

# carolinasgolf

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE of the Carolinas Golf Association

Summer 2014

## BACK-TO-BACK

VOLUNTEERS GETTING READY FOR  
U.S. OPENS IN PINEHURST, N.C.

› **MILESTONE CAROLINAS AM**  
CENTENNIAL COMPETITION GOES  
HOME TO GREENVILLE

› **THE NEW GOLF**  
CROQUET ROLLING ALONG AT  
NORTH CAROLINA COURSES





## &gt; FEATURES

**VOLUNTEERS HAVE IT / 13**

Pinehurst's reservoir of willing workers helped land back-to-back U.S. Opens.

**CENTENNIAL CGA AM COMES HOME / 18**

Greenville Country Club hosts historic contest on its Chanticleer Course.

**LURE OF CROQUET / 22**

A growing number of clubs turn to hoops and mallets.

## &gt; DEPARTMENTS

**PRESIDENT'S NOTE / 4**

Billy Casper and Clebe McClary: Golf unites, 46 years later.

**MILESTONES / 6**

News about people in Carolinas golf.

**LOCAL KNOWLEDGE / 7**

Three from CGA selected for Concession Cup; Sea Pines opens Plantation Golf Club; and other news from around the Carolinas Golf industry.

**HANDICAP / 11**

FAQs about handicapping: Making the game fair for everyone.

**STAY & PLAY / 25**

Destination: South Carolina's Lowcountry.

**SWING DOCTORS / 26**

Golfers: Make the most of natural attributes.

**LEADERBOARD / 27**

2014 CGA Championship events and results.

**FINAL WORD / 28**

Tips for junior golfers who want to play in college.

**ON THE COVER**

Back-to-back U.S. Opens will be played at Pinehurst Country Club. Cover picture, Hole No. 9 on Pinehurst No. 2. Photo courtesy of the resort.

# Carolinas Am Comes Home

# 18

Greenville Country Club adds another chapter to its distinguished history when it hosts **the 100th Carolinas Amateur July 10-13 on its Chanticleer Course**. It's especially fitting because its ancestor, Greenville's long-abandoned Sans Souci Club, was the site of the first Carolinas Amateur in 1910.

> Greenville CC, Chanticleer Course, Hole No. 14





Carolinan Golf Association

Executive Director / Jack Nance

Director of Course Rating and Handicapping / Michael Dann

Director of Championships and

Association Operations / Andy Priest

Director of Women's Golf and Member Services / Tiffany Priest

Director of Junior Golf / Jason Cox

Tournament Director / Rusty Harder

Associate Junior Golf Director / Chris Zeh

Director of Media and Marketing / Doug Hardisty

Agronomist / Dr. Leon T. Lucas

GHIN Service Managers / Scott Gerbereux, Thomas Johnson

Tournament Coordinator / Chris Nielsen

Tournament Coordinator / Rita Longest

Office Manager / Johnnie Gebhardt

Administrative Assistant / Judy Wimmer

#### CGA Office:

Phone: (910) 673-1000 / Fax: (910) 673-1001

carolinan@golf.org or admin@carolinan@golf.org

#### Mailing Address:

CGA, P.O. Box 319  
West End, NC 27376

#### Physical Address:

CGA, 135 N. Trade St.  
West End, NC 27376

#### Executive Committee Members

**G. Jackson Hughes Jr.**  
President  
Greenville, S.C.

**Lawrence C. Hicks**  
Vice President  
Greensboro  
Country Club

**Gene Spencer**  
Secretary  
The Windermere Club

**Daniel R. O'Connell**  
Treasurer  
The Creek Golf Club

**J. Richard Dosek**  
Past President  
Oak Valley Golf Club

**Charles E. Lynch Jr.**  
General Counsel  
High Point  
Country Club

**Randy Allen**  
Surf Golf and  
Beach Club

**Vicki DiSantis**  
Country Club of North  
Carolina

**Frank Golden**  
Quail Hollow  
Country Club

**Kelly Miller**  
Pine Needles Lodge  
and Golf Club

**Rion Moore**  
DeBordieu Club

**D. Gregory Norris**  
Pine Valley  
Country Club

**Rick Riddle**  
Cedarwood  
Country Club

**Todd Satterfield**  
Furman University  
Golf Club

**Mike Smith**  
Greenville (S.C.)  
Country Club

**Teddy Stockwell**  
Yeamans Hall Club

**Thomas J. Thorpe**  
Tanglewood Golf  
Association

**Walter Todd**  
Lakeside Country  
Club

facebook

#### Find us on Facebook:

Keyword Search — Carolinas Golf Association

*Carolinan Golf* is the official publication of the Carolinas Golf Association. Members receive *Carolinan Golf* as part of their membership. The text, opinions, and views expressed within this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions or the official policies of the Carolinas Golf Association, editor, and publisher. No part of this magazine is intended as an endorsement of any equipment, publication, videotape, website, golf course, or other entity. No part of this magazine may be reproduced for any reason without prior written approval from the CGA. We welcome all editorial submissions but assume no responsibility for the loss or damage of any unsolicited material. They will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Postmaster: Send address changes to:  
Carolinan Golf, P.O. Box 319, West End, NC 27376-0319.

Copyright © 2014, Carolinas Golf Association. Products and services mentioned in this publication may be trademarks of their respective companies.

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

### Golf Unites, 46 Years Later

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

➤ On Tuesday of Masters' week, Jay Haas told me an amazing story about his neighbor at the beach, Clebe McClary, and how "a golfer" saved his life. It is such a great story that I wanted to share it with all of you, as it tells so much about how golf brings us all together. It was captured in the following article by Jim McCabe for *Golfweek* and on *Golfweek's* website.

By Jim McCabe

AUGUSTA, Ga. – It took 46 years for Clebe McClary and Billy Casper to meet again. And it happened on a cool, breezy day at The Masters.

Now, Casper is a wonderful story on any day, a righteous man with a keen sense of human kindness. But on this particular day, his story was even more wonderful thanks to a reunion with McClary, who told everyone how Casper had saved his life.

It was 1968, the height of the Vietnam War, and Casper, in the prime of his golf career, was off to Japan to play some off-season tournaments. While he was there, he visited some wounded American troops who had been convalescing from Vietnam.

At a hospital in Japan, Casper saw a young man who had been wounded to a point where he could barely be recognized, and moved closer. A doctor told him not to bother, that Marine 1st Lt. Patrick Cleburne "Clebe" McClary "was ready to die," said Casper, but something made him approach the man, who had lost an arm and an eye.

"I'd given up," McClary recalled. "I wanted to die, and I'd have died right there if not for him."

Casper, who by 1968 was a two-time U.S. Open champion and one of the most prolific winners on the PGA Tour, sensed McClary's hopelessness.

"He put his arm around me, leaned in and said, 'God could use you today. Don't give up,'" McClary said. "Then he thanked me for what I had done for our country and said, 'God bless you.'"

Somehow, McClary found the resolve to fight. He survived, left that hospital in Japan, and settled in his native South Carolina, near Myrtle Beach. Years went by and he often wondered about the gentle golfer who had brought out the fight in him.

Then one day more than a year ago, McClary was down at his beach house talking with a neighbor, a guy named Jay Haas. McClary said that his life should have been ended in a hospital in Japan, if not for a golfer. With that, Haas' ear perked up. "I said, 'Who was the golfer?'" Haas said. "He said, 'Billy Casper. Do you know him?'"

Haas smiled, then made it his mission to reunite McClary and Casper. The Masters offered the perfect opportunity. When they were reunited, the Marine told the golfer that he had thought of him often. The golfer nodded, because he felt similarly.

McClary, a motivational speaker who has given talks in all 50 states, smiled, wiped away tears, and nodded his head. Pointing to Casper, he said, "My guardian angel."

*Reprinted and condensed with permission from Golfweek.*

# carolinasgolf

**Executive Publisher /** Michael Dann  
michael.dann@carolinasgolf.org

**Associate Publisher /** Edward J. Peabody  
epeabody@hour-media.com

**Managing Editor /** Kathy Gibbons  
kgibbons@hour-media.com

**Copy Editors /** Dorothy Hernandez,  
John S. Schultz

**Design Director /** Ken Cendrowski  
kcendrowski@hour-media.com

**Graphic Design Intern /** Dominika Faszczewski

**Production Director /** Jon Reynolds

**Senior Production Artist /** Robert Gorczyca

**Production Artist /** Stephanie Daniel

**Contributors /** Trent Bouts, Jason Cox, Michael Dann,  
Kevin Fales, Bob Gillespie, John Gessner,  
Patrick Kelley, Mark Matlock, Lee Pace

## Advertising Account Executives

Andy Walters  
[248] 691-1800, ext. 104 • awalters@hour-media.com

David Norman  
[804] 240-2249 • DNorman008@gmail.com

**Advertising Director /** Jason Hosko  
[248] 691-1800, ext. 126 • jhosko@hour-media.com

**Ad Coordinator /** Andrea Przybysz  
[248] 691-1800, ext. 133 • aprzybysz@hour-media.com

**HOUR**  
CUSTOM PUBLISHING

**CEO /** Stefan Wanczyk **President /** John Balardo

117 West Third St.  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
**Phone /** [248] 691-1800 **Fax /** [248] 691-4531

Address changes and subscription information  
should go to Carolinas Golf,  
P.O. Box 319, West End, N.C. 27376-0319  
or admin@carolinasgolf.org

## MILESTONES

### NEWS & NOTEWORTHY EVENTS AROUND THE CAROLINAS

➤ **The Carolinas PGA Section has announced new officers and board members.** The board will be led by President Chad Newton, head professional at Pinewood Country Club in Asheboro, N.C. Other leaders include Vice President John Marino, Old Chatham Golf Club in Durham, N.C.; and Secretary Paige Cribb, Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C. — the first female officer in the organization's history.

Newton has been an active member of the Carolinas PGA Section by serving on the board of directors since 2008. His previous positions include vice president and Area IV director. Newton has also represented the CPGA on the national level since 2012, serving on the National PGA Marketing and Member Benefits Committee and the National PGA Scholarship Committee. He was named 2013 Carolinas PGA Golf Professional of the Year.

General manager of Old Chatham Golf Club, Marino has served on the CPGA board for the past seven years, holding the offices of secretary and Area IX director. Marino was also on the board of directors for the First Tee of the Triangle and chaired the Golf Professional Advisory Board.

The director of student support for the Coastal Carolina University Professional Golf Management Program, Cribb was serving as the Area VII director before winning the closely contested election for CPGA secretary.

The following PGA professionals will also serve on the board:

**Larry George**, River Landing Country Club:  
tournament chairman

**Michael Casto**, Fort Jackson Club: honorary president

**Jay King**, Hendersonville Country Club: Area I director

**Tom Mason**, Par Tee Golf Center: Area II director

**Josh Wagaman**, Kiawah Island Golf Resort:  
Area III director

**Rocky Brooks**, Sedgefield Country Club: Area IV director

**Jens Klemsche**, Highland Country Club: Area V director

**Marc Lapointe**, Dana Rader Golf School: Area VI director

**Donald Clement**, The Reserve Club: Area VII director

**Robert Norton**, The Bald Head Island Club:  
Area VIII director

**Bob Byrnes**, Hope Valley Country Club: Area IX director

**Bryan Sullivan**, Kilmarlic Golf Club: Area X director  
**Jeff Nichols**, Carmel Country Club: North Carolinas  
at-large director

**Mike Harmon**, Secession Golf Club: South Carolina  
at-large director

**Rick Murphy**, Rick Murphy Golf Academy:  
District 10 director

## Three from CGA Selected for Concession Cup

CGA members Paul Simson of Raleigh, N.C., Todd White of Spartanburg, S.C., and Scott Harvey of Greensboro, N.C., were among those selected to represent the U.S. on an 18-man team in the inaugural Concession Cup held at The Concession Golf Club in Bradenton, Fla., May 1-3.

The Concession Cup is a biennial amateur team match-play competition featuring Mid-Am, Senior, and Super Senior competitors who represent the U.S. and Great Britain/Ireland.

The competition is conducted over three days through traditional team match-play formats of foursome, four-ball, and singles. Each team comprises 18 players separated into three categories: eight Mid-Am members (25 and older), eight Senior members (up to age 65), and two Super Senior members (65 and older).

The Concession Cup Executive Committee and captains selected team members based on current playing records as well as international competition experience. The committee aims to recognize players with accomplished competition resumes who embrace the camaraderie and goodwill the game embodies.

The U.S. beat Great Britain/Ireland, 21½-14½.



➤ Clockwise, from top, Paul Simson, Todd White, and Scott Harvey represented the U.S. in the inaugural Concession Cup.



➤ Ocean Course, Hole No. 1



➤ Pinehurst No. 2, Hole No. 5

### ➤ Top Courses in Carolinas Announced

Golf Course Rating Panels in North Carolina and South Carolina have named this year's top courses.

In South Carolina, the Ocean Course, host of the 1991 Ryder Cup, 2012 PGA Championship, and 2013 Carolinas Amateur, is again Best Golf Course. The crown jewel of Kiawah Island Golf Resort, the Ocean Course earned the honor in a tight race that featured the same top 10 courses, but in a different order, from 2012. The May River GC at Palmetto Bluff jumped two spots to second place, and Sage Valley GC in Graniteville remained third. Greenville CC's Chanticleer Course, host to the 2014 Carolinas Amateur, moved up to fourth. Harbour Town Golf Links at Hilton Head Island is fifth.

Rounding out the Top 10 are Yeamans Hall Club in Hanahan (sixth), Long Cove Club at Hilton Head Island (seventh), the Dunes Golf and Beach Club in Myrtle Beach (eighth), Secession GC in Beaufort (ninth), and Palmetto GC in Aiken (10th).

Pinehurst No. 2, host to this year's back-to-back U.S. Opens, remains No. 1 in North Carolina. Grandfather G&CC in Linville claims second place, with the CC of NC Dogwood Course jumping from fifth to third, replacing No. 3 Old North State Club in New London and Quail Hollow Club, host of the PGA Tour's Wells Fargo tournament; the latter two dropped one spot each. Pine Needles, Elk River Club, Charlotte CC, Pinehurst No. 8 Course, and Wade Hampton GC complete the Top 10.





### Sea Pines Resort Announces Opening of Plantation Golf Club

The new Plantation Golf Club at Sea Pines Resort's Heron Point by Pete Dye and Ocean courses has opened.

The amenities of the 23,000-square-foot clubhouse include the Golf Learning Center; an expansive pro shop; a new bar and grill; 2,000 square feet of event space; and locker rooms. Tim Cooke is the new director of golf instruction.

Sea Pines Resort is also building a 19,000-square-foot Harbour Town Golf Links Clubhouse on the site of the existing structure. The Lowcountry destination has also invested in multiple revitalization projects including its new Sea Pines Beach Club opening this summer. The two-story facility features a casual beachside



restaurant; oceanfront bar; express concessions; retail shop; rooftop bar terrace; and special event space connected by decks, terraces, and verandas.

Additional recent undertakings include the enhanced Champions Ballroom at the Harbour Town Conference Center; infinity edge pool and terrace at the Inn at Harbour Town; new fitness center; dredging of the Harbor Town Yacht Basin; and new cart paths as well as marsh restoration off the shore of the 18th hole of Harbour Town Golf Links.

### > 47th PGA Professional National Championship in Myrtle Beach

The Dunes Golf & Beach Club of Myrtle Beach, S.C., will be joined by the Grande Dunes Resort Club to co-host the 47th PGA Professional National Championship June 22-25. It marks the second visit to South Carolina by The PGA of America's showcase event for PGA Professionals.

The championship will bring a field of 312 to Myrtle Beach. The PGA Professional National Championship was last conducted in South Carolina in 2005 at The Ocean Course in Kiawah Island.

The site of the Senior Tour Championship from 1994-99, The Dunes also hosted the final stage of the 1973 PGA Tour Qualifying School yielding such golfers as Ben Crenshaw, Gary McCord, and Gil Morgan.



> Dunes Golf & Beach Club, Hole No. 18

### > USGA Presents Grainger Award

In celebration of individuals who have given back to the game of golf in extraordinary ways, the USGA recently presented annual Service Awards during a gala at the Pinehurst Resort & Country Club in Pinehurst, N.C.

The Ike Grainger Award recognizing volunteers who reach 25 years of



> J. Richard Dosek

service was among the honors presented. Grainger served on the USGA Executive Committee and rose to become president from 1954-55. He was also a member of Cape Fear Country Club in Wilmington, N.C.

This year 18 individuals earned the award for distinguished service to the USGA including Donnie Bowers of Wilmington, N.C.; J. Richard Dosek of Advance, N.C.; and Michael Hughes of Daniel Island, S.C.

### > Free Guide to Golf & Wine Getaways

A 24-page guide to the Yadkin Valley Golf & Wine Experience provides details on packages combining golf, lodging, and wine tastings in North Carolina wine country.

The packages include vouchers for wine tastings at several wineries. There are also lodging options in the packages, which are anchored by three courses: Cedarbrook Country Club in Elkin, Cross Creek Country Club in Mount Airy, and Olde Beau Golf and Country Club in Roaring Gap. Visit [www.YadkinValleyGolf.com](http://www.YadkinValleyGolf.com) or call (855) 398-4653.



## ➤ Bill Anderson Named Next CGA Agronomist

William (Bill) D. Anderson will become the Carolinas Golf Association agronomist in 2015.

Anderson becomes the third CGA agronomist since 1982, following turfgrass icons Dr. Carl Blake and Dr. Leon Lucas. After 16 years of service, Lucas will retire at the end of 2014.

A 40-year superintendent at Carmel Country Club in Charlotte, N.C., Anderson helped develop two 18-hole championship golf courses and planned and managed two major renovations. He holds a bachelor of science in Crop Science and Turfgrass Management from Michigan State University and was an Evans Scholar.

Anderson has maintained Class A status as a Golf Course Superintendents Association



of America member since 1978.

He served as president and

two-term board member for the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association, which presented him with its Distinguished Service Award.

Anderson is a member of the USGA Green Section Committee and is a Certified Golf Course Superintendent. He has served as president and VP of the North South Turfgrass Association and is a former board member of the Turfgrass Council of North Carolina.

"We are pleased to have someone with so much experience," says CGA President Jackson Hughes. "I'd also like to thank Leon Lucas for his many years of service to the CGA."

## ➤ USGA to Recognize Payne Stewart at Pinehurst

The family of the late Payne Stewart will accept the 2014 Bob Jones Award on his behalf during a public ceremony June 10 as part of festivities surrounding the 2014 U.S. Open in Pinehurst.

Presented annually since 1955, the Bob Jones Award is the USGA's highest honor. It recognizes an individual who demonstrates the spirit, personal character, and respect for the game exhibited by Jones, winner of nine USGA championships.

Stewart won 11 professional events, including three major championships, during an 18-year PGA Tour career that was cut short by a fatal airplane accident in 1999, four months after his second U.S. Open victory. Stewart's wife, Tracey, and their children, Chelsea and Aaron, will be presented with the USGA's Bob Jones Award at a public ceremony at 5 p.m. June 10 in Pinehurst.



➤ From left, USGA President Thomas J. O'Toole Jr. and USGA Executive Director Mike Davis.

## Exclusive discounts are just the beginning.



### Doesn't it feel great to belong?

You wouldn't be involved with the Carolinas Golf Association if you weren't passionate about being part of a group that shares your values. We understand that feeling, because we treat customers like members. It's one of the things that makes us a different kind of insurance company.

**Call 866-238-1426 today for your exclusive Carolinas Golf Association members discount!**



**Nationwide Insurance**



Nationwide may make a financial contribution to this organization in return for the opportunity to market products and services to its members or customers. Products Underwritten by Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Affiliated Companies. Home Office: Columbus, OH 43215. Subject to underwriting guidelines, review, and approval. Products and discounts not available to all persons in all states. Nationwide, Nationwide Insurance and the Nationwide framemark are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. © 2014 Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. AFO-0808AO (01/14)

## Play 3 World-Class Courses: Jones, Hills & Fazio

### STAY & PLAY PACKAGE

- Three nights & three rounds of golf
  - Free tennis, resort discounts & more!
- Call 877-875-3114 for more details**

### GROUP RYDER CUP PACKAGE

- Three nights & three rounds of golf
  - FREE REPLAYS based on availability
  - Includes team shirts & daily breakfast
- Call 866-306-4330 for details**  
(For groups of 12 or more players)



**PALMETTO DUNES™**  
OCEANFRONT RESORT

HILTON HEAD ISLAND

Visit: [www.PalmettoDunes.com](http://www.PalmettoDunes.com)



## Etc Etc Etc Etc.

➤ **Carolinas golf courses are among *Golf-week's* top 100 list of Best Classic and Modern Courses**, released earlier this year. In the Modern category are the following: Wade



➤ Kiawah Island, Ocean Course

Hampton Club, Cashiers, N.C. [14]; the Ocean Course, Kiawah Island, S.C., [17]; Harbour Town Golf Links, Hilton Head Island, S.C. [42]; Mountaintop Golf & Lake Club, Cashiers, N.C. [49]; Quail Hollow Club, Charlotte, N.C. [59]; Long Cove Club, Hilton Head Island, S.C. [61]; Spring Island/Old Tabby Links, Okatie, S.C. [67]; Secession Golf Club, Gibbes Island, S.C. [81]; Kiawah (Cassique), Kiawah Island, S.C. [83]; Dormie Club, West End, N.C. [84]; and Sage Valley Golf Club, Graniteville, S.C. [94]. Classics include: Pinehurst Resort No. 2, Pinehurst, N.C. [13]; Old Town Club, Winston-Salem, N.C. [29]; Yeamans Hall Club, Charleston, S.C. [41]; Charlotte Country Club, Charlotte, N.C. [72]; Mid Pines Club (NR) Southern Pines, N.C. [77]; and Pine Needles Country Club, Southern Pines, N.C. [85].

➤ **The USGA has selected past USGA President Jim Hyler** of Raleigh, N.C., to serve as one of the USA captains for the 2014 World Amateur Team Championships. Women will play Sept. 3-6 and men Sept. 10-13 in Karuizawa, Japan. Hyler joined the USGA Executive Committee in 2004



➤ Jim Hyler

and served as USGA president in 2010-11. He was introduced to the USGA when he served as chairman of the President's Council for the 1999 U.S. Open Championship at Pinehurst Resort & Country Club, a position he held again during the 2005 championship in Pinehurst, N.C. Hyler is a managing director at Investors Management Corporation in Raleigh, N.C., and is a retired vice chairman and chief operating officer of First Citizens Bank. Hyler and his wife, Natalie, reside in Raleigh. USGA Women's Committee Chairman Martha Lang will serve as the other captain.

➤ **The Club Managers Association of America** has named 100 new Certified Club Managers. The CCM designation indicates that a club management professional has completed a rigorous course of study and training and shows a dedication to proficiency and expertise in club management. Among the new managers are Jeff Earley, Chapel Hill Country Club, Chapel Hill, N.C.; Eric French, Blowing Rock Country Club, Blowing Rock, N.C.; and Thomas Sullivan, Carmel Country Club, Charlotte, N.C.

➤ T. Eliot Press has released Richard Mandell's new book, ***The Legendary Evolution of Pinehurst, Home of American Golf***. It's a redesigned and updated edition of Mandell's 2007 award-winning book on the history of Sandhills golf, *Pinehurst, Home of American Golf*, which is no longer in print and difficult to find. *The*

*Legendary Evolution of Pinehurst, Home of American Golf* has 45 new pages and numerous updates, including a new chapter chronicling restorations of Pinehurst No. 2 and Mid Pines, and the evolution of The Dormie Club. There are 112 new images as well as an introduction from two-time Masters Champion Ben Crenshaw. The book

retails for \$75 and is available by visiting the website, [teliotpress.com](http://teliotpress.com).

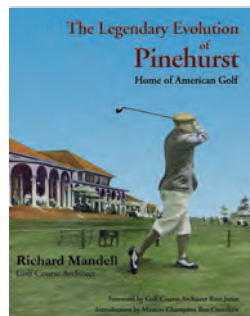
➤ **The USGA has approved the use of distance-measuring devices** in all USGA amateur championships and their respective qualifying events, beginning this year. The announcement was made by the Championship Committee of the USGA through its independent decision-making process scheduled during the association's annual meeting in Pinehurst, N.C., and reflects a joint decision with The R&A, which together with the USGA governs the game worldwide. The use of distance-measuring devices has been covered by an optional Local Rule, which has been available under the Rules of Golf since 2006 (see Note to Rule 14-3 of the Rules of Golf). The USGA Championship Committee's vote adopts this optional Condition for all USGA amateur championships in 2014. This Local Rule will be introduced for only the

USGA's amateur events. It will not apply to the U.S. Open, U.S. Women's Open, and U.S. Senior Open championships or their respective qualifying events.

➤ **Furman University's golf program** will live on after all. The Greenville, S.C., school had announced that it would disband the men's golf team after the

completion of this spring season. That would have meant the end of an athletic program that is more than 80 years old and has won 13 Southern Conference titles over that time. The board of trustees cited lack of publicity and dwindling attendance as reasons for making the cutbacks. However, outcry and an outpouring of financial support from alumni and the golf community caused the college to reverse its decision and keep the program operating.

➤ **Myrtle Beach has been named Best Golf Destination** in a 10 Best Readers' Choice contest sponsored by *USA Today*. The award was decided by an online vote among readers of *10 Best* and *USA Today*. Kiawah, Sea Pines, Pinehurst, and Naples are the other destinations to finish in the top five. Myrtle Beach has more than 50 four-star golf courses and 13 layouts that have been ranked among America's top 100 public courses.





# FAQ Handicapping



Women's				Ratings		Slope	
White				74.0		137	
Red/White				71.2		126	
Red				69.5		124	
16	17	18	In	Tot	Hcp	Net	
200	438	545	3497	6968			
184	391	524	3211	6448			
155	335	461	2896	5846			
14	4	10					
3	4	6	40	76			
3	4	5	36	72			
3	4	6	40	79			
4	4	6	43	83			
4	4	6	43	83			
5	3	4	36	72			

## MAKING THE GAME FAIR FOR EVERYONE

/ written by MICHAEL DANN

Ever wondered about these situations? **How can I possibly have the same course handicap at the blue and the white tees at my course? It's not fair that the tournament scores from last summer can affect my handicap this year! Why do I have to give up shots when playing at a shorter set of tees?**

To help answer some of these questions, you have to remember two things:

1. Par (as a summary) has nearly nothing to do with the USGA Handicap System.
2. Almost every number created relating to your handicap compares you with a scratch golfer.

### Tournament Scores

The USGA says your Handicap Index is supposed to reflect “How good of a golfer can you be?” Or “What is your potential as a golfer?”

The USGA determines this by exposing your scores to two processes.

First, the USGA looks at the 10 best of your last 20 scores to determine a number. Math is involved. In one step, your scores are converted to handicap differentials.

Identified in your score history as “Diff,” it’s an expression of how good your scores are relative to a scratch golfer. It also removes all tee bias. If you had a handicap differential of 20.2 yesterday, then you were 20.2 shots worse than a scratch golfer in that round.

This process is described in Section 10-2 of the USGA handicap manual, so we will refer to it as your Section 10-2 number. It relates to your better half of all scores.

Second, your most recent scores are compared to your tournament scores shot within the last year. This process, in Section 10-3 of

the same book, takes your two best tournament handicap differentials and compares them with the number determined by Section 10-3. If the comparison reaches a threshold, then more comparative math kicks in to determine a different Handicap Index. The letter “R” is attached to your index if Section 10-3’s formula determines your current Handicap Index.

Every golfer’s scores go through both of these processes at each revision.

### Why Have Two Processes?

Some people naturally play better in tournaments. The USGA feels that Section 10-3 can better determine the right “level of potential” for some golfers.

Tournament scores cannot be deleted from your record. A few clubs have tried to circumvent the system in this way; the USGA does not take such attempts lightly. A golfer’s Handicap Index can be withdrawn. A club’s USGA licensing agreement can be removed, taking away the USGA Handicap Index of EVERY golfer at the club.

### Same Course Handicap

Par is not relevant to the Handicap System. If par is 72 at your home course, the system does not care. If you play exactly to your course handicap at a specific set of tees, your net score will be equal to the course rating, not par.

If the course rating is 71.2 at your course’s blue tees, that’s the net score you will shoot when you play to your handicap. In this case, the USGA refers to your gross score as your target score and your net score goal as the course rating. It’s also the score a scratch golfer should shoot at those same tees. If the course rating is 67.2 at your course’s gold tees, 67 is your net score goal at these tees.

Look at your target score at these tees. Let’s say your course handicap is 7 at both tees. At the blue tees, you will shoot  $(71 + 7)$  78. At the gold tees, you will shoot  $(67 + 7)$  74.

While your course handicap is the same at both sets of tees, your target scores differ by four strokes, 78 vs. 74. Again, your course handicap is established to let you play fairly against a scratch golfer. Par is not involved.

### Playing an Event at Different Tees

Using the above logic, let’s apply it to a certain tournament scenario. You are the only player in a tournament who is playing the longer blue tees; all others are playing from the gold tees.

If you play exactly to your blue-tee course handicap, you will shoot net 71, your goal at the blue tees. The others play the gold tees and — oddly enough — also play exactly to their respective gold-tee course handicaps. They all shoot net 67.

You finish dead last — four shots behind everyone else. Why? Because your net-score goal at the blue tees is different from their net-score goals.

To make this tournament fair for you (at the longer tees), you must add four additional strokes to your blue-tee course handicap. This way, you also will have a goal of net 67. The USGA says this step is required to make any game fair for anyone when playing at different tees.

➤ **Michael Dann** is Carolinas Golf Association Director of Course Rating and Handicapping.





# Volunteers Have It

**PINEHURST'S RESERVOIR  
OF WORKERS HELPED LAND  
U.S. OPENS**

/ written by **LEE PACE**

“We call the volunteers the backbone of the championships’ success. The sheer power and support they give us wherever we go is immense. They are ready to do anything and everything to help the championship run.”

—Matti Dubberstein,  
assistant manager for the USGA, U.S. Open office

A small city will rise up in the Sandhills around Pinehurst Country Club for two weeks in June, complete with a mall, emergency care facilities, air-conditioned lounges, and full-service kitchens.

While 312 men and women golfers vie for the \$11.25 million combined purse over two weeks of the 2014 U.S. Open and U.S. Women’s Open, the backbone of the operation will be some 6,200 individuals donating their time and energy.

Without those volunteers, there would be no U.S. Open.

“We could certainly not run the championships without them,” says Matti Dubberstein, assistant manager for the USGA in its U.S. Open office. “We call the volunteers the backbone of the championships’ success. The sheer power and support they give us wherever we go is immense. They are ready to do anything and everything to help the championship run.” (See the letter from USGA’s Mike Davis on inside back cover.)





Volunteers wear a myriad of hats during a golf tournament. They hold the “Quiet Please” signs and monitor the crosswalks. They carry the signs showing a player’s score. They drive evacuation vans, scan tickets at the entry gates, and help handicapped spectators move around the premises.

#### **All Hands on Deck**

There are 22 committees of volunteers for a U.S. Open. A typical U.S. Open requires about 5,000 volunteers, while a Women’s Open utilizes some 2,000 workers. Of the 6,200 committed for the two weeks in Pinehurst, more than 4,600 will work shifts over both weeks. Volunteers will come from all 50 states and from 12 nations to lend a hand.

“Our number one job is to take care of the people, to give them maximum service and make sure they are well cared for,” says Pinehurst’s Ron Crow, a retired textile executive who began volunteering at the

Greater Greensboro Open in 1962 and has been volunteering at golf tournaments since. “One of the things we emphasize is that our volunteers are ambassadors for this week. People will leave the golf tournament and often form an impression about our community based on the way they are treated.

“We want every visitor to feel welcome and enjoy their day at the golf course.”

Crow is one of five vice chairs of the major volunteer categories the USGA establishes in running a major championship: marshals, scoring, spectator services, hospitality services, and on-course operations. He has been involved in both Opens at Pinehurst in 1999 and 2005 as well as the Women’s Opens at Pine Needles in 1996, 2001, and 2007. Crow and other regular volunteers in Pinehurst took it as a compliment that the USGA chose Pinehurst to venture out with its unprecedented back-to-back Opens, with the club and town’s deep volunteer reservoir





being key factors in the decision.

"There was never any question in my mind whether we could support two Opens," Crow says.

Adds Kathy Farren, another longtime volunteer and a vice chair for 2014, "For the USGA to come back in 2005, just six years after the Open in '99, was an anomaly. For them to say they liked the experience and trusted us was quite a compliment. Now this is every bit as much a compliment, that we can handle this. We're just as proud about that."

Kathy Farren, who is the wife of Pinehurst director of grounds and golf course management, Bob Farren, began volunteering as a walking scorer at the Tour Championships in 1991-92 and worked the PGA of America's Club Pro Championships in 1996-97 and the 1996 Women's Open. By the 1999 U.S. Open, she had risen to committee chair of the walking scorers.

"To me, the walking scorer is the best job

and the most sought after," she says. "You're inside the ropes and you see every shot in your group. You might have three guys you've never heard of before, but by the 18th hole you're their champion, you're pulling for them to win the Open. And sometimes you get lucky and you get a big name."

Steve Coman joined the Country Club of North Carolina in the early 1970s and bought a home that he used for vacation prior to his retirement in 1999. Since then, he's moved full time to CCNC and in 2010 was general chairman of the U.S. Girls' Junior Championship, held on the Dogwood Course at the club. That stoked his fire to be on the inside of golf administration. Now he's another vice chair for the 2014 events.

"I enjoyed working on the girls event," he says. "It was eye-opening to see the inner workings of a national golf championship. The USGA has it all down to a science. They have systems in place from having done this

so many years. It's all very efficient, and they leave no stones unturned."

### Volunteer Time, Watch Golf

Volunteers at Pinehurst were given four options for time commitments through one or both weeks. At a typical Open, volunteers are asked to work four shifts of four to six hours each. Many of this year's volunteers have signed up to work five shifts — three the first week and two the second week.

Each volunteer pays \$175 for a package that includes two shirts, two hats, a jacket, meals on the days of assignment, and an admission badge that allows them to watch golf when off-duty.

"Some people ask somewhat incredulously, 'You have to pay to volunteer?'" Crow says. "Well, if you break it down, it's a good deal. A ticket would cost you over \$300. If you signed up to work six days, you can watch golf the other days."



Don Padgett II, president and COO of Pinehurst Inc., came to the village in 2004 after a long career at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio. The volunteer corps there

was considered among the best on the PGA Tour for its contributions to Firestone's tour stop, known now as the Bridgestone Invitational. Pinehurst volunteers' energy and efficiency at the 2005 Open was remarkable, says Padgett, who has a high bar of reference. "Akron for many years was the place the tour sent new events to show them how things should be done," Padgett says. "The

volunteer group ran the whole event. They were very talented, were third-generation volunteers, and had a great culture. But the '05 Open at Pinehurst was far and away the best I'd ever seen.

"Much of it had to do with the attitude toward the patrons. They walked away with a good feeling. Our volunteers greeted them with a warm welcome and left them with a fond farewell."

The expectation is that the 2014 volunteer corps will be equally efficient, energetic, and welcoming.

> **Lee Pace** is a frequent contributor to *Carolinas Golf* magazine.

Photograph courtesy of USGA

**Finally,  
our  
Walk-In  
Tub  
with a  
Heated  
Seat!**

**NOW enjoy  
warm  
comfort  
from start  
to finish!**



Safe Step Tubs have received the Ease-of-Use Commendation from the Arthritis Foundation



For more information and for our Senior Discounts, Call now toll free

**1-800-970-3734**

Financing available with approved credit.



**NEW  
PRODUCT**

The best walk-in tub just got better with breakthrough technology! **Introducing the all new Safe Step Walk-In Tub featuring heated seating and two new foot massaging jets.**

The first walk-in tub to offer heated seating also includes the following standard features:

- ✓ 10 hydro-jets and 16 air bubble streams to help you relax and soothe your aching joints and muscles
- ✓ Safety features including the industry's leading low step-in with a 17-inch high non-slip seat
- ✓ Made in the USA, with a lifetime warranty

You'll agree - there just isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub on the market.

Call today and receive a **FREE heated seat and**

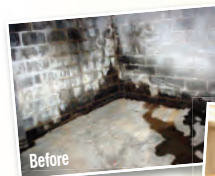
**\$750 OFF**

**when you mention this ad  
FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY**



**ALL THINGS BASEMENTY!**

**Basement Waterproofing  
Basement Finishing  
Basement Structural Repairs  
Basement Humidity  
& Mold Control  
...and Nasty Crawl Spaces too!**



**FREE!  
ESTIMATES!**



**Basement  
Systems Inc.**

The Basement & Crawl Space Specialists®

**800-305-0679**



# Centennial CGA Amateur

GREENVILLE CC HOSTS HISTORIC CHAMPIONSHIP ON CHANTICLEER COURSE



» Carolinas Amateur 1910

## » Quick Facts about Chanticleer

**Opened:** September 1970  
**Architect:** Robert Trent Jones Sr.  
**Renovated:** 2002, Rees Jones  
**Course Record:** 60 by PGA Tour veteran and GCC member Charles Warren in 2011

Greenville Country Club in South Carolina adds another chapter to its distinguished history, hosting the 100th Carolinas Amateur July 10-13 on its Chanticleer Course, one of two club courses. It's especially fitting because its ancestor, Greenville's long-abandoned Sans Souci Club, was the site of the first Carolinas Amateur in 1910.

"It means everything to the club to stage the Centennial Amateur," says Jackson Hughes Jr., CGA president and a Greenville member since 2000. "We're hoping to get as many past champions as we can to be there. Everyone is super excited, and we all want to make it special."

## Returning to Roots

Andy Priest, CGA director of championships and association operations, says Chanticleer was selected, among other factors, because the association wanted to return to the city that hosted the first CGA championship. Sentiment aside, with demanding tee shots, precise approaches, undulating greens, and water that comes in play on 14 holes, Chanticleer is a challenge for everyone.

*(continued on page 20)*

» Hole No. 12



# Comes Home

/ written by MARK MATLOCK and BOB GILLESPIE

## Rave Reviews from the Start

'Best Rise to the Top' at Chanticleer

/ by BOB GILLESPIE

Heyward Sullivan knows something about the history of the Carolinas Amateur. After all, the 77-year-old Greenville, S.C., resident helped make some of that history.

In 1972, the Carolinas Amateur was played at Greenville Country Club's Chanticleer Course, then a two-year-old Robert Trent Jones Sr. design hosting its first Carolinas Golf Association (CGA) championship. Sullivan was looking forward to competing on his home course, even if "at that point, I hadn't been playing a lot of golf, being in the midst of my business career ... I was very pleased the way I was able to get to the final."

Later a CGA president and board member, Sullivan lost to champion David Canipe, 6 and 4. But Sullivan's course was the real winner.



"Chanticleer got rave reviews when it opened," says Sullivan, living near Chanticleer's par-5 17th hole for 39 years. "[Former Masters Champion] Gene Sarazen played the opening day, and at a banquet that night — Robert Trent Jones was there — Sarazen was asked to get up and speak.

"He said, 'I want to congratulate Mr. Jones, because (Chanticleer) is going to be up there with Pinehurst No. 2 and Augusta National.' That got us off to a good start."

### 100-Year Evolution

Chanticleer's ancestor is Greenville's long-abandoned Sans Souci Club, one of the CGA's seven original clubs when the organization was founded in October 1909. The first championship was played at Sans Souci June 16-18, 1910, with Columbia's Berrien Brooks winning 2 and 1 over Charlotte's Fred Laxton.

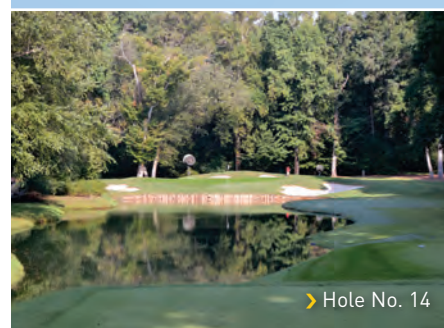
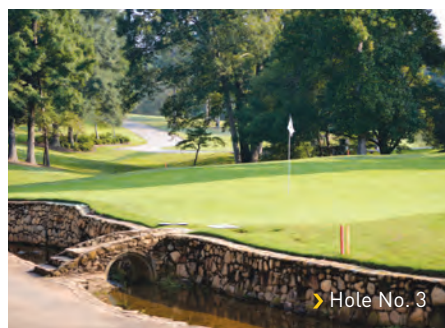
In 1923, Greenville Country Club moved across town to its current Riverside Course site and hosted the Carolinas Am in 1925. Wilmington's Roland Hancock defeated Richard Tufts, one of the CGA's 20th-century fathers, 4 and 2. In 1937, Lewis Johnson Jr. edged fellow Charlestonian and South Carolina legend Frank Ford Sr., 2 and 1.

Thirty-five years passed until the Amateur's next visit to Greenville, showing that the course had ceased to be championship caliber, Sullivan says. That's why in 1966, the club brought Jones in to look at making it into a worthy site.

*(continued on page 21)*

➤ Hole No. 8





(continued from page 18)

A year ago, the Carolinas Am was won by University of North Carolina-Greensboro freshman Carter Jenkins at Kiawah Island's Ocean Course, site of the 1991 Ryder Cup and 2012 PGA Championship. If the Ocean Course represented modern, length-challenging golf, Chanticleer with its 6,846-yard, par-72 layout is a return to the CGA's roots.

"It's beautiful aesthetically, and I look at it as a ball-striker's course," says Jack Nance, CGA executive director. "The approach shots are so vital, and with the challenging undulations on the greens, it's important to hit the correct part of each green."

Chanticleer was in the three-course rotation in 2012 and 2013 for *Web.com's* BMW Charity Pro-Am. The first year the course played to an average of 72.5. In the second year, with the course set up easier for the pro-amateur partners, the stroke average was 70.8.

Chanticleer also is part of the CGA championship rotation, which each decade brings the CGA Amateur to each of seven clubs.

"On this course, you have to hit every club in your bag, and you have to shape it off the tee," says 2011 FedEx Cup champion Bill Haas, who lives near Chanticleer's sixth green and holds PGA Tour victories at three difficult courses: East Lake, Riviera, and Congressional.

"Your game gets challenged on those courses," he says. "And I think your short game is challenged here."

### A 'Must Play'

Chanticleer has been the site of several CGA and other events through the years. In 2011, it began hosting the Chanticleer National Senior Invitational (CNSI), endorsed by the Society of Seniors. The society plays a full schedule of events; in three years, the CNSI has become a "must play" for top senior amateurs.

Chanticleer comes at you from the start:

the 446-yard, par-4 first is among the most difficult holes. The course winds through a neighborhood, creating out of bounds on every hole. The majority of the water comes in the form of a creek that runs throughout the layout and like an unseen snake, it can bite.

Heyward Sullivan, a GCC member who advanced to the U.S. Senior Amateur final in 1996 and a former CGA president, says accuracy is paramount.

"I believe the ability to control and shape shots to be the most critical factor," Sullivan says. "For long hitters particularly, being able to shape tee shots to counter sloping or bending fairways will be essential to scoring well."

Chanticleer head professional Eric Pederson says its toughest holes are 5, 8, and 12.

"Five, because the drive has to be precise, and the green has two spines," Pederson says. "Eight, because of water hazards and the green; and 12, because it's a tough driving hole, and the putting surface isn't visible from the fairway."

For those reasons and more, Carolinas' best will have their hands full. Two-time Amateurs champ Paul Simson always is a threat, as are defending champion Jenkins, Lee Palms,

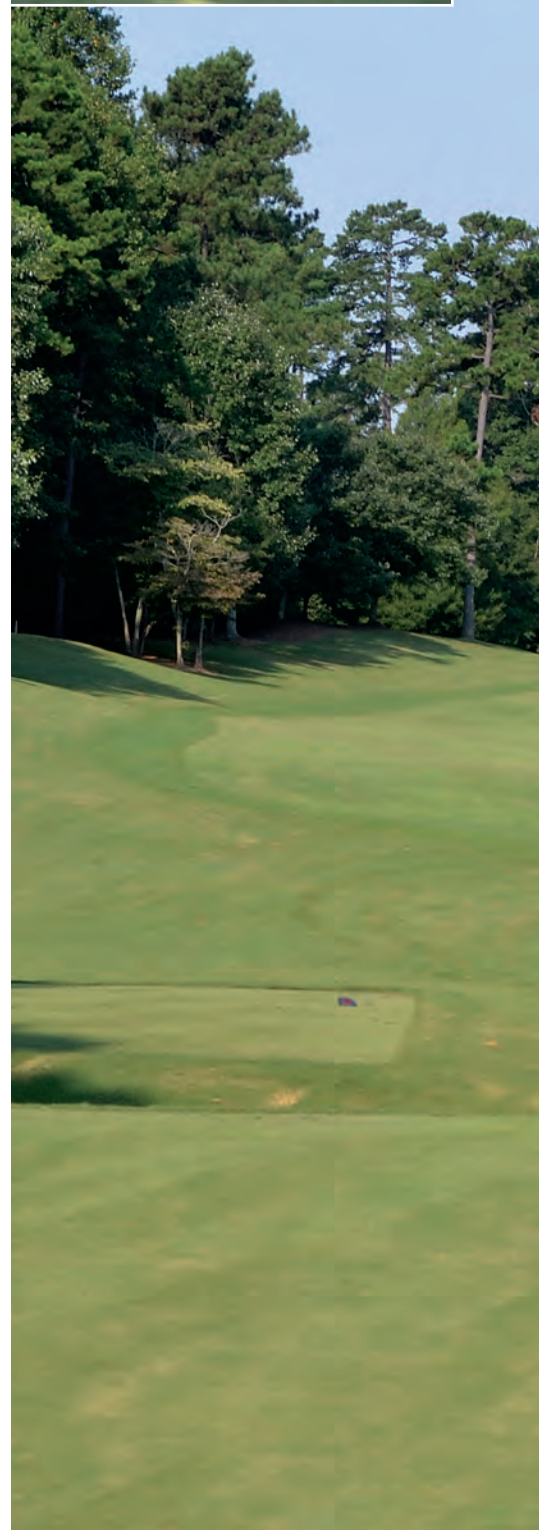


➤ Eric Pederson

and 2011 champ Scott Harvey. Nance says it could be good karma if Harvey wins here.

"His dad (legendary amateur golfer Bill Harvey, who died last December) won three Carolinas Amateurs, and his first was in 1964 — the 50th anniversary," Nance says. "What would be more fitting than for Scott to win the 100th?"

➤ Freelancers **Bob Gillespie** and **Mark Matlock** write from South Carolina, where Matlock is also a GCC historian.





➤ Hole No. 5

(continued from page 19)

"Green Valley Country Club had opened across town and was getting the pick of new members," Sullivan says. "The (now-named) Riverside was not up to modern standards, so we decided to go for the very best, which at the time was Robert Trent Jones."

But Jones demurred, saying he couldn't do it with the existing land. The architect told members, then numbering 615, if they would find another site and add 200 members, the dues would pay for a new golf course.

"So we did that, showed him seven sites and he picked this one," Sullivan says, noting that the location Jones selected was just 10 minutes from the existing course.

Riverside was then renamed for nearby Riverside Drive, while Chanticleer was the name of a development by R.E. "Red" Hughes. The Hughes family provided the land.

Brief dissent came from Clemson University alumni among the membership. One fumed, "I'll be damned if we name the golf course after a Gamecock." But Sullivan says Frank Wrenn defused that by saying that in Geoffrey Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*, the Chanticleer was a white rooster, not South Carolina Gamecocks red.

"I took English literature (in college), so I went home, got out *Canterbury Tales*, and nowhere did it say the rooster was white," Sullivan chuckles.

### One of State's Finest

Completed in 1970, Chanticleer went on to gain stature as one of South Carolina's finest. *Golf Digest* has ranked it among America's Top 100 Courses since 1979.

Even so, in 2002, Rees Jones, architect son of Robert Trent Jones Sr., oversaw a renovation that laser-leveled tee boxes, replaced the fairways bermudagrass with a hardier hybrid, rebuilt all of the greens, and added or repositioned bunkers. The changes were mostly subtle — but significant.

"(Rees Jones) didn't change the sizes (of the greens) and the contours are fairly close, but players had to relearn them since one of the course's defenses is the greens contours," Matlock says.

Bunkers were added at the short par-4 12th hole, also protected by a tiny but dangerous creek. Several fairways, among them Numbers 8 and 18, were raised for drainage. Jones returned to make minor tweaks in 2008-09, most notably adding two fairway bunkers at the 18th hole.

"You could rip a tee shot before, but now you have to shape it more," Matlock says. "It's a lot more challenging now."

Future PGA Tour star Bill Haas won the 2003 S.C. Amateur at Chanticleer, shooting eight-under and "just picking his way around the course," says CGA President Jackson Hughes Jr. "I think the best rise to the top here."





# The Lure of Croquet

CLUBS TURN TO HOOPS AND MALLETS TO RETAIN, ATTRACT MEMBERS

/ written by TRENT BOUTS

Croquet exudes an English air of tea and crumpets gentility. • Yet **the sport of hoops and mallets is emerging as an ally in the future of a very American institution** that is the golf and country club.



A growing band of clubs in the mountains of western North Carolina are finding that croquet prolongs the shelf life of aging members and even attracts new ones.

For facilities emerging from a recession that crippled — and in hundreds of cases, closed — courses across the country, that is a bright spot on the horizon. Lynn Delgado, membership services manager at Highlands Falls Country Club in Highlands, says croquet has been responsible for a “significant uptick in club revenue” since its introduction in 2012.

How significant? Well, consider that today Highlands Falls boasts about 250 croquet members, making it one of the largest clubs in the country in just two years. Delgado’s husband, Fred Gehrisch, is the club’s certified golf course superintendent. He oversaw

construction of a full-size lawn and pavilion. It was his suggestion to try croquet after seeing the lawn at nearby Highlands Country Club abuzz with activity even during the worst of the recession.

“Honestly, how this thing has snowballed has caught a lot of us off guard,” Gehrisch says. “We thought that if we could save one or two members a year from leaving, it would pay for its own upkeep. But now we have people joining the club because of the croquet.”

Some, he says, “would never in a million years have thought of playing golf.” But now some are, emboldened by new friendships with club members who guide them onto the golf course.

“It’s not the backyard croquet we knew years ago,” says Delgado. “It is a very challenging and fun sport. It’s not going to be something that is the be-all and end-all to save

a dying club. But it is an avenue for retaining members and gaining some new ones.”

## ‘Hotbed’ of Croquet

That lure has caught on so swiftly that Gene Young, a past president of the United States Croquet Association, describes the mountains of western North Carolina as a “hotbed” of the game. The USCA’s website lists about a dozen clubs in the area, the vast majority of which opened within the past five years.

“Croquet is gender neutral; it’s age neutral,” Young says. “You can have a glass of wine with your friends and socialize and laugh while you play. It becomes addictive.”

Most of the croquet played in the mountains — and indeed, across America — is known as “golf croquet,” which Young says can be taught in “five minutes.” It is easier to learn than the more formal “association



*“We thought that if we could save one or two members a year from leaving, it would pay for its own upkeep. But now we have people joining the club because of the croquet.”*

—Fred Gehrisch, Highlands Falls Country Club

croquet,” the form employed in most international competition.

Delgado describes the social aspect of the sport as a huge draw — doubly so for members who find 18 holes of golf increasingly taxing in terms of time and physical effort.

“They all get the same look on their face and snicker, ‘This is not for me,’ ” she says of first-timers. “But once you get them playing, that all changes. Suddenly all you hear is, ‘I had no idea!’ ”

Once hooked, croquet players invest in

the whites that are required clothing at most clubs, along with equipment. Mallets can run anywhere from \$125 each to as high as \$800 for a custom-made item that might include a titanium shaft. Golf shops are broadening their inventory to capitalize on the interest.

### Space a Factor

A significant factor in croquet’s recent emergence in the mountains is its scale. Gehrisch says anywhere from a third- to a half-acre is enough to build a facility. He

### » SAMPLING OF NC CLUBS OFFERING CROQUET

Burlingame Country Club, Sapphire  
 The Country Club of Sapphire Valley, Sapphire  
 Cullasaja Club, Highlands  
 Etowah Valley Golf Club & Lodge, Etowah  
 Grandfather Golf & Country Club, Linville  
 Highlands Falls Country Club, Highlands  
 Highlands Country Club, Highlands  
 Lake Toxaway Country Club, Lake Toxaway  
 Linville Golf Club, Linville  
 Linville Ridge Country Club, Linville  
 Trillium Links and Lake Club, Cashiers  
 Wildcat Cliffs Country Club, Highlands





*“The interest croquet has generated has been very positive — amazing, really. For members who are aging out of golf or who, for health reasons, can’t play as much anymore, it’s a wonderful alternative.”*

—Lynn Delgado, Highlands Falls Country Club



converted part of a teeing ground and rough alongside a practice area for the lawn at Highlands Falls. Finding that kind of room should be even easier on golf courses with flatter terrain. Similarly, construction costs of about \$50,000 are hardly prohibitive and maintenance parallels that of a putting green.

The return on that investment goes beyond new and retained memberships. Delgado says croquet also drives food and beverage revenue at the clubhouse.

“We see a lot of members who have been down there (at the croquet facility) playing coming up for lunch or dinner afterwards,” she says. “The interest croquet has generated

has been very positive — amazing, really. For members who are aging out of golf or who, for health reasons, can’t play as much anymore, it’s a wonderful alternative.”

Croquet is even exerting its appeal on younger golfers. Gehrisch himself is a case in point. Even though he suggested building the facility, he was, as Delgado says, “one of the naysayers” when it came to picking up a mallet. Today, he is a strong advocate of the game he describes as “a combination of golf, billiards, and chess.”

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





Links at Stono Ferry, Hole No. 13



Charleston Harbor



Wild Dunes Links, Hole No. 18

# Scenic Lowcountry

CHARLESTON AREA PROVIDES PERFECT  
BACKDROP FOR A GOLF VACATION / written by REID NELSON

**"Sand, sun, history, good food, and friendly people"** have helped Charleston rank No. 1 in *Condé Nast Traveler's* list of the Top 10 Cities in the United States for the past three years.

But lately, its cobblestone streets, horse-drawn carriages, centuries-old architecture, and more outstanding restaurants than one could ever visit have competition: golf.

As host of the 2012 PGA Championship and the 2013 U.S. Women's Amateur, Charleston has frequently been at the center of golf's spotlight. And why not? Among more than two dozen "firsts" the port city named for a king can boast — first public library, first public museum, first prescription drugstore, first municipal college, first theater, and so on — Charleston gave America its first golf club. The Golf Club of South Carolina was founded Sept. 29, 1786, by Scottish merchants.

Today, the area is home to more than 30 golf courses, two-thirds of which are available to the traveling golfer. But don't expect to pull up to any bag drops in a horse-drawn carriage. Golf has long since left the tiny peninsula in favor of scenic Lowcountry expanses often set against one of the many waterways that define the area.

In fact, those same waterways often provide, if not always the most convenient, certainly the most romantic, route to several of the area's best golf courses. Kiawah Island Golf Resort, which hosted the recent PGA championship and the 1991 Ryder Cup Matches at its famed Ocean Course, springs to mind. Both Kiawah, with its five resort courses, and Seabrook Island, with two courses of its own, are within easy reach of Bohicket Marina.

But Wild Dunes Resort offers its own namesake marina located directly on the Intercoastal Waterway, making it easy for boating golfers to tie up and tee off. Wild Dunes boasts 36 Tom Fazio-designed holes including the oceanfront Links Course, Fazio's first solo design to earn a place in the world's top 100 rankings.

And of course, there is Patriots Point Golf Links. It's carved from a windswept protrusion into Charleston Harbor that is also home to the WWII aircraft carrier *Yorktown*, the centerpiece

of Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum and No. 1 tourist attraction in the state.

Find military history at The Links at Stono Ferry. With three holes set hard against the ICW south of Charleston, it was the site of a bloody Revolutionary War battle that claimed more than 300 lives. Earthen redoubts still frame the par-4 12th hole.

Several charter services provide water transportation that turns a day of golf into a sort of surf-and-turf adventure. Among them are Charleston Water Taxi ([charlestonwatertaxi.com](http://charlestonwatertaxi.com), 843-330-2989), Sandlapper Water Tours ([sandlappertours.com](http://sandlappertours.com), 843-849-8687), and Tideline Tours ([tidelinetours.com](http://tidelinetours.com), 843-813-5009).

And for anyone who wants to combine a cruise with a golf vacation, check out *Rhapsody in Blue*. A floating bed and breakfast, the 52-foot yacht offers overnight accommodations in three staterooms and dining for up to 10. It's also available for custom getaways at [bbonthe-sea.com](http://bbonthe-sea.com) or 843-279-5451.

For more on Charleston golf, go to [charlestonongolfguide.com](http://charlestonongolfguide.com) or call 800-744-4444.

➤ **Reid Nelson** is a longtime golf writer who lives in Charleston.



# Use What You Have

## TAKING ADVANTAGE OF NATURAL ATTRIBUTES TRANSLATES INTO SUCCESS ON THE GOLF COURSE

/ written by PATRICK KELLEY / illustration by KEVIN FALES

**One of golfing's recent successes is Michael Putnam**, who won the 2013 *Web.com* Tour, earning more than \$450,000 and leading the regular-season rankings. He gained his PGA Tour card in 2014.

Putnam's earnings stem from his proficiency in developing his game. He regularly travels from his home in Seattle to receive coaching from me.

We train together on-site at PGA Tour events, as well as at Old Chatham Golf Club in Durham, where I teach. I strongly believe that if we examine our natural attributes and use them to our advantage, our golfing will improve immeasurably. Putnam's story proves my point.

Putnam came to me seeking help to make his swing more repeatable. With that in mind, our first and most important step was to utilize his height in his setup.

At 6-foot-5, with a long torso, Putnam has natural capabilities to hit the ball long and accurately. He needed to capitalize on his tall frame, enabling him to support the golf club through the entire swing.

With the 2011 Wells Fargo Championship in Charlotte, we began by teaching him to support the club with a swing that uses body rotation and his large muscles to full advantage. His wide shoulders allowed for a longer swing arc and more leverage coming through the ball on the downswing than he was using.

Also, his hands are smaller than his frame, so we adjusted his grip accordingly.

The idea is to maximize a golfer's natural gifts.

After making seven straight cuts for PGA Tour events, including the 2011 U.S. Open, Putnam broke his hand and couldn't hold a club for nine months. He resumed practicing for the last half of the 2012 season on the *Web.com* Tour, excelling there.

Putnam's consistent and committed work on his swing helped train his body to begin rotating with the takeaway, allowing continuous support for the club head throughout his swing. This prevents the club from getting behind him and forced him to activate his hands to save a shot.

His efforts paid off with a breakout 2013 *Web.com* season. Putnam won back-to-back victories at the Mexico and Mid-Atlantic Championships, and he was voted Player of the Year. He finished the season second in greens in regulation and averaged 305 yards off the tee.



I often see players struggling with the difficulties Putnam was facing. They fight the very individual physical gifts they possess that can assist them greatly in their game.

Examine yourself for the positives that can help you improve your swing and practice them. Consult a professional to help cultivate your strengths if necessary.

It's an ongoing process, as it remains with Putnam. But if you continue to train and improve what you already have within, you, too, can end up a winner.

➤ **Patrick Kelley** serves as a PGA Golf Tour Instructor at Old Chatham Golf Club in Durham, N.C.

# 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	
29th NC Senior Amateur	Kinston CC, Kinston, N.C.	5/13-15	
88th Women's Carolinas Amateur	Wachesaw Plantation Club, Murrells Inlet, S.C.	5/20-22	
42nd SC Amateur Match Play	Seabrook Island Club (Ocean Winds), S.C.	6/4-8	
54th NC Amateur	Carolina GC, Charlotte, N.C.	6/5-8	
47th NC Junior Boys	Roaring Gap Club, Roaring Gap, N.C.	6/17-20	
18th NC Junior Girls	Starmount Forest CC, Greensboro, N.C.	6/24-27	
48th Twin States Junior Girls	Columbia CC (Ridgewood-Tall Pines), Blythewood, S.C.	7/1-2	
17th Carolinas Women's Match Play	Cowans Ford Country Club, Stanley, N.C.	7/8-10	
SC Junior Match Play (37th Boys, 14th Girls)	CC of Newberry, Newberry, S.C.	7/8-11	
100th Carolinas Amateur	Greenville CC (Chanticleer), Greenville, S.C.	7/10-13	
8th Carolinas Girls 15 and Under	CC of Whispering Pines (Pines), Whispering Pines, N.C.	7/14-15	
18th NC Boys 13 & Under Championship	Asheboro GC, Asheboro, N.C.	7/14-15	
58th Carolinas-Virginias Women's Team Matches	Porters Neck CC, Wilmington, N.C.	7/14-16	
9th Carolinas Pro-Junior	Treyburn CC, Durham, N.C.	7/21	
6th Carolinas Super Senior	High Meadows G&CC, Roaring Gap, N.C.	7/21-22	
17th Carolinas Parent-Child	Seven Lakes CC, Seven Lakes, N.C.	7/25	
48th Carolinas Father-Son	Pinehurst, N.C., area courses	7/25	
13th Mid-Atlantic Junior Girls Team Matches	The Clubs at Olde Mill, Laurel Forks, Va.	7/26-27	
58th Carolinas Junior Girls Match Play	Hope Valley CC, Durham, N.C.	7/29-31	
65th Carolinas Junior (Boys)	Camden CC, Camden, S.C.	7/29-31	
5th NC Amateur Match Play	River Landing (Landing), Wallace, N.C.	7/30-8/3	
10th Dogwood State Junior Championship (Boys, Girls)	Sapona Ridge CC, Lexington, N.C.	8/5-7	
37th Carolinas Women's Four-Ball	Dataw Island Club (Cotton Dike), Dataw Island, S.C.	8/11-12	
14th NC Senior Four-Ball	Greenville CC, Greenville, N.C.	8/12-14	
32nd Carolinas-Virginias Junior Matches (Boys)	River Landing (River), Wallace, N.C.	8/16-17	
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 [carolinascgolf.org](http://carolinascgolf.org)



# Grades. Scores. Communication.

## TIPS FOR JUNIOR GOLFERS WHO WANT TO PLAY IN COLLEGE

/ written by JASON COX / illustration by KEVIN FALES

When a **junior golfer starts thinking “golf scholarship,”** the golfer — and his or her parents — faces a pitted road.

Make a list of schools that the junior golfer is interested in academically. Be realistic. While a junior might be a huge sports fan of a certain university or college, that is not a reason to have that school on the list.

Make a list of five to 10 schools by sophomore year. Then contact the coach at each school by email and regular mail. Letters should be personalized — not generic. Include remarks specific to the school and recent tournament activity. Show interest in what is going on.

Include a resume with all contact information including that of your swing instructor or golf professional; and your own results from recent tournaments. If you send information by email, include a short swing video from different positions.

### Connect with Coach

Once letters are sent, call each coach to make sure your information arrived. One important note: According to NCAA rules, a coach cannot return phone calls or answer emails until September of the player's junior year in high school. However, prior to that important deadline, coaches can answer the phones and talk to a player or his parents as long as the prospect initiates the call.

Once the coach has received your call, arrange an unofficial visit to the campus. Juniors can make as many unofficial visits to campus as they

like; coaches are not restricted from talking to students or their parents while on the campus.

After an unofficial visit, send a thank-you message to the coach. Following each tournament the junior plays in, a message should be sent to the coach with results. Include the name of the event, host course, final place, the size of the field, and final score.

Be sure, too, to follow the coach's team and their progress. *Golfstat.com* is a good source to send a short email to the coach on how well the team played in a recent tournament.



### Show What You Can Do

One of the most frequent questions we get pertains to which events to play in to get the most exposure. If your list consists of national schools, then you probably will have to travel and play in tournaments in the region of those schools. If your “interested school list” is mainly regional, such as colleges in the Carolinas, concentrate on state and regional tournaments like the Carolinas Junior, North, and South Junior at Pinehurst, and state championship (stroke and match play).

Last year at the Carolinas Junior Boys' Championship at High Point Country Club, 22 Division I coaches watched and recruited at the tournament. The event has become one of the best to showcase your talent.

Junior mini-tour events during the school year are also important to show the player can balance schoolwork while competing in golf.

### Make the Grades

Speaking of schoolwork, *grades are everything* — and more. One of the first things a high school junior must do is register with the NCAA Eligibility Center to make sure he or she is on track to meet academic requirements.

Coaches will probably ask for a transcript early on. If you are struggling with grades, then you are most likely going to struggle in college — not good. Also, academic scholarships are not counted in grants and aid scholarships coaches may offer. So study hard.

Many high school juniors from around the globe want to play college golf in the U.S. A junior has to sell himself or herself to a school as much as the school has to sell itself to the junior. While the NCAA does restrict the amount of contact a coach can have with a recruit, the recruit must stay in contact with the coach. Let the coach know in no uncertain terms that you are ready to play.

➤ **Jason Cox** is the CGA's director of junior golf.