

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE of the Carolinas Golf Association

carolinasgolf

Fall 2014

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U.S. OPEN WIN AT PINEHURST NO. 2



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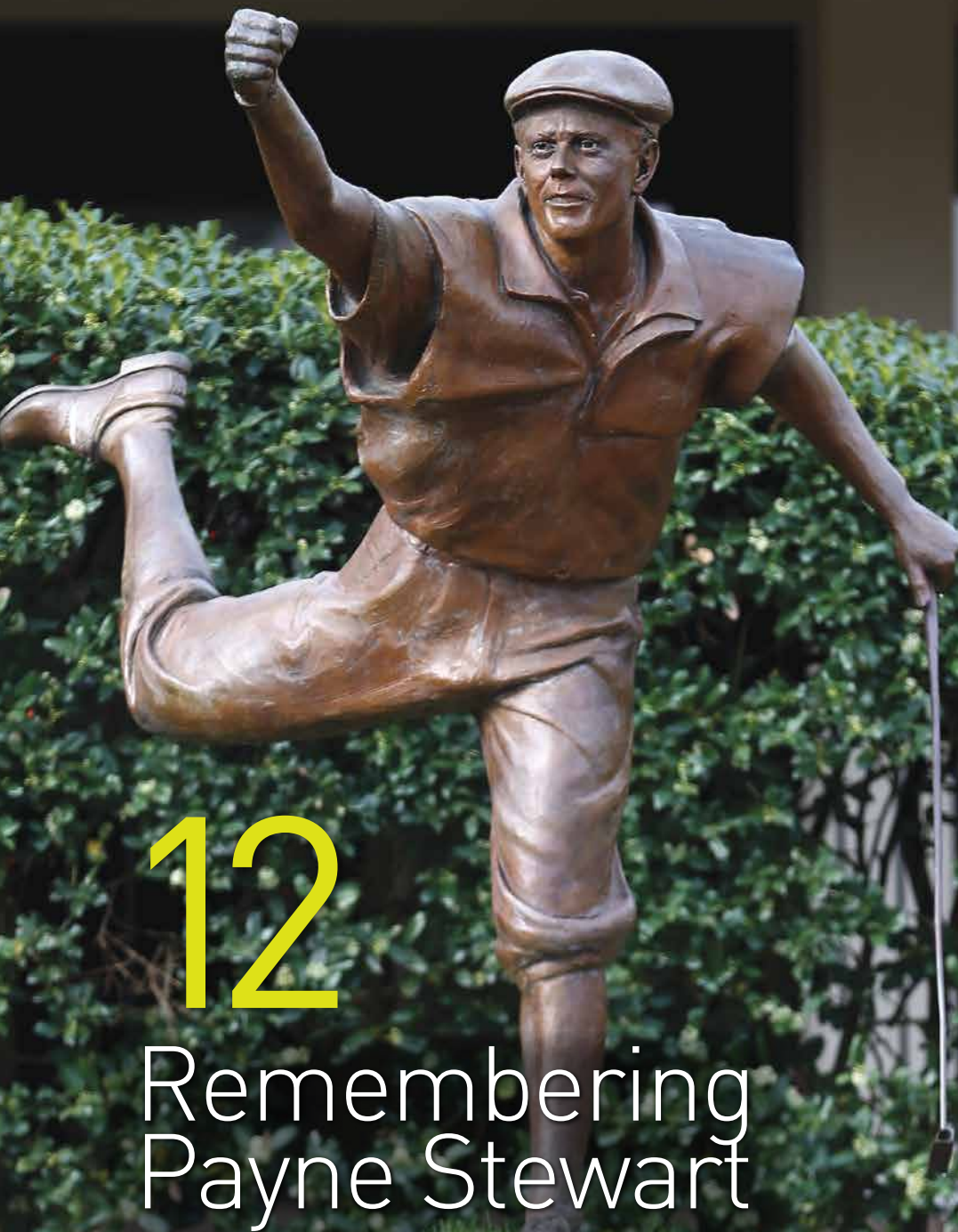
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The late Payne Stewart during the 1999 U.S. Open at Pinehurst No. 2. Photo from Getty Images.



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Remembering Payne Stewart

Mike Hicks was at Pinehurst No. 2 as Payne Stewart's caddie during the 1999 U.S. Open. This year, he was back at the Open to pay tribute as Stewart was posthumously given the USGA's Bob Jones Award.

On June 20, 1999, Payne Stewart held a dramatic 15-foot putt on the 18th hole of Pinehurst No. 2, to capture the 99th United States Open Championship. It was truly ONE MOMENT IN TIME.

> A statue of Payne Stewart at the Pinehurst clubhouse



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Change is the Name of the Game

/ by G. JACKSON HUGHES, President, Carolinas Golf Association

› **"Nothing endures but change."**

— *Heraclitus of Ephesus*

The CGA has certainly faced change of late — some by design and some not. We have faced more monumental decisions in the last three years than in the previous 102. Let's look back:

› **Carolinan Golf House:** We started the dialog of creating a new CGA headquarters and historical center in 2000. Now that dream will come true.

In 1991, we moved from the Tanglewood Clubhouse in Clemmons, N.C., to set up camp in West End (a.k.a. Seven Lakes) with the help of the late Peter Tufts. Meanwhile, our staff has grown from five to 15 so we are moving to a spot in Pine Needles that will grow with us. Its 13,500 square feet includes a heritage museum/visitor center to showcase golf in the Carolinas. Come see us!

› **GHIN® Comes to the Carolinas:** The USGA and GHIN committed to investing substantial resources to put the CGA on the leading edge of technology. There have been a few bumps in the road, which makes all of us even more determined to be the leader in the industry. The CGA has almost 150,000 members of 700 clubs who deserve the best, and we will deliver.

› **The Reunion:** This Carolinas Golf Foundation event is a wonderful fundraiser to benefit many Carolinas-based initiatives. We hope you will keep this on your radar. (See related article on Page 8.)

› **Carolinan Golf Hall of Fame:** The Carolinas Golf Reporters Association has done an outstanding job over the years honoring Carolinians who have made a difference in golf. Now they've asked the CGA to take it over, and we agreed.

› **New CGA Agronomist:** For the last 15 years, Dr. Leon Lucas has been a rock for the CGA agronomy department. His contributions to the game, and to so many of the superintendents and club green committees, are too numerous to count. He hangs up his turf temperature gauge and soil sampler at the end of 2014. His replacement is Bill Anderson (read more on Page 15). We wish Dr. Lucas the best.

› **Back-to-Back U.S. Opens Are History:** It appears the men's and women's Opens were huge successes. Here's a new idea for the USGA: Hold the men's and women's Opens back-to-back once again, but play the men at Pinehurst No. 2 and the women down the street at Pine Needles. But wait, then they would have to deal with that vicious Pinehurst traffic circle, huh?

It appears Heraclitus was spot on with his philosophy and we are living proof!

› **Michael Dann:** Our friend and 22-year employee Michael Dann died unexpectedly at home July 15 (see related articles on Pages 6 and 26). Michael was as devoted and dedicated as they come and will be sorely missed.

Rest in peace, my friend.

carolinasgolf

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MILESTONES

NEWS & NOTEWORTHY EVENTS AROUND THE CAROLINAS

> CGA, Golf Community Mourn Sudden Loss of Michael Dann

Carolinas Golf Association Director of Course Rating and Handicapping, Michael Harley Dann, died unexpectedly in his sleep July 15, 2014, at his home in Seven Lakes, N.C. He was 65.

Born in Detroit, Mich., he moved with his family to Glenview, Ill., when he was 11. While attending Loyola Academy Jesuit College Preparatory School in Wilmette, he was active on the golf team. He earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in journalism from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he also played on the golf team and was a reporter and editor for the newspaper.

Dann later described his career combining journalism and golf as a "story of serendipity." Not long after college graduation, he was hired to write for *Golf World* magazine in Southern Pines, N.C. As he told it, "One of the magazine writers overimbibed at an airport and missed a flight en route to an assignment, resulting in his termination. If he hadn't

missed his flight, I wouldn't have gotten the job."

And so began a long career marrying his craft with a love of golf. Leaving *Golf World*, he went on to handle public relations for Pinehurst Resort. After that, he served as director at the World Golf Hall of Fame; editor of *Virginia Golfer*



magazine; manager of the USGA Members Program; and vice president of marketing for Video Magazines International.

Dann came to the CGA in 1992, working with some 160 course ratings volunteers and training them to rate courses; he was also executive publisher of *Carolinas Golf* magazine.

In a short career summary that he wrote in 2013, he closed by saying, "Dann and his wife, Dianne, have three children, three dogs, two vans, and a mortgage."

In addition to his wife of 30 years, Dann is survived by his children, Gregory, Megan, and Kevin; sisters Barbara (Kim) Chapman, Patricia (George) Kichinko, Margaret (Steve) Mitchell, and Maja (Urs) Freiburghaus; nieces and nephews; and a great-niece and nephew.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Carolinas Golf Association, P.O. Box 319, West End, N.C., 27376 to support Carolinas Golf House, the new headquarters and museum for the CGA. (See Page 26 for colleagues' remembrances.)



Pinehurst to host 2017 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball

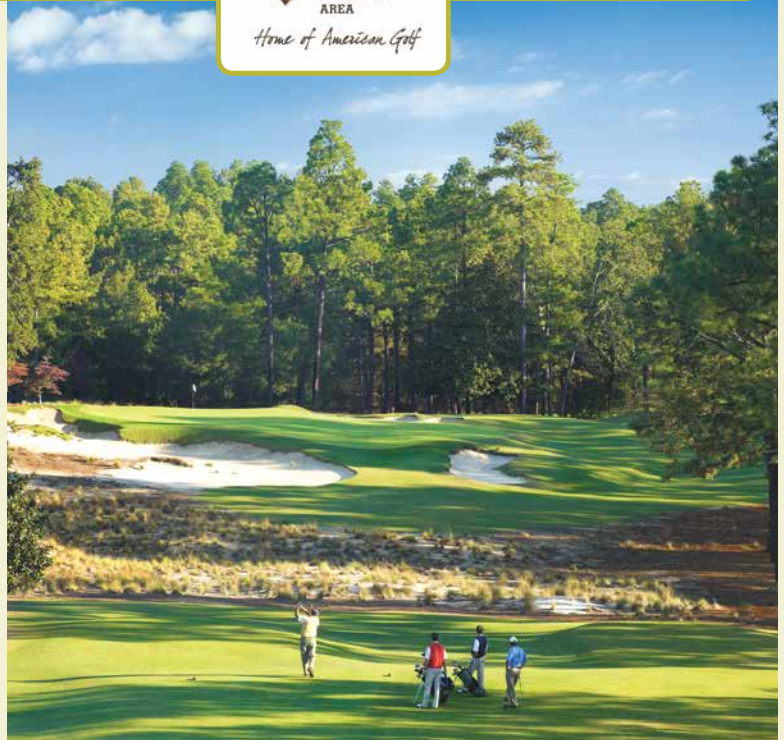
Pinehurst Resort & Country Club in Pinehurst, N.C., has been selected by the United States Golf Association (USGA) as the site of the 2017 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship to be held May 27-31. With 128 two-player teams, two courses will be needed for the championship. Pinehurst No. 2 will serve as the match-play course and No. 4 will serve as the companion course.

“It is fitting that the 2017 championship will be contested at a place that has played a significant role in the history of American golf,” says Daniel B. Burton, USGA vice president and chairman of the Championship Committee.

Don Padgett, president of Pinehurst, says hosting the U.S. Amateur Four-Ball extends Pinehurst’s “deep connection” with the USGA.

“Our friendship with the USGA was forged by the founding Tufts family and continues to this day,” Padgett says. “And for nearly as long, Pinehurst has held events that showcase the best in amateur golf.”

The USGA’s amateur four-ball championships are new, debuting the men and women in 2015 at The Olympic Club in San Francisco, Calif., and Bandon Dunes Resort in Bandon, Ore., respectively. The 2016 events will be held at Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, N.Y. (men) and Streamsong Resort in Bowling Green, Fla. (women). The



2017 women’s site hasn’t been determined yet.

Teams are made up of two players each playing their own ball throughout the round. Each team’s score is determined by using the lower score of the partners for each hole. After 36 holes of stroke-play qualifying, the field will be reduced to the low 32 teams for the championship’s match-play bracket, from which the eventual champions will be determined. Eligibility is limited to amateurs whose individual handicap index does not exceed 5.4.

› **Pinehurst Resort & Country Club will host the 2017 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship. Shown here: Pinehurst No. 2, Hole No. 9.**

WELCOME NEW & RETURNING CGA MEMBERS

Birkdale Golf Club
Huntersville, N.C.

Cashie Golf & Country Club
Windsor, N.C.

Emerald Lake Golf Club
Matthews, N.C.

Gillespie Golf Course
Greensboro, N.C.

Ole Still Golf Club
Hickory, N.C.

Richmond Pines Golf Course
Rockingham, N.C.

Senior Men’s Golf Association of Hilton Head Island
Hilton Head Island, S.C.



› Pinehurst No. 9, Hole No. 9

› Pinehurst Buys National Golf Club

National Golf Club has become Course No. 9 at Pinehurst Resort.

Pinehurst recently purchased the nearby National Golf Club from the Robinette family. Opened in 1989, it’s the only Jack Nicklaus Signature Design course in the Sandhills region. The acquisition gives Pinehurst a collection

of courses designed or restored by some of the game’s most recognized names, including Donald Ross, Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw, Rees Jones, Tom Fazio, and Ellis Maples.

“The golf course presents a challenging test in a beautiful setting that complements our eight other courses,” says Jay Biggs, senior vice president of golf and

club operations for Pinehurst.

National Golf Club recently underwent a renovation that softened green contours and re-grassed with more consistent A1/A4 bentgrass. In addition to a 30,000-square-foot clubhouse slated for renovation and expansion under Pinehurst management, National offers five tennis courts, a pool, banquet facilities, and restaurant.



➤ Junior Lisbeth Brooks and the team

➤ **Campbell Women's Golf Sets Records**

The Campbell University Fighting Camels women's golf team claimed its first NCAA Championship berth since 1997 this year. The team from Buies Creek, N.C., set a school record for lowest 54-hole score in NCAA postseason play to get the spot. Ranked 45th, the Camels went on to finish in a tie for 20th place (305-303-289-281 — 1178) in the 24-team event with No. 20

Michigan State. The Big South Conference champs also placed better than three schools ranked among the nation's top 30: No. 25 California, No. 24 Iowa State, and No. 29 Kansas. With 293, junior Lisbeth Brooks was Campbell's low individual in the NCAA championship (T50th). Tahnia Ravnjak played her final two rounds at even-par and finished with 298. Freshman Nadine White recorded back-to-back 72s over the last two rounds to shoot 302.

➤ **A Celebration of Carolinas Golf**

Carolinas Golf Association's annual The Reunion will be held Sept. 21 and 22 at Pine Needles Lodge and Golf Resort in Southern Pines, N.C.

Much of CGA monies are being devoted to the construction of the soon-to-open Carolinas Golf House — new home to the CGA. That means events like The Reunion, which generate funds to support Carolinas Golf Foundation initiatives, are all the more important.

The Foundation primarily supports and promotes junior and women's golf, turfgrass research and management, disabled golfers, and other Carolinas golf projects.



"For years, we earmarked a certain amount of money from CGA investments to go toward the Foundation," says CGA Executive Director Jack Nance. "Now because we're putting money toward our golf house, we need a source to replace it."

The third annual fundraiser in September is expected to feature participation from about 18 teams. To date, the event has raised about \$60,000. Comedian Henry Cho heads the entertainment lineup.

The Reunion offers golf at Mid Pines with an evening social on opening day. Monday has a team consisting of a pro/celebrity playing with four amateurs. They may register individually or as a group.

Those confirmed to be there so far include Harold Varner, Paul Simson, Jerry Haas, Drew Weaver, Walter Hall, William McGirt, John Maginnes, and David Eger.

A silent auction will be held for the second year. Bidding opens several weeks prior. Last year's inaugural auction included golf getaways, a golf cart, lessons with pros, and more.

"The Reunion is designed to raise money for our foundation and to have fun in the process," Nance says. "It's basically a celebration of golf in the Carolinas."

For complete details and to register, visit reuniongolftournament.org, email contactreunion@carolinasgolf.org, or call 910-673-1000.

➤ **Old Chatham Tops Triangle's Private Courses**

Old Chatham Golf Club in the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill Triangle area was named Triangle's top private golf course for 2014 by the *Triangle Business Journal*.

Old Chatham members played 12,000 rounds in 2013; that number is kept small to enhance the member experience, according to club officials. A Rees Jones design, Old Chatham was established on 400 acres in 2001 by area business leaders.



➤ Old Chatham, Hole No. 7

> Faidley Learning Center to Open

The John Faidley Learning Center will be constructed at Winston Lake

Golf Course in Winston-Salem, N.C., and will be the first teaching facility in the Greensboro-Winston Salem-High Point area to also include an academic center.

The center will feature hitting bays, a practice putting green, an observation deck for parents to watch their children grow in the program, and a building to house a computer center for homework.

The center was made possible after an anonymous donor pledged a \$100,000 matching grant to The First Tee of the Triad, and Landmark Builders based in Winston-Salem volunteered to cover building costs. The Self Foundation also pledged \$75,000 over three years to fund



academic center technology and curriculum.

John Faidley has been head PGA professional at Winston-Salem's

Forsyth Country Club since 2001. Faidley and club members have hosted the Forsyth Country Club Celebrity Pro-Am for five years, with nearly \$500,000



raised supporting The First Tee of the Triad over time. The organization's aim is to teach kids ages 7-18

positive life skills using the game of golf. The First Tee of the Triad is still looking for two significant benefactors to fully fund the project. For more information, visit thefirstteetriad.org. The goal is to have the facility open for their participants by fall 2014.

Four Receive CGA Scholarships

Four North Carolina State University students have been awarded \$2,000 scholarships from the Carolinas Golf Foundation. Recipients include seniors studying turfgrass science: **Michael D. Moore** from Hillsborough, N.C.; **Patrick J. Maxwell** of Rutherfordton, N.C.; and **Wendell J. Hutchens** of Stuart, Va. A second-year student in the Agricultural Institute, **Keith T. Kornegay** of Raleigh, N.C., rounds out the list of awardees.



Michael D. Moore



Patrick J. Maxwell



Wendell J. Hutchens

Photos: Courtesy of The First Tee of the Triad and NC State University

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➤ **Hilton Head Golf Island**, a collection of 30 Lowcountry golf courses, and PGA Tour Radio are holding a "Dream Golf Vacation Getaway" sweepstakes. Golfers can enter for a chance to win one of three packages featuring accommodations and golf for four at Sea Pines Resort, Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort, or Heritage Golf Collection & The Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa. Deadline to enter is Sept. 14. Visit HiltonHeadGolfIsland.com.



➤ Pinehurst No. 2

➤ **Legacy of the Links LLC** has announced that its second annual Top 100 Invitational golf tournament will be held at Pinehurst Resort in Pinehurst, N.C., May 3-6, 2015. Thirty teams of two will participate in 36-hole competition on courses No. 2 and No. 4, in a better-ball net format (with a maximum handicap of 18 for men and women). Winners of each division will receive a crystal trophy handcrafted by tournament sponsor Tipperary Crystal of Ireland. The Top 100 Invitational will feature an auction to raise money toward building a golf museum on campus at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Tournament entry fee is \$1,950 per person and includes three nights' lodging at Pinehurst (double occupancy), a Pairings Party, Welcome Dinner, Top 100 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Awards Banquet, two rounds of golf, and tee gifts. For complete details, visit top100invitational.com. To register, call 480-219-0280.

➤ **Brett Heisler, head golf pro and general manager at Bear Creek Golf Club**, was voted "Best Golf Instructor/Pro" on Hilton Head Island in a poll conducted by the island's newspaper. *The Island Packet's* 10th Annual Read-

ers' Choice Award poll generated 136,000 votes for people and businesses in 150 categories on Hilton Head and southern Beaufort County.

➤ **Thomas M. DeLozier, CCM, of Quail Hollow Club** in Charlotte, N.C., and **John E. Foster, CCM, of Wade Hampton Golf Club** in Cashiers, N.C., are among 18 new members of the Club Managers Association of America (CMAA) Honor Society. Membership is open to club managers who have achieved 400 additional credits beyond those required to achieve the certified club manager designation, who maintain professional membership in the association for a minimum of 10 years, and who have successfully completed Business Management Institute IV or V. For more information, visit cmaa.org.

➤ **Sea Pines Resort on Hilton Head Island** has been honored with multiple TripAdvisor 2014 Certificates of Excellence. The awards celebrate hospitality excellence and are given to establishments consistently achieving outstanding traveler reviews on TripAdvisor. Sea Pines also received a Certificate of Excellence for Harbour Town Golf Links and The Inn at Harbour Town.

➤ **The Asheville Citizen-Times** reported that the city of Asheville has allocated \$450,000 for upgrades at Asheville Golf Course. The bulk of the money will be used to install an irrigation



➤ Sea Pines Resort, Harbour Town, Hole No. 18

system on the back nine of the course's Donald Ross layout. Construction will start around mid-November, with the back nine to be closed during part of the construction.

➤ **The Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association (CGCSA)** led in donations for 2014 Rounds 4 Research for turfgrass studies, run by the Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG) and presented in partnership with

The Toro Co. More than 600 rounds yielded \$115,500 in the June online auction, which is up 7 percent from the previous year. CGCSA alone raised more than \$35,000 from among more than 45 partners who donated rounds for turfgrass research at the local level. The

EIFG is the philanthropic organization of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. The program has raised more than \$290,000 since being launched in 2012. Visit rounds4research.com.

➤ **Mi Hyang Lee**, one of the rising stars on the LPGA Tour, has a new home course after joining Cobblestone

Park Golf Club near Columbia, S.C. Originally from South Korea, Lee and her dad moved to Columbia so they could be closer to her coach, Puggy Blackmon, director of golf for the University of South Carolina. Lee was Rookie of the Year on the Symetra Tour, LPGA's development tour, in 2012.



Thomas M. DeLozier



Amy Newman

Tony Taylor

➤ **Mizuno** searched for inspiring true stories of how golf has helped people overcome challenges through a "Play Famously" campaign. The 12 winners formed "Team JPX," receiving a set of custom-fitted golf clubs and a year's worth of golf supplies and apparel. Two Carolinians were included among the winners. Confined by the demands of a 60-plus-hour work week, Concord, N.C., native Amy Newman found that golf helped her escape and return to work refreshed and with more focus. Myrtle Beach, S.C., Marine Sgt. Tony Taylor turned to golf to help deal with the struggles of returning to civilian life after two tours of duty in Iraq and one in support of Afghanistan operations.

Remembering Payne Stewart

CADDIE MIKE HICKS REFLECTS ON 1999 U.S. OPEN WIN

/ written by LEE PACE

Fifteen years ago, **Mike Hicks was center stage on the 18th green of Pinehurst No. 2.** In 2014, he was back at Pinehurst.

Hicks was Payne Stewart's caddie in the 1999 U.S. Open. His role was basically the standard "Show up, keep up, shut up" job description emblazoned on the psyche of all good caddies.

"There was no small talk between Payne and I that week," Hicks says. "He didn't say five words to me, other than, 'What do we go? What's it playing? How's the wind?' I never read a putt. I might have pulled one club — that was a lay-up on the 10th hole.

"What really astounded me was the focus that he had, the look of determination on his face. He was in his own little world that week."

'Best Spot in the House'

Of course, it was Hicks to whom Stewart immediately turned after draining a 15-foot putt to save par and win the championship by one shot over Phil Mickelson. Hicks was holding the flagstick in his right arm, then dropped it to the ground when he jumped spread-eagle into Stewart's arms.

"I had the best spot in the house 15 years ago," Hicks says. "Nothing can ever top that."

This year, Hicks stood on a dais on the west side of the Pinehurst clubhouse the Tuesday before the U.S. Open. He addressed a gathering of 1,000 or so individuals at a ceremony to present Stewart posthumously with the Bob Jones Award, the USGA's annual tribute to a golfer who exhibits the spirit, personal character, and respect for the game that Jones did.

"Payne was 'all-in' mentally for the U.S. Open," Hicks says. "He was a very patriotic guy and nothing motivated him more than playing in the U.S. Open or playing for his country in the Ryder Cup.

"Consider this: Payne played in 15 U.S. Opens, and 11 times he went to sleep with the lead. That's still a record for the U.S. Open."

Remembering Stewart

Hicks was among six speakers at the awards ceremony who shared anecdotes and obser-



vations on the life and times of Stewart. The two-time Open winner died in October 1999 when the private jet he was traveling in from Orlando, Fla., to Dallas lost cabin pressure and crashed in South Dakota.

PGA Tour players Paul Azinger and Peter Jacobson, sports psychologist Richard Coop, USGA President Tom O'Toole, and Payne's daughter Chelsea Stewart took turns speaking. They were insightful and upbeat in what was a fitting 60-minute tribute to Stewart.

"It was a great ceremony; it was perfect," says Hicks, now retired from caddying and exploring a number of enterprises from his home in Mebane, N.C. "It was another great reminder of what happened 15 years ago.

"There will always be a hole in your heart for him and his family. That's never going to go away. But time heals all wounds. The Bob Jones Award was very fitting for Payne, and it was a great reminder to everyone how special a man he had become."

A Month Becomes Years

From 1981-'88, Hicks caddied on the PGA Tour for players like Lon Hinkle, David Edwards, Don Pooley, and Curtis Strange, Stewart's buddy. With Strange vouching for him, Hicks offered his services to Stewart in 1988. And so began a one-month trial run.

"Payne finished in the Top 10 four weeks in a row and what started as one month turned into 12 years," Hicks says.

Hicks was on the bag when Stewart won



› Opposite page: Mike Hicks, left, caddies for Payne Stewart, right, in the 1999 U.S. Open. Here, Stewart is victorious after winning that event — the second U.S. Open win of his career.

the 1989 PGA Championship and 1991 U.S. Open while wearing his trademark plus-fours and uniform representations of NFL teams, as he did during that period. He also watched through the 1990s as Stewart matured, found a spiritual life and, like Bobby Jones decades before him, developed an inner peace and understanding that there was more to life than golf.

“Payne had really come full circle from the person I knew when I first met him,” Hicks says. “He was quite a man.”

The 15 years since the '99 triumph and Stewart's death have gone by fast.

“It really feels like yesterday that I was caddying for Payne,” Hicks says.

The dominoes that seemed to line up so perfectly to fall in the direction of a Stewart victory at Pinehurst flow easily to mind.

Stewart loved Pinehurst, and the No. 2 course and its greens complexes were ideally suited to a “feel” player. As Azinger said at this year's ceremony, “With his golf swing, Payne was an artist. There are too many engineers trying to play golf today.”

Stewart had missed the cut at Memphis the

week before, allowing him to get to Pinehurst early and map out a game plan and peak at the perfect time. Coop scolded him early in the week for not adhering to a pre-shot routine and playing to an intermediate target just a few feet in front of his ball. By the opening round on Thursday, Stewart was locking in well with his target and routine.

Shifting Gear

Perhaps most significantly, by 1999 Stewart was playing with equipment he liked after struggling with clubs and a ball he was being paid to play. Stewart had used Wilson blades and Titleist balls through the early 1990s, but then signed a lucrative sponsorship deal with Spalding. The company was expanding its line of Top Flite irons and balls and wanted a premier player to promote its equipment on tour.

With the change, Stewart went from classic to high-tech, from forged to cast. Instead of a soft Titleist ball spinning at 3,500 revolutions per minute, he opted for the two-piece Top Flite Z-Balata at 8,500 rpm.

“You combine offset, cast clubs with square grooves, and a ball spinning that fast, and the



“I had the best spot in the house 15 years ago. Nothing can ever top that.”

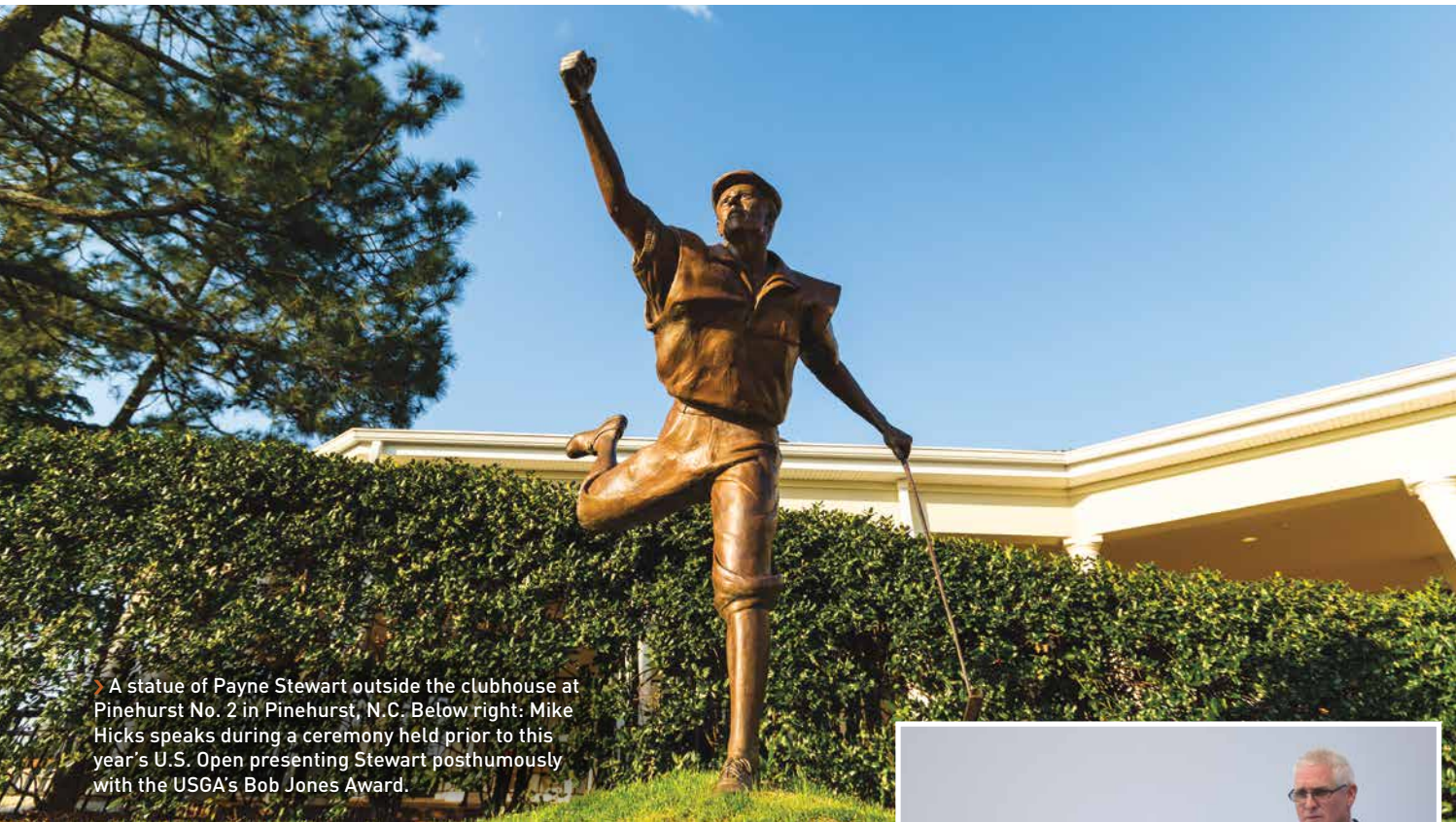
—Mike Hicks

result is your ball's going to go straight up in the air,” says Hicks. “To change two variables — your clubs and ball — at one time was too much. That was his big mistake.

“Payne lost his swing. Subconsciously he changed his swing to try to bring his ball-flight down. His swing plane changed, all kinds of things changed.”

The higher spin rate of the ball also cost Stewart distance, which meant he was hitting it higher and shorter than ever. The angle of his swing became steeper as he sought to trap the ball at impact and impart more power to the shot.

Stewart worked with Spalding executives



▶ A statue of Payne Stewart outside the clubhouse at Pinehurst No. 2 in Pinehurst, N.C. Below right: Mike Hicks speaks during a ceremony held prior to this year's U.S. Open presenting Stewart posthumously with the USGA's Bob Jones Award.



and club-makers over the life of his contract, which expired in 1998, to develop clubs and a ball better suited to his game and swing. As the equipment became a better fit, he gradually worked back into his previous form.

Hicks could see as the 1999 season evolved that Stewart's old swing was coming back. And with his Spalding contract expired, he was playing Lynx irons. The Titleist balls he preferred were back in his bag as well.

"When Payne was playing his best, the club would go back a little shut, and then drop to the inside coming into the ball," Hicks says. "When you do that, you have to have good timing to get back to the ball. Not everyone can play that way. His biggest asset was his timing and hands — his hand-eye coordination was incredible."

A Big Comeback

"By 1999, he was back hitting from a little inside the plane," Hicks adds. "When he had it on-plane, he could do whatever he wanted with the ball. You could see it coming back."

Stewart led the Open in 1998 at The Olympic Club by four strokes entering the final round. However, he struggled to a 74 and lost by one shot to the surging Lee Janzen, who fired a 68. The round included a slow-

play warning from USGA official Tom Meeks after Stewart's drive on the 12th hole had the misfortune of coming to rest in a sand-filled divot. Stewart had acquired a sense of peace with his life and his golf game over the years — partly a result of that new spiritual life — and handled the loss with his head held high. At Meeks' suggestion during a visit with Stewart months later, he even practiced hitting shots out of sand-filled divots.

"Lo and behold, Payne drove into four sand divots that week at Pinehurst," Hicks says. "Twice it happened on the fifth hole, and he made par both times. That will always stick out in my mind — that he had the vision to prepare for instances like that."

Since Stewart's death, Hicks has worked at various times for Greg Norman, Justin Leonard, Steve Stricker, Jonathan Byrd, Charles Howell, Bob Estes, and most recently, Spencer Levin. But at 53 and with a bad back, he's given up the road for good. He gives golf lessons at Mill Creek Golf Club and most enjoys working with younger players. Hicks helps them put together the entire package based on what he learned from decades on the Tour: swing skills, course

management, and mental focus "so they can caddie for themselves," he says. He also sells putters from the SeeMore line that Stewart was using in 1999 and has a new golf course and real estate aerial photography business using a drone and attached camera.

Hicks attended this year's U.S. Open as a guest of the USGA and reflected often on that special June day in 1999. He recalls hosting Stewart the Sunday after his win at the Open overnight and then playing in a fundraising exhibition the next day at Mill Creek.

"To win in your home state, then to have the major champion stay in your house — that just doesn't happen," Hicks says. "But I was blessed enough and fortunate enough to have that happen."

▶ **Lee Pace** writes about golf from his Chapel Hill home and is a frequent *Carolinas Golf* contributor.

Been There, Done That

**BILL ANDERSON BRINGS EXPERIENCE TO
NEW POST WITH CGA** / written by TRENT BOUTS

As the Carolinas Golf Association's new agronomist in 2015, **Bill Anderson** will be more about mentoring than microscopes.

Anderson starts his new role Jan. 1 after a 40-year career as the certified golf course superintendent at Carmel Country Club in Charlotte, N.C. He follows Drs. Carl Blake and, most recently, Leon Lucas.

"I really hope my experience can help superintendents and their clubs solve problems on the front end and not so much after the fact," Anderson says. "So much of the job today is about managing resources and expectations. Long-range planning, manpower analysis, effective budgeting, communications — these are all critical skills for superintendents today, in addition to knowing the agronomics."

The CGA launched its agronomy service — the first regional association to do so — in 1982. It remains free to member clubs.

That same year, Dr. James Beard published *Turf Management for Golf Courses*, which remains the best-selling reference in the field. Anderson studied turfgrass under Beard at Michigan State University after earning an Evans Scholarship as a caddy at Point O' Woods Golf and Country Club in Benton Harbor, Mich. Since the release of what is often referred to as "Beard's Bible," science and the

superintendent profession have advanced to a point where A-grade agronomic expertise is a minimum requirement — not a differentiator.

Focus on Communication

An increasingly critical element in the superintendent's tool kit is communication. In the past, some of the best superintendents could

simply let their work speak for itself, but that is no longer enough for most clubs and their members. They want to know what is being spent where, when, and why. As Anderson explains, superintendents should anticipate those questions and be prepared to respond.

"Building consensus is so important in arriving at a point where everyone

understands what the goals are and what is achievable," he says. "That can be a challenge when your board or your greens committee is made up of people with such varied ideas on what they want to see.

"Every club has golfers with radically different ideas about what constitutes the right green speed. It's often the same on boards and committees, where you have people who are volunteers with their own take on how the golf course

should be. So your job is to provide good information that can lead to good decisions."

Anderson has spent time at both the foot and head of a table in the boardroom, delivering reports at Carmel and directing affairs as president of the 1,800-member Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association. He is also an avid golfer who carries a 7 handicap and has played in many CGA tournaments — something he wishes more superintendents would do to improve their understanding of the golf course from the player's perspective.

Tapping Resources

In addition to the knowledge he gained during his career, Anderson built an extensive list of contacts that reads like a "who's who" of golf. It is a contact book he intends to open to clients in his new role. He also plans to rely on the plant pathology labs at Clemson and North Carolina State universities.

"I can get people in touch with the right people," he says. "I think that will be helpful. And I have always been a student of the profession. I've always enjoyed learning as I go and I think that's a strong point."

Anderson cites Pinehurst Resort's bold move taking the No. 2 course back to its Donald Ross roots with centerline irrigation and sandy waste areas in place of bermudagrass rough as an example of industry "learning." No. 2 drew overwhelmingly positive reviews during and after the first back-to-back men's and women's U.S. Opens in June on browned-out fairways — in contrast to previous men's Opens there in 1999 and 2005.

"I give the USGA and Pinehurst credit. I think they got it right for what they were looking to do with the conditions that exist in the Sandhills," Anderson says. "I think you will see some courses follow suit and look to emulate at least part of what was done at No. 2.

"But it takes some homework to work out how to do it right. It's not for everybody and every course. But I do think that if water and money are among your limitations, then it's smart business to look at what you can change on the edges to lower the amount of maintenance."

> **Trent Bouts** writes about the golf industry from Greenville, S.C.



“Now we have the caliber that will draw people from out of town. An authentic Ross course right in Wilmington for under \$40 — we’ll be a draw.”

—David Donovan

What Would Donald Do?

WILMINGTON MUNICIPAL GETS RESTORED TO DESIGNER’S ORIGINAL PLANS

/ written by LEE PACE

David Donovan suspected from the early days of his tenure as head pro at North Carolina’s **Wilmington Municipal Golf Course that the greens complexes and putting surfaces were not what Donald Ross designed** nearly 80 years ago.

“I had played a number of Ross courses and knew what to look for,” says Donovan, who came to Wilmington Muni in 2007. “It wasn’t here. I did some research at the library and talked to old-timers and learned that Ross built sand greens in the ’20s, but they never got irrigation until 1953.

“There was never any grass on the greens for 25 years, and by the time they did put grass on them, Ross had been dead five years.”

It took architect John Fought just six or seven holes on his first tour of the course in the fall of 2013 to see Donovan’s point.

“I could find absolutely no remnants of the original greens,” says Fought, a former PGA Tour player and architect based in Scottsdale, Ariz. “No one built the greens that he designed.”

That’s why a restoration of the Ross-designed course in Wilmington is so historically significant. While the routing is true to Ross’

drawings from 1925, the work that Fought is doing, with an eye on a fall 2014 completion, is introducing greens that were never actually installed to the original specifications.

“I have never seen anything quite like this situation,” says Fought, best known in the Carolinas for his restoration of Pine Needles Golf Club in Southern Pines in 2003-’04. “Generally, I can find the remnants of the old green corners, but it was obvious to me that his full design was never completed.”

Game of the People

Much of Ross’ design work from his base in Pinehurst over the early part of the 20th century was for private clubs in cities across the Eastern Seaboard and Midwest. But with roots in Scotland, where the game was more readily embraced across all class lines, Ross knew that public and municipal courses had their place.

Ross designed several municipal and daily-fee courses in the Carolinas, including Asheville, Asheboro, and the first nine holes at Fort Mill.

“There is no good reason why the label ‘rich man’s game’ should be hung on golf,” Ross wrote before 1914 in a manuscript later published in the book, *Golf Has Never Failed Me*. “The development of municipal golf courses is the outstanding feature of the game in America today. It is the greatest step ever taken to make it the game of the people, as it should be.

“The municipal courses are all moneymakers and big moneymakers. I am naturally conservative, yet I am certain that in a few years we will see golf played much more generally than is even played now.”

In recent years, Wilmington Muni has played upward of 60,000 rounds a year. Donovan and his maintenance staff have built or expanded approximately 20 new tees and re-grassed the fairways on the par-71, 6,564-yard course. He began thinking seriously in 2010 about a restoration that would include building the greens as drawn in plans on file at the Tufts Archives in Pinehurst, solving a number of drainage issues around the putting surfaces.

Restoring the Vision

The city of Wilmington gave the go-ahead in the fall of 2013 to use money from the course’s enterprise fund, meaning few tax dollars would be needed. The course is self-supporting through green fees, cart fees, and golf shop and snack bar revenue.

At an estimated cost of \$800,000, the project includes new greens complexes, bunkers, and putting surfaces on all 18 holes, several new/rebuilt tees, some tree removal to improve sunlight and air flow, and the removal/repositioning of cart paths in some areas. Most significant will be the greens complexes. The bunkers will be edged with Zoysia grass to make them less maintenance-intense, the collars planted with 419 Bermuda, and the greens sprigged with MiniVerde Bermuda.

“The greens averaged a little over 2,500 square feet and those on Ross’ plans were more like 5,400,” Fought says. “He had drawn little round circles for the sand greens, which were to be temporary until they installed irrigation. But no one there has any recollection of irrigation being installed until the ’50s. So no one has ever built the greens he designed.”

“The greens before were flat — no movement or contours and major drainage prob-

No. 8
Existing



No. 8
Proposed



No. 18
Existing



No. 18
Proposed



lems in front of all the greens,” Donovan adds. “John has created all kinds of movement around the greens. They come up 2, 3, 4 feet in the air, mushroom out, have proper drainage and all the strategic elements around them. That’s something this course has never had. It’s really cool looking.”

The greens were sprigged in mid-July, and the course was scheduled to open in late September or early October. Donovan said green fees will be boosted to \$35-\$39 for 18 holes with cart to help fund an expanded maintenance budget. Located just off Oleander Drive

midway between downtown and the beach, the course gives Wrightsville Beach vacationers a quality and convenient golf option.

“This will put us on the map now,” Donovan says. “Now we have the caliber that will draw people from out of town. An authentic Ross course right in Wilmington for under \$40 — we’ll be a draw.”

Fought first learned to play golf in the 1960s on a municipal course in Portland, Ore., so a project like the one in Wilmington has a certain personal appeal. In addition to the Pine Needles restoration a decade ago, he’s direct-

ing a similar restoration of Rosedale Golf Club, a Ross course in Toronto.

“My first five years playing golf were on municipal golf courses,” Fought says. “These courses are so important to the game.

“Good design stands the test of time. Because Donald Ross did such a good job, golfers enjoy the game there today. Ninety years later, we enjoy the fruits of his labor.”

> **Lee Pace** writes about golf from his Chapel Hill home and is a frequent *Carolinas Golf* contributor.

Start Loving Your Sand Wedge

TAKE A CUE FROM THE PROS

/ written by KRISTA DUNTON / illustration by KEVIN FALES

Most amateur golfers have a **love-hate relationship with their sand wedge** — more often leaning toward hate than warm fuzzies.

However, professional golfers use their wedges so often that the grooves get worn out. To maximize spin, they might replace their wedges every three to four months. If you, too, learn to use your wedges correctly, you can hit a variety of shots and lower your scores from 100 yards and in.

What makes a sand wedge unique? Two factors: loft and bounce. To utilize these factors, though, your setup must be correct.

The biggest mistake amateurs make is to shove the handle of the grip forward, eliminating the loft and bounce. The first absolute to great wedge shots — especially the soft ones — is to keep the handle of the club at your belly button. Even if the ball position is back, keep the grip toward your middle. Chunks and skulls are caused from the handle being too far forward. That means you have a closed club face and a leading edge that are digging into the ground or skulling into the middle of the ball — the two dreaded shots we are trying to eliminate. Narrow your stance with your front foot flared slightly and stack your head over your belt buckle, not behind the ball.

All in the Technique

The pitch shot is a sweepy shot that needs a wide and shallow bottom. For that reason, the path of the club needs to be swinging from the inside.

Keep the club head low to the ground going back; the chunk and chop miss is from

picking the club up and hitting down on it too much. The head should stay low and wide going back so that it can bottom out slightly behind the ball and slide under the ball at impact, creating a wide and shallow bottom to the swing instead of a steep and narrow one.

Picture how an airplane lands and glides on the runway, or a baseball player slides into second base. They hit the ground, then slide. It's the same with your pitch shots. Let the club bottom out and slide under the ball, utilizing the loft and bounce.

Try the following drill. Place a coin behind your ball. Try to hit the coin and then the ball. (See Figure 1.) You will be amazed at the soft shot you produce.

Also, face is better open than closed. A closed club face will dig into the ground, but an open face will slide under the ball, hitting a soft shot. Either set the face slightly open or allow the club face to open slightly in the backswing.

Soft Shot, Soft Arms

Any time you are using touch and feel, you need to create touch and feel in your hands and arms. So with your pitches, maintain soft, relaxed arms. This shot should feel more like an underhand tossing motion with the palm of your right hand (for righties) open to the sky, just like pitching pennies. The left side needs to give up. The softer you want to hit the ball, the more the left elbow folds back and left wrist bends back or gets “cuppy.” This will allow the club head to be released and slide under the ball.

Never pull the handle. The handle should work up and in so that the head can slide under and past as your chest rotates at the same pace.

Try these techniques and learn to love your sand wedge for helping you hit low, medium, and high soft shots.

› **Krista Dunton** is a senior instructor at Berkeley Hall Golf Club, a *Golf Magazine* Top 100 Teacher, PGA Carolinas Teacher of the Year, and LPGA National Teacher of the Year. Visit kristaduntongolf.com or email to kdunton@me.com.



› Figure 1



FootGolf Scores

COURSES INCREASE REVENUE, ACTIVITY WITH GOLF-SOCCER HYBRID / written by TRENT BOUTS

There's a new hybrid in golf. It won't help your score, but it may be good for your game all the same.

FootGolf is a marriage of soccer and golf. Starting on the West Coast, it is now finding its way onto a growing number of courses in the East, including a handful in North Carolina.

Proponents and golf course operators say the new sport is generating an equally new revenue stream.

Among the pioneers in the Tar Heel State is Keith Hills Golf Club in Buies Creek, south of Raleigh. The 27-hole semiprivate facility owned and operated by Campbell University welcomed its first FootGolfers at the end of February and recently began advertising for more.

"When I first heard about it, I admit, I was taken aback," says Martha Sutton, Keith Hills' director of golf who is in her 18th year at the club. "It was all new to me and I thought, 'Oh, this sounds a little different.' But once I learned about it, I was all for it."

One Green, Two Uses

The goal of FootGolf is to kick a soccer ball into a 21-inch diameter hole. It is played on the same terrain golfers use, except the cups are set off to the side of fairways and greens. Because the average adult kicks a soccer ball about 50 yards, it is possible to set up multiple FootGolf holes on a single golf hole.

Keith Hills has two FootGolf holes on par 4, three on par 5s, and one on par 3s with yardages ranging from about 70 to 240. That

means courses can comfortably fit 18 FootGolf holes on nine golf holes, allowing FootGolfers to progress at the same speed as their club-wielding co-habitants. FootGolfers book tee times in among golfers.

Still, like metal woods and broomstick putters before it, FootGolf has raised eyebrows — though not much ire.

"We have had some mixed reaction from traditionalist members wondering why we're letting people play soccer on the golf course," Sutton says. "But others love it and think it's great. The way we look at it, FootGolf is a way to reach new people who haven't been to a golf course before. Maybe they get a glimpse of golf while they're out there and want to try it."

Del Ratcliffe, president of Charlotte, N.C.-based Ratcliffe Golf Services and a multicourse operator, is similarly excited by FootGolf's potential to serve as a "doorway" for demographics largely absent from the traditional game.

"It could be a way for us to reach the vast Hispanic population that loves soccer, but is not really engaged in golf," he says. "I can see tournaments with golf and FootGolf combined like triathlons. There are just so many ways we can go with this."

Ratcliffe has been aware of FootGolf since friends introduced it at Haggan Oaks Golf Complex in Sacramento, Calif., last year. He committed to trying it after watching a demonstration during the Golf Industry Show in

Orlando, Fla., in February. But it wasn't until late June that he was able to offer FootGolf on the Learning Course at Sunset Hills because "the people at the national organization are so backlogged with orders for the cups and flags and so on."

The American FootGolf League was founded in 2011 and now includes more than 160 accredited courses in 32 states. In North Carolina, the league's website lists Northgreen Country Club in Rocky Mount, Beau Rivage Golf and Resort in Wilmington, and Meadowlands Golf Club in Calabash.

Ratcliffe expects more to follow soon.

"I can tell you right now that more than any single thing we've ever done in golf, FootGolf has generated the biggest interest and influx of calls and questions and emails," he says.

New Revenue Stream

In the meantime, FootGolfers at Keith Hills pay \$18 per round, including a cart if they want one. They generated about 600 such rounds in the first four months, providing revenue that Sutton says the club would not have seen otherwise.

Perhaps the biggest headache has been retrieving the handful of soccer balls that have blown into lakes on windy days. Occasionally an errant golf shot ends up in a FootGolf hole (which is 14 inches deep), but golfers simply take a drop without penalty.

"We go through an orientation with every group that comes out to play," Sutton says. "No soccer cleats. Only rubber-soled shoes. No running or yelling or screaming. We want them to observe the same etiquette as the golfers."

Like Ratcliffe, Sutton is excited by the possibilities for different groups to make the most of the two sports while playing simultaneously.

"You could see parents and grandparents playing golf while the kids play FootGolf in the group in front," she says.

What Keith Hills members probably won't see is their director of golf becoming a convert.

"I did try to kick the soccer ball once or twice," Sutton says. "It was not good."

➤ Trent Bouts writes about the golf industry from Greenville, S.C.

Get a Grip

GOLF PRIDE'S GM ON TECHNOLOGY AND THE GAME / written by CRAIG DISTL

When it comes to the golf industry, the buzz typically revolves around the clubhead of the drivers, hybrid clubs, and irons — all part of the **equipment that the golfer never actually touches** during the swing.

“The golf grip,” says Jamie Ledford, “is the only part of the club that directly connects the golfer’s body to the club, and thus has a tremendous influence on the swing.”

Ledford knows a thing or two about this. He’s the worldwide general manager for Golf Pride Grips, with corporate headquarters in Southern Pines, N.C. From this main base of operations in the Carolina Sandhills, Golf Pride oversees a globally dominant brand that is the No. 1 choice in grips among PGA Tour and recreational players, competitive amateur golfers, club manufacturers, and club repairmen.

A native of Walla Walla, Wash., Ledford’s career path led him to North Carolina after stints with Starbucks and Callaway. He joined Golf Pride in 2012.

“I can’t think of a better home base for Golf Pride,” Ledford says. “I have always had a great love for the game and its history, so to be surrounded by this much golf tradition here in Pinehurst is, personally, quite exciting.”

With a bachelor’s degree in economics and a master’s in international relations from Johns Hopkins University, Ledford has worked at the highest levels in multiple

industries. One important philosophy he brings to Golf Pride is the drive to continually improve.

“You cannot stand still. If you are not pushing to get better, you are probably falling behind,” he says. “At Golf Pride, we have been No. 1 on tour for decades, and we have to make sure we go to work every day trying to get better and never take that position for granted.”

As with driver heads and ball components, golf grips today are heavy on technology. A lot of research and development goes into them.

“We take the utmost care in our material research and pattern design to ensure the grip can be used effectively in all different types of weather conditions a player could face,” Ledford says. “In addition, we pay close attention to durability, ensuring that a player will get maximum value from their grips.”

Of course, every player is different. Some are muscular and have large hands. Others are finesse players with smaller hands. That’s why the company manufactures a variety of models, each geared to a specific set of golfers.

An interesting thing about Golf Pride is that it’s by far the top grip used on the PGA Tour despite the fact the company does not pay golfers to use its grips. Golf Pride mines data from its tour players to fine-tune the product.

“One new technology that we can actually talk about now is our new CP2 grip,” he says. “CP2 stands for comfort, control, and performance. We wanted to make a softer, more comfortable grip that still held up to our exacting standards for performance on tour.”

Ledford says the CP2 has a 2.5-inch inner control core stabilizer at the top of the grip, which reduces torque by 41 percent compared to the same grip without the core.

“Golfers love the feel of this new grip,” Ledford says, “and we are excited about the potential for this new platform.”

That excitement spreads to other aspects of the job for Ledford, an avid golfer.

“To be able to work at something you love — and would be doing anyway — is really quite special,” he says. “It’s something that I try to make sure I appreciate every day.”



➤ Jamie Ledford, Golf Pride

➤ Craig Distl writes from North Carolina.

Beyond Golf

RESORTS OFFER VARIETY IN THE CAROLINAS

/ written by ELSA BONSTEIN

For those of us who love golf, along with other diversions, **a trip to a destination that offers more than golf is the best of both worlds.**

Golf resorts not only give you the game, but also often offer fabulous rooms and fun activities.

The Ballantyne Hotel and Lodge in Charlotte, N.C., is a four-star, four-diamond hotel with spas, an indoor pool, two resistance pools, an outdoor pool, tennis, a fitness center, great food, and a wonderful championship golf course. Just beyond the hotel are the mountains and whitewater rafting, kayaking, canopy tours, zip lines, and rock climbing. Charlotte itself has lots of cultural events and historical places. This is a place for many adventures — not just that birdie you made on the fourth hole.

The Grandover Resort in Greensboro, N.C., is surrounded by two 18-hole championship golf courses, but this resort offers so much more. There's a day spa with fitness center, sauna, steam room, and hot tub, indoor and outdoor pools, and clay tennis courts. The Di Valetta Restaurant offers elegant Sicilian-style food. Beautiful decor, imported rugs, and marble baths make the hotel truly world-class. Nearby vineyards offer wine tastings.

Myrtle Beach, S.C., is known as the golf capital of the world with more than 100 golf courses in the area. But Myrtle Beach is about more than golf. Some fine resorts mean golfers

can play and stay in luxurious surroundings with lots to do off the course.

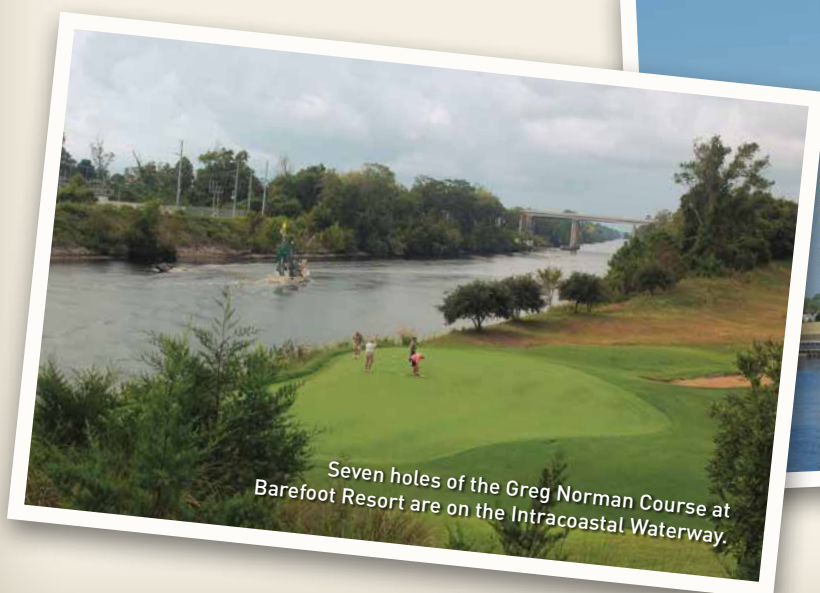
Barefoot Resort in Myrtle Beach has four championship courses designed by Pete Dye, Tom Fazio, Davis Love III, and Greg Norman. After golf, there's a fun restaurant called Dirty Dick's in the Marina Towers. For tired muscles, there's the Jasmine Spa and a great pool.

Rooms in the Barefoot Resort high-rise overlook the Intracoastal Waterway and are a short drive from the beach and Myrtle Beach attractions like Alligator Adventure, the House of Blues, and Broadway at the Beach.

Just south of Myrtle Beach is the Litchfield Beach & Golf Resort. Three golf courses include Litchfield Country Club, River Club, and Willbrook Plantation. Built on an old rice plantation, they have beautiful, moss-draped live oaks and many small lakes. There's also a lazy river, two pools, a spa, and fitness center.

When you plan your trip with family and friends, go to a resort that offers more than golf. You'll love it.

➤ Freelancer **Elsa Bonstein** writes for the *Brunswick Beacon*. Her articles have appeared in the *Asbury Park Press*, *New Jersey Living*, *New Jersey Woman*, *Carolina Greens*, *Children's Playmate*, and other publications. Her first novel is a thriller called *Find Edsell!*



Seven holes of the Greg Norman Course at Barefoot Resort are on the Intracoastal Waterway.



Barefoot Resorts

Remembering Michael Dann

Longtime CGA Director of Course Rating and Handicapping Michael Dann died unexpectedly in July. Here, **colleagues remember Dann for his wit, intellect, and passion for golf — and food.**

Michael knew more about North Carolina's golf courses than anyone. I once told him I had a goal of playing each one. We quizzed each other on our knowledge of out-of-the-way courses. I will certainly miss those contests.

—Tom Johnson, CGA

Michael taught me a lot about thinking in a different way and looking at things from all angles. He was inquisitive and brilliant. His IQ was off the chart. One day I told him, after another one of his out-of-the-box ideas, "Michael, you not only think outside of the box, you also think outside of the warehouse." We will miss you, Miguel.

—Jack Nance, CGA

Most folks are language or math oriented. Michael mastered both and enjoyed delving into both worlds. Not many J-school majors minor in math, but he did at Illinois — thus his interest in the magazine business, but also the minutiae of course ratings and handicaps ... he knew so much about so many different things. And a quirky sense of humor to boot.

—Lee Pace, golf writer

Michael was a very humble individual and never tooted his own horn, though he tooted mine on several occasions. He would often introduce me to someone for the first time with the comment, "This is a former Irish National Champion." I rarely ever told anyone this about myself, so it seemed to me that Michael, in his own way, was proud enough for both of us. We will surely miss his golf knowledge and his quirky sense of humor.

—Chris Nielsen, CGA

From time to time, people — including Michael — would bring various kinds of food into the office. Michael loved food. He never ate large quantities at one time, but would nibble away at the treats all day (or days) until it was gone. I don't think anything ever came into the office that he didn't like.

—Judy Wimmer, CGA

Michael was a smart and articulate person. I never saw him angry, flustered, or unsure of himself. He was always smiling or joking, and he had that corny sense of humor ... I will miss him.

—Rita Longest, CGA

Michael would always listen to my questions or stories; he would always have a comeback or quip to everything I ever said to him. He always had a reply to my press releases with either a corny joke, or fix my mistakes. He made me feel welcomed at the CGA from the first minute I started.

—Rusty Harder, CGA

He never walked by me without a smirk on his face. I wish I could have had more time with him, as I learned something new every time I spoke with him — and not just about golf.

—Chris Zeh, CGA

Michael had a penchant for having car problems in company cars. After numerous phone calls to report problems, I started answering his calls with not hello but "what have you broken now?" He got such a charge out of needling me about it that he'd call and say, "so I was driving down the road and" (long pause while he waited

for me to ask what was broken now) and then he'd finish with, "Could you give me the phone number for (name of the pro at whatever club he was visiting that day)." I will surely miss those exchanges as well as being able to share our latest dark chocolate discovery.

—Johnnie Gebhardt, CGA

Michael was a soup freak. He would eat soup for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. And it didn't matter what type of soup, Michael would eat it ... I will miss my friend, but will always think of him when I have a bowl of soup.

—Jason Cox, CGA

Worked across the hall from Michael for 13 years. I will miss the daily sounds of Beach Boys music blasting and pounding the computer keyboard because he still thought he was working on a typewriter.

—Tiffany Priest, CGA

Masterful. Intelligent. Caring. Honest. Affable. Exceptional. Loving. Dedicated. Accessible. Nutty. Neighborly.

—Andy Priest, CGA

Michael had a great wit. He was quick, too! His mind was wonderful to behold and most fascinating to interact with.

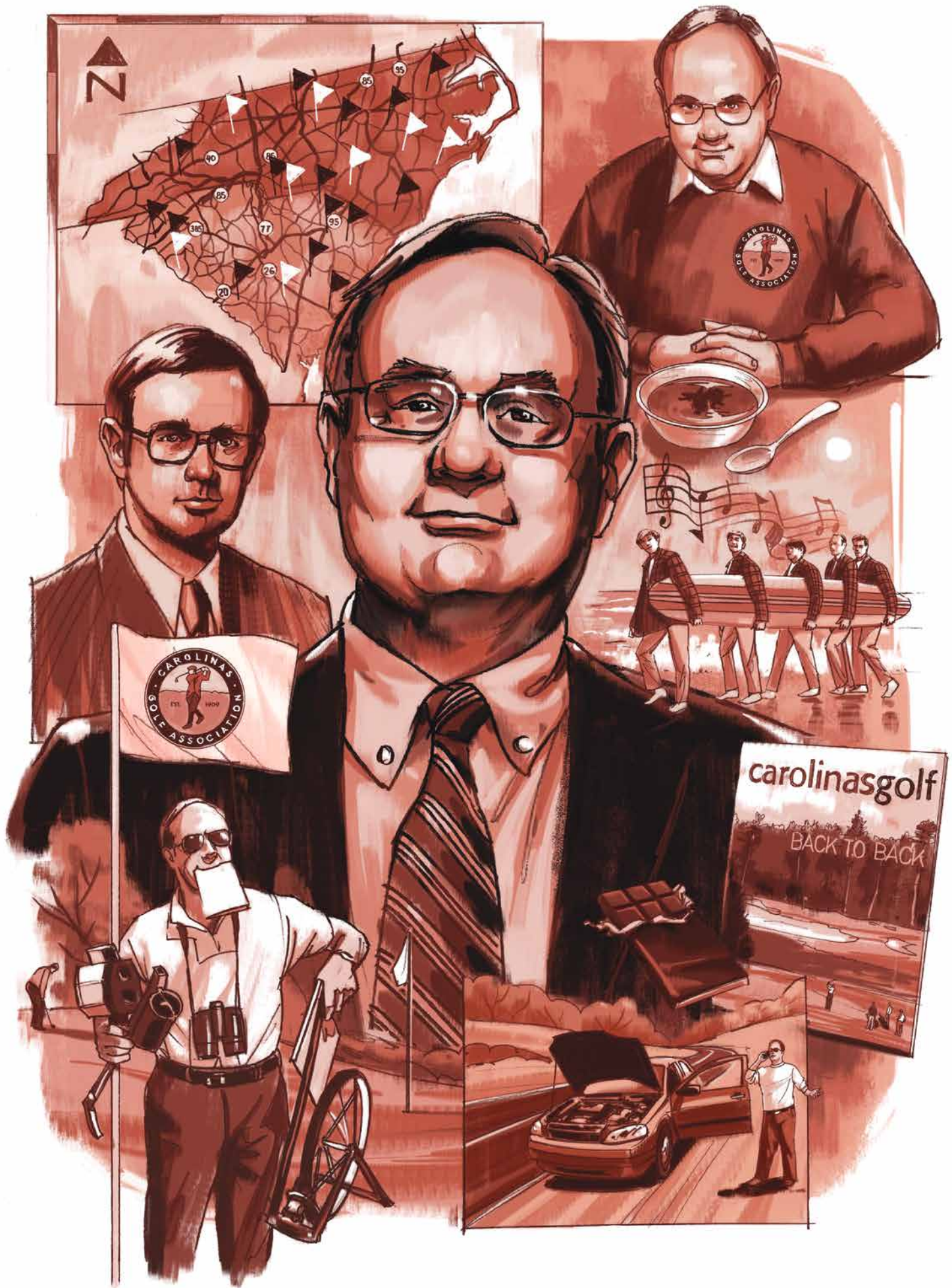
—Doug Hardisty, CGA

Michael always cared about what was going on in others' lives. After our conversations, I would say to him, "Michael, have a good day." He would reply in an emphatic tone, "No, YOU have a good day."

—Scott Gerbereux, CGA

I worked with Michael on turf articles for the CGA magazine over the last 16 years. I always sent him more information than space allowed, and he found a way to edit it down and make me look good. His editorial skills and dedication will be difficult to replace. A special time each year was my chance to work with him at the CGA Father-Son Championship at Seven Lakes CC — a place where he spent the last 22 years of his life.

—Leon Lucas, CGA



2014 CGA Championship Schedule*

/ CHAMPIONSHIP	/ SITE	/ DATES	/ WINNERS
6th Carolinas Young Amateur	Pinewild CC (Magnolia), Pinehurst, N.C.	12/30-31	Sara Bae, Miller Capps
CGA Island Four-Ball Getaway	Casa de Campo Resort	2/26-28	Anne Washington, Jack Nance
20th Tar Heel Cup Matches	CC of North Carolina (Cardinal), Pinehurst, N.C.	3/24-25	Amateur Team
34th Carolinas Mid-Amateur	The Reserve GC, Pawleys Island, S.C.	4/4-6	Matthew Crenshaw
11th NC Women's Senior	Cedarwood CC, Charlotte, N.C.	4/15-16	Patty Moore
46th Carolinas Senior Four-Ball	River Run CC, Davidson, N.C.	4/15-17	Ron Carpenter/Gary Brown
37th Carolinas Club Championship (rescheduled)	Sedgefield CC (Ross), Greensboro, N.C.	4/28	Kevin Duerr/Paul Dickens
9th Vicki DiSantis Junior Girls	Pine Island CC, Charlotte, N.C.	5/3-4	Kelli Murphy
63rd Carolinas Four-Ball	Camden CC, Camden, S.C.	5/7-11	Matthew Crenshaw, Jonathan Jackson
29th NC Senior Amateur	Kinston CC, Kinston, N.C.	5/13-15	Jim Pearson
88th Women's Carolinas Amateur	Wachesaw Plantation Club, Murrells Inlet, S.C.	5/20-22	Katie Kirk
42nd SC Amateur Match Play	Seabrook Island Club (Ocean Winds), S.C.	6/4-8	Bradley Kauffmann
54th NC Amateur	Carolina GC, Charlotte, N.C.	6/5-8	Josh Martin
47th NC Junior Boys	Roaring Gap Club, Roaring Gap, N.C.	6/17-20	Alex Smalley
18th NC Junior Girls	Starmount Forest CC, Greensboro, N.C.	6/24-27	Grace Yatawara
48th Twin States Junior Girls	Columbia CC (Ridgewood-Tall Pines), Blythewood, S.C.	7/1-2	Catherine Ashworth
17th Carolinas Women's Match Play	Cowans Ford Golf Club, Stanley, N.C.	7/8-10	Mallory Hetzel
SC Junior Match Play (37th Boys, 14th Girls)	CC of Newberry, Newberry, S.C.	7/8-11	Morgan Cox, Robert Bartolomucci
100th Carolinas Amateur	Greenville CC (Chanticleer), Greenville, S.C.	7/10-13	Carter Jenkins
8th Carolinas Girls 15 and Under	CC of Whispering Pines (Pines), Whispering Pines, N.C.	7/14-15	Roshnee Sharma
18th NC Boys 13 & Under Championship	Asheboro GC, Asheboro, N.C.	7/14-15	Grayson Wotnosky
58th Carolinas-Virginias Women's Team Matches	Porters Neck CC, Wilmington, N.C.	7/14-16	Carolinas
9th Carolinas Pro-Junior	Treyburn CC, Durham, N.C.	7/21	Clarence Rose, Nicholas Adams
6th Carolinas Super Senior	High Meadows G&CC, Roaring Gap, N.C.	7/21-22	Artis Pike
17th Carolinas Parent-Child	Seven Lakes CC, Seven Lakes, N.C.	7/25	Kevin & Jodee Tindal
48th Carolinas Father-Son	Pinewild Country Club (Magnolia), Pinehurst, N.C.	7/25	Paul & Phillip Simson
13th Mid-Atlantic Junior Girls Team Matches	The Clubs at Olde Mill, Laurel Forks, Va.	7/26-27	Carolinas
58th Carolinas Junior Girls Match Play	Hope Valley CC, Durham, N.C.	7/29-31	Jessica Spicer
65th Carolinas Junior (Boys)	Camden CC, Camden, S.C.	7/29-31	Henry Shimp
5th NC Amateur Match Play	River Landing (Landing), Wallace, N.C.	7/30-delayed to 8/8	Al Dickens IV
10th Dogwood State Junior Championship (Boys, Girls)	Sapona Ridge CC, Lexington, N.C.	8/5-7	Nolan Mills Jr.
37th Carolinas Women's Four-Ball	Dataw Island Club (Cotton Dike), Dataw Island, S.C.	8/11-12	Hayley Hammond, Lea Venable
14th NC Senior Four-Ball	Greenville CC, Greenville, N.C.	8/12-14	Russ Perry, Mark Stephens
32nd Carolinas-Virginias Junior Matches (Boys)	River Landing (River), Wallace, N.C.	8/16-17	Carolinas
9th Carolinas Mixed Team	St. James Plantation (Players), Southport, N.C.	8/30-31	
21st NC Mid-Amateur	Old Chatham GC, Durham, N.C.	9/19-21	
53rd Carolinas Senior Amateur	Sedgefield CC (Dye), Greensboro, N.C.	9/24-26	
7th NC Super Senior	Cape Fear CC, Wilmington, N.C.	9/29-30	
19th NC Four-Ball	North Ridge CC (Lakes), Raleigh, N.C.	10/3-5	
16th Carolinas Women's Senior Amateur	Governors Club (Lakes-Foothills), Chapel Hill, N.C.	10/7-8	
69th Captain's Putter Matches (Carolinas-Virginias)	Club at Creighton Farms, Aldie, Va.	10/17-18	
3rd Carolinas Super Senior Four-Ball	River Hills CC, Lake Wylie, S.C.	10/15-16	
Carolinas Interclub Finals	TBA	November	
4th Carolinas Net Amateur	Pinehurst Resort & CC (No. 3), Pinehurst, N.C.	11/22-23	

* Updates on 2014 CGA qualifying sites, schedules for CGA one-day and senior four-ball events, and more are on carolinasp.org