GOLF PENNSYLVANIA GOLF NORTHEAST

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e Fore Winter Getaway

Destination:

Treasure Trove of Golf Waiting at the "Other Pinehurst" Golf Courses

Myrtle Beach Golf: Playing All Four Courses at Barefoot

Florida's First Coast Golf Courses & Resorts

Hilton Head's Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort Ahead of the Curve in Golf Technology

Alex Knoll Captures Philadelphia PGA Professional Championship

Amelia Island Smart Golf Getaway

Results; Philly PGA, PPGS & GAP/AGA

TPC Sawgrass Stadium Course Island Green Hole #17

GolfBlueShamrock.com



There is a Treasure Trove of Golf Waiting at the "Other Pinehurst"



Talamore Resort Golf Course Hole No. 18



Talamore Resort Golf Course Hole No. 9 designed by Rees Jones

By Tony Leodora

There are a number of iconic golf destinations waiting for traveling golfers across America. Just mention names like Pebble Beach, PGA National, Bandon Dunes or Kiawah Island and watch the transformation of the listener. The eyes glass over, the mind drifts, hands start to form an imaginary interlocking grip.

Another destination in that category is Pinehurst. It has been "America's Home of Golf" ever since legendary architect Donald Ross first set foot on the sandhills of North Carolina and began carving his masterpieces. Pinehurst

No. 2 has stood the test of time ... and stood the test of championship play. Another U.S. Open championship is scheduled to be played on the No. 2 course in 2024, the fourth time the championship visits Pinehurst.

In the meantime, thousands of golfers visit Pinehurst each year ... to play the resort courses, which now total nine ... to stay in the grand Carolina Hotel at Pinehurst Resort ... to stroll through the charming Village of Pinehurst.

That is a unique experience, but it comes with a steep price tag.

For those who reserve that kind of golf experience for a once-in-a-lifetime treat, and still want to enjoy golf in the Sandhills region of North Carolina ... there is the "Other Pinehurst."

They might already know about Pine Needles Resort and Country

Club, home to another great Donald Ross-designed course that has hosted a number of high-level events, including a number of U.S. Women's Opens.

And there are a number of other courses in the area. To help sort through all of the choices, here is a trilogy of Pinehurst area courses that will supply a great Sandhills experience ... at a fraction of the cost.

Talamore Resort

This is a high-level resort without the premium cost. The golf course at Talamore Resort was designed by Rees Jones. In 2018 it went through a major renovation that has elevated it to the top tier of all courses in the Pinehurst

arca.

"We wanted to make the course a bit more player-friendly," explains Matt Hauser, general manager at Pinehurst. "We took out a lot of bunkers. Rerouted access to a lot of the greens, so that there no longer were so many cart path-only restrictions and long walks from cart path to greens. We renovated the bunkers and improved drainage."

The net result is a course that still has plenty of challenge -- it plays longer than the listed yardage and the new hybrid Bermuda greens combine with a lot of undulation to provide a stern test. But, thanks to the changes, Talamore now provides a player-friendly golf experience for all.

How friendly?



Legacy Golf Links Course designed by Jack Nicholas II Hole #13

Other Pinehurst continued on page 5

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Legacy Golf Links Course designed by Jack Nicholas II Hole #8



Tobacco Road Golf Course Hole No. 15 Green designed by Mike Strantz

Other Pinehurst continued from page 3

Visitors can stay in the very upscale villas alongside the course, walk to the nicely appointed clubhouse that provides an included buffet breakfast for all package guests every morning, or return on a Monday or Thursday night for a complimentary "Pig Pickin" dinner that is always a lot of fun.

Legacy Golf Links

The name Nicklaus is the most magical of all in golf – even when it refers to his offspring. Jack Nicklaus II learned the golf course architecture business under his father. He worked on a number of projects that proudly wore the Nicklaus name. When it was time to let the youngster fly on his own, he was given an amazing piece of Pinehurst area property and designed Legacy Golf Links in nearby Aberdeen.

Making great use of the lakes on the property, young Jack designed one of the most scenic courses in the area.

"The lakes are our main feature and the golf course incorporates so many

amazing views," says Chad DeRusseau, head golf professional at Legacy Golf Links. "Golfers may lose a few balls but they will appreciate the scenery."

The closing stretch of holes at Legacy Golf Links present the supreme test – capped by the infamous 18th hole. This par 4 beast that stretches to 459 yards from the back tees, comes complete with a nerve-wracking second shot over water to a large green. It has been rated among the toughest golf holes in North Carolina.

All features of the Legacy Golf Links course benefit from the fact that a major renovation took place in 2011. Foremost on the list of renovation projects was the installation of new greens that still roll fast and true.

Tobacco Road

The most unforgettable of the

three courses in the "Other Pinehurst" is Tobacco Road. Situated just a few miles north of Pinehurst in Sanford, North Carolina, Tobacco Road is a feast for the eyes.

Heralded artist/architect, the late Mike Strantz, designed a golf course that is more like a roller coaster ride, than a walk in the park. Thrills, chills and spills await the golfer at every turn.

Opened in 1999, Tobacco Road has endured a bit of criticism as a controversial design – but only from the conservative golf crowd who oppose any diversion from the norm. The vast majority of players who come to this somewhat lunar landscape absolutely love it for its creativity and change of pace from the typical Pinehurst courses.

Before his death at the early age of 50, Strantz commented on his work at Tobacco Road by saying, "I want every hole to exude the spirit of the game."

Mission accomplished.

"So many players come here and make the same comments," says Head Professional Chris Brown, who has worked at the course since the beginning.

"They say it is some of the most exciting and fun golf they ever have played."

While Tobacco Road presents quite a challenge, much of it is of the optical variety. There is a lot of deception behind the design of the course. Those tricks are reflected in a rating/slope of 71.7/144 from the 6,400 yard tees and 70.3/135 from the 6,200 yard tees. But, for those who can think their way around this layout, there also are a lot of birdie holes.

Maybe the best line to apply to Tobacco Road comes from the old Wide World of Sports television show – the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. In any case, the only thing you can't find at Tobacco Road is boredom. Prepare to be exhilarated.



Tobacco Road Golf Course Hole No 2 Green









Myrtle Beach Golf: Playing All Four Courses At Barefoot



Barefoot Norman Golf Course Hole #10

By Mike Kern

The golf gods know that I've played more than my fair share of rounds in Myrtle Beach. And that many of those rounds were played at Barefoot Resort.

And the basketball gods know that I've covered more than my fair share of games during my nearly four-decade career at the Philadelphia Daily News. And that many of those involved first Temple and later on Villanova.

But even though I'd played a few times while I was off somewhere doing my job reporting on John Chaney or Jay Wright, I'd never really combined the two before as part of a plan.

At least until now.

When the Wildcats were chosen to play in the annual Myrtle Beach Invitational at Coastal Carolina University, my good friend Tony Leodora put together a road trip involving a dozen or so of his Villanova posse. And I became part of it, helping him do his award-winning weekly radio show from down there and also playing all four courses at Barefoot during our stay.

So who was I to say no? It was one of those offers you just can't turn your back on. So off we went. A first for me. And I can tell you that I can't wait until the Wildcats vited back.

We left on a Wednesday morning, from the 1912 Club in Plymouth Meeting. Some 10 hours later we arrived at our base for the next five days, a three-bedroom condo that as usual more than served the purpose. Even if I couldn't use the pool since it was November. Details. Usually I'm down there when the temperature is in the 90s and not the 40s or 50s, I was in no way complaining. Because Myrtle Beach – and Barefoot – is never a bad idea. And I've been going there long enough to know.

We actually started doing the show on the ride down, me from the backseat, as Tony and I taped a segment on what we were about to enjoy. And yes, I did take the time to admonish the many drivers who still don't get the idea that you can't stay in the left lane if you're not going to go more than say 50 miles an hour. Don't get me started. It's a pet peeve.

Yes, the drive is long. And some of the guys chose to fly. But I've done it so many times that I'm just used to it by this point. So it doesn't bother me, especially when you've got some good conversation going on in the car. I'm not sure we solved all of the world's problems, but we tried. I think we even came up with ways that Jay could get this team to reach its full potential. Like he needs anyone's help.

It helped that we stopped at Ralph's, a spot right off I-95 in northern North Carolina that has a barbeque buffet to satisfy your southern cravings. I think I did three



Barefoot Fazio Golf Course Hole #18

platefuls. Or maybe it was four. I lost count somewhere after the hush puppies. Or was that the pulled pork? Whatever. It was all good.

We got to see Villanova play three times. It won twice, beating a decent Mississippi State team in the second round before losing to a really good Baylor team for the championship. But it was entertaining, I got to write for the paper again (I was the stringer), and we learned something. This team is young, but talented. It's going to be a process. But the signs were mostly good, particularly for this early in the journey. I got a chance to see some of the first steps. I think the Wildcats will be a problem for somebody come March, which is mostly what matters anymore. And when you've won two national titles in the four previous seasons, well it means expectations are always high but you also get a certain amount of slack. Nobody understands that more than Wright.

We did another segment from courtside during one of the wins. And another with Jay after the last game. He seemed happy to see me. I felt the same way. I hope I didn't embarrass myself with the 500 words I filed each day. Hey, it's been awhile. So I had to grade myself on a curve. Still, it felt good to be doing what I felt I did best once again.

Now for the golf. First, let me say that staying at Barefoot is always a taste treat. You really never have to leave the place if you don't want to. Barefoot Landing is right next door, and they're building a shopping complex right at Barefoot to serve vacationers better. And the clubhouse is one of the best anywhere. The breakfast we had was not only plentiful but very reasonably priced. I'm going to take my wife there the next time we go down. One of her favorite spots on the planet is the veranda that overlooks the 18th hole of the Fazio course, but we only went for lunch or to have a cool drink. Once we even saw a baby bear in the woods next to the fairway. Yes, they do have wildlife in those parts. It's just a terrific setting. Very peaceful and scenic. A postcard waiting to happen.

As far as I'm concerned, Barefoot has to be one of the best four-course stops there is. Period. They have courses designed by Tom Fazio, Pete Dye, Greg Norman and Davis Love. That's a pretty stout lineup. And I've played them all, many times. So it was nice to get back and enjoy them once more. Cause the experiences never get old.

Three of the courses start at the same spot, while the Dye is located about a 3-wood away. So it's very convenient as well. And trust me there are times in Myrtle when I've had to drive an hour to get to a course. I make sure the drive is worth it, but there's something about rolling out of bed and being minutes away from your tee time. Never a bad perk.

When I'm there in the summer all I need is shorts. In November I packed differently.

Playing Barefoot Golf continued on page 9

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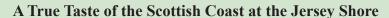




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Barefoot Dye Golf Course Hole #6

Playing Barefoot Golf Continued from page 7

And in the mornings it was chilly. But by the afternoon it was fine. And I did play a few second nines in short sleeves. So if you get lucky, you can pay less and get weather that's very condusive. Just saying. And you can watch an Eagles game after you're finished. Of course that could mean you watch the Eagles lose an ugly one to the Seahawks at home, but that I unfortunately have no control over. You take your chances. I will say that the bar at Barefoot (adjacent to the practice range) has wonderful pizza. As with all matters that involve food, you can trust me on this.

We started on the **Norman course**, which is probably the best place to start there. It's the most user-friendly of the four. Fairly or not, it probably doesn't get enough whatever because of the other three courses. But I think it's a fine layout. And if it were located somewhere else by itself, I'm sure it would get more love. It's just that in comparison to the other three, it's probably a little lower on the wow chain. But I would play it any time and not complain. I've had a lot of fun there, especially when my son was starting out. I've also had a snake encounter there. Don't ask. It happens. And don't be fooled. This track can challenge you. Just not as much as what was to follow. Hardly a felony. I think part of the charm of going to Barefoot is playing all four and comparing your notes.

Next it was the **Fazio**, which might be the best of the bunch depending on who you're asking. And along with the **Dye** and **Love**, we're talking about some of the top-rated courses in not only the area but the state. Duly noted. One thing you learn quickly is that you really need to play the right tees. Another pet peeve. We were told that the ball wouldn't be flying anywhere near what it would be in the warmer months, and they weren't laying. It was about a two-club difference, even before you factored in the wind. So even though I was playing mostly from the senior or forward tees, the courses still played much longer than the listed distance. I found myself hitting 3-woods from like 160 yards. Hey, you do what you have to, to get by. I've always loved Fazio designs, and this is certainly right up there on that list. It flows well, it can bite you early and often, but it's playable. What else do I need to compute?

The third day we played the Dye, which is unlike what most people think of Dye in that it wasn't a constant diet of railroad ties and the like that we've come to associated with his name. It is penal in spots, but not necessarily lethally so. There is a difference. The biggest problem we faced was that the grounds were wet and there was no roll. So it really did play long. I know some people like it and others don't, but I'm on the favorable side of that conversation. And I've played enough Dye courses to get what he's trying to do to your mind. And stomach. I think there's more than enough opportunities here to make shots that get rewarded. And that's the point. You just have to know when to choose discretion. It's a fine line sometimes. But one I'm willing to take every time I'm at Barefoot.

Finally we did the Love, on a perfect morning before we began the drive back home. I have to admit it's always been my favorite of the four. And I'm not sure why, except I just seem to have a good time taking it on. This trip was no different. The third hole is a short one where the green is surrounded by stone walls in the back. And I can tell you I've both bounced balls off the wall (onto the green for a birdie, I might add) and had to hit balls



Barefoot Love Golf Course Hole #4

back over that wall to the putting surface. You find a little bit of everything on this layout. So on this day I get to the 14th, a long dogleg par 4 with water on the left, and I've got like 190 in after splitting the fairway with my drive. And I tell my partner that there's no way I'm reaching the green. Then I proceed to hit a career 3-wood that bends in perfectly around the edge of a bunker and rolls just off the back, leaving me about a 15-footer for 3. I missed, but it was a keeper nonetheless.

So were the next two. On a short par-3, I hit a great 8-iron pin high right about 12 feet. The putt hit the edge of the cup, went all the way around the hole and came to rest in front of the cup. For a second. Then it somehow fell in. I love gravity. My second bird of the trip. Then it got better. After another good tee shot I flew a 9-iron to within 5 feet, which led to another bird. Imagine that. Maybe two of my last holes of the year and I went back-to-back. Of course I didn't birdie the 17th. Or 18th. But I had my moment. That's all Lack

Then we headed home, way too soon. I could've stayed. Maybe even never left. Yet maybe that's what makes it so special. I know it's there, I know I'm going to go back, and it becomes an escape.

Oops, almost forgot. Aside from our breakfasts, we ate good. Because we wouldn't have it any other way. Tony introduced us to this place, Crave, in the middle of Myrtle Beach, where the happy hour is not to be believed. You can get a great pizza for 7 bucks, which is a steal. And it's good pizza, which is hard to find down there. I found two. Sometimes it's good to be me. Also, the meatballs were to die for, and Tony and I are both meatball snobs. Plus they had a tomato and mozzarella salad, again for 6 dollars, that was South Philly worthy. I'm trying to think if I missed anything, and I probably did, but let it suffice that you can't go wrong.

We also had a wonderful burger, since that's what we were in the mood for, at the River City Café in Barefoot Landing. But there are many locations throughout the Grand Strand. This just happened to be the one that was five minutes from our condo, which didn't hurt. It's a good place to get a tasty sandwich with all the accompaniments and a drink. Nothing wrong with that. Some nights, at the end of a long day, that's all you're looking for

Maybe the highlight, though, was a stop at Bimini's Oyster Bar and Seafood Market in North Myrtle. Again, not far from Barefoot, which seems to be a theme. I had been meaning to go to this place for some time and for whatever reasons had just not managed to pull off. Now I know what I'd been missing. You can't go to Myrtle and not get some fresh stuff from the sea, and this certainly got the job done. Tony had a salad topped with fried oysters. I had a combo of blackened grouper and pan-seared scallops, and it was fantastic. I will be going back. And the prices were right. As is most everything in Myrtle. Which is probably why I like it so much.

Which is probably why I like it so much.

So there you have it, a unique kind of trip to Myrtle. And a very memorable one. I will be headed back next summer. And maybe one of these years I'll figure out a way to get back there in the winter. Thanks to all who made it possible. Happy to share it with my readers. Just remember to pack some warmer clothes. You can leave the Gatorade out

of the bag. Unless a warm front moves through.

You can only hope for the best. Me, as long as it doesn't rain I'm pretty easy. Who knew? It just took me too many years to find out. My bad.



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Florida's First Coast Golf Courses & Resorts



Oak Marsh Golf Course a Pete Dye-designed golf course

By Holly Geoghegan

Northeast Florida, known as the First Coast for its historical significance, may be the state's best-kept secret. Home to the nation's oldest city, St. Augustine, this region according to Visit Florida (www.visitflorida.com) boasts "a fascinating blend of natural wonders, pristine beaches and laid-back lifestyles." And if you're planning a golf vacation, Florida's First Coast is home to over 75 miles of world-class, memorable and diverse coastal golf courses and resorts.

Ameila Island – Your first stop just across the Florida State line is beautiful Ameila Island. Only 13 miles long and four miles wide, it is the northernmost of the barrier islands on Florida's Northeast Coast. Ameila Island has five golf courses and is known for its luxury resorts, championship golf and sandy white beaches.

Oak Marsh Golf Course is a Pete Dye-designed golf course that is one of three 18-hole courses at Amelia Island Plantation. Rated 4.6 stars on Golf Advisor, The Oak Marsh course meanders alongside the Atlantic Ocean providing sweeping views and an ever-changing sea breeze. Appropriately named after its terrain of scenic salt marshes and moss-draped heritage oaks, the golf course has a stunning landscape that is ideal for a challenging round. Dye protected the natural beauty of the island by carefully maintaining the tidal marshes, oceanfront dunes, grassland, and savannahs. The layout features tight fairways and small, bulk-headed greens, a classic Dye element. There are a variety of bunkers strategically placed throughout and water comes into play on fourteen holes.

Long Point at Amelia Island Club features a unique landscape that provides golfers with the opportunity to play through salt marshes, centuries-old oaks and pines, and oceanfront dunes. This award-winning Tom Fazio design is known for its natural waste bunkers, tight fairways and

large, elevated, Tif-Eagle greens. The rolling fairways wind through three spectacular and distinctive settings: the magnificent marshes, the thick oak and pine forest and the scenic oceanfront dunes.

Long Point's distinctive back-to-back #15 and #16 par 3s that face the Atlantic will test your ability depending on the weather. Although it is a demanding test, players are rewarded with scenic views of the Ocean and the Amelia River.

The Amelia River Golf Club consists of 18 challenging holes where ball control and accuracy are key to a great round. The par 72 layout that opened in 2000, gives golfers a natural low country feel as the course winds through native water oaks, palmettos and southern pines. Amelia River Club is one of the most fun and enjoyable courses in Northeast Florida and always in pristine condition. Enjoy all of the convenience and value of a community golf club without the feel and customer service of a private club. This course is rated consistently as one of the best golf club values on the island.

Winding along the Atlantic Ocean, the **Golf Club of Amelia Island at Summer Beach** showcases the natural beauty of the Island. The golf course features a varied terrain that provides spectacular views throughout. Towering palms, pines, and oaks blanket the landscape and blustery ocean breezes sweep through the course, providing plenty of natural challenges. The front nine holes of the golf course make their way through heavily forested parkland covered in shimmering lakes while the oceanfront back nine features scenic salt marshes and wide fairways. The 6,696-yard course used to be long enough and strong enough to host a major event, the 1998 Liberty Mutual Insurance Legends of Golf. The only way to access this private club is through a stay-and-play at the Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island, but worth the splurge if



Grand Haven Golf Club is known as one of the Palm Coast's most dramatic and enjoyable golf courses.

you are so inclined.

If you're on a tighter budget, **Fernandina Beach Golf Club** is one of the most popular municipal golf facilities in the area due to its proximity to Jacksonville and the beach. This 27-hole facility offers three distinct fun and interesting nines providing three unique 18-hole combinations. Each course measures well over 3000 yards from the championship tees and presents a one-of-a-kind diverse golfing experience.

Most notably for golfers, Florida's First Coast includes **Ponte Vedra Beach** which is the home of the PGA Tour headquarters and the Players Championship – the so-called fifth major

and site of the infamous 17th island green.

In 2019, the Players was moved back to March in a decision between the PGA Tour and the PGA of America to change up the professional golf calendar. This involved moving the PGA Championship back to May for the first time in 70 years and also to accommodate golf's return to the Olympics in 2016.

The best players in the world come together at **THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass**, one of the most iconic, "must-see" golf courses in the world. The "Stadium Course" is renowned for its unmatched on-site fan and spectator experience. Both seeing the tournament and playing the golf course (albeit a bit pricey at \$495+ in high season) should be on every golfer's bucket list.

Not to be overlooked is the TPC's sister course, the **Dye's Valley Course**. Designed by Bobby Weed and Pete Dye this course was originally designed for the Champions Tour. The 6,838 yard par 72 course was the second to be built at TPC Sawgrass and was finished in 1987. The Dye's Valley Course is a challenge for any skill level with its undulations on the fairways, sweeping greens and water that comes into play upon every hole. Though the Valley Course is a bit milder than the Stadium Course, you will find yourself needing to make accurate shots while you fight the consistent winds from the Atlantic Ocean which is one mile away.

There are many other courses worthy of a round or two while in Ponte Vedra. **The Ponte Vedra Inn and Club** offers 36 holes - The Ocean Course and Lagoon Course - each featuring a distinct seaside links atmosphere. Meandering lagoons, undulating fairways, elevated Bermuda greens protected by steep-faced bunkers and a prevailing sea breeze create a challenging but compelling course that will require all 14 clubs to conquer it.

The Plantations at Ponte Vedra, designed by Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay, is a majestic par 72, signature championship golf course. The course presents a mix of demanding par fives and three signature par threes along with a variety of doglegs left and right and an island green at the 15th hole. Five sets of tee placements that range from 5,058 to 6,940 yards provide golfers of every level the opportunity to challenge themselves and enjoy their round at the same time. Visually this course will keep you on your toes as there are 58 bunkers to navigate and water that comes into play on 16 out of the 18 holes.

World Golf Village – An easy one hour drive south from Ponte Vedra is historic St. Augustine, home of the World Golf Village. The cornerstone of the World Golf Village is the World Golf Hall of Fame which replaced the original PGA of America facility located in Pinehurst, North Carolina, in May 1998. The Hall of Fame has a permanent display of biographical information for every individual inducted. There are also sections devoted to the history of golf, heritage, organizations, course design, equipment, attire and trends. Many of

Florida's First Coast Golf Courses continued on page 21



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Hilton Head's Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort Stays Ahead of the Curve in Golf Technology



Tour player Doug Weaver heads a staff of PGA Class A professionals who provide hands-on instruction at Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort

By Brad King

In the early days of Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort, the subject of technology wasn't mentioned much when it came to golf. Goes to show how everything changes with time.

Fast-forward five decades, as Palmetto Dunes celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2018. Nowadays, golf technology is all the rage.

And, as always, Palmetto Dunes has remained ahead of the curve.

Palmetto Dunes is a 2,000-acre resort destination located in the middle of Hilton Head Island, S.C., bounded by 3 miles of Atlantic Ocean beach on one side and a sheltered Intracoastal Waterway marina on the other.

The trio of golf courses at Palmetto Dunes are named for their designers — Robert Trent Jones, Arthur Hills and George Fazio — and are far different from one another, and from anywhere else in the Lowcountry. All three have been named the "South Carolina Course of the Year."

The most recent example of Palmetto Dunes' commitment to technology is the introduction of the "Tempo Walk" by Club Car, a fleet of autonomous golf caddie units that provides resort golfers the enjoyment of walking one of PD's three courses, while also enhancing play, and fostering health and wellness.

The Tempo Walk offers state-of-the-art wireless technology including GPS yardage and handsfree remote control to maneuver easily around the course. Palmetto Dunes has 12 units available for golfers. "We are delighted to introduce this enhancement to the Palmetto Dunes golf experience," said Palmetto Dunes Director of Golf Clark Sinclair. "It is already generating quite a buzz from our resort guests and our staff also enjoys using the technology."

Constructed with a durable aluminum frame, Tempo Walk contains a lithium ion battery, which holds a 36-hole charge. It moves up to 7 mph and weighs 95 pounds. Additional technology features include a USB port and touchscreen tablet with GPS yardage. Traditional golf car offerings — a cup holder, cooler, divot repair and sand bottle — are also included.

Palmetto Dunes also boasts a state-of-the-art fleet of golf carts produced by Club Car. The fleets at Palmetto Dunes include golf carts equipped with Global Positioning System (GPS), as well as USB ports to charge cell phones and play music devices — all designed to suit a golfer's enjoyment and functionality.

In addition, SwingFit arrived at Palmetto Dunes in 2016, its state-of-the-art technology housed at the Robert Trent Jones clubhouse. SwingFit is a true, custom club fitter and club maker. They are also brand agnostic to fit all major manufacturers of clubs.

"We don't play favorites," said SwingFit Owner and Lead Fitter Chris Wycoff. "This allows us find the ideal combination of shaft and club head for each golfer. It's pretty rare someone needs one brand all the way throughout their bag. We can mix and match. You can have the best fit in the world, but if the build isn't exactly right, the performance won't equal."

Wycoff became a Mizuno Top 100 fitter in 2014 and has been included on Golf Digest's list of the 100 Best Club Fitters in America for the past three years. He is also a member of the Interna-



Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort Jones Hole #10 Aerial

tional Clubmakers Guild and is FlightScope and Gears Golf certified.

Wycoff said technology is imperative when it comes to finding the right clubs for every golfer. SwingFit's data-driven fittings are performed by experienced fitters and leverage SwingFit's extensive matrix of club heads and shafts.

"At SwingFit, we go far beyond the simple loft, lie, length and flex," Wycoff said. "We incorporate the different shaft profiles. We're going to test for weight. We're going to test the shaft — how it's loading and unloading — so it's going to give you the right combination of performance and give you repeatable, consistent distance gains, along with improvements in consistency and accuracy by giving you the right feedback to improve your swing."

SwingFit follows the Palmetto Dunes creed: Give your guest everything they desire to not only have the most memorable visit possible, but also to learn some new information about themselves and develop through the wonders of technology. "We fit hundreds and thousands of people every year," Wycoff said. "Our passion is helping find the right equipment for golfers so they can play better golf and have more fun."

In addition to its trio of outstanding golf courses, Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort operates one of the world's top golf academies — including TPI fitness and 3D instruction with Gears Golf—which offers a variety of instructional programs for golfers of all skill levels. Former PGA Tour player Doug Weaver heads a staff of PGA Class A professionals averaging 17 years of instruction, who provide hands-on instruction to golfers with proficiency and patience.

Weaver was inducted in the Lowcountry Golf Hall of Fame in 2017 and has previously been awarded Hilton Head Island's "PGA Teacher of the Year." He is regularly included among South Carolina's "Best Teachers in State" by Golf Digest. In 2017, Weaver was named "Teacher of the Year" for the Carolinas section of the PGA of America (CPGA). He has served on the CPGA Teachers Committee for three years.

One of Palmetto Dunes' popular attractions is the complimentary, interactive Monday golf exhibition and clinic, where participants experience Weaver's effective and entertaining style

"He is the 'golf whisperer'," said one recent attendee. "Doug's instruction was simple and fun, and now my game has less stress."

In addition, the 60-year-old Weaver was recently awarded the 2019 "Player of the Year" for the CPGA's Lowcountry area, which includes Charleston, Beaufort, Jasper, and Colleton Counties. "I've done what I ask my students to do," Weaver said. "I've been willing to update my techniques in all areas of my game. Palmetto Dunes is an excellent place to practice and play on its challenging and uplifting courses."

uplifting courses."

Little wonder Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort was Named No. 3 "Best Resort in the South" in Condé Nast Traveler's 2019 Readers' Choice Awards and to the Top 25 World's Best Family Get-

aways by Travel + Leisure.

For more information about the latest and greatest golf technology at Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort and many of the resort's extensive offerings, call 877-567-6513 or visit www.Palmet-

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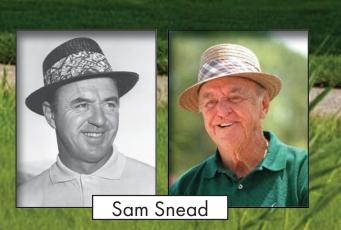
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Port Royal Golf Course in Southampton Parish Hole #11

By Mike Kern

One of the things I can definitely say about the people in Bermuda – other than the fact that they're extremely user-friendly/hospitable – is their sense of humor. At least the ones that I was fortunate enough to encounter. And in my book that never can be bad. Right?

So I'm at the Port Royal Golf Course in Southampton Parish, on the island's scenic and beachy southwestern coastline. I've just arrived at the pro shop, after walking what seems like forever (actually the length of the dogleg right par 4 opening hole, which is downhill but played all uphill for me in the direction I'm headed) from the entrance the bus left me off at. Hey, in Bermuda I take the bus, because they have an excellent transportation system that's a lot less expensive to use even if it does take you a little longer to get around. Such is life sometimes. In three past trips it's served me well, so why change now just because I'm getting older.

Besides, it was good exercise. But I am a bit shall we say winded by the time I reach my destination, which does not go unnoticed by the first person I meet, who wants to know why I didn't just call them and ask for a shuttle ride. Silly me. Never gave it a thought. And it gave me something more to write about I guess.

After I get to meet my hosts, which include a Patriots fan, a Cowboys fan and an Eagles fan, they ask me what kind of rental clubs I would like. Naturally I tell them anything in midget size, since I'm about five foot and change. Fair enough. And when I go outside to my cart, here comes one of them (I believe it was the Cowboy guy but wouldn't swear to it) with a kids set. Perfect. I have to admit that they really almost fit. And of course everyone had a good laugh, most of all me. I immediately felt even more welcomed. We had quickly bonded. I like that.



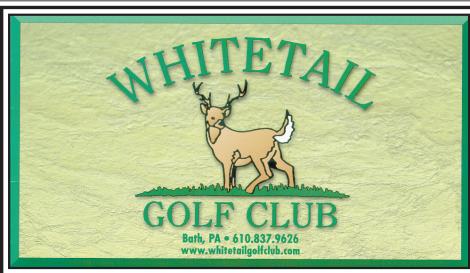
Port Royal Golf Course Hole #16 Green

From where I stand, that was a great start to an absolutely wonderful afternoon in the closest setting to paradise this side of Hawaii. Which is a bold statement. But that's the way I feel.

My wife and I had been to Bermuda before. Once we even went in February, which was a totally different experience. Yet still no less worthy. It's one of those places that's always a fine idea. This time we went in early August, for my wife's belated 60th birthday celebration and one last vacation until she had to return to work at her Northeast Philly elementary school. Me, I'm just a retired bum these days, so I suppose that reason didn't apply to me. Doesn't matter.

Bermuda isn't cheap. But compared to some of the other spots I've visited, it's worth the difference. Like Hawaii, which is 10 hours away. Bermuda, on the other hand, lies some 500 miles east of North Carolina, which means I can get there in two hours. That's no minor detail. Bermuda is very proper and very British, and above all else very clean. I never have to worry about feeling safe, even in the major city of Hamilton. And that's a comfortable way to travel.

Yes, Bermuda has golf. More to the point plenty of it, for such a relatively small land mass. In the past I've had the opportunity to play Mid Ocean, which is probably considered the most exclusive down there but is available to non members on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Then there's Tuckers Point, which once upon a time was called Harbour Castle when the Marriott was still next to it. I played there in hurricane winds. Seriously. With a head pro who was about twice my size. Literally. I don't know if I ever laughed so hard during a round, as we watched balls that had come to a rest get blown clear off the green by the time we had driven up to the putting surface. It's a day I'll never forget. There's also a neat-looking par 3 layout, Turtle Hill, that's located behind



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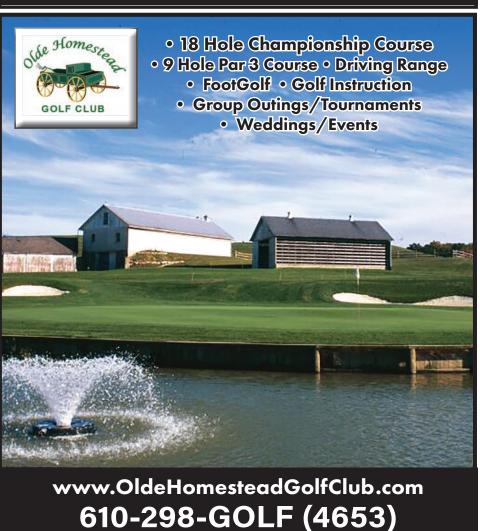
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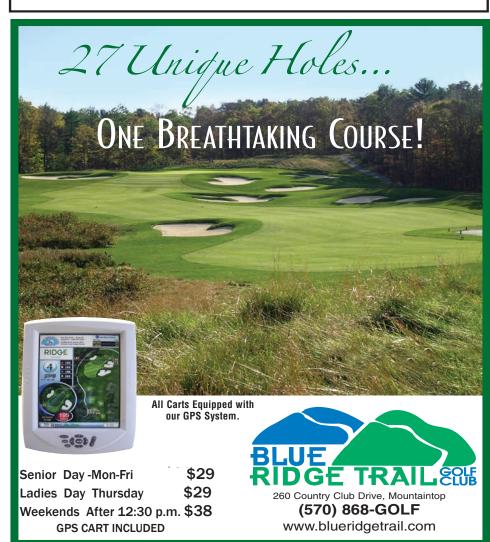
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Port Royal Golf Course Hole #16 Tee

Golf in Bermuda Continued from page 15

the Southampton Princess, one of the best hotels Bermuda has to offer. And, in case you needed more, they have a miniature golf on the western side, at the Dockyard, that has 18 holes modeled after the most famous holes in Europe, the United States and the Caribbean. It's unlike anything you'll find on your nearest boardwalk.

But on this trip I was going to try out Port Royal, a Robert Trent Jones design (built in 1970) that recently underwent a \$15 million makeover. And for good reason. The course has signed a five-year deal to host a PGA Tour event, the Bermuda Championship. The inaugural tournament will be held Oct. 31-Nov. 3, opposite the WGC-HSBC Championship in China. So it's a start, maybe of something really special.

It was a little unseasonably warm on the day I played, but compared to the 90 miles an hour that I faced way back when at Tuckers Point I'll gladly take it. Just drink plenty of fluids and admire the unrelenting scenery, which is nothing less than picturesque at every turn. I mean, it's a postcard waiting to happen. I could have taken my wife along in the cart and she would have been more than happy. But I think she was just as content to spend the afternoon on the beach. Can't say I blame her. But I'll take the tradeoff any time. I'm an addict for a chance to make the odd birdie. The waves and sand can always wait. They're not going anywhere either.

The first hole, as I noted, went downhill and bent to the right. It's kind of a blind tee shot, but that's OK. I was almost too busy looking off into the distance at the northern harbor skyline. I must say it was truly captivating. So naturally I sliced my drive into the woods. Luckily it somehow bounced back into the fairway, so the only thing I lost was distance. I even managed to lay up by avoiding the water hazard to the left of the fairway as you approached the green. I did leave myself a long putt, though, which I nearly three-jacked. I managed to sink like a 12-footer after coming up way short on the first attempt. Don't ask. And so I was off.



Port Royal Golf Course Hole #18

For whatever reason the greens were overly slow. And I never fully adjusted, because I'm a slow learner. It hurt me a few times. It happens. I can only assume they didn't want to cut their new TifEagle greens too low in the heat of the summer.

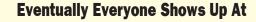
One thing they did mention to me, and which clearly became evident, was not to hit any balls out of the bunkers. Because there wasn't very much sand in any of them. I don't particularly like hitting out of bunkers anyway, so that was OK by me. And to be honest I only ended up in two anyhow. I read later in the paper that there was some kind of dispute going on with the company that was supposed to supply the sand. I can only hope it gets resolved in time for the pros' arrival. I can't imagine it won't.

The layout of the course is magnificent. There's not much not to appreciate, with parts that are simply stunning. There's lots of elevation changes, and some more blind shots. So it takes a little getting used to. And if the winds are up that will only add another element to the challenge they'll face. I know even on a fairly benign day I had shots where I had to use a club or two more or less depending upon which way I was hitting. Then again, that's all supposed to be part of it.

At 6,800 yards from the back, it's the longest course in Bermuda. I played it at around 5,500 (a mix between the white and gold tees). It provides a nice mix of long and shot holes, and doglegs working in different directions. Of course I prefer the shorter ones, but sometimes you have to hit a wood on your second shot. The rules, I've learned, insist. I had a sand wedge in to the par-5 second, but I left a reasonable birdie attempt shot. It would soon become a theme. I missed to the right on the 130-yard third, and couldn't save par even though I once more gave myself a makeable look at it.

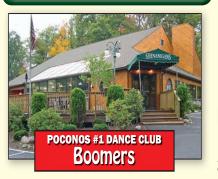
The fourth was a 380-yarder, where I did save a four after having a 3 wood in from 175. Hey, I was using somebody else's clubs (although they were a nice set of Taylor Mades) and I'm not a long hitter. Not even close, even if I do have some moments. I three-putted the fifth for a bogey, and got up and down again

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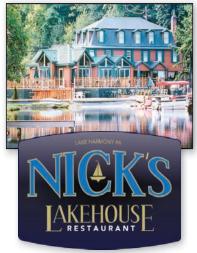
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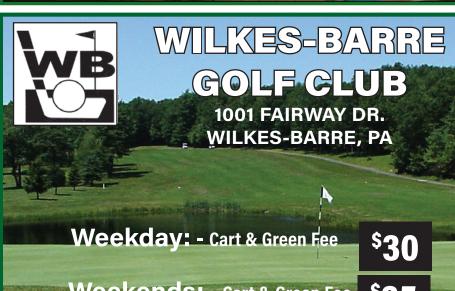
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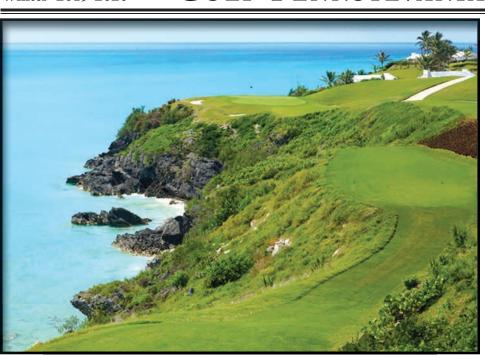
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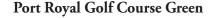
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Golf in Bermuda Continued from page 17

to save another four. I made a relatively routine par at the par-5 seventh, although nothing with me is ever really that routine, if you know what I mean. I closed out the nine with two more pars, though I missed the green at the 165-yard eighth and was forced to nail a 10-footer.

I can add that no two holes were very much alike. And when you looked out at the water, and there is a whole ocean there to look out on, the color is something that's hard to describe for someone who's used to the Jersey Shore or even Myrtle Beach. It's pure, and it's beautiful. And you wish you could take it home with you. But that's why you come to spend some time. Because it's unlike what you normally enjoy.

The back nine featured five holes that were 350 or shorter. That didn't mean they were pushovers. Hardly the case. I pretty much played my usual game, with a necessary mulligan or two mixed in (because I can, and there was nobody else on the course and damn it, I wanted to have some fun so leave me alone), which meant mostly pars and bogeys. I did hit a 5-iron from about 150 downhill on the 11th, because I didn't have my trusty 9 or 7 wood in the bag, and it was maybe the best mid iron I've struck in a long time. I actually hit too much club, so my ball ended up on the back of the green with the pin all the way up front. But I didn't care. I was too giddy from the effort. Yo, it doesn't happen that often.

I was overclubbed myself again on the downhill par 3 13th. I mean, by at least one. I used a 6. Turns out a 7 would have been plenty, maybe even an 8. What was I going to do? Can't complain when you hit it well. And if I ever get back I'll know better. I'd always rather hit a good shot that's too much than hit a mediocre one that ends up OK. I think we'd all agree. Not that you ever throw the ones that only turn out OK back. We're not that whatever.

I hit a couple of good 3 woods coming in. The closer plays all uphill back to the pink clubhouse (very Bermuda), and even though I hit another good one I didn't have nearly enough to make it all the way. Guess I should have hit a better drive. And yes, I left one more par putt short, just because.



Port Royal Golf Course Tee

Oops, almost forgot the par-3 16th, which obviously would be unforgivable. It might be the best hole in Bermuda, or even one of the best anywhere. For me it was 142 yards, with the ocean on the left. So it took me about five minutes of sightseeing before I even put the tee in the ground. I mean, if you can't appreciate that view you might have to check your pulse. If you gave me some beers and a chair I could have just sat there for an hour or so watching the world go by. And I would have been quite content. Finally I had to pull out a club. And it was a 9 iron, with the wind behind me, which I proceeded to hit too far. I never did find it. So I hit another one, and fatted it onto the front of the green, from where I – you guessed it – took three more to get down. I blame the surrounding beauty for distracting me.

When there was a Marriott in Bermuda, we stayed there because of my hotel points. They are building new ones as I write. But on this trip we got a good deal for the Hamilton Princess, which is very nice and is conveniently situated in the capital city near a lot of stuff that makes your trip easier to navigate logistically. But there is no shortage of places to stay, and if you go you should check around to find one that might be best for your itinerary and budget.

I never go to Bermuda to play golf. I consider it a bonus. I don't take my clubs, since I know I'm probably only going to play once. Or maybe twice. One thing about my wife is, she never gives me a problem when it comes to that. And for that I thank her, all the time. I hope your better half or significant other is as understanding. It helps. But I will say that going to Bermuda and not playing golf isn't something I'd recommend. Because sooner or later you're going to pass a course, and you're going to feel left out if you don't give it a go. The three I've played over the years were all wonderful. And I still have a few more to get to. Can't wait to get back. The memories are just too priceless. Even if you run into Cowboy and Patriot fans who are only too willing to make a joke at your expense. Especially when you lead them on in the first place. I would expect no less. Add one more story to my ever-expanding list.

Oh, and don't forget to have the fish chowder at every meal. With the sherry rum peppers sauce. Trust me, I'm rarely wrong about food. Or an impressionable hole. It's all good. Like the Rum Swizzles. Or is that the Dark and Stormys? Let's

do another round. Best way to end a perfect day.



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The King and Bear Golf Course the only golf course in the world that has been co-designed by Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus.

Florida First Coast Continued from page 11

the displays are interactive and give the visitor a "hands on" experience. Additionally, there is the opportunity to tee it up at the Challenge Hole, an island green mimicking the signature 17th hole at TPC Sawgrass.

The World Golf Village features two championship golf courses: the King & Bear and the

Slammer & Squire. Both courses consistently receive 4.5 stars rating (out of 5) by Golf Digest. Both courses have hosted professional tournaments including the Liberty Mutual Legends of

Golf and Shell's Wonderful World of Golf. The King & Bear is the only golf course in the world that has been co-designed by Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus. This course offers a mixture of two different design styles that come together to form one masterpiece. The front nine is an open, links-style layout that gives a nod to the heritage of the historic city of St. Augustine, Florida. The back nine is more traditional Florida golf fringed with loblolly pines, 200-year-old oak trees, indigenous coquina rock, and numerous water features. With 7,279 yards, it's a "driver's" course, which should come as no surprise, as both Palmer and Nicklaus wielded awesome power games in their primes.

Tee off from under the landmark tower of the World Golf Hall of Fame on the first tee of the **Slammer & Squire**. This 6,939-yard course was designed by architect Bobby Weed along with Hall of Fame Members, Sam Snead (the "Slammer") and Gene Sarazen (the "Squire"). All three men shared a desire to build a course that rewards good shot making while preserving the area's natural beauty. What developed is a well-groomed course that showcases the pristine unspoiled wooded areas, wetlands and natural beauty of the region. The layout is wide open with several contoured greens. A few water hazards come into play, but the picturesque views

Conveniently located just off I-95 and ten minutes from the World Golf Village, Cimarrone Golf Club is a semi-private club built in 1988. The golf course is a David Poselthwait championship design that meanders through the pine forests and thick marshlands of North Florida. The 6,900-yard layout plays along a mildly rolling terrain with significant fairway and green side mounds and plentiful water hazards. Rated 4 stars out of five by Golf Digest Places

of the Hall of Fame will definitely overshadow any challenges you may face.

to Play, the course was chosen as one of the Top 100 Golf Courses in Florida. Since opening in 1999, **The Golf Club at South Hampton**, a Mark McCumber masterpiece, has been a favorite of Florida golfers. With 16 large lakes, over 60 contoured bunkers, and towering pine and oak trees, this par 72 course provides the right balance of risk and reward for all skill levels. Emphasizing golf with a sense of family and community, South Hampton provides six tee boxes giving everyone the opportunity to enjoy their round of golf. Yardage ranges from 6,935 yards for low handicappers, down to 2,862 yards from the family tees.

St. Johns Golf and Country Club is another great layout located between St. Augustine and Jacksonville, Florida. The 18-hole Clyde Johnston-designed course is the community's centerpiece with just the right amount of challenge for novice and avid golfers alike. A great place to hone your skills, St. Johns is known for its consistent quality of service and conditions, being nationally ranked for customer satisfaction and loyalty by the National Golf Foundation, and host to the PGA TOUR Qualifying School in 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011,

Palm Coast - Palm Coast, towards the southern tip of the First Coast, is one of the fastest growing "small towns" in Florida. The population has nearly tripled since 2000 and is considered a bedroom community for St. Augustine, 25 miles to the north, and Daytona Beach, 30 miles (to the south).

If you're snowbirds looking for a low-key, private ocean front golf community, Hammock



Slammer and Squire designed by architect Bobby Weed along with Hall of Fame Members, Sam Snead (the "Slammer") and Gene Sarazen (the "Squire")

Dunes Club may be your ideal spot. Hammock Dunes Club's private golf membership offers two outstanding championship Audubon-certified golf courses: the oceanfront Links Course and the pristine, natural Creek Course.

Oceanfront Links Golf Course was designed by Tom Fazio and has three holes on the Atlantic Ocean and twelve holes with water in play. There are few more stunning oceanfront golf course views than from the green at #18 where you finish overlooking the Atlantic or on the 7th tee box, where you can see shrimp boats fishing offshore and ospreys flying overhead with fish in their talons. Its tees range from 5021 yards from the Red tees to 6904 yards from the Gold tees. The par3 2nd hole will challenge the best of golfers playing 247 yards from the tips. The course is ranked #9 in the state which speaks for itself and combines gorgeous scenery with superb playability.

The Creek course is a magnificent Rees Jones design. The Creek was designed to be a true, private golfing experience, in concert with the terrain and wildlife that surrounds it. The native oaks and palms and undisturbed conservation area are featured along with abundant wildlife. No homes will ever be built and there are, intentionally, minimal on-course services at the Creek to keep the layout and the amenities true to the original vision for the course. The Creek was designed to be pure golf and offers one of the most exceptional, private golf

Right next door, the Hammock Beach Resort is located on a stunning stretch of unspoiled beach along the Atlantic Coast within minutes of Hammock Dunes Club. The multibedroom luxury condo resort was recognized by Golf Digest in 2018 as "Best Golf Resort in

Florida" and offers two award-winning golf courses for the ultimate getaway.

The Ocean Course is truly one of those courses that will take your breath away. The Jack Nicklaus designed Ocean Course has six holes routed directly along the Atlantic Ocean and has a stout four-hole finish appropriately nicknamed the "Bear Claw" that pays homage to the Golden Bear himself. Devastated by Hurricane Matthew in 2016 that flooded the course's lake and pond system with grass-killing saltwater, the Ocean Course was completely renovated and reopened in late 2017. The course was completely re-grassed wall-to-wall with "Platinum Paspalum" which can handle eight times the salt water infusion than Bermuda grasses popular for golf courses in Florida and ensuring the course's long term environmental toughness and

By contrast, the Conservatory course, named after the British-styled glass domed clubhouse, was meticulously designed by eight-time PGA Tour Major champion Tom Watson with nods to British links-style golf. Known for his passion and tenacity both on and off the course, Watson only designs one or two courses each year, ensuring each project reflects his requirements of an outstanding course - beauty, variety and challenge. Golf Advisor ranked the Conservatory #12 - 2019 Top Courses in Florida.

Recognized by Links Magazine as one of the top 100 courses in North America, Grand Haven Golf Club is known as one of the Palm Coast's most dramatic and enjoyable golf courses. Golfers of all skill levels enjoy the lush landscaping and winding fairways that make Grand Haven a terrific experience. The private Jack Nicklaus signature designed course features a variety of challenging holes with outstanding views of the Intracoastal Waterway. Golfers of all skill levels enjoy the lush landscaping and generous winding fairways that make Grand Haven a golf course that's fun and enjoyable test of golf worth playing many times over.

Rounding out these stand-out championship courses, Palm Coast has a number of highly recommended and affordable daily fee courses such as Cypress Knoll Golf & Country Club,

Pine Lakes Golf club and Palm Harbor Golf Club.

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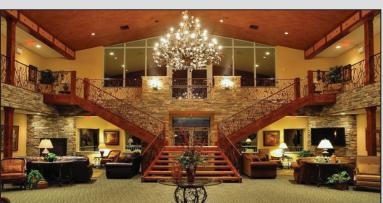


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Palace Saloon in downtown Ameila Island, Florida's oldest bar

By Tony Leodora

There is one thing for sure about today's golf travelers. They have gotten smarter. They spend more time planning, more time playing golf, less time wandering all over the countryside and less time falling, by chance, into a tourist trap hotel or restaurant.

The internet certainly has helped the vacationing golfer become a wiser traveler. There is so much information available – about the courses, the hotels, the restaurants and the other attractions. Manage that information wisely and you are almost guaranteed a great golf vacation.

One discovery – that has helped immensely in the planning and subsequent enjoyment of a golf trip – might be called the "inverse golf trip."

It always has been trendy to travel to some remote golf resort, play a few great courses and stay where you play. But that doesn't always lead to the fullest vacation experience. For one thing, you are at the mercy of the food service at that resort. Also, entertainment often is at a minimum.

And, for those who are susceptible to contracting a case of cabin fever, a remote resort can lead to some unsavory late night travel. Even for those who wisely avoid drinking and driving, there can be dark encounters on the highway with deer, moose, elk or bears.

That is the true charm of golf destinations such as Amelia Island ... in the far northeast corner of Florida.

Not only are there any number of great golf courses on the island, and just off the island on the mainland, but there is a town that provides one of the great bases of operation for any golf trip in America.

Fernandina Beach, on Amelia Island, is the first golf resort town in Florida – founded in 1853 on the very spot that the railroad line from the North came to an end. It is a Victorian-style mix of restaurants, shops, saloons and hotels – right along the town's working seaport.

The Hampton Inn Suites – Historic District is the perfect place to establish



Tom Fazio-designed gem Par 3 Amelia National

as the base of operations for a golf trip. It is situated within walking distance from a large number of very varied restaurants and night spots. It overlooks the marina and commercial port. Sunsets are a nightly extravaganza.

"We have always been known for our convenient location," says Bob Ramshaw, general manager of the Hampton. "People love the ability to walk the streets at night."

The Fernandina Beach Hampton Inn is not a typical Hampton Inn. It is situated in a large Victorian era building. The lobby is an immediate trip to yesteryear. At the same time, with the start of 2020, the hotel is now brand new.

"We have renovated all of the rooms and suites in the hotel," explains Ramshaw. "It is virtually a new hotel, without losing the old charm."

Once that base has been established, visitors are free to explore the golf wonders of the island.

The Golf Club of Amelia Island is a private club, adjacent to the Ritz Carlton, and less than 15 minutes from Fernandina Beach. It was co-designed by Mark McCumber and Gene Littler. Guests of the Ritz Carlton can get member-for-a-day playing privileges.

While there are no views of the ocean, much of the course is situated across the street from the ocean. Wind is a near-constant factor. The condition of the golf course is fairly constant, also – excellent.

Not much farther from the town square is the Omni Resort, and its Oak Marsh golf course. Designed by Pete Dye, the course is true to its name. About half of the holes wind through a live oak forest, with limbs hanging menacingly over the fairways.

over the fairways.

The other half of the course overlooks the large salt marsh. Again, wind can

create quite a challenge. Dye's devilishly small greens present the rest of the

Amelia Island & Fernandia Beach continued on page 35

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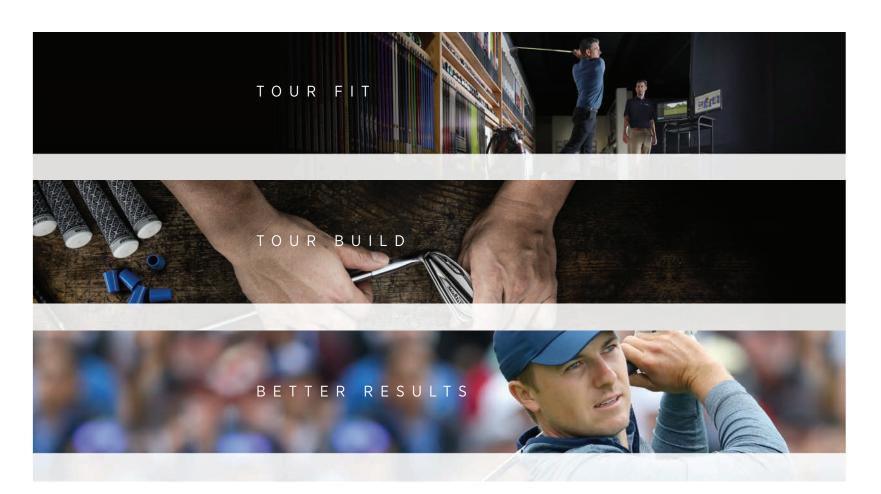
POCONO PRO GOLF SERIES

Elkview Pro-Am		
Elkview Country Club, PA Par 72		
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LOW PRO	71	Al
Terry Hatch (Royal Oaks) Brian Bergstol (Shawnee)	71 73	
Ray Silnik (Woodstone)	73	Sp D
Spencer Lunger (Scranton Canoe Club)	75	Br
Chris Smith (Woodloch Springs)	75	
LOW SENIOR PRO		Jo. Pe
Greg Wall (Pocono Manor)	73	Jir
Mike Molino - (C.C. of Scranton)	76 70	M
Pete Korba (??????????)	78	
LOW AMATEUR	72	Ca
Riley Hogan (Shawnee) Mike Heck (Elkview)	73 74	Za Ri
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Woodstone (R. Silnik)	62	Al
CC of Scranton (M. Molino)	64	Gı
Shawnee (B. Bergstol)	64	D:
TEAM LOW NET		Br
Canoe Club (S. Lunger)	61	
Royal Oaks (T. Hatch) Woodloch Springs (C. Smith)	61 63	Sp
Pocono Manor (G. Wall)	63	Jo. M
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Buck Hill Pro-Am		
Buck Hill Golf Club Par 72		
LOW PRO		
Evan Grube (Morgan Hill)	72	Те
Dustin McCormick (Glenbrook)	75 75	Bı
Ed Urban (Buck Hill)	75	N
LOW SENIOR PRO	72	K
Gary Clark (Buck Hill) Harvey Williams (Glen Oak)	73 75	***
Mark Monahan (Honesdale)	80	W Ra
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John Rusbasan (Buck Hill)	73	
Mike Wilson (Buck Hill)	78	M
Bob Davies (Buck Hill)	80	W
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Al McCormick (Glen Brook) Pete Warner (Paupack Hills)	75 81	Ro
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LOW PRO	
Alex Knoll (Blue Shamrock Golf Club)	65
Spencer Lunger (Scranton Canoe Club)	72
Dustin McCormick (Glenbrook)	74
Brian Bergstol (Shawnee)	74
LOW SENIOR PRO	
John Kulhamer (Green Pond)	76
Pete Korba ()	76
Jim Muschlitz (Southmoore)	77
Mike Molino - (C.C. of Scranton)	77
LOW AMATEUR	
Carlos Fullerton	71
Zach Juhasz	71
Riley Hogan	74
TEAM LOW GROSS	
Alex Knoll (Blue Shamrock Golf Club)	62
Greg Wall (Pocono Manor)	63
Dave Fields (Brookside CC)	63
Brian Bergstol (Shawnee)	64
TEAM LOW NET	
Spencer Lunger (Scranton Canoe Club)	60
John Kulhamer (Green Pond)	61
Mike Grabosky (Heidelberg)	61
Kyle Monahan (Pocono Farms)	63
77 11 D A	

Greg Wall (Pocono Manor) Dave Fields (Brookside CC) Brian Bergstol (Shawnee) TEAM LOW NET	63 63 64
Spencer Lunger (Scranton Canoe Club) John Kulhamer (Green Pond) Mike Grabosky (Heidelberg) Kyle Monahan (Pocono Farms)	60 61 61 63
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LOW PRO	
Terry Hatch (Royal Oaks Golf Club)	74 76
Brian Bergstol (Shawnee) Nick Lussier (Shawnee)	70 77
Kevin Edwards (Ole Homestead)	78
LOW SENIOR PRO	
Wayne Phillips (Lehigh)	77
Ray Silnik (Woodstone)	78
Jim Muschlitz (Southmoore)	79
LOW AMATEUR	
Marty Behm	75
Walter Freundt	75
LOW SENIOR AMATEUR	
Robin Bonda	72
TEAM LOW GROSS	
Southmoore	62
Shawnee	64
Scranton Golf Center	65
Northampton C.C.	67
TEAM LOW NET	
Through the Green	61
Royal Oaks Golf Club	62
Paupack Hills	63
Penn St Hazleton	63

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FedExCup Champion Rory McIlroy Voted 2019 PGA TOUR Player of the Year



Rory Mcllroy-2019 PGA Tour Player-of-the-Year Photo by TracyWilcox

CONTACT: Joel Schuchmann, PGA TOUR

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FLORIDA – The PGA TOUR announced today that Rory McIlroy has been named the 2019 PGA TOUR Player of the Year as voted by the TOUR's membership for the 2018-19 season. McIlroy will receive the Jack Nicklaus Award for winning PGA TOUR Player of the Year for the third time in his career (2012, 2014, 2019).

Sungjae Im was voted 2019 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year and will receive the Arnold Palmer Award, renamed in 2019 as a tribute to its namesake's influence on countless young players and a fitting honor for its recipients, who will shape the game and the PGA TOUR for generations to come.

PGA TOUR members who played at least 15 official FedExCup events during the 2018-19 season were eligible to vote. The balloting process ended on September 6.

McIlroy, 30, of Holywood, Northern Ireland, won the FedExCup for the second time (2016, 2019), becoming just the second player to win the season-long race multiple times (Tiger Woods), and the first player to win THE PLAYERS Championship and the FedExCup in the same season. With three wins on the season (THE PLAYERS, RBC Canadian Open, TOUR Championship), McIlroy matched Brooks Koepka for the most on TOUR, and marked the third time he collected three or more victories in a single season. McIlroy also won the Byron Nelson Award for Adjusted Scoring Average (69.057) for the third time in his career and led the PGA TOUR in Top-10s (14) and Strokes Gained: Total (2.551).

"On behalf of the PGA TOUR, my congratulations to Rory McIlroy on being voted the 2019 PGA TOUR Player of the Year by the TOUR's membership," said PGA TOUR Commissioner Jay Monahan. "While there are a number of honors one can receive in this game, PGA TOUR Player of the Year has to be among the most satisfying as it comes directly from his peers. Rory's season was a model of consistency punctuated by milestone victories and ultimately the FedExCup in Atlanta."

After one start in the fall of 2018 (World Golf Championships/HSBC Champions), McIlroy opened the 2019 calendar year with top-sixes in his first five starts before winning THE PLAYERS for his 15th career PGA TOUR victory. He became only the third player to win THE PLAYERS, a major, the FedExCup and a World Golf Championships event



Sungjae Im during the second round of The Northern Trust golf tournament at Liberty National Golf Course. (Photo: Mark Konezny/USA TODAY Sports)

in a career, joining Tiger Woods and Henrik Stenson.

Six starts later, McIlroy made his tournament debut at the RBC Canadian Open, where he set the tournament record and won by seven shots, the largest winning margin of the

Three of McIlroy's 14 top-10 finishes came at World Golf Championships events: Mexico Championship/2, Dell Technologies Match Play/T9 and FedEx St. Jude Invitational/T4.

McIlroy ended the PGA TOUR Regular Season at No. 2 in the FedExCup standings, claiming second place in the inaugural Wyndham Rewards Top 10, a \$10 million bonus pool split among the top-10 finishers in the FedExCup Regular Season.

McIlroy entered the TOUR Championship at No. 5 in the FedExCup standings, beginning the FedExCup Playoffs finale at 5-under, based on the new FedExCup Starting Strokes system. With rounds of 66-67-68-66, McIlroy won the TOUR Championship and hoisted the FedExCup for the second time in his career.

McIlroy was selected for the honor over (alphabetically) Brooks Koepka, Matt Kuchar and Xander Schauffele.

Im, a 21-year-old native of Jeju, South Korea, was the only rookie to advance to the TOUR Championship and finished the season tied for 19th in the FedExCup standings. With his Rookie of the Year honors, Im joins Stewart Cink (1996-97) as the only players to be named the Korn Ferry Tour Player of the Year and PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year in consecutive seasons.

For the season, Im made 26 cuts in 35 starts, becoming the first rookie in the FedExCup era to play 35 or more events. He recorded seven top-10s, highlighted by three top-fives, with his best finish of the season coming at the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard, where he tied for third.

"Congratulations to Sungjae on being voted 2019 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year," said Monahan. "His 'Ironman' season was remarkably consistent from start-to-finish, and his fellow players raved about his all-around game throughout the year. Like so many Korn Ferry Tour graduates, he arrived on the PGA TOUR prepared to compete with the

world's best, and his season was a reflection of a maturity beyond his 21 years."

Im was selected for the honor over (alphabetically) Cameron Champ, Adam Long, Collin Morikawa and Matthew Wolff.











Philadelphia PGA Section

SCOREBOARD © Cleveland



McQuiston Sr. Pro/Jr. Pro Championship

Bala GC - Philadelphia, PA Par 72

Fall Meeting and Pro-Pro Scramble

St. Davids G.C.- Wayne, PA Par 72

				10 Par	Total
	To Par	Total	INDIVIDUAL PRO	Gross	Gross
INDIVIDUAL PRO	Gross	Gross	Brian Bergstol / Joe Kogelman, Shawnee Inn &GR, GolfTEC-Moors.	-12	58
Rick Flesher / Davis Jensen, Phila. PGA, Merion GC	-5	63	Mark Sheftic / Shawn Matthews, Merion Golf Club, Squires GC	-12	58
John Appleget / Trevor Bensel, The Shore Club, Overbrook GC	-4	64	John Appleget / Rich Steinmetz, The Shore Club, Spring Ford CC	-9	61
Terry Hatch / Brian Bergstol, Royal Oaks GC, Shawnee Inn &GR	-3	65	Dustin Wallis / Parks Price, Dustin Wallis Golf, CC of York	-9	61
Rob Rohrbach / Jeff Fick, Fox Chase GC, Phila PGA	-3	65	Eric Kennedy / Dave McNabb, Overbrook GC, Applebrook GC	-9	61
John DiMarco / Joe Kogelman, Laurel Creek CC, GolfTEC-Moorstwn	-2	66	Brett Melton / Trevor Bensel, Radley Run CC, Overbrook GC	-9	61
John Spina / Mike Ferguson, Phila Cricket Club	-2	66	Jeff Herb / Pat Butkus, Waynesborough CC, Tavistock CC	-8	62
John Cooper / Jason Calhoun, Green Valley CC, University Of Penn	-2	66	Gregg Meyer / Kevin Edwards, Woodstone CC, Olde Homestead GC	-8	62
Bill Sautter / Chris Young, Phila Cricket Club	-2	66	Jason Calhoun / Dave Quinn, U of Penna, Laurel Creek CC	-8	62
Kevin Shaw / Mike Tobiason, Phila PGA, Deerfield	-2	66	Rusty Harbold / Aaron Hartman, Phila Cricket Club	-8	62
Ben Lesniak / Matt Zizas, Bala Golf Club	-1	6 7	Rob Shuey / Jordan Shuey, Phila PGA, West Shore CC	-8	62
Ray Silnik / Gregg Meyer, Woodstone CC	+1	69	Vince Kabaso / Chris Miller, Laurel Creek CC, Scranton Golf Center	-8	62
Jack Connelly / Travis Deibert, North Hills C.C., Doylestown CC	+2	70	Chuck Rininger / Mike Little, Lookaway GC	-8	62
Bob Lennon / Mark Sheftic, Wilmington CC, Merion Golf Club	+2	70	Gregg Gipp / Braden Shattuck, Phoenixville CC, Concord CC	-8	62
Hugo Mazzalupi / Tom Gilbert, Patriot's Glen GC, Gulph Mills GC	+2	70	Matt Bonanno / Nate Haney, Newark CC	-8	62
Don Allan / Steve Sieracki, Burlington CC, Woodcrest CC	+2	70	Baker DeCamp / Kyle Early, Waynesborough CC	-7	63
Jack Brennan / Judd Caruso, Mountain View CC, Belles Springs GC	+2	70	Anthony Napoletano / Ashley Grier, GolfTec-Malv., Overbrook Golf Cl	ub -7	63
Peter Clarke / Bob Fritz, Manufacturer's G&CC	+2	70	Dustin McCormick / Mike Molino, Glen Brook GC, CC of Scranton	-7	63





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Rick Flesher, Phila PGA

Kevin Shaw, Phila PGA

Don DeAngelis, Spring Ford CC

George Forster, Radnor Valley CC

Brian Bergstol Wins Philadelphia PGA Shawnee Open PGA







Brian Bergstol (L) holds the Shawnee Open Trophy

2019 RESULTS:		Total to Par			Total
NAMES	CLUB	Gross	R1	R2	Gross
Brian Bergstol, Sh	nawnee Inn &GR	-11	67	66	133
Zac Oakley, Bider	mann GC	-7	6 7	70	137
Mike Little, Look	away GC	-3	70	71	141
Mike Ferguson, P	hila Cricket Club	-2	71	71	142
Rich Steinmetz, S	pring Ford CC	-2	71	71	142
Dave Quinn, Lau	rel Creek CC	E	69	75	144
	: Woodloch Springs	E	71	73	144
Mark Sheftic, Me		\mathbf{E}	72	72	144
Alex Knoll, Glen		+1	69	76	145
Michael Rushin, l		+2	74	72	146
Don Allan, Burlir	igton CC	+3	73	74	147
SENIOR					
Dave Quinn, La	urel Creek CC	E	69	75	144
John Pillar, CC	at Woodloch Springs	E	71	73	144
Don Allan, Burl	ington CC	+3	73	74	147
John Appleget, T	The Shore Club	+3	73	74	147
George Forster,	Radnor Valley CC	+5	77	72	149
Rick Flesher, Ph	ila PGA	+6	74	76	150
Rob Shuey, Phil	ly PGA	+6	76	74	150
John Spina, Phil	la Cricket Club	+11	79	76	155

72

72

+5

+6

+17

146

149

150

161

Lehigh Valley Team Pulls Out Close Win at Brookside Country Club to Retain the Pocono Cup for the 3rd Consecutive Year!



From Left to Right: Kevin Edwards, Mike Grabosky, Cole Young, Gregg Meyer, Ray Silnik, Jim Muschlitz, Brad Paukovitz, Wayne Phillips, Evan Grube, John Suter, Dave Fields. (Missinig from picture: Jeff Fick)





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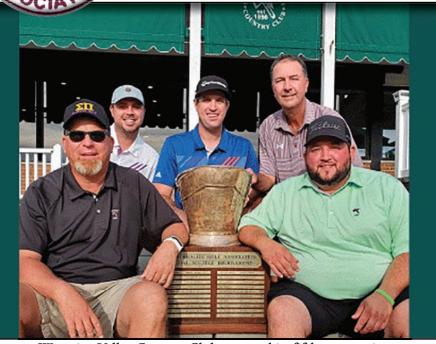
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69th AGA/GAP Men's Coal Scuttle Championship





Wyoming Valley Country Club captured its fifth consecutive AGA/GAP Men's Coal Scuttle Championship

Wyoming Valley Country Club captured its fifth consecutive AGA/GAP Men's Coal Scuttle Championship Sept. 28-29. It carded a 10-over-par 291 total to finish atop the 16-team field. Eric Plisko, a former Wyoming Valley bag boy and member since 2016, earned the individual title with a 4-under-par 136. The event's 69th edition took place at Glenmaura National Golf Club (par 71, 6,579 yards) on Day One and Wyoming Valley (par 71, 6,165 yards). The low four of five scores count toward the team total.

Plisko, Joseph Weiscarger (143), Art Brunn (146), Eric Jesikiewicz (154) and Frank Schiel (155) represented the Wyoming Valley team.

"It means a lot to our club because of the history of the Anthracite Golf Association. To be a part of [the Men's Coal Scuttle Championship] is a great experience for our members and our golf club," Weiscarger, 61, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., said.

"We're very top-heavy at our club. There are probably 10 guys who could be on this team," Plisko, 33, of Hanover Township, Pa., added. "Guys really ramp up starting Labor Day weekend. You're playing all of September and getting ready for the Coal Scuttle. We're all ecstatic about it."

A birdie or two shy of individual honors in years past, Plisko finally hopped the proverbial hump. He succeeds Brunn as Men's Coal Scuttle medalist.

"It was kind of a goal set out in the beginning of the year," Plisko said. "Looking at the trophy, you see so many good players from our area. One person who sticks out is [1994 Champion] Chet Blaczik, who passed away this year. His son was there yesterday. It was kind of emotional because he saw his dad's name on there. The Men's Coal Scuttle is a prestigious event to win. It feels great that all of the hard work has finally paid off."

Plisko started the final round two strokes back of Glenmaura National's David Mecca. He quickly separated with an outward 32 (3 under) at Wyoming Valley. Plisko reached No. 1 (par 5, 493 yards) green in two strokes with a pitching wedge and logged two putts for birdie. Exemplary wedge shots set up a left-to-right breaking 15-footer on No. 3 (par 4, 362 yards) and a slippery 10-footer on No. 6 (par 4, 364 yards), respectively.

Heading to the 15th tee (par 3, 189 yards), Plisko held a two-stroke advantage over Mecca. The tables turned after the former blocked a 7-iron over the green.

"You're kind of dead from there. The pin was cut in the front and that green slopes from back-to-front," Plisko said. "He was below the pin, approximately 18 to 20 feet. He drained the birdie putt. I missed my par putt and all of a sudden, we were tied."

Plisko pulled ahead thanks to an uphill six-footer for birdie on the next hole (par 4, 340 yards). Mecca missed an eight-footer to match. His 20-foot birdie attempt on Wyoming Valley's



Wyoming Valley Country Club Hole #9

closer (par 4, 351 yards) burnt the edge, which afforded a safe Plisko two-putt from 10 feet above the hole location.

Behind Plisko and Mecca on the Men's Coal Scuttle leaderboard stood Weiscarger, who closed with a 2-under-par 69 at Wyoming Valley. Crisp irons paved the way for three straight birdies at the outset: a downhill 15-footer on No. 2 (par 4, 338 yards), a six-footer on No. 3 (par 4, 362 yards) and another 15-footer on No. 4 (par 4, 337 yards). Right reads, dead-center drops.

"Everybody's putter gets hot once in a while," Weiscarger, who's participated in four of the last five title runs (missed 2018), said. "I was thrilled. I'm 61 years old, so any good day is a thrill for me. It meant a lot to me to be a part of the team. To even make the team anymore is a thrill for me."

By virtue of its victory, Wyoming Valley will serve as a Men's Coal Scuttle host site in 2020. **RESULTS:**

RESULTS:		707 I			
Individual NAMES	CLUB	Total to Par Gross	R1	R2	Total Gross
Eric Plisko, W	yoming Valley CC	-6	69	67	136
David Mecca,	-5	67	70	137	
Joseph Weisca	+1	74	69	143	
Logan Paczew	+2	73	71	144	
Eric Williams,	+2	72	72	144	
TEAM					
Wyoming Vall	ey Country Club	+10			291
Glenmaura Na	ational Golf Club	+19			297
Elmhurst Cou	ntry Club	+36			304

+36

+37

+43

+58

+63

308

311

315

319

319

Huntsville Golf Club

Fox Hill Country Club

Towanda Country Club

Country Club of Scranton

Scranton Municipal Golf Course

Golf Pennsylvania

Golf Northeast www.golfpa-golfne.com

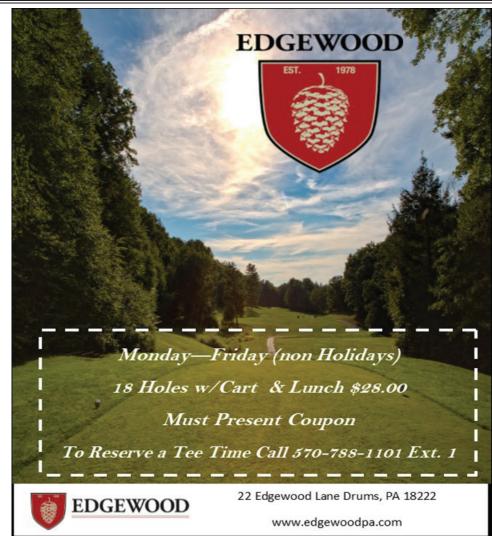
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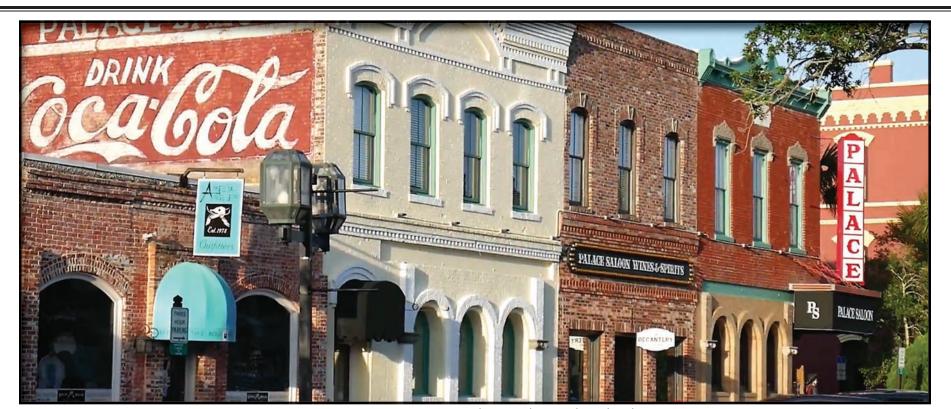
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Downtown Fernandia Beach, Amelia Island

Amelia Island Continued from page 23

challenge.

Amelia National is another private course. Access can be attained through Florida's First Coast of Golf, the marketing agency for Northeast Florida.

This Tom Fazio-designed gem is quite a treat. It is a large-scale golf course, with huge greens and generous separation between the holes. There is a very secluded feeling to much of the course. The finishing holes are a memorable mix of a short par 4, a spectacularly beautiful par 3 and a monster par 4.

The Golf Club of Northampton is an Arnold Palmer design that provides a pleasurable experience. True to "Arnie's" slashing golf style, the fairways are quite wide and allow the golfer a fair opportunity to put the tee ball in play.

The greens are quite large, with subtle undulation. Expect a few three-putts

during a round.

After each round, the wonders of "Low Country" cuisine await the golfers. The American shrimping industry was founded in Fernandina Beach. Just about every other kind of seafood is plentiful. There are excellent steakhouses – plus an assortment of restaurants from around the world ... from a Cuban café ... to authentic Mexican ... to sushi.

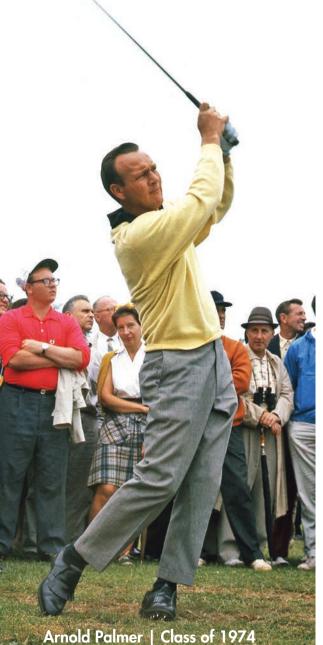
"The people who choose Amelia Island for a golf trip are never disappointed," says Dave Reese, CEO of Florida's First Coast of Golf. "There is so much to see and do. The food is outstanding and we have so much world-class golf within a short drive."

Travel by car to play golf during the day. Travel by foot at night to enjoy the restaurants and clubs. That's the beauty of Amelia Island and its Victorian centerpiece, Fernandina Beach.



The Pete Dye designed Oak Marsh at Omni Amelia Island Plantation





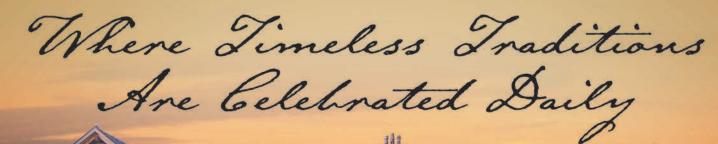




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Our uncompromising attention to detail rewards guests and residents alike.

Thistle is a luxury gated community, where custom-designed homes offer unobstructed views of gorgeous greens, shimmering lakes and acres of wildflowers. Awarded 4-1/2 stars by Golf Digest, Thistle has also has been ranked among the top 5 courses in the Carolinas. We invite you to visit soon and share the golf experience that is uniquely Thistle.

910.444.2500 or 800.571.6710 | ThistleGolf.com | 1815 Olde Thistle Club Road, Sunset Beach, NC 28468

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G. BULIGA

83rd LEHIGH VALLEY AMATEUR 2019 Championship Winners Green Pond Country Club

	Green Pond Country Ch	ub	
Championship Flight Lehigh Valley Amateur J. WILSON VS. Z. JUHASZ	Senior Third Flight Champion Lehigh Valley Amateur F. LENING VS. J. PRESTERA	RILEY HOGAN J. WILSON	71
Z. JUHASZ	J. PRESTERA	J. DONOFRIO M. FOWLER	73
Junior Champion Lehigh Valley Amateur	Super Senior Champion Lehigh Valley Amateur	F. BETZ T. TYLER	74
J. ALTEMOSE VS. M. ZERFASS M. ZERFASS	B. SPENCE VS. M. HECK M. HECK	S. KALAMAR S CERICOLA	74
Legendary Champion Lehigh Valley Amateur I. ROBERTSON VS. R. KOVACS R. KOVACS	Super Senior First Flight Champion Lehigh Valley Amateur M. SQUIRES VS. B. BUTZ M. SQUIRES	L. FISCHL B. REDUZZI Better Ball Of Partners	75
24 229 12295	1121 0 60 11 110	Senior Division	
Legendary First Flight Champion	Super Senior Second Flight Champion	Lehigh Valley Amateur	
Lehigh Valley Amateur P. WARNER VS. G. BENNETT	Lehigh Valley Amateur B. JODOIN VS. M. TOMASIC	E. KLUEMPER M. HOGAN	64
G. BENNETT	B. JODOIN	B. SCHUBACH J. COULSCON	66
Presidential Flight Champion Lehigh Valley Amateur T. GRIMM VS. J. O'MALIA	Super Senior Third Flight Champion Lehigh Valley Amateur V. LESKY VS. L. GREEN	G. BULIGA P. ROGOWICZ	67
T. GRIMM	V. LESKY	J. WIEDECKE T. LUSTO	69
Senior Championship Lehigh Valley Amateur R. MCCOOL VS. B. BRIGGS	Better Ball Of Partners Regular Division Lehigh Valley Amateur	R. BAKER B. BRIGGS	70
R. MCCOOL	Z. JUHASZ 65 L. PINTANDE	R. KOVACS M. BALCO	71
Senior First Flight Champion Lehigh Valley Amateur	K PRITCHARD 69 L PRITCHARD	J. RYAN K. GERTZ	71
. GLEASON VS. R. BOUCHER J. GLEASON	J. HARTZELL 69 R WEAVER	S. GUNNING D. SPADT	72
Senior Second Flight Champion Lehigh Valley Amateur	BOB ENGLER 71 MIKE CASELLA	I. HALUSKA G. BENNETT	72

B. JOHNSON

J. HUTNIK

G. RAGNI

C. HYNES

71

73



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