Carolina Journal Journal

Vol 10 Issue 1

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South Carolina Just right.

Local training paves way for PGA growth Queens graduate Taryn Wolford thrives in golf business

Success in the golf business doesn't come by accident, and Head PGA Professional and General Manager at the Harry L. Jones golf course (formerly Renaissance Park) Taryn Wolford can attest to that.

Wolford honed her golf skills in the many golf programs offered at the Mecklenburg County golf facilities managed by Del Ratcliffe Golf Services. Her competitive play in the junior tournaments and receptive learning nature in the local clinics helped her earn a scholarship to play golf at Queens University.

"Playing college golf at Queens University was a wonderful and competitive experience," said Wolford. "It helped me develop a passion for the



game of golf and enjoying helping others find that same passion with my teaching."

Getting a degree in Business administration, with a minor in journalism and professional golf management upon graduation in 2008, Wolford embarked on her quest to become a PGA professional.

Wolford has been working in the golf



industry in Charlotte for the last eight years and teaching the game of golf as a PGA professional for the last three years. She has taught over 125 "Get Golf Ready" students and individual golf lessons along with directing several junior camps and clinics in Mecklenburg County.

Wolford is known for her infectious smile and laughter, which she shared with others at the annual PGA Golf Show in Orlando

earlier this

year. She not only met with current and past LPGA Champions Paula Creamer, Karrie Webb and Hall of Famer Nancy Lopez but collected additional knowledge to continue the growth of her teaching and management skills in Charlotte.

"My goal is to introduce and advance the game of golf to people of all ages, genders and backgrounds", stated Wolford who is well on her way of meeting her goal.



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By Sam Smith

hen the Carolina Golf Journal printed its first issue in 2009, there was another golf beginning in July of that same year, and both golf community "rookies" have hopefully given local golfers a great deal of enjoyment.

Red Bridge Golf Club in Locust, NC, located 10 miles east of I-485 on Highway 24/27, is the center-piece of a projected 1,600-home development called the Villages at Red Bridge. The housing construction has been slow going, but the golf course as far surpassed its early billing as one of the area's top courses.

Designed by former Pete Dye protégé David Postlethwaite, the just



RED BRIDGE GOLF CLUB Locust, NC

Celebrating 10 years of challenging, great value golf!

under 6,800-yard layout has no holes that run parallel, creating plenty of open space. With most of the greens open in the front, the course is not cluttered with bunkers and the ones that do come into play are not hugging the greens giving golfers a variety of lay-up or go-for-it opportunities on their approach shots.

Being fully sodded at the beginning, the fairways run through distinct topographical changes. Water holes are created by a natural stream that winds throughout the course featuring

GREAT VALUE AT RED BRIDGE!

Rack-rates run from \$39 Monday-Thursday \$44 on Friday ~ \$55 on weekends and holidays.

Seniors and Juniors play for \$29 ~ \$35 ~ \$49

Golfers can also get excellent discounts with the VIP programs offered at Red Bridge.

unexpected landscape and hardscape elements, and 18 exquisite holes that end with well-conditioned MiniVerde greens.

"Golfers have told us they appreciate the value they get with the quality of the golf course," stated General Manager and Head PGA Professional Mark Davis.

"Another factor they have enjoyed is that our drainage may be the best of any course in the area, which allows quicker play after heavy rains."

Red Bridge, in the foothills of the Uwharrie Mountains, plays to a par-72 with 5-sets of tees - Black tees reaching 6,735 yards; White tees 6,402; Gold tees 5,768; Red/Ladies tees 4,913. The course is a little unusual with 5 par-5's, 5 par3's and 8 par4's.

The **RED BRIDGE VIP CARD** can be purchased for \$75 and the golfer receives the following:

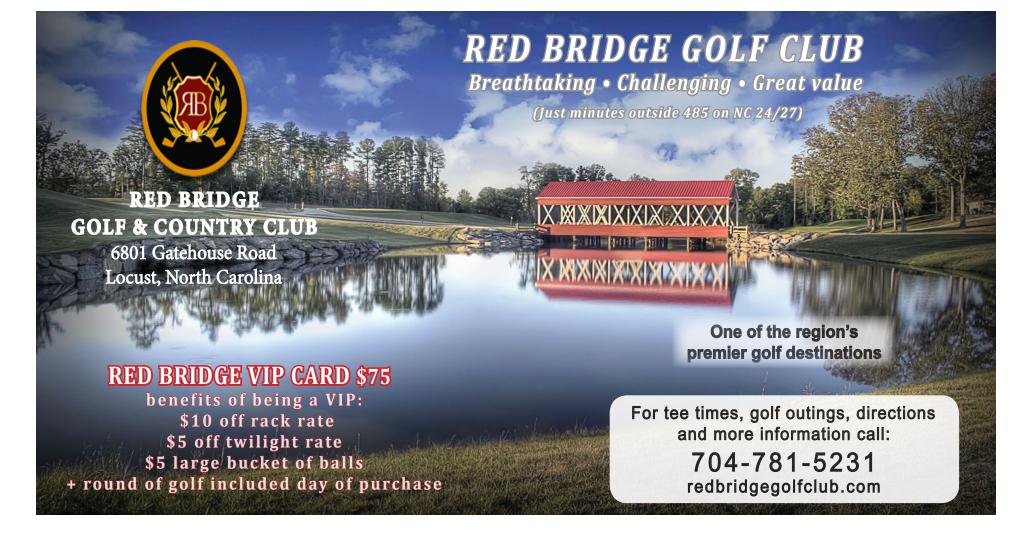
- A round of golf on day of purchase
- \$10 off rack rate for future rounds
- \$5 off twilight rates
- \$5 for large bucket of practice balls.

Red Bridge also has a **VIP TEXT CLUB** that will offer money-saving specials on rates and events. Golfers can join the club by just texting 704-870-4600.

Golf outings are also a priority at Red Bridge, the attention to details will ensure a fantastic fundraising experience. For more details on scheduling an event, download their golf event planner to learn more about the tournament options.

For tee-times, directions, membership or outing information call 704-781-5231 or log-on to Redbridgegolfclub.com.







EIGHT RULES FOR PRACTICING DELIBERATELY

Steve Bogdanoff - PGA, Director of Junior Golf Ballantyne Golf Academy

lbert Einstein once said the following about the learning process: "One must develop an instinct for what one can just barely achieve through one's greatest efforts". I like to refer to this place as the Sweet Spot. This is the place, right on the edge of your ability, where you learn best and fastest.

When trying to learn something new, in this case trying to improve your golf game, you need to try to get out of your comfort zone. The comfort zone is a place that is easy and effortless. You may be working, but not reaching or struggling.

The sweet spot is where you may experience frustration, difficulty, and alertness to errors. You're finally engaged in an intense struggle.

This is more commonly known as Deliberate Practice. When attempting to practice deliberately, you must follow these rules to gain the absolute most from your efforts.



RULES FOR DELIBERATE PRACTICE:

1. *Take a little bit at a time.* This advice works because it accurately reflects the way our brains learn.

Every skill is built out of smaller pieces - what scientists call chunks. No matter what skill you set out to learn, the pattern is always the same: See the whole thing - break it down to its simplest elements - put it back together. Repeat.

2. Each day, try to build one perfect chunk. "Don't look for the big, quick improvement. Seek the small improvement one day at a time.



That's the only way it happens – and when it happens, it lasts." – John Wooden

Choose five minutes a day over an hour a week. With deep practice, small 3. daily "snacks" are more effective than once a week practice bingers. The act of practicing making time to do it, doing it well – can be thought of as a skill in itself, perhaps the most important skill of all.

4. Embrace struggle. Most people instinctively avoid struggle, because it's uncomfortable. It feels like failure. However, when it comes to developing your talent, struggle isn't an option – it's a biological necessity. Your brain works just like your muscles - "no pain, no gain."

5. **Pay immediate attention to your mistakes.** People who pay deeper attention to an error learn significantly more than those who ignore it. Mistakes are merely tools for building skill.

Slow it down. It's not how fast you can do it. It's how slowly you can do it correct-6. ly. Ben Hogan used to practice so slowly that when he finally contacted the ball, it moved about an inch. The urge for speed makes sense, but creates sloppiness. Don't trade precision and long-term performance for a temporary thrill.

7. To learn a new move, exaggerate it. Going too far helps us understand where the boundaries are. Feel the outer edges of the move, and then work on building the skill with precision.

8. Don't do drills, play small addictive games. Drills can be the most mundane of activities, but they can be turned into a game. If it can be counted, it can be a game. Track your progress, and see how many points you score over a week. The following week, try to score more.



Testimonials for Ballantyne Golf Academy Rated 4.9 out of 5.0 Stars on TripAdvisor!

hat they value most is what their students have to say about their experience at the Ballantyne Golf Academy (formerly Dana Rader Golf School). Their students confirm what they have known for over 30 years that they leave hitting better golf shots leading to lower scores for years to come!

"Wow! What else describes the improvement in my game. My handicap dropped from a 22 to a 14 and I have only been playing four years. I'll be back soon and my husband is coming with me. He's had enough of me scoring better than him." - Denise W.

"Your school has given me a new perspective. I was unaware I didn't have the proper grip, swing, posture or equipment. I am practicing the NEW way of playing but the biggest improvement is in the new attitude you instilled in me to just do it right. We will spread the news about the school." - Jim H.

"We were very pleased with our experience; it was first class. The attention to detail and the professionalism of your staff made us feel that our event was the



only thing that mattered. Everyone felt they learned something that would improve their game right away." - Matt Nestor, Manager, CRM and Commercial Systems Millennium Pharmaceuticals

"My instructor was very patient and knowledgeable. I am grateful for the clinic and so is my golf game." - DEBB29, Roanoke, VA

"You provided me with a solid foundation that I can build on and I am convinced this will allow me to enjoy many rounds in the years to come." Howard L.

"I wanted to thank you for your patience and professionalism. I've played 6 rounds of golf since school ended, and in this short amount of time, my confidence and ball striking ability has drastically improved thanks to your instruction. In fact, I broke 80 for the first time. I eagled #12 at The Golf Club at Ballantyne and followed that up with a HOLE IN ONE on #13! I will gladly recommend the Ballantyne Golf Academy to my friends, business associates and anyone else who will listen." - Jay S.



Vol. 10 Issue 1

WELLS FARGO CHAMPIONSHIP 17th year for premier sports event in Charlotte

Lee Patterson, Director of Communications Wells Fargo Championship

ach spring PGA TOUR stars, a national and international television audience, and thousands of fans from the entire Charlotte region enjoy the Wells Fargo Championship April 29-May 5 at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, NC.

For the past 16 years, this highly respected and recognized golf tournament has been the stage for great performances by the game's best players. The tournament also provides the opportunity to raise awareness and funds for charitable causes. The goal is to be an energetic partner for the community.

While the tournament is held annually at Quail Hollow Club, it was staged at Eagle Point Golf Club in Wilmington, NC in 2017. Quail Hollow Club hosted the PGA Championship in August of that year.

With support from the title sponsor Wells Fargo, numerous corporate partners, fans, and 2,300 volunteers, Champions for Education, a non-profit organization created in 2002 as the charitable arm for the tournament, has donated over \$22 million to various charitable organizations within the communities of both Charlotte and Wilmington. Including: Teach for America Charlotte (\$12.9 million), Levine Children's Hospital (\$776.000) and The First Tee Greater Charlotte (\$700,000).

Also, each time the tournament is held, it is broadcast on average 15 hours to a television audience that reaches over 580 million households and more than 225 countries. It is also estimated that the economic impact on the area is between \$40



and \$60 million annually.

When David Toms was crowned the Wells Fargo Championship's first winner on a beautiful spring Sunday afternoon in 2003, tournament officials and sports fans realized this event, indeed, would be special.

As a result of bringing all of the pieces together and seeking ways to improve each spring, the Wells Fargo Championship quickly rose to the top echelon of PGA TOUR events.



One of the barometers is the caliber of players competing in the tournament. Of the 16 winners, half are major champions, including Toms, Vijay Singh, Jim Furyk, Tiger Woods, two-time champion Rory McIlroy, Lucas Glover and Jason Day. 54-hole leader Jason Day won the 2018 Wells Fargo Championship by two strokes over 21-year-old Aaron Wise and five-time PGA TOUR winner Nick Watney.

Young up-and-coming stars of golf have found glory winning the Wells Fargo Championship. For McIlroy, Rickie Fowler, Anthony Kim and Derek Ernst, lifting the trophy marked their first win on the PGA TOUR. Sean O'Hair, J.B. Holmes, James Hahn, and Brian Harman found redemption and a career boost thanks to their victories. Each has reflected that given the course, the strong field of competitors and the overall atmosphere the win is considered a top achievement in their careers.

The excitement of the competition has traditionally been exceptional. Seven times a playoff has been necessary to decide a champion, including two separate stretches of three consecutive years in 2004-2006 and again in 2011-2013.

In 2009 and 2010, the tournament received "Best in Class" among PGA TOUR events.

What the players are saying:

"You know, over the course of my career, I've won a few tournaments here and there, and it's been nice. This one, considering the field and the golf course and the conditions, I'm ecstatic to have won here." – Tiger Woods, 2007

"Wells Fargo at Quail Hollow is one of the best attended and supported events on the PGA TOUR," – Rory McIlroy

"It's a great area. I love Charlotte, especially it being where I won my first PGA TOUR event," – Rickie Fowler

2018 Wells Fargo champion Jason Day with family and championship trophy.

THE MASTERS AT AUGUSTA NATIONAL Info you may like to know!

Who founded Augusta National, and who designed it? Augusta National was founded by Bobby Jones and Clifford Roberts. The course was designed by Alister MacKenzie.

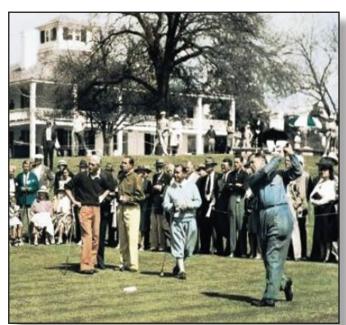
When was the first Masters played and who won?

The first Masters was played in 1934, and Horton Smith won by two strokes with a score of four-under-par 284.

Does the Masters winner get a new green jacket if they have won before? No, a player that wins the Masters

multiple times

receives the same

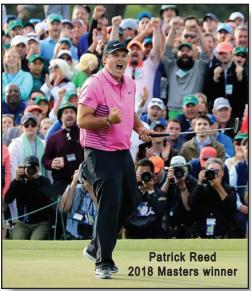


Bobby Jones tees off at the 1935 Masters with Gene Sarasan, Walter Hagan and Tommy Armour watching on.

green jacket from his initial win, unless he needs to be refitted.

Who has won the most Masters?

Jack Nicklaus has won the most Masters, with six, his last coming in 1986 at the age of 46. He remains the oldest player to ever win the Masters.



Has any player ever won back-to-back Masters?

Yes, three players have defended their title at the Masters -Jack Nicklaus (1965-1966), Nick Faldo (1989-1990) and Tiger Woods (2001-2002).

Who won the 2018 Masters?

Patrick Reed won the 2018 Masters for his first major title, edging Rickie Fowler by one stroke and Jordan Spieth by two after the three-time major winner made furious charge, carding a final-round 64.

What is the scoring record at the Masters?

Tiger Woods and Jordan Spieth share the lowest 72-hole score in Masters history, which is 18-under (270). Woods in 1997, and Spieth in 2015.

What's the closest an amateur has ever come to winning the Masters?

Three players have finished runner-up at the Masters: Frank Stranahan (1947), Ken Venturi (1956) and Charles Coe (1961).

What is Amen Corner?

Amen Corner is the name for a three-hole stretch of the course beginning with the par-4 11th hole, then goes to the par-3 12th and par-5 13th. The term was coined by author Herbert Warren Wind when he used it in a 1958 Sports Illustrated article, specifically referring to the

approach shot on the 11th, the entire 12th hole and the first two shots on the 13th. This "corner" of the golf course is where some of the tournament's most historic moments have taken place.



Who can play at Augusta National?

Augusta National is a private club only open to members and their guests.

What is the broadcast schedule for the Masters?

The first and second round coverage of the Masters is broadcast live on ESPN, beginning at 3 p.m. EST on Thursday and Friday. On Saturday, live coverage is on CBS beginning at 3 p.m. and on Sunday beginning at



2 p.m. The Par-3 Contest is also on ESPN on Wednesday at 3 p.m.





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2019 Charity Golf Tournaments for the Greater Charlotte area

Carolina Golf Journal would like to promote your 2019 fundraising golf tournament. Send your information to: samcsmith@mindspring.com or call 704-774-7748

7th Annual Blessed Assurance

Adult Day Care Golf Tournament Thursday, April 11 Olde Sycamore Golf Plantation Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 10:30am Cost: \$100 per golfer / \$400 per foursome Contact: Nate Higgins 704-576-4754 nate@blessedadultcare.org

Gaston Association of Realtors Charity Golf Tournament "Benefiting Camp Centurion -Housing for Veterans" Monday, April 15 Cramer Mountain Club

Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 10:00am Cost: \$100 per golfer / \$400 per foursome Contact: Angela Burgess 704-867-4826 angela@gastonrealtors.com

Les Hardison Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, April 22 Pine Lake Country Club Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 9:30 am Cost: \$100 Per player Contact: Pine Lake CC 704-545-4513

9th Annual "Fore the Kids" Golf Tournament

Friday, April 26 Edgewater Golf Club Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 1:00 pm Cost: \$75 per golfer Contact: Skip Stutts 704-614-1370 sstutts@comporium.net

6th Annual Rock Hill Kappa Foundation Golf Klassic

Saturday, April 27 Carolina Lake Sun City Golf Course Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 8:00 am Cost: \$85 per player Contact: Rock Hill Kappa Foundation 248-842-3274 rockhillkapps@gmail.com

21st Annual John A. Campbell Memorial Golf Tournaments to benefit Novant Health Wallace Center

Thursday, May 2 & Friday May 3 Country Club of Salisbury Captain's Choice Thursday - Par 3 Tournament Shotgun startThursday 4:30 pm Captain's Choice Friday Shotgun starts (2) 8:00 am & 1:30 pm Cost: Thursday - \$75 per golfer Friday - \$175 per golfer before April 1st \$200 per golfer after April 1st Contact: Kristen Trexler 704-799-5408 krtrexler@novanthealth.org

Catawba Golf Classic

Friday, May 10 Warrior Golf Club Captain's Choice - Shotgun Starts 8:30am & 1:30pm Cost: \$150 per golfer / \$600 per foursome Contact: Bill Hall 704-880-1983 catubill@gmail.com

Carolina Driver to Cure Sanfilippo Charity Golf Tournament "Supporting Abby Grace Fountation & Al Linn's Wish" Friday, May 10 Skybrook Golf Club Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 10:00am

Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 10:00am Cost: \$100 per golfer / \$400 per foursome Contact: Brian Fadden 704-999-7712 brian@aislinnswish.org

10th Annual Ella Foard Foundation

Charity Golf Tournament Monday, May 13 Providence Country Club Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 10:00am Cost: \$150 per player / \$600 per foursome Contact: John Foard jfoard03@gmail.com

4th Annual Charity Classic Benefitting The Heart Bright Foundation

Saturday, May 18 Carolina Lakes Golf Club Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 12:00 noon Cost: \$200 per player / \$800 per foursome Contact: Nicole Bonesteel 704-373-3002 nicole@heartbright.org

Indiana University Alumni Association "Hoosier Open" Sunday, May 19 Tega Cay Golf Club

Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 1:00 pm Cost: \$75 per player / \$300 per foursome Contact: Todd Gordon 704564-8584 tgordon@carolina.rr.com

YMCA "Golfing for Good" Tournament

Monday, May 20 Carolina Golf Club Captain's Choice - Shotgun Starts - 8:00am & 1:30pm Cost: \$300 per golfer /\$1200 per foursome Contact: Jordan Fletcher 704-716-6498 jordan.fletcher@ymcacharlotte.org

Hawthorne Academny 2019 Summer Golf Classic

Wednesday, June 12 Olde Sycamore Golf Plantation Captain's Choice - Shotgun start 9:00 am Cost \$100 contact: Vincent Armstrong 980-243-6011 vincent.armstrong@cms.K12.nc.us

10th Annual Heart Bright Celebrity Invitational

Tuesday, August 27 Golf Club @ Ballantyne Captain's Choice - Shotgun start 10:30 am \$100 / foursome Contact: 704-373-3002

Annual Business Leaders of Charlotte (BLOC) Charity Golf Classic

Tuesday, October 1 Raintree Country Club Captain;s Choice Shotgun start 11:30 Cost: \$150 per player / \$600 / foursome Contact: Jamie Lein 704-324-3442 x 402 Jamie.lein@frontrowopt.com

3rd Annual Jane Burt Williams Memorial Golf Classic benefits Center for Health and Wellsness -Thomasville Memorial Center

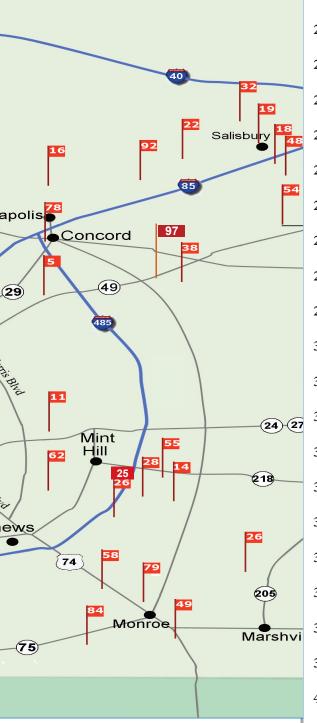
Friday, October 4 Colonial Country Club - Thomasville Captain's Choice - Shotguns starts: 8:00 am & 1:30 pm Cost: \$100 Contact: Kristin Trexler 704-799-5408 krtrexler@novanthealth.org **CAROLINA GOLF JOURNAL**



Resort 18 ~ 828-694-3043 R2. Bald Mountain Golf Course - Lake Lure Resort 18 ~ 828-694-3042 1. Ballantyne Country Club - Charotte Private 18 ~ 704-544-9755 2. Ballantyne Golf Club - Charlotte Public 18 ~ 704-248-4383 3. Birkdale Golf Club - Huntersville Public 18 ~ 704-895-8038
 5. Cabarrus Country Club - Concord Private 18 ~ 704-786-8154
 6. Carmel Country Club - Charlotte Private 36 ~ 704-542-2457
 8. Carolina Golf & Country Club - Charlotte Private 18 ~ 704-392-6366
 9. Carolina Lakes Golf Club - Indian Land

Public 18 ~ 803-547-9688	15.
10. Cedarwood Country Club ~ Charlotte	
Private 18 ~ 704-542-0206	16.
11. Charles T. Myers Golf Course ~ Charlotte	
Public 18 ~ 704-536-1692	17.
12. Charlotte Country Club ~ Charlotte	
Private 18 ~ 704-333-9809	18.
14. Charlotte National Golf Club ~ Indian Trail	
Public 18 ~ 704-882-8282	

Guide for the G<u>reater Charlotte Area</u>



Chester Golf Club - Richburg, SC Public 18 ~ 803-581-5733 The Club at Irish Creek - Kannapolis Private 18 ~ 704-933-4336 The Club at Longview - Charlotte Private 18 ~ 704-443-2500 Corbin Hills Golf Course - Salisbury Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-636-0672

19. Country Club of Salisbury Private ~ 704-636-7070 20. Cowans Ford CC Private 18 ~ 704-827-3088 21. Cramer Mountain Club ~ Cramerton Private ~ 704-879-4888 22. Crescent Golf Club - Salisbury Public 18 ~ 704-647-0025 24. Deer Brook Golf Club ~ Shelby Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-482-4653 25. The Divide ~ Mint Hill Public 18 ~ 704-628-6438 26. Eagle Chase Golf Club ~ Marshville Public 18 ~ 704-385-9000 27. Edgewater Golf Club ~ Lancaster Semi-Private 18 ~ 803-283-9800 28. Emerald Lake Golf Club ~ Mint Hill Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-882-7888 29. Firethorne Country Club ~ Charlotte Private 18 ~ 704-843-3111 30. Fort Mill Golf Club Semi-Private 18 ~ 803-547-2044 31. Larkin Golf Club - Statesville Public 18 ~ 704-872-9990 32. Foxwood Golf Course~ Salisbury Public 18 ~ 704-637-2528 33. Gaston Country Club ~ Gastonia Private 18 ~ 704-865-7949 34. Gastonia Catawba Creek GC ~ Gastonia Public 18 ~ 704-866-6945 35. Glen Oaks Golf Club ~ Maiden Semi-private 18~828-428-2451 36. Golf Village ~ Pineville Public Par-3 ~ 704-889-5086 37. Green Meadows Golf Course ~ Mt. Holly Public 18 ~ 704-827-9264 38. Green Oaks Golf Course ~ Concord Public 18 ~ 704-786-4412 39. Highland Creek Golf Club - Charlotte Public 18 ~ 704-875-9000 40. King's Mountain Country Club Public 18 ~ 704-739-5871 42. Lakewood Golf Course ~ Statesville Public 18 ~ 704-873-6441 43. Lancaster Golf Club Public 18 ~ 803-416-4500 45. Lincoln Country Club ~ Lincolnton Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-735-1382 47. Mallard Head Country Club ~ Mooresville Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-664-7031

48. McCanless Golf Club ~ Salisbury Public 18 ~ 704-637-1235 49. Monroe Country Club Public 18 ~ 704-282-4661 50. Mooresville Country Club Public 18 ~ 704-663-2539 51. Myers Park Country Club ~ Charlotte Private 18 ~ 704-376-0745 52. Northstone Country Club ~ Huntersville Private 18 ~ 704-948-4286 53. Oak Hill Golf Course ~ Charlotte Public 18 ~ 704-394-2834 54. Old North State Club ~ New London, NC Private 18 ~ 336- 461-4447 55. Olde Sycamore Golf Plantation ~ Mint Hill Public 18 ~ 704-573-1000 56. The Palisades Country Club - Charlotte Private 18 ~ 704-548-0099 57. Paradise Valley Golf Course ~ Charlotte Public Par-3 ~ 704-548-1808 58. Pebble Creek ~ Indian Trail Public Par-3 18 ~ 704-821-7276 59. The Peninsula Club ~ Cornelius Private 18 ~ 704-896-7060 61. Pine Island Country Club ~ Charlotte Private 18 ~ 704-394-1011 62. Pine Lake CC - Mint Hill Private 18 ~ 704-394-1011 63. Pinetuck Golf Club ~ Rock Hill Public 18 ~ 803-327-1141 64. Trump National ~ Mooresville Private 18 ~ 704-660-1192 65. Providence Country Club ~ Charlotte Private 18 ~ 704-846-6325 66. Quail Hollow Country Club ~ Charlotte Private 18 ~ 704-552-1726 67. Raintree Country Club ~ Charlotte Private 36 ~ 704-542-8150 68. Red Bridge Golf Club ~ Locust Public 18 ~ 704-781-5231 70. Harry L. Jones Golf Course ~ Charlotte Public 18 ~ 704-357-3373 71. Charles L. Sifford Golf Course ~ Charlotte Public 9 ~ 704-333-3949 72. Riverbend Golf Club ~ Shelby Public 18 ~ 704-482-4286 73. River Hills Country Club ~ Lake Wylie Private 18 ~ 803-831-2249 74. River Oaks Golf Club ~ Statesville Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-883-8724

- 75. River Run Golf & CC ~ Davidson Private 18 ~ 704-896-7355
- 76. Rock Barn CC & Spa ~ Conover Semi-Private 36 ~ 828-459-9279
- 77. Rock Hill Country Club ~ Rock Hill Private 18 ~ 803-327-7790
- 78. Rocky River Golf Club ~ Concord Public 18 ~ 704-455-1200
- 79. Rolling Hills Country Club ~ Monroe Private 18 ~ 704-283-8201
- 80. Skybrook Golf Club ~ Huntersville Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-948-6611
- 81. Springfield Golf Club ~ Ft. Mill Public 18 ~ 803-548-3318
- 82. Spring Lake Golf Club ~ York Semi-Private 18 ~ 803-684-4898

- 83. Statesville Country Club ~ Statesville Private 18 ~ 704-873-8376
- 84. Stonebridge Golf Club ~ Monroe Public 18 ~ 704-283-8998
- 85. Sunset Hills Golf Course ~ Charlotte Public 18 ~ 704-399-0980
- 86. Tega Cay Golf Club ~ Tega Cay Public 18 ~ 803-548-2918
- 87. Tot Hill Farm Golf Club ~ Asheboro Semi-Private 18 ~ 336-857-4455
- 88. TPC at Piper Glen ~ Charlotte Private 18 ~ 704-846-1515
 89. The Tradition ~ Charlotte
- **Public 18** ~ 704-503-7529

- 90. Twin Oaks Golf Course ~ Statesville Public 18 ~ 704-872-3979
- 91. Verdict Ridge Golf & CC ~ Denver Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-489-1206
- 92. Warrior Golf Club ~ China Grove Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-856-0871
- 93. Waterford Golf Club ~ Rock Hill Semi-Private 18 ~ 803-324-0300
- 94. Westport Golf ~ Denver Public 18 ~ 704-489-8088 - Denver
- 95. White Oak ~ Alexis
- Public Par-3 18 ~ 704-263-9990 97. Royster Memorial Golf Course ~ Shelby Public 9 ~ 704-484-6823





It's a Brand New Day

hen golfers consider South Carolina as a site for a golf outing their thoughts quickly turn to Myrtle Beach or Hilton Head. However more and more groups, large and small, are finding that the midlands offer quite the alternative to the coast, with Santee, SC leading the way.

With three golf courses in "Golf's Little Big Town" within a mile of each other, golfers get an excellent selection of course designs, and it would be hard to pick a favorite. Lake Marion is the centerpiece between Santee National and Santee Cooper Country Club.

LAKE MARION: Located in the heart of Santee, Lake Marion Golf Course is favored by most locals and traveling golfers. Lake Marion offers a challenge with pine tree-lined fairways, bordering lakes, 47 sand bunkers and fantastic



MiniVerde greens that are in perfect shape all year long. With multiple tees, golfers find an extremely fair test of golf sure to please players of all abilities.

The villas and condos lining the fairways of Lake Marion are ideal for groups of four with each of the units having two bedrooms and queen beds in each. And soon, traveling golfers staying on property will find an 18-hole, 35,000-square-foot putting course nearing completion.

"Palmetto Traverse" designed by golf course architect and Donald Ross restoration specialist Kris Spence and Spence Golf Design, golfers and their friends and families, will be able to enjoy this new attraction in late August.

SANTEE COOPER: The sister course to Lake Marion, Santee Cooper Country Club offers perhaps the most scenic round of golf in the area. Set amid majestic pines and native foliage, this well-conditioned layout with comfortable elevation changes will test every shot in your bag with its series of beautiful dogleg holes, strategic bunkering, challenging par 3's and risk-reward par 5's. Santee Cooper offers the best closing hole in Santee with a panoramic view of Lake Marion's sparkling waters.

SANTEE NATIONAL: On the opposite side of Lake Marion is Santee National with rolling hills and mossy oaks coming together to mix Low Country charm with highland terrain. Four strategically situated lakes bring water into play on

SANTEE, SOUTH CAROLINA "Golf's Little Big Town"

the course along and around Bermuda fairways and Champion Bermuda greens. With four tees at each hole, golfers can match the challenge of the course to their skill level ensuring an enjoyable yet true test of golf. Santee National is proud to have been rated 4 stars by Golf Digest's Places to Play.

Make reservations NOW for SANTEE'S WINTER 4-BALL CLASSIC December 4-6, 2019

A highlight of the year is the Santee Winter 4-Ball Classic each December. In 2018 the 2nd Annual nearly doubled the number of players competing in three divisions, Men's, Ladies and Couples.

Each player left feeling like Christmas came early, with each receiving \$180 in Tour Edge Dollars from the pro shop or a Tour Edge custom fit club. In addition, everyone received a pair of Foot Joy or Skechers shoes, a wind shirt, golf shirt, hat, glove and a dozen Srixon golf balls. Total cost to participate in the event was \$539.00 which also included two nights' accommodations, three rounds of golf and all meals.

One of the main sponsors of the Winter Classic is the historic Clark's Inn and Restaurant, just a matter of minutes from all three courses. One of Santee's finer dining spots with an excellent southern style menu and accompanying wine list with a cozy bar for a pre or post meal cocktail. Clark's has been recognized by Southern Living as must stop for accommodations or dining along I-95.

Classic participants also enjoyed other

dining choices including Wilbur's Restaurant & Lounge with an excellent selection of wines; Pedro's Mexican cuisine and mega-margaritas; and on the north side of Lake Marion is the Lakehouse Restaurant with excellent food and entertainment.

With the number of players nearly doubling from the 1st year to the 2nd, golfers are encouraged to call Santee Tourism at 803-845-2152, or logon at santeetourism.com/winter-4-ball-classic.

803-845-2152 santeetourism.com/winter-4-ball-classic



FlightScope aids greater golf express Better technology for excellent club fitting

s golf equipment manufacturing companies continue to make annual strides to give golfers better feeling clubs and longer shots through the entire bag, golf shops must keep pace. Not a problem with Greater Golf Express (GGE).

In addition to the well-known Trackman data analyzer currently in use, GGE has added the newest 3D Doppler tracking technology to improve on their club fitting process.

The FlightScope X2 Environmental Optimizer gives the Greater Golf staff more data to hone in on for the perfect fit for every golfer by charting ball speed, club head speed, smash factor, carry distance, launch angle, spin rate, spin loft, angle of attack, etc. Maybe just numbers to you, but game changing data for the staff at GGE in recommending your next set of clubs.

General Manager George Santizo calls FlightScope one of the better pieces of equipment to ensure that golf shop personnel make the right selection for their customers.

"When our customers get clubs fitted at GGE, we're able to match the shaft, loft and swing weight to their type of game," said Santizo. "The process takes about 30-40 minutes in our hitting bay, and when finished they will find better performance with their clubs on their next round of golf."

PGA professionals Bryson DeChambeau, Bubba Watson and World Long Drive Champion, Joe Miller, are all users of the



FlightScope Optimizer. The equipment is small enough to carry to the practice tee and with a little pre-training on what the data numbers mean, average golfers can have an indication if they are improving their golf swing.

Buying new golf clubs can be a trying experience, but with the new technology available at GGE golfers can not only select the clubs that look good and feel good, but are in perfect sync with their golf swing.

The equipment and the personal expertise can make that happen, so start shopping at Greater Golf Express where owner Fred Porter has said many times: "Don't expect to see fishing tackle or hunting gear at GGE, we think golf everyday 24/7."



Fred Bond w/Stonebridge Golf Academy preparing all golfers for the season

N o two golfers have learned to play golf the same way. The beginners are starting from scratch with the fundamentals, while the more seasoned golfers are refining their skills they have developed through professional or individual training.

The Stonebridge Golf Academy with Fred Bond addresses both levels of play and offers personalized instruction programs to foster the development of each individual student from junior to adult amateurs as well as professional players.

Fred Bond is currently the Director of Instruction for the Stonebridge Golf Academy at Stonebridge Golf Club, and is a Class A and Life Member of the PGA who has 57 years of teaching experience and is one of 50+ Master Clubfitters for Henry-Griffitts, Inc. He coached for a brief time at West Texas State University and conducted numerous co-educational golf classes.

Fred has worked extensively with juniors and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in

his career as well as blind golfers. He is a US Kids Certified instructor and a US Kids Top 50 Teacher for 2014, 2015 and US Kids Top 50 Master Teacher for 2016.

The 2019 Stonebridge Summer Junior Golf Camps sign-ups have begun with the excitement of this learning experience and the June 3rd through August 15th dates are filling up quickly! The four-day camps run Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm with a cost of \$250 per student.

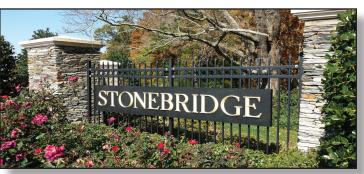
At each camp, golfers will be divided into groups based on ability



and age. Coaching will be available for new students and for more experienced golfers. The Stonebridge Golf Academy makes their camps as fun and enjoyable as they can - they teach safety, etiquette and golf technique. More importantly they have fun - allowing the juniors to build the confidence that they can take away with them after camp.

Prices include practice balls, snacks, drinks, lunch, prizes, US Kids Learning booklets and pins. Four day camps will





have swimming available on the final day of camp. If your

youngster has their own clubs please bring them with you, as limited amount of clubs are available. Parents are urged to call 803-374-0589 to register your young golfer or for more information.

To insure the best for the junior golfers, Bond has brought in top qualified instructor Barry Churchill, voted New England's PGA Teacher of the Year, Barry also has a passion for Junior Golf. Fred and Barry are both US Kids Golf certified and share the idea

that junior golf is important in our community. Their programs will be sure to put a huge smile on your young golfer's face.

The Stonebridge Golf Academy also tailors golf lessons for adult golfers working with what game they bring to the school. Both instructors are known for their work with this principal of what you bring to the lesson tee, as just starting beginner or an advanced golfer, they don't redo your entire swing, but improve your current swing style



as it pertains to your athletic and physical abilities.

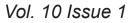
Playing better golf is a goal of every golfer that picks up a set of clubs, and from the juniors to the advanced player, getting 2019 off to a good start should include a call to Fred Bond at the Stonebridge Golf Academy. Call Bond at 803-374-0589 or Barry Churchill at 802-324-4653.

2019 Stonebridge Summer Junior Golf Camps Four-day Golf Camps June 3rd through August 15th

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm \$250 per student

For more information or to register call

Fred Bond - 803-374-0589 or Barry Churchill - 802-324-4653



EDGEWATER GOLF CLUB – Lancaster, SC

Improvements add to beauty and value

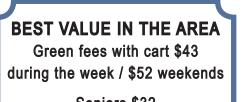
S tarting a new year of golf at Edgewater Golf Club has taken on steady signs of improvements that have maintained the high regards of golfers posting reviews with Golf Advisor. A consistent low-teens rating for Edgewater among South Carolina golf courses has made this upstate beauty a "must play" for area golfers.



Edgewater Golf Club just west of Lancaster, SC, is well worth the trip for the playability of the course, the hospitality and the price, and that may be the best part.

Edgewater was recently selected as the 7th best value in the U.S. with a five (5) star rating, and the 12th ranked Pace of Play course in the U.S. by Golf Advisor.

"Players play Edgewater because it's possibly the best value in golf in the



Seniors \$32 during the week and after 1pm on the weekends. area (Charlotte market)," said General Manager Matt Gotto. "It's a spectacularly challenging layout that is always in fantastic condition, and the prices are very reasonable. Each hole is unto itself, and you don't really see other golfers. It is incredibly beautiful and a very peaceful place to play."

Following the completion of the course designed by Bruce

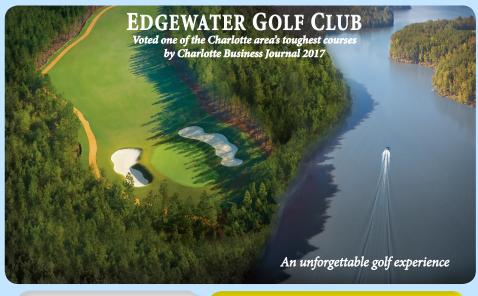
Brodsky in 2008, Edgewater Golf Club took on a personality all its own. Tumbling across rolling hills covered with a blanket of matures trees, the terrain is as scenic as it is challenging, providing the layout with dramatic elevation changes and plenty of water including the beautiful Fishing Creek Lake.

In addition to the natural hazards, there are numerous strategically placed bunkers lurking along the greensides. Under the direction of Superintendent Will Ford, the 35 bunkers have already been completely rebuilt to provide great playing conditions, even when your ball goes where it shouldn't. He has also undertaken a project to open up views of the lake on #7, #13, and the driving range by selectively removing several trees.

Edgewater was voted one of the toughest courses from the back tees in the Charlotte area by the Charlotte Business Journal. The par-3 #4 hole features an island tee and asks players to hit a 230-yard, uphill shot over water to a green protected by a steep front. The longest hole on the course is # 5, a par-5 that plays to 570 yards. The shortest hole at Edgewater is # 8, a par-3 that plays to 173 yards from the back tees.

If you want something less than the back tees, Edgewater offers that as well. The course has five sets of tee stations. The greens are big and gently contoured, not overdone. Par for the course is 72. From the back tees the course plays to 7,103 yards. From the forward tees the course plays to 4,717 yards. Play forward and enjoy your round.

That enjoyment starts with your arrival. The Edgewater staff will make a great first impression by meeting you at the parking lot with your cart, verify your tee time, and offer directions to the pro shop and driving range.





Golf Advisor rates Edgewater Top 15 courses in S.C. Top 25 value courses in U.S. Top 15 in pace of play in U.S.

Championship course ~ Great customer service Practice/Teaching facility ~ Wildlife 803-283-9800 2380 Catawaba Ridge Blvd ~ Lancaster, SC 29720 ~ Edgewatergc.com

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For golfers that like to save a little more money at Edgewater, check out the Edge Rewards Programs. There are no membership cards or numbers to remember, and no initiation fee. Program participants earn a dollar percentage for each dollar spent on green fees and cart fees at Edgewater Golf Club.



As an example: spend \$30 on green fees/cart fees and receive 10% worth of "Points" toward future green/cart fees. Currently that value is worth \$3.00 towards your next purchase of green/cart fees. Senior Edge participants must be 55 and older, and can redeem points Monday-Friday after 10:00 am. Players Edge participants' redemption period is the same as the seniors, while the Ladies Edge participants can redeem their points Monday-Thursday after 10:00 am.

"We have received a lot of Golf Advisor praise, but we are most proud of our excellent golf staff that excels at customer service," added Gotto. "Add this all up - great course, great course conditions, great pace of play, great customer service, and great rates = BEST VALUE for your money."

Edgewater is dedicated to offering all levels of golfers a premium experience without the premium price.

Golfers can make tee-times for Edgewater Golf Club by calling 803-283-9800 or logon at edgewatergc.com.



he 2019 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by SYNNEX Corporation will return to the Upstate the week of June 3-9. The Web.com Tour

The Cliffs Valley

will remain with the challenging Thornblade Club and The Cliffs Valley as the host courses for the longstanding event.

"We are excited to continue our longstanding partnership with the Web.com Tour and South Carolina Charities, Inc.," said Thornblade Club Chief Operating Officer and General Manager Tim Mervosh.

The Tom Fazio-designed course at Thornblade is undergoing a complete bunker renovation by The Fazio Golf Group in 2019, alongside a significant clubhouse renovation and repurposing by Tom Hoch Interior Design Group, which is currently underway and should be completed for tournament week in June. celebrity cut at the conclusion of 36 holes after all contestants in the field complete 18 holes on both Thornblade Club and The Cliffs Valley.

Following the cut, the remaining amateur and celebrity teams, as well as professionals who make the cut in the tournament proper, will play the third round on Thornblade.

The fourth and final round, to be contested at Thornblade, will solely feature professionals after the field is cut to the low 65 and ties. The two-course setup mirrors the tournament's origins from 2001 through 2004, when The Cliffs Valley and The Cliffs at Keowee Vineyards hosted the event.

Since 2001, the tournament and has donated over \$13 million to numerous charities across the Upstate. An economic impact study by Clemson University estimated the tournament annually generates

"We are thrilled to partner with the PGA Web.com Tour," said David Sawyer, President and Managing Partner of The Cliffs Clubs.

"Our Cliffs' members and associates look forward to having fun with golf enthusiasts who visit The Cliffs during the tournament." total direct spending of \$4.712 million, supports 139 jobs, generates net local government revenues of \$541,048 and net state government revenues of \$868,479, and yields \$6.744 million in total output/impact.

For more information on the 2019 BMW Charity Pro-Am visit BMWUSFactory.com.

The 2019 tournament format will be modified to feature an amateur and

Improve your game with one-stop at Bruce Parker's effortless golf center



Professional golf instruction Expert club repair and fitting Wide selection of new and used clubs "we pay cash for clubs" Driving range with new Volvik golf balls Covered and grass hitting areas



Directly behind South Charlotte Mazda, CarMax and next to the Family Fun Center on Cadillac Street

9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Monday - Friday / 9:00 a.m. - dark Saturday & Sunday



I-485 @ Polk Street Pineville

704-962-3838

effortlessgolfcenter.com

Expanded pro shop selection of new and used major company's golf equipment, including a complete line Wilson Staff drivers, fairway metals, and irons selected as one of the best new clubs at the PGA Merchandise Show.

Golfers get cash for trading in old clubs for a different set of clubs with professional fitting to improve their game. Effortless Golf also offers extensive club repair and grip replacement.



Steph Curry, former Davidson Star, giving back by promoting PGA Junior Golf

harlotte native and Golden State Warriors' All-Star and two-time NBA MVP Steph Curry and Olympic Gold Medalist and FIFA Women's World Cup Champion Alex Morgan are serving as 2019 PGA Jr. League Ambassadors.

As the first non-professional golfer Ambassadors for PGA Jr. League, Curry and Morgan will leverage their widespread fan bases to promote the program to an audience that may not be familiar with the sport of golf. They join Ambassadors Rory McIlroy, Michelle Wie, Rickie Fowler and Lexi Thompson, all of whom are committed to growing youth golf.

"Steph and Alex are incredibly popular, world-class athletes recognized well beyond their sports of basketball and soccer who love the game of golf," said Jeff Price, Chief Commercial Officer for the PGA of America. "We are thrilled to welcome both of them to the PGA Jr. League team where they will help us grow the sport with kids and families that might not be considering golf today."



"There's no better enjoyment than playing for a team and playing with a team," Curry said. "You have that sense of accountability, that sense of fun, you're meeting new people from all different walks of life and going towards one common goal. That's what you can find when it comes to PGA Jr. League!"

PGA Jr. League has changed golf by bringing friends and families together around a fun and engaging co-ed team format. Boys and girls of all backgrounds and skill levels learn and play together with expert instruction and coaching from PGA and LPGA Professionals. Kids wear numbered jerseys and play on



teams with friends, competing in a two-person scramble format that accommodates players of all skill levels. PGA Jr. League is now offered in two divisions: 13-and-under and 17-and-under.

In 2018, a record of than 50,000 boys and girls played on 4,200 teams nationwide, up from 42,000 kids on 3,400 teams in 2017. Of those players, 81% were beginner or recreational golfers, demonstrating the developmental nature of the program and its inclusivity to youth of all skill levels.

PGA Jr. League teams for 2019 will be forming soon at Charlotte area golf facilities and hundreds across the country. For more information about joining a team or finding a local participating facility, visit PGAJrLeague.com, or contact your favorite golf course.





LOCAL PRO and AMATEUR GOLF SCHEDULES 2019

NATIONAL JUNIOR GOLF TOUR

April 6-7	Warrior Junior Championship ~ Warrior Country Club
	Rowan County, NC
April 23	Spring Break Adult/Junior Championship ~ Monroe CC
	Monroe, NC
April 24	NJGA One Day Spring Break Junior Championship
	Monroe Country Club ~ Monroe, NC
April 24-25	Spring Break Junior Championship
	Monroe Country Club ~ Monroe, NC
June 8-9	Hickory Junior Classic
	Rock Barn Golf & Spa (Jackson Course) ~ Conover, NC
June 17	Hugh Cranford Optimist Int'l Championship Qualifier
	Catawba Country Club ~ Newton, NC
June 22-23	Myrtle Beach Junior Classic ~ True Blue Golf Club
	Pawleys Island, SC
July 14-15	Low Country Junior Championship
	RiverTowne CC ~ Mt. Pleasant, SC
July 21-22	Lake Lure Junior Championship
	Rumbling Bald Resort ~ Lake Lure, NC
August 3-4	Savannah Junior Open
	The Club at Savannah Harbor ~ Savannah, Georgia
August 15-16	Glen Dornoch Junior Open
	Glen Dornoch Waterway Golf Links ~ Little River, SC
August 31	NJGA 19th Annual Adult/Junior National Championship
	The Hackler Course Coastal Carolina Univ. Conway, SC
Sept 1-2	NJGA 19th Annual National Championship
	Hackler Course at Coastal Carolina University Conway, SC
Nov 9-10	Charlotte Junior Open ~ Rocky River Golf Club ~ Concord, NC
Dec 7-8	Atlantic Dunes Junior Open ~ Atlantic Dunes ~ Hilton Head

SWING THOUGHT TOUR – Carolina's Events

April 9-11	Gates Fours CC	Fayetteville, NC
May 15-16	Tega Cay GC	Charlotte, NC
June 18-20	Belmont Lake GC	Rocky Mount, NC
June 26-27	Bermuda Run GC	Bermuda Run, NC
July 26	Tanglewood GC	Clemmons, NC
July 29-30	Stoney Creek GC	Whitsett, NC
Aug 20-21	Pine Island Country Club	Charlotte, NC
Aug 26	Cutter Creek GC	Snow Hill, NC
Aug 29	Greensboro Ntl Golf Club	Greensboro, NC

CHARLOTTE GOLFWEEK AMATEUR TOUR

April 8	Cedarwood CC	Charlotte, NC
April 13	Member/Guest @ River Bend	Shelby, NC
April 13	The Masters @ Greensboro Ntl GC	Summerfield, NC
April 13	Timberlake Golf Club	Clinton, NC
April 15	Pine Island CC	Charlotte, NC
April 27	Whispering Woods GC	Whispering Pines
April 27-28	Masters @ Monroe CC	Monroe, NC
May 4	Kenmure Country Club	Flat Rock, NC

Senior Amateur Tour – Charlotte Area

April 17	Northstone CC	Huntersville, NC
May 1	Cowans Ford CC	Stanley, NC
May 15	Club at Irish Creek	Kannapolis, NC
June 5	CC of Salisbury	Salisbury, NC
June 17	The Peninsula CC	Cornelius, NC
July 8	Firethorne CC	Marvin, NC
July 17	Lancaster CC	Lancaster, SC
Aug 5	Senior Open –Peninsula CC	Cornelius, NC
Aug 28	Ballantyne CC	Charlotte, NC
Sept 10-11	The Players – Monroe CC	Monroe, NC
Sept 18	River Hills CC	Lake Wylie, SC
Oct 1	Pine Island CC	Charlotte, NC

CAROLINA MOUNTAIN PRO GOLF TOUR

Monday, April 15th Monday, May 6th Monday, May 13th Monday, June 3rd Monday, June 10th Tuesday, June 18th Tuesday, June 25th Monday, July 8th Tuesday, July 30th Monday, Aug. 12th Tuesday, Aug. 20th Monday, Aug. 26th Tuesday, Sept. 3rd Monday, Sept. 16th Monday, October 7th Monday, October 21st

Walker Course ~ Clemson, SC Southern Oaks ~ Easley, SC Preserve @ Verdae ~ Greenville, SC River Falls Plantation ~ Duncan, SC Cherokee Valley Club ~ Travelers Rest, SC Carolina C.C. ~ Spartanburg, SC Columbia C.C., Columbia, SC Olde Sycamore ~ Mint Hill, NC C.C. of Spartanburg ~ Spartanburg, SC Furman University G.C. ~ Greenville, SC Green Valley C.C. ~ Greenville, SC Wooden Ridge ~ Inman, SC Greenwood C.C. ~ Greenwood, SC Village Greens ~ Gramling, SC Monroe C.C. ~ Monroe, NC Kenmure C.C. ~ Flat Rock, NC

The golf world loses legendary sports writer and friend

By Sam Smith

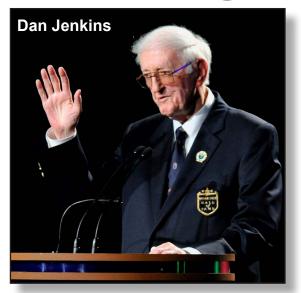
man that thousands of aspiring sports writers looked up to passed away in early March following a lengthy illness. Dan Jenkins, the legendary Sports Illustrated golf writer and best-selling novelist died at the age of 89.

Jenkins began his career with for the Fort Worth Press and the Dallas Times Herald before joining Sports Illustrated, where he spent over 25 years, most notably writing about golf and college football. Jenkins eventually left SI for Golf Digest. His career spanned more than six decades.

I first met Jenkins while covering the 1968 Colonial Open in Fort Worth as the sports director of a television station in Lubbock, TX. It was my rookie year of attending PGA golf tournaments, and I was happy to receive any advice I could get to help my daily reports sound more professional.



Jenkins, a Fort Worth, Texas native attended Texas Christian University, where he was a member of the golf team. As a former Texas Tech Red Raider, I talked to Jenkins about the old Southwest Conference sports before he offered me very helpful advice on how to cover a PGA event.



After the second round of the Colonial, Jenkins called me over in the press room and asked if I would like to join him for "something special" in the interview room. I quickly accepted his invitation. There were only nine people in the room when we entered, but three were the reason this was indeed special.

Sitting in three lounge chairs around the fireplace were Byron Nelson, Arnold Palmer and Ben Hogan. For more than two hours the three legends of golf shared stories and anticdotes of their careers and life on the tour. Needless to say, it was one of the biggest thrills of my broadcast and writing career, and all made possible by the kindness of Dan Jenkins.

The Hall of Fame writer won countless awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award in Sports Journalism from the PGA of America, and is one of only three writers to have been inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Despite all his honors, I will remember Dan Jenkins more for being one of the really nice guys that wasn't too high and mighty to welcome one of those thousands of aspiring young sports writers to his world of true and honest journalism.

Contact information for local tours:

Charlotte Senior Amateur Tour: 704-844-8264 senioramateurgolftour.net/charlotte

Charlotte Golfweek Amateur Tour: 704-844-8264 amateurgolftour.net/charlotte

Swing Thought Tour: 800-992-8748 swingthought.com

National Junior Golf Tour: 704-824-6548 nationaljuniorgolfassociation.com

Carolina Mountnain Pro Golf Tour : 864-270-6857 mountaingolftour.com



Get to know Maggie. Stay for a day, weekend or a lifetime. There's always something amazing to do in Maggie Valley, NC

- including nothing at all.



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golf	fish	hike	raft	dine	play	stay	
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