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On the cover: This issue's cover features the Youth On Course program, which is now live at more than 50 golf courses in the Carolinas and more than 1,000 courses nationwide. Illustration by Brad Walker

Change happens, and many times it is **for the better**.

GENE SPENCER, President, Carolinas Golf Association



n case you haven't noticed, we have changed our magazine, *Carolinas Golf*. It is bigger, brighter and bolder; hopefully the new look will meet with your approval.

Another change is that I have replaced Lawrence Hicks as your new President. Lawrence did a superb job for his two-year term, leaving a legacy that I hope, with everyone's help, I will be able to match. I am humbled by this honor and look forward to meeting your expectations. Thank you for your confidence.

Last year I had the opportunity to travel to St.Andrews, Scotland. There, 48 CGA members had a remarkable time playing the Old Course at St. Andrews, Kingsbarns and the 2018 Open Championship venue, Carnoustie.

The highlight was playing the Old Course in a group that included Lawrence. Our professional caddies welcomed us with a postcard perfect day; partly sunny, 65 degrees and no wind. This was the weather we had all four days!

Standing on the tee at 18, the most famous finishing hole in the world, one can see Rusacks Hotel tied to a wall of buildings, including the OldTom Morris Golf Shop, with the clubhouse of the Royal & Ancient long and to the left of the green.

While teeing off, my mind recounted the round as a blur. This was the culmination of a lifelong dream. After 56 years of playing, my pilgrimage to the home of golf was almost over.

After a drive that left me 155 out, I hit a solid 6-iron shot that narrowly avoided the Valley of Sin and rolled toward the hole. The spectators and passersby gathered behind the green let out a collective response as the ball lipped out, finishing a mere 10 inches beyond the hole.

My birdie at 18 on the Old Course is a treasured memory. The purpose of this story: golf is a game for all. It truly creates memories from unexpected but hoped-for results. The game plays deep in the human experience. It is fun, healthy, competitive, and based on skill, luck, honor and integrity. Golf can be played and enjoyed by people of all back-grounds, ages and skills.

I reflect on this now as President of the CGA, which is an awesome responsibility. I feel honored to have been selected. The roll call of past presidents is a Who's Who of Carolinas golf legends. Having served on the CGA Executive Committee for over 12 years, I can confidently report that our organization is in fantastic shape. Later letters will hopefully keep our membership informed.

In closing, I found a very useful comment from the 1915 CGA Executive Meeting Minutes (actually, credit must be given to Lee Pace who researched it). "Pop Rivers wants more attention paid to the coming golfer, the duffer of today. Never mind the first flight men; you can't lose them, for they are fully inoculated. Cater to poor players, and make them more enthusiastic."

Whether you hit it good or bad, remember it is fun, and you will create fantastic memories.

Thank you, Eugene Spence

Gene Spencer President, Carolinas Golf Association

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Local Knowledge

The latest news in golf from around the Carolinas



Trio of Carolinas junior golfers were among the individual winners at this year's Drive, Chip and Putt National Finals, held on April 1 at Augusta National Golf Club prior to the Masters Tournament: **Katherine Schuster** (Girls 14–15 Division) of Kill Devil Hills, N.C.; **June Hannant** (Girls 7–9) of Pikeville, N.C., and **Tip Price** (Boys 10–11) of Greenville, S.C. The three Carolinas youths were among 80 players to reach the DCP National Finals through a process that included 200 local qualifying stages around the country. Each player earned points for skills competitions involving driving, chipping and putting the ball, finishing the event on Augusta National's storied 18th green.

The unforgettable experience included a visit from 2017 Masters Champion Sergio Garcia – a pretty strong junior golfer not so long ago – during a pre-event banquet, as well as tickets to the next day's practice round for this year's Masters. The Drive, Chip & Putt initiative was started five years ago by the USGA, PGA and the Masters, and more information about getting involved in the event can be found at drivechipandputt.com.

The DCP victory led to another unique experience for Price, as he was given an exemption into May's BMW Charity Pro-Am, held at the Thornblade Club, Cliffs Valley and Furman University Golf Club courses in South Carolina. The fifth-grader was paired with professional Scott Langley at the Web.com Tour event, and enjoyed the chance to see how the pros handled themselves on the golf course.



Topgolf Coming to Greenville, Myrtle Beach in 2019

One of golf's hottest trends is putting down deeper roots in the Carolinas. **Topgolf** – the sports entertainment venue featuring golf games, high-tech hitting bays and a bar-like atmosphere – is building facilities in Greenville and Myrtle Beach, S.C. Both new locations will be 55,000 square feet, with three levels, more than 70 hitting bays – and employing more than 300 full- and part-time workers when they open next year.

The newest Carolinas locations will join Topgolf Charlotte, which opened in 2017, among the 40-plus Topgolf facilities already open across the country. Visitors can play a variety of golf games using special golf balls with tracking chips, which track their accuracy as players hit to bright targets in a fun, family atmosphere.

U.S. Women's Open Headed to **Pine Needles** for a Fourth Time

The venerable **Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club** is set to host the 2022 U.S. Women's Open – giving the Southern Pines, N.C., facility a record fourth time hosting the game's biggest women's event. The event is set for June 2–5, 2022, which will be 15 years after Pine Needles was the site of Cristie Kerr's two-stroke victory over Lorena Ochoa and Angela Park.

Pine Needles has a long history with women's golf, thanks to the late Peggy Kirk Bell, and this will mark the first championship at the club since Bell's passing in 2016. But first, the championship will pay another visit to the Carolinas next summer: South Carolina's Country Club of

Charleston will be the site of next year's U.S. Women's Open, set for May 30-June 2, 2019. ●



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New Faces at the Carolinas Golf Association Office

Chris Wolff joined the Carolinas Golf Association in March as Junior Tournament Manager. Born in New York City and raised in Oak Hill, Virginia, Wolff graduated from



Chantilly High School. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Economics from Pennsylvania State University in 2006. At Penn State he played on the rugby team and was selected to play for the United States Under 19 National Team.

After college, Wolff began his career as a bond trader in New York City and worked on Wall Street for 10 years in fixed income sales and trading. A longtime avid golfer, he decided to pursue a career in the golf industry and began work at the Metropolitan Golf Association as their PJ Boatwright Intern in 2016, continuing to work in Championships and Handicapping for the MGA until he joined the CGA. Wolff resides in Southern Pines, N.C., with his wife and son.

Also new to the CGA staff is Tournament Manager **Sarah Bae**. Sarah grew up playing in CGA and Tarheel Youth Golf Association events, earning North Carolina



Junior Girls' Player of the Year honors three times and winning six CGA events. She also played collegiately at North Carolina State University.



Former UNC-Greensboro golfer **Robert Saunders** and his wife, **Nanette**, gifted \$1.5 million to his alma mater to endow two full scholarships for the Spartan golf team. It's the largest gift in the history of UNCG athletics, and comes after the golf program made the NCAA tournament for the second time in school history.



outh Carolina native **Paige Cribb** knew she wanted to be a PGA Professional when she started playing at Georgetown'sWedgefield Country Club as a youngster. Now her lifelong love of golf has led her to becoming the first female President of the Carolinas PGA Section – the largest of the PGA's 41 geographical Sections. Cribb, the PGA Director of Student Support for the Coastal Carolina University PGA Golf Management Program, became Carolinas PGA President in February after two-year terms as secretary and vice-president.

"If there is a young woman out there and she sees someone who looks like her succeeding in the golf industry, I think that makes it a little easier on her to pursue a career in golf," Cribb says. "If I can be a mentor for her and her friends, I love that. This is a great business for anyone, and I want to be a resource for everyone interested."

In addition to playing competitively at Wedgefield, Cribb played golf at Georgetown High School – on the boys' team, since there was no girls' team – and played collegiately at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. She's been at Coastal Carolina for the past 10 years, working with the next generation of PGA Professionals and teaching lessons to Myrtle Beach-area golfers. (Check out page 22 for an instruction tip from Paige you can use to improve your game.)

Cribb is the fourth woman to serve as president of a PGA Section. This fall, Suzy Whaley will become the first woman president of the PGA of America.



LPGA Qualifying Tournament Set for **Pinehurst**

The LPGA unveiled a revamped final stage of the LPGA Qualifying Tournament, which will take place at Pinehurst (North Carolina) Resort from Oct. 22–Nov. 3, 2018. Instead of 90 holes like the old Final Stage, the new Q-Series will be 144 holes. Players will compete in two four-day tournaments with cumulative scores over the eight rounds for a \$150,000 purse, which will be distributed at the end of the eight rounds.

"What I like most about the Q-Series is that it will be a true test for how players will qualify for the LPGA Tour," says LPGA Commissioner Michael Whan. "The playing status earned by competitors at Q-Series will be a direct reflection of eight rounds of head-tohead competition on a demanding test of golf at Pinehurst Resort."

The first week of the LPGA Q-Series, presented by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, will be played on the George and Tom Fazio-designed Pinehurst Course No. 6 from Oct. 24-27, while the Q-Series will conclude on the Rees Jones-designed Pinehurst Course No. 7 from Oct. 31–Nov. 3. ●

Sea Pines Goes Tartan

A 50th anniversary is traditionally gold, but the RBC Heritage golf tournament's half-century mark was definitely a plaid party. The famed Hilton Head Island lighthouse that looks upon the iconic 18th hole at Harbour Town Golf Links was temporarily turned tartan to commemorate the 50th playing of the long-running PGA Tour event – and to match the jacket given to event winners. Sponsors paid to have 3,400 square feet of removable vinyl film applied to the normally red stripes on the lighthouse, which took nearly 30 hours for two workers to install. The plaid panels were removed at the end of April.



HOF Inductions

David Strawn (*pictured left*), a champion of golf for over five decades and Bobby Long (*pictured right*), a Greensboro businessman were officially inducted into the 2018 Carolinas Golf Hall of Fame.

Strawn won the Sunnehanna Amateur and two conference titles while at Furman University. He was runner-up at the 1973 US Amateur and also finished 2nd at the Eastern Amateur and Carolinas Open. He has played in 16 USGA championships and won the North Carolina Senior-Four Ball three times with two different partners.

Bobby Long, chairman of the Piedmont Triad Charitable Foundation and longtime golf advocate, was instrumental in convincing Wyndham to sponsor the PGA Tour event in Greensboro with a \$25 million letter of credit.



Big Growth for Operation 36 More than 300 golf facilities around the country are now using the Operation 36 player development program, which was developed by a pair of Raleigh, N.C.-area PGA Professionals. Matt Reagan and Ryan Dailey (*pictured*) created Operation 36 in 2010, and the program – which challenges golfers to shoot 36 or better from close to the hole, then progress to greater distances as they improve – now includes a mobile app for golfers and teachers. To learn more about the program, visit Operation36.Golf. ●

Lauren Stephenson Chosen for Curtis Cup Team

exington, S.C., native Lauren Stephenson represented the Carolinas as she played for Team USA in the recent Curtis Cup, which finished after this issue went to press.

Stephenson, now a junior on the Alabama women's golf team, was part of the eight-player team that took on a team from Great Britain and Ireland. The Curtis Cup was played at Quaker Ridge Golf Club in Scarsdale, N.Y., in early June.

Stephenson was joined on the U.S. team by one of her college teammates, sophomore Kristen Gillman. The duo each shot record-tying 66 to lead Alabama to a victory at the 2018 NCAA Tallahassee Regional, clinching a 14th trip to the NCAA Championship for the Crimson Tide.

Stephenson is a two-time First-Team All-SEC selection, and was also named to the U.S. Palmer Cup Team this year. ●

Balsam Mountain Takes a Hybrid Approach to Golf Practice

orth Carolina's **Balsam Mountain Preserve** is known for its beautiful mountain setting and scenic Arnold Palmer Signature Course. The private club in Sylvia is adding a new amenity with a novel approach to creating practice and playing opportunities for new and existing golfers.

Called the Golf Practice Park, Balsam Mountain Preserve refers to the facility as a "hybrid" area that can be used as a driving range or par-3 short course. With bentgrass hitting areas, target fairways and greens and a full short game practice complex, the Golf Park will be an ideal place for lessons and practice. But the practice greens can also be played as regular greens, with teeing areas throughout the park used to create a short course that can be used when the range is not being used for practice. This opens the door to night play, junior leagues, golf clinics and much more, creating an on-course experience in a less intimidating setting for new and junior players.

After 22 Years, Kelly Tilghman Signs Off from Golf Channel

South Carolina's **Kelly Tilghman** finished her 22-year run as an on-air staple at Golf Channel with the network's coverage of the Arnold Palmer

Invitational earlier this year. Tilghman, who played collegiately at Duke University, became the first female broadcast anchor for PGA Tour telecasts in 2007. She grew up playing golf in North Myrtle Beach, S.C., and played professionally around the world before taking on a television career in the 1990s.

Tilghman has also been instrumental in planning this October's inaugural Mentor Cup event in Myrtle Beach honoring Gene Weldon, the longtime Carolinas PGA Professional who passed away last year following a battle with cancer. Weldon was a mentor to Tilghman, who helped arrange for a special performance by David Feherty to end the event at Tidewater Golf Club. We wish Kelly the best and look forward to seeing her on the course – and on TV – again soon.

Remembrance: Jesse Haddock

Legendary Wake Forest golf coach **Jesse Haddock** passed away in March at age 91. Haddock coached three national championship teams for the Deacons, and his teams won 15 ACC Championships. Haddock

coached at Wake Forest from 1962 through 1993. Among the many tour professionals who played for Haddock are Jay Haas, Lanny Wadkins, Curtis Strange, Leonard Thompson and Scott Hoch.

Haddock graduated



from Wake Forest in 1952 after growing up in Winterville, North Carolina. He served in the Army in the 1940s, and helped instill discipline and responsibility in his players during his long tenure. His name lives on in the Haddock House at Wake Forest, which was dedicated in his honor two years ago. ●





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Novement

How the CGA and Youth on Course are bringing more young people to the game **BY RON GREEN JR**.

Illustration by Brad Walker



t's no secret that golf faces a number of challenges as it seeks to grow and thrive in a changing environment. Among the primary areas of concern is cultivating the next generation of golfers, many of whom stay away because of the perceived high cost and a lack of access. That is changing in the Carolinas and across the country through a program called Youth on Course, which provides \$5 green fees for youngsters at hundreds of courses. Through this new program, the Carolinas Golf Association hopes to provide more playing opportunities for more young people – and early indications suggest the program is already a hit.

PGA Tour player Harold Varner, III has always trumpeted the challenges of getting young people involved in golf. Varner learned the game playing at a daily fee course in Gastonia, N.C., landed a scholarship to East Carolina and wound up on the PGA Tour – and it wasn't solely because Varner had talent.

Varner has stated the key to his development was having access to a course as a youngster, giving him

the chance to fully fall in love with the game and spend the time necessary to hone his skills.

The ongoing mission to increase opportunities for young players has led the CGA to partner with the Carolinas PGA, South Carolina GolfAssociation and theWomen's South Carolina GolfAssociation to dive into this new program. Youth on Course is a national organization that essentially funds green fees for youngsters ages 6 to 18.





Junior golfers played more than 100,000 rounds through the Youth on Course initiative in 2017, and the program continues to grow nationally. "This really resonates with what we are trying to do," says Gene Spencer, CGA President. "Everyone talks about growing the game. This is a program that really does that and keeps data on it. It drives everything we want to do at the CGA."

The Youth on Course program went live in the Carolinas on March 15 at 50 courses with the goal of significantly increasing the number of participating courses and youngsters.

Everyone talks about growing the game. This is a program that really does that and keeps data on it."

-CGA President Gene Spencer

It works this way: The national Youth on Course (youthoncourse.org) office subsidizes rounds of golf for Carolinas youngsters for 18 months while the CGA gets the program off the ground. Youngsters in the program have access to play participating courses for green fees of \$5 or less.

Youth on Course works directly with courses, arranging tee times and supplementing the green fees

to allow young people affordable access, particularly in the summer when they're out of school. The program is now in 24 states with more than 1,000 courses participating.

Owen Setters is a nine-year old in Charlotte who has access to three courses – Dr. Charles Sifford Golf Course, Charles T. Myers Golf Course and Sunset Hills Golf Course – for \$5 per round.

"It's a really good idea to play for \$5 and to get kids on the course," Setters says. "I think other kids should do it because it really helps kids practice and get their fundamentals down without paying a lot of money."

For youngsters without access to private clubs, the cost barrier is essentially eliminated.

"If you have a child that's heavily into tournaments like Owen is, it gives us an opportunity for him to go and really practice," says Setters' mother, Tamalyn. "You can go out three times a week without having to spend \$35 or \$40 for nine holes.

"For kids who think golf is too expensive or it's not attainable, it opens a whole new spectrum for people. We would see families who want to play golf but felt it cost quite a bit. Now these courses offer this. It's a wonderful thing to open it up to people."

It's not just a Carolinas initiative. In California's Bay Area, Golden State Warriors star Stephen Curry has become an advocate for the program, which includes Spanish Bay along the famous 17-Mile Drive as one of its participating courses. Last year, Youth on Course subsidized more than 100,000 rounds nationally, with nearly 700,000 rounds having been played since the program debuted in 2006.



Charlotte's Owen Setters is one of the many Carolinas junior golfers who have benefitted from being part of Youth on Course.

"It's all about getting kids on the course," boasts Braxton McLennan, Director of Development at the CGA. "We take away the cost barrier. We know that golf is hard, it takes a long time and it's expensive. With this, we're able to eliminate one of those things."

For the game of golf in the Carolinas and around the country, that would be a significant case of addition by subtraction.

For more info click on https://www.carolinasgolf.org/yoc

Ron Green Jr. is senior writer for Global Golf Post.

How to Get Involved

Families and golf courses alike can become part of the Youth on Course initiative by signing up at www.youthoncourse.org. Individuals can also log on to the website to make tax-



deductible donations that support the program by funding access to golf for \$5 a round, high school employment in golf and access to college scholarships.

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3

Competitors Face a New Challenge

A recent renovation at Country Club of North Carolina's Dogwood Course brings new strategies into play for the 104th Carolinas Amateur Championship **BY DAVID DROSCHAK**



ew venues across the Carolinas can claim a resume of hosting and embracing amateur golf like the Country Club of North Carolina. And few have a more stunning layout than its highly-acclaimed Dogwood Course.

The famed private course in Pinehurst, carved out of towering Carolina pines by Ellis Maples more than a half century ago, has been the site of seven North Carolina Amateurs, six Southern Amateurs, the 1980 U.S. Amateur and the 2010 U.S. girls' Junior Championship.

> This July, the Dogwood Course, ranked among North Carolina's top five layouts on an annual basis

104th Carolinas Amateur Championship

Dates: July 12–15, 2018 Location: Pinehurst, N.C. Host: Country Club of North

Carolina, Dogwood Course

Defending Champion: R.J. Keur, Summerville, S.C.

Inside Keur: Keur will graduate from Alabama-Birmingham in the fall and will head to Canadian Tour Q-School.

Fast Fact: The Carolinas Amateur was first staged in 1910 and was a match play championship until 2010, when it was converted to 72 holes of stroke play.

and one of the nation's top 100 courses, will host the flagship tournament of the Carolinas Golf Association – the 104th Carolinas Amateur.

"We've always had a lot of good players as mem-

'I really like courses that are tight off the tee, a shotmaker's course. I like it when the conditions are as tough as they can be."

-R.J. Keur, defending Carolinas Amateur champion



bers, and I think there is a lot of pride involved with hosting these high-profile amateur championships," says longtime CCNC Director of Golf Jeff Dotson. "Our members really enjoy seeing good competition on our golf courses. And it's definitely true that a lot of our members feel it's important for clubs fortunate enough to have golf courses like ours to provide competitions like this. It's good for the game of golf, it's a way of giving back to the game, but it's also exposing the next generation of golfers to our golf courses. We are proud of them."

Unlike the days when accomplished veteran amateurs such as Bill Harvey, Billy Joe Patton, HarvieWard and Paul Simson dominated the Carolinas Amateur, recent winners have been high school or college players, including last year's winner, Alabama-Birmingham senior R.J. Keur. In fact, Keur had quite a month last summer, winning this event and the South Carolina Amateur Match Play in less than a 30-day span.

"Length off the tee, as well as stamina, is maybe why some of the younger players have won recently," Keur says. "It's a four-day tournament in July. I know we're riding and all, but when I putted out on the 18th hole last year I felt like I had run a marathon. It was mentally draining."

And while CCNC's Dogwood Course measures 7,300 from the tips, a 2016 renovation by architect Kris Spence changed the dynamics of how this course now plays. Spence created a faster and more strategic challenge for this level of player.

"The ball rolls more in the fairway now, so these players will have to be more precise with their angles," Dotson says. "The ball will roll through the fairway into the rough definitely more often than it used to.We've had a lot of championships through the years on Dogwood, and I think most people remember the golf course as this big, long golf course that you play primarily through the air. Now, it's very different style – you have to manage what the ball is doing on the ground more than you used to."

The most difficult portion of the course will hit players on holes 14–16, where they will play around one of Dogwood's picturesque lakes. The par-3 16th hole now features a new tee added by Spence that measures 240 yards.

"Even for these guys that's a long iron, and that's a lot of club to hit into a par-3," Dotson says.

With the Spence restoration, the Dogwood Course became the first course in Pinehurst with zoysia grass fairways.

"They are just breathtaking, they contrast really strong with the Bermuda rough – so you see the edge of your target, and they really show the mowing patterns really strong," Spence says. "It's nice to have that sort of wow factor added into this golf course. When you are playing across that property with those big lakes and those towering pines, you can sort of get lost in it all. You go there and you just never forget it. What an impressive place it is."

Dave Droschak has covered golf in the Carolinas for 35 years during his two-decade career with The Associated Press and as the longtime editor of *Triangle Golf Today* and *Triad Golf Today*. He was named North Carolina's



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Redman is **Ready**

After last year's U.S. Amateur victory, Clemson's Doc Redman enjoyed his sophomore season before turning pro at the Memorial Tournament **BY SCOTT KEEPFER**



Doc Redman's impressive young career has included an appearance at the Masters, meeting President George W. Bush and winning the U.S. Amateur.

o, what's up, Doc? For Doc Redman, plenty. Since last August, when the sophomore All-America golfer from Clemson University won the U.S. Amateur with a memorable eagle-birdiebirdie finish at Los Angeles' Riviera Country Club, Redman's life has been a whirlwind, what with all the spoils afforded the winner of the prestigious title.

First came the Walker Cup, then the Arnold Palmer Invitational. That was followed by the Masters, then a week at the RBC Heritage. Then, following the NCAA Championships, the decision to leave Clemson and play at The Memorial as a professional.

"He's really about to broaden his golf horizons," Clemson golf coach Larry Penley says of Redman, who joined 1989 champion Chris Patton as only the second Clemson player to win the U.S. Amateur. "Thank God he's a great student."

He's aced the recent tee-to-green portion of his education as well.

Redman made the cut at the Arnold Palmer Invitational in March, becoming the first active Clemson golfer to make the cut at a PGA Tour event in 28 years.

After missing the Masters cut by four shots, Redman bounced back with a

relaxed yet solid showing at the RBC Heritage at Hilton Head Island the following week, finishing 50th with a one-under 282.

"I didn't do much Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday at Heritage," Redman says. "I felt like I'd already done my preparation. That's how pro golf is – you've got to manage your time and make sure you don't get worn out.

"That was only two weeks in a row (for me) – and some of those guys play three, four, five weeks in a row. It's important that you are consistent day-in and day-out so that your bad days are much better, and so your good days carry you up toward the top of the leaderboard."

It was Redman's first experience at Augusta National that left the most



lasting impression.

"It's such an awesome event – hallowed grounds, the crowd, such support," says Redman, who was paired with defending Masters champion Sergio Garcia and reigning PGA Championship winner Justin Thomas. "It's definitely a big goal of mine now to get back there."

Given his successes, that goal was achieved sooner rather than later. Following the NCAA Championships, Redman was ready to turn pro, and chose to make his professional debut at Jack Nicklaus' Memorial Tournament – where he had earned an invitation based on his U.S.Amateur win.

"I never thought I'd be making a decision like this now," Redman says. "It was always just (the goal to) go to college for four years and see how you're playing at the end of it, and go from there. But it's great to be in this position, because it means that I've played well and that I have prospects for pro golf."

Not that he didn't enjoy life as an amateur. Redman had a solid sophomore season with his Clemson teammates, especially at the ACC Championship at the Old North State Club in New London, N.C. Redman set a Clemson record with his 14-under 202 at the event.

He finished second individually, helping the Tigers to a runner-up team finish with his final-round 66.

"There can be a tendency to let down after you play in the Masters, but Doc is a special person," Penley says. "He showed that in this tournament."

And likely for years to come, regardless of when his status changes.

"I never really got anywhere on the weekends (of the PGATour events), which was disappointing," Redman says. "But I feel like I can compete with them. If I continue to practice and improve, I'm confident I can hold my own out there."

Scott Keepfer is in his 29th year at The Greenville (S.C.) News, where he covers Clemson University athletics. He was recently named S.C. Sportswriter of the Year by the National Sports Media Association.

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Golf's New Rules:

2019: There is a new era in golf coming. BY RUSTY HARDER, Director of Rules and Competitions

n a joint effort between the USGA and the R&A, with input from the golf community around the world, a new modernized Rules of Golf will go into effect January 1, 2019. This should make golfers of every level excited. The objective was to make the Rules easier to comprehend and apply, while keeping its core principles of playing the ball as it lies and the course as you find it.

"From our perspective, there is a recognition that there are nine more months of play under the current rules, and so we don't want to really create a mass level of confusion. So you're not really going to hear much from us... until September where we'll be pushing education and doing it at all levels of the game."

Have you ever wondered why a leaf was treated differently if it was on the putting green or in a bunker? Have you every accidentally caused your ball to move and had to add a penalty stroke to your score? Have you ever wished you could repair that nasty spike mark right in front of your ball? Have you wanted to leave the flagstick in the hole while putting on the putting green? What exactly is "through the green"?

Starting in 2019, all of these questions have new answers, that everyone can look at and say "now that makes sense". Below are some of the major changes coming to the 2019 Rules of Golf.

Loose Impediments and When You Can Remove Them

Loose Impediments (leaves, twigs, pine needles, etc.) may be removed or touched anywhere on the course. This means you can now remove that leaf in a bunker even if your ball is lying in the bunker or penalty area (penalty areas are what we know today as water hazards).

Accidental Movement of Ball at Rest

There will be no penalty if you accidentally cause your ball to move during search, or cause your ball to accidentally move on the putting green. In other



situations, the standard for determining why a ball moved has now changed. The "known or virtually certain" standard (meaning at least 95% likely) will apply to all questions of fact about why a ball at rest moved. "A player, opponent or outside influence will be found to have caused the ball to move if the player, opponent or outside influence was known or virtually certain to have caused it to move; otherwise it will be assumed that natural forces caused it to move."



repair spike marks and maintenance practices.

Repairing Damage on the Putting Green and Touching Line of Play

You will now be able to repair almost any damage on the putting green. "Damage on the putting green" will be defined to include all types of damage (such as ball-marks, shoe damage, indentations from a club or flagstick, animal damage, etc.), except aeration holes, natural surface imperfections or natural wear of the hole. There will also be no penalty for touching your line of play on the putting green. You may still be subject to a penalty for improving your line of play though.



Ball Played From Putting Green Hits Flagstick Left in Hole

There will be no penalty if a ball played from the putting green strikes the flagstick left in the hole. You will still have the option to have the flagstick attended or removed.

Areas of the Course

There will be five areas of the course.

1. The General area. This area covers

the entire course except for the four specific areas of the course. It covers the area where your ball will most be played.

- 2. Four Specific Areas:
 - a. The teeing area the player must use to start play of the hole.
 - b. Penalty Areas (formerly known as water hazards, but can also now include other areas the Committee marks, such as heavily wooded areas or jungle areas).
 - c. Bunkers.
 - d. Putting Green.

How to Drop a Ball

You will drop your ball from knee height into the relief area.



How to Drop a Ball within a **Relief Area**

You will now drop a ball from knee height, and the ball must fall through the air. You will drop a ball in a specific relief area. This relief area will either be one or two clublengths from your reference point, depending on the situation and will be defined by the longest club in your bag (except putter). The ball dropped at knee height must land in and come to rest in the relief area.



Pace of Play

There are several other changes coming to the New Rules of Golf. Some of them have a direct positive impact on pace of play. The time permitted for searching for a lost ball will be reduced from five minutes to three minutes. The Rules recommend that a player take no more than 40 seconds to make a

stroke and encourage a player to play out of turn in a safe and responsible way.

A new local rule is available that permits committees to allow golfers an alternative to the stroke-and-distance penalty for lost balls or balls hit out of bounds. Under the local rule, which is not intended for professional or elite-level competition, golfers can opt to drop the ball in the vicinity of where they lost or hit the ball out of bounds-including in the nearest fairway area-under a twostroke penalty. This local rule helps prevent the negative impact on pace of play when a player must return to the tee under stroke and distance, this keeps the player moving forward on the golf course. Again, this local rule is not intended for professional or elite level competitions, but at the club level.



The goal was to create Rules that are easier to understand and apply. New easy to read materials will become available at the end of 2018.

New Player's Edition of the Rules of Golf: Full rules relevant to the golfer, written in the second person, that's intended for golfers. Easy to read and understand for a player to help them play the game.

The Rules of Golf: The full edition, written in the third person that will include illustrations. What we know as today's Rules of Golf.

The Official Guide to the Rules of Golf: The publication that will replace the Decisions book intended for use by tournament committees and rules officials.

There are still seven months of golf to be played under the current Rules of Golf. Currently, you can find several dozen "How to Apply" videos on the USGA website dealing with 2019 Rules of Golf. The USGA and R&A are waiting until the fall to release a comprehensive education initiative on the new Rules.

The CGA will be conducting Rules of Golf Seminars beginning in early 2019 covering the 2019 Rules of Golf. ■

UseYour Noodle to Stop Slicing

As summer heats up, a simple drill with a something from the pool can help you keep your cool BY PAIGE CRIBB. PGA

WITH DON JOZWIAK Photos by Russell Kirk/GOLFLINKS



Paige Cribb, the President of the Carolinas PGA Section, is the Director of Student Support for the PGA Golf Management program at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C.

ne of the most common flaws I see with golfers in general is an over-thetop move. This is what happens when a player yanks the club inside on the takeaway, then has to loop the club back over the top to try to get back on the right plane to make contact. This is what causes the classic slice that troubles so many golfers.

When I see this problem from one of my students, I work with them on a simple drill using a pool noodle that helps them approach the ball on a better path with instant feedback. You can use other objects, like a towel or a headcover, as long as they're soft and won't cause any damage or injury if you hit them. But I like using pool noodles – grab one at the dollar store, then cut it in half lengthwise so it will sit flat on the ground. Lay the noodle on the ground in the direction of your target, then line up perpendicular to the noodle in your setup position with a short iron.



Start by making a few easy swings without a golf ball. Just swing at about 30 percent of your normal power at regular speed – you can put a tee in the ground where the ball would be to give you a target to swing at if you'd like. Work on clipping that tee without hitting the noodle. If you hit the noodle *(inset)*, you'll know that you're coming over the top. Gradually build up in power until you're taking full swings without hitting the noodle, then add the golf ball and hit a few shots.

contact with the noodle, you should notice a straighter ball flight than you had before, maybe even with a little draw. The goal is to hit the ball solid and straighter. It may take some time to be able to hit full shots without hitting the noodle – our bodies tense up once we try to hit the ball, which is why I like to have golfers practice a few times a week without the ball. It's a great way to get your body used to making a different motion without worrying about where the ball is going.

When you're able to hit full shots without making

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I always recommend seeing a PGA or LPGA Professional to set you in the right direction on your learning. They can help you find drills like this that you can do in your living room, backyard or on the range to improve your game. Try this noodle drill for yourself and see if the game isn't more fun when the ball flies straight instead of slicing!

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All About Bandon Dunes

What to know before you go cross-country to one of the world's top golf destinations **BY DON JOZWIAK**

olfers in the Carolinas are fortunate to have to some of the top golf destinations in the world within driving distance, with names such as Pinehurst, Kiawah Island, Hilton Head and Myrtle Beach all known for the quality and quantity of their golf and hospitality. Yet one of the greatest elements of golf is the thrill of experiencing new places to play, which make the upcoming Carolinas Golf Association trip to Bandon Dunes Golf Resort in Oregon an exciting opportunity to see a top golf resort on the other side of the country. With four highly ranked 18-hole courses along the Pacific coast, Bandon Dunes is like taking a trip to Scotland or Ireland without needing a passport or driving on the wrong side of the road.

The CGA trip is planned for Spring 2019, which gives members plenty of time to plan for playing and staying at Bandon Dunes. We asked longtime Carolinas professional Rick Murphy—a past Carolinas PGA Golf Professional of the Year and Teacher of the Year honoree—to tell us about his experiences traveling to Bandon Dunes from his home base in Greensboro, N.C. Here's his advice on what to expect:

The Golf Courses

Bandon Dunes has four 18-hole golf courses. The original namesake course is a David McLay Kidd design that opened in 1998, and was later joined by Pacific Dunes (Tom Doak), Bandon Trails (Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw) and Old Macdonald (Doak and Jim Urbina). Each of these courses is ranked in the top 20 of Golf Digest's Top Places You Can Play, with Pacific Dunes considered one of the top resort courses in the world. All are links-style coastal courses with plentiful ocean views and holes playing along windswept cliffs – except for Bandon Trails, which is set slightly inland and calls to mind the Coore/Crenshaw design at Dormie Club near Pinehurst.

"I have to say that playing those courses is like a religious experience, to be honest with you," Murphy says. "The golf is pure golf, with a great variety of holes. To stand and look over the cliffs at the Pacific Ocean in the middle of a great round of golf is an amazing feeling."

Bandon Dunes also has some unique bite-sized golf experiences. Bandon Preserve is a 13-hole par-3 course designed by Coore and Crenshaw that invites golfers to grab their wedges and putter and enjoy amazing views of the ocean, while the Punchbowl is a 2.5-acre putting course with enough hills and thrills for an amusement park. Both are ideal for an extra round at the end of the day—or to settle a bet—or a quick round on the way out of town.

The Weather

Like the great links courses of the British Isles, weather is part of the game at Bandon Dunes.Wind and rain can come and go unpredictably, which makes preparation and packing an important part of the process for visitors.

"When you pack for Bandon Dunes, you have to be ready for everything," Murphy says. "I mean, make sure you have your sunscreen and make sure you have your rain gear. Long sleeves, short sleeves – bring it all. Prepare for 50 degrees and rainy, or 70 degrees and sunny, and you might see both during the same round."

In addition to a rain jacket and rain pants, layering pieces are essential. Also, invest in a pair of rain gloves





Bandon Dunes











that become tacky when wet, and a good hat. If you don't bring them with you, you'll be doing some shopping at one of Bandon Dunes' four award-winning golf shops.

One thing you'll want to buy before you head to Bandon Dunes: Some comfortable, waterproof golf shoes. In fact, bring two pair. Bandon Dunes is walking only, unless you have a medical exemption. The courses are easy to walk, and that's part of the charm. But you don't want to break in a pair of shoes while walking 18 or 36 holes a day, and you don't want wet feet if you do play through rain.

What to leave home? Your umbrella. If it's raining, it will probably be too windy to make much use of an umbrella. Lighten your bag and invest in a good bucket hat to keep your head dry instead.

The On-Course Experience

Like most places in the country, the majority of golf courses in the Carolinas are maintained with a modern, manicured lushness. Bandon Dunes harkens back to the game's Scottish roots with firm, closecropped fescue grasses and layouts that encourage playing the ball along the ground.

"Before you go to Bandon Dunes, get with your PGA Professional and work on hitting low shots and running shots," Murphy says. "Very few of the holes require you to carry the ball all the way to the flag and stop it there. A lot of the time, you want to keep your tee shots low and out of the wind, then hit bump-and-run shots that roll up toward the flag. There are a lot of holes where you can putt from 30 yards short of the green, so get comfortable with the ground game and you'll find it's a fun way to play the game. It certainly requires a lot of creativity."

To help navigate the links-style play, taking a caddie is also part of the Bandon Dunes experience. You can carry your own clubs or pull a trolley, but the resort has a large stable of experienced professional caddies that help immeasurably with course management and reading putts.

The Off-Course Experience

Bandon Dunes is a self-contained experience. The nearest small town, Bandon, is 20 minutes away, but there's no reason to leave the resort once you arrive. There's roundthe-clock shuttle service that efficiently whisks guests around the property to the golf courses, practice facility and accommodations. There is a massage center and a fitness room, but beyond that the entire experience is about golf, even off the course.

For example, the restaurants and pubs located across the property are all geared toward the experience of walking golfers. A breakfast buffet helps you load up for the day's golf as quickly or as leisurely as you need. Each of the golf courses has lunch options that can be enjoyed on the links, with wrap sandwiches and tasty cookies. And dinners are designed for refueling while reliving the day's birdies and bogeys.

Among the dining highlights are McKee's Pub, which features a variety of casual meals and the resort's signature dish: Grandma's Meatloaf. For more upscale steaks or seafood, the Pacific Grill andThe Gallery offer a quieter setting, whileTrail's End has breakfast and lunch options with an Asian/fusion flavor.

All of Bandon Dunes' dining options have a common theme: Menus meant to help you recover and revive for the next day. This isn't spa food; it's meat and potatoes, appetizers, desserts, and a strong selection of local beers, high-quality wines and whiskey options that would please a Scotsman.

In all, the entire Bandon Dunes experience puts the focus on golf – from the food to the hospitality. Murphy suggests embracing the remote location and fickle weather to enjoy the unique experience before you head home to the Carolinas.

"I tell people that the entire experience at Bandon Dunes is pure golf," Murphy says. "It's not the easiest place to get to, but it is well worth the time. You won't forget it."

> The off-course experience at Bandon Dunes includes hearty meals at McKee's Pub (upper left) and opportunities to relax around a roaring fire.

CGA Member Trip

The CGA has plans to host a member trip to Bandon Dunes April 5-9, 2019. Look for more information later this year.

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YOUTH

Bluffton gives travelers a true taste of Lowcountry golf

As the area grows and gains national exposure, time your visit to enjoy great golf and authentic eats **BY DON JOZWIAK**



The Jack Nicklaus-designed May River course at Palmetto Bluff makes for a memorable round in Bluffton, while there are tasty eats on tap at the Music to Your Mouth festival (above left) and Cahill's Market (right).

he southeastern tip of South Carolina is home to Bluffton, one of the fastest-growing cities in the state. For golfers from elsewhere in the Carolinas, the area offers plenty of solid golf— 16 Carolinas Golf Association courses are located in Bluffton and neighboring Okatie —and fun activities off the course. And being a short drive from popular destinations such as Hilton Head Island, Parris Island and Savannah, Georgia, the Bluffton area serves as a convenient base for a multi-day golf road trip.

While nearby Sea Pines on Hilton Head is well-known for hosting the PGA Tour's RBC Heritage event, the Bluffton area is about to take a turn in the spotlight. Belfair is set to host the 2019 PGA Professional Championship, the premier national event for club professionals, which is televised live on Golf Channel. The 2019 event is set for Belfair's North and South Courses from April 28–May 1, marking the first time the championship is being played in the spring. Belfair, like nearby Berkeley Hall and Colleton River, is a private club, but there are plenty of great public-access golf opportunities for golfers who discover the Bluffton area through Golf Channel next spring.

When an international audience tunes in to watch the PGA Professional Championship, they'll see the authentic Lowcountry topography that the Bluffton area typifies. That means semi-coastal land criss-crossed by intra-coastal waterways between the Atlantic Ocean and the Colleton River, with scenic islands, rivers and beaches scattered across the landscape.

That lends itself to interesting and challenging golf at places like Palmetto Bluff, which features May River – a Jack Nicklaus Signature design that winds along its namesake. The towering live oaks lining the fairways have been there for centuries, but the golf course is modern and fun for all skill levels. There's plenty beyond golf to experience, too, as Palmetto Bluff offers several other staples of the area, such as fishing, hiking, tennis, equestrian and shooting opportunities, and the Montage Palmetto Bluff has a variety of accommodation options that offer timeless charm with modern amenities.

Not far from Palmetto Bluff are two of the area's must-play public courses. Hilton Head National Golf Club is just a mile from the bridge to the island, but makes it worthwhile to stay on the mainland. The front nine was designed by Bobby Weed, while the back nine is part of the original Gary Player design that was part of the 27-hole routing Hilton Head National had when it opened in 1989. The dual-designer blend

makes for an interesting 18 in a quiet setting.

Just up the road is Old South Golf Links, which has six holes along McKay's Creek and some of the best views in the area. Holes weave in and out of oaks to open land, then along tidal marsh, creating a constantly shifting strategic challenge. Like Hilton Head National, Old South offers island-worthy views and golf, but at mainland prices.

Before or after golf, get a taste of true Lowcountry cuisine with a stop at Cahill's Market. Bluffton native John Cahill cooks and runs the "Chicken Kitchen" with his siblings. The menu changes from day to day, but southern fried chicken is a mainstay at Cahill's along with spike soup, shrimp creole, okra, field peas, collards, macaroni and cheese, squash casserole and the famous pear cobbler dessert.

If you're planning a fall trip to Bluffton, time it for the 12th annual Music to Your Mouth festival. The four-day event combines food and music to benefit Second Helpings, a non-profit organization dedicated to eliminating hunger in the Lowcountry. Tickets go on sale July 2 forWhole Hog Festival pass, or individual sessions – including the Bourbon & Bacon Grace Cruise and the Rock the Dock pairing of tailgate snacks and refreshing cocktails. Sounds like a perfect way to get a true taste of Bluffton.

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Upgrades Coming to Pinehurst's **Dormie Club**

Dormie Club

6033 Beulah Hill Church Rd, West End, NC 27376 (910) 947-3240 www.dormieclub.com

Amenities: 18 holes of Coore/Crenshaw-designed golf, practice area, clubhouse, golf shop, restaurant. The property's new owners plan updates to the Coore/Crenshaw layout, as well as new accommodations and dining options as the facility transitions to a private club

hen it was conceived in the early 2000s, Dormie Club was set to become something truly unique: A high-end private club with a secluded feel, yet located just minutes away from the beloved golf destination of Pinehurst, North Carolina. In time, the facility transitioned to semi-private with limited public play, and has hosted multiple Carolinas Golf Association events. With the property's recent addition to the growing Dormie Network of destination golf clubs, Dormie Club is set to see extensive renovations and upgrades that will fulfill the club's original promise in new and exciting ways.



The 18-hole Dormie Club course, designed by Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw, is about to receive tee-togreen refinements that will ensure outstanding playing conditions year-round, as well as new cart paths, additional tee boxes and other upgrades. The property is also about to raise its game off the course, with a new clubhouse, restaurant and a number of fourperson cottages set for construction in the near future as Dormie Club transitions from a public course to a private club by 2020.

While Dormie Club's new cottages and clubhouse are scheduled to come online in the next year, the course is a must-play in the Pinehurst area. The highly acclaimed 18-hole layout by Coore and Crenshaw earned high praise from the start, and the architects are working with Dormie Club on embellishing their original work, including improvements to the practice facility and completing projects that were never finished by the original owners.

"Ben and I are very proud of the Dormie Club layout, but there are a lot of details on the property that weren't properly finished when it was first opened," Coore says. "We're going to be putting the finishing touches on a lot of those areas this summer. The course has been well-maintained, but now it's going to get the level of resources and attention that will really elevate it.

"This is a special golf course, and I'm glad to see the investments that are going to be made to the course, and the addition of a new clubhouse and cottages."

Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw have a welldeserved reputation as one of the top architecture teams in golf. The team has collaborated on high-profile designs at top-ranked properties such as Bandon Dunes, Sand Valley, Big Cedar Lodge and Cabot Links. Dormie Club is of the same high caliber as those designs, and it will soon be a unique opportunity to enjoy the duo's work in an upscale private setting.

The Dormie Club layout covers more than 1,000



acres around Coles Mill Lake and has more than 100 feet of elevation changes. The towering pines are uniquely Pinehurst, with a rolling layout reminiscent of the game's roots in the sandy linksland of Scotland. The property has no homes, real estate or other developments around it, giving Dormie Club a relaxed, secluded feel despite being mere minutes from the heart of the Village of Pinehurst.

The design includes reachable par-4s, a 240-plus yard par-3 and many memorable views. Skilled golfers will enjoy the subtle strategic elements that reveal themselves with multiple rounds played, while average players will have fun playing the course's wide fairways.

The strategy built into Dormie Club's layout will be familiar to anyone who's played Donald Ross' Pinehurst No. 2 masterpiece, or Coore/Crenshaw layouts such as Bandon Trails or Sand Valley. The fairways are wide, and golfers can collect pars and bogeys after hitting the ball to nearly any portion of the landing areas. But golfers looking to shoot a score will quickly find that the ideal lines and targets on each hole are exacting and blend risk with reward.

The 400-yard opening hole is an ideal example. From an elevated tee box, the massive fairway is an inviting target, and a very large green awaits. Hitting both isn't difficult, but better players will skirt the fairway bunkers along the left for the best angle into the green.

A similar challenge is faced on the third hole, one of the outstanding short par-4s at Dormie Club. At only 302 yards, golfers can lay back with an iron or hybrid or try to pound a driver close to the green. But the green has multiple levels and subtle ridges, and getting your approach on the right level is a must if you're trying to make birdie. Like many holes on the course, you'll want to plot your course management strategy from the green back to the tee shot. And, of course, a little local knowledge never hurts.

The closing trio of holes serve as a fitting summary



of Dormie Club's layout. The long par-3 16th gives players plenty of room around the green, but aggressive players will flirt with waste areas as they hunt birdies. No. 17 is a reachable par-5, and longer hitters will be tempted to carry the bunkers that divide the layup zone from the green – but difficult pot bunkers lurk in defense. The home hole is a mid-length par-4

"This is a special golf course, and I'm glad to see the investments that are going to be made to the course, and the addition of a new clubhouse and cottages. —Bill Coore

with a wide fairway and large green, but there are pin placements that create slippery putts and demand touch and nerve.

As it stands, Dormie Club is a great course in an unexpectedly rustic location. The pine straw parking lot and quaint wooden clubhouse hide the fact that the course is roughly five minutes away from dining, shops and hotels.

CoolLooks for Hot Days

Add style to your game this summer with these versatile items **BY DON JOZWIAK**

y the time summer is in full swing, many of us have arrived at the right mix of golf clubs to carry us through the season. With the demo days of spring behind us, and hopes that Santa might leave some new clubs under the tree still months in the future, what's a golf gear lover to do during the longest days of the year?

Fortunately, there's plenty of great golf apparel and accessories out there to help you dress up your game – on and off the course. There seems to be a direct relationship between looking good and playing good, so don't discount the impact that a new shirt, pair of shoes or even a golf bag might have the next time you hit the **links**.

Here's a look at some of our favorite new products for summer, which offer a fun mix of comfort, fashion and versatility.

Whether you're using that golf shop credit from winning the member-guest or just freshening your wardrobe, this is the golf gear that will help you keep your cool during the hottest rounds of the year.

Peter Millar Blount Stripe Performance Polo

The company's signature stretch jersey fabric has just enough Spandex to give it four-way stretch comfort through the golf swing, and has quick dry, moisturewicking properties for those sticky summer rounds. Available in two color patterns, these polos can easily go from the office to the golf course. MSRP: \$85 | petermillar.com

Bermuda Sands Phoenix Polo

The classics never go out of style, especially when they're updated with Wick Away microfiber jersey material. Available in 11 colors in sizes up to 4XL, you can fill your closet with this shirt – or at least outfit yourself for a long weekend on the links. And if you're looking for tournament prizes or group uniforms, the Phoenix can be logoed. MSRP: \$55 | bermudasandsapparel.com

Puma Golf IGNITE PWRADAPT Aloha Golf Shoes Rickie Fowler made waves when he kicked off the PGA Tour season by wearing an untucked woven shirt during the Sentry Tournament of Champions in Hawaii. That limited-edition shirt was quickly sold out, but the rest of Puma Golf's Aloha collection is still available – including these performance mesh shoes that keep your feet cool and dry. The look is casual, but the performance is serious. MSRP: \$150 | cobragolf.com

Stitch Golf SL1 Golf Bag

DUM

Walking the course is a great way to get your exercise, and this bag is a walker's – or a caddie's – dream. Weighing in at just 57 ounces, this waterproof design packs a lot into a small package. In addition to a pair of side saddle pockets hold bigger items, there's a felt-lined valuables pocket and even an insulated pocket for the beverage of your choice.

MSRP: \$328 | stitchgolf.com

Southern Tide Castaway Linen Sweater

Here's the perfect light sweater for when the nights get a little cool. A stylish boatneck design keeps things casual, while the Skipjacketched medallion coin detail adds a unique touch. Ideal as a light layer on the golf course, but equally at home on the boat or at the beach. MSRP: \$98 | southerntide.com

Johnnie-O Lowry Double-Zip

Soft Shell Vest Bring a little West Coast cool to the Carolinas with this layering piece. The DWR (durable water resistant) finish makes it a natural for the golf course when you need a little extra warm at the start or end of the day, while the two-color styling looks great anywhere. MSRP: \$145 | johnnie-o.com

Portraits of **Champions**

Results from recent Carolinas Golf Association competitions



N.C. Super Senior Four-Ball Championship Maple Chase Golf & Country Club, Winston-Salem, N.C. Russ Perry, Old Town Club and Mark Stephens, Old Town Club



Tar Heel Cup Matches River Landing (River), Wallace, N.C. Amateurs



Carolinas Mid-Amateur Championship Treyburn Country Club, Durham, N.C. **John Pitt**, Carolina CC



Jimmy Anderson Junior Boys' Invitational Jacksonville CC, Jacksonville, N.C. Kenan Poole, Carolina CC



Carolinas Senior Four-Ball Championship Mimosa Hills CC, Morganton, N.C. Stan Sill, Creek Golf Club and Mike Gravley, Green Valley CC



N.C. Senior Women's Championship Country Club of Salisbury, Salisbury, N.C. Pat Brogden, Fred Smith Clubs



N.C. Senior Amateur Championship Starmount Forest Country Club, Greensboro, N.C. Macon Moye, Southern Pines Golf Club



Carolinas Super Senior Championship Gaston Country Club, Gastonia, N.C. Paul Simson, North Ridge Country Club



Carolinian Amateur Keith Hills Country Club, Buies Creek, N.C. Harry Reynolds, Greenville (S.C.) Country Club



Vicki DiSantis Junior Girls' Championship Pine Island Country Club, Charlotte, N.C. Rachel Kuehn, Biltmore Forest Country Club



Jimmy Creed Boys' Invitational Camden Country Club, Camden, S.C. Spencer Oxendine, Gates Four Country Club

2018**CGA Tournamen**) (through September 30, 2018*)

CGA Championships | • One-Day Tournaments (Mixed) | • Senior Men's Four-Ball One-Day Tournaments |

Ladies' Four-Ball Play Days | Tarheel Youth Golf Association (Boys & Girls) | USGA Qualifiers

Carolinas Amateur Qualifying Columbia CC, Blythewood, S.C. Dpen 5/3 I Close 6/11 Lub at 12 Oaks, Springs, N.C. Dpen 5/3 I Close 6/11 V.C. Match Play Qualifying Club at 12 Oaks, Iolly Springs, N.C. Dpen 5/3 I Close 6/11 YGA Bo Brickels Junior Cabarus CC, Concord, N.C. Dpen 4/30** I Close 6/22 YGA One-Day Chapel Hill CC, Chapel Hill, N.C. Dpen 4/30** I Close 6/22 YGA Triad One-Day exington GC, Lexington, N.C. Dpen 4/30** I Close 6/22	16- 16- 16-
A.C. Match Play Qualifying Club at 12 Oaks, tolly Springs, N.C. Open 5/3 Close 6/11 YGA Bo Brickels Junior Cabarrus CC, Concord, N.C. Open 4/30** Close 6/22 YGA One-Day Chapel Hill, N.C. Open 4/30** Close 6/22 YGA Triad One-Day exington GC, Lexington, N.C.	
Cabarrus CC, Concord, N.C. Dpen 4/30** Close 6/22 YGA One-Day Chapel Hill CC, Chapel Hill, N.C. Dpen 4/30** Close 6/22 YGA Triad One-Day exington GC, Lexington, N.C.	16-
Chapel Hill CC, Chapel Hill, N.C. Open 4/30** Close 6/22 YGA Triad One-Day exington GC, Lexington, N.C.	
exington GC, Lexington, N.C.	
ppen 4/30 1 Close 0/22	17
YGA Triad One-Day Asheboro Municipal GC, Asheboro, N.C. Open 4/30** Close 6/22	17–
Carolinas Junior Boys' Qualifying Goldsboro Municipal GC, Goldsboro, N.C.	18
Open 5/14 Close 6/28 J.S. Women's Amateur Dualifying	18–
Nonroe CC, Monroe, N.C. Open 4/2 Close 6/20	19
Tournament CC of Asheville, Asheville, N.C. Open 5/24 Close 6/26	19
YGA Triad One-Day alem Glen CC, Clemmons, N.C. Open 4/30** Close 6/22	20
senior Four-Ball One-Day Grandover (West & East), Greensboro, N.C. Open 5/23 Close 6/26	20
2th Girls' 15 & Under C of Whispering Pines (Pines), Vhispering Pines, N.C.	21
9th S.C. Junior Girls'	
Cock Hill CC, Rock Hill, S.C. Open 5/18 Close 6/29	22
F 1st S.C. Junior Boys' Aatch Play lock Hill CC, Rock Hill, S.C. Open 5/21 Close 6/29	23
YGA High Point Junior Bair Park & Oak Hollow GC, Bigh Point, N.C. Dpen 5/30** Close 7/3	23
adies' Four Ball Play Day Mimosa Hills CC, Morganton, N.C. Open 5/29 Close 7/5	23
	YGA Triad One-Day sheboro Municipal GC, sheboro, N.C. Den 4/30** I Close 6/22 Carolinas Junior Boys' Qualifying Joldsboro Municipal GC, ioldsboro, N.C. Den 5/14 I Close 6/28 J.S. Women's Amateur Qualifying Morroe CC, Monroe, N.C. Den 4/2I Close 6/20 Dne-Day Four-Ball Ournament C. of Asheville, Asheville, N.C. Den 4/2I Close 6/20 TGA Triad One-Day alem Glen CC, Clemmons, N.C. Den 4/30** I Close 6/22 enior Four-Ball One-Day irrandover (West & East), irreensboro, N.C. Den 5/23 I Close 6/26 2th Girls' 15 & Under C. of Whispering Pines (Pines), Mispering Pines, N.C. Den 5/23 I Close 6/26 2th Girls' 15 & Under C. of Whispering Pines (Pines), Mispering Pines, N.C. Den 5/21 I Close 7/2 9th S.C. Junior Girls' Match Play ock Hill CC, Rock Hill, S.C. Den 5/21 I Close 6/29 TGA High Point Junior Iair Park & Oak Hollow GC, Iigh Point, N.C. Den 5/30** I Close 7/3 adies' Four Ball Play Day timosa Hills CC, Morganton, N.C.

- 15 104th Carolinas Amateur CC of North Carolina (Dogwood), Pinehurst, N.C. Open 5/3 | Close 6/11
- 17 22nd N.C. Junior Boys' 13 & Under Asheboro Municipal GC, Asheboro, N.C. Open 6/4 | Close 7/6
- 17 **U.S. Amateur Sectional** Qualifying Colleton River Club (Dye), Bluffton, S.C Open 4/2 | Close 6/27
- 18 62nd Carolinas-Virginias Women's Team Matches Sea Pines CC Hilton Head Island, S.C. Invitation Only
- TYGA One-Day River Ridge GC, Raleigh, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/10
- 18 U.S. Amateur Sectional Qualifying Oak Valley GC, Advance, N.C. Open 4/2 | Close 6/27
- TYGA One-Day Ole Still GC, Hickory, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/10
- 19 **TYGA** Roy Jones Junior Kinston CC, Kinston, N.C. Open 6/5** | Close 7/10
- TYGA One-Day Lake Hickory CC (Catawaba Šprings), Hickory, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/10
- TYGA Triad One-Day Cedarbrook CC, State Road, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/10 52nd Carolinas Father-Son
- Pinehurst Area Courses, Pinehurst, N.C. Open 6/7 | Close 7/9
- 21st Carolinas Parent-Child Pinehurst Area Courses. Pinehurst, N.C. Open 6/7 | Close 7/9
- **One-Day Tournament** CC of Whispering Pines (Pines), Whispering Pines, N.C. Open 6/7 | Close 7/10
- **One-Day Tournament** Legacy GL, Aberdeen, N.C. Open 6/7 | Close 7/10
- **Carolinas Junior Boys'** Qualifying Camden CC, Camden, S.C. Open 5/14 | Close 6/28
- TYGA Triad One-Day Jamestown Park GC. Jamestown, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/17
 - **U.S. Amateur Sectional** Qualifying Benvenue CC, Rocky Mount, N.C. Open 4/2 | Close 6/27

- 23 Senior Four-Ball One-Day Kiawah Island (Cougar Point), Kiawah Island, S.C. Open 6/6 | Close 7/10
- 24 Senior Four-Ball One-Day Kiawah Island (Oak Point), Kiawah Island, S.C Open 6/6 | Close 7/10
- 24–25 U.S. Amateur Sectional Qualifying Scotch Hall Preserve, Merry Hill, N.C. Open 4/2 | Close 6/27
- 24-26 21st Carolinas Women's Match Play North Ridge CC, Raleigh, N.C. Open 5/28 | Close 7/17
- 24–26 69th Carolinas Junior Boys' Members Club at Woodcreek, Elgin, S.C Open 5/14 | Close 6/28
- 25 TYGA One-Dav Beechwood CC, Ahoskie, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/17
- 26 TYGA One-Day Greenville CC, Greenville, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/17
- 26 **TYGA Triad One-Day** Deep Springs CC, Stoneville, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/17
- 26 **U.S. Senior Amateur** Sectional Qualifying High Point CC, High Point, N.C. Open 4/30 | Close 7/11
- 17th Mid-Atlantic Girls 28-29 **Challenge Matches** Indian Creek Golf and Yacht Club, Kilmarnock, VA Invitation Only
- 29 **One-Day Four-Ball** Tournament Lenior GC, Lenior, N.C. Open 6/14 | Close 7/17
- 29 TYGA TOTS Carolina National GC, Bolivia, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/23
- 30 SAS Junior Championship Prestonwood CC (Highlands), Cary, N.C. Open 6/18** | Close 7/20
- 30 Senior Four-Ball One-Day Musgrove Mill GC, Clinton, S.C. Open 6/13 | Close 7/17
- 31 Senior Four-Ball One-Day CC of Spartanburg, Spartanburg, S.C. Open 6/13 | Close 7/17
- 31 TYGA Triad One-Day Starmount Forest CC, Greensboro, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/17
- 31-8/1 52nd Twin State Junior Girls' Spring Valley CC, Columbia, S.C. Open 6/11 Close 7/23

ucrust **Dogwood State Boys** Qualifying Pinewood CC, Asheboro, N.C. Open 6/18 | Close 7/23 Walnut Creek CC, Goldsboro, N.C. Open 6/18 | Close 7/23 1-5 9th N.C. Amateur Match Play Gaston CC, Gastonia, N.C. Open 5/3 | Close 6/11 2 TYGA One-Day CC of Johnston County, Smithfield, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/25 4-5 41st Carolinas Women's Four-Ball Prestwick CC, Myrtle Beach, S.C. Open 6/18 | Close 7/27 5 **One-Day Tournament** Mill Creek GC, Mebane, N.C. Open 6/21 | Close 7/24 6 **One-Day Four-Ball** Tournament Club at 12 Oaks Holly Springs, N.C. Open 6/21 | Close 7/24 TYGA Triad One-Day 6 Greensboro National GC Summerfield, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/27 Jack Ratz Memorial 6 Wildwood Green GC, Raleigh, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 7/27 7-9 14th Dogwood State Junior Girls' Chapel Hill CC, Chapel Hill, N.C. Open 6/18 | Close 7/30 7-9 14th Dogwood State Junior Boys' Duke University GC, Durham, N.C. Open 6/18 | Close 7/23 8 One-Day Tournament (Stableford) Tobacco Road GC, Sanford, N.C. Open 6/21 | Close 7/24 9 **U.S. Senior Amateur** Sectional Qualifying Colleton River Club (Nicklaus), Bluffton S.C. Open 4/30 | Close 7/11 11 **TYGA TOTS** Asheboro Municipal GC, Asheboro, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 8/3 11–12 36th Carolinas-Virginias Junior Team Matches CC of North Carolina (Cardinal), Pinehurst, N.C. Invitation Only 13th Carolinas Pro-Junior 13 Prestwood CC, Cary, N.C. Open 7/2 | Close 8/6 13 One-Day Four-Ball Tournament

NorthStone CC, Huntersville, N.C. Open 6/28 | Close 7/31

* For the complete schedule, updates, and to register for events, visit carolinasgolf.org. **Open date is for TYGA Members only, entry opens to non-members one week later.

- 13 Senior Four-Ball One-Day The Peninsula Club, Cornelius, N.C. Open 6/27 | Close 7/31 13 U.S. Mid-Amateur Sectional Qualifying CC of Lexington, Lexington, S.C. Open 4/30 | Close 8/1 14 N.C. Mid-Amateur Qualifying Wildwood Green GC, Raleigh, N.C. Open 7/2 | Close 8/7 14 TYGA One-Day Wilmington Municipal GC,
- Wilmington, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 8/6
- Invitational Hope Valley CC, Durham, N.C. Open 6/11 | Close 8/3
- 14–16 18th N.C. Senior Four-Ball Old Chatham GC, Durham, N.C. Open 6/28 | Close 8/6
- 15 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Qualifying CC of Lexington, Lexington, S.C. Open 4/30 | Close 8/1
- 16 U.S. Mid-Amateur Sectional Qualifying Cutter Creek, Snow Hill, N.C. Open 4/301 Close 8/1
- 18–19 13th Carolinas Mixed Team Kiawah Island (Oak Point), Kiawah Island, S.C. Open 7/2 | Close 8/10
- 19 One-Day Tournament Red Bridge CC, Charlotte, N.C. Open 7/5 | Close 8/7
- 20 U.S. Mid-Amateur Sectional Qualifying Colonial CC, Thomasville, N.C. Open 4/301 Close 8/1
- 20 Senior Four-Ball One-Day Cleghorn Golf Sports Club, Rutherfordton, N.C. Open 7/4 | Close 8/7
- 21 Senior Four-Ball One-Day TBD Open 7/41 Close 8/7
- 21 Carolinas Senior Qualifying Cobblestone Park GC, Blythewood, S.C. Open 7/21 Close 8/13
- 21–22 TYGA Tournament of Champions Neuse GC, Clayton, N.C. Open 7/2** | Close 8/15
- 22 Ladies' Four Ball Play Day Greensboro CC (Farm), Greensboro, N.C. Open 7/10 | Close 8/16
- 22 N.C. Mid-Amateur Qualifying Holly Ridge GL, Archdale, N.C. Open 7/2 | Close 8/7
- 23 Carolinas Senior Qualifying Holly Ridge GL, Archdale, N.C. Open 7/2 | Close 8/13
- 24 U.S. Mid-Amateur Sectional Qualifying Monroe CC, Monroe, N.C. Open 4/301 Close 8/1
- 25 TYGA TOTS Gillespie Park GC, Greensboro, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 8/17

- 25 N.C. Mid-Amateur Qualifying Beechwood CC, Ahoskie, N.C. Open 7/2 | Close 8/7
- 25 Carolinas Senior Qualifying Beechwood CC, Ahoskie, N.C. Open 7/21 Close 8/13
- 25 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Qualifying Pinewood CC, Asheboro, N.C. Open 4/301 Close 8/1
- 27 Senior Four-Ball One-Day River Landing (Landing), Wallace, N.C. Open 7/11 | Close 8/14
- 27 One-Day Four-Ball Tournament The Preserve at Jordan Lake, Chapel Hill, N.C. Open 7/12 | Close 8/14
- 27 N.C. Mid-Amateur Qualifying Cabarrus CC, Concord, N.C. Open 7/2 | Close 8/7
- Carolinas Senior Qualifying Cabarrus CC, Concord, N.C. Open 7/21 Close 8/13

 Senior Four-Ball One-Day
- River Landing (River), Wallace, N.C. Open 7/11 | Close 8/14 28 One-Day Four-Ball
 - Gone-Day Four-Ball Tournament Pinehurst No. 5, Pinehurst, N.C. Open 7/12 | Close 8/14
- 29 N.C. Mid-Amateur Qualifying Carolina Trace (Lake), Sanford, N.C. Open 7/2 | Close 8/7
- 30 Carolinas Senior Qualifying Carolina Trace (Lake), Sanford, N.C. Open 7/2 | Close 8/13

September

- 5 Ladies' Four Ball Play Day Lonnie Poole GC, Raleigh, N.C. Open 7/24 | Close 8/30
- 5 Senior Four-Ball One-Day Seabrook Island Club (Crooked Oaks), Seabrook Island, S.C. Open 7/18 | Close 8/21
- 6 Senior Four-Ball One-Day Seabrook Island Club (Ocean Winds), Seabrook Island, S.C. Open 7/18 | Close 8/21
- 6 Carolinas Senior Qualifying Wescott Plantation (Burn/Black), Summerville, S.C. Open 7/21 Close 8/13
- 7–9 25th N.C. Mid-Amateur Ballantyne CC, Charlotte, N.C. Open 7/21 Close 8/7
- 10 One-Day Four-Ball Tournament Southern Pines GC, Southern Pines, N.C. Open 7/26 | Close 8/28
- 10 Senior Four-Ball One-Day Pinewild CC (Magnolia), Pinehurst, N.C. Open 7/25 | Close 8/28
- 11 Senior Four-Ball One-Day Tobacco Road GC, Sanford, N.C. Open 7/25 | Close 8/28
- 11-12 20th Carolinas Senior Women's Amateur Members Club at Wildewood, Columbia, S.C. Open 7/231 Close 9/4

- 13 U.S. Senior Women's Amateur Qualifying Members Club at Woodcreek, Elgin, S.C. Open 4/301 Close 8/22
- 13–15 57th Carolinas Senior Amateur GC at Briar's Creek, Johns Island, S.C. Open 7/2 | Close 8/13
- 15 TYGA TOTS Northgreen CC, Rocky Mount, N.C. Open 4/30** | Close 9/10
- 15 One-Day Tournament Foxfire (Red), Pinehurst, N.C. Open 8/21 Close 9/4
- 16 One-Day Tournament Longleaf Golf & Family Club, Southern Pines, N.C. Open 8/2 | Close 9/4
- 18 Senior Four-Ball One-Day Berkeley Hall (North), Okatie, S.C. Open 8/1 | Close 9/4
- 18 Ladies' Four Ball Play Day Ocean Ridge Plantation (Lion's Paw), Ocean Isle, N.C. Open 8/7 | Close 9/13
- 19 Ladies' Four Ball Play Day Ocean Ridge Plantation (Leopard's Chase), Ocean Isle, N.C. Open 8/7 | Close 9/13
- 19 Senior Four-Ball One-Day Berkeley Hall (South), Okatie, S.C. Open 8/1 | Close 9/4
- 24 One-Day Four-Ball Tournament The Club at Irish Creek. Kannapolis, N.C. Open 8/9 | Close 9/11 25-26 11th N.C. Super Senior Alamance CC, Burlington, N.C. Open 8/16 | Close 9/17 26 TYGA-PKBGT North State Girls' High School Challenge Keith Hills GC, Buies Creek, N.C. Open 8/27 | Close 9/18 27 2019 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Sectional Qualifying Florence CC. Florence, S.C. Open 5/7 | Close 8/15 28-30 23rd N.C. Four-Ball Club at 12 Oaks. Holly Springs, N.C. Open 8/16 | Close 9/17
- 29 TYGA N.C. Middle School Championship Longleaf Golf & Family Club , Southern Pines, N.C. Open 8/171 (Close 9/20
 - One-Day Tournament Cedar Rock CC, Lenior, N.C. Open 8/16 | Close 9/18

30



An Iconic Club Turns 50

Grandfather Golf and Country Club is commemorating a half-century of golf in the mountains of Linville, N.C. **By BILL HENSLEY**



randfather is 50.And that's not referring to your own relative. In golf talk, that means that the "Crown Jewel of the Mountains" was opened 50 years ago.

Grandfather Golf and Country Club in mountainous Linville, N.C., will celebrate its golden anniversary with a variety of events throughout the current season as it honors its illustrious past and makes plans for the future.

Work on the course was begun in 1965 and completed three years later. Designed by Ellis Maples, a long-time assistant to Donald Ross, Grandfather is ranked as the second-best in North Carolina by the NC Golf Panel, behind only Pinehurst No. 2. It is also highly ranked on a national level.

The late Ed Seay, who became a national success as an architect with Arnold Palmer, played a key role in the construction. He was an Ellis assistant at the time. Because of the rugged terrain, massive boulders to be removed, and trees to be cut down, work was slow. Maples and Seay spent countless hours walking through the rhododendron thickets, forested areas and across creeks before coming up with a routing that they thought was ideal.

Over the years, the course has become known for its majestic scenery, excellent conditioning and variety of challenges.

The course, originally named Glen Dornie Club to reflect its Scottish heritage, was founded by Agnes (Aggie) Morton with financial help from her brother Hugh Morton and JohnWilliams, a long-time Linville resident. The name was later changed to Grandfather.

Ironically, the course was built on a whim by Morton, a noted amateur who won the NCWomen's Amateur championship four times. Peeved that she couldn't get a starting time at nearby Linville Golf Club, she told friends "I think I will build by own course and then I won't have this problem."

So, she did.

Throughout the years, the club has continued to be recognized as a championship layout and has hosted countless tournaments, including a number of Carolinas GolfAssociation events such as the 2017 Carolinas Senior Amateur, and the Captain's Putter matches (Carolinas/Virginias men team matches).

And the highly regarded layout has attracted a long list of celebrities such as comedians Bob Hope and Jerry Lewis, baseball greats Ted Williams and Mickey Mantle, evangelists Billy Graham and Oral Roberts, amateur golfers Billy Joe Patton and Harvie Ward, basketball coaches Dean Smith and Roy Williams, Augusta National legend Cliff Roberts, Army general William Westmoreland and countless professional golfers.

GeorgiaTech football coach Paul Johnson, a native of nearby Newland, has a summer home on the tenth fairway and is frequent player. He regales his friends with colorful tales of his caddying days at the course when he was in high school. "I wouldn't take anything for that experience," he says, "and I made a few bucks in the process... money that a teenager badly needed."

"We certainly get our share of dignitaries," says Bob Gaefell of Charlotte. "Your never know who you will see on the course and in the locker room. And that adds to the many benefits of being a member."

Over the years, the course has become known for its majestic scenery, excellent conditioning, variety of challenges, fairness, walkability and the fact that no other holes can be seen from the one being played. Signature holes are eight and 18, and the towering peaks of the famous mountain, for which the course is named, can be seen from a number of holes.

In addition to several tournaments and gala parties, in June the club will host a group of Scottish golfers from the Nairn Golf Club. "There will be bagpipes, kilts, tartans, plaids and more," says PGA Director of Golf Chip King. "It should be a colorful, enjoyable and memorable affair with a distinct Gaelic theme." Next year, a group from Grandfather will travel to Nairn.

Grandfather also has a scenic and challenging 18-hole executive course which receives steady play throughout the season and is an added attraction at the prestigious club.

"This truly is a great club and golf course," said King, a veteran professional. "I just hope the next fifty years will be as much fun and as successful as the past."

Bill Hensley is a veteran golf and travel writer from Charlotte. He is a member of the Carolinas Golf Hall of Fame.

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