoran Desert. Or, more succinctly put, We-Ko-Pa is "Arizona's ultimate golf experience."



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Troon has Arizona's must plays.

When traveling to Arizona to play golf, there are the "must play courses" and then there are the must plays. But with over 300 courses throughout the state, how's a club-packing golfer to decide where to tee it up? The answer is easy. Visit [www.TroonGolfAZ.com](http://www.TroonGolfAZ.com) first. Here you can gather course information, book tee times, checkout stay and play packages and more.

Troon Golf-managed courses offer industry-leading consistency in service and surface. Simply put, if you're playing a Troon property, you know it's going to be awesome. The directory of courses in the Troon Golf portfolio in the Phoenix, Scottsdale and Tucson areas reads like a list of the state's top golf courses – and for good reason, they are. Troon Golf properties throughout Arizona include: Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Golf Club, Boulders Resort & Spa, Golf Club of Estrella, Lookout Mountain Golf Club, The Phoenician, Poston Butte Golf Club, Sewailo Golf Club, SunRidge Canyon Golf Club, Troon North Golf Club, The Westin Kierland Golf Club, Whirlwind Golf Club at Wild Horse Pass and more...

All of these Troon-managed properties are set in stunning locations and capture the essence of the American Southwest. From the magnificence of the Boulders in Carefree and Troon North in Scottsdale, to the Sonoran Desert beauty of SunRidge Canyon in Fountain Hills and Whirlwind Golf Club in Chandler, each course has its own unique way of leaving you speechless and amazed.

In addition to delivering on beauty, incredible service and outstanding playing surfaces, Troon's Arizona properties are focused on making the game of golf more fun. For example, The Westin Kierland Golf Club offers guests the option of playing on Golf Boards, Golf Bikes or Segways. For golf traditionalists, Kierland also offers the option of playing with a caddie. Other Troon-Arizona properties offering caddie services include Troon North, Boulders, The Phoenician and Whirlwind with a number of other highly-rated clubs expected to introduce caddie programs this fall.

For those who can't quite "unplug" while on the course, Scottsdale-area Troon facilities feature helpful USB charging ports in all of their golf carts and all Troon Arizona courses offer free apps for download with handy course GPS and tee time booking options built-in.

If you're spending more than just a few days playing golf in the Arizona sun, think about purchasing an Arizona Troon Card for additional savings. Troon Cards, available as TwoSome or FourSome Cards, are the absolute best way to play Troon's top courses at the lowest rates. Troon Cardholders can reserve tee times within three days of their desired date of play and enjoy up to 50 percent off golf fees. Can't wait until

three days out to book a tee time? No problem. With Troon Card's Best Rate Guarantee, Troon Cardholders can book any online rate and still receive 15 percent off their golf fees at check in. Arizona Troon Cards, as well as other state and regional Troon Cards, are available through [Troon.com](http://Troon.com).

Once you have your Troon Golf Arizona golf itinerary mapped out and your accommodations set, it's time to enjoy the best Arizona golf has to offer. One last piece of advice – you can pack your own clubs or use the outstanding Callaway rental sets available at every Troon Golf property.

For more information on Troon's Arizona courses, visit [www.TroonGolfAZ.com](http://www.TroonGolfAZ.com).



# Troon Golf

## It's Golf Bucket List Time. First Stop: Arizona

When you want to play the very best, tee it up with Troon Golf Arizona.



Left to right: Whirlwind Golf Club at Wild Horse Pass, Chandler; Sewailo Golf Club, Tucson; Troon North Golf Club, Scottsdale.

EXPERIENCE  
ARIZONA'S BEST  
COURSES AT THE BEST  
AVAILABLE RATES:  
[TroonGolfAZ.com](http://TroonGolfAZ.com)

TROON GOLF®

There's something transcendent about golf in the desert—where vivid green fairways and bright blue skies meet rugged terrain. With Troon Golf Arizona, you'll be playing some of the best courses the Southwest has to offer, and experiencing the finest playing conditions and friendliest customer service in the game.

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# TroonGolfAZ.com





Rancho Mañana Golf Club, located in the high Sonoran Desert in historic Cave Creek, Arizona, boasts some of the state's most breathtaking views and challenging holes of golf. Situated along an original Pony Express stop and U.S. Cavalry watering hole, Rancho Mañana Golf Club has continually ranked among *Golf Digest's* "Places To Play" and is regarded as "One of Arizona's Most Scenic Golf Courses." Convenient to most Scottsdale and Phoenix resorts and hotels, the course has become a valley favorite of visitors from around the country due to its unique beauty and native surroundings.

From the first hole, the front nine takes golfers through the Town of Cave Creek's name sake, Cave Creek Wash, one of the last remaining riparian areas in the state. Each subsequent hole ventures upward to higher elevations, where one can witness some of the state's most breathtaking views. Nowhere else in the Valley of the Sun can a golfer simultaneously view picturesque images of Camelback Mountain, Mummy Mountain, Squaw Peak, Black Mountain, South Mountain, and the dramatic Tonto National Forest, with its distinctive Elephant Butte.

Golfers then begin to meander back towards the site of a once-thriving western dude ranch—now the clubhouse and restaurant facilities, with their original, rustic structures. From there, Rancho Mañana's back nine allows one to encounter a slightly different experience, as golfers work their way around a lush oasis of water-guarded holes with 360 degrees of unobstructed mountain views, where Mother Nature's vast array of wildlife can be found, including the likes of bobcats, roadrunners, rabbits and mule deer.

Although the par-70 layout features dramatic elevation changes and acres of unspoiled desert terrain, Rancho Mañana is well known for its fairness and playability for golfers of all abilities. Built in the late 1980s, the course has had time to mature, and a few key renovations throughout its history have improved it with age. The recently renovated bunkers provide just the right amount of challenge without creating undue stress caused by shoulder-deep traps sometimes encountered in the game.

It's easy to see why the course has won so many accolades, including making the list of "America's Top 50 Courses for Women" by *Golf Digest* in 2010. Most holes don't have extensively long forced carries from the tees, and the same is true for nearly all the greens that are accepting of low-bouncing shots hit short of the green. The course was also selected as being in the top 10 courses in Arizona by *Ranking Arizona* magazine during the same year.

The 19th hole is usually of equal importance to the golf course itself for any golf experience, and the Tonto Bar and Grill is only a few short steps away and captures the rustic desert ambiance of years gone by with hand-carved beams of the historic ranch ceiling still in place. With two dining areas inside and a covered patio overlooking the 11th

green, the facility certainly provides a cozy spot to relax after an enjoyable day on the links.

In addition to offering cold beverages, great care is taken to ensure the menu is second to none and that it fully embraces the local flavors of the southwest. Chef Eric Flatt and his staff also aim to preserve Arizona's heritage through cuisine and by sharing the stories of the property's past. They fuse Southwestern and Native American ingredients and present them in a warm, welcoming atmosphere rich in Arizona lore. Many areas of the restaurant feature historic photos of the property from the years as one of Arizona's most successful dude ranches in the 1940s.

The restaurant has also received numerous awards and accolades, including being honored by *PHOENIX* magazine in their list of the valley's Top 100 Restaurants, and a continuous honor from *Wine Spector* magazine due to the extensive wine selections that are available.

Rancho Mañana is an experience that truly represents the uniqueness of golf in the Arizona desert. For tee times, call Rancho Mañana Golf Club at 480-488-0398 or visit [www.ranchomanana.com](http://www.ranchomanana.com). For restaurant reservations/information, call Tonto Bar & Grill at 480-488-0698.



# Rancho Mañana Golf Club & Spa




Great Green Fee Specials Available at [RanchoManana.com](http://RanchoManana.com) All Year Long

An Experience...  
that Truly Represents Golf in the Arizona Desert



Always Open to the Public...  
Extraordinary Views...  
Unspoiled Desert Terrain...  
Rustic Clubhouse & Grill...  
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 480-488-0398  
[www.RanchoManana.com](http://www.RanchoManana.com)



5734 E. Rancho Manana Blvd - Cave Creek, AZ 85331



The most passionate of golfers living in cold-weather climates across North America have two options when Old Man Winter comes around for his annual visit: They refine their respective snow golf games, using the neighbor's mailbox as a target for a wedge off the fresh two feet of snow dropped by the latest blizzard; or they head out to a warmer climate, where golf is played in 70-degree weather during the winter months.

That's where the Foothills Golf Group comes into play. A collection of four courses located in Phoenix, Arizona, they understand that many of golf's biggest players don't have the budget for many of golf's biggest green fees. Instead, they have developed a loyal following for championship golf at some of Arizona's most affordable prices. Add that to the fact that the most recent reviews of the courses on golf websites have been overwhelmingly positive, and there's no surprise they have established themselves as one of the best golf destinations within the Grand Canyon State.

Ahwatukee Country Club was designed by Arizona golf legend John Bulla. Measuring 6,713 yards, the par 72 layout mixes the beauty of its desert landscape with mature, tree-lined fairways. It has been described as a challenging-yet-fair layout to create a memorable golf experience, one where success is possible on most holes. Opened in 1973, the club's amenities include a full practice range and short game practice area, complete golf shop and casual dining set against beautiful golf course views.

Just a 10-minute drive to the southwest, The Foothills Golf Club truly represents what desert golf should be, catering to both power and course management-minded players. The par-72 Championship, links-style course was designed by internationally-acclaimed architects Tom Weiskopf and Jay Morrish, and stretches to almost 7,000 yards from the back tees. Lush rolling fairways, blue lakes and 65 bunkers are set against rough rocky desert terrain to make golfers think twice about placement and angle for most shots. With four sets of tees, The Foothills Golf Club has appeal for golfers of all skill levels and has earned a four-star ranking from *Golf Digest*, along with being listed as one of Phoenix's top golf courses.

Another four miles to the west, Club West Golf Club features a stunning 18-hole championship layout designed by the team of Brian Whitcomb and Ken Kavanaugh. Four sets of tees range from 4,985 yards at the forward tees to as many as 7,142 yards from the championship tees. Club West's elevation changes and 360-degree natural beauty distinguish it from other Phoenix golf courses. Case in point: The signature downhill "double green" 17th hole that is highlighted by dramatic views and a tee to green elevation change of more than 100 feet. Club West also features a complete practice range, well-appointed golf shop and full-service Agave Bistro that high-

lights spectacular views from the elegant dining room and patio.

And a short drive south of Phoenix, Maricopa's The Duke at Rancho El Dorado is a championship 18-hole track that is best described as perfect for the golfer with a sense of discovery. Playing to a par of 72, The Duke is highlighted by expansive fairways that complement the wide open spaces of the Old West. The David B. Druzisky design creates a challenging golf experience for golfers with a passion for the game. The sporting spirit is alive and well on site, with risk/reward shots affecting decision-making by players on both nines. The Santa Rosa Wash snakes through the property, enhancing the experience of change from hole to hole. Featuring mountain views, attentive service, and plush conditions, The Duke has the feel of a high-end, private golf club without the high-end, private club fees.

And that is exactly what makes the Foothills Golf Group a perfect destination for golfers looking to play year-round, instead of putting their clubs away until snow melts and frost delays are no more. With four championship golf courses, a host of first-class amenities, top-notch customer service and more perks than can be listed, book your round today at Ahwatukee Country Club, The Foothills Golf Club, Club West Golf Club, and The Duke at El Dorado Ranch. It's the Arizona golf you've come to expect.



# Foothills Golf Group

# feel the grass



As a golfer, the comfort of grass beneath your feet is not out of reach at the Foothills Golf Group collection. With great rates and four great courses to choose from, getting your golf fix in Arizona is easier than ever.

So get out and feel the grass at Ahwatukee Country Club, Club West, The Duke or Foothills Golf Club. Call or visit us on the web to learn more about our great rates in sunny Arizona.

  
**AHWATUKEE**  
 Country Club  
[ahwatukeegolf.com](http://ahwatukeegolf.com)  
 480.893.1161

  
**Club West**  
 GOLF CLUB  
[clubwestgolf.com](http://clubwestgolf.com)  
 480.460.4400

  
**THE DUKE**  
 AT RANCHO EL DORADO  
[thedukegolf.com](http://thedukegolf.com)  
 480.844.1100

  
**FOOTHILLS GOLF CLUB**  
[thefoothillsgc.com](http://thefoothillsgc.com)  
 480.460.4653

**CALL OR VISIT THE COURSES  
ABOVE TO LEARN HOW**



# Movement3 and True Spec Are a Perfect Fit

Golf technology seems like a paradox. The origins of the game, after all, involved a shepherd's crook and some round stones. While it made sense that crooks would become clubs, and that stones would evolve into balls, I doubt that anyone in the 1400s or 1500s or 1800s called those transitions "technology."

Anyone glancing through a national golf magazine immediately understands that today's golf clubs are as far away from shepherd's crooks as iPads are from ancient scrolls. While the concepts remain the same, the engineering and fitting processes involved in mating a club to a player have become a true science.

The teaching and fitting studio of Movement3Golf appropriately shares the office space of the Tesla Motors shop in Highland Park. While the companies aren't affiliated in category, they both take technology to another level in re-imagining a product some might have thought has achieved its full potential. Just as Elon Musk has found unique ways to build cars, M3G owner and director Rick Silva is betting his future on using technology to both improve golf games and equip players with clubs that suit their attributes.

The south and north walls of the Movement3Golf studio are seemingly simple hitting bays for golfers to hone swings. In fact, those bays are fitted with cameras and sensors measuring every aspect of the swing and computing those findings a moment after the ball has been struck.

The resources of Movement3Golf were recently combined with renowned custom fitting company True Spec Golf to create a perfect fit for area golfers, the theory being that golfers can only maximize their potential when they are equipped with correct clubs and proper swing mechanics.

"We believe that True Spec and Movement3Golf can work together to create vast improvements on a player's game," said Scott Anderson, True Spec master fitter, during a late August visit to the Highland Park facility.

Any skepticism I had in how this process worked was eliminated after two swings with my current driver, which I've been using for

four years. Anderson and Silva observed my swing and then looked up at a screen to review my numbers. Much to my surprise, my backspin rates were over 4,000 when the optimal zone is in the mid-2,000s. Too much spin, Anderson explained, reduces length and is a product of coming down too steeply on the impact point between ball and club. The analysis also showed that I was hitting the ball slightly off the center of the club toward the heel.

Over the next 40 minutes, I was fitted with various different clubheads attached to various graphite shafts. "We fit the player with the shaft that absolutely correlates to his or her swing," Anderson said. "The club that is fitted in the studio is the exact one they'll put in their golf bag."

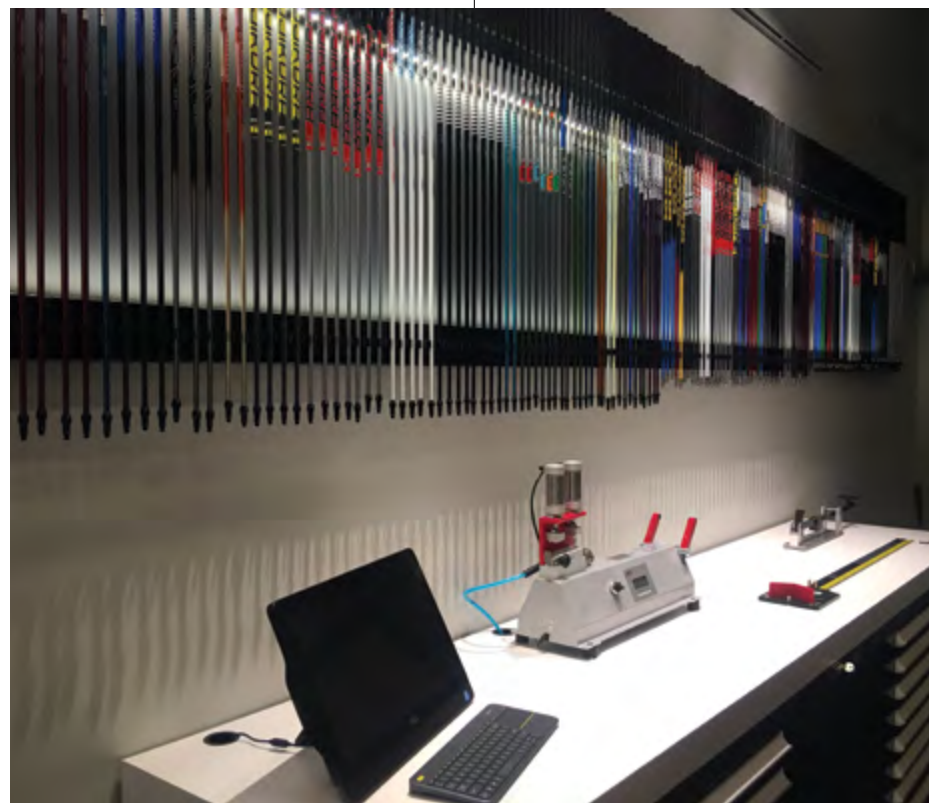
I was surprised my backspin rate didn't improve dramatically when fitted with driver heads from two top brands. Then I hit a Callaway GBB Epic Sub Zero. Anderson and Silva didn't even need to look at the monitors to know we were on the right track. Following two shaft adjustments, my backspin level reduced by almost 50 percent

and my distance off the tee consistently increased by over 8 yards. "Good stuff!" Anderson said, enthusiastically. "With 8 to 10 extra flight yards, you'll now be able to cross over hazards that you hit into before and will be hitting an iron approach shot less to the green."

With the fitting process complete, Silva found two easily correctable swing flaws that would increase my flight further. He saw that my left hip was open at impact, causing my ball to fade, and that a slight turn of my wrist on the backswing would create an ascending strike at the ball instead of my present descending strike.

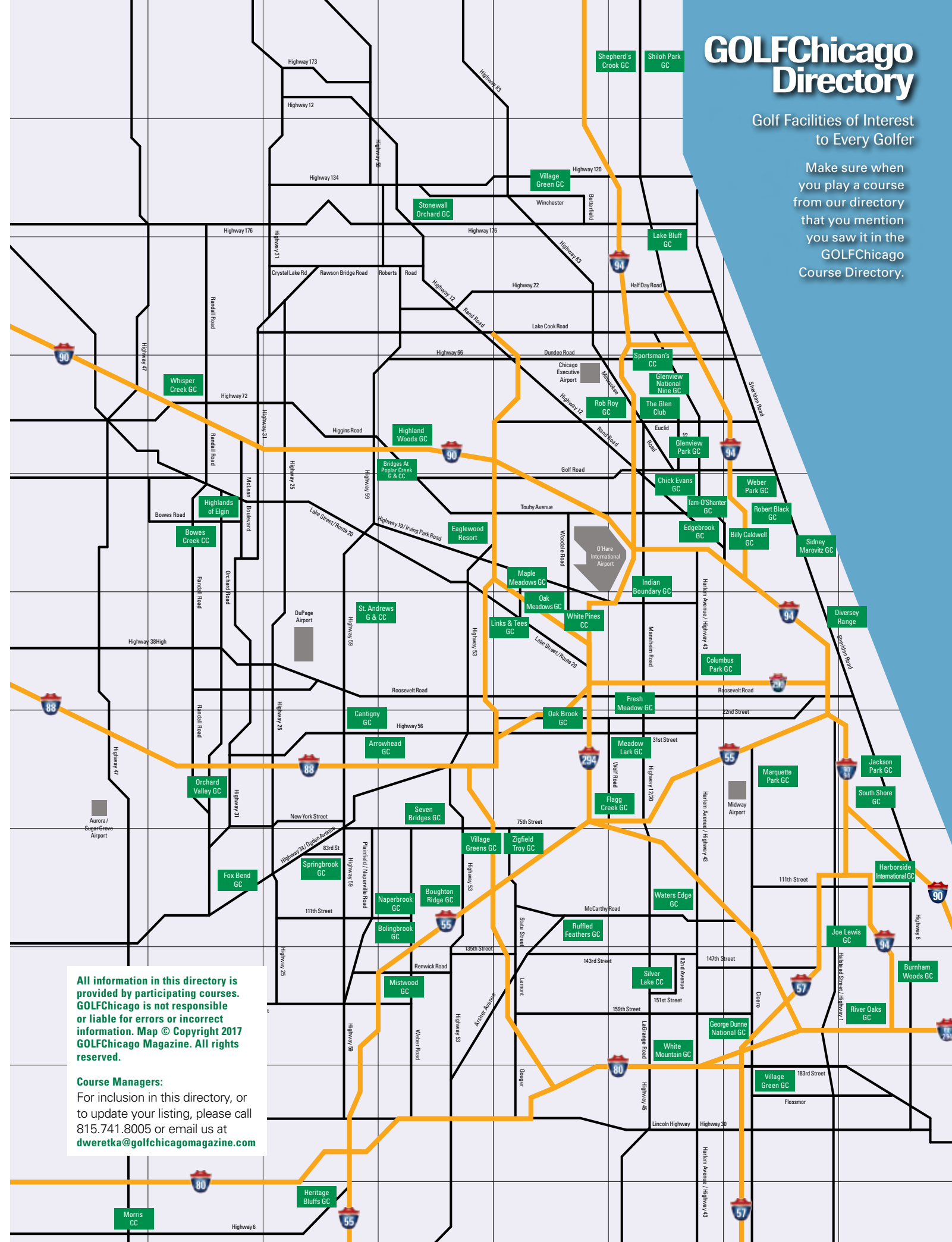
"The goal isn't just a longer tee shot or softer wedge shots," said Silva. "We want golfers leaving Movement3Golf with a better understanding of their swings, increased confidence and, ultimately, greater enjoyment of the game."

To schedule an appointment or receive more information about both True Spec Golf and Movement3Golf, visit their websites: [www.truespecgolf.com](http://www.truespecgolf.com) and [www.movement3golf.com](http://www.movement3golf.com).



Golf Facilities of Interest to Every Golfer

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





**Arrowhead**  
630-653-5800  
26W151 Butterfield Rd.  
Wheaton, IL 60189  
[arrowheadgolfclub.org](http://arrowheadgolfclub.org)  
Arrowhead Golf Club is recognized for its beautifully maintained course and inviting atmosphere. Arrowhead is a public course which offers impeccable golfing conditions at affordable rates on three separate par 72 18-hole layouts surrounded by forest preserve. The West, East, and South Courses feature new bunker renovations and enhancements. The practice area includes a lighted driving range, putting green, and chipping green. Group and individual golf lessons are available.



**Bolingbrook Golf Club**  
630-771-9400  
2001 Rodeo Dr.  
Bolingbrook, IL 60490  
[bolingbrookgolfclub.com](http://bolingbrookgolfclub.com)  
Bolingbrook Golf Club features a championship golf course designed by Arthur Hills and Steve Forrest, an exceptional practice facility with a learning academy, state-of-the-art GPS-equipped golf carts, and a 76,000 square-foot clubhouse with men's and women's locker rooms, lounges, two full-service restaurants, and full banquet facilities. Memberships are available. Bolingbrook Golf Club was named #28 in the 2010 *Golf World* Readers' Choice Awards for best public course in the country; named to the 2009 *Golfweek* Best Courses You Can Play list; and received 4½ stars from *Golf Digest*.



**Bowes Creek Country Club**  
847-214-5880  
1250 Bowes Creek Blvd.  
Elgin, Illinois 60124  
[bowescreekcc.com](http://bowescreekcc.com)  
[bowescreekcountryclub.com](http://bowescreekcountryclub.com)  
Here at Bowes Creek Country Club, our patrons are not treated like an everyday customer. You can buy a membership for the year or you can pay to be a Member for a Day! Instead of standard green fees, we offer a daily membership. The Member for a Day Fee will allow you to play unlimited golf with cart, and allow you full use of the practice facility. There will be no limit to the amount of golf you can play that day because you are ... Member for that Day!



**Cantigny Golf**  
630-668-8463  
27w270 Mack Rd.  
Wheaton, IL 60189  
[cantignygolf.com](http://cantignygolf.com)  
Designed by Roger Packard, Cantigny is both challenging and breathtakingly scenic. Cantigny Golf's Red Oak Club loyalty program rewards customers with free golf and other benefits. The Young Executive Program offers reduced green fees for golfers 39 and under. The Red Oak Club and Young Executive Program are each free to join. 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.



**Forest Preserve Golf Courses | Cook County**  
800-460-0010  
[forestpreservegolf.com](http://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!  
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• Burnham Woods: 18 Holes  
• Chick Evans: 18 Holes  
• Edgebrook: 18 Holes  
• George Dunne National: 18 Holes  
• Harry Semrow: Driving Range & Mini Golf  
• Highland Woods: 18 Holes  
• Indian Boundary: 18 Holes  
• Joe Louis: 18 Holes  
• Meadowlark: 9 Holes  
• River Oaks: 18 Holes



**Fox Bend Golf Course**  
630-554-3939  
3516 Route 34  
Oswego, IL 60543  
[www.foxbendgolfcourse.com](http://www.foxbendgolfcourse.com)  
Fox Bend is Oswego's own welcoming and challenging public course. This 18-hole, par-72 course boasts lush fairways, mature trees, and challenging greens. With 34 well-positioned bunkers and water coming into play on 11 holes, the course tests skills of all levels. USFGA FootGolf is also available on select days. Enjoy a drink or dinner on the deck overlooking the scenic course at Pearce's restaurant, or book the Pavilion for your next outing or special event. Take advantage of tee time specials and book online.



**The Glen Club**  
847-724-7272  
2901 W. Lake Ave.  
Glenview, IL 60026  
[theglenclub.com](http://theglenclub.com)  
Chicago's finest semi-private golf experience. The Glen Club is a stunning Tom Fazio designed championship course located on the former site of the historic Glenview Naval Air Station. In the heart of a 195-acre refuge, The Glen Club features rolling terrain, dramatic elevation changes, tranquil lakes, and striking vistas. Enjoy the grand 48,000 square-foot clubhouse, superb dining, 21 overnight guest rooms, a grand ballroom, and the finest in corporate amenities and membership.



**Glenview Park Golf Club**  
847-724-0250  
Shermer Rd.  
Glenview, IL 60025  
[golfglenview.com](http://golfglenview.com)  
Experience pure golfing enjoyment at the Glenview Park Golf Club. After a complete renovation in 2014-2015, the course has re-opened to rave reviews. Bent grass from tee to green, rolling fairways, and meticulous landscapes await you on this 18-hole, 6,133 yard par-70 course. The Glenview Park Golf Club offers the amenities of a private club, but is open to the public and close to home. *Golf Inc* magazine voted the Glenview Park Golf Club the Best Renovation of the Year in 2016. Come out to see what everyone is talking about. Host of the USGA - 2017 U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball Qualifier.



**Chicago Park District Golf**  
312-245-0909  
[cpdgolf.com](http://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.



**Green Meadows Golf Club**  
630-810-5330  
18 W. 201 W. 63rd St.  
Westmont, IL 60559  
[DuPageGolf.com](http://DuPageGolf.com)  
Green Meadows is a fun nine-hole gem that offers quality conditions in a traditional parkland setting. Featuring three par 4s and six par 3s, the Green Meadows layout is the perfect blend of challenge, enjoyment, and value for all skill levels!  
Senior discounts are available every day, and DuPage Golf Discount Card Holders save on every round.  
Look for Green Meadows behind the Westmont water tower on 63rd St.  
Find our best specials and promotions only on [www.DuPageGolf.com](http://www.DuPageGolf.com).



**Maple Meadows Golf Club**  
630-616-8424  
272 Addison Rd.  
Wood Dale, IL 60191  
[DuPageGolf.com](http://DuPageGolf.com)  
Maple Meadow's Championship "West 18" features a modern prairie design, and is honored to be a qualifying site for the Illinois Open and the host course for the DuPage Junior Classic.  
Choose from four sets of tees and enjoy immaculate bent grass fairways and greens.  
Maple Meadows' convenient location features easy access from O'Hare, I-290, I-355, I-294, and Route 83.  
Find our best specials and promotions only on [www.DuPageGolf.com](http://www.DuPageGolf.com).



**The Preserve at Oak Meadows**  
630-595-0071  
900 N. Wood Dale Rd.  
Addison, IL 60101  
[DuPageGolf.com](http://DuPageGolf.com)  
COMING THIS SUMMER – After two years of extensive renovation, the 288-acre The Preserve at Oak Meadows will reopen this summer as a new world-class 18-hole course and practice facility.  
This transformation, designed by Golf Course Architect Greg Martin, took 27 flood prone, 1920s' era golf holes, and produced a 288-acre environmental haven that is best described as a "golf preserve."  
The Preserve's convenient location features easy access from O'Hare, I-290, I-355, I-294, and Route 83.  
For updates and previews visit [DuPageGolf.com](http://DuPageGolf.com).



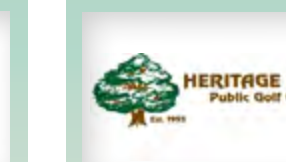
**Glenview Prairie Club**  
847-657-1637  
2800 W. Lake Ave.  
Glenview, IL 60026  
[golfglenview.com](http://golfglenview.com)  
• Meticulous conditions like no other 9-hole course  
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• 4 sets of tees to meet all skill levels  
• 90 minute pace of play for a quick 9  
• Challenging, fun, and enjoyable for all.  
After your round stop in for a cold beverage in our beautiful clubhouse setting overlooking the 9th green. Craft Beers, Fine Wines sport and soft drinks available.  
Make Glenview Prairie Club your home club for a premier 9-hole experience!



**Golf Center Des Plaines**  
847-803-GOLF  
[GolfCenterDesPlaines.com](http://GolfCenterDesPlaines.com)  
9 Holes: Par 27  
Yardage: 80 - 210  
Chicagoland's only fully-lighted 9-hole course is open late year-round, and until midnight Fall-Fall. The 80-bay lighted & heated Driving Range is one of the Top 50 Ranges in the country: automatic ball tee-up, 300-yard outdoor landing area, plus 11 grass tees. The 1-1/2 acre Short Game Area features three sand bunkers and multiple putting greens; you can practice chip shots from up to 60 yards out. Unlimited Memberships are available for the Course and Short Game, and the Driving Range. Restaurant, Sports Bar, Pro Shop, and GolfTec Lessons.



**Harborside International G.C.**  
312-782-7837  
11001 S. Doty Ave. East  
Chicago, IL 60628  
[harborsidegolf.com](http://harborsidegolf.com)  
Located just south of the loop in the City of Chicago, Harborside features two championship-style links courses designed by renowned architect Dick Nugent.  
Harborside is home to Chicago's largest practice facility, a prairie-style clubhouse, and The Pier at Harborside restaurant.  
Harborside's Port and Starboard courses rank annually among the Midwest's list of best courses you can play.



**Heritage Bluffs Public Golf Club**  
815-467-7888  
24355 W. Bluff Rd.  
Channahon, IL. 60410  
[heritagebluffs.com](http://heritagebluffs.com)  
18 Holes: Par 72  
Yardage: 5,035- 7,171  
Located near the intersection of Interstates 80 and 55 just south of Joliet, Heritage Bluffs is the pride of the Channahon Park District. The tranquil surroundings make a day playing golf fun and relaxing.  
Along with our award-winning course we also feature a large all-grass practice range along with a large putting green and a separate chipping green and bunker. After your round you can relax in our Grille Room or out on the patio, enjoying a full menu of delicious food and beverage choices.







### The Highlands of Elgin

847-931-5950  
875 Sports Way  
Elgin, IL 60123  
[highlandsofelgin.com](http://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.



### Lake Bluff Golf Club

847-234-6771  
355 W Washington Ave.  
Lake Bluff, IL 60044  
[lakebluffgolfclub.com](http://lakebluffgolfclub.com)

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

The club hosted the 44th Annual Lake County Amateur.



### Mistwood Golf Club

815-254-3333  
1700 W. Renwick Rd.  
Romeoville, IL 60446  
[mistwoodgc.com](http://mistwoodgc.com)

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

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

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



### Mt. Prospect Golf Club

847-259-4200  
600 See Gwun Ave.  
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056  
[golfmtprospect.com](http://golfmtprospect.com)

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

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



### Springbrook Golf Course

630-848-5060  
2220 W. 83rd St.  
Naperville, IL 60564  
[golfnaperville.org](http://golfnaperville.org)

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



### Stonewall Orchard

25675 West Highway 60  
Grayslake, IL 60030  
847-740-4890  
[stonewallorchard.com](http://stonewallorchard.com)

Cutting through hundred-year old oak and pine trees, Stonewall Orchard Golf Club has quickly become one of Chicago's most prolific public golf courses. Since opening in 1999, The Arthur Hills-designed gem located in northwest suburban Grayslake has served as Final Stage Qualifying site for the U.S. Open and currently sits in rotation with Olympia Fields and Medinah Country Club as host site for the Illinois PGA Section Championship held every Fall.



### Tam-O-Shanter Golf Course & Learning Center

6700 West Howard Street  
Niles, IL 60714  
847-965-2344  
[niles-parks.org](http://niles-parks.org)

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

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

Instructional programming available year-round!



### Water's Edge Golf Course

7205 West 115th St.  
Worth, IL 60482  
708-671-1032  
[watersedgegolf.com](http://watersedgegolf.com)

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

PLUS...a program for everyone!

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



### Naperbrook Golf Course

630-378-4215  
22204 W. 111th St./  
Hassert Blvd.  
Plainfield, IL 60585  
[golfnaperville.org](http://golfnaperville.org)

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



### Orchard Valley Golf Course

630-907-0500  
2411 W. Illinois Ave.  
Aurora, IL 60506  
[orchardvalleygolf.com](http://orchardvalleygolf.com)

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

PLUS...a program for everyone!

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



### Rob Roy Golf Course

847-253-4544  
505 E. Camp McDonald Rd.  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
[robroygc.com](http://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](http://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.



### Weber Park Golf Course

847-674-1500, ext. 3600  
[skokieparks.org](http://skokieparks.org)  
9 Holes: Par 27  
Yardage: 1,095

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



### Whisper Creek Golf Course

12840 Del Webb Blvd.  
Huntley, IL 60142  
847-515-7680  
[whispercreekgolf.com](http://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!



### White Mountain Golf Park

9901 179th St.  
Tinley Park, IL 60477  
630-766-0304  
[whitemountaingolfpark.com](http://whitemountaingolfpark.com)

Learn. Practice. Play.

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

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



### White Pines Golf Club & Banquets

500 W. Jefferson St.  
Bensenville, IL 60106  
630-766-0304  
[whitepinesgolf.com](http://whitepinesgolf.com)

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

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

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





## TECH TALK

TODD MROWICE

# The Golf Club 2 Is Worth a Screening

The purpose of our little Tech Talk section here is to keep you, our loyal readers, in tune with the latest and greatest in the world of golf technology. Up until now, every Tech Talk feature has included a product designed to better your game on the course. GPS devices, swing analyzers, and the like. In this issue we embark on a tech item that won't help your golf game in any way. It also will not benefit you as far as exercise goes, because you have to stay home to enjoy it.

The ever-evolving world of video gaming has its latest golf infusion with The Golf Club 2. This game was designed to take what we know about golf video games, improve upon it, and then add a huge dose of the most current technology and online capability.

First and foremost, the quality of gameplay in The Golf Club 2 is above and beyond anything you've ever experienced. A newly designed Tempo swing is incredibly responsive and accurate. It's the closest thing to a real golf swing via computer that I've experienced. Unlike so many of the Tiger Woods games, this swing in the TG2 cannot be perfected. So I wouldn't count on shooting sub-60 scores on the

regular, if ever. Touch shots like a flop or a bump and run require some commitment to properly execute. Course conditions impact aspects of your game as they do in real life. High shots get devoured in oncoming wind; harder greens don't allow for as much spin. Real life situations here, folks.

There is also a deep career mode where you can trek through a season that is pre-determined or designed by your hand, your choice. This route allows you to win matches and earn points to upgrade your clothing and equipment. Just like any game, you'll need to progress and upgrade in order to take on stiffer competition ahead.

My favorite aspect of The Golf Club 2 is the course designer. Your mind will be blown away by the sheer number of options you can utilize to create your own track. You don't just place a water hazard, you choose the size, elevation, add a water fall, or build a bridge over it. Every hole can be lined with buildings and vehicles if you want to make a metro super course. You can build out mountains, design a wicked links course, or have lush country club conditions.

But wait, there's more. Not only can you play your created course, you can play over 100,000 user designed courses from The Golf Club 2 and its predecessor, The Golf Club. To add to the online experience, you can also create your own society and challenge others while earning extra money and climbing the virtual ranks.

What makes this a great game in my estimation is that any level of button pusher can enjoy it. The astute gamer will be blown away by The Golf Club 2's online play and in-game options. The casual player has more than enough to enjoy as well. For someone who has no gaming experience at all, it's a fun escape from reality. If you don't own a gaming system already, it's worth the investment in one. Or, if your children own a system (which you probably paid for) you can shock them by paying the \$40 and bringing home the game.

The Golf Club 2 is carrying the torch previously held by a decade plus of the Tiger Woods series from EA Sports. And as time goes on you'll hear it in the conversation with Hot Shots, Golden Tee, and NES Open Tournament Golf as a trend setter. Take a swing! [www.thegolfclubgame.com](http://www.thegolfclubgame.com) \$39.99



## ON THE CORKSCREWS

STEPHEN HAWK

# Two to Tango

In 1902, Italian immigrant Nicola Catena planted his first Malbec vineyard in Mendoza, Argentina.

Domingo, Nicola's eldest son, took the family winery to the next level, building the Catena business to become one of the largest vineyard holders in Mendoza. Like his father, Domingo Catena fiercely believed that Argentine Malbec could make a wine as worthy as any first-growth Bordeaux.

In the 1960s, however, the Argentine economy imploded and inflation rates soared. Catena struggled to hang on. One year Domingo realized it would cost him more to harvest than to leave the fruit on the vines.

Argentina's years of turmoil continued even as Domingo's 22-year-old son Nicolás (a PhD graduate in economics) took the reins of the family winery. In the early 1980s, Nicolás left Argentina for a short sabbatical to become a visiting scholar of economics at the University of California Berkeley.

California—and especially the vineyards of Napa Valley—proved to be a serendipitous inspiration to Nicolás, who spent weekends visiting the wineries.

Upon his return, Nicolás set out to discover the best places to plant vineyards in Mendoza. He felt that the only way he would make a leap in quality would be by pushing the limits of vine cultivation, although his own vineyard manager told him that Malbec would never ripen in the high-altitude elevations and poor soil.

But Nicolás was stubborn and undeterred, putting in five years of work before he was satisfied enough to make a Catena Malbec in 1994. It would take a decade more for Malbec to become a well-known wine varietal around the world.

**2014 Catena Chardonnay** \$15 Starting with the 2014 vintage, this wine is sourced exclusively from the Valle de Uco. The fruit is sourced from six vineyards in different zones of the valley. Each block is vinified differently and aged separately before final blending.

This Chardonnay opens with aromas of mango and papaya. There is plenty of tangy acidity on the palate, and the Double Bogey ■ Bogey ■■ Par ■■■ Birdie ■■■■ Eagle ■■■■■ All prices are estimated.

flavors are dominated by lemon and lime, supported by oak and some subtle vanilla. It finishes with a hint of bitter orange

Match this Chard with scrod braised in tomatillos, squid picante-style, or quail with barley. ■■■■

**2014 Catena Malbec** \$18 Catena Malbec is sourced from the family's high-altitude vineyards in Maipú, Lujan de Cuyo, Tupungato and San Carlos. It has the color of plum skin with a nose to match. The flavor profile is lean, dominated by blueberry, baking spices, minerals, and just a bit of mocha. It's a smooth, easily-approachable wine with with medium body, good acidity for food pairings, and a medium finish.

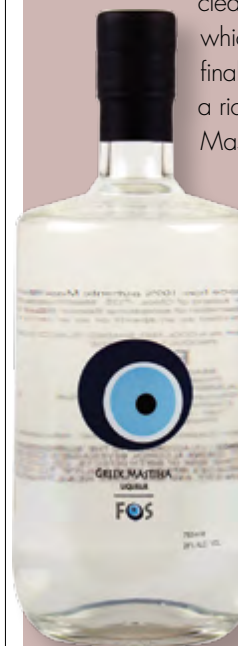
This wine would go nicely with braised rabbit in chocolate sauce, roast beef in a black pepper crust, or roast leg of lamb with pistachios. ■■■■



smhawk@ayainc.com

## And Now for Something Completely Different

**Exhibit A:** Here's a tippie I'd never heard of before: FOS Mastiha Liqueur from the small island of Chios, Greece. The prime ingredient is resin of the mastiha tree, also known as the crying tree. The resin droplets, also called mastiha tears, slowly seep out of the bark and dry in the natural sunlight to form translucent golden crystals. Just one each year, before the first autumn rain, the area around the tree is cleaned, leveled, and coated in a fine white soil on which the tears subsequently fall, are gathered and are finally distilled with additional secret ingredients to create a richly sweet flavor with herbaceous undertones. FOS Mastiha works well on its own on the rocks or as a mixer. \$28. [www.ambrosiagr.com/about-mastiha.html](http://www.ambrosiagr.com/about-mastiha.html)



**Exhibit B:** Because it is a neutral spirit (or is supposed to be) vodka producers often rely on the bottle to make their product distinctive. That is certainly the case here. Allaire's bottle stands an imposing 15" tall, and the metal cap alone weighs nearly a pound!

With a rye-dominant mash bill, and distilled six times and then filtered five times, Allaire is clean, light, and slightly spicy. It is quite smooth and balanced. The finish is medium long with just a touch of dry slate at the end. \$68. [allaireprivee.passionspirits.com/allaire/allaire-vodka-750ml.html](http://allaireprivee.passionspirits.com/allaire/allaire-vodka-750ml.html)







# A Vote Against Mark's Madness GC

An open letter to President Obama: The proposal to build an upscale pro tournament-ready golf course on the current site of the Jackson Park and South Shore golf courses is wrong, impractical, an affront to the Hyde Park neighborhood and not good for the growth of golf. Whew! I got it out! So let's get started.

The plan to plow under the two courses started with Mark Roling, a golf commentator for NBC and Golf Channel. A native of DeKalb, Roling spent most of his adult career in Hawaii, so a local guy he is not. So he probably should be excused for not knowing the Chicago golf scene, though he knew enough about the political scene to schmooze your old chief of staff, the mayor, Rahm Emanuel, into getting behind the concept so much that the Chicago Park District handed him a \$90,000 consulting deal to help get the idea into the public eye.

Let me get this straight. The guy who proposes a golf course lands a big contract to determine if it will work. And then he says, "Yeah, it will work." Well, duh! So I'll say this about Roling, he learned the "Chicago Way" real fast.

These two courses are integral to the neighborhood. They provide inexpensive and accessible golf for everyone. Roling probably doesn't know this. He once said, "Chicago is a great golf city and there is no reason residents should have to travel 45 minutes to play the game."

Say what? Driving 45 minutes north, south or west of the Loop, I would probably pass 100 courses. Easy. Only 10 miles from Jackson Park is Harborside International, and even closer to the north is Sydney Marovitz, or, as real Chicago golfers call it, Waveland.

Sorry, Mark.

I mention these two courses for a reason. The proposed new golf course is touted to hold a PGA Tour tournament, specifically the BMW Championship in 2021, if all parties agree. Well, the city already has a fine venue for a pro tournament. In 2002, the Ameritech Senior Open was held at 36-hole Harborside International, which has dramatic views of downtown. On one hole you aim right at Willis – or, as real Chicagoans call it, Sears – Tower. So why do we need something in

Hyde Park with no parking, infrastructure, et cetera? We don't.

Roling and the other proponents of the new course – let's call it "Mark's Madness GC" – have swooned over the possible city views from the 12th hole, a par 3 built on what is now a wildlife sanctuary. Hey guys, what about Marovitz, nee Waveland? You can see the Chicago skyline from all nine holes. Really.

So just fill in the lake there for another nine holes and you've got something really special. The course was originally built in 1932 from reclaimed land, i.e. a landfill. Somebody in this city of clout should have the clout to pull the right strings, so it shouldn't be hard to do it again, and probably for less than the \$30 million minimum figure that's been tossed around to blow up the two courses to build one.

Sorry, Mark.

And there's this thing about taking two to make one. It's the general consensus in the golf industry that more inexpensive nine-hole courses are needed to grow the game. If only for that reason, it makes no sense to destroy the nine-hole, affordable South Shore GC to build the up-scale Mark's Madness GC.

Sorry, Mark.

The promoters fronted by Roling – the Chicago Parks Golf Alliance – say that golf fees will remain low for city residents with the new course. What's low? With the Park District Player's Advantage Card that I use every time I play JPCC, I can play 18 holes for \$19! Mark and friends have likened their dream course along the lines of the TPC courses that dot the nation. TPC Deere Run in the Quad Cities, a minor market, charges \$114 prime time, \$89 for off-hour play, and \$57 for twilight; TPC Scottsdale is \$234/154. The Park District has not said what the locals would have to pay at Mark's Madness. They're being coy for sure, but I'll bet the rate has to be at least \$65. So much for accessible golf.

So please, Mr. President, don't let them take Jackson Park and South Shore away from us. They're good for golf, and the neighborhood. Your neighborhood.

*Bill Daniels is the founder of GOLFCChicago magazine.*

More inexpensive  
nine-hole courses  
are needed to grow  
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destroy the nine-  
hole, affordable  
South Shore GC.

## Sweet Home Chicago

continued from page 7

the tournament. Raoul attended The First Tee College Golf Prep Academy in West Palm Beach, Fla., with 23 other elite junior golfers earlier this summer. Outside of The First Tee, Raoul spends his time volunteering at the Chicago Food Depository, Feed My Starving Children and Catholic Charities.

## Flavin Sweeps the Illinois Open and Amateur

David Ogrin is remembered today for having a decent PGA Tour career, the Waukegan native the best player to come out of the north shore in the modern era. He may have company some day, for Highwood's Patrick Flavin, a senior at Miami University in Ohio, has already matched the signal accomplishment of Ogrin's youth. This summer, Flavin won the Illinois Amateur at Calumet Country Club, then scored a victory in the Illinois Open, played at Briarwood Country Club and The Glen Club.



Illinois Open and Illinois Amateur winner Patrick Flavin watches a tee shot closely during the final round of the Illinois Open. (Tim Cronin)

Ogrin accomplished his feat in 1980, and was the only player to do so until Flavin came along, scoring 13-under 202 to beat fellow amateurs Nick Hardy and Matt Murlick and low

professional Brandon Holtz of downstate Bloomington by a stroke.

"I was so nervous," Flavin said. "I got these chills down my spine at the state am, and today, I knew it was going to happen, and I was ready for it. To walk off that last green with pretty much everybody I know out there, that was so cool."

Flavin didn't have an easy time of it in the final round of the Open, squandering a six-stroke lead but finding a 2-over 74 was good enough to score the double.

"A little more exciting (day) than I was trying to have," Flavin said. "But it was a blast, and so rewarding to get the win at the end."

"To win both of them is crazy." Flavin's victory in the Illinois Amateur was also dramatic. He roared from four strokes behind to take a three-stroke lead on Jordan Hahn with two holes to play, saw two-thirds of his advantage disappear because of his bogey and Hahn's birdie, and then hung on with a brilliant scrambling par to win by a stroke, scoring 3-under 67 in the final round for a total of 10-under 200.

"I tried to stay in the moment, one shot at a time," Flavin said. "It's nice to have a caddie and really nice to have my older brother (Conor) out there, just to talk to, keep me loose, especially coming down the stretch, when emotions are running high, the pressure's on and you've got lots of people out there watching."

That ended up paying off twice over. Conor was back on the back for the final two rounds of the Illinois Open as well.

## Shore Up for the Kids

One of the remarkable comebacks in local golf is the revitalization of Canal Shores, the short course in Evanston and Wilmette along the North Shore Drainage Canal better known as Peter Jans. Grass-roots renovation spearheaded by local resident Jason Way has improved the condition and beauty of the layout, and now the course is going a step further. On Sept. 29 it will host a day-long benefit for The First

Tee of Greater Chicago, supporting an eventual First Tee Learning Center, as well as a short course for children, at Canal Shores.

It's a 36-hole shotgun with breakfast, lunch and more included. The price is \$125, but \$100 for First Tee Ambassadors. For more information, contact First Tee development director Andy Mears at amears@thefirstteegreaterchicago.org or call (847) 729-9833.

## The Himalayas Come to Michigan

Three Oaks, Mich., isn't the first place one would think a public putting course would be built in emulation of St. Andrews' famed Himalayas public green. But then Bill Welter, owner of Journeyman Distillery in Three Oaks, had the idea, inspired by a 2010 trip to golf's birthplace, and to Sand Valley before it was under construction, walking with course builder Craig Haltom, .

"Craig and I were out looking at potential green sites, hiking up and down these big sand hills, which reminded us both of Scotland," Welter said. "I thought wouldn't it be cool to bring a piece of Scotland to Journeyman Distillery, and to pair whiskey and golf? And to my surprise Craig agreed we could do something behind our distillery!"

"The course will be a great community asset and will be completely free to the public during the weekdays. You don't have to be a customer to use the green, although we hope our customers will love it. We will have putters out there for people to use, and everybody is welcome, just like the Himalayas in St Andrews. It's my hope that this putting green will introduce a lot of people to the great game of golf."

"I see it as a once in a lifetime opportunity."

Journeyman donates 1 percent of the sale of its Silver Cross whiskey to golf charities, including The First Tee and the Evans Scholars Foundation.

The green is being seeded and is expected to be ready for play in the spring of 2018.





# RENOWNED AND RENEWED: RTJ TURNS 25

Acclaimed as one of the world's great golf destinations, Alabama's Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail invites you to celebrate its 25th year by offering a fantastic deal. Unlimited golf packages start at \$111 per person/per day. All of the original RTJ Golf Trail sites have been renovated and are ready for your arrival. Celebrate our silver anniversary while saving some silver yourself.

» Plan your visit to the RTJ Golf Trail by calling 1.800.949.4444 or visiting [rtjgolf.com](http://rtjgolf.com). [facebook.com/rtjgolf](https://www.facebook.com/rtjgolf) [twitter.com/rtjgolf](https://twitter.com/rtjgolf) «



\*Offer valid September 1 – November 7, 2017. Specials cannot be combined with other discounts and must be paid in full and booked with Reservations at least 48 hours prior to play. Specials do not include play at Lakewood Golf Club. Specials do not include tax or lodging. Not valid with previously booked packages. There is a \$10 surcharge for each round on the Judge at Capitol Hill. Some restrictions may apply. Offers subject to change.