## **GOLF PENNSYLVANIA** GOLF NORTHEAST Fall 2020

## **DESTINATIONS**

Fall in Myrtle Beach Food & Golf Close to Home Gettysburg

Fall at the Jersey Shore **Stone Harbor & More** 

**October Major KMPG** at Aronimink

**RESULTS** Philly PGA **PA Golf Association** GAP & AGA







### By TONY LEODORA

It would not be hard to get universal agreement on the fact that the year 2020 is the worst in recent history. Pandemic, civil unrest, extreme weather, interruption of our beloved professional and amateur sports, no movies, no concerts, no parades, no weddings, no graduations.

But, at least we have golf. And plenty of it.

As soon as the golf courses around the country were allowed to open, the golfers came out in droves. The avid golfers began playing more than they had in recent years. People who put away their sticks for a decade, or so – due to a number of reasons – returned to the game. And a number of newcomers discovered that golf was one of the few safe and healthy activities available during this troubling year.

Call it a silver lining in the immense cloud that has been hovering over us all year.

In just about every state, trying to get a desired tee time has become a bit of a strategic endeavor.

Joe Beditz, president and CEO of the National Golf Foundation, has been kept busy tracking this upswing.

"Among our more recent inquiries, perhaps none has been more popular than the impacts on beginners, returners and youth," says Beditz. "Are we seeing a swell? The short answer is yes. Analysis of our monthly national participation data reveals a lift in all three groups in the second quarter.

The number of new golfers among kids, ages 6 to 17, is understandably high. Parents are looking for ways to keep them occupied. But Beditz reports some startling statistics in other categories.

He explains: "Looking more broadly, the number of overall beginning and returning golfers during the second quarter stretch of 2020 appears equally significant – both are about 20 percent higher than in recent years."

Following that encouraging return of golfers to the game that has struggled in participation throughout recent years, comes another positive sign. People are returning to the world of golf travel.

No, the exotic golf trips to Scotland, the Dominican Republic or New Zealand have not seen a rebound. People are still wary of extended air travel.

But the drive-to golf destinations are now seeing almost a boom market. People still need to get away, enjoy a bit of vacation and play some good golf courses. And they need to do it safely. Destinations like Gettysburg – always an exciting mix of good golf, rich history and farm-to-table dining experiences – is a perfect example.

"After everything opened back up, we saw a good amount of action on Memorial Day weekend," recalls Norris Flowers, CEO of Destination Gettysburg. "Then the Fourth of July was really busy ... and it continued throughout the summer. We are looking for a big fall season."

The savvy traveler knows that, once the crowds of the summer vacation season subside, the Gettysburg area becomes one of the great vacation destinations in the entire country.

"This is a perfect time to visit Gettysburg," explains Flowers. "The Fall is absolutely beautiful. We are a safe destination, with plenty of wide-open spaces. There is a lot of shopping, great restaurants and, of course, our golf courses are really good."

At the top of the list of the many golf courses within a short drive of Gettysburg's town center is the Links at Gettysburg. The course opened in 1999 and co-designers Steve Klein and Lindsay Ervin have received consistent acclaim for their work.

Excitement is the key descriptive word for the Links at Gettysburg, as there is water on almost every hole. Elevated tee shots to greens fronting red rock cliffs, blind doglegs and undulated putting surfaces add to the excitement found ... just minutes away from the hallowed ground of the Civil War's most famous battle.

The Gettysburg area also features a number of golf resorts.

Best known is Carroll Valley Golf Course at Liberty Mountain Resort. This pleasant design by Ault, Clark and Associates sits at the bottom of the ski slopes, and adjacent to the newly expanded and renovated hotel.

A clear, mountain stream winds through many of the holes ... and there is now no need to forego golf ... even in the worst weather. The Carroll Valley pro shop features two golf simulators that allow visitors to play golf courses from across the country.

Another nearby resort is Penn National, with two very divergent 18-hole golf courses.

Add the many wineries, breweries, distilleries and orchards of the Gettysburg area and it quickly becomes evident why the area is such a popular fall golf and vacation destination. That, and the fact that it sits within 300 miles of 60 million Americans.

While Destination Gettysburg compiles all of the marketing materials needed to map out a rough trip to the area, some expert help can go a long way to making the experience a success. Two area packaging companies have a huge amount of expertise in bringing visitors to the region.

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Nick Ciattei is the owner of Mid-Atlantic Golf Getaways. He is based in the scenic Shenandoah Valley of Virginia but also puts together packages for the Gettysburg area.

"These areas that are reachable by car make so much sense for people who are a little bit antsy about getting back on an airplane right now," reports Ciattei, who has been running his company since 1999. "With so many people close to the area, they can be playing in the morning of the day they drive in ... and, on the day they leave, they can play and be home and back in their Lazy-Boy in time to watch the end of the PGA Tour event."

Chris Moore is another veteran golf packager. His company, Golf Frederick MD, provides golf packages to Frederick, Maryland, as well as the nearby Gettysburg area.

"These small-town destinations are perfect for the traveling golfers who want to play quality golf but also want to add something else to their trip," says Moore. "The Civil War history throughout this region is amazing. Combine that with the relaxed dining and quality accommodations in the area and it is no wonder we have been getting so many calls about golf trips for this fall."

For the easiest way to get more details about golf trips to Gettysburg and the nearby historic regions, go to these websites:







### LPGA TOUR EVENTS RESCHEDULED

By MIKE KERN

In case you missed it, the two LPGA events in this area had to be pushed back on the calendar due to the pandemic. But both will soon, hopefully, be finally going off as rescheduled.

The ShopRite Classic, originally slated for May 29-31, was moved to Oct. 2-4. Held as usual at the Seaview Resort in Galloway, N.J., this year it will be a 72-hole event instead of 54, which happened only one other time in its history. It had been changed to July 31-Aug. 2 but eventually had to be switched again due to the ongoing health crisis. The defending champion is Lexi Thompson. It is, of course, THE sporting event at the South Jersey Shore each year. But because of the virus there will be no pro-am. Hence the extra round.

The early October date had belonged to the Meijer Classic in Grand Rapids, Mich., which was canceled.

The field should be real good, since the following week the women will be at Aronimink in Newtown Square, Pa., for the KPMG Women's PGA. Championship, a major. Reminds you of when the. ShopRite and McDonald's Championship went back-to-back once upon a time.

Last year the title was won by Australia's Hannah Green at Hazeltine National in suburban Minneapolis, Minn.

It was originally scheduled for June 25-28. I don't believe there's been an official word yet on whether spectators will be part of the proceedings. Nobody needs to remind any of us how fluid that situation continues to be.











## JERSEY SHORE FALL GOLF

By MIKE KERN

It's been a little over three decades since **Stone Harbor**, which before that was something called The Jersey Devil golf course, was opened down at the South Jersey shore. You have to remember there wasn't nearly as much in the way of options in that area at that time. Nothing like it became in the 1990s and remains today. And Stone Harbor came with a lot of wow factors attached to it. Which is the way designer Desmond Muirhead, who did the routing for Jack Nicklaus's acclaimed Muirfield Village layout in suburban Columbus, Ohio (site of the annual Memorial tournament), wanted it. The course was created largely as a visual concept, one that would make for some terrific photos, especially from the air. And hopefully also be a worthy challenge as a layout.

Over the years, many things have happened. The ownership has changed, several times. Along the way the course has been softened a bit. It's still a bit controversial, at least to some. At the outset it was gimmicky in spots. The most standout feature being the par-3 late on the front side, better known as the infamous Jaws of Death, which had an island green with bunkers not connected to the putting surface but instead separated by water. I think the drop zone was behind the green. Anyway, it sure got the place noticed, sometimes for the wrong reasons. Nonetheless, I was there for the official opening and I enjoyed it. As I've told people many times, just accept the fact when you go there that you're not going to break the course record and you may have to pack some extra balls. But I think you're going to have fun, because it's different. And that's never a bad thing.

Some memories are gone. Like the bunker shaped like the state of New Jersey. Or was that the green shaped like Pennsylvania? I forget. Details. I do know I once played the last three holes in 3-under par. Seriously. Don't ask. I was so excited I went over to thank then Head Pro Harry Bittner (a great guy who later moved to nearby Shore Gate when that opened), who was giving a lesson on the range. He just smiled and went back to work, as he should have. I'll never forget being on the par-5 16th in two (with a 5-iron) and making a 30-footer that I didn't think I hit hard enough. I couldn't get on a par-5 in two with a 5 iron from 175 yards out now if you steroided me. But that was a lifetime ago. They've since put a bunker if front of that green, so I couldn't do it even if I got lucky. I parred the par-3 17th, where the elevated tee used to be the highest point in South Jersey. They've changed that too. Left it just short and chipped up to make distance. Then on the 18th, which has a peninsula fairway (the second on the course) and peninsula green, I hit I believe an 8-iron to the left fringe and somehow sank a 15-18 footer. I only remember one other time that I



Stone Harbor Clubhouse

that I played three holes in 3-under (by carding three straight birds). Oh well. Enough with the digression. Just wanted to point out that I have some history going for me here.

I have to admit I hadn't been back in awhile. But recently I was invited, and got a tour from current pro Matt Crowley, who's been there for 19 years (the past 11 as the man in charge). The landscape has been altered, both around them and from within their club. So he showed us some of their improvements, and gave us a preview of what could be happening next. It was rather enlightening. It seems that three years back a new owner, Lee Fishman, took over and made a financial and visionary commitment to making Stone Harbor better. Something that maybe had been lacking for too long.

"He's been very hands on," Crowley said. "At first I think he got involved for the potential of the development around the golf course. He had been a minority owner, but with no real say in anything. Now I think he's starting to figure out the golf industry, the hospitality side of it. He's really taking grasp of it. He's keeping stuff together. It's noticeable. You have to put something into it, to get more back. It's not going to happen overnight. But it's great to see. I think a lot of members feel the same way. Some of them have been here longer than me.

"It's that old cliché, if you build it they will come. Now, in my mind, we have less competition than we once did. There's a lot of money in **Stone Harbor and Avalon.** We just want to keep showing (prospective members) that we're doing something, that we're always moving forward."

The competition Crowley alluded to is the Union League, which brought Sand Barrens just up the road on Route 9 and turned that into a version of the Union League at Torresdale in Northeast Philadelphia. Sand Barrens did over 25,000 rounds annually. Those people have to go somewhere else now, and the only other public facility is Avalon, which was already packed to begin with. And that's only gotten worse with the pandemic causing more folks to head out to play. The former Wildwood Country Club, now the Shore Club, also offers associate memberships like Stone Harbor. That of course has to be a personal decision. And it's why they make vanilla and rum raisin. Options are good.

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## TWISTED DUNE GOLF CLUB

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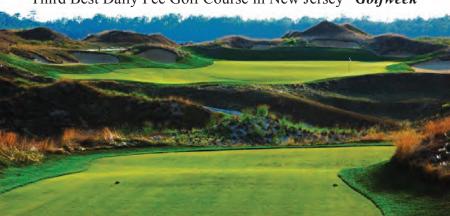
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"I think we have a nice hold on our own little demographic here," Crowley explained. "We offer seven different memberships, for seven different lifestyles, I guess you could say. It depends on how much golf you want to play. We have associate memberships, which are our backbone, our real moneymaker. Of our 700-plus members, 500 are associates. And that's only \$1,500 a year. It may be going up a little. And then you pay as you play. Most places you have to be a full member, whether you play two times or 50 times."

They also have a residential membership, for people who might be visiting at a rental home for a week or two, for \$895 that allows them to play four times. We're just trying to get the message out, to come

see us again. You can't beat word of mouth."

Hey, the course is the course. It's not easy. But there are certainly enough sets of tees to fit anyone's handicap. I can tell you that birdie opportunities are there for the taking. But you will probably also make one of those dreaded others or two. As I went around the

Aerial view of Stone Harbor

holes came back to me. Some good memories. I've always thought the hole before Jaws, which has a peninsula fairway (and a bailout fairway to the left if you're so inclined) and then a carry over water to the green. I hit a 5-wood from about 170 that cleared the wet stuff but unfortunately didn't cut enough and rolled over a bulkhead protecting the left side into a watery grave. It happens. But I appreciated the fact that I got to even attempt such an approach. It's not cookie cutter, by any stretch. I also hit a wonderful shot in at 18 with a 7 iron that flew right over the pin (which was cut way up front) and just rolled off another bulkhead on the left. I've never been able to put enough spin on my ball. But again, I almost pulled off a tough shot. Those kind of challenges aren't to be taken lightly.

"We'd like to think there's going to be something about it that keeps you coming back," Crowley said. "Some people love the challenge, but a certain few just don't feel like they can play it well enough. It has that reputation. Some people can't hack a steady dose of that. They don't want to get too beat up. But no matter how bad you play, if you par 18 you forget about everything else that happened that day. It's like, I parred 18, that's all I needed.

"On the flip side, you can have the best round in the world and if you make a 12 on 18 that's going to ruin your day. That's how it is."

I remember the great Pete Dye telling a group of reporters once, "They pay me to build tough golf courses. But if you hit one good

shot that carries a railroad tie on 17, that's what you're going to take with you. And that's going to bring you back." He isn't wrong.

"It still has that bad taste in some mouths," Crowley acknowledged. "But that's mostly from people who played it 20 years ago. Hey, I hated broccoli when I was 15. I love it now."

Aside from what they've done on the course, there have been renovations to the men's locker room, to the dining areas both inside and outside as well as the practice range. There are plans to make the second story of the clubhouse a cocktail deck, and to add a shortgame area.

> "We expanded the grill room and put a bar in," Crowley noted. "And we added TVs. Before that we had one little TV in the corner. And instead of a canvas awning outside where we ate lunch it's now a permanent structure. And we've done a lot of work improving the tee boxes, irrigation, just about everything. It just takes time to get it all

done the way you want. But it was much needed."

By all means you should check it out, especially if you've either never been or haven't been in forever. It might not be for everyone, but I'm pretty much a bogey golfer at this stage (even from the shorter tees), and I had my moments. And that makes it worthwhile.

And if for whatever reasons you have your own favorites down there, by all means go for it. The fall is one of the best times to play at the Shore. The prices tend to fall, and the weather is better. I would say the crowds fall, but that might not necessarily be true this year because of the virus. People are looking for excuses to go out and do things. And for the moment that's helping the industry, which needed a boost. You didn't want it to be because of this, but that doesn't mean you don't try to take advantage of the situational. opening. Let's hope it continues. The increase in play, that is. Not the pandemic.

I've always loved the fact that there's enough choices at the Shore to keep anyone satisfied. Here's a few of my favorites. I'm sure many of them are high on your lists as well.

Since we've already mentioned Shore Gate let's start there. No, it still doesn't have a clubhouse, and perhaps never will. Don't hold that against it. This is in my opinion (and many others concur) one of the

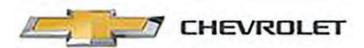
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This is in my opinion (and many others concur) one of the hardest courses in those parts. Especially, as I always warn, if you play it from the wrong set of tees. I try to make sure I don't. There's lots of sand, a bunch of memorable holes, an outstanding set of par 3s and a great hot dog at the turn. Never underestimate that when filling out your surveys.

Cape May National is about as natural as you can get. Just a real peaceful setting, which makes you forget about life for awhile. Nothing wrong with that. But don't let the surroundings fool you. It has more than a few holes that always seem to find their way on to any list of the best ones down there. I know I've gotten into some trouble, without even trying to. Sometimes that's my own fault, but that's also what makes a good but fair track.

Blue Heron Pines was always good. And it's only gotten better since Ron Jaworski acquired it like seven years back. He got rid of all the unnecessary gunk, which made it play faster and look much better. The par-4 15th hole is one of the best anywhere. What a second shot over water, with little bailout. And that of course assumes that you've hit a good enough drive to even have a chance. I know the feeling, both ways. And I don't think I've ever parred the par-4 10th, or at least not after being on in regulation. But I did almost ace the fourth one time. Just saying. The key word there of course being almost, as in an inch or so. I think I let Ron know about it. And if you know him you know that the hospitality part of the equation at his places inherently goes above and beyond. That's why he's Jaws.

McCullough's Emerald Golf Links has done nothing but continue to grow on me. I wasn't sure at first, but these days I look forward to teeing it up there. Especially if I can play with Mr. Sonny himself. It's a lot of fun, even when the wind blows, which it often does. The short dogleg right par -4, which I believe is 14 or 15, is an absolute keeper. I love short holes, and this one almost always gives me a shot at a bird. But I've also seen folks (including me once, if memory serves) struggle to make bogey. Because woods can come into play. I just try to bunt one about 200 yards straightaway and proceed from there. No trying to drive the green for me. A man has to understand his obvious limitations.

Twisted Dune is nothing if not unique. It plays like a Scottish or Irish layout. There's high stuff if you stray off the fairways, but the landing areas are mostly generous. You're going to face some shots here that you won't face anywhere else in this country (unless maybe you're at Shinnecock Hills, and how many amongst us can claim that?). The wind usually blows here as well, which adds to the degree of difficulty. And water comes into play, as do forced carries. But you can also roll the ball onto enough of the greens. And I hope you like doglegs and elevation changes. You might not want to try this every day, but please don't miss it. You'd be missing out on something unlike most others.

Seaview has two courses, the Pines and the Bay. The Bay hosts the

LPGA ShopRite Classic each year. This year, because of the virus, that event had to be moved from early June to the first week of October, and this year will be a 72-hole tournament instead of 54 (with no fans allowed). The Bay is a Donald Ross design that features short holes, small greens and demands precise shotmaking. It offers a nice mix of holes, with a lot depending on the wind coming off the water. The Pines is cut through woods, with many doglegs, and is probably a tad harder. The closing stretch is really stout, with back-to-back par 3s at 16 and 17 that can chew you up. There's also consecutive par 5s at 9 and 10 that are gettable but nonetheless tricky dangerous. It's all a matter of taste/preference, but each test is thoroughly enjoyable.

Vineyard National at Renault Winery came under new ownership last year, and expectations are high. Remember this is a resort with an award-winning restaurant, winery and hotel. So it's not just about the golf. But the golf could stand on its own and do just fine. And I'm guessing with the new leadership it's only going to get better. I know that's the plan. The design by Ed Shearon is top notch. He of course also did the acclaimed Raven's Claw in the western Philly suburbs. He is a big believer in the visual aspect of what you're presenting to the golfer, and it shows. No two holes seem alike. There's some blind shots, doglegs around growing grapes, even a split fairway. In the past maybe the commitment was lacking, but I think that's already changing. And that can only be a good thing.

I know I'm running out of space, because that's what I do, but I'd be remiss if I didn't mention two other places that I have a healthy respect for: Ballamor and Harbor Pines. Ballamor can present a problem if you don't bring some game with you. And it's just downright tough in spots. But that's OK. Just remember that almost every green has a mound running through it, and if you end up on the wrong side of them you're a three-putt waiting to happen. But nobody said this was supposed to be easy, right? Harbor Pines is always in immaculate condition whenever I've been there. What it might lack in sheer wow factor it more than makes up for in setting. It really is peaceful most of the way around. Something to be said for that. Even when maybe you're hitting one into a hazard. I've never had a bad time there, and the post-round stop at the clubhouse to grab a quick bite and cold one is always the perfect way to end the day.

So there you have it. If I missed anyone or anything I apologize. Hopefully I'll run into some on the trail soon. I'll be the bloke trying to figure out how I ever used to hit my drives 250. Or eagled the 16th at Stone Harbor. Fore!







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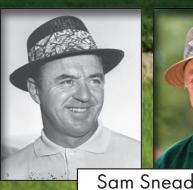
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### US OPEN RETURNS TO WINGED FOOT SEPTEMBER 17 - 20



Winged Foot Hole # 9

By MIKE KERN

The U.S. Open has traditionally ended on Father's Day for as long as we can remember, right?

Well, not this year. Like a lot of other things in the world as we know it, the pandemic has seen to that.

Instead, it will be played this week, some three months later than normal. And it will be played at historic Winged Foot in Mamaroneck, N.Y., site of some of the more infamous moments in the championships lore.

There will, of course, be no fans, in case you haven't been paying attention. But it's still our national championship. And someone will go home with the trophy. And that will be forever. No asterisks.

Gary Woodland is the defending champ, having won last year at Pebble Beach over Brooks Koepka, who won it each of the two Junes before that. But he is now dealing with a knee that's been giving him issues for almost a year now, for whatever that may mean.

It will be the second men's major of the year, although officially it's being included as part of the 2020-21 season now that the FedEx Cup playoffs are over. Don't ask. Nothing makes much sense these days. The British Open scheduled for July was canceled. The PGA Championship, pushed back from May to August, was won by young Collin Morikawa at Harding Park in San Francisco. The Masters has been moved from April to November. The defending champ there will be some bloke named Tiger Woods.

Winged Foot has hosted five Opens and a PGA. In 1929, the immortal Bobby Jones beat Al Espinosa in a 36-hole playoff, one year before he



captured the grand slam.

In 1957, Betsy Rawls won the Women's Open there after apparent champ Jackie Pung signed an incorrect scorecard and was disqualified. And you thought that only happened to Roberto DiVincenzo at Augusta.

The '74 Open is not so fondly recalled as the "Massacre at Winged Foot," because the course won. Nobody came close to breaking par, as Hale Irwin survived to get the first of his three Open titles and an aging Arnold Palmer finished tied for fifth.

A decade later, Fuzzy Zoeller won his second major, by beating Greg Norman in an 18-hole playoff. Who can forget Zoeller waving a white flag on the 18th fairway on Sunday, after Norman made a lengthy par putt that kept him tied for the lead. Zoeller mistakingly thought it had been for a birdie. The next day he won going away.

Davis Love won his lone major, in the '97 PGA, over Justin Leonard, who had taken the British Open for what would turn out to be his only major a month earlier. And there was that rainbow that appeared over the 18th green on Sunday which many suggested was the spirit of Love's late father.

And, of course, there's 2006. Phil Mickelson had captured the previous two majors. Again, Winged Foot was the winner, when it came to the scores. But Lefty came to the 72nd hole with a 1-shot lead over Geoff Ogilvy. Then he hit his drive way left. Then he hit a long iron off a tree. His third shot missed the green left into a bunker. His fourth went long. over the green. From there he got up and down for a double bogey. What could have been. The look on his face said it all.

So what will Winged Foot give us this time. Stay tuned. It's usually been interesting stuff.



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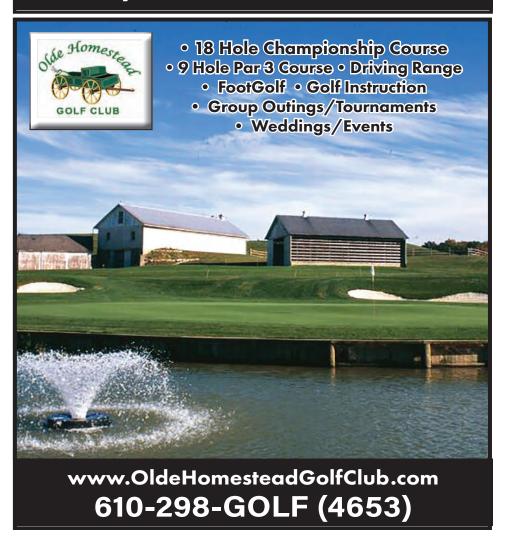
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### MYRTLE BEACH STILL THE DESTINATION FOR FALL GOLF

By MIKE KERN

I love Myrtle Beach. Try to go there at least once a year whenever I can. Might even retire there. Hey, you never know. They can't say they weren't warned. I have friends down there. I know the lay of the land. From experience. So of course I get asked a lot, by people that might not be nearly as familiar with it, where to go and what to do once you get down there. So I'm going to give you my 10 favorite places to play golf and my 10 best places to eat, just in case you can't ask me personally. I'm just trying to help, by doing my part. Other people might give you other opinions, and that's more than OK too. That's the thing about Myrtle. It can be many things to many different folks. But what we have in common is that we all enjoy it the same. And we never want to stop going back. It has that kind of impact on

a person, whether you golf or not. Or whether you're a scratch golfer or a high handicapper. It's all good. As long as you're having fun and getting away from the real world for awhile, it doesn't matter.

So here we go, in no particular order. But ...

I would always start with the **Dunes Golf and Beach Club**, just because. I'm not sure if it was the first course down there. I always get confused whether it was

that or the Surf Club or Pine Lakes. I just know that most folks would put this at the top of their list, for obvious reasons. There's a ton of history. The Senior Tour used to hold its end-of-year championship there. And The Golf Writers Association of America held its annual pre-Masters tournament there for I believe like a half century. It was THE place you had to see at least once. It's not a public course, so you might have to call in some favors or make some new friends to make it a reality, but trust me it's more than worth whatever you have to go through. It's a taste treat, pure and simple. And I'm pretty sure it's the only course in Myrtle itself that is right on the ocean. The clubhouse is worth a visit by itself. It's where Norristown native Jimmy DeAngelo went way back when to help put the place on the map. Nothing wrong with those kind of connections. Just remember that there is a different between playing it in the spring and the summer, as I found out. Nothing much holds when the grounds are still hard, so you have to play your shots accordingly. But it's wonderful in either condition. And try to spot the big alligator that roams the pond on the par-5 13th. I nearly ran into him once. True story. If you do likewise make sure to say hi for me.

Caledonia Golf and Fish Club. Located way down at the southern end of the Grand Strand. Since I usually stay up near the North Carolina border, it's a drive. But I make it, enthusiastically. I think my fondness for it goes back to the fact that the one year I tied for the net victory at the GWAA tourney, we played our first round here. The final round was always at the Dunes. It was designed by the late Mike Strantz, who left us way too early but left us with some great work. Its sister course, True Blue, is also wonderful. Just different. I'm more of a Caledonia guy. The 18th hole alone makes it a keeper. A par 4 where your second shot is over water to a green that sits in front of the

veranda. So everyone can watch you head to the drop area. It happens. Somebody has to provide the comic relief.

Tidewater Golf Club and Plantation. I was there the day they opened it, and I've never fallen out of deep like with it. It's situated along the Intercoastal Waterway, which means the scenery is not to be beaten. It has a few holes that are simply memorable, like the third and fourth, a



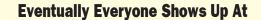
Caledonia #18

short par 3 with water on the left and a lengthy dogleg par 4 with views that are mesmerizing. It just has a great flow to it. But maybe I'm biased, since I'm a big fan of the courses that were built in this kind of setting. As you'll soon find out when I continue on.

Grand Dunes Resort Course. They also have a private course, which I've never played. But I've been told this one is better anyway. Don't know if I'll ever get the chance to find out, but for me this is a lot like Tidewater in the sense that it's got a whole bunch of holes that run along the Waterway. And I mean some really good holes. The one that sticks out is the par 3 of about 165 yards or so that is all carry across the wet stuff. Which makes it great stuff, even if you might have to pack an extra ball or three. No problem. You will not be disappointed.

**TPC Myrtle Beach.** This is another course that I was at right at the

Cont. on page 19



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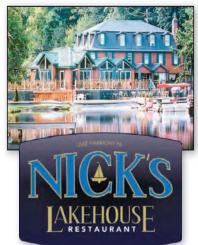
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beginning. And it's only gotten better with time. It's a solid test of your skills. And like many TPCs, it's always in tip top shape. Cause they wouldn't have it any other way. And that is always appreciated. I've grown to like this place more every time I go back. Not sure it would crack my top five, but in a destination that has nearly 100 courses to choose from, a top 10 vote is sufficient enough.

Barefoot Resort. This is actually three spots, and it could almost be four. If you can only go to one place during your visit, this is it. And that's exactly what a group of us did last November, when we went down to watch Villanova's basketball team play in the Thanksgiving tourney and posted a 72-hole score at Barefoot. My personal favorite is probably the Love Course, because I find it to be the most playable. At least for my level of ability these days. But the Fazio is just as strong

and appealing. Hey, I don't think I've ever played a Fazio course that wasn't. He's the best, in the book according to me. And many others I'm sure. It's just that it might be a tad bit more difficult than the Love. Not that there's anything wrong with that. You just have to be careful how much you're willing to bite off when you're hitting the ball about 20 yards shorter than you used to. A wise man once told me that. And the Dye course is, well, the Dye course. But it's not what many of us think of when we hear that name. There's not a lot of railroad ties and forced carries. It's relatively fair, actually, especially if you play it from the proper set of tees. Imagine that. And I've played a few Dye layouts, too. And if the Norman Course were by itself, it would probably get more notice as well. It's just that the competition is stout. But if that's your so-called warm-up course, than all I can say is you're living large indeed.

King's North at Myrtle Beach National. I had played this one a long time ago, in a round that wound up getting rained out during out

is guided by his stomach.

GWAA event. And then I went back last year to reaquaint myself. All I can say is wow. But if you don't like hard, it might not be for you. You have to bring some game. There's a lot of sand, and many forced carries. But if you like to get tested this is the place. And I say that in a good way. And of course the best thing about Myrtle is that there's something for everyone. Cause if you're not enjoying yourself, why bother? I want to go back, which must count for something.

I could go a lot of ways for my 10th choice, and along the same lines I could have no shortage of honorable mentions. So I'll throw out

> Arcadian Shores (which has undergone dramatic improvements), Prestwick (which like the Arnold Palmer course at MBN is anything but easy), Rivers Edge (another Palmer design), Shaftsbury Glen and Heritage Club would certainly be under consideration. And I'm sure I'm leaving a few out. Sorry. But for my last, I'll go with The Witch, which I've found incredibly peaceful yet challenging over the years for one main reason: there's no houses. Just nature. Even if that means that on the ninth hole there's a sign that warns you to be on the lookout for poisonous snakes. I have to admit that threw me the first time I saw it. By this point I'm kind of used to it. Well, sort of. I'm not a big fan of the no-shoulder creatures. Then again, who is. But even though I'm not sure this course gets enough credit for being whatever, I'm convinced. So



Dunes Club Par 5 #13 there.

**Oyster Bay.** I might feel a little more strongly about this place than some others do, but I'm comfortable having that opinion. It too is located in the marshlands, similar in some spots to Tidewater. I've never had a bad time there. And yes, there are oyster shells everywhere. And some signs of wildlife. I've seen my share of baby gators there. And some not-so-baby ones. The par 3 17th in particular is a gathering spot. And why not? Gators love peninsula greens too. And the 18th is an impressive par 4 going back up to the clubhouse. This is one of those places, as part of the Legends group, that gives you a breakfast sandwich, a lunch sandwich and a couple of drinks included with your greens fee. So even if it's not your day on the links you will at least eat well. I can live with that. And if you go to the Legends out on Highway 501, where the Heathland, Moorland and Parkland courses are, you get a buffet breakfast and a sit-down lunch off a menu included. Can't be beat. Trust me, from a man who Now for the food, which as I've said is almost as important to my overall well being.

Any discussion begins with Chianti South, in Little River. As good as the Italian you'll get in South Philly. I know that's a bold statement, but I stand by it. And I'm rarely wrong about grub. Just in case, a good friend with a zillion vowels in his last name readily concurs. I can live with that. Don't even look at the menu. Get the stuffed banana peppers. They're to die for. So is the bread. And their blue cheese dressing. They also have a crepe/ice cream desert that is shareable. Not that I did. This is my go-to stop.

New York Prime. I have yet to try it, but I'm putting it here anyway because that same friend, who's eating more than enough meals to know, swears it's the best steakhouse he's even been to. His word is







### SCRANTON COUNTRY CLUB MEMORIAL

Alex Pompey & David Pompey 3&2 win over Jack Knowles and John Barone





### THREE TEAMS UNCOVER FOUNDERS FOUR-BALL VICTORY



Eric Plisko & Joe Weiscarger

The AGA/GAP circuit featured another day of four-ball action as the 14th Founders Four-Ball took place at Glenmaura National Golf Club (par 71, 6,308 yards) on Aug. 6.

In the Amateur Division, Wyoming Valley Country Club's Eric Plisko and Joseph Weiscarger defeated Country Club of Scranton's Jack Knowles and David Pompey in a scorecard playoff. Both teams finished regulation at 8-under-par 63. Super-Senior Division winners were StoneHedge Golf Course's Robin Bonda and Wemberly Hills Golf Club's Tom Miller.

The Plisko and Weiscarger team carded a 5-under-par 31 on the back nine to prevail. The AGA/GAP used the USGA-recommended tiebreaking method to determine a champion.

The Plisko and Weiscarger team stood at 1 over through three holes of play. Plisko put an end to that with four consecutive birdies.

"Looking back, this was a crazy streak of birdies, but at the moment, I never try to look ahead," said Plisko, 33, of Hanover Township, Pa. "On every one of those birdies, Joe was right there with me, which allowed me to be more aggressive throughout the stretch."

On No. 4 (par 4, 374 yards), Plisko ripped a drive to the right of the fairway. Sitting 110 yards away from the hole, Plisko took a pitching wedge and hit a missile, landing next to Weiscarger's ball 11 feet away from the hole location. Plisko putted first and sunk it.

Despite the afford mentioned streak of birdies, Plisko and Weiscarger remained two strokes off the lead entering No. 10 (par 5, 514 yards). Plisko entered another hot streak, reeling in back-to-back birdies.

"On his first birdie of the streak, Eric struck on amazing drive off of the tee, and then picked up his 4-iron to hit an impressive shot about 15 feet in," said Weiscarger, 62, of Wilkes Barre, Pa. "He just missed a putt for eagle, but he notched an impressive birdie to help us gain momentum."

After a birdie on No. 11 (par 3, 129 yards), Plisko told Weiscarger they needed to birdie on two of the next three holes. He took matters into his own hands as he carded red figures on Nos. 13 (par 4, 355 yards) and 14 (par 5, 543 yards).

Vince Scarpetta, Jr. & Dennis Sebastianelli

"His driving was strong all day, and his putting performance was one of the best I had ever seen," said Weiscarger.

Plisko worked his magic yet again on No. 17 (par 4, 337 yards) as he fired his ninth birdie of the day, matching what Pompey did shortly before him.

"I hit a three-quarter pitching wedge to about 20 feet and I was able to sink another putt," said Plisko. "We were running out of holes, so this birdie was huge considering it bumped us back to a tie for first place."

As Plisko and Weiscarger approached No. 18 (par 4, 327 yards) they were unsure if a tie would be settled by a sudden-death playoff or a match of cards. Knowing that Knowles and Pompey finished at 8 under, they knew par would, at worst, lead to a playoff (They were 1-up in the match of cards). Weiscarger, who was the sidekick most of the day, played the hero on the final hole with a par.

"Eric had firepower all day, but No. 18 was one of the few holes where he wasn't himself and hit his ball into the water," Weiscarger said. "I hit a 60-degree wedge that landed 12 feet from the hole, and two-putted it for the victory.

"Eric has many more wins ahead of him, but I`m not sure if I can say the same, so I enjoy each victory so much."

### Senior & Super Senior

The fathers of Vince Scarpetta, Jr. and Dennis Sebastianelli formed a friendship through golf more than 60 years ago. Their friendship led to a bond between their sons, who have watched and played many rounds of golf together.

Scarpetta and Sebastianelli teamed up to claim victory in the Senior Division with a score of 2-under-par 69.

The AGA/GAP Founders Four-Ball marked Sebastianelli's first AGA/GAP event of the season. To him, choosing Scarpetta, who has been victorious in four AGA/GAP events this summer, was an easy choice.

The Scarpetta and Sebastianelli team started the day off with five straight pars. Although they came up short of red figures, the duo was comfortable with pars,





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as long as they were able to convert on No. 6 (par 5, 491 yards), which they felt to be an easy birdie opportunity.

"I hit my drive on the bunker outside of the fairway, used my wedge to get out of there, and picked up my hybrid to set up a 15-foot putt, which I sunk," Scarpetta, 68, of Moosic, Pa., said. "It always feels good to get your first birdie of the day because it feels as if you are gaining momentum."

The duo dug into the No. 10 (par 5, 514 yards) tee box thinking that an easy birdie opportunity awaited. Unfortunately for them, their expectations were not met, and both competitors recorded bogey.

"We just made mistakes on this hole," Scarpetta said. "This is a par 5 that you normally should birdie. We knew we had to respond quickly."

Responding quickly is exactly what they did, as Sebastianelli fired his first birdie on No. 11 (par 3, 129 yards). He hit a 9-iron to two feet. Sebastianelli also birdied No. 12 (par 4, 377 yards). After driving it slightly left of the fairway, he knocked a 52-degree wedge onto the green, 20 feet from the flagstick.

"Vince gave me a great read, which was comforting because he knows these greens better than anyone," the 56-year-old Clarks Summit, Pa. native said. "I used two putts to get my second straight birdie. This was a big turning point for us because we discussed shooting 31 on the back, and we were now in a position to do so."

A third straight birdie for the duo, this time notched by Scarpetta on No. 13 (par 4 355 yards), made that goal even more feasible. A bogey on No. 15 (par 3, 211 yards) made a dent, but the team responded well with a Scarpetta birdie on No. 16 (par 4, 412 yards).

"I hit a 9-iron barely onto the green, about 40 feet away from the hole," said Scarpetta. "These greens can be difficult, but I somehow sunk the putt, which was before the best moment of the day."

"I was smiling from ear to ear all day playing with Vince, who is one of my best friends," Sebastianelli said. "I had such a great time today that I am now inspired to play more golf in the future."

Experience was the key for StoneHedge Golf Course's Robin Bonda and Wemberly Hills Golf Club's Tom Miller, as they paired up to capture the Super-Senior Division (par 71, 5,506 yards). Bonda and Miller, who have played with one an-

## FOX HILL COUNTRY CLUB'S RECORD IN THE SUPER-SENIOR COAL SCUTTLE REMAINS PERFECT.

Led by Individual Champion Jim Hoover's score of even-par 71, Team Fox Hill cruised to its sixth consecutive title Aug. 19. The Super-Senior Coal Scuttle, presented by Erickson, Hudacek, & Leibman Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, is 6 years old. Fox Hill finished at 7 over on its home course (par 71, 5,702 yards), four shots clear of runner-ups Elmhurst Country Club and Emanon Country Club. The format is the top three of four scores count toward a team's total. The defending team champion's venue plays host

"We had such a big year planned, sadly, the Coronavirus wrecked it for everyone," said Fox Hill Team Member Bill Lawler, 73, of West Wyoming, Pa., other for more than 20 years, bested three teams with a score of 1-under-par 70.

Glenmaura National's opener (par 5, 468 yards) indicated good fortunes. Bonda made birdie. Miller made a tone-setting swing.

"I've played in a few tournaments here at Glenmaura and have been unable to record a birdie at No.1," said Bonda, 66, of Peckville, Pa. "I hit a 5-iron to lay it up to the hill, a 3-wood in about 130 yards in and then used my 8-iron to knock it 12 feet past the hole. I made the putt and was thrilled to get my first birdie here and start the day on the right note."

As for Miller...

"I never really try to hit it over the gorge considering how far away it is, and that most of my peers struggle to get over it," said Miller, 67, of Scranton, Pa., said. "Since the Super-Senior tee box is moved up, I decided to give it a try and it worked out well. Not only did it allow us to be aggressive for the rest of the hole, but it also raised my confidence immensely." The duo fired off another birdie on No. 6 (par 5,

455 yards). The off mirroring strong drives and selections 3-woods to land of the green. 9-iron to set whereas Miller to set up an

The key to the to Miller, was of the day, 7 (par 3, 130



Robin Bonda & Tom Miller

teammates started one another with onto the fairway of their respective 130 yards shy Bonda used his up a 12-foot putt, selected a wedge eight-foot putt.

round, according his second birdie which came at No. yards).

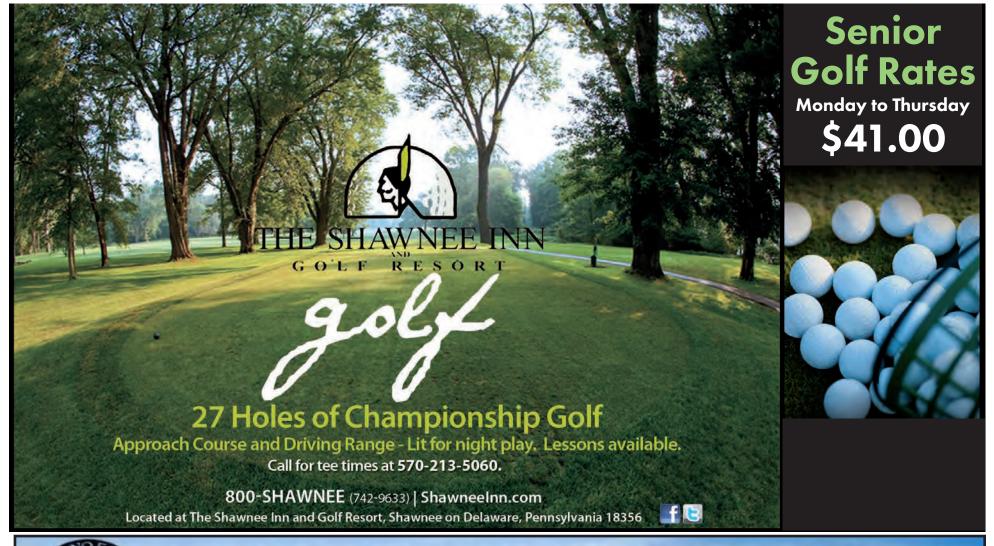
"This par 3 is usually tough for me, but I hit my 8-iron over the top of the pin and sunk a seven-foot sliding putt," Miller said. "Getting back-to-back birdies was huge for us because it propelled us to completely shift our focus to avoiding bogey now that we're under par."

Today, Bonda and Miller were teammates. Tomorrow, they will be pitted against one another in the Friday Frolic Two-Man Scramble hosted by StoneHedge. Bonda will be teaming up with Wemberly Hills' Jerry Tonkin, and Miller will team up with Wemberly Hills' Mark Bartkowski.



who has been at the club for more than 50 years. "The Scuttle is our own little deal up here. It's our big team championship. "The Scuttle is our own little deal up here. It's our big team championship. Whether it is the centennial or not, our guys like to win."

Lawler, Thomas Gill, Hoover and Ed Hennigan (left to right in photo above) comprised Team Fox Hill.





### MASLANKA, POWELL CLAIM TITLES IN JUNIOR TOC

Michael Maslanka is only 14 years old, but he's got a dream of playing in a PGA TOUR event one day. But for at least this week, it's his newest trophy that he'll be dreaming of.

Maslanka, a Country Club of Scranton member, took home the Boys' Division title in the AGA/GAP Lawler Junior Tour Series Tournament of Champions Tuesday at Huntsville Golf Club (par 72, 6,298 yards). His 1-under round of 71 — the championship's only red figure — paired with Maslanka's 3-over 74 Monday at Fox Hill Country Club earned him the coveted hardware. He inched out Elmhurst Country Club's Billy Pabst by one stroke for the victory. After holding the

### **GIRLS' DIVISION**

In the Girls' Division, Gwendolyn Powell of Elmhurst Country Club powered her way to a wire-to-wire win.



After holding the overnight lead thanks to a 5-over 78 at Fox Hill, Powell followed that performance up with a 13-over 85 Tuesday at Huntsville. Her 18-over 163 overall score resulted in the Girls' Division hardware. She defeated a talented five-player field for the trophy, bettering runner-up finisher Chloe Sipe of The Montrose Club by four strokes.

Launched in 1999, the AGA/GAP Lawler Junior Tour Series Tournament of Champions is a two-day, 36-hole stroke play event. Winners of a Lawler Junior Tour Series event, in addition to those who ranked high in scoring average/finish, make up the field.

### A MONUMENTAL VICTORY FOR WYOMING VALLEY







Karen Hazleton, Kathy Goeringer, Molly Gorman, Nicky Sennet

Wyoming Valley Country Club captured its first AGA/GAP Women's Coal Scuttle Championship presented by Erickson, Hudacek, & Leibman Merrill Lynch Wealth Management Wednesday at Fox Hill Country Club (par 73, 5,319 yards).

"[Winning our first Coal Scuttle] in and off itself was a huge victory for us as a team," Molly Gorman, who led Wyoming Valley with 32 stableford points, said. "I just think that when we first thought about going into the Coal Scuttle, we put our heads together and knew we could definitely do this. "As long as we stayed within ourselves, within on our game and within our mind, we could bring it home."

That they did. Wyoming Valley amassed 85 points — seven clear of four-time reigning champion Huntsville Golf Club.

The top three of four Stableford points count toward the team total. That scoring format began in 2018. The Women's Coal Scuttle Championship previously featured 18 holes of stroke play, with three of four scores counting toward the team total.

Huntsville's Kyleen McCance earned individual medalist honors with 35 points. However, three of the next four leaderboard spots belonged to Wyoming Valley.

Gorman finished second, Nicole Sennett (28 points) third and Kathy Goeringer (25) fifth. Karen Hazelton, a longtime competitor on the Pennsylvania circuit, rounded out the Wyoming Valley team with 18 points.

Back-to-back birdies buoyed Gorman at Fox Hill. On No. 11 (par 3, 90 yards), she knocked a pitching wedge to 25 feet.

"I was proud of myself for reading it right and trusting my line. I was happy it

went in," Gorman, 33, of Forty Fort, Pa., said. "Fox Hill has very tough greens. I personally had a tough time transitioning to the greens at Fox Hill because Wyoming Valley had just aerated its greens."

On No. 12 (par 5, 387 yards), Gorman, a kindergarten teacher at State Street Elementary School, pulled a 3-wood from 175 yards greenside left. A friendly lie provided a straightforward chip, which she executed into tap-in birdie territory.

"I just played consistent from tee to green," Gorman, who played collegiate golf at Towson University, said.

Gorman grew up at Wyoming Valley as a Junior member. She returned to the club two years ago and immediately assimilated with the club's friendly and fiery women's contingent.

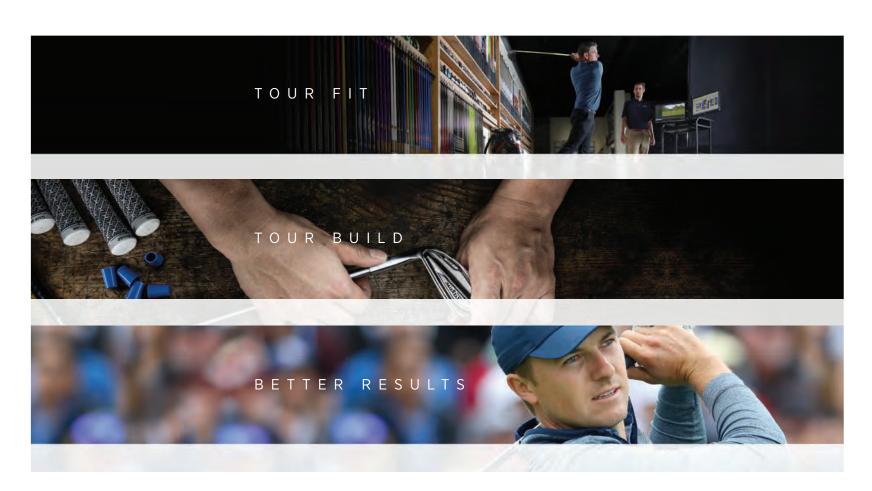
"We've been together for a long time. We've been competitive," Gorman said. "We all have that competitive spirit."

Timing is everything when it comes to showcasing said spirit. Wyoming Valley's Women's Coal Scuttle victory occurred in between the opening rounds of its women's club championship.

The final round is set for Tuesday, Aug. 25. Gorman, Goeringer, Hazleton and Sennett are all in the field. Gorman leads by 10 strokes.

"Anything can happen on Tuesday. I'm definitely not counting my chickens," Gorman said.

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LEBANON, Pa. – The 84th Pennsylvania Women's Amateur Championship had a new wrinkle in 2020 as the event switched from match play to stroke play. For Fox Chapel Golf Club's Katie James, that was a welcome change. James lost in the first round of match play in extra holes in each of the past two years. But this year was different.

From the format to the result, everything changed for James, who shot a 36-hole total of 149 (+5) at Lebanon Country Club to capture the championship, which is presented by DICK'S Sporting Goods.











In the rain-shortened Mid-Amateur division, Green Oaks Country Club's Katie Miller and Wyoming Valley Country Club's Molly Gorman shared the win after each shot a 6-over par score of 78. The Senior division went to Beth Ward of Royal Manchester Golf Links

who shot 76 (+4) on Monday. The Super-Senior division had a tie between Merion Golf Club's Liz Haines and Huntsville Golf Club's Barbara Pagana, who each carded a score of 77 (+5) on Monday.

### GORMAN COMPLETES SUMMER SEASON WITH WVCC CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Molly Gorman won her initial women's club championship at Wyoming Valley Country Club after returning from a several year abscence at the course. She grew up on the links as a junior member and played the last two seasons at Irem Temple Country Club where she was also a club champ. She has been playing a shortened summer golf season due to a torn rotator cuff which will be surgically repaired after the Thanksgiving holiday. A division I golfer at Towson University, Gorman has several USGA mid-amateur events under her belt as well as multiple North & South Championships in Pinehurst, N.C. In college she was also named to the Division I Coaches All Academic Team.





#### WYOMING VALLEY DUO WINS WITH WALK-OFF EAGLE

A chip-in eagle secured victory for Eric Plisko and Frank Schiel, Jr. in the 36th John Moore Memorial Tournament Aug. 24 at the Country Club of Scranton (par 72, 6,792 yards).

The Wyoming Valley Country Club members stood tied for the lead at 9 under before the clutch conversion. On No. 18 (par 5, 530 yards), Plisko's chip from the back of the green landed softly and drifted into the hole for 3.

He and Schiel, as a result, prevailed by two strokes over Glenmaura National Golf Club's Patrick Mitchell and Nick Paone.

He had 207 yards in and had 6-iron in his hand. He went back to the 7-iron and I told him to hit 6-iron. It hit pin high and just trickled off the back of the green."

On the previous hole (par 3, 225 yards), Plisko drained a 10-footer for par, which at the time afforded a one-stroke advantage. The Mitchell and Paone team, playing in the group ahead, birdied No. 18 to get in the house at 9 under.

Plisko's heroics took care of the rest.

He and Schiel emerged as the event's 18-hole leaders after posting a 6-under-par 66 at Pocono Farms Country Club (par 72, 6,723 yards) Sunday.one for us."



Eric Plisko, Eric / Schiel, Jr., FrankWyoming Valley Country Club

1 Plisko, Eric / Schiel, Jr., FrankWyoming Valley Country Club	-11
2 Mitchell, Patrick / Paone, Nick Glenmaura National Golf Club	-9
3 Masters, Justin / Rossi, Kevin Scranton CC, Green Pond CC	-8
4 Linepensel, Robert / Orcutt, Ryan Green Pond Country Club	-7
5 McGarry, Tyler / Rutkoski, Timothy Huntsville Golf Club	-6
6 Draper, Stephon / Williams, Kyle Glen Oak CC, Scranton CC	-6
7 Osborne, Frank / Pash, John Elkview Country Club	-6
8 Oh, Steve / Vasil, Jay Eligo Club, Running Deer Golf Club	-5
9 Grad, Joseph / Perry, Matt Country Club of Scranton	-4
10 Biscotti, Tom / Mikiewicz, JohnFox Hill CC, Wyoming Valley CC	-2





## Philadelphia PGA Section









### PHILADELPHIA SENIOR PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

1	John Pillar CC at Woodloch Springs	-6	68	66	134	
	Won on 1st Playoff Hole;					
2	Dave McNabbApplebrook Golf Club	-6	66	68	134	
3	Greg FarrowDeerwood Country Club	-4	67	69	136	
T4	Dave QuinnLaurel Creek Country Club	-2	70	68	138	
T4	John AllenHuntingdon Valley Country Club	-2	70	68	138	
6	George ForsterRadnor Valley Country Club	-1	69	70	139	
7	Mike MosesConcord Country Club	-1	69	70	139	
8	Terry HertzogMerion Golf Club	E	69	71	140	
T9	Terry HatchRoyal Oaks Golf Course	E	71	69	140	
Т9	Brian KellyBucknell Golf Club	E	71	69	140	



#### CALVIENICH VALLEY OPEN

GALV LENIGH VALLET OF EN						
T1	Trevor BenselOverbrook Golf Club	-5	71	68	139	
T1	Zachary OakleyBidermann Golf Club	-5	68	71	139	
3	Ashley GrierOverbrook Golf Club	-3	74	67	141	
T4	Richard SteinmetzSpring Ford Country Club	-2	71	71	142	
T4	Joseph KogelmanGOLFTEC - Moorestown	-2	69	73	142	
T6	David McNabbApplebrook Golf Club	-1	73	70	143	
T6	Michael FureySaucon Valley Country Club	-1	70	73	143	
T6	John PillarCC at Woodloch Springs	-1	70	73	143	
T6	David PagettWhitemarsh Valley Country Club	-1	69	74	143	
T10	Jeffrey FickChapel Hill Golf Course	E	74	70	144	
T10	George ForsterRadnor Valley Country Club	E	73	71	144	
T10	Brian KellyBucknell Golf Club	E	72	72	144	
T10	Michael LittleLookaway Golf Club	E	71	73	144	

	DOYLESTOWN OPEN		
T1	David QuinnLaurel Creek Country Club	-4	68
T1	Zachary OakleyBidermann Golf Club	-4	68
T4	Ashley GrierOverbrook Golf Club	-3	69
T4	Brian BergstolShawnee Inn & Golf Resort	-3	69
T4	Curtis Kirkpatrickndian Spring Country Club	-3	69
T4	Trevor BenselOverbrook Golf Club	-3	69
T8	Stephen SierackiWoodcrest Country Club	-2	70
T8	Gregory FarrowDeerwood Country Club	-2	70
T10	George FrakeMoorestown Field Club	-1	71
T10	Sean Ebert (a)Doylestown, PA	-1	71
T10	Matthew CoccoOverbrook Golf Club	-1	71
T10	Travis DeibertDoylestown Country Club	-1	71



#### **DELAWARE VALLEY OPEN** at CONCORD COUNTRY CLUB Trevor Bensel Overbrook Golf Club 61 T2 David McNabb Applebrook Golf Club 66 T2 Richard Steinmetz Spring Ford Country Club 66 T2 Parks Price Country Club of York 66 Gregory Farrow Deerwood Country Club 67 T6 John Pillar CC at Woodloch Springs 68 -2 T6 Michael VanDerLaan Sunnybrook Golf Club 68 -2 T6 Michael Little Lookaway Golf Club 68 T6 Stephen Swartz West Shore Country Club 68 T10 Terry Hertzog Merion Golf Club 69 John Cooper Green Valley Country Club T10 -1 69 T10 George Forster Radnor Valley Country Club -1 69 T10 Mike Moses Concord Country Club -1 69 T10 Ashley Grier Overbrook Golf Club -1 69 T10 Gregory Matthias Tavistock Country Club 69 T10 Brandon Kuzmich Merion Golf Club 69 T10 Anthony Napoletano GOLFTEC-Malvern -1 69 T10 David Fields Brookside Country Club -1 69 T10 Braden Shattuck Bidermann Golf Club -1 69 T10 Alex Pillar (a) Woodloch Springs -1 69

### **TAYLORMADE CLASSIC**

at WHITE MANOR COUNTRY CLUB

		17	
1	Michael Little Lookaway Golf Club	4	67
T2	Bob Lennon Wilmington Country C	3	68
T2	Dave Quinn Laurel Creek Country Club	-3	68
T2	Zac Oakley	-3	68
T2	Brett Walker Sunnybrook Golf Club	-3	68
T6	Brian Kelly Bucknell Golf Club	-1	70
T6	Mark Anderson St. Davids Golf Club	-1	70
T6	Mike Furey Saucon Valley Country Club	-1	70

WM HYNDMAN III MEMORIAL CLASSIC at Huntingdon Valley				
1	Michael LittleLookaway Golf Club	-1	69	
	Won on 1st Playoff Hole			
2	Dave McNabbApplebrook Golf Club	-1	69	
Т3	Andrew TurnerFrench Creek Golf Club	E	70	
Т3	Terry HertzogMerion Golf Club	E	70	
Т3	Dustin WallisDustin Wallis Golf	E	70	
Т3	Ross SeamanManufacturers' Golf & CC	E	70	
Т3	Jaime GylanRoyal Manchester Golf Links	E	70	
T3	Brett WalkerSunnybrook Golf Club	E	70	
T9	Trevor BenselOverbrook Golf Club	+1	71	
T9	Joseph KogelmanGOLFTEC - Moorestown	+1	71	
T9	Mike MosesConcord Country Club	+1	71	
T9	Robert LennonWilmington Country Club	+1	71	
T13	Gregory MatthiasTavistock Country Club	+2	72	
T13	Billy StewartThe ACE Club	+2	72	
T13	Richard SteinmetzSpring Ford Country Club	+2	72	

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## World Amateur Handicap Champion Harry Radley Is a Proud American from Australia, via Indianapolis

By TONY LEODORA

It was a very different World Amateur Handicap Championship in Myrtle Beach.

But, then again, everything seems to be a bit different in 2020. Initial congratulations go to the tournament organizers at Golf Tourism Solutions, the golf course operators throughout Myrtle Beach's Grand Strand and the participating sponsors for being able to hold the world's largest golf tournament during a pandemic year.

Many doubted the tournament would be held in 2020. Others expected minimal participation.

In the end, a total of 2,150 participants – from all 50 states across America – converged on Myrtle Beach for the 37th annual continuation of the event. True, that number was down from the recent average of more than 3,000 participants. But it must be realized that the entire foreign contingent of players – a considerable number – was removed due to travel restrictions under pandemic constraints.

In the end, the champion proved to be an amazing story.

Harry Radley, a 59-year-old player in the 8-handicap division, emerged from a three-way playoff to win the title. He is a native of Sydney, Australia but has lived for the last 20 years in Indianapolis – and proclaims himself to be "a proud American." He was resplendent in a head-to-toe red, white and blue outfit for the championship round.

"I am totally overwhelmed by this," said Radley, as he held the championship trophy. "This is a very emotional day for me. I can't tell you how much it means to me."

Radley shot rounds of 80-80-79-87 to win his flight and reach the championship round.

"I played very steady the first three days and was set up for a good fourth day," said Radley. "I played very ordinary and I thought everyone else was going to catch me and leapfrog me but, fortunately, it was a tough course and they all played pretty ordinary as well."

In the final day playoff, Radley, Doug Mrstik (Sarasota, Fla.) and Bruce Moskovciak (Jacksonville, Fla.) all shot net 71s and were tied after 18 holes. The trio began the playoff on the Dye Course's par-4 18th hole and Radley's par was good enough to allow him to claim the mantle of World Champion.

Ryan Reynolds (Camden, S.C.) shot a 1-under par 71 in the championship round to complete his victory in the Gross Division. Michael Batten (Jacksonville, Fla.) shot a 79, which allowed him to overcome a one-stroke deficit and beat Jim Marcelak (Fort Myers, Fla.) to win the Senior Gross Division.

"The 37th Annual World Am was certainly different, but the one thing that didn't change was the competition at the heart of the event, and we are delighted to congratulate Harry Radley on earning the title of World Champion," Tournament Director Scott Tomasello said. "We

enjoyed a week of great golf and while we are grateful to have been able to play the World Am, we are certainly looking forward to next year's tournament and a return to more normal circumstances."

The 2021 World Am will be played Aug. 30 – Sept. 3.

Golfers from all 50 states competed in this year's World Am, a 72-hole, net stroke play event, but the 2020 tournament was altered due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

- The biggest change was the absence of the World's Largest 19th Hole, which usually serves as the event's social hub, providing players free food, drinks, live entertainment and more each evening.
- All participants had their own cart for each tournament round.
- There were no more than 72 golfers on each course (approx. 36 players per flight).
- A tee time window with threesomes was instituted.
- Complimentary range balls were provided and placed on respective ranges to eliminate touch points.
- No spectators were allowed.

The bottom line was that the participants enjoyed and appreciated the changes made for the 2020 championship. But nobody enjoyed them more than the Australian-American, Harry Radley.



Gross Division champions
Senior Division -- Mike Batten of Jacksonville, FL (on left)
Gross Division -- Ryan Reynolds of Camden, SC



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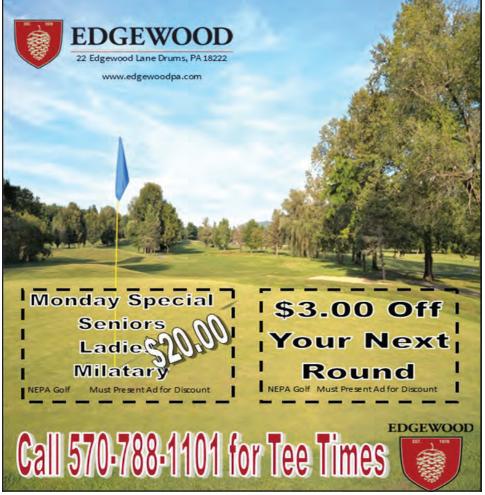
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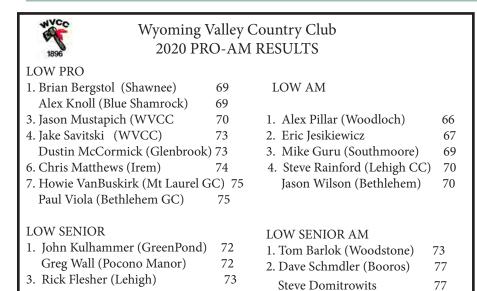
 $3^{\text{rd}}$ 

 $4^{th}$ 

6<sup>th</sup>

6<sup>th</sup>

 $3^{rd}$ 



Pocono Manor Pro-Am Results				
Professional		Amateur		
Brian Bergstol	63	Jason Wilson	64	
Alex Knoll	69	Shane Gunning	65	
Brian Fruehan	71	Reilly Hogan	70	
Terry Hatch	71	John Martin	71	
Kevin Edwards	73	Ryne Luce	71	
Dustin McCormick	74	J		
Spencer Lunger	74			
Senior Professional		Senior Amateur		
Harvey Williams	71	Dave Schindler	71	
Wayne Phillips	72	Jim Codrea	72	
Mark Monahan	73	Dylan Spadt	72	
Greg Wall	76	J 1		

#### Whitetail Golf Club Low Pro's Senior Pro's 1. Alex Knoll (Glen Brook) 64 1. Brian Boyle 76 1. Terry Hatch (Royal Oaks) 2. Jim Booros (PGA) 78 64 3. Brian Bergstol (Shawnee) 68 4. Mike Paukovits (Chestnut Hill) 69 5. Dustin McCormick (Glen Brook) 72 Low Sr. Amateurs **Low Amateurs** 1. Nathan Fry (Chestnut Hill) 59 1. Bob Beck (Bethlehem) 69 65 2. Jason Wilson (Shawnee) 2. Bill Paukovits (Whitetail) 72 3. Mike Guro (Glen Brook) 70 2. Randy Kroschwitz (Whitetail) 72

Pocono Pro-Am

#### SKYTOP **Low Professional Low Amateur** John Pillar Alex Knoll 70 William Mirams (Shawnee) 70 Terry Hatch 72 Alex Pillar (Woodloch Springs) 73 77 Charles Leon (Green Pond) 73 Evan Grube Jeff Weidecke (Green Pond) 77 Brian Bergstol 74 Justin Alunni 75 **Low Senior Amateur** Dustin McCormick 75 Brian Fruehan T-1<sup>st</sup> Al McCormick (Glen Brook) 76 Len Smith (Chapel Hill) **Low Senior Professional** Harvey Williams 73 John Kulhamer 74 Mark Monahan 77



71

LOW PRO ASH COURSE

1 Miller, Chris

1	Miller, Chris	-1	/ I
2	Bergstol, Brian	E	72
3	Knoll, Alex	+1	73
T4	McCormick, Dustin	+2	74
T4	Hatch, Terry	+2	74
T4	Meyer, Gregg	+2	74
7	Edwards, Kevin	+6	78
8	Lussier, Nick	+7	79
T9	VanBuskirk, Howie	+8	80
T9	Fick, Jeff	+8	80
	LOW PRO OAK CO	OURSI	E
1	Hatch, Terry	+2	74
2	Kulhamer, John	+5	77
T3	Muschlitz, Jim	+7	79
T3	Petrole, George	+7	79
5	Kiefner, Steve	+9	81
T6	Silnik, Ray	+10	82
T6	Fruehan, Brian	+10	82
8	Boyle, Brian	+15	87
9	Ambrose, Joe	+16	88
	LOW AM UNER 60	)	
1	Orcutt, Ryan	<i>-</i> 5	67
2	Williams, Eric	-4	68
3	Wilson, Jason	-3	69
4	Mirams, William	+1	73
5	Domanish, Mike	+4	76
J	Domainon, winc	· <b>T</b>	70



good enough for this midget. One of these summers I will find out for myself. Promise. He says you have to get the Italian salad. Just passing it on.

The Shack. In Cherry Grove. Nothing fancy. Just good local food for next to nothing. Like you're eating in your mom's kitchen. If your mom was a southern gal. And all the locals eat there. Which is the best endorsement there is.

Brentwood. Also in Little River. A French place. Imagine that. We found it one time after driving past it maybe a thousand times. They have a happy hour that can't be beat. Most things are five bucks. The onion soup is almost a meal in itself. But the crab chowder is so good I have to get that too. And the chocolate soufflé is enough to send me reaching for my insulin needle. And the wines aren't too shabby either. Funny how that works.

Horst Gasthaus. Across Highway 17 from Barefoot Landing. Yo, you can't have French without throwing in some German, right? I'm half German

(to go with English), but I hardly ever it. This eat restaurant is the real deal. They have a Hungarian goulash that's hearty. And the portions are huge. The potato salad, sauerkraut and cabbage are a must. Oops, almost forgot. They do an all-you-can



Tidewater Golf Course Aerial View of Third & Fourth Hole

eat pork chops. Can't make that up. My son-in-law ate five. I was so proud. And yes, the beer flows. Always a plus.

Simply Southern Smokehouse. Simply the best buffet down there. A native put me on to it, and he was not wrong. It doesn't cost much, and it has all southern food. Like chicken and chops and ribs and the appropriate sides and a desert bar and on and on. I'm usually good for about four plates. But I do pace myself. Another place the locals love.

Mike's Soul Food. Don't ask me how I found this joint, but I'm glad I did. More southern favorites. Like the Shack, you can't spend more than like 10 bucks a person. And they do things like pork chops and friend chicken and collard greens and baked macaroni and I'm getting hungry just thinking about it. It ain't big but it feels like you're at home. They're welcoming that way. And I even got to meet Mike. How about that?

Abuelo's. Admittedly this is a chain that we first came across in Phoenix.

But it was good there and it's good here. My daughter loves Mexican, so she makes sure we stop there. The Chile relennos are what I usually get, and I'm a creature of habit. The chips and salsa could be a meal all by themselves. They really are that good, and I'm a tough judge of salsas. They have I think three or four of them, but I'm into the hot one. And the green one. And yes, the drinks can readily flow.

Greg Normans. In Barefoot Landing. On the water. Great setting. It can be a bit expensive, but if you go for lunch it's almost a bargain. The grouper sandwich is big enough for two. I don't think we've ever gotten anything there that wasn't perfect. I can give a thumbs up for the pork chops. And the prime rib. Or you could just go for drinks and stare at the boats going past. And speaking of pork chops, which seems to be almost a theme, the place right across the parking lot, Umberto's, is a Pittsburgh-based family-style establishment that also can take care of cooking a pig the right way. By the way, they also do those stuffed banana peppers. Just thought it was worth noting.

I don't know if that's 10 but you get the idea. Oh, and if you want big-time burger go to River City Café. There's a few of them. It really is everything they claim. Because sometimes you want a juicy sandwich. I would

tout Bimini's Oyster Bar and Seafood Market, in North Myrtle, which I finally got to after years of saying I would. And Crave Italian Oven & Bar, in the heart of the city, for its happy hour. They have pizza, and I'm hard on pizza, meatballs (I'm hard on them too) and a caprese salad that will leave you drooling. And don't sleep on Prosser's in Murrell's Inlet, which might be the best barbecue buffet down there. Or almost anywhere. Wouldn't say it if it weren't true.

As with the golf, I'm sure I left a few out. Can't help it. There's too many good memories. Just glad I could once again share some.





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