
GOLF PENNSYLVANIA

GOLF NORTHEAST

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BLUE RIDGE TRAIL GC AND JACK FROST NATIONAL SHINE BRIGHTEST IN POCONO GLOWING GOLF LINEUP

By TONY LEODORA

Although nobody likes to talk about silver linings that can be found in the ominous cloud of the pandemic years, there is no doubt that the golf industry has benefited. Ever since the days in early 2019, when the shutdowns closed other businesses, the golf world stayed open and provided some relief for the beleaguered population.

Golf's renaissance – a far cry from the doomsday mood of the financial crisis that threatened the industry in 2008, 2009 and 2010 – continues today. Tee sheets are full. Record numbers of golf outings are on the books. New players keep coming to the game.

The big question remains. Will this golf boom sustain itself ... or fizzle out and send the industry back to leaner times?

The answer remains in how golf operators react to the surge.

Two of the shining examples of courses that have adapted well to the changing times can be found on the western edge of the Pocono Mountains. They are Blue Ridge Trail GC in Mountain Top, PA and Jack Frost National GC, just east of the intersection of I-80 and the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

In good times and in bad times, both courses have consistently kept themselves at the top of the scale in terms of course conditions, service, playability and enjoyment. The high statewide rankings from a number sources prove those claims.

It all began with the design of both courses – built with an eye toward sustainability. Aesthetics and challenge were part of the original plans but, unlike many mountain courses that fall way short in the area of playability, Blue Ridge Trail and Jack Frost National are meant to be enjoyed.



Blue Ridge Trail Course #9

The major difference between these courses and many constructed 50, 75, 90 years previously is simple. They don't feel like you are playing up and down the sides of the mountains.

"The secret has always been clearing wide enough corridors through the trees and ribboning the fairways so that every shot is not an uphill, downhill or sidehill lie," says Keith Devos, general manager at Jack Frost National.

Easier said than done. In most cases, clearing all of that acreage requires a lot of money – to purchase sufficient land and to do all of the tree-clearing.

Blue Ridge Trail golf course – the 27-hole facility located in the appropriately-named town of Mountain Top – is a perfect example. It began as a 9-hole golf course in the early 90's. In the late 90's, as more money became available, it grew to 18 holes. Just past the turn of the century, the final 9 holes were added.

The design team of Ault and Clark weaved a consistent layout ... then management took over from there.

"Fortunately, Ault and Clark gave us a design that we were able to maintain with a reasonable amount of labor and funds," explains Tony Barletta, the longtime Director of Golf Operations, who has kept a firm grasp on the Blue Ridge Trail wheel from the beginning.

The golf world refers to that quality in course design as "sustainability." Too often ego-driven architects design a course that is a superintendent's nightmare. Not at Blue Ridge Trail.

Barletta wouldn't let that happen. His background came from the superintendent world. When combined with current Superintendent/General Manager Duane Schell, the end result is a one-two punch on the side of sustainability.

"Growing grass in a mountain environment is not easy," adds Schell. "You have a short season, violent weather swings and, often, either too much water or not enough water. We were a bit fortunate in that we were able to adapt to the climate one step at a time over a number of years."

Jack Frost National was designed by Terry LaGree and constructed with the same principles of open space and wide corridors in mind. It sits at an elevation of 2,000 feet and is a big course that can extend to a distance of 7,200 yards.

"We have maintained an attitude of providing the highest standards available in the daily fee golf market," stresses Devos. "Even though we average 250 rounds a day, in season, we still make every player feel like a special guest."

"Keeping the customer happy and making them feel they are getting good value for their hard-earned dollar is the only way this current tide of success in golf will continue," adds Barletta.

Adhering to those high standards of golf course management means that the golf industry will have a bright future.



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SPOTLIGHT WYOMING VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB'S MCCARTHY TOURNAMENT

By John Zimich

As the old saying goes the apple didn't fall too far from the tree. That is certainly true when it comes to the late Art Brunn Sr. family. For his son, Art, Jr., captured his fourth McCarthy Tournament held at the Wyoming Valley Country Club in Hanover Township with Country Club of Scranton partner Mike Lynch.

Brunn Jr. and Lynch have now won three of the prestigious McCarthy crowns in the last six years.

In the better ball of partners scratch format, the 2023 winners defeated club members Dr. Jeff Lewis and Robert (Bob) Shoemaker on the par-4 18th hole with Brunn Jr., making an 18-foot birdie putt. The winners had a one-up lead going into the final hole.

The first week of June McCarthy opens the better ball of partners club season in Northeastern Pennsylvania. It usually follows with the John Allan at Fox Hill Club and other better ball of partners tourneys held at Elkview, Elmhurst, Glenmaura, Huntsville, Glen Oak, Country Club of Scranton, Irem Temple, Valley, Honesdale, Towanda, and Berwick Country Club.

Golfers in the championship flights in Northeastern Pennsylvania for the most part don't use handicaps unlike those in the Philadelphia and vicinity that decide their championships via handicaps at their premier tourneys.

Dr. Lewis and Shoemaker, who is a Hanover Area High School golf coach, put up a whale of a battle with the eventual winners. The twosome began the 18-hole McCarthy final with a birdie on the first hole. Dr. Lewis made a five-foot birdie putt on the 493-yard par-5 opening hole.

The runners-up went two-up on the dogleg second hole when Shoemaker two-putted for a par after Lynch missed his relatively short putt.

Brunn hit a spectacular second shot from left rough on the par-4 third hole and was conceded the putt for a birdie. Here, Dr. Lewis matched the bird with an uphill 15-footer to maintain that two-up lead.

Lynch, after missing another short putt for his bird on No. 4, made amends on the par 3 fifth hole when he knocked in a 15-foot slider for a two to cut the lead to one-up.

After missing those two relatively short putts Lynch was

clutch the rest of the way, saying those early short misses made him focus more.

On the par-4 sixth hole Brunn hit a great chip shot from the "hard pan" near the cart turnaround and proceeded to sink a tricky downhill medium putt to even the match.

When the winners missed the green on the downhill scenic par-3 seventh hole they conceded the birdie putt of Shoemaker and went one down.

It was on the dogleg par-4 eighth hole when Lynch came through for his partner once again by making a par to square the match. Brunn got in trouble on the hole when he hit his drive into the left woods.

Both Brunn and Lynch got into trouble on the dogleg par-4 ninth hole. Brunn's drive went deep right into the rough while

Lynch's drive found the creek on the left. Still, Lynch made a great shot through the trees and had a relatively long putt to save par but failed to convert. Here, Dr. Lewis was clutch again and sank a tricky slider for his par and a one-up lead.

The two teams tied the 10th hole with birds and pars on No. 11. Lynch made a relatively long downhill slider on the par 5 12th hole for a bird after Shoemaker was conceded his putt for a bird after making a great third pitch shot.

Save of the day came on the 14th hole when Shoemaker's drive found the ditch on the left of the fairway. He played his next shot out of the ditch, third onto the green and proceeded to sink a nice sized putt for a par to tie the hole.

Trailing by one going into the long par-3 15th over the water guarding the green, Brunn's tee shot just cleared the water and found the left trap where he blasted his second shot to an inch or two from the cup for a conceded three to win the hole and square the match.

It was on the this hole that Shoemaker had some bad luck when his first shot stopped just on fringe above the pin, leaving him with a very difficult and delicate chip which rolled some 15 feet past the pin. Almost all the time his first shot would have come back to the area of the flag and giving him at least a par to remain in front.

On the par-4 16th hole Brunn hit a long drive right down the middle of the fairway but his short pitch shot went over the green. Third shot left him with a medium slider when he proceeded to make and put his team in the lead for the initial time in the 18-hole



L-R Art Brunn Jr., Mike Lynch, Dr. Lewis, Bob Shoemaker



THREE EARN TITLES IN SPRING STROKE PLAY

DALLAS, Pa. — Wyoming Valley Country Club’s Eric Plisko carded an even-par 72 to capture the 15th GAP/AGA Spring Stroke Play at Irem Country Club (par 72, 6,496 yards) Tuesday.

The 2021 GAP/AGA Player of the Year edged Tony Bevevino of the host club by a stroke. Plisko birdied No. 18 (par 4, 313 yards) to secure his second Spring Stroke Play title (2018).

Like Plisko, Country Club of Scranton’s Brian Corbett notched an even-par 72 to prevail by a stroke in the Senior Division (par 72, 6,000 yards). He, too, edged a home-club hopeful in Lou Belgio. Elkview Country Club’s Michael Heck, the reigning GAP/AGA Super-Senior Player of the Year, won the event’s Super-Senior Division (par 72, 5,467 yards) with a 1-under-par 71.

RESULTS

AMATEUR DIVISION

Eric Plisko, Wyoming Valley Country Club	72
Tony Bevevino, Irem Country Club	73
Brandon Jackson, Wemberly Hills Golf Club	74
Eric Williams, Honesdale Golf Club	74
James Gardas, Glenmaura National Golf Club	76
Tom Biscotti, Wyoming Valley Country Club	76
Jonathan Wilson, Irem Country Club	76
Christopher DeMarco, Glenmaura	77
Brian Noonan, Frosty Valley	77
Bill Ianieri, Jack Frost National Golf Club	80
Mike Haley, Fox Hill Country Club	80
Jacob Kehres, Berwick Golf Club	80
Joshua Peters, Fox Hill Country Club	81
Benjamin Galko, Country Club of Scranton	82
Doug Nardella, Elmhurst Country Club	82
Brett Herman, Bucknell Golf Club	82
Timothy Anderson, Emanon Country Club	82
Tak Yoo, Glenmaura National Golf Club	82
Tom Cicini, Berwick Golf Club	82
Juliano Nieto, Glenmaura National Golf Club	85
Bill Krenitsky, StoneHedge Golf Assn.	85

Alex Vanscoy, White Clay Creek Country Club	86
Eamon Evans, Glenmaura National Golf Club	86
Frank Pinnacoli, Huntsville Golf Club	86
Jack Michael, Royal Manchester Golf Links	86
Kyle Hutnik, Lehigh Country Club	87
Damien LaRue, StoneHedge Golf Assn.	88
Ken Sorick, Fox Hill Country Club	95
Jeffrey Price, USGA/GAP GC	96

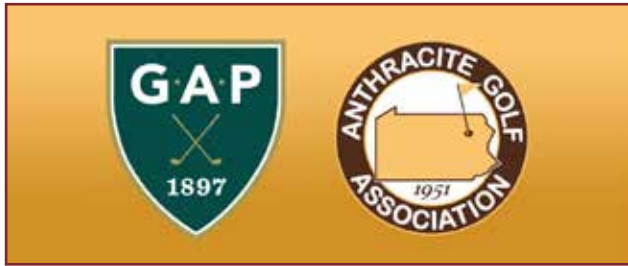
SENIOR DIVISION

Brian Corbett, Country Club of Scranton	72
Lou Belgio, Irem Country Club	73
Ken Bolcavage, Elkview Country Club	75
Bob Gill, Fox Hill Country Club	76
Dave Olexson, Steel Club	76
Bob Andrejko, StoneHedge Golf Assn.	77
Michael Vassil, Country Club of Scranton	77
Paul Gruzeski, The Golf Course at Paupack Hills	79
William Gill, Fox Hill Country Club	80
Mark Bartkowski, Pocono Farms Country Club	81
Tom Prestia, Hershey Country Club	82
Joe Jasinski, Steel Club	83

Jim Sherma, Hershey Country Club	84
Stanley Cuneo, Woodloch Springs	85

SUPER-SENIOR DIVISION

Michael Heck, Elkview Country Club	71
Len Coleman, Emanon Country Club	73
Walter Savitts, Wemberly Hills Golf Club	75
Vince Scarpetta, Jr., Nittany Country Club	75
Tom White, Buck Hill Falls Golf Club	75
Kerry Maurer, Berwick Golf Club	79
Randy Lynch, Berwick Golf Club	81
Christopher Conner, Carlisle Country Club	86
Doug Randall, Elkview Country Club	87



Cont. from page 5

championship match after Lewis and Shoemaker failed to make pars.

Both teams halved the par-4 17th hole with pars before Brunn once again proved why he's one of the top amateur golfers in Northeastern Pennsylvania by making a 20-foot curler on the par-4 18th. All four players hit the green on their second shots and Brunn was the first to putt.

Brunn, who has been playing with Lynch for many years, captured his fourth McCarthy championship, one more than his late father, who was one of the all-time great amateurs around. The 2023 winner also has finished with five McCarthy runners-up.

"Any time I'm compared to my dad brings a smile to my face," said Brunn, who is the golf coach at Holy Redeemer High School, where one of his teams won a state championship. "I'm very proud to be in the same company. My father taught me the game of golf."

"This was certainly a grind today. Jeff and Bob are two of the best golfers around. I really struggled this afternoon but Mike held us in there, and then I found it toward the end of the match.

"Mike and I want to thank the McCarthy family for running a great tournament. They're super hosts and personal friends of ours. This tournament wouldn't be as great as it is without them," an elated Brunn said after winning another title with Lynch.

The Lewis-Shoemaker team defeated former McCarthy winners John Henry and Eric Williams in the semifinals and had a great deal of confidence coming into the finals and it showed by taking Brunn and Lynch to the 18th hole in the finals.

Williams, who is a member at Glenmaura, is one of the top amateur golfers around and recently qualified for the USGA Senior Championship.

And how about Mark Jarolen, Crestwood golf coach and educator, winning the 2023 McCarthy Shootout with former student Dan Kovalski.

Winning putt came on the 13th hole when Jarolen hit his tee shot on the par-3 hole some two feet from the pin and canned the putt, adding another championship to his many others at the A.J. Tillinghast layout and one of the oldest in the country. Jarolen and Kovalski bested Brian Flaherty and Cal Lisman for the 2023 McCarthy Shootout crown. Shootout involves all of the winners of the McCarthy flights other than the championship. Fifteen teams competed for this trophy and it took "four rounds" before producing the winners.

McCarthy Moment--With golfers set to drive on dogleg par-4 eighth hole, a dog started barking at a small development a short distance from the tee. Here, Drew Mamary, who resides there,, said he had to "come in here somewhere." It was his dog doing the barking.

After all, he and partner and fellow member Eric Plisko were past McCarthy winners. Plisko, who couldn't play this year because of his family attending a wedding, also watched from the eighth tee.



Sandy Kish & Sue Irvin Lady McCarthy Winners



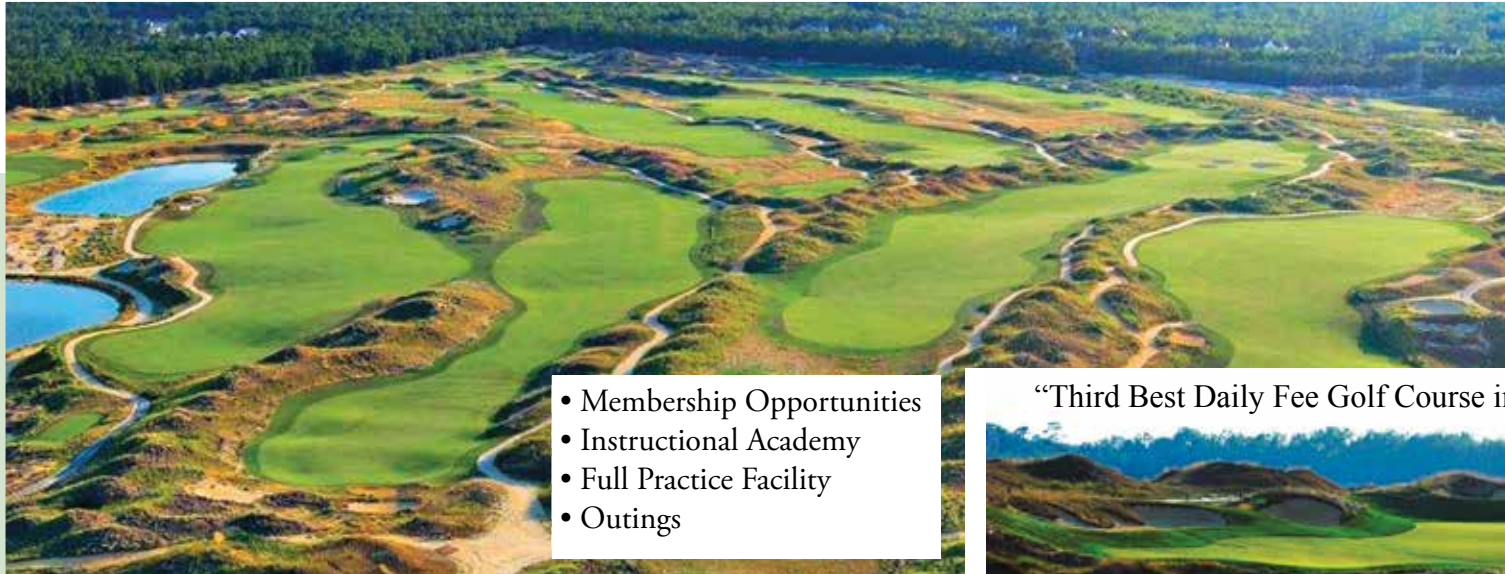
Mark Jarolen & Mark Kovalski shootout winners

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THE 2023 McCarthy
Sunday June 4TH
MATCH PLAY RESULTS

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Semi-Finals

J. LEWIS - B. SHOEMAKER	DEF	M. BLAZICK - O. BLAZICK
A. BRUNN - M. LYNCH	DEF	J. HENRY - E. WILLIAMS

Finals

A. BRUNN - M. LYNCH	DEF	J. LEWIS - B. SHOEMAKER
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McCARTHY CHAMPIONS
ART BRUNN - MIKE LYNCH

CHAMPIONSHIP CONSOLATION- SATURDAY

1 ST J. OLSZEWSKI - AJ OLSZEWSKI	-69
2 ND J. WEISCARGER - E. WEISCARGER	-69

CHAMPIONSHIP CONSOLATION- SUNDAY

1 ST J. WEISCARGER - E. WEISCARGER	-67
2 ND M. BEHM - J. WISE	-68

SHOOTOUT CHAMPS
MARK JAROLEN - DAN KOVALSKI
RUNNER UPS
BRIAN FLAHERTY - CAL LISMAN

1ST FLIGHT

1 ST MARK JAROLEN - DAN KOVALSKI
2 ND DREW MAMARY - NICK ROMANOWSKI
3 RD SCOTT BARTH - BRIAN WEISCARGER

2ND FLIGHT

1 ST JOHN LEIGHTON - DOMINIC FRANCO
2 ND BRAD JUMPER - JUSTIN JUMPER
3 RD MIKE HERTHLER SR. - MIKE HERTHLER JR.

3RD FLIGHT

1 ST DAVE BIENTAS - ERIC RICCI
2 ND JOHN MCDERMOTT - RYAN DEZILLO
3 RD JIM SCOREY - BENNY SCHONFELD

4TH FLIGHT

1 ST JOE MENDYGRAL - JOE CARSHILLA
2 ND BRIAN WOOD - KEN MOULES
3 RD MATT MARTIN - ALEX MARTIN

5TH FLIGHT

1 ST DAVE GREGA - COREY GILROY
2 ND DEREK DEFINE - PAUL CONNOLLY
3 RD RAY IRVIN - BILL MCNULTY

6TH FLIGHT

1 ST STEVE SKAMMER - JACK "DOC" ELLIS
2 ND MIKE SLUSARK - BOB CIRKO
3 RD BRIAN DRUST - DENNIS MONK

7TH FLIGHT

1 ST TJ JONES - ERIC JONES
2 ND DAN LEGO - PAT WIELGOPOLSKI
3 RD NEIL HORN - DAN HORN

8TH FLIGHT

1 ST JOE TRACKI - DOUG TRACKI
2 ND TED PATTON - SCOTTIE HENRY
3 RD NED DELANEY - GENE CAPRIO

9TH FLIGHT

1 ST JOE TOOLE - MIKE TOOLE
2 ND TONY POINTEK - MIKE POINTEK
3 RD MATT HIMLIN - JUSTIN PEKAROVSKY

10TH FLIGHT

1 ST BRIAN FLAHERTY - CAL LISMAN
2 ND KEITH ROBAK - DALE DESSOYE
3 RD JOHN LISMAN - JOHN K LISMAN

11TH FLIGHT

1 ST GEORGE POTSKO - MARK DINGMAN
2 ND STEVE SAFKA - BOB SHOEMAKER SR.
3 RD PAT DOYLE - KEVIN DOYLE

12TH FLIGHT

1 ST RON DROBENAK - BOB BRAY
2 ND JIM LAVAN - BRIAN LAVAN
3 RD BOB SLOMOVITZ - BOB KARAS

13TH FLIGHT

1 ST RANDY CATALANOTTE - AARON CATALANOTTE
2 ND JOHN MCCARTHY - JOHN MCCARTHY III
3 RD HENRY GOLDBOWSKI - TOM YESILONIS

2023 Ladies McCarthy
May 30, 2023
Results



1 st Sandy Kish - Sue Irvin	71** won on 2 nd playoff hole
2 nd Debbie Mileski - Sharon Hudacek	71
3 rd Donna Long - Kasey Saraka	71
4 th Mary Swim - Michelle Hazleton	72
Holly Udzella - Darlene Koehler	72
6 th Karen Kempinski - Marie Mihalos	73
7 th Lisa Miller - Lynn McCarthy	74
Kathy Gocringer - Pat Noble	74
9 th Rose Senunas - Jeanne Elinsky	75
10 th Marianne Puhalla - Jackie Brozena	76

Crystal Tee Results

1 st Pat Alansky - Becky Kulbaski	69
2 nd Linds Shypalcfski - Joyce Gelli	72
3 rd Maureen Umphred - Peg Torbik	73

Closest to the Pins:

#5: Nini Crossia
#7: Merri Walters
#13: Rose Senunas
#15: Barb Maier

Longest Drive

#11: Melissa De'fine
#12: Nancy McLaughlin
#14: Becky Kulbaski

Birdies:

Donna Long	#6
Kasey Saraka	#9, #14
Karen Kempinski	#11
Barb Maier	#15
Nancy McLaughlin	#5
Rose Senunas	#13
Sharon Hudacek	#9

Chip In's

Joyce Gelli	#9
Connie Setkonki	#13
Barb Maier	#2
Jane Williams	#3
Jane Williams	#11



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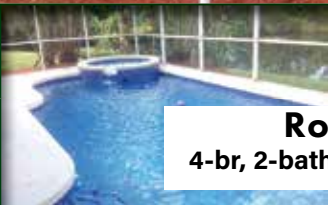
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CROWLEY STOPS ISZTWAN FOR BMW PHILLY AM TITLE



HUNTINGDON VALLEY, Pa. — Michael Crowley's match play *modus operandi* all week was to hit a shot and to immediately chase it down. He called it a means to focus. A course to victory it was. Crowley, of Briarwood Golf Club, finished as the man out front in the 123rd BMW Philadelphia Amateur Championship, stopping Patrick Isztwan of host Huntingdon Valley Country Club, 7&6, Saturday in the 36-hole Final.

Crowley, a rising senior at Loyola University Maryland, stitched together high quality shots with a plethora of timely putts to hoist the J. Wood Platt Trophy in his first Amateur appearance. In the 30 holes, and with concessions, Crowley was the equivalent of 7-under par.

"I try to get in my own little world and focus on what I'm doing and what I can control," said Crowley, 21, of Hunt Valley, Md., of the walking routine. "I felt that [going ahead] is the best way for me to play. I'm going to play my game no matter what, whether the guy is a foot for birdie or in the bunker. I'm going to hit the same shots. It was a method for me to not really focus on what they're doing. And try to get in my own little world."

Isztwan was gallant in defeat as he attempted to make history. The 20-year-old rising Richmond University junior would have been the highest seed to capture the Association's most historic individual championship. He was seeded No. 32 after Qualifying. The highest prior seed to win the Amateur was Gary Deetscreek in 1981 at No. 29. Isztwan was also looking to add his name to the elite list of Amateur Champions from Huntingdon Valley. A record 16 HVCC members have won 25 Amateur titles since 1897. Conor McGrath, in 2021, an Isztwan friend and Saturday spectator, was the last to win.

"It's been [an] unbelievable [ride]. It is kind of a dream come true," Isztwan said. "It would have been nice to cap it off and take that trophy. It is all going to be positive from this week. The support I got and the confidence this week gives me."

After four holes, the match was tied. Crowley the took the lead for

good on No. 5 (par 3, 180 yards) with a par helped out after Isztwan's tee shot found the penalty area. Crowley added victories on Nos. 7 (par 5, 604 yards) and 8 (par 4, 467 yards) with natural birdies. On No. 7, Crowley's second shot came up just short in two before he rolled a putt to five feet. On No. 8, Crowley dialed in an 8-iron from 165 yards to 10 feet right of the cup. Isztwan made good pars, they just weren't good enough.

The two traded victories on holes Nos. 11 (par 4, 377 yards) and 12 (par 4, 449 yards). Isztwan then almost netted an albatross on No. 15 (par 5, 571 yards) when he ripped a 5-iron from 240 yards to inches. A conceded eagle sliced the deficit to 2-down.

On No. 16 (par 4, 401 yards), Isztwan was poised to make more hay when Crowley found the left trees with his tee shot. But a punch out and ensuing wedge from 85 yards stopped five feet from the cup. Isztwan had a lengthy birdie putt from the front portion of the green that trailed off to the right. The hole was halved with pars.

"Of all the stuff I practice, I practice wedges the most. I felt like if you give me 85 yards to a middle [hole location], I'll get that up-and-down more times than not," Crowley said.

"He played like he knew the greens for 19 years," Isztwan said. "That was supposed to be my thing. It was fun to watch. He made everything. I have not seen the kind of golf he played here in a very long time. It was impressive."

Patrick Isztwan

On No. 18 (par 4, 486 yards), Crowley made par for the win and a 3-up lead after 18. Isztwan's drive found trouble right off the tee. He couldn't recover.

Isztwan started the second 18 holes strong. He birdied No. 20 (No. 2, par 4, 420 yards) when he dropped a pitching wedge from 144 yards, out of a divot no less, to three feet.

However, Crowley answered immediately.



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Cont. from page 11

He rolled in a 20-foot birdie from a similar line Isztwan putted from minutes earlier on No. 21 (No. 3, par 3, 233 yards).

“That was a big putt. I had a similar putt in the morning. And I saw his. I felt like if I was getting a read I would make it,” said Crowley.

“I was 2 under thru the first three holes of the second 18 and I didn’t make any ground,” said Isztwan.

Crowley added the next two holes to move 5-up but gave one back on the 24th hole.

On the 25th hole (No 7, par 5, 604 yards), Crowley basically crowned himself when he faded a 2-iron from 277 yards in the right rough to five feet.

“That was the best the shot I’ve hit in a really long time,” said Crowley. “My dad [who was caddying] and I talked about what I was trying to do there. I hit it exactly how we saw it. You give me a 100 balls I’m not going to get one any closer than that one.” He moved 5-up.

Wins on Nos. 26 (No. 8) and 28 (No. 10) pushed the advantage to 7-up.

The two halved No. 30 (No. 12). The match was over.

“To win a big tournament like this feels amazing,” said Crowley. “I’ve had a lot of close calls in a lot of events over the last couple of months. I’ve worked really hard. It felt like a big stage [out there] with a lot of people [in the crowd] and the cameras around.”

As the top player of Loyola University Maryland’s golf team, Crowley finished second in the Patriot League Golf Championship in April and made the Round of 16 of the Maryland Amateur last week. His last victory was the Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) individual title as a junior in 2019.

Final

14. Michael Crowley, Briarwood Golf Club, d. 32. Patrick Isztwan, Huntingdon Valley Country Club, 7&6.

32

Isztwan, Patrick
27 holes

24

Gillespie, Brian
19 holes

32

Isztwan, Patrick
4 & 3

13

Lalloy, John
Tap

13

Lalloy, John
7 & 6

21

Paczowski, Logan
6 & 5

32

Isztwan, Patrick
4 & 3

14

Crowley, Michael
Tap

14

Crowley, Michael
7 & 6

15

Smith, Benjamin
5 & 4

23

Da, Xiong
20 holes

15

Smith, Benjamin
2 & 1

14

Crowley, Michael
Tap

14

Crowley, Michael
2 & 1

22

Wolt, Campbell
19 holes

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LEHIGH VALLEY GOLF: HOME TO MANY GEMS – PRIVATE AND PUBLIC

Last June the Lehigh Valley commanded the international golf spotlight as Padraig Harrington claimed the Francis Ouimet Trophy as the champion of the U.S. Senior Open Championship at Saucon Valley Country Club in Bethlehem.

But it doesn't take big events for golf aficionados to understand that there's a treasure trove of possibilities among the public and private courses that stretch across the towns of Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton and includes bordering areas with a generous circle drawn to accommodate suburban sprawl.

The quality and variety of the courses does a lot of talking but three Lehigh Valley golf voices also tell a meaningful story.

"The best part of golf in the Lehigh Valley is the way that the courses reflect the character and history of the region," said Rich Lerner of Golf Channel, a Lehigh Valley native. "Rolling terrain and small creeks and still ponds and old bridges and mature trees all tell you this was once farmland. There's serenity in it, so long as you haven't hit it in into the creek or off the property!"

Lerner, a gifted storyteller, has a well-traveled perspective of golf – he's been at Golf Channel since 1997 -- that includes a generous injection of local knowledge because of his 'hang' time at his family's driving range and par-3 course called Dorneyville Golf in Allentown and his access to the gamut of local courses as a WMFZ-TV sports reporter and a plain old avid golfer.



Golf Channel's Rich Lerner

While he prefers Lehigh Country Club and the Weyhill Course at Saucon Valley Country Club, Lerner hearkens back to his roots as he describes his fondness of the public golf in Lehigh and Northampton County and beyond.

"The Valley is blessed with an abundance of excellent public offerings

like Bethlehem Municipal, Allentown Municipal, Green Pond (C.C.) and The Club at Twin Lakes, among others," Lerner said. "I always joke that the hardest par-4 I've ever played is No. 14 at Allentown Muni. That fairway is as wide as lane 11 at the Rose Bowl (a Lehigh Valley bowling mecca)!"

Lehigh Valley legend Jim Booros is a lifelong Allentown resident, who currently serves as the head golf coach at DeSales University. He played on the PGA Tour between 1979 and 1991 and played in four U.S. Opens and a PGA and won the 1989 Deposit Guaranty Golf Classic in a four hole-playoff against his buddy Mike Donald. He's seen it all in golf circles in the Lehigh Valley.



Former PGA Tour Player Jim Booros

"The best part of the golf courses in the Lehigh Valley are their many accomplishments, especially how much they have grown over the years throughout my career," said Booros, who holds eight course records including a 59 at Twin Lakes and a 62 at the older version of the Allentown Muni, second only to Arnold Palmer's 61. "The area continues to support golfers of all ages."

Booros was also the head pro at Whitetail Golf Club in Bath and Fox Hollow Golf Club in Quakertown and taught at Southmoore Golf Club in Bath and Green Pond in Bethlehem.

"During my tenure at Allentown Municipal (1979-1987), we averaged over 50,000 rounds a year and I'm sure that number is the same if not more!" Booros said. "When I was the pro at Allentown Municipal, we ran a Pro-Am for charity from 1982-1987. Fred Couples, Payne Stewart, Larry Mize, J.C. Snead, and Roger Maltbie were a few of the PGA Tour star golfers who participated."

He remembers the large volumes of lessons given by himself and fellow pros such as Jim Muschlitz and John Kulhamer and many more.



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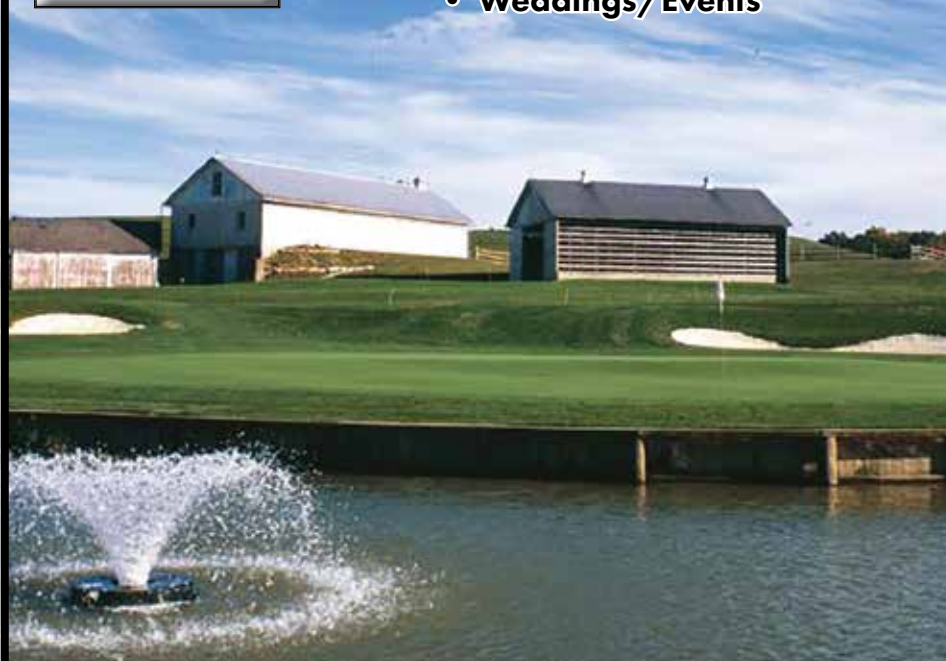
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Cont. from page 15

"That helped us promote tournaments like the Lehigh Valley Amateur and provide opportunities for golfers of all ages to enhance their skills," Booros added. "The GALV (Golf Association of the Lehigh Valley) started by Karl Gilbert and Richie Kovacs has organized a full schedule of junior, amateur, and senior events over the past 30 years."

Booros points to three Senior Opens (1992, 2000, 2022 U.S.) and the 2009 U.S. Women's Open at Saucon Valley C.C. and Berkleigh



C.C. as the long-time host of the LPGA Betsy King Classic as strong testimony of the Valley's deep golf heritage.

He concurs with Lerner that Lehigh C.C. and Weyhill at Saucon Valley as his favorites but adds Southmoore Golf Club.



Noreen Mohler, the 2010 USA Curtis Cup captain, who calls Northampton Country Club her home course, played in five U.S. Women's Open (as a pro and an amateur) and was a member of the 1978 USA Curtis Cup team. In and around her family and

work life (owner of the Marblehead Chowder House in Easton with her husband Jeff) and playing career, she was a semifinalist at the 1975 U.S. Women's Amateur and at quarterfinalist at the 2007 U.S. Women's Senior Amateur and a semifinalist at the 2008 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur.

She also advocates for the quality of Lehigh Valley golf.

"When you talk about the Lehigh Valley people ask if you play at Saucon Valley right away because it kind of overshadows the other courses," said Mohler. "But you also think of the nice public courses like Bethlehem and Allentown Muni."

As a state that lists name-brand courses like Oakmont, Fox Chapel and Laurel Valley in the West and Merion, Philadelphia Cricket and Aronimink in the East, Pennsylvania can rightly boast about its courses – those in the Lehigh Valley stack up quite nicely, thank you. Here's the list of courses that call the Lehigh Valley home so you can visit and add to your personal list.

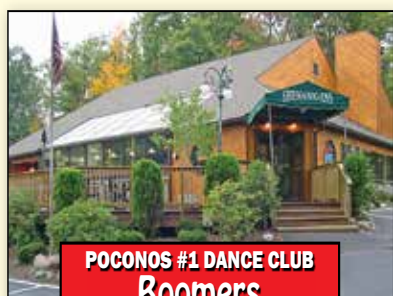
PUBLIC/SEMI-PRIVATE COURSES

Allentown Municipal Golf Course, Allentown, Pa.
 The Architects Golf Club, Phillipsburg, N.J.
 Bethlehem Golf Club, Bethlehem, Pa.
 Blue Shamrock Golf Course, Palmerton, Pa.
 Butter Valley Golf Course, Barto, Pa.
 The Club at Twin Lakes, Allentown, Pa.
 Fox Hollow Golf Club, Quakertown, Pa.
 Green Pond Country Club, Bethlehem, Pa.
 Harkers' Hollow Golf Club, Phillipsburg, N.J.
 Hideaway Hills Golf Club, Kunkletown, Pa.
 Morgan Hill Golf Course, Easton, Pa.
 Olde Homestead Golf Club, New Tripoli, Pa.
 Berkleigh Golf Club, Kutztown, Pa.
 Rich Maiden Golf Course, Fleetwood, Pa.
 Riverview Country Club, Easton, Pa.
 Sawmill Golf Course, Easton, Pa.
 Shepherd Hills Golf Club, Wescoesville, Pa.
 Southmoore Golf Course, Bath, Pa.
 Sweetwater Golf Course, Pennsburg, Pa.
 Wedgewood Golf Course, Coopersburg, Pa.
 Whitetail Golf Club, Bath, Pa.
 Willow Brook Golf Course, Northampton, Pa.

Private Courses

Brookside Country Club, Macungie, Pa.
 Lehigh Country Club, Allentown, Pa.
 Northampton Country Club, Easton, Pa.
 Oak Hill Golf Club, Milford, N.J.
 Saucon Valley C.C., Bethlehem, Pa.
 Steel Club, Hellertown, Pa.
 Woodstone Country Club, Danielsville, Pa.

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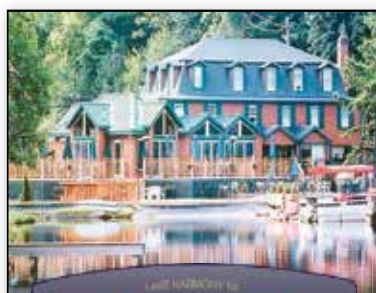
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LEXI'S DEBUT AT SHOPRITE CLASSIC IN 2010

By TONY LEODORA

For 34 years the ShopRite LPGA Classic has been a staple of the Jersey Shore golf season. The best women golfers in the world have competed in the event.

And the famed Donald Ross-designed Bay Course at Seaview Resort, just outside Atlantic City, has been the canvas for so many unforgettable moments.

Personally, I have covered many of the events over the years. And, peripherally, I have been there for the build-up to the tournament, as well as the aftermath. Whether working for a newspaper, a magazine, the GolfTalk Live radio show or the Traveling Golfer television show, Seaview Resort has been a frequent stop for 40 years ... and the ShopRite Classic has always captured my attention.

This year was no exception.

Ashleigh Buhai's winning birdie on the final hole of the tournament was almost upstaged by Hyo Joo Kim, who rolled an eagle chip over the edge of the cup that would have sent the competition to a playoff.

Large crowds enjoyed exceptional weather all weekend ... and great drama to the very end. In the aftermath, the nostalgia reel started to turn and memories of two great stories from Seaview Resort came to mind.

While the newest memories from this year are still fresh, I thought it was relevant to visit those old memories.

LEXI THOMPSON'S DEBUT



The first took place in June of 2010. I was preparing to do my weekly GolfTalk Live radio show on Saturday from Seaview. I arrived early, on Friday, to catch some of the tournament action. I made my way to the first tee because I heard that a 15-year-old girl was about to make her professional debut.

That player turned out to be Lexi Thompson and her tee shot turned heads ... because of the sound. It had the same loud crack heard on the PGA Tour. Stories of her exceptional length had preceded her and they were quickly validated.

I then walked over to the midway point of the third fairway and found an uncrowded vantage point. Soon a ball came down the fairway and a nearby bystander said, "I've been here all morning and that's the longest drive I've seen."

The ball belonged to Suzanne Peterson, the reigning big hitter on the LPGA Tour. A few minutes later, another ball came down the fairway and rolled about 10 yards past Peterson's. It belonged to the 15-year-old Thompson.

A quick calculation determined that she only had 176 yards remaining to

the par 5 green. She took what looked like a mid-iron, knocked it on the green, and rolled in the putt for her first career eagle.

The next morning, the memory of Thompson's debut was still sharp in my mind as I did my live radio show from the patio in front of the pro shop. I recounted the experience, not knowing that a player had emerged from the ladies' locker room and was eavesdropping on my account of the previous day's round.

About the time that I commented on my witnessing of the eagle, saying, "I think she hit a 7-iron to the green and made the putt," I received a bit of a shock.

The shy Thompson emerged from behind me and politely leaned into the microphone and with a smile and a wink, said, "It was a 9-iron."

It took a few moments to stop laughing and neither of us ever forgot the moment. I have done many interviews with Thompson over the years and she always greets me the same way ... "it was a 9-iron."

RE-CREATING THE 1942 PGA CHAMPIONSHIP



In 2015 we were preparing to shoot an episode of the Traveling Golfer television show from Seaview Resort. Then-producer Jamie McWilliams was captivated by all of the history at the grand resort and its two famous golf courses.

Most enthralling was the 1942 PGA Championship won by Sam Snead. It was his first major championship and it took place – in match play fashion, as was the format back then -- on both the Pines Course and the Bay Course. Snead won that version of the championship, 2 & 1 over Jim Turnesa.

But in the Traveling Golfer version – through an inventive black-and-white dream sequence – the final match was a spirited contest between Snead and hot-tempered "Terrible Tony" Leodora.

Associate Producer Eddie Caiazzo plays the part of Leodora's dead-pan caddie with incredible skill, and steals a number of scenes.

The drama builds, all the way to the final putt, only to have Leodora awake from his dream just as his crucial putt is rolling toward the cup.

This episode of the Traveling Golfer was nominated for the annual International Network of Golf media awards ... and it won. It was the first of four times the Traveling Golfer has been named the No. 1 Golf Television Show in America by the ING.

For those who would like to see the award-winning show, they can go to this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GoIyCNLrHt8>.



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SPRING FORD COUNTRY CLUB'S RICH STEINMETZ
WINS THE 3RD PENNSYLVANIA SENIOR OPEN



Williamsport, Pa- Rich Steinmetz, head golf professional at Spring Ford Country Club in Royersford, converted a four-foot birdie putt on the first hole of a sudden death playoff to take down defending Champion Kevin Shields and win the 3rd Pennsylvania Senior Open at the Williamsport Country Club on Tuesday. Shields played the last three holes in 3 under par to catch Steinmetz and produce an exciting finish to the tournament in its third year.

Steinmetz, the reigning Philadelphia PGA Section senior champion, opened play with a five-under par 66 Monday and owned a two-shot lead over Shields and Lehigh Country Club amateur Tom Soares. Several others lurked within striking distance after round one but the second round developed into a four-man race. All three players in the final pairing got off to a rough two-over start but Steinmetz's lead grew to 4 shots after 27 holes after he posted an opening-nine

Shields tee shot on 18 caught some trees on the right and landed short but in the middle of the fairway some 270 Yards from the green. A beautifully struck 3 wood left Shields with a lengthy putt from just off the green for eagle while Steinmetz chipped long leaving a 30-footer for birdie. When Shields lagged his eagle putt to within tap in range, Steinmetz two putted for par setting the stage for the playoff.

Brown and Kraft tied for third place with Brown grabbing low amateur honors. Steinmetz received \$4000 for the victory while Shields picked up \$2000 for runner up finish. Seventeen professionals in the field earned prize money while nine amateurs received gift certificates.

The tournament was sponsored by Dick's Sporting Goods



38 to Shields 39.

Playing five holes ahead of the final pairing, reigning Philadelphia Amateur Champion Michael Brown Jr. of LuLu Country Club in Oreland was making a charge and posted a four under par 67 to finish at 2 under par for the tournament. With Steinmetz 2 over par for the day and three under for the tournament standing on the sixteenth tee, he held a one-shot lead over Brown in the clubhouse and a three-shot advantage on Shields with three holes remaining.

When Shields jarred his third shot from 90 yards out of deep rough on the par five 16th for eagle and Steinmetz failed to get up and down for a birdie from just off the green the lead was just one over two pursuers. Shields remained close with a12-foot par-saving putt on 17, and right in front of the leaders professional Kevin Kraft of Harrisburg, a former Pennsylvania Open winner, birdied the last hole to join Brown and Shields at two under.

i	Pos.	Player	Total To Par Gross
☆	1	Steinmetz, Rich Spring Ford Country Club	-3
☆	2	Shields, Kevin Nevillewood	-3
☆	T3	Brown, Jr., Michael LuLu Country Club	-2
☆	T3	Kraft, Kevin 2nd Swing Golf	-2
☆	T5	Friend, Bob Oakmont Country Club	E
☆	T5	Brown, David St. Clair Country Club	E
☆	T7	Herwig, Patrick Country Club of York	+1
☆	T7	Williams, Eric Glenmaura National Golf Club	+1
☆	T9	Stimmel, Rick Connoquenessing country club	+2
☆	T9	Mazzalupi, Hugo Philadelphia Cricket Club	+2
☆	11	Barbacci, Damon Coatesville Country Club	+3
☆	T12	Boros, Joe Treesdale Golf & Country Club	+5
☆	T12	Cooper, John Green Valley Country Club	+5
☆	T12	Stoops, Rob Butler Country Club	+5
☆	T12	Frazier, Jeff Carlisle Country Club	+5
☆	T12	Soares, Tom Lehigh Country Club	+5
☆	T12	Kelly, Brian Bucknell Golf Club	+5
☆	T18	Schmigel, Jeffrey Valley Brook Country Club	+6
☆	T18	Knapp, Sean Hannastown Golf Club	+6



In a ranking by The Sun News, golf experts voted two holes, #2 and #13, as part of the "Dream 18," a compilation of the best 18 holes on the beach



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KORN FERRY TOUR TO VISIT NEW JERSEY'S METEDECONK NATIONAL

By Mike Kern

The Korn Ferry Tour, the Triple-A of men's golf, is coming back to New Jersey for the first time in a little over a quarter-century. And when the inaugural 72-hole Championship tees off at Metedeconk National Golf Club in Jackson Township on August 17th, the one guy who figures to have some sort of home-course advantage is Chris Gotterup, who grew up not that far away.



The Little River native, who played at Rutgers and then Oklahoma, has actually played in 13 events on the PGA Tour. And he made the cut in all but three of them. This season he's trying to make the top 30 on the Korn Ferry, which would put him into the four-event playoff. The Magnit will be the final stop in the regular schedule, so the field will be packed. The purse is worth one million.

"It's amazing," said Gotterup, whose brother caddies for him and whose dad is an accomplished golfer himself, on a recent media zoom call. "I'm lucky. I've got Metedeconk, which I've played a gazillion times.



"I know they've been kind of wanting something like this for a while. And I was telling all the guys out there that this is going to be the best event of the year, by far. You guys have no idea. This course is awesome.

"I'm just excited. I think New Jersey gets a little bit of a bad rap because of the (reality) TV show (Jersey Shore), so I'm excited for

these guys to come check it out."

Metedeconk is one of those places that flies a little under the radar, for whatever reasons. But those of us who've been fortunate enough to experience it understand just how special it is. Now a lot of other people can find out for themselves.

"In August, it's going to be a little weather dependent," Gotterup said. "Hopefully not too much rain or not a million degrees. But if they get good weather it's going to be firm and fast and hopefully a little windy.

"I think it's a perfect expansion for the Korn Ferry. It's kind of where it should go. I've played there in the state open. I think it was six years ago maybe, and I think 2-over won or something crazy like that. It's got teeth, and I think I missed the cut by a million that week. But it's a fair test. It's hard. I mean, the line is so fine ... I'm sure there will be a lot of people out there (supporting me). Hopefully there won't be any pressure by the time I get there. No matter which way you spin it, it'll be a big week for me. Hopefully I can execute.

"I'm going to be staying at my parents house. I think we're like 30 minutes away. Get to hang out with the dogs, get to the beach after rounds and stuff. That's my game plan for now unless they tell me I can't stay there."

And of course he's got a lot of his competitors no doubt soliciting logistical advice.

"They're either going to stay at my house or a couple of friends I have close by," he said. "No offense to the surrounding area of Metedeconk, but there's not much going on around there. So I've been telling them where to go. You never know with the beach traffic, but you're either playing super early in the morning or kind of in the afternoon by the time everyone is already there. I would think it



shouldn't be that bad, but you can't tell."

And what about the Korn Ferry, which has sent many very successful guys to the PGA (Scottie Scheffler and Will Zalatoris, to name just two of the most prominent) but still remains largely a mystery to the casual fans.

Cont. from page 26

“The best way to describe it is it’s basically the (NBA’s equivalent of the) G League or something like that,” Gotterup explained. “You’ve seen it a million times, over and over. You really just have to get hot at the right time. People do it. Scottie Scheffler, he won twice (out here) and now he’s World No. 1. There’s guys who are just grinders that are just making it out here, and they have one good week and they’re PGA players.

“All these guys are good enough to be on the PGA Tour for the most part. You see that every year. Everyone is really good. I think if you look at the scores we shoot it speaks a lot to the type of talent out here for sure.

“I think (spectators) will enjoy it. Especially people that have never been able to see Metedeconk before. It’s more of a PGA style course (than we usually play).”

So here’s your chance to see some quality golf, maybe even some up and coming names at the next level, at a really wonderful venue. Sounds like a win-win, for everyone involved.

“It’s a learning process, every which way we go about it,” Gotterup readily acknowledged. “For sure. We play so much golf, more than people think, and it’s really pretty taxing being out here every day. So whenever I can go home, it’s a bonus for me.

“I grew and I figured it out a little bit. And then COVID set us back. And then I had to figure it out again. And I went to the PGA Tour, where I lost a little bit. And now I’m figuring it back out. I feel like I’m close. I’m excited about that.”

Who knows? It could turn into a week to truly remember.



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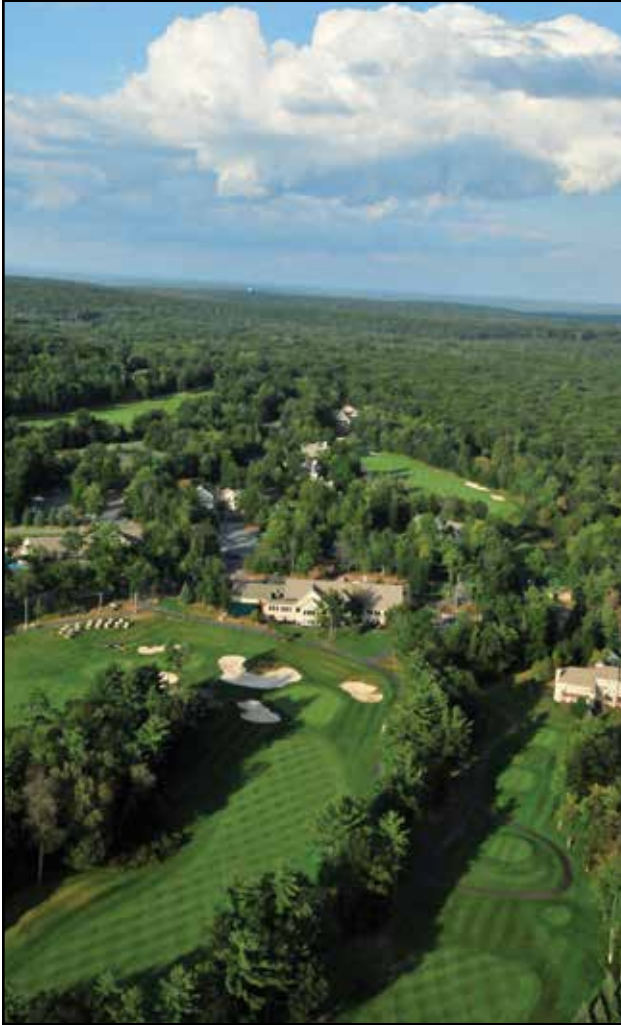
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Philadelphia PGA Section

SCOREBOARD



PGA PROFESSIONAL ANDREW CORNISH CLAIMS VICTORY IN FIRST-EVER HUTCH INVITATIONAL



Reading, Pa. (July 13, 2023) — PGA Professional Andrew Cornish claimed his first individual Philadelphia PGA Section victory, finishing with an impressive 3-under-par 68, at the inaugural Hutch Invitational at Berkshire Country Club.

Scott & Karen Hutchinson have been longtime supporters of the Philadelphia PGA Section and PGA REACH Philadelphia, the Section’s 501(c)(3) charitable foundation, and also support the Philadelphia Players Championship at Lookaway Golf Club. The Hutch was established by the Hutchinsons to provide an additional playing opportunity to PGA Professionals who prioritize competitive golf while also successfully balancing their careers and partner relationships. The Hutch is a limited field event with the Hutchinsons extending invitations to 24 PGA Professionals. We at

the Philadelphia PGA Section thank Scott and Karen Hutchinson for their amazing generosity and continued support. Today’s event was also supported by Holderness & Bourne.

Although Cornish made a bogey on his final hole of the day, No. 5, his six birdies ultimately led him to his first-ever win, topping runner-up: PGA Member John Cooper, Green Valley C.C., by three strokes. Ron Pine, Cedarbrook C.C.; and Eric Kennedy, Overbrook G.C.; tied for third place at 1-over-par. Four PGA Professionals tied for fifth.

Cornish is on a heater, coming off a memorable individual win in the Philadelphia Assistants’ Organization (PAO) event at Bulle Rock G.C. in Maryland just over a week ago.

“It feels like it was a long time coming,” Cornish said following his win. “I’ve put in a lot of hard work and it’s a great feeling to finally see some results.

“I had a double [bogey] out there, but I went on to birdie the next two holes. Those birdies meant more to me than winning anything today. I was really proud of myself for doing that.”

i	Pos.	Player	To Par Gross	Total Gross
☆	1	Bob Lennon Wilmington Country Club	-5	65
☆	T2	David Hicks Philadelphia Country Club	-4	66
☆	T2	Andrew Turner Berkshire Country Club	-4	66
☆	T2	Michael Little Clubhouse 54	-4	66
☆	T2	Anthony Schweppe Sittler Golf Center	-4	66
☆	T2	Dave Quinn Laurel Creek Country Club	-4	66
☆	T2	John Lynch Bidermann Golf Club	-4	66
☆	T2	Braden Shattuck Rolling Green Golf Club	-4	66
☆	T9	Joanna Coe Merion Golf Club	-3	67

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HIDDEN LAKES - This New Smyrna Beach golf course will surprise and delight you. The par 69 golf course has six par threes, nine par fours, and three par fives. Owned and operated by self-proclaimed, "genuine golf nuts," Hidden Lakes strives for the best course conditions in the area. The course winds through large pines and stately oaks along the pristine Turnbull Bay estuary and around beautiful lakes and winding creeks. With a variety of long and short holes, Hidden Lakes offers a fair and fun challenge to golfers of all skill levels.



WWW.HIDDENLAKESGOLFCLUB.COM



MAYFAIR CC - Opened in 1927, the 18-hole course at the Mayfair Country Club in Sanford, Florida features 6,400 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 72. The medium-length layout has 3 sets of tee boxes, and the course rating is 68.7 with a 117 slope rating. The overhanging trees and bunkers challenge golfers on every hole. Located north of Orlando, the Mayfair

Country Club features a driving range, practice range, snack bar, and banquet facility. With many upgrades in progress, Mayfair is becoming one of Orlando's most popular, laid-back, and fun public courses for golfers to enjoy and hang out.

WWW.GOLFMAYFAIR.COM

KISSIMMEE BAY - Located only 15 minutes from Orlando International Airport and 25 minutes from downtown Orlando as well as all major tourist attractions in the area, Kissimmee Bay Country Club was designed by renowned local architect Lloyd Clifton and opened in 1990. Kissimmee Bay was cut out of a dense majestic oak forest. The 6,830-yard, par 71 southern style championship layout provides a challenging test of golf and is a true delight to play. It is graced by the presence of century-old oaks, lofty cypress trees, a dozen challenging water hazards, and an ever-present gallery of friendly Sandhill Cranes. With one visit to Kissimmee Bay Country Club, you will understand why it was nominated one of America's "Best New Courses" by Golf Digest.





THE LEGENDS AT ORANGE LAKE - Located in the East Village of Orange Lake Resort, The Legends is an 18-hole Arnold Palmer Signature Design. This challenging 7,072-yard championship course offers two distinct playing experiences from the front to back nine. Scottish-style golf using the natural terrain invites some creative shot-making on the front nine; while the towering pines, majestic oaks, winding fairways, and flowing water on the back nine are more reminiscent of the Carolinas. Get the most out of your day at our premier 54-hole golf facility.

WWW.ORANGELAKEGOLF.COM

THE RESERVE AT ORANGE LAKE - Located in the West Village of Orange Lake Resort, The Reserve consists of 18 holes and 6,505 yards of expansive greens that were specifically redesigned to be in harmony with our carefully preserved wetlands to give you the taste of natural Florida. While this course is the shorter of our two championship courses, it offers a challenging layout to test golfers of all skill levels.

The driving range is available during the day and is also lighted for those who want to practice after dark. For extra fun, check out the Legends Walk located in the North Village, the only lighted par 3 walking golf course in Central Florida. (Not included with card).

WWW.ORANGELAKEGOLF.COM



REDTAIL G.C. - Certain to test even the most accomplished player's shot-making ability, RedTail offers a challenge at every turn. Having played host to various NCAA and charity tournaments, RedTail Golf Club is well known as one of the finest natural golf settings Florida has to offer. The 7152-yard, Dave Harman design, is a par 72 links-style golf course. Industry professionals have called it everything from "breath-taking - literally" to "not for the meek of heart." RedTail has a 10-acre practice facility along with two putting greens and a well-stocked pro shop. Enjoy indoor and outdoor dining at the famed Hawks restaurant where you will be treated like a true "champion" after your round.

WWW.REDTAILGC.COM



REMINGTON G.C. - Whether you're brand new to the game, or a seasoned veteran, Remington Golf Club has something to offer every golfer and most importantly – a fantastic, fun golf experience. The contemporary design of this strikingly beautiful course, with its abundant water features, generous landing areas, and scenic landscaping, offers a fair but challenging golf experience. This graceful balance is a testament to the artistry of the course design team of the Clifton, Ezell & Clifton Golf Design Group. Remington was recognized by Golf Digest, as one of the Best New Courses in 1996.

WWW.GOLFREMINOTON.COM

TWIN RIVERS G.C. - Nestled between the Big and Little Econ rivers, Twin Rivers Golf Club offers a scenic 18-hole par 72 championship golf course. Designed by Oviedo native Joe Lee, Twin Rivers Golf Club was Lee's signature golf course for Central Florida and offers a unique challenge for players of all abilities. If you want a golf experience in a well-preserved natural environment, unimpeded by development then Twin Rivers Golf Club is just for you. Twin Rivers Golf Club has been recognized and awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Environmental Planning certificate by Audubon International.

WWW.TWINRIVERSGOLF.COM



VICTORIA HILLS GC - Located in Deland, this Ron Garl-designed championship course has been honored with numerous accolades and awards since its opening in 2002, including being ranked 41 in the Top 50 Public Courses you can play by Golf World (2010). Five sets of tee boxes create a challenging yet fair test no matter what your handicap. The course plays 7149 yards/ 142 slope from the tips with some formidable carries over sand waste areas, ravines, and water hazards. Greenside collection areas, swales and deep bunkers serve to protect the many large, sloping, and raised putting surfaces. A good short game is key to scoring well here.

WWW.VICTORIAHILLSGOLF.COM



The 18th hole at Victoria Hills Golf Club.



Image from Kissimmee Bay Country Club



WEKIVA G.C. - Crafted out of a wooded setting and opened in 1972, Wekiva Golf Club features many doglegs bordered by large stands of trees and no parallel fairways. With its Champion Bermudagrass greens and straight-forward layout, Wekiva is an enjoyable experience for the recreational golfer as well as a low-handicapper. A semi-private club

that welcomes outside play, this 18 hole, 6,850-yard, par 72 features beautiful oaks, mature pines and palms, rolling fairways, over 80 strategically placed bunkers and gentle mounding that highlights both the fairways and undulating greens.

WWW.WEKIVAGC.COM

ZELLWOOD STATION GC - Tucked away in the rolling hills just five miles Northwest of Apopka and 15 miles from downtown Orlando, Zellwood Station Country Club offers a special treat - hilly terrain, great greens, and very memorable golf holes. Zellwood Station boasts two par 4's that are driveable (264 & 266 yards) offering great hopes for marking an eagle on your scorecard. The ninth, nicknamed "Train Wreck," will definitely get your attention before making the turn. Holes 12 thru 16 dogleg around a cavernous dry lake dubbed "Crater Junction" - hit this hazard and it is all over! The stout par 3, 17th hole, measures 243 yards exceeding any on the PGA TOUR! Fun and wickedly challenging, once you've played Zellwood Station, you'll want to return and conquer it all over again!

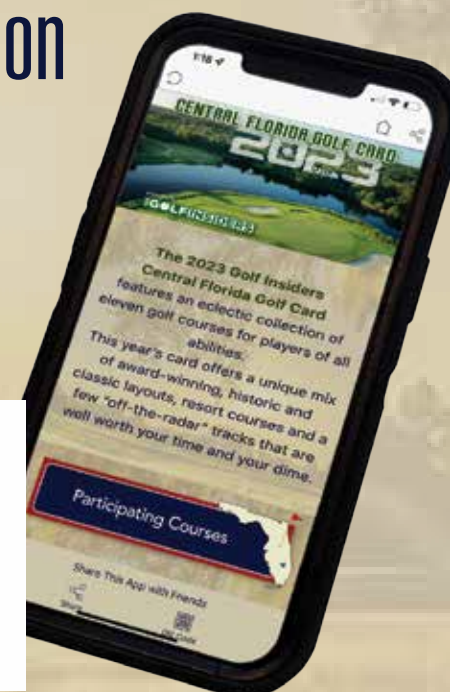


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POCONO PRO GOLF SERIES

Glen Brook Golf Club Pro-Pro Results – April 18, 2023

Two-Person Scramble

Finish	Score	Team (Pro)
T-1	64	Paul Viola + Ray Silnik Alex Knoll + Dave Fields Brian Bergstol + John Pillar John Roche + Caleb Wittig
5	65	Dustin McCormick + Jeremy Mangine
6	66	Gregg Meyer + Evan Grube
T-7	67	Throw-Off, 12 Ball Champs – Greg Wall + Howie Balbach Runners-Up – Kyle Monahan + Mark Monahan

Skins

Hole	Golfer
3	Bergstol + Pillar (Birdie)
9	Fritz + Muschlitz (Eagle)
10	Fritz + Muschlitz (Birdie)
14	Silnik + Viola (Eagle)

Closest to the Pin

Hole	Golfer
2	Spencer Lunger
8	Greg Wall
10	Jim Muschlitz
16	John Pillar

Woodstone Country Club Pro-Am Results – May 3, 2022

Team

Finish	Score	Team (Pro)
1	137	Woodstone (George Petrole)
T2	138	Woodstone (Evan Grube)
T2	138	Glen Brook (Alex Knoll)
4	140	Woodstone PGA (Nick Herman)
5	141	Heidelberg (Mike Grabosky)

Individual

Professional – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
T1	72	Mike Grabosky
T1	72	Alex Knoll
3	73	Nick Herman
T4	75	Evan Grube
T4	75	Jeff Fick

Amateur – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
1	72	Shawn Hughes
2	74	Kyle Pritchard
T3	75	Scott Kalamar
T3	75	Dave Figura
T3	75	Randy Kurzinsky

Senior Professional – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
1	75	Ray Silnik
2	81	George Petrole

Senior Amateur – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
1	77	Wayne Haluska
2	78	Dylan Spadt
T3	79	Al McCormick
T3	79	Scott Justus
T3	79	Shane Gunning

Buck Hill Golf Club Pro-Am Results – May 10, 2022

Team

Finish	Score	Team (Pro)
1	128	Glen Brook (Alex Knoll)
2	132	Royal Oaks (Terry Hatch)
3	133	Green Pond (John Kulhamer)
T4	135	Shawnee (Brian Bergstol)
T4	135	Olde Homestead (Kevin Edwards)
6	136	Scranton Canoe Club (Spencer Lunger)
T7	138	Moselem Springs (Jeff Fick)
T7	138	Pocono Manor (Greg Wall)

Individual

Professional – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
T1	71	Jeff Fick
T1	71	Terry Hatch
3	73	Spencer Lunger
4	74	Alex Knoll
5	75	Brian Bergstol
6	76	Dustin McCormick
7	77	Mike Grabosky

Amateur – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
1	74	Ed Knight
T2	77	Kyle Hutnik
T2	77	Edward Urban
T2	77	Sean Janowicz
T2	77	Jake Haberstumpf

Senior Professional – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
1	72	John Kulhamer
2	75	Gary Clark
3	76	Greg Wall

Senior Amateur – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
1	74	Dylan Spadt
T2	75	Shane Gunning
T2	75	Tom Miller
T2	75	Tom White

Southmoore Golf Course Pro-Am Results – May 16, 2022

Team

Finish	Score	Team (Pro)
1	129	Shawnee (Brian Bergstol)
2	132	Olde Homestead (Kevin Edwards)
3	133	Glen Brook (Alex Knoll)
T4	136	Woodstone (Evan Grube)
T4	136	Philadelphia PGA (Joe Acla)
6	137	Woodstone (Gregg Meyer)
7	138	Royal Oaks (Terry Hatch)

Individual

Professional – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
1	67	Brian Bergstol
2	69	Alex Knoll
3	70	Evan Grube
4	71	Terry Hatch
5	73	Gregg Meyer
6	74	Kevin Edwards
7	75	Dustin McCormick

Amateur – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
1	68	Riley Hogan
2	75	Anthony Swarnyski
T3	76	Justin Tresslar
T3	76	Corey Cowitch

Senior Professional – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
1	74	Greg Wall
2	76	John Kulhamer

Senior Amateur – Low Score

Finish	Score	Golfer
1	72	Mike Hogan
2	75	Bill Lydick
3	77	Shane Gunning
T4	78	Dylan Spadt
T4	78	Bill Steirer

GOLF AT THE END OF THE EARTH

By MIKE KERN

I know a lot of people visit Ireland all the time. And I'm pretty sure a fair amount of them find the time to do some golfing when they're over there. But I'm not so sure that many of them find their way to Belmullet, let alone be able to find it on a map.

Me, I'm one of the lucky ones. I've been friends for a long time with John Garrity, who for many years wrote, among other things, golf stories for Sports Illustrated magazine. And his ancestors are from that part of the country. He even wrote a book about that connection, after a wonderful golf course, Carne Golf Links, was built on the rugged and remote Mullet Peninsula, part of the Wild Atlantic Way, on the northwest part of County Mayo. It opened some three decades ago, to rave reviews, and another nine was added roughly 20 years later. The original 18 holes were the last links layout to be designed by Eddie Hackett, perhaps the best Irish architect ever. So it is a true gem. You just have to get there. But trust me, it's worth the effort.

It's about a 4-5 hour drive due northwest from Dublin, depending upon if you take the scenic route. And I would recommend it, at least going one of the ways. But I'm never the driver, which is probably a good thing for everyone else on the road. I mean, I have to remember to look the right way when I'm crossing the street. Enough said. Fortunately I have John to handle that. I had been there twice before, both times after British Opens. But the two other blokes in our foursome, Marty Parkes and Craig Smith, both former U.S. Golf Association media guys who had to take care of speed bumps like me, were making their maiden voyages. And the trip had been postponed for three years, due to COVID and some health issues. But finally, we were going to make it happen. And I was going back.

All I had to do was leave the airport and the rest of the traveling party was waiting for me, since they had arrived a few days earlier. So how's that for service? Five hours later we were there, in our rental van, which came courtesy of the folks at Irish Tourism, who usually find a way to help make our trips go as smoothly as possible. Their motto is, "What Fills Your Heart With Ireland." And for more info on what they're about or how they might be able to assist you, please go to Ireland.com. The van came in really handy, since large vehicles are not always easy to find. But we had enough room to fit four very comfortably, with plenty of space in the back for our luggage and golf bags. As someone who has been forced to sit on somebody else's clubs on previous trips to Scotland, trust me that is no minor detail. So my body thanks them.

Belmullet has no traffic lights. It has a circle in the middle of town. It has some nice restaurants, and bars. One of them proudly proclaims that the owner is also the undertaker. Can't make that up. The other business is just up the street. We had a house with four bedrooms that easily accommodated us, and was about a 5-10 minute drive

from the course. The next door neighbors were our host Gerry, who runs the course, and his wife Helen, who made us a meal one night to die for (roast beef that reminded me of my mom's Sunday dinners, complete with a salmon appetizer, freshly made brown bread and apple pie with homemade whipped cream). Then the next night she brought us over a shepherd's pie that was another taste treat. I wanted to take her home with me.

One thing you have to understand is that John is treated like an honorary mayor. Seriously. Which means we pretty much have run of the course. It's good to be the king. Or at least a prince. One time a bartender refused to let me pay for my drinks, or even leave a tip, because I was with Mr. Garrity. And I tried, repeatedly. Oh well. I guess you take what you can get, whenever you can. I would make up for it in the pro shop. But you already knew that.

Words can't really begin to do justice to the course. You almost have to experience it for yourself. But I'll try. The sign outside the clubhouse might say it best: "Golf at the edge of the Earth." Trust me they're not far off. It certainly does feel that way. You will never say you're playing a dunes course after this, because they have dunes that are like 3-4 stories high. I'm not making this up. You have blind shots, all over the place. And instead of complaining, as Americans are prone to do, you quickly learn to embrace it. We had an advantage in that John was our guide, but many times you're still only as good as the rub of the green allows you to be. It's all about Mother Nature. And if the winds are up, look out. We had pretty good weather. Temperatures were around 70. And they hadn't had much rain, which means we would get lots of roll, which of course I can always use. But you would also get some bounces that would just leave your mouth agape. Once I hit what everyone thought was a pretty decent shot. And they said as much. But thirty seconds later my ball was still rolling sideways, in the wrong direction. It happens. You accept it, find it and hit again. What else are you going to do? The golf Gods get the final say.

We played eight straight days. Only three times did we play the full 18, and two of them were when we visited other courses about an hour away because Carne was holding a pro-am tournament. Once we played 12, and the others were all nine holers. And, after the first two days, we decided it might be best for our sanity and backs that we play a scramble. Turned out to be a great move. We had more fun, we didn't have to play our foul balls and we took turns bailing the team out. And the best part was, we didn't make a bogey. In fact, we only flirted with making one about a half-dozen times. But we always managed to come through. And one one of our last holes, it was John who made a clutch 10-foot par putt to save us. It was on his favorite hole, the long par-4 17th that his late brother fell in love with, and the smile on his face when the ball dropped in the cup said it all. We all felt for him at that moment. And it gave us something to reminisce about over dinner.

Because, after all, it does ultimately come down to the snapshots. And we collected plenty of them. There were two par-3s, neither of which were very long, that none of us managed to put a ball on the green even though we played the hole twice. That's eight shots, folks, with not one puttable result. But alas, as I said, we did get up and down to keep our streak going. Then there was one of my faves, No. 7, a longer par 3 that's straight uphill, where one time all four of us were either on or just off the back. The ninth is a particularly great finishing hole, if that's indeed where you finish, going back up to the clubhouse. The green is hard to hold and then hard to navigate once you are safely on it. What you find out rather quickly is that getting to the greens can be difficult but it's merely the start of your battle. It can get exhausting, but in a good way. As long as you have the right person guiding you around. It never seemed to get old. And some of the holes on the newer nine are downright diabolical. Not that it's necessarily a bad thing. You don't want to go all the way over there for pedestrian, well do ya?

One day we even played nine in the morning and nine more in the late afternoon. Perfect. And we ate many meals in the clubhouse. Had a few drinks as well. I discovered a fondness for Smithwicks Irish Ale. Imagine that. They made a fish chowder that you wish you could export. And I found it amusing that the soup of the day was always veggie. But it too was delicious. And filling, especially after another nine. Did I mention that I road in a cart? I know, I know. But my bag isn't light, and one of the other guys has had two hip replacements and needed the break. So we became buggy buddies. The others carried or pulled a trolley. No regrets. And rest assured that Carne is hardly the easiest walk there is. Still, I understand why a purist might take offense. Duly noted.

One day we went to Westport Golf Club, where I even did a podcast back home while waiting for our tee time. Multi-tasked. This was a little different, in the sense that at least the front nine was more what you might encounter in the States. Or at least where I'm from. It had trees, and fairways, and it was mostly straight forward. But the back nine was anything but. And that was fine. There was a lot more elevation changes, and some utterly fantastic views along the way. Much like Carne in that regard. Only a different landscape. The setting was serene. And we had a blast trying to figure it all out. When we were done club professional Mark Magowan spent about an hour with us at the bar, which was just as good as the golf. We learned a little about him, and he did have an interesting background, and he hopefully learned something about us. Don't know if that was as interesting, but he seemed like he was having a good time entertaining us until it was time to go see his wife and young children. We couldn't thank him enough. But that's one thing I learned on previous trips. The people over there really go out of their way to treat you like you're one of them. And that certainly goes a long way.

I can say the same about our next stop, at Enniscrone Golf Club in

Sligo, where Keither O'Neill is the General Manager. He too was as gracious as could be, even getting us out a little early since we had a late tee time and he wanted to give us every chance to finish the full 18. Which we barely did. In fact when we left the parking lot there were one one or two other cars still there. Just like Westport. But Enniscrone is much more like Carne, in that it totally looks and plays like something you can't find in the States. Again there were blind shots and dunes and wide fairways and wind and greens that were tough to hold and on and on. And I loved every second of the journey. I don't know if I would have loved it quite so much if I had been playing my own ball, but we'd already crossed that obstacle. So be it.

As much as we enjoyed Carne, I have to say that getting to play both Westport and Enniscrone (which is a 27-holer as well) totally added something extra to the trip. I would definitely recommend fitting them in as well if possible. You won't be sorry. Both are also considered to be among the best not only in that region but the entire country. And that area is trying to market itself as a destination, something that is really moving forward despite the obvious impact of the pandemic. Because they have a great deal to offer, both on and off the courses. You just have to want to get there. No way you'll be disappointed. Just try not to make any bogeys. I only hope that one day soon I get another chance to go back. I'm sure I can find even more to discover.



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