

INSIDE GOLF NEWSPAPER

Central Oregon: A golfing bonanza in the Northwest

The Central Oregon area is home to some of the top golf courses and resorts in the Pacific Northwest with places like Crooked River Ranch (pictured right). There is plenty to like with plenty of golf courses to choose from and even more tourist activities to try. See inside this section of Inside Golf for more.



WHAT'S NEW IN NW GOLF

KPMG Women's PGA set for Sahalee in June

The LPGA for years was a big draw in the Seattle area with the Safeco Classic. But when that tournament left several years ago, the closest the LPGA Tour got to the Seattle area was in Portland. But that will change in June.

The 2016 KPMG Women's PGA Championship is set for June 7-12 at Sahalee Country Club in Sammamish and will bring together the stars from the LPGA Tour to the Seattle area again.

The tournament will feature a field of 156 players, including three-time champ Inbee Park. For Pacific Northwest golf fans, there will be some local flavor as former University of Washington star Sadena Parks is also expected to tee it up at the tournament.

Tickets are available for the tournament with \$10 for practice rounds and weekday tournament rounds costing \$20 each day. Weekend tournament rounds are \$25 each day. A Good Any Day Flex Tickets is \$30 for choice of one-day access. Weekly passes are \$75.

See www.kpmgwomenspgachampionship.com for more.

Premier Golf will feature amateur golf tournaments

Time to get your game in shape for tournament play. Premier Golf is planning a variety of events at its Puget Sound area courses.

The tournaments will feature some of the top players from around the Pacific Northwest and will take place at some of Premier's top facilities in the Puget Sound area.

For more on these tournament, please see story on page 13.

Central Oregon will host Pacific Amateur tourney

If you are looking to finish off your 2016 tournament season in style look no further than the Pacific Northwest and Central Oregon for the Lithia Pacific Amateur Golf Classic.

The tournament will take place Sept. 17-22 at a collection of some of Central Oregon top courses and features different net divisions for men, women and seniors. The winner of each division will advance to play at Sunriver's award-winning Crosswater for the tournament title. Entry fee for the event is \$530. See www.pacamgolf.com for more information

Rules Quiz

A player returns his score card signing for a 3 on hole #4. An hour or so later, before the trophy is awarded, it comes to the attention of the Committee that the player was seen removing a pine cone from a bunker his ball was in on hole #4 (prohibited by Rule 13-4). The player did not include the penalty of two strokes for that breach. So he signed for a wrong score that was lower than actually taken. What should the Committee rule in this case? Please see the answer on Page 2 of this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.

Coston claims Washington Open crown

Jeff Coston, the director of instruction at Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine, Wash. certainly didn't have any shortage of dramatics at the Muckleshoot Casino Washington Open Championship, which was held at Kent's Meridian Valley Country Club.

Just when it looked like the championship was slipping away on the tournament's final nine holes, Coston rolled in a birdie putt on the 54th and final hole to win the event by one shot over defending champion Darren Black of Rainier Golf and Country Club and amateur and former Major League Baseball pitcher Erik Hanson.

It was the fifth Washington Open championship for Coston, who also won the event in 1996, 1999, 2001 and 2010.

Black put a charge into the tournament when he made an eagle during his final round to tie for the lead. See Page 3 for more on the tournament.



Washington Open champion Jeff Coston takes aim on this par-5 at Meridian Valley County Club.

FootGolf making a big move in the Pacific Northwest



FootGolf is making a big move nationally and even moreso in the Pacific Northwest. Several courses have opened up FootGolf courses, including Foster Golf Links in Seattle (left) and Meadow Park in Tacoma (right). It's a game which uses a soccer ball and larger holes. At Foster Golf Links, (from left to right) Lucas Orr, Jack Madsen and Noah Larson try and get themselves out of bunker trouble during a round of FootGolf. For more on the growth of the game and where to play, see Page 8 of this section.

LPGA Cambia Classic will bring in the stars at Columbia Edgewater

The LPGA Tour will hit Columbia Edgewater Country Club in Portland for the 45th year June 30-July 3 with the Cambia Portland Classic.

The Portland LPGA event is the longest-running tournament on the schedule and will feature the stars from the tour for a four-day tournament near the Columbia River.

Tickets for the tournament are priced at \$10 daily and \$25 for the week.

Brooke Henderson won her first LPGA tournament last year in Portland and will be back to defend along with a variety of other stars.



Photo by Scott Bisch

Brooke Henderson won last year's tournament.

UW women win first NCAA national title

After defeating the number one seed UCLA in match play, the Huskies advanced to the finals against last year's champion Stanford.

The final hour of NCAA match play at Eugene Country Club was filled with two unlikely comebacks, a holed wedge from the fairway to win a match on the final hole, and momentum swings so wild that at times they changed from shot-to-shot.

Two matches went into overtime but in the end Stanford's Lauren Kim missed a 10 foot putt on the 20th hole giving the Huskies their first ever national championship.

Hickory golf debut: The outfit works but the old-school game needs some more help

As I stood in front of the mirror, I couldn't believe what I was seeing. Who was this guy is the old-school golf outfit? There was the cool hat, the dress shirt and vest along with the tie. And long pants that were disguised as knickers with the cool argyle socks.

For those who know me I am a gym shorts and T-shirt guy. Even my wife Debbie says my attire belongs in a kindergarten classroom.

But here I was, getting ready to head to my first Hickory golf tournament and I looked actually presentable. Shocking.

After kindly being asked by Durel Billy to swing the old sticks on National Hickory Day at Meadow Park in Tacoma, I knew I had to dress the part as well. It felt good. I didn't care how I played, I had officially dressed the part for this event.

For those who haven't had a chance to swing the old sticks, you need to get them in your hands and give it a shot. I didn't know what to expect. I thought I would bunt the ball a few times up the fairway and take a big score. I thought I might break a shaft or two along the way and have to owe Durel a few bucks when the round was over to cover the costs of some broken shafts.

But the clubs can be hit. And you don't have to worry about little swings trying to protect the Hickory shafts. The cool thing about Hickory golf is that you don't need many sticks. I had a bag of six clubs, which consisted of a wood, a putter and four clubs with the names Mashie, Mashie Niblick and Niblick. I had no idea how far these clubs would go. After a few holes, I figured it out. Besides, carrying a bag with six clubs was easy on the shoulder.

I'm sure it was a strange sight for my friends to see me in this kind of outfit. Remember, gym shorts and T Shirts. I felt cool. I looked good. I was ready to take my first of-



Steve Turcotte

ficial swing with the Hickory club. I envisioned long and down the middle. The first shot with the Hickory wood went straight right.

But after that first hole, things got better. Shots went straight and even clubs I had never heard of did things I wanted them to.

I hit a shot into a bunker on the second hole and had no idea what to hit. I grabbed the biggest blade I could and knocked it out onto the green. I can't even do that with my 60 degree Taylor Made wedge. The putting was a bit different with this thin blade, but it got easier after blasting the few putts way past the hole.

And the golf balls are old school, but still were not as short as I thought after watching those old school golf movies like the Greatest Game Ever Played and The Legend of Bagger Vance. In fact, after posting a picture on Facebook after the event, my buddies had a new moniker for me – Bagger Vance.

Hickory golf was a treat. Now that I have the outfit, I need to get the clubs. I might not be able to hit the ball like those old school greats but I might be able to look good while doing it. Fellow Inside Golfer Bob Marlatt also showed up in his outfit - and he looked better than me. And he had his own clubs too. that sealed the deal for me to get my own clubs



The author in his old-school golf outfit.

down the road.

About the outfit the wife liked the outfit so much she might buy me another one. I can't get her to buy me gym shorts or T-shirts so this might be a nice switch.

Hickory golf definitely worth a trip to the past.

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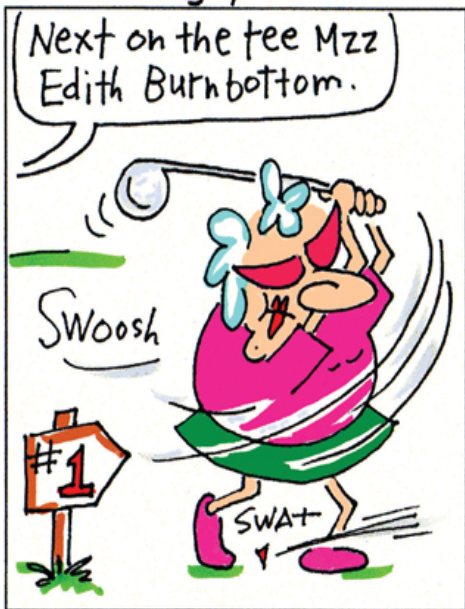
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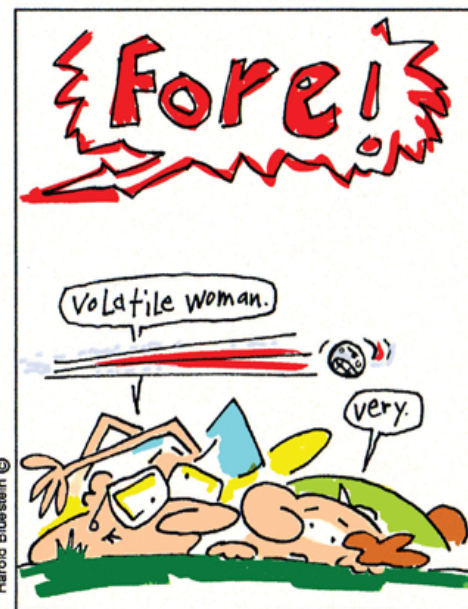
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Double Bogey



Harold Bluestein PGA



Rules Answer

There was a time when the player would have been disqualified no questions! The decision now hinges on whether or not the player was aware it was a breach to move a loose impediment in a hazard when your ball lies in the same hazard. If he was not aware of the rule and the breach he incurs a two stroke penalty for the breach of Rule 13-4 and an additional penalty of two strokes for signing for a score lower than actually taken. If he knew the rule and just forgot to include the penalty in his score his is disqualified.

• Inside Golf Newspaper would like to thank Paul Lucien for his rules insights.

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Final-hole birdie lifts Coston to Washington Open championship

Jeff Coston knows all about being in the spotlight. He has played on the PGA Tour, the Champions Tour, and has played in some of the USGA's major championships.

So when he stood over a birdie putt on the 54th and final hole of the Washington Open. He knew what he had to do. Coston rolled in the putt and won the tournament by one shot over amateur Erik Hanson and defending Washington Open Darren Black, who had a final-round 67.

Coston was rolling, leading by three with nine holes left but went four-over-par in five-hole span to bring the field back into play. With Coston, Hanson and Black all tied at 6-under with one hole left, Coston birdied the par-5 finishing hole to win the tournament for the fifth time.

Coston led by two shots after a second-round 65 put him into the lead.

Washington Open

Jeff Coston	71-65-73 - 209
Darren Black	72-71-67 - 210
a-Erik Hanson	68-70-72 - 210
John Cassidy	76-72-65 - 213
Josh Immordino	69-72-72 - 213
Corey Prugh	67-73-73 - 213
Shane Prante	70-69-75 - 214
Brian Thornton	73-71-72 - 214
Tim Feenstra	70-73-73 - 216
a-Michael Haack	72-74-70 - 216
Grant Lancaster	70-75-71 - 216
a-Ryan Kukula	71-75-71 - 217
Bob Rannow	71-72-74 - 217
Mitch Runge	71-72-74 - 217
Josh Scothorne	72-71-74 - 217
Ryan Malby	71-71-76 - 218



Erik Hanson



Shane Prante

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IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU

Sun Valley Resort earns award from Golf Digest; Coston, Bender set for 2016 school at Semiahmoo

Golf Digest honored Sun Valley Resort with the Editor's Choice Award for Best Resorts of The Americas 2016, recognizing the iconic year-round resort for its challenging courses, pristine views, and superior product.

Long known as a guide for best public courses, resorts and destinations in the U.S. and around the globe, *Golf Digest* is extending its rating to the "Best of" in the total golf lifestyle, as compiled by course raters, *Golf Digest* rankings, and magazine editors.

Koppenberg takes Champions event

Jake Koppenberg of Bellingham, Wash. matched the low round of the week, a 5-under par 67, in claiming the Men's title at the WSGA Champion of Champions event.

Koppenberg had finished in fourth place last year, but came from behind in the second round with birdies on three of the final four holes to pull away from second-place finisher Sam Warkentin of Bainbridge Island. Tom Brandes, who has been named the WSGA Senior Men's Player of the Year the past six years, shot rounds of 69-69, playing bogey-free golf on both days to win the Senior Men's title.

In the Women's division, Sarah Lawrence of Duvall, Wash. blistered the field with 11 birdies over two rounds, including a 5-under par 67 in the final round, matching the low round of the week.

Garrett, Olson win WSGA Best-Ball

Ben Garrett and Erik Olson, both of Seattle, combined to shoot the low round of the championship in the final round to win the 60th Washington State Men's Best-Ball Championship; while Duane Diede of Everett and John Von Lossow of Kirkland held on to their first-round lead to win the 23rd Senior Men's Best-Ball.

Coston, Bender team up for school

Jeff Coston, the director of instruction at Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine and a columnist for *Inside Golf Newspaper*, will be hosting a golf school with nationally renowned teacher Mike Bender in late June

and early July. Bender is the long-time swing coach of British Open champ Zach Johnson and was the 2009 PGA Teacher of the Year and is a top 50 instructor by *Golf Digest*.

The first school will take place June 29-30 on a Wednesday and Thursday. Cost is \$1,500. The other school will be July 1-3 on a Friday through Sunday and the cost is \$2,500. The schools will focus on the complete swing, short game, proper practice and mental side of golf for scoring. Schools will be held from 9:30 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. daily. Lunch is included and the schools are limited to the first eight people.

Coston and Bender have done over 100 golf schools together. "Jeff Coston is one of the finest teachers in America," said Bender.

For information call 360.201.4590.

Myrtle Beach World Amateur set

If you are looking for some of the best amateur handicap competition around, then the Myrtle Beach World Amateur just might be what you are looking for. The tournament will take place Aug. 29-Sept. 2 and feature a full week of tournament play for men and women of all handicaps. The tournament will be a 72-hole net stroke play event with players taking on a different course each day. The top players from each flight will meet for the tournament championship on the final day.

There will be six divisions for men, senior men, mid-senior men, super senior men, women and a gross division. There were 3,340 players in last year's tournament, which takes place on some of Myrtle Beach's top golf courses. Cost is \$575 and entries will close Aug. 7. Call 800.833.8789 or see the web site www.myrtlebeachworldamateur.com.

UW men sign new recruit

Washington head coach Matt Thurmond is pleased to announce an addition to next year's incoming class of freshmen with Daniel List signing a National Letter of Intent. List becomes the fourth member of a talented class that will contribute to the Washington program for years to come. List comes to Washington from

Wellington College in England where he has been a top junior player. He was born in the United States, but has lived in Ghana and Australia and most recently has called Surrey, England home.

Dukenminier wins OGA event

Jack Dukeminier (Portland, Ore.) won the Men's title on the second playoff hole at the 72nd OGA Tournament of Champions, while Jenny Krause (Eugene, Ore.) earned a comeback win in the Women's championship and Bill Winter (Portland, Ore.) won the inaugural Senior Men's title this weekend, April 23-24 at Langdon Farms Golf Club in Aurora, Ore.

PNGA honors Shahbaz, Bergsten

At the 15th PNGA Distinguished Service Award banquet at Tacoma Country & Golf Club, Cliff Shahbaz and Bill Bergsten were honored for their years of dedication to the Association.

The lifeblood of the PNGA is the volunteerism that encompasses every aspect of the organization. The PNGA is made possible by remarkable people who volunteer numerous hours to the game because they care so deeply about its well-being. This prestigious award, given every two years, is considered the Association's highest honor.

Cliff Shahbaz is from Portland plays out of Columbia Edgewater Country Club. In 1995, Cliff began working as a Rules Official for the Oregon Golf Association and volunteering for the Oregon Junior Golf committee. Cliff would eventually expand his volunteering to national USGA championships, serving on the U.S. Mid-Amateur Committee since 2006, and being invited as a Rules Official for numerous prestigious championships. He is now part of the USGA Executive Committee.

Bill Bergsten is from Lakewood, Wash. and plays out of Tacoma Country and Golf Club. For 20 years now, Bill has served the Association in many capacities: Club Representative (for both the PNGA and WSGA); executive committee for the PNGA and WSGA, and PNGA/WSGA Properties, Inc. (The Home Course); president of the WSGA; vice president

and then president of The Home Course; volunteer at the 2010 U.S. Amateur, 2014 Women's APL, and 2015 U.S. Open.

Jorgensen Golf Tour going strong

The 2016 Jorgensen Golf Tour returns with a schedule full of events and plenty of chances to make some prize money along the way. The tournament series is owned and operated by Julius and Diana Jorgensen.

The Jorgensen Golf Tour is the largest series of its kind in the Pacific Northwest with over 60 tournaments a year, and is in its 27th year. The tour started in January with four events and continues throughout the year with plenty of events to take part in this spring, summer and fall. Members choose which events to participate in. The Jorgensen Golf Tour provides weekly tournament competition and has flights for players of different abilities and handicaps, including a super seniors division for players over 60. Since 1995, the Jorgensen Golf Tour has generated over \$1.995 million in green fees to Pacific Northwest courses in addition to providing terrific tournament competition and great payouts.


WSGA offers Casual Golf Days

Now that the score-posting season has begun, the season is in full swing for the Washington State Golf Association. The WSGA is continuing its popular "Casual Golf Days" series, with these one-day events being held at the region's premier courses - next up is the June 13 event at the Plateau Club.


This is a chance to play a private club as part of Casual Golf Days. Indian Summer in Olympia (\$95) is set for July 18, Sahalee (\$140) in Sammamish will be held Oct. 10 and the TPC Snoqualmie Ridge (\$89) in Snoqualmie will take place Nov. 7. All revenue from these events goes to the clubs that host them.

The WSGA also provides an introductory membership offer of \$39.95 for golfers who have not been a member of any WSGA club, whether public or private, in 2015.

For information on the WSGA handicap program, call 253.214.2925.


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Expires 6/30/16

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Expires 6/30/16

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University of Oregon golfer tops in U.S. Open qualifying

Aaron Wise (Lake Elsinore, Calif.) led seven players who advanced to U.S. Open sectional qualifying last month, after local qualifying was held at Pronghorn Resort – Nicklaus in Bend, Ore.

Five players at even par tied for the last four spots that would advance to sectional qualifying. However, Jarred Bossio (Olympia, Wash.) dismissed himself from the playoff after leaving for home. Bossio will be the first alternate from this local qualifying.

Wise, a sophomore at the University of Oregon and sixth in the World Amateur Golf Ranking (WAGR), fired a 5-under par 67 to earn medalist honors in a field with 60 amateurs and 60 professionals. His round included seven birdies and two bogeys, running away from the rest of the field with birdies on three of his final six holes.

Justin Kadin (Corvallis, Ore.) shot a 2-under par 70 to finish in second place. Ryan Gronlund (Pleasanton, Calif.) earned a third place finish after shooting a 1-under par 71.

The other four players who qualified for sectional qualifying all shot an even-par round of 72: Derek Barron (Lakewood, Wash.), Conner Kumpula (Albany, Ore.), Matt Marshall (Carlton, Ore.) and Sulman Raza (Eugene, Ore.).

• Daniel Miernicki of Santee, Calif. shot a 3-under par 67 and took medalist honors in leading the field of 121 players who competed in U.S. Open local qualifying at the par-70 Tumble Creek Club in Roslyn, Wash.

Along with Miernicki, six other players advanced from this local qualifier to the sectional qualifier, which will be held on June 6. The 2016 U.S. Open Championship is being held June 16-19 at Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club.

Under ideal weather conditions, Miernicki made the turn at 3-under par and completed the



University of Oregon's Aaron Wise.

back nine with nine consecutive pars.

Miernicki, 26, played four years at the University of Oregon, winning a school-record five individual titles and being named All-American his senior year. He turned professional in 2012 and currently plays on the Mackenzie Tour-PGA Tour Canada.

Among the other players to qualify are Aaron Whalen of Ephrata, Wash., a freshman at Washington State University who twice won the 2A boys' state high school championship; Brian Thornton, a PGA professional at Meridian Valley CC in Kent, Wash. who won the 2009 Washington Open, 2010 Northwest Open and 2012 Oregon Open; Carl Yuan of Lake Mary, Fla., a freshman at the University of Washington; and Chris Killmer of Bellingham, Wash.

In a playoff for the final two spots, Sam Warkentin of Bainbridge Island, Wash. and Corey Prugh of Spokane, Wash. both made par on the first hole, securing their spot.

Tour Players With Northwest ties

PGA Tour

- Ben Crane • Portland • 150th on the list with \$347,415
- Robert Garrigus • Gresham • 134th on the list with \$391,798
- Andres Gonzales • Olympia • 174th on the list with \$206,151
- Ryan Moore • Puyallup • 39th on the list with \$1,366,724
- Alex Prugh • Spokane • 142nd on the list with \$636,789
- Michael Putnam • Tacoma • 198th on the list with \$65,600
- Kyle Stanley • Gig Harbor • 130th on the list with \$393,974
- Nick Taylor • Ex-UW • 121st on the list with \$451,871

Web.com Tour

- Jason Allred • Ashland • 122nd on the list with \$9,765
- Joel Dahmen, Clarkston • 29th on the list with \$59,673
- Jeff Gove • Seattle • 180th on the list with \$1,655
- Cheng-Tsung Pan • Ex-UW • 30th on the list with \$57,750
- Scott Harrington • Portland • 33rd on the list with \$55,929
- Andrew Putnam • Tacoma • 15th on the list with \$78,251
- Brock Mackenzie • Yakima • No Events
- Andrew Yun • Tacoma • 162nd on the list with \$2,600
- Alex Prugh • Spokane • 58th on the list with \$30,903

Champions Tour

- Fred Couples • Seattle • 29th on the list with \$215,800
- Bob Gilder • Corvallis • 92nd on the list with \$19,260
- Brian Henninger • Eugene • 84th on the list with \$28,848
- Peter Jacobsen • Portland • 87th on the list with \$24,250
- Kirk Triplett • Pullman • 22nd on the list with \$291,290

LPGA Tour

- SooBin Kim • Ex-UW • 132nd on the list with \$13,576
- Sadena Parks • Tacoma • 106th on the list with \$28,580

LPGA Symetra Tour

- Molly Aronsson • Ex-UW • No Events
- Kelli Bowers • Chelan • No Events
- Jimin Kang • Seattle • No Events
- Erynne Lee • Silverdale • 11th on the list with \$20,433
- Renee Skidmore • Everett • No Events
- Kim Welch • Ex-WSU • No Events

Did you know....

• Paige Mackenzie of Yakima won the 2002 WSGA Women's State Amateur Championship, then played on the LPGA Tour before making a career as a studio analyst for Golf Channel. Mackenzie also was an All-American golfer for the University of Washington women's golf team.



• The LPGA Tour will be making its annual stop at Columbia Edgewater Country Club in Portland with the Cambia Portland Classic - and this time around with new dates June 30-July 3. The four-day tournament will feature the top stars from the LPGA Tour and tickets are available. See www.portlandclassic.com for more information.





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FootGolf

Game that combines golf and soccer is taking off in Northwest and nationally

For those who thought that FootGolf was just a passing fad, think again. This is a game that started a few years ago and has caught fire. Don't believe it? Just checking out the number of courses which have created FootGolf courses, setting up league and promoting themselves as a FootGolf course.

FootGolf is a game which combines soccer and golf. The holes are shorter and the cups are larger. And this is a game that can be played by anyone, soccer player or golfer.

Around the Pacific Northwest, FootGolf can be found just about anywhere. In Washington FootGolf places can be found up and down the I-5 corridor at places like Jefferson Park, Semiahmoo Resort and Foster Golf Links. In Oregon, the Resort at the Mountain has a course and Glendoveer has a course set up in addition to its pair of 18-hole courses.

This is a sport which is here to stay.

There is even a national organization as well as an international group that has created leagues and rules for the game. The Federation for International FootGolf and the American FootGolf League are the governing bodies.

This is serious stuff.

The Pacific Northwest golf courses all have information about FootGolf on their websites and have rolled out the welcome mats for returning and new players.

"We get all kind of different players," said Warren Orr, the General Manager at Foster Golf Links in Tukwila, Wash. "It can be a group of friends or family. it's becoming a serious game for some of the people playing."

FootGolf in the Northwest

Here are some places in Oregon and Washington to try FootGolf:

• Washington

Jefferson Park, Crossroads, Fort Steilacoom, Columbia Park, Gold Mountain, Lake Padden, Sudden Valley, Foster, Meadow Park, Newaukum, Suncadia, Semiahmoo Resort, Airport Golf, High Cedars, Three Lakes.

• Oregon

Resort at the Mountain, Colwood Golf Center, Glendoveer, Meriwether, McNary, Mallard Creek, Stewart Park, Oak Knoll.

The game is still new, having been developed in 2005. The first nine-hole FootGolf tournament was played in 2008 in the Netherlands. The game started by being played in parks but recently moved to golf courses.

FootGolf has saved many struggling golf courses since its inception. One course in the U.S. has FootGolf holes running side by side with its regular golf holes so both can be played at the same time.

Glendoveer Golf Course in Portland has done over 6,000 rounds of FootGolf in two years. The course does FootGolf one day a week during the winter and two days a week in the summer. The demographic has drawn people to Glendoveer that might now normally see the course, said General Manager Kevin Niessner.

Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine also has FootGolf and kicked off the season in late May with a 60-player tournament.



Glendoveer Golf Course in Portland offers two 18-hole courses plus a chance for FootGolf.



Columbia Park in the Tri Cities offers a chance for FootGolf right along the Columbia River.

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July 22 - Happy Gilmore Night
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The Lesson Tee: Work on the speed of your putts to get more to go into the hole

Everyone wants to score lower. I know I do. The quickest way to improve scoring is around the greens. This month lets take a thumbnail look at a few aspects of putting.

I always express at my clinics and lessons that people focus 80% on line and only 20% on speed. I feel it should be the opposite. Speed, speed, speed. People three putt because of poor speed not poor line. When I putt best I have proper speed control.

If I have great speed I have more trust. I also have great speed when I have target focus rather than mechanical focus. Ben Crenshaw has stressed this concept to me on many occasions. He told me he has never putted well thinking about his stroke. Hit many putts 30-50 feet focused on speed. Use an intuitive look at the line and a focused feel on speed, 80% speed and only 20% on line.

A second key to putting growth is "hit the ball solid." Hit the ball on the sweet spot of the putter. Practice this skill. Yes, it is a skill. Yes, it can be practiced. A helpful drill is to place a quarter on the green. Stroke the quarter and make it move. It's tougher than it looks.

Thirdly, a solid set up is important for consistent putting. When a player has their forearms on the same plane as the putter shaft and each other many stroke flaws will disappear. Bending forward with the upper torso to where the shoulders are close to parallel to the ground will create a straighter back stroke. This occurs because the arms swing down the shoulder line.

Personally, I have found success setting up a bit underneath or to the right at address. This way I can see the line better. Again putting with your eyes focused on the target is very big.



Jeff Coston

Personally, I have found success setting up a bit underneath or to the right at address. This way I can see the line better. Again putting with your eyes focused on the target is very big.

My hands are over the ball at address rather than behind. Ben Crenshaw and Morris Hatalsky turned me on to this years ago.

To work on the mechanics of my putting stroke I often use a 2 x 4 turned up on it's side. I stroke the putter with the toe rubbing on the board. I also do the same with the heel of the putter rubbing and following the board. You can also hit putts doing this drill.

- Speed
- Solid hit
- Solid set up
- Use the 2 x 4

Jeff Coston is an 20-time Pacific Northwest PGA Player of the Year. He can be reached for appointment at 360.201.4590 or see www.jeffcoston.com for more information.



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Chris Aoki: NW teaching pro enters her 31st year of working with golfers

It's been quite a career for long-time LPGA Professional, Chris Aoki. She remembers playing for the University of Washington under Coach Edean Ihlanfeldt and entering the PGA Apprentice Program in 1978 when women were allowed to join. She is now entering her 31st year as a PGA Member.

"As a youngster, I admired some of the great local teachers like Harry Umbinetti and Billy Derickson. My father encouraged me to play even when it was unusual for girls," she said. "I began working for Ted Wurtz and Jack Frei while in school. After graduating from the UW, I mentored under Tag Merritt at Sahalee, Tom Sursely at Mill Creek, and Al Mundle at Bear Creek."

Chris has been teaching at Harbour Pointe Golf Club since 1994 and in 2008, opened an indoor teaching studio nearby as a complement to her outdoor lessons. "I wanted to incorporate state-of-the-art technology using a simulator and have an area for training aids. We analyze golf swings using simulator video, create better golf swing movement with training aids and get results faster," she said.

In 1999, Chris invented a putter fitting system, Fit2Aim. Different design components are interchanged during a fitting process to improve aim and stroke. The system is used by many teaching professionals around the country. Kirk Smith is Chris' full-time club and putter fitter, teacher and CFT and specializes in proprietary and in-house training aids to help golfers achieve their goals.

"It's been a life-long journey that keeps getting better and better," she says with a smile. "I wouldn't change any of my adventures. It has led to keeping up with technology, developing golf swings through innovation, and seeing golfers make friends, stay active and play better golf."

Muckleshoot Casino celebrates 21st anniversary with record slot tourney

Muckleshoot Casino in Auburn, Washington culminated its landmark 21st anniversary celebration on April 30 with a record-breaking event – the world's largest slot tournament. Officially certified by Guinness World Records, the historic designation was captured during the kick-off of Everi's 2016 TournEvent of Champions.

"This is a thrilling honor not just for Muckleshoot Casino, but for the incredible 3,173 players who hold this record with us equally," said Conrad Granito, General Manager of Muckleshoot Casino.

An official Guinness World Records adjudicator verified the accomplishment after a more than 13-hour period. Participation in the history-making event, which awarded more than \$100,000 in cash and prizes, was free to guests 21 and older.

The tournament's top finisher, Benigno T. of Federal Way, Wa., received \$21,000 in cash and a four-night trip to Las Vegas to compete for a chance to win \$1 million* in Everi's TournEvent of Champions championship event on September 28, 2016.

"We've held hundreds of TournEvent of Champions slot tournaments over the past five years, but this one was definitely the most memorable and the perfect way to kick off this year's campaign," added Linda Trinh, Everi Vice President of Marketing & Promotions.

From its humble start in a tent in 1995, Muckleshoot Casino now proudly serves as the largest gaming establishment in the Pacific Northwest, with more than 3,100 games, eight dining experiences, and sensational live entertainment.



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Rules of the Game: Make sure you know the right way to take that proper drop relief

Russ Wing



As a Rules Official, I'm occasionally asked which Rule is my favorite. For me, that's easy. It is Rule 20 - Lifting, Dropping and Placing; Playing From Wrong Place.

It is my favorite Rule because it has the procedural information you need to properly execute the various relief and other procedures in the Rules of Golf. And because most players don't know these procedural details, it is frequently where Rules Officials can be of most assistance to players.

Accompanying this article is an exhibit with an outline of Rule 20, which shows the topics covered by the Rule. It is a relatively long Rule, and one that contains a lot of detailed information, more than can be discussed in one article. So in the remainder of this article, I will just touch on a couple of the highlights.

Rule 20-2c contains the list of criteria for when a ball that has been dropped MUST be re-dropped. It is a somewhat long and complicated list, and does NOT include "because you got a bad lie" with your drop. Related to this list, I have two recommendations for players. First, read the list of re-drop situations and try to commit it to memory. Second,

Rule 20 - Lifting, Dropping and Placing; Playing from Wrong Place

- 20-1. Lifting and Marking
- 20-2. Dropping and Re-Dropping
 - a. By Whom and How
 - b. Where to Drop
 - c. When to Re-Drop
- 20-3. Placing and Replacing
 - a. By Whom and Where
 - b. Lie of Ball to Be Placed or Replaced Altered
 - c. Spot Not Determinable
 - d. Ball Fails to Come to Rest on Spot
- 20-4. When Ball Dropped, Placed or Replaced is in Play
- 20-5. Making Next Stroke from Where Previous Stroke Made
- 20-6. Lifting Ball Incorrectly Substituted, Dropped or Placed
- 20-7. Playing from Wrong Place
 - a. General
 - b. Match Play
 - c. Stroke Play

if you ever have ANY doubt about whether you're entitled to a re-drop, request the help of a Rules Official.

Why?

Because if you weren't entitled to the re-drop, you just played from a wrong place (Rule 20-7) and incurred a 2-stroke penalty.

Rule 20-3 is itself a rather complicated Rule. You would think that placing or replacing a ball would be simple and straightforward. And in most cases it is. But, for example, what happens if you can't get the ball to sit still when you place it on a sloping lie? What

do you do? You follow the procedure in Rule 20-3d.

For players new to the Rules, I recommend that you first read "A Quick Guide to the Rules of Golf" in the front of the current Rules of Golf book. And right after that, read Rule 20, because it contains the procedural information you need to execute the relief and other procedures in the Rules. And when you're playing in a tournament and faced with a complicated Rule 20 situation, request the help of a Rules Official. That's why we're out there.

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A great golf read for the non-golfer

By Bob Marlatt, Inside Golf Publisher

Golf is a subject that has eluded most writers, partly because it lacks appeal for the non-golfer, but every once in a while a book comes along that stands out from the rest and appeals to everyone. *Night Lessons* is one of those books. Even though it has golf as the underlying core, the story centers around a young boy from the poor side of town and his unexpected introduction to the game of golf and the events that propel him into manhood.

The character lineup is outstanding, ranging from an aging hustler ('Wedgy' Byrne) trying to make a living beating up on club pigeons around the Midwest and Texas, to a compulsive gambler (Hank Swain) who is haunted by memories of crash-landing a troop-glider during WWII, killing all of the troops onboard except himself. Hank, who had never played golf, loses his son's college money betting on a golf match. Hank tries to put his life and family back on track as the book unfolds.

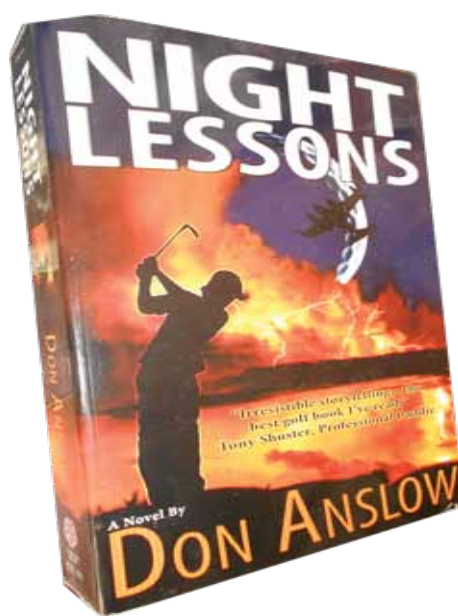
The main character is Hank Swain's son, Rama

Schwain, a teenager who, trying to make some money to help out his sick mom, stumbles into a caddie job at a nearby private club where he soon learns that he is mysteriously gifted with the ability to lift golfer's games to extraordinary levels. He encounters a rich benefactor that is taken-in with the boy's ability to lift his game to new heights, setting the stage for future events.

Anslow is able to describe the emotions and situational stress that accompanies a game where everything hangs on the outcome of a few shots. This is not just a book about golf but delves into the transformation and challenges of several people's lives and how they all come together to make up a captivating story line. The book will pull you in, all 552 pages.

Don Anslow is a Northwest author living in Beavercreek, just south of Oregon City and is busy already working on his next book.

We don't usually give star rating to books but if we did, this would be a 5-star book, a must read. The book is available on Amazon and www.donanslow.com.



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• **Bellevue City Amateur:** Set for June 11-12 at Bellevue Golf Course. See www.bellevuepgc.com/-2016-bellevue-amateur.

• **82nd Seattle Amateur:** Set for July 1-3 at Jackson Park, Jefferson Park and West Seattle. See www.premiergc.com/-seattle-amateur.

• **West Seattle Amateur:** Set for July 16-17 at West Seattle Golf Course. See www.premiergc.com/-west-seattle-amateur.com.

The Hickory Corner: Time to check your knowledge

By Brian Giboney, Special to Inside Golf

Welcome back to The Hickory Corner where we explore hickory golf (golf with pre-1935 equipment). Because not many of us were alive during the hickory era there can be misinformation circulating about rules, equipment, and even what Bobby Jones' favorite number was. To help the education process I have developed a pop quiz for you with a grading scale at the end to see where you stand.

1. Golf gloves were forbidden in the 1920's.

- A. True
- B. False

2. The 1896 U.S. Open held at Shinnecock Hills was played from what yardage?

- A. 4,423 yards
- B. 5,279 yards
- C. 6,356 yards
- D. 7,084 yards

3. In a golf set the "play club" is which club?

- A. Putter
- B. Chipper
- C. Driver
- D. Fairway Wood

4. During Harry Vardon's seven major wins, what was the highest score he shot?

- A. 72
- B. 74
- C. 78
- D. 83

5. Hickory shafts are made from what part of the hickory tree?

- A. The branches
- B. The trunk
- C. The top cut
- D. The roots

6. How many clubs could be used during a competition round in the 1920's?

- A. 5
- B. 7

- C. 14
- D. Unlimited

7. In what year did Bobby Jones win the Grand Slam?

- A. 1923
- B. 1925
- C. 1929
- D. 1930

8. Francis Ouimet is known for winning which event as an Amateur?

- A. The 1905 British Open (now known as the Open Championship)
- B. The 1934 Master's
- C. The 1913 U.S. Open
- D. The 1931 PGA Championship

9. Hickory shafts come in only one stiffness:

- A. True
- B. False

10. Hickory golf is more challenging than modern golf:

- A. True
- B. False

Answers:

1. B. False, gloves were in fact used & many resembled a modern day fingerless weightlifter style glove.
2. A. 4,423 yards, courses short in the Hickory era.
3. C. Driver, as that club is supposed to put the ball in play.
4. D. 83, scores were much higher in the hickory era. Harry had several rounds in the 80's in the seven majors he won.
5. B. The trunk, further up the tree the trunk splits and limbs join all of which negatively affects the grain of the wood. The trunk provides the best wood with straight grain and strong enough for hickory golf shafts. (Source: Mike Just, Louisville Golf).
6. D. Unlimited. It wasn't until 1938 a rule specified "not exceeding fourteen in number."
7. D. 1930 is the year Bobby Jones won the grand slam and was given a ticker-tape parade in NYC.
8. C. The 1913 U.S. Open held at Brookline as depicted in the movie "The Greatest Game Ever Played."
9. B. False, unlike modern steel which can be replicated, hickory shafts come in a million different varieties of stiffness - hence the uniqueness of each club.
10. A. True, once you try it you will know - hickory golfers embrace & enjoy the challenge.

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Three Washington courses deemed 'salmon safe'

The Northwest offers many great places to warm up your back swing for the coming golf season. The Salmon-Safe courses of Willows Run, Druids Glen and Salish Cliffs offer the full package - they are competitive, visually stunning and environmentally-friendly. The Salmon-Safe Golf Course Certification Program is part of the popular Northwest eco-label that is administered in Washington by the Seattle based non-profit Stewardship Partners.

The program looks at site development practices to protect water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and overall watershed health based on a thorough set of peer-reviewed guidelines. The certification process begins with a day-long site assessment of management issues including irrigation efficiency, storm water management, pesticide reduction and stream and wetlands area management.

The review is conducted by a third party

independent assessment team. Current members include golf course architect David McLay Kidd, ecologist Jason King, Carrie Foss of Washington State University, and salmon biologist Peter Bahls. The team also reviews management policies and documents related to environmental management of facilities and grounds.

• **Willows Run:** One of the many benefits of these newly-certified courses is that they reduce the amount of pollution that gets into salmon-bearing streams and Puget Sound. The Washington State Department of Ecology considers polluted runoff to be the number one water quality problem in Washington. "If you love golfing, fishing and the environment, these golf courses offer a win-win," says Stewardship Partners Executive Director, David Burger. Willows Run is located in Redmond.

• **Druids Glen Golf Club:** Brian Patton from Access Golf LLC, owners of Willows Run, sees

Salmon-Safe as a good business model for other courses. "I believe that Salmon-Safe certification will immediately help course promotion and contribute to improved business," he says. "We hope to be a catalyst for other courses who consider moving towards Salmon-Safe certification." Druids Glen is located in Covington.

• **Salish Cliffs Golf Club:** The Squaxin Island Tribe's Salish Cliffs Golf Club was the first Salmon-Safe certified golf course in the world. Four years ago, the course went through a thorough assessment with the goal of managing water runoff, reducing pesticides, and advancing environmental practices throughout the region. Dave Lopeman, former chair of the Squaxin Island Tribal Council, notes, "Salmon-Safe certification, with its rigorous site assessment process and regional focus on the Northwest, has helped inform our project from site planning through ongoing operation." The course is located in Shelton.

Pepsi Northwest Women's Open is set for July 11-13

The Pepsi Northwest Women's Open is set for July 11-13, 2016 at Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club in Federal Way.

The tournament will feature women professionals from the Pacific Northwest and the country. The three-day event features a one-day Pro-Am and a two-day tournament with a purse of more than \$17,000.

The Pepsi Northwest Women's Open is open for all professionals and amateurs and the Pro-Am on Monday July 11 is a one-day event that features three amateurs and a professional.

For more information call 253.838.0345 or see www.nwwomensopen.com. The event is also sponsored by the City of Federal Way.

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July 11th-14th

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