GOLF PENNSYLVANIA GOLF NORTHEAST

Spring 2020



Variety The Spice of Golf Life At 2020 PGA Merchandise Show

Golf Talk Live Expands Again Brings Co-Host Allen Depuy On Board

Changes On The Golf Schedule Due To The Corona Virus

Updates; Philly PGA, PPGS & GAP/AGA

Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club Elev. 1822 ft.

Trail Course Hole #7























Spring Golf at South Jersey Shore



Blue Heron Pine - Hole # 10

By MIKE KERN

Normally at this time of the year, I would be writing a story about one of my favorite things: golf the South Jersey shore. Of course I also write one in the fall, on the same subject. Because I think those two so-called shoulder seasons offer the best opportunties to tee it up down there, although obviously any time you can sneak in a round or two before heading for the beach or the boardwalk is a good thing.

But in the spring, sometimes it's still not quite warm enough where I live to really enjoy it the most. At the shore that's usually not a problem, unless maybe the winds are blowing in off the ocean. And even when that happens, it still seems more pleasant in those parts anyway. Maybe it's just the smell of the salt water. Or the salt water taffy. I don't have to know exactly why. I just have to know what it, has always been and will always be.

This year, though, our lives are anything but normal. Due to the Coronavirus that has turned the entire world upside down. And our situation in this country is no different. And it's no secret that New Jersey and some surrounding states have been among the hardest hit places. So it's a challenge, for every single one of us. We have to practice social distancing, and take whatever other steps the medical experts deem necessary to help us make it through this pandemic as quickly and as healthy as possible. It hasn't been easy. Nobody said it was going to be. But we have to do what we have to do, to try and minimize the risks to the many.

That, obviously, means that golf courses are among the many businesses that have been impacted. Fairly or not. We could argue all day as to whether they should be closed and still not come up with an answer that will satisfy anybody. It is what it is. I don't know when they're going to reopen again. It could be weeks, or months. Hopefully sooner than the alternative. I guess it all depends on how well we wage this battle. I have no doubt it will get better. But that's as far as I'll go. Anything more is well above my pay grade. And probably yours. I tend to err on the side of caution. That's me. We all have our thoughts. But we're in this together, more than anything. That means that every move that anyone makes could infringe on someone else's rights. We can't lose sight of that.

Do I miss making bogeys with my friends in the great outdoors? You betcha. But I'm also realistic. I'm a 62 year Diabetic. My wife is 61 and has asthma. That puts us in the high-risk group. So my main goal at this point, and for the foreseeable future, is to not get infected. And to not infect others. It's really that simple. So I'm willing to do whatever I have to to put the odds in our favor.

But when the time is right, these courses will be there for us to enjoy once more. And they're going to need our support more than ever, must like the restaurants and other outlets that we used to take for granted in our everyday existence. So I look forward to that day. Like everyone else, I can't wait to get back to whatever the new normal is or becomes. After what



The Shore Gate Country Club Hole #12

we've been through and the challenges we've faced and the sacrifices we've made, it will feel even better maybe than we remembered it. Hitting that first drive into the woods will bring a smile to my face. And I won't be the only one. And we will deserve those moments. So will the golf courses, where we go a couple of times a week to spend four hours forgetting about everything else going on around us. You can't put a value on that. It's priceless. And only a golfer might understand.

With all that being said, I'm going to run down some of my fave places to play. Hopefully some or most of them are near the top of your list too. Maybe we'll even bump into each other at one. Or two. Hey, you never know. I'll be the balding midget hitting a 3 wood from about 175 yards out. And loving it.

So in no particular order, here goes:

We'll start with Blue Heron Pines, the course that started the whole upgraded daily-fee experience back in the early 1990s. Does it really seem like it was that long ago? Ron Jaworski has owned it for about the last five years, and has only made it so much better. He took all the junk out that was not only slowing down play but taking away from the beauty of the grounds, and basically restored it to its former standing. I still wish they also had the sister East course, where Brandt Snedeker won the now-defunct Public Links Amateur championship in 2003. But it hasn't been there in awhile. Shame. Good thing we still have the original layout to play.

It's very user friendly. Not too difficult, but there are certain holes that can bite you before you realize it. I'm thinking of the par 4 10th, and the par 4 14th in particular. If you make par on either of them you're doing well. The 14th might be one of the best anywhere. The second shot is all over water to a relatively small green, with little bailout. What's not to appreciate? But there's enough holes where even a middle handicapper can do some damage, like the short par 4 first and seventh, so anyone can have fun. And still feel like they're being tested. And if you know Jaws and the way his family run things, you know that the hospitality is not to be beaten, from the food and beverage to the pro shop. It's all worth a stop.

Shore Gate might be the toughest course in the Greater Atlantic City region. Especially, as I always say, if you play it from the wrong set of tees. So please try not to. Be honest with yourself and you'll have a much better time. I'd love to have a buck for every guy who shoots in the low 90s who wants to play for all the way back. I just shake my head and move up to

where I'm comfortable. I way past the point of caring what anyone else thinks. Good for me. There's a lot of sand to contend with, and a lot of holes that can really make you work hard just to survive. The second springs to mind, where you have to drive it over water and

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Atlantic City Country Club Hole #16

Spring Golf at Jersey Shore continued from page 3

then still have a fairly long shot into a well protected green. It's one of those where you can bite as much off as you want, and hope you didn't get greedy. The ninth is a little like Pebble Beach, with water all the way down the left side. Again, you have to make a decision on how daring you want to be. This layout has a great set of par 3s. And even though it doesn't have a clubhouse, the food at the turn is top notch. Go for a dog and make full use of the condiment cart. Then try to go out and hit a good drive on 10. You'll need it. I usually still have a mouthful of food to deal with. And the home hole is everything you could ask for and then some, a truly stout par 4 that doglegs slightly right and demands two pretty decent shots. But the green is so large that you could do that and still walk off with a 5. It's been known to happen.

Atlantic City is one of those places that gives me goosebumps just thinking about. It's hard to get any better. And it's always in pristine shape. I loved it in the old days, before they made some cosmetic changes with a new ownership and added some new holes. It remains the course against which most others are measured, in my opinion.

Again, you have some holes that you can get. And some holes that will get you. Water comes into play a fair amount, notably on the back nine, where the views of the bay are just spectacular. The stretch of 14 through 16 is a keeper. A short par 4 that has a tee shot which hugs the marshes, followed by a par 3 that's all carry and if the wind is howling can alter your club selection by almost an entire bag and a par 4 with a dogleg around water to a small green that's hard to hold. It's hard to get much better. If you haven't been there yet you really must put it on your to-do thing. I know I can't get enough.

Twisted Dune is unique. And that's putting it mildly. It's a British links style track that you just don't find much on this side of the Atlantic. Some folks might not like that. I happen to love it. Then again, I love playing over there. If you can keep the ball in play you can score. That's easier said than accomplished. Even though the fairways and putting surfaces are generous. But if you veer offline, you are faced with some high grass that will not be conducive. So you might want to pack a few extra balls, just in case.

The neat thing about TD is you will have birdie opportunities. It's that kind of course. And you will also make some double bogeys. It's all part of the experience. Nothing wrong with that. It just makes you appreciate the good shots all the more. There are blind shots, and bounces that may work out for you or end up hurting you. That's how they treat the game over there. And I have to respect that. There's so many good holes, elevation changes and even enough water to get your attention. I particularly like the 16th and 17th. First you have a par 3 over a ravine of maybe 165 yards or so. And the green has all kinds of bunkering around it. Then it's a straightaway par 4 with a second shot over another gully. Real good stuff. It's the kind of place you have to try once, if only to say you did it. But I'm guessing that once you do that you'll be back. Just because it's so strikingly different.

McCullough's Emerald Dunes has grown on me so much over the years. I really didn't



Twisted Dune Hole #16

think a whole lot of it when I first played it way back when. But I was proven wrong over time. I'm not going to tell you it's the best course down there. But it's a place where you can have a really good time. And be tested all the same. Certainly in some spots.

When the wind is up, it can even be bearish. I played there once in a big breeze, and it was a totally different experience. And not in a bad way. The eighth and ninth holes are as good a close to a side as you'll find: a dogleg right par 4 where you could have a blind second shot, and a par 3 over water going back to the clubhouse. I had to start a round on that hole once. Don't ask. It's a long story that involves a slight encounter with vertigo. Which I wouldn't wish on anybody. But somehow I managed to pull my club back and actually hit a decent shot. At least by my standards. In other words, it found land.

I have to admit it has my favorite short par 4. I believe it's No. 14. A really good player can try to hit a drive over the trees and avoid the 90-degree dogleg. I've seen it work, and not. Me, I just try to hit it straight down the middle, which for whatever reason I almost always do, and leave myself with a little wedge to an elevated green. I nearly made an eagle there once, and have made a few birdies. Maybe that's why I like it so much. These days it fits my length-challenged game. And who doesn't need a little help now and then.

Ballamor is a course that's harder than it might appear at first glance. For the most part it's fairly open, although it does play through woods. What always sticks out in my mind about this place is the fact that just about every green has a ridge running through it. And that is always on your mind, since it can cause major problems in some cases if you're on the wrong side of the undulation. I've hit what I thought were really good approaches into a green only to find when I got there that I was faced with a nearly impossible putt. It happens. And once you get used to that you can usually handle it better. So a little local knowledge is never a bad thing. I guess if they want to really play with your mind they can stick the pins in some borderline unfair places. But it does keep you on your toes.

The 18th is a great way to finish. It's a par 5 that's like Pebble Beach in reverse. The water here is on the right. And the third shot is always tricky because it's always over just enough of the wet stuff to make your knees quiver a bit. And again, the green is anything but flat. And of course the people sitting on the back veranda having their lunch or a post-round beverage of choice can sit there and watch you try to navigate the final obstacles. As if I needed any extra distractions.

Harbor Pines has never left me disappointed. And whenever I've been there the conditions have always been immaculate. Plenty to be said for that. The par 4 ninth is formidable. It's straight, but there's trees to the right and water in the opposite direction. And the second shot is always a long one, to a large green that is anything but receptive. This place has a really nice mix of long and shorter holes, so there's variety. And the golf gods know I need my shorter holes. The par 5s tend to stand out. But it is cut through woods. So keeping the ball in play off the tee is a priority. But there are several spots where it opens up a bit. If you bring some game you can usually have a decent shot at a good round here. Of course the minute you start thinking that is when you look at the scorecard and realize that you're like 10-over. So take it

Spring Golf at Jersey Shore continued on page 21









Maybe There Will Be A Masters Later This Year



Tiger Woods wins 5th Green Jacket at 2019 Masters in April



RoryMcllroy-2019 PGA Tour Player-Of-the-Year-

By Mike Kern

There figured to be no shortage of storylines going into the Masters.

Would Tiger Woods be able to defend his title, after winning his first major in 11 years last April and his fifth green jacket, which pulled him to within one of Jack Nicklaus's record?

Would Rory McIlroy be able to finally complete the career grand slam, almost six years after he won the last of his four majors?

Would Brooks Keopka be able to regain the form that earned him four majors in the previous three years as he struggles to recover from knee surgery? In 2019 he finished second at Augusta National, won his second PGA, was runner-up at the U.S. Open and fourth at the British. And yet somehow he finished second to McIlroy, who didn't win any majors but did take the PGA Tour Championship, in the Player of the Year voting? Nobody said it has to make sense.

But there will be no Masters this spring. Or at least it won't be held in the spring. The Corona virus and the global impact it has had saw to that. So, like the NCAA Tournament and Players Championship (or at least the final three rounds) and NBA and NHL seasons and the start of major-league baseball and everything else you can think of, the sports world has been put on hold. What that means remains to play itself out, as we deal with this health crisis and subsequent social and economic ramifications.

Which, of course, could last for a lot longer than we originally thought.

There's nothing the folks at Augusta could do about it. So the tournament was postponed, for the first time since World War II. And the club was closed prematurely. Usually it shuts down from mid-May to early October. But the green jackets are hoping that they can hold their annual event, perhaps the best event in the sport, until sometime later in the year. How they're going to pull that off is anyone's guess. But if anyone can do it, it's probably them. Of course the PGA Championship, scheduled for May in San Francisco, has also been postponed with hopes that it too can be played at another date. And there's still no telling if the U.S. Open, which traditionally ends on Father's Day in June, will go on as planned since the venue is Winged Foot in suburban New York, not far from a town that basically has been roped off due to the outbreak. So we'll see.

One of the biggest problems with rescheduling is the obvious: there aren't many open dates, and the 2019-20 season ends at the end of August. And there's a Ryder Cup a month later. Not to mention the Olympics, if they're indeed held or not pushed back, in July. Right now there's so many variables and layers to this thing that it's hard to really speculate on what may or may not happen. Or even be able to happen. I mean, the Kentucky Derby has already been moved to early September, and the rest of the Triple Crown series could be forced to do likewise if they indeed go on at all.

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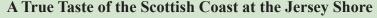
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Brooks Keopka won fur Majors in previous three years



Jordan Speith wins 2015 Masters for first time

Maybe A Masters Continued from page 7

We're dealing with a great unknown here, and the sooner we all come to grips with that the better.

Let's be realistic here. If the worst thing that happens is certain sporting events are forced to skip a year, well that wouldn't be great for a lot of people but it's probably a lot better than the alternatives. These are tough times. Nobody can say that's going to be easy. So all everyone can do is the best they can.

It's life. You can't run from it. We can only hope that at some point things will be pretty much back to normal. When that is, none of us knows for sure. Maybe there will be a Masters later this year, and a PGA. And all the rest of what we miss so much. But again, while sports are such an important part of many of our daily lives, they aren't the end of the world. They will be back. Just a matter of getting through this first.

I was fortunate enough to cover 25 straight Masters, starting with Ian Woosnam beating Tom Watson and Jose Maria Olazabal in 1991 to Jordan Spieth getting it done in 2015 after finishing second the year before as a rookie. And then he almost won again the following year without me writing about it. I saw Tiger Woods win in 1997 in record fashion in his first major as a pro. I saw Nick Faldo beat Greg Norman in '96, in a way none of us in the press building could have ever forseen unfolding. I saw Tiger win three more times, including the one where his impossible chip shot on the par-3 16th hole fell in after the Nike-logo ball sat on the edge of the cup for what seemed like forever. I saw Phil Mickelson win three times, and Bubba Watson win twice. And I saw Rory implode on the final nine on Sunday in 2011 when he was in position to win. Of course he did win the next major, his first, two months later at the U.S. Open at Congressional.

The Masters is the best major, although I think the British is a close be worth the wait to find out.

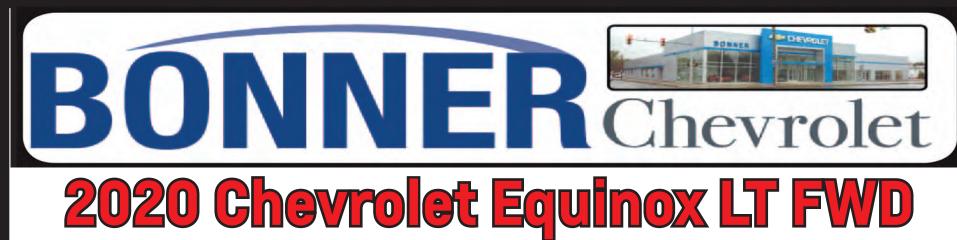
second. The reason is that we wait the whole winter for it to arrive again. It's a signal that the golf season has officially started. And there's the dogwoods and the azaleas, and all the ghosts that inhabit the grounds. It's Ben Hogan and Sam Snead and Arnie Palmer and Gary Player and Jack and Faldo and Tiger and Lefty. The greats have always left their mark there. I don't expect that to ever change.

Augusta is like an old friend. It's the only major that's played at the same place every year. The only thing close to it is St. Andrews, which hosts the British every fifth year. The most a U.S. Open or PGA venue can claim is maybe about once every decade. There's a difference. When people tune in to watch, they know the course. Especially the back nine. They can tell you where contenders hit it in the water, or made an eagle. There's a magic about it that can't be duplicated anywhere else. I can only guess that was Bobby Jones' vision, way back when.

So I will miss it, like a lot of other folks. Just like I missed the Final Four. But they will play it. And it will be special once more. Maybe Tiger can make more history. Or Rory can join a select club. You never know. But someone will get to slip on one of those coveted jackets, and it will be a moment in time that will endure forever. Count on it. In the meantime, may you and yours stay safe. Until further notice, that's the only priority. And I'm as much of a sports nut as there is. So when that's taken away, it leaves a void. I have my memories. I'm confident I will have more before I'm gone. Just not right away. We've all been put on pause.

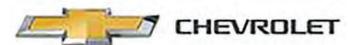
I look forward to seeing you out there on some back nine when we return to what we cherish. And the Masters will continue to be a big part of that. Maybe even relatively soon. Or at least soon enough. Either way, we will embrace the stories and the drama and the emotions that the Masters never fails to produce.

So will it be Tiger, Rory or someone a little off the radar? No doubt it'll





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PGA OF AMERICA RESCHEDULES 2020 KPMG WOMEN'S PGA CHAMPIONSHIP FOR OCTOBER

Second-oldest major in women's golf to be played October 6-11 at Aronimink Golf Club

PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA (April 29, 2020) - The PGA of America today announced that the 2020 KPMG Women's PGA Championship has been rescheduled for October 6-11 at Aronimink Golf Club in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, provided it is safe and responsible to do so at that time.

The PGA of America will work closely with public health officials at the national, state and county levels through Championship Week. The health and safety of players, spectators, volunteers, rules officials and staff remain the top priority.

The KPMG Women's PGA Championship was originally scheduled for June 23-28.

"In this unique and unsettling time, it became evident that finding new dates for the KPMG Women's PGA Championship was a prudent choice for the LPGA players, the local community, Aronimink membership and our staff," said PGA of America President Suzy Whaley. "Throughout the process of making this decision, we appreciated the support we received from our friends at KPMG and the LPGA. Collectively, we remain resolute in our commitment to this Championship as well as helping future generations of women be more successful on and off the golf course."

One of the LPGA's five majors, the KPMG Women's PGA Championship is a collaboration of the PGA of America, LPGA and KPMG, and focuses on the development, advancement and empowerment of women. The event is held in conjunction with the KPMG Women's Leadership Summit, which will now be held on Wednesday, October 7.

Contact:

John Dever, PGA of America, idever@pgahg.com

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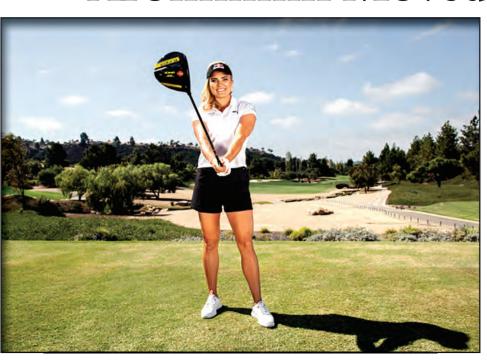
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KPMG Women's PGA Championship at Aronimink Moved to October 8 – 11



Lexi Thompson ready to play at Aronimink



Aronimink Golf Club Hole #11

By MIKE KERN

As many if not most had anticipated happening, the KPMG Women's PGA Championship that was scheduled to be held at Aronimink Golf Club in Newtown Square from June 25-28 has been moved due to the ongoing uncertainty over the Coronavirus pandemic.

This, needless to say, is hardly the first golf tournament that has been forced to deal with this global crisis.

The new dates are Oct. 8-11. Provided, of course, that it is safe and responsible to do so by that time. We can only hope that our everyday lives are back to some sort of normalcy by then.

"In this unique and unsettling time, it became evident that finding new dates ... was a prudent choice for the LPGA players, the local community, Aronimink membership and our staff," said PGA of America President Suzy Whaley. "Throughout the process of making this decision, we appreciated the support we received from our friends at KPMG and the LPGA. Collectively, we remain resolute in our commitment to this Championship as well as helping future generations of women to be more successful on and off the course."

This event is one of the LPGA's five majors.

"The PGA of America will work closely with public health officials at the national, state and county levels throughout championship week," the PGA said in a statement. "The health and safety of spectators, volunteers, rules of-

ficials and staff remains the top priority."

imink in 2026.

And no one will know for some time whether or not fans — or how many — will be allowed on the grounds. This whole thing is a fluid situation. And everyone is just trying to make the best of it.

This Championship, the second-oldest on the LPGA Tour, was played from 1994-2004 at DuPont Country Club in Wilmington, Del., with McDonald's as the title sponsor.

KPMG, a global accounting firm, took over that role five years ago.

The LPGA has targeted July 15th to restart its season at the Dow Great Lakes Invitational in Michigan. The PGA Tour is hoping to begin a month earlier, in Texas, but without fans for the first four events.

The ShopRite Classic, a fixture at the South Jersey Shore, will be the LP-GA's third tournament back, from July 31-Aug. 2 at Seaview just across the bay from Atlantic City. It was originally scheduled for its traditional date of the last week in May.

The U.S. Amateur Four-Ball, which was supposed to be hosted by Philadelphia Cricket Club in mid May, was cancelled. Here's hoping they can get it back here at some point in the future, since it's such a wonderful venue.

The men's PGA Championship, in case you forgot, is also coming to Aron-

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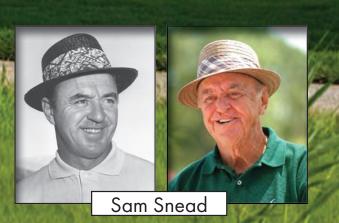
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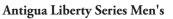


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Variety Is The Spice Of Golf Life At 2020 PGA Merchandise Show







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By Tony Leodora "The Traveling Golfer" <u>Tony's Top Twelve</u>

The annual PGA Merchandise Show at the massive Orange County Convention Center in Orlando has been compared to a toy store for golf fanatics. Every possible product, even remotely connected to the golf industry, is on display.

There are more than a thousand vendors ... hundreds of thousands of items being exhibited ... and 20,000 golf professionals and buyers doing the intense inspecting.

New trends in the industry are noticed.

For example, a decade ago, it seemed as if there were hundreds of vendors displaying every kind of bracelet or necklace made from copper, metal or other exotic materials. The goal was to help golfers with the chronic aches and pains associated with the game. For the most part, those "healing" pieces of jewelry were gone from this year's show. But the aches and pains remain.

In their place was an overwhelming amount of CBD products, made from hemp oil. They are making the same "healing" claims. New decade … new panacea. Walking the miles of aisles … sifting through the avalanche of products … separating the wheat from the chaff is never an easy task. But now that the foot blisters have healed, it is

time to unveil the heralded "Tony's Top Twelve" – the dream dozen of products that stood out during this annual industry-wide extravaganza.

Antigua Liberty Series

If there was a theme song this year for the Antigua apparel company – based in Peoria, Arizona – it would be "Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue."

The newest line of shirts and pullovers from Antigua proudly touts a patriotic theme. As soon as golf pros and buyers entered the handsome Antigua booth at the PGA Merchandise Show they were met with a large display of red, white and blue apparel that proved to be a traffic-stopper.

"We just felt like this was the year to really promote the Red, White and Blue," said Ron McPherson, president of Antigua. "We've come up with a few novelty pieces called Liberty and Liberty Pullover, done in three different shades of red, white and blue. Accompanying those are a number of other styles that fit into a full color story of red, white and blue for our golf shops and golf retailers.

"It's a big year for the Red, White and Blue. We have the Ryder Cup, the Olympics and the Presidential Election. All of those things present a good merchandising opportunity ... and it worked. We all wore red, white and blue on the first day of the PGA Show and we attracted a lot of attention. The red, white and blue color story has pretty much been on every order." The new Liberty line of apparel is available in both men's and women's shirts and pullovers. They will be available by mid-April. **www.antigua.com**



Tony Leodora Host of GolfTalk Live



Copper Tech Golf Gloves

Let's go down the list of the Three F's of the golf glove world.

Friction – The original purpose of the golf glove was to provide enough friction so that the golfer could hold onto the club. Whether it was dry hands or sweaty palms, the golf glove helped the golfer get a grip on their game.

Function – The Copper Tech golf glove company realized that incorporating copper infused technology into the material of the glove, it could improve the health and performance of golfers. This takes place through increased blood circulation and oxygenation of the working muscles.

Fashion – Golf gloves have always been the most boring segment of golf apparel. From head to toe, the focus of the apparel world always was colorful, eye-catching high fashion. That is, except when it came to a golfer's hands. Not anymore. "For all of those people who want a nice, fashionable golf glove, we've got one for you," said Lloyd Cohn, president of Copper Tech. "We have lots of different colors, lots of different choices." The Copper Tech line of golf gloves now is a veritable rainbow of colors. From subtle pastels to bold colors, just about everything is available in both the men's and women's line of golf gloves.

"There is a lot of emphasis toward having fun on the golf course these days," Cohn continued. "With our gloves, you'll definitely be seen on the golf course. Not

only will you look great but you will play great.

Currently there are 18 different colors of golf gloves available in both the men's and women's lines. www.coppertechglove.com

1st Tee Bar and 1st Tee Jerky

SCNS Sports Foods is a company that, for many years, has been dedicated to providing a healthy alternative to junk food for golfers. Their slogans include "nutrition fuels performance" and "your performance on the golf course is our passion." They made that statement years ago with the introduction of the 1st Tee Bar, and its complementing product, the 10th Tee Bar. A few years ago they responded to the wishes of their customers by developing gluten free 1st Tee and 10th Tee Bars.

This year they proved that they listened to health-conscious golfers again. The cry for more protein in their snacks caused them to develop the 1st Tee High Protein Bar, with 16 grams of protein, and 1st Tee Jerky. "Our High Protein Bar is packed with 16 grams of protein and only 5 grams of sugar," explained Shayner Seidner, marketing manager for the company. "And I guarantee you, we do not sacrifice flavor. "Our beef jerky comes in two delicious flavors, sriracha and cracked black pepper. There are no nitrates and no added hormones in this new jerky product and it has 12 grams of protein."

As always, all of the 1st Tee products are a proud partner of The First Tee, a non-profit organization that provides positive youth development through golf. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of all products is donated to The First Tee. www.golfenergybar.com

2020 PGA Merchandise Show continued on page 17



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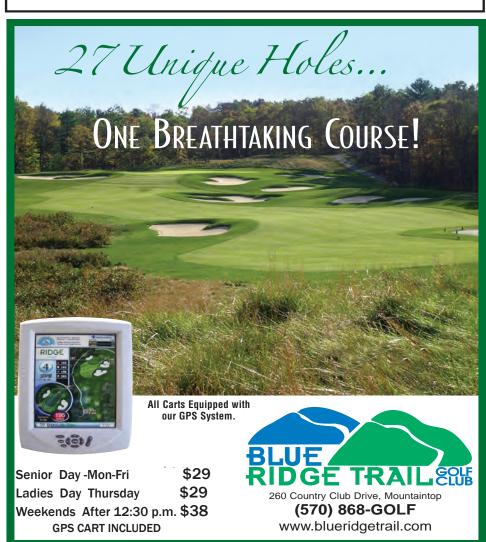
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2020 Nextbelt Suede Belts



2020 Nextbelt Alligator Belts





Sacks Parente Putters

High Heat 257+ Hybrid & Fairway woods

2020 PGA Merchandise Show from page 15

High Heat 257+ TGS

The High Heat story of success -- ever since the line of clubs debuted four years ago -- has been an incredible one. Rather than rest on his laurels, High Heat inventor Dean Knuth was spurred by the immediate affirmation the clubs received across the golf industry. He embarked on a year-by-year expansion of the line and improvement of the product.

At all times, creating the best drivers, fairway woods and hybrids for the amateur golfer

Last year, the 257+ face technology, which provided a greater trampoline effect on offcenter hits, got rave reviews. This year another refinement to the design of the fairway woods and hybrids was the talk of the PGA Merchandise Show. The new "Turf Glider Sole" is an innovation that adds even more playability to the clubs.

"As always, the needs of the amateur golfer are our focus," said Dean Knuth, inventor of the High Heat clubs. "We created a technology that has eliminated the fat shot. With the Turf Glider Sole you can hit inches behind the ball and it still flies. You can hit it out of a divot. It's designed to remedy one of the most common errors."

And, now, not just the face but the entire clubhead is created using the highest grade of

"We have the only club out there using this technology," continued Knuth. "It's very hot. The ball goes a long way and we kept the low center of gravity, which is what amateurs need. The Turf Glider Sole adds a dimension to it that makes the fairway woods and hybrids the ultimate weapons for players who need a little bit of extra help." One additional bonus: all High Heat clubs come with a 30-day full-refund guarantee. www.highheatgolf.com

Nexbelt Textured Belts

Nexbelt – the belt with no holes – has been one of the fastest growing companies in the entire golf industry.

From modest beginnings in 2010, Nexbelt has gained remarkable acceptance on the PGA Tour and throughout the ranks of well-dressed amateur golfers. More than 40 players now wear Nexbelt on the Professional Golf Tours, including very visible players such as Jim Furyk and Kevin Na

Each year there are technological improvements of note, but it is the fashion enhancements that catch the eye of discerning golfers. This year "texture" has come to the Nexbelt line, especially with the addition of the new suede belts.

"There is a new buckle mechanism that really improves the function of our belts but everybody is talking about the new look," explains Nexbelt co-founder Eddie Rowland. "The new texture of the suede belt is impressive. It comes in four new colors and it looks really rich, it's subtle.

"Another texture, the alligator belt, is new for 2020. It has a new buckle that matches the belt so well, you can't even tell it is a ratcheting belt. It ends up being the most comfortable belt you will ever wear."

Once again the Nexbelt booth was packed with curious visitors all week at the PGA Merchandise Show. And interested buyers, which means even more Nexbelt displays will be seen in golf shops across the country this year.

The company's success is a residue of innovation. The styles have increased – from the original golf belts that included a ball marker in the buckle ... to the most stylish dress belts ... to a line of ultra-casual belts ... and now to a new line of textured suede belts. **www.nexbelt.com**

Robo-Green

Traffic jams are somewhat common at the annual PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando. They usually take place when an exhibitor has a unique new product or is introducing a breakthrough in technology.

Both of those factors were on display at the Robo-Green booth this year. Golfers where blown away by the new product.

Robo-Green is an artificial putting green ... on steroids.

Inventor Jim Stracka took the technology from his StrackaLine Green Reading Guides and used it to create an amazing putting experience. With the use of his laser-based green specifications and a mechanical platform that can immediately change the contour of a green, Stracka can mimic the putting conditions on an individual green from thousands of golf courses around the world.

Adding the use of projectors and simulators, the Robo-Green can re-create the slope and angle of anything from Payne Stewart's winning putt at Pinehurst No. 2 in the U.S. Open to the Tiger Woods shot with 25 feet of break on the 16th hole at the 2005 Masters.

"I wanted to take the data from the thousands of courses we have and bring that data live to the golfers," explains Stracka. "It's all really simple to use. It's all run through an I-Pad and everything else happens automatically.

"This is a green you can put in your home or your office. Then we took it one step further. I was driving down the freeway one day and I see this trailer go by with all of the games that they bring to children's parties. We then put the Robo-Green inside a trailer, so we can bring it anywhere, anytime. Now you have it for events, member-guests, you name it."

The trailer has self-contained power, is air-conditioned and is just another example of how technology is helping to expand the game of golf. **www.robo-green.com**

Sacks Parente Putters

Every year at the PGA Merchandise Show a number of new putters hit the market ... every one of them proclaiming revolutionary technological advances.

This year the Sacks Parente line of putters can make that claim ... and back it up.

"What really distinguishes us from the other manufacturers is we have patented ultra-low balance point technology," explains Sacks Parente co-founder Steve Sacks. "It enabled us to take all of the weight out of the shaft and grip, using a standard weight head, and creating a putter that literally wants to putt itself. The head wants to release, wants to square-up, wants to help you make more putts."

Sacks has been a pioneer in golf club manufacturing since 1974. His partner, Rich Parente, was the original co-founder and first president of Callaway Golf in 1982. As a result, neither are afraid of groundbreaking innovation that flies in the face of conventional thinking.

Pick up the Sacks Parente putter by the head and it immediately becomes evident that the feel of this putter is dramatically different. The light shaft and grip has been accomplished through the combination of the proprietary components – featherweight grips, ultra-light shafts and Tour-weight putter heads

shafts and Tour-weight putter heads.

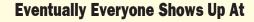
Sacks Parente putters come in two different styles. The blades are available in three models

– Series 39, True Blade; Series 18, Cavity Sole Flange Blade and the new Series 66, Cavity Back
Flange Blade. The mallet style comes in six different series of center-shafted and heel-shafted

models.
One other startling aspect of the Sacks Parente line of putters – they start at \$600 ... and go up. Innovation comes with a price. www.sacksparente.com

2020 PGA Merchandise Show continued on page 19

(1)





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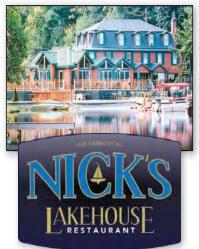
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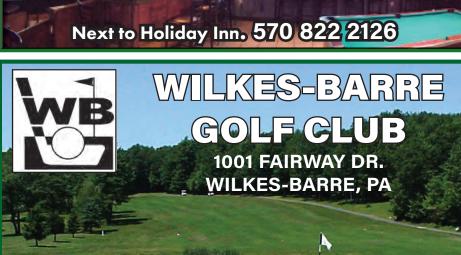
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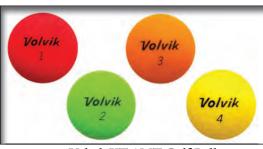
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Strike Absorber Mat



Volvik XT AMT Golf Balls



Survivor - Combo Pack



Total Golf Trainer



Tour Edge Exotics EXS 220 Driver

2020 PGA Merchandise Show from page 17

Strike Absorber Mat

It is advertised as "the ultimate practice mat." And nobody who tested this new mat during the introductory Multi-Media day during PGA Merchandise Show week in Orlando disputed the claim. This mat makes all other practice mats seem outdated.

The mat has an air-filled bladder, encased in a support envelope, which is retained in a nylon injected base. The envelope absorbs the golf club energy and transfers it to the bladder. That energy is captured, keeping it from reverberating up the club head shaft to the wrist, elbow and shoulder. The mat is designed to prevent injuries that can occur when hitting golf balls from ordinary mats placed on concrete or other hard surfaces. A number of chiropractors and orthopedic surgeons, with extensive golf experience, have given overwhelming endorsements to the new mat.

'There are two great advantages to this mat," says PGA Professional Jay Golden, a spokesperson for the Strike Absorber Mat. "It's inflatable, it's soft and it has a realistic feel. If you hit behind the ball, you're going to lose distance. Most mats, if you hit behind the ball, the club slides through and the shot looks perfect on a shot that is actually a fat shot.

"The other thing is, because of the softness, there is a much less chance of injury. So many people suffer injuries over a period of time from chopping down on a mat that is seated on a hard surface. This mat will reduce injuries a thousand percent.'

The Strike Absorber Mat is available with an attaching stance mat that provides the perfect practice environment for large driving ranges at a golf club, or for use at home in a back yard or in an indoor enclosure. www.strikeabsorber.com

Survivor Combo Pack

For years the Greenkeepers company, based in Philadelphia, has been manufacturing a wellaccepted line of golf accessories. They are so accepted that the products are seen displayed in golf shops and retail stores around the world.

Recently, much of the success has been in their lines of performance golf tees.

The first was the Four Yards More Tee, a two-piece tee that allows the golf ball to rest on a softwhite pillow, providing minimal friction and spin. It is the first and only tee, proven in two tests, to improve distance. Subsequently, the company developed the Survivor Tee. This one-piece tee allows the golfer to tee up the golf ball in the traditional fashion, while still providing the same distance improvement as the Four Yards More Tee. Robotized swing testing by Golf Testing Laboratories showed the Survivor Tee has the lowest ball spin rate by an average of seven percent. That results in the highest ball speed, roll out and distance of any tee tested.Now, the Survivor is available in a convenient Combo Pack that includes all of the tee sizes available. "Most good players now have performance golf tees in their golf bags," reports Frank Carroll, president of Greenkeepers. "The Survivor tee is getting the same kind of acceptance as the Four Yards More Tee, so it was just time to come up with convenient packaging. We have seen that people now want a larger quantity and a greater variety of performance tees in their bags. They need them for different conditions and

The Survivor Tee Combo Pack includes four sizes - from the hybrid tee all the way up to the jumbo tee. www.survivorgolftee.com

Total Golf Trainer

Training aids come in every size, shape, color, form and material known to man. Variety is the mantra. But there is one common thread – among the successful training aids – the ones that provide visual reinforcement are the best.

The Total Golf Trainer is an amazingly visual golf training aid ... and one that has many

"What makes the Total Golf Trainer different is most training aids are very static, very set,

very traditional," explains Mike Gish, inventor of the Total Golf Trainer. "We've kind of stepped out of the box. We have custom training aids, with flexible training rods, that actually can shape to fit someone's strong grip, someone's weak grip. It can change or fix someone's inside takeaway. "Our products are limitless in how they can help people. What they're really good at is helping everyone from beginners to professionals." At the end of the flexible rods, which can be adjusted to fix everything from full swing flaws to chipping weaknesses, is a large red ball. That red ball presents a glaring visual reminder of what the golfer is doing wrong.

The basic Total Golf Trainer is the TGT 3.0 Kit. It comes with three trainers – the arm and hip device, plus the TGT V2 device that increases clubhead speed and distance. The hip device forces golfers to use their lower body, thus adding power. At around \$135 it is one of the most affordable and effective total golf training systems on the golf market.

And it comes in smaller sizes for women and children. www.totalgolftrainer.com

Tour Edge Exotics EXS 220 Driver

Tour Edge is a rather unique golf equipment company. For one thing, it is based in Batavia, Illinois and all of its clubs are assembled there.

It is also one of the fastest growing equipment companies in the world. But its growth has taken place on two vastly different platforms. One platform is its line of Hot Launch clubs quality golf clubs but available at a very affordable price.

The other platform, and one of increasing success in recent years, is its line of Exotics clubs. They are golf clubs made with the most expensive materials and held to the highest quality standards. And they came with a relatively high price ... until last year.

That's when company founder Dave Glod decided to make a big push in the industry by introducing his Exotics EXS line and reducing the price to a very competitive level. The market reception was understandably positive. But what do you do for an encore?

Introducing the new Exotics EXS 220 driver.

"The whole thing is about maximum MOI (Moment of Inertia) this year," says Dave Glod Tour Edge founder. "We increased our MOI, for resistance to twisting, about 20 percent over last year. We are now longer by six to nine yards and straighter by five to six years. So it's an amazing evolution of the EXS design."

Glod backs up that aggressive claim with another one. "With the 220 Series, the slower swing speed players can get that increase now too," Glod adds. "Someone with a 75 to 85 mph swing speed can gain a lot of yards. They simply need to find the right loft and the right Fujikura Air Speeder shaft, which is super light and flexible." www.touredge.com

Volvik XT AMT golf balls

The wheels of progress keep turning. Volvik came out with an entire new line of golf balls this year – an exciting development for the golf ball company that successfully has combined form with function. But nothing in the line does it better than the new XT AMT golf ball. These high performance three-piece golf balls are available in a matte finish and come in green, red yellow and orange colors. The matte finish is preferred by the best players. The bright colors are preferred by anyone who wants to add a bit of flash and sizzle to their golf game.

"We really looked forward to exhibiting these exciting, high-performance golf balls at this year's PGA Merchandise Show," said Don Shin, president of Volvik USA. "They represent the latest in research and technology, and we know they will be very well received by golfers across the entire

playing-ability spectrum.

This type of innovation is nothing new for Volvik. Throughout more than 40 years of golf ball production, Volvik has specialized in production of 3- and 4-piece multi-layer high performance golf balls for players of every skill set. Volvik's patented SF matte coating has led to the development of Vivid, the world's first matte finish golf ball. Volvik's golf balls have been in use on the world's professional tours since 2012. The company's dedication to research at the highest level is evident by the fact that it now has 58 worldwide patents. www.volvik.com









McCullough's Emerald Dunes Links Hole #7



The Seaview Hotel & Golf Club - The Bay Course Hole #2

Spring Golf at Jersey Shore continued from page 5

lightly at your own peril.

Seaview is the longtime home of the LPGA's Shop Rite Classic, which this year had to be moved from late May to hopefully early August due to the health crisis. There are two courses, the Bay and the Pines. The Bay is where the ladies play. It's a Donald Ross gem. So subtle, yet so inviting. The greens are small, and they're most of the battle here. No surprises. It's Ross's trademark. It's a second-shot type of course. So you need to be on with your irons. The wind can make it play as difficult as it wants. The par 4 second is a prime example. It goes back toward the bay, and depending on the conditions it might be anywhere from a 4 iron to an 8. Seriously. Then you come right back with a par 5 heading back the other way, and you might get on that in two. But that's what makes it what it is. And it is timeless, a throwback to another era.

The Pines is totally different. It's cut out of the woods, so the doglegs have a whole other feel to them. You can be blocked out if you're on the wrong side of the fairways. Nothing seems to come easy on this 18. The par 5s have all kinds of hidden danger, and two of them come back to back (9 and 10). The closing stretch features consecutive par 3s that can

certainly leave you gasping. Both are long, and each (16 and 17) can produce bogeys or worse faster than you can take your club back. So beware. Yet in its own way, the Pines is every bit as good as the one across the street. I just hope that the Shop Rite actually gets played this summer. The people down there really need this flagship event. It means so much to the community in ways that maybe some didn't even realize until it went away for a few years about a decade back.

Cape May National is at the southern end, so I don't get there as much as I probably should, mostly due to logistics. But over the years it's earned a reputation as "The Natural," for its setting. And every time I've been there it's lived up to that billing. The ambiance is serene, and the routing superb. There's a little bit of everything there, in terms of difficulty and shots you're going to face. But it's very fair, and in some spots even rather humbling. I think you really have to play it a few times to know what you're trying

to do, and understand the right places that you have to be in order to put together a good round. It's one of those courses where every time I go back I tend to find something that I hadn't noticed before. I have some friends who think this might be the best course down there. I wouldn't argue the point with them too much. The great thing is that everyone can have their opinions, and we can all be right. At least to varying degrees. Because there isn't really a bad one in the bunch.

Last but certainly not least, there's Vineyard National, which is part of the Renault Winery. I played there with designer Ed Shearon. I was immediately impressed, and I haven't changed in the time since. If anything I've grown to like it even more. It's just part of a complex that includes a hotel and an award-winning restaurant and is now operated by a group that intends to make it a premier destination on the East Coast. They certainly have enough to work with. But the golf component is more than sufficient for me.

They have a hole that wraps around some grape vines, another with a split fairway, a par 3 where the tee keeps winding around to give players of different skill levels easier shots as you move up with each teeing area, and a green with a false front that can be ruthlessly diabolical for the unsuspecting. It has a little something for everyone, which is always welcome. Because we're not all Rory McIlroy, yet neither are we all Rodney Dangerfield either. Most of us fall

proudly in the middle, and all we want is a pleasant four hours trying to make our share of whatever we count as a good score. This provides that, early and often.

So there you have it. There's also some really fine private courses that you should check out if you're so inclined, like Greate Bay, Linwood and the Shore Club (formerly Wildwood). I've had the pleasure of playing all three, and if I was looking to be a member any of them would be somewhere I would feel comfortable playing three times a week.

I only wish I could be writing this under better circumstances. But we can't control that. And if we needed to be reminded of how fragile that can be, this has no doubt taught us a harsh lesson. But we will stay strong, we will be back and our lives will go on. Somehow, someway. I just wish it was within my power to tell you when. Because just like you, I need to be standing on a first tee again too.

Until then, wherever you are, please stay safe. So that others might stay safe as well.



The Vineyards National Golf Course at Renault Winery Hole #18





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GolfTalk Live Expands Again Brings Co-Host Allen DePuy on Board

Presented by Norris Sales Company and Antigua



As of April 1, golf industry veteran Allen DePuy (right), will become a partner of the show and a co-host with founder Tony Leodora (left).

By Tony Leodora

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. (March 26, 2020) - The award-winning GolfTalk Live radio show, a national award-winner for 11 years of its existence, has had a record of constant growth in its 14-year history. Now it is taking another major step toward expansion.

As of April 1, golf industry veteran Allen DePuy, will become a partner of the show and a co-host with founder Tony Leodora.

"This is very exciting news," said Leodora. "I have known Allen for many years and worked with him on an increasing basis. He is one of the most respected business minds in the golf industry and his personality lends itself to our interview-driven shows.

"In the beginning, his first focus — other than co-hosting our weekly shows — is to expand our reach. He is already in touch with stations in the Central New Jersey area. And he already is exploring the feasibility of taking the show from a regional to a national platform."

DePuy, a resident of Yardley, Pennsylvania, grew up in Northern Virginia and played collegiate golf at Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa. Apparently, a decent player at one time – Allen held three separate course records in his lifetime, including a career low round of 63. A former PGA Golf Professional, Allen eventually transitioned into the business side of golf, initially working as a property manager with the Billy Casper Golf organization. His further professional background includes serving as the Employment and Club Relations Director for the Middle Atlantic PGA of America, as well as serving as a Vice President with Gotham Golf Partners – where he managed multiple properties and orchestrated the acquisition of over \$50 million in golf properties. Today, Allen is a member of the Colliers International's Golf Brokerage & Advisory Services Group, and a recognized specialist in the consulting and management and turnaround of under-performing and distressed hospitality assets.

"Over the years I have been intrigued by just about every aspect of the golf business," said DePuy. "Being involved with GolfTalk Live provides me with a platform for all of these interests."

GolfTalk Live Expands continued on page 35



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Changes On The Golf Schedule Due To The "Corona Virus"



Shane Lowry of Ireland walks up the 18th green before winning the 148th British Open Championship at Royal Portrush Photo by Hugo Philpott/UPI

By Mike Kern

If we've learned anything during these trying times, it's that the Corona virus has changed just about everything in our lives.

The golf word is obviously not immune to any

of this.

For the first time since World War II, a major has been cancelled. That would be the British Open, which was scheduled to be played in mid July at Royal St. George's on the south coast of England. The Royal and Ancient, which oversees the championship, said the event will return to that venue next year. And the 150th anniversary of golf's oldest major, which was supposed to be held in 2021 at the only place that makes sense, St. Andrews, will be moved back 12 months. The Old Course is of course the home of the game.

The other three majors will be played, but will all be pushed back.



The U.S. Open at Winged Foot will now be held in September, one week before the Ryder Cup at Whistling Straits in Wisconsin.



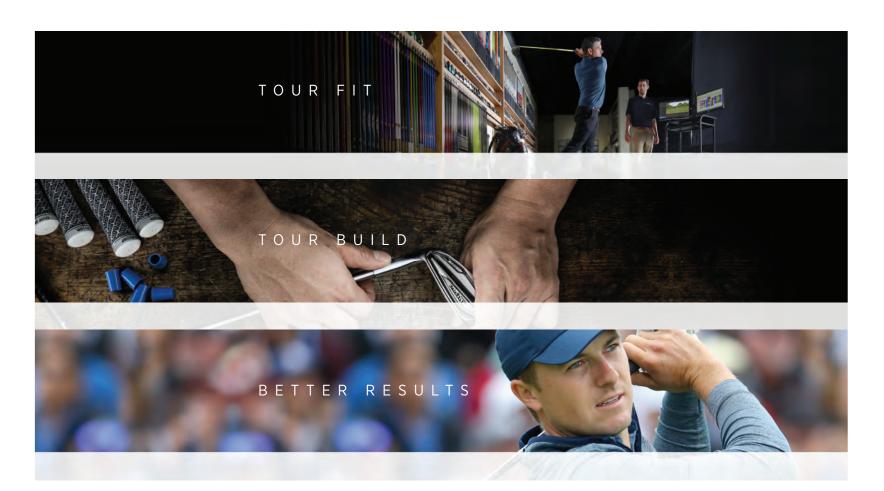
The Masters will now be held in November, seven months later than the traditional date

The Masters will now be held in November, seven months later than the traditional date. What it will look like at that time of year, or how it will play, we will see. But there's really no other alternative. So like everything else, the folks in the green jackets at Augusta National are just trying to make the best of a unique, frightening and tragic situation.

Harding Park in San Francisco, has been moved to August. Whether we will be back to normal by then, or whatever our new normal is by that time, also remains to be seen. But at some point we do have to get back to something, as long as we can keep everyone healthy in the process.

The U.S. Open at Winged Foot will now be held in September, one week before the Ryder Cup at Whistling Straits in Wisconsin. Winged Foot, where Phil Mickelson took that infamous hiccup on the 72nd hole, is in Mamaroneck, N.Y., not far from the epicenter of the virus outbreak.

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Philadelphia PGA Section

SCHEDULE





SPRING MEETING - CANCELLED Mar 30, 2020 Green Valley CCSunnybrook GC

CALLAWAY TPD CHAMPIONSHIP - POSTPONED TO 10/13 Apr 20, 2020 Little Mill Country Club - Red/ White

SPONSOR DAY - POSTPONED TO TBD Apr 27, 2020 Fieldstone GC

DELAWARE VALLEY OPEN - POSTPONED TO 8/17 May 4, 2020 Concord CC

SPRING PRO-PRO CHAMPIONSHIP - POSTPONED TO TBD May 11, 2020 Saucon Valley Country Club - Old

SPRING PRO-LADY TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP -POSTPONED TO 10/6 May 19, 2020 Lehigh CC

PHILADELPHIA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP May 26, 2020 Lookaway GC

CONNELLY CUP HEAD PRO CHAMPIONSHIP Jun 2, 2020 North Hills CC

35TH BURLINGTON CLASSIC PRO-AM Jun 7 - 8, 2020 Burlington CC

A.C. TEAM STABLEFORD CHAMPIONSHIP Jun 11, 2020 Ballamor Golf Club CONESTOGA CLASSIC Jun 15, 2020 Conestoga CC

JACK JOLLY & SON CHAMPIONSHIP Jun 22, 2020 Medford Village CC

A.B. THORN MEMORIAL PRO-AM Jun 25, 2020 Lancaster CC - Meadowcreek/Dogwood

PRO-ASSISTANT PRO CHAMPIONSHIP Jun 29, 2020 Seaview Hotel & GC - Bay

WILLIAM HYNDMAN III MEMORIAL CLASSIC July 6, 2020 Huntingdon Valley CC

PRO-JUNIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP July 9, 2020 French Creek Golf Club

ROLLING GREEN TEAM STABLEFORD July 16, 2020 Rolling Green GC

GALV LEHIGH VALLEY OPEN July 20 - 21, 2020 Northampton CC

PGA REACH PHILADELPHIA FOUNDATION PRO-AM Jul 27, 2020

Rolling Green GC

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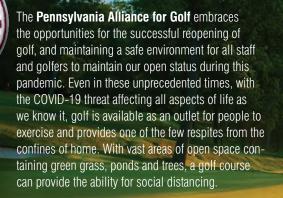
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Pennsylvania Alliance for Golf Release

Guidelines to a Safe Reopening of Golf in Pa.



The Pennsylvania Alliance for Golf is committed to doing all it can to support our constituents by being a resource of information and a clearinghouse of best practices that will provide guidance to any and all facilities, operators, golf professionals, club officials and stewards of the game. As golfers and industry operators, let's all do our part to keep the game and our loved ones safe.



- a. It is strongly recommended that all fees, including green, guest and cart fees be paid on line or via touchless payments prior to arrival.
- Staff to assist in bag handling anywhere on the property are prohibited.
 Players should retain personal possession of their golf bags which should not be stored in a baggage storage facility.
- c. Caddies should be prohibited.
- d. Staff will be permitted to provide, sanitize and maintain motorized carts and/or pull carts for individual use only. No shared carts are allowed.
- e. Staff will be allowed to ensure access to the property by authorized golfers only. No observers or non-golfers should be allowed on the course.
- f. Staff will be allowed to ensure enforcement of the health and safety restrictions outlined by the Governor. Special attention should be paid to prohibiting grouping in the parking lot and the first tee.
- g. Staff to maintain and sanitize on-course restrooms can be provided.
- h. Staff should wear protective gloves and face masks.
- i. Staff levels should be kept at a minimum appropriate to facility activity.

2. Common Use Items/Equipment

- a. All rakes should be removed from the bunkers. Players should smooth the sand after use using their shoes or a club.
- b. No tees, scorecards, ball markers or other common use items should be provided.

- c. Ball washers and water coolers should be removed. If they cannot be removed, clear signage forbidding their use should be provided.
- d. Flagsticks should not be removed while putting unless a "touchless" device has been installed. Raised cup liners or foam inserts should be used while leaving the flagstick in place.

3. Tee Times

a. Tee times should be spaced, preferably no closer than fifteen minutes apart, to minimize chance of congregating on the first tee.

4. Social Distancing

- Social distancing should be strictly maintained at all times and places on the course.
- b. Handshakes should be eliminated.
- c. No balls or equipment should be shared or exchanged. Rental equipment is prohibited.
- d. Signage outlining these playing restrictions should be prominently posted.

5. Clubhouse/Pro Shop

- a. Pro shops should remain closed to in-person retail sales.
- b. All clubhouse/restaurants should remain closed, take out services permitted in strict accordance health and safety restrictions outlined by the Governor.
- c. Clubhouses should be closed, limited restroom access may be made available.



The **Pennsylvania Alliance for Golf** was formed to create a unified voice for the future of golf in Pennsylvania. Supporting Pennsylvania golf organizations include; Central Pennsylvania Chapter of Club Managers Association, Golf Association of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Golf Association, Pennsylvania Golf Course Owners Association, Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association (all seven Pa. Chapters), Philadelphia & Vicinity Club Management Association & Philadelphia Club Foundation, Philadelphia PGA Section, Pittsburgh Chapter of the Club Management Association of America, Tri-State Section PGA, Western New York PGA Section, Western Pennsylvania Golf Association.

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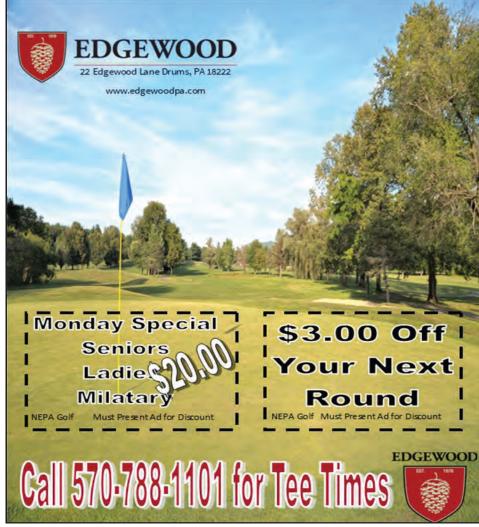
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GolfTalk Live Expands Continued from page 23

"Since beginning the show in 2006, Tony has developed GolfTalk Live into the most recognized and honored golf radio show in the country. Three times it has been named the No. 1 Golf Radio Show in America. If I can add a bit more fuel to that effort, that's got to be a good thing. I'm looking forward to many more years of success with this show."

GolfTalk Live debuted in March of 2006 on WNTP, Philadelphia's AM990 The Answer, a 50,000-watt station that previously was dedicated primarily to newstalk programing. The launch was a bold step, in that the format differed from most sports radio shows at that time, which depended on call-in programing.

From its inception, GolfTalk Live was a 52-week, 100-percent interview-driven show, unique in the world of golf radio at that time. Leodora now joins with DePuy in the show's dedication to providing golfers with all the latest golf destination information, instruction, interesting golf stories and news from around professional and amateur golf, including interviews with people from all facets of the golf world.

In addition to WNTP, the show's flagship station, GolfTalk Live began syndication in 2012 with WOND 1400-AM in South Jersey, the only station that gives high-season weekend traffic reports at the Jersey Shore. In 2018 syndication took a big step forward when GolfTalk Live announced the addition its first FM radio station. WNPV 1440-AM and 98.5-FM joined the list of syndicated stations featuring the GolfTalk Live radio show. The Lansdale (Pa.) based station airs in Bucks County, Montgomery County and the Lehigh Valley. WNPV is a family-owned talk radio station that has been serving the community for 60 years.

Also, a significant expansion took place from the outset through internet broadcasting. GolfTalk Live joined a number of websites across the country that host the show and reach a large audience.

Over the years, GolfTalk Live has broadcast from locations in 23 different states, plus Puerto Rico. The show also broadcasted from seven foreign countries – Canada, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, St. Kitts, Jamaica, the Bahamas and Scotland.



Tony Leodora Host of GolfTalk Live



Even more stunning is the collection of luminaries from the golf world and beyond who have been guests on the show. The list from previous years is amazing ... and it was expanded in 2019 thanks to interviews with Jack Nicklaus, new World Golf Hall of Famer Jan Stephenson and Baseball Hall of Famer Mike Schmidt.

Regular annual highlights of GolfTalk Live include extended coverage from the PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando and the annual package known as the Myrtle Beach Report, which includes 13 weeks of reviews of many courses, plus shows at the start and the end of the world's largest golf tournament – The Myrtle Beach World Amateur Handicap Championship.

There also is the "Summer at the Jersey Shore"

– a string of remote broadcasts from the great golf courses of South Jersey. In the winter, the GolfTalk Live Winter Invitational Series is played, right after

the live broadcast of the radio show, at the two Play-a-Round Golf facilities – Malvern and Ardmore. For equipment news, there is the Product of the Month ... unveiled on the second Saturday of each month. For an insider's look at the game, there is the Putting Corner with Dave Hamilton.

Sponsorship of Golf Talk Live has brought together an interesting mix of golf and non-golf companies. Presenting Sponsor Norris Sales Company is joined by returning sponsors Westover GC, Myrtle Beach Golf Holiday, Inside Jewelers, Kutztown Auto, Turnpike Chevrolet, Black Cat Cigars, Destination Montco Golf, Mainland GC, Bella Vista GC, Morgan Hill GC, Antigua, Raven's Claw GC, Play-a-Round Golf, Sheraton Atlantic City, eRose Web, Atlantic City Golf Vacations and Golf and Gamble.

"It's hard to believe the network of great people and sponsors that has developed from this show," said Leodora. "And it's even harder to believe that 14 years have passed so quickly. I guess time flies when you are having fun ... and we are having more and more fun on the show, as we now begin our 14th season."

GolfTalk Live also can be heard any time following each show on its official website, www.golftalklive.net.

For more information about the GolfTalk Live radio show, contact Allen
DePuy directly at 717-554-8519 or Tony Leodora at 610-721-8186 or go to

the website at www.golftalklive.net., the hotel is now brand new.





The PGA Tour hopes to resume in June with the Memorial Tournament



66th KPMG Women's PGA Championship will be held June 23 – 28, 2020, at Aronimink Golf Club in Newtown Square, Pa. Photo Credit: A©2012 Gary W. Kellner

Changes continued from page 25

The PGA Tour hopes to resume in June with the Memorial Tournament, but until the pandemic is at least under control that is still somewhat up in the air. Details about dates and other tournaments have yet to be revealed. And it is also unclear whether or not spectators will be allowed at that time.

But again, getting back to what we know and having our diversions is going to be a process. It has to go forward at some point, in all facets of our daily existence. This is merely part of that transition. The key word in all this is hope.

Due to all this necessary shuffling, the Wyndham Championship (Greensboro, N.C.) will follow the PGA. Then comes the Northern Trust near Boston, the BWM Championship near Chicago and the Tour Championship in Atlanta, which would end on Labor Day (Sept. 7). That takes care of the Fed Ex Cup playoffs.

The Tour has several events in September that have yet to be announced or repositioned.

None of this is ideal. But there's no way around any of it. That's just the reality. Some USGA events had to be cancelled, including the U.S. Senior Open and Senior Women's Open. The Women's Open has been



Lexi Thompson 2019 winner of The Shop Rite Classic at Seaview which

was moved from late May to the first week in August.

rescheduled to December. And LPGA's Ana Inspiration, which was supposed to be the first major of the year, has been moved to September. No word as I write this on the LPGA Championship at Aronomink in June, but I wouldn't be surprised if it too has to shift. Hopefully not. There's that sentiment again. But that's where we're at, at least for the time being. The Shop Rite Classic at Seaview was moved from late May to the first week in August.

Another casualty was the Amateur Four-Ball, which was to be hosted by the Philadelphia Cricket Club in May. But it was cancelled. Maybe it can get this back in the future, since it's a wonderful venue since the extension renovation that removed many of the trees and has proven to be a truly worthy

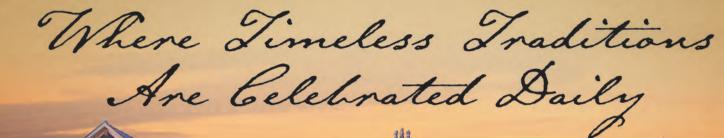
Hey, none of this is easy. On any of us. We all miss the game, whether it's

watching or playing. And it will come back. It's just that, at least for this year, it's going to be different. Which is still better than not having any of it at all. I know I'll be tuning in. And by then I'll really need it. So let's all try to get there in one piece and enjoy whatever we are left with. Because it's all we've got.

Golf will go on, one way or another. Embrace the challenges, and savor the good times once they return. Appreciate what we too often take for granted.

All I know is this much: God willing they will be teeing it up, and somebody is going to be hoisting a trophy when it's over. Nothing wrong with that.

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