

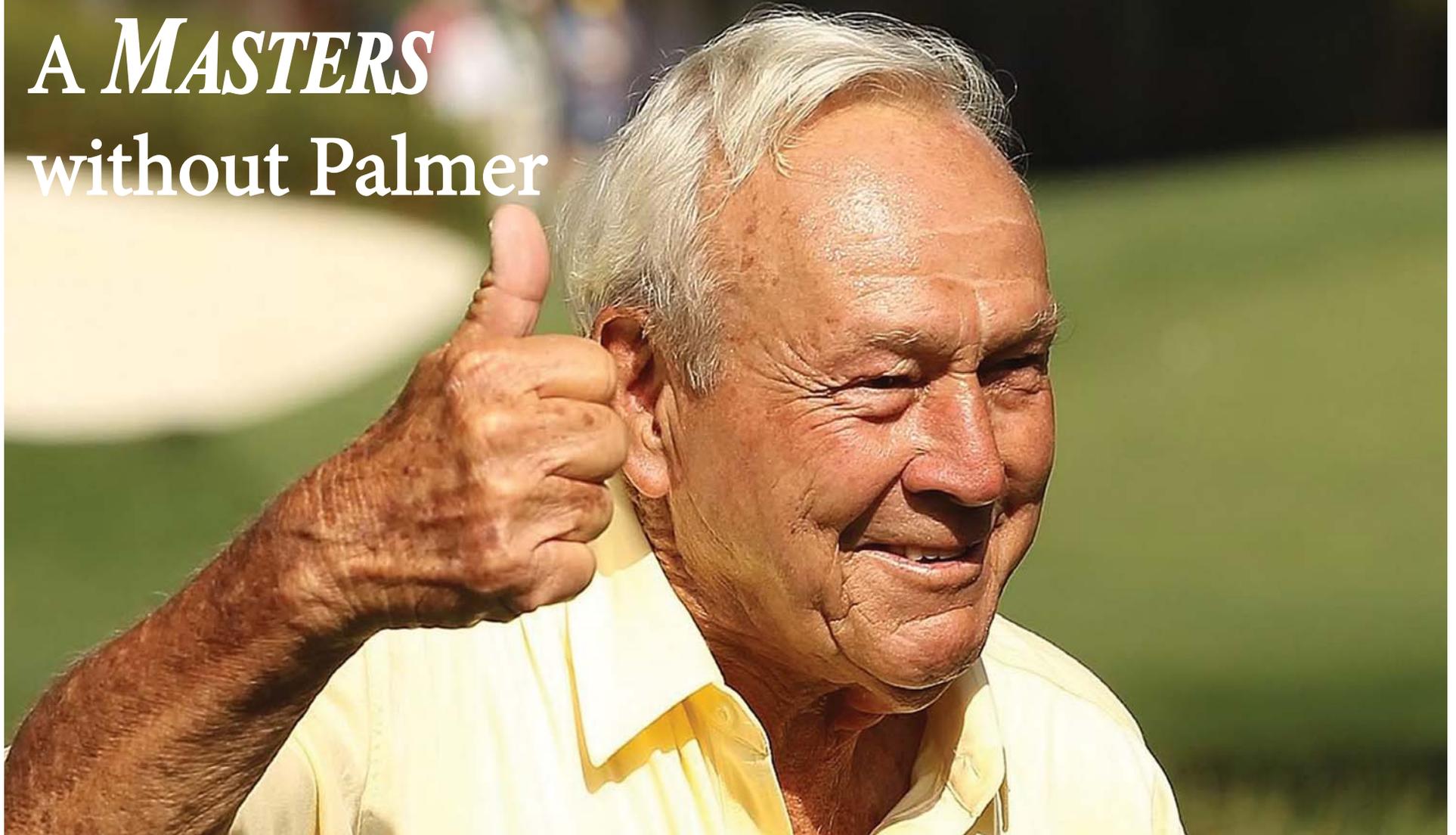
# Carolina GOLF JOURNAL

Free

Vol. 8 Issue 2

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# Quail Hollow welcomes back Wells Fargo in 2018

*Hosts the 2017 PGA Championship in  
August & President's Cup in 2021*



Since its inaugural year in 2003, the Wells Fargo Championship has held all its tournaments at the Quail Hollow Club, until this year. Because the PGA Championship will be held at Quail Hollow in August, tournament officials had to find a new site and Eagle Point Golf Club in Wilmington was it - and a huge success it was.

PGA officials left Wilmington with a comfortable feeling that Eagle Point could easily be on the PGA list of new venues in the near future for tournaments looking for a home. The course met the challenge of the world's best players with marsh, wetlands, wind-shaped oak trees and coastal winds throughout the layout.



*Brian Harman ~ 2017 Wells Fargo Champion  
Eagle Point Golf Club, ~ Wilmington, NC*

The Wells Fargo Championship will return to Quail Hollow for the 2018 and 2019 tournaments and conversations are on-going with the PGA for a future extension for the south Charlotte club. The club will not be at ease until next year, since in August the fourth and final major of the year, the PGA Championship, will be played the second week of August.

"It's very hard. It's going to be a perfect site for the PGA Championship," Phil Mickelson said. "You don't have to do much to it because the course is straightforward, a tough test of golf and very well done."

The new changes are part of a plan that began with the redesigned 16th hole in 2013. Since the players last saw Quail Hollow in May of 2016 there has been a slightly different look for this major championship. Major changes were made at Quail Hollow as part of a master plan created a few years ago by course designer Tom Fazio.

The work began immediately after the 2016 Wells Fargo when the putting surfaces were switched from Mini Verde Bermuda to Champion Bermuda due to issues with the grass that brought complaints from the professionals including Phil Mickelson.



Several routing changes were made on the front nine, which got three new holes starting at No. 1, which will be converted from a relatively short par-4 into a longer par-4 for professionals. The change

will eliminate the par-3 second hole to allow for the new first green which will be located near the current second green. The par-5 fifth hole was removed and in its place is a par-3 and a par-4 hole. The sixth through ninth holes remain the same.

The par-4 11th hole was redesigned, moving the green to add length to the hole. A fairway bunker was moved approximately 80 yards farther from the tee to bring it back into play.

Two-time Wells Fargo Champion Rory McIlroy (2010 & '15) attended a wedding in Charlotte last July and took time to tour the changes with Club President Johnny Harris.

"I think the changes are really good," he said. "They have definitely improved the golf course. They have made it more challenging at the start, but I think the flow of the golf course is still the same, and they haven't tinkered with the finish, which is obviously one of the best finishes we play on Tour. I'm excited to get here for the PGA in August."



# Golf's history showcased in new movie "Tommy's Honour"

Golf fans have enjoyed several past golf movies that have become classics. Headed by "Caddyshack" and "The Greatest Game Ever Played," and followed closely by "Tin Cup" and "Bagger Vance", the older theme flicks have been joined by the newest golf movie, "Tommy's Honour".

Set against the early days of the sport and stunning landscape of Scotland, *Tommy's Honour*, directed by Jason Connery -- Sean's son, is based on the intimate and powerfully moving true story of the challenging relationship between "Old" Tom and "Young" Tommy Morris. This dynamic father-son team ushered in the modern game of golf combining to win eight of the first 12 British Opens.

As their fame grew exponentially, Tom and Tommy, Scotland's Golf Royalty, were touched by drama and personal tragedy. Old Tom was the greens-keeper and club-maker at the fabled Old Course but wasn't allowed to set foot in the Royal and Ancient Golf Club and quietly accepted his station in life, while Tommy was a gifted and spirited player who rebelled against both his father and the class system.

The golf scenes are mostly authentic, right down to the pinch of sand used for tees in those days, the shaggy grass on fairways and greens and the long swings of golfers who used hickory-shafted clubs.

The historical drama, shot in 33 days at 50 locations in Scotland, opened the 2016 Edinburgh International Film Festival and in November won best feature film at the British Academy Scotland Awards -- Scotland's equivalent of the Oscar.



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## Local junior golfer among nation's best at Augusta

### Raintree's Clinton Daly fights into playoff of Drive, Chip & Putt event

One young man is walking a little taller at Raintree Country Club these days after meeting the challenge of the Drive, Chip and Putt National Finals at Augusta National. Thirteen year old Clinton Daly, who carries a 2.2 handicap at the south Charlotte 36-hole club, finished tied for first in the Boys 12-13 age division with Zachary Colon of Bolton, Massachusetts with a combined score of 24 in three skills categories.

Colon, who sank a 15-foot putt to tie Daly in regulation, eventually won in the National Championship playoff to capture the Boys 12-13 title. Daly admitted that his main area of improvement needed to come off the tee. He finished with just 6 points in the driving competition, while scoring 9 out of a possible 10-points in both the chipping and putting events. Colon had scored 8 points in each of the events for his 24 points.



Daly, a student at Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy, lists Jordan Spieth as his golf hero.

"I admire how he plays and his attitude on and off the course". But he likes Ricky Fowler for his "cool" clothes, "He's the best of everybody else".

Fowler would be part of Daly's dream foursome that would also include J.B. Holmes, Rory McIlroy. With his love for golf you might believe he might want to play a five-some with his dad John that introduced him to golf, and guided him to the pros at Raintree to improve his game to compete at the highest level with the nation's best...which he just did at Augusta.



## From trick shots to treasure at RBC Heritage

### Wesley Bryan makes South Carolina history

One of the most amazing stats that came out of the RBC Heritage Classic at Hilton Head this year was not so much that Rookie Wesley Bryan captured the championship with a one-stroke victory over Luke Donald, but that his place of birth would set a Classic record.



In the 48-year history of the RBC Heritage, no South Carolinian had ever slipped in to the Tartan jacket given to the tournament's winner. Bryan, born in Columbia and a three-time All-American for the Gamecocks, moved into contention with four consecutive birdies on the front nine. He took the lead with a birdie on the 15th hole and finished at 13-under 271.

"This is as good as it gets," said Bryan. "It's one that I grew up

dreaming of on the practice green late at night when I was a kid, like this putt's to win the Heritage. And to get it done here is one of the coolest experiences ever."

Bryan earned \$1.17 million, a tour exemption through the 2018-19 season and a spot in the 2018 Masters.

"A lot of champions get to holler 'I'm going to Disneyland' after their wins," said Bryan. "I have one better for a golfer, 'I'm going to the Masters', and not as a spectator this time."

The 27-year old Bryan is largely known as a YouTube sensation, he and brother George IV, another Gamecocks golfer, pulling off often unbelievable trick shots — like chipping the ball 20 yards to a waiting Bryan brother to belt away before it hits the ground.

There were no tricks to Wesley Bryan's round this time, the first to win at Harbour Town in his first try since Boo Weekley won the first of his two straight RBC Heritages in 2007.

While excited about the breakthrough victory, Bryan believes it's just a stepping stone to bigger dreams he's had since playing the game as a child.

"At the end of the day, it doesn't really change anything other than I now have one PGA Tour victory," he said. "There are a lot of guys that have just one PGA Tour victory. My one goal is to get number two at this point."

Wesley is the son on George Bryan III, a PGA Tour Professional in the late 90's and early 2000's. The elder Bryan has been teaching golf for over 36-years, and runs the George Bryan Golf Academy in Chapin, SC.

Wesley remembers pestering players with a lot of crazy questions at Harbour Town Golf Links as he followed father George III's only appearance at the RBC Heritage in 2004. "I was probably the most annoying 14-year olds there was," Bryan said.

What a different time ...once a pesky teen, Bryan's now a PGA Tour winner and a one-of-a-kind South Carolina born champion at Harbour Town.



# SKYBROOK GOLF CLUB



## *Exceeds the mountain-feel expectation in Huntersville*

By Sam Smith

Many times when golfers read about a course that claims to offer a mountain-feel in the Piedmont, they automatically think of hype or false promotion. That is not the case at Skybrook Golf Club, golfers love the true mountain-feel created by the comfortable elevation changes. Roaming across 7,000 yards of remarkably mountainous terrain, designer and golf course architect John LaFoy blended the rolling hills, dramatic elevation changes and beautiful landscape into a course that will capture the heart of every golfer that plays.

“Skybrook has always been a complete golf club,” said general manager Mike LaPierre. “We have the goal of providing the golfers and their families a great experience



on and off the course. Drawing golfers from throughout the Greater Charlotte area, getting the Skybrook community involved in our Club activities, and growing our membership base has seen an excellent upturn in the past several months.”

Golfers have been beckoned to the 18-hole championship Skybrook Golf Club in Huntersville, and now under management of Pinnacle Golf Properties, “Exceeding Expectations the PGP Way”, golfers are finding a golf course that is improving everyday for daily and membership play and golf outings on one of the premier layouts in the Greater Charlotte area.

“We are excited to welcome the Pinnacle team as our new operating partner,” said Chris Allick, Managing Member of Hunting Dog Capital, owners of Skybrook Golf Club. “We feel strongly that Skybrook and its members will benefit from having a local partner with extensive knowledge, reach, and experience within the market. With their executive team members having in excess of 25 year’s experience in the golf business, they have an excellent track record within the Charlotte golf market and continues to maintain all of their operations focused on the Carolinas.”



Mike LaPierre, Skybrook GM

You get a real feel of the golf course elevation changes right from the first hole with a 419-yard par 4 that comes complete with elevated tee box, spectacular view, and behemoth green. As a matter of fact, 7 of the first 9 holes have greens that stretch more than 50-feet in depth from front to back. Getting on in regulation may be easier with the larger greens, but make sure you take a couple of long putts on the practice green, you may need them.

The greens have been “deep tynd aerated” to strengthen the grass and help protect them from the harsh hot weather coming this summer.

New Superintendent Dino Psaroudis, and Pinnacle Head Agronomist Chuck Smith have also re-sod more than 2000 square-feet of greens damaged by the weather, renovated green-side bunkers and will be working on the fairway bunkers.



“As a long time member who has watched the club get very, very bad and then start working its way back,” said David Cordos, “I can tell you that Skybrook is in awesome condition. The greens are as good as they have ever been - maybe better. Bunkers are progressing every week. Fairways are wonderful.” After the first hole, the rest of the front nine ranges from testy to very enjoyable, including the 433-yard 6th hole that invites sight-seeing and produces rave reviews with the elevation of its tee box.

For the “down the middle” hitters, all these elevated tees could lead to red numbers. But, for errant drivers, it could create some tense moments. Hole #6 aside, off the tee box, this course can be forgiving because many of the holes slope back towards the fairways, a unique feature of this course that sets it apart. If you miss a shot, you won’t be looking for your ball longer than the rules allow.

The 178-yard par-3 16th hole is all carry over water into a tighter than normal green. The 17th hole is the #2 handicap hole on the course, and is a long 429-yard par-4 slight dogleg left with the same lake running all along its left side. The 18th finishing hole will test your metal. This 553-yard par-5 starts with a tee shot that must avoid trouble of trees and drainage ditch area on the right. Then on this S-shaped hole you have to hit a narrow fairway with your second shot to set up your pitch into another well-bunkered, elevated green. This hole will force you to earn a par, but what a rush if you get it.

One other factor figured into the course design at Skybrook is that John LaFoy likes to place bunkers several yards in front of greens, creating a Donald Ross type “false front”,

giving the appearance that they are greenside traps, when in reality they are a solid sand wedge shot away.



At Skybrook, the two-tiered driving range, which has a slight downhill landing area, is designed to improve your accuracy and build your confidence. The range complex also features a designated chipping area and practice bunker where

you can work on shaving strokes off your score.

With six sets of tees, Skybrook can be as tough, or as friendly as your game can stand. To meet that challenge, the Skybrook pro staff can help you reach a level of confidence with

personal lessons and clinics.

“We have several levels of memberships at Skybrook,” said Mike LaPierre. “In addition to our full memberships, we are also offering a junior membership for golfers under 35 years of age; a Skybrook community membership for residents and a weekday membership which is very popular with the seniors.”

For information on improving your golf game, club memberships, or tee times contact Skybrook Golf Club at 704-948-6611 or go to [www.skybrookgolf.com](http://www.skybrookgolf.com).

### Pinnacle Golf Properties

is a highly regarded golf course management company located in Charlotte. They specialize in every facet of golf course operations and golf facility management for results-oriented programming tailored to each individual property.

“We are ecstatic for Skybrook to join the PGP family! Skybrook is known for its incredible layout and welcoming community. PGP is known for quality service and premier course conditions. Skybrook is one of Charlotte’s best courses and we will continue making improvements to provide area golfers a premier golf experience at a truly affordable price.”

- David Taylor, Managing Partner/President,  
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# SKYBROOK GOLF CLUB

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# THE GOLF CLUB at BALLANTYNE

## First class golf experience



The Ballantyne area has been growing with a personality of a city all its own, but one thing that has remained the same in the sprawling Ballantyne Corporate Park, is a well decorated, service oriented championship golf course. With a regular rating of 4 ½ stars as a “best place to stay” by Golf Digest, and ranked in the Top 30 Public Courses in North Carolina, the Golf Club at Ballantyne has earned the accolades from golfers as a very special public golf course experience.

“The best way to foster a great relationship with our customers is to be hospitable and genuine at each interaction,” says Woody Allen - Director of Golf. “Loyal employees and customers are built on trust and constant appreciation of each other, and our staff truly enjoys connecting with others and wants to serve each person they encounter with authentic customer service.”



The first class service begins when you arrive at the parking lot level just off Johnston Road and Ballantyne Commons Parkway and doesn't end until you leave. Offering daily tee times, the Golf Club has also been singled out as a top location for golf outings and golf tournaments, with overnight golf packages at the Forbes Four-Star, AAA Four-Diamond hotel and spa - The Ballantyne Hotel & Lodge.

In the fall of 2009, new Champion Ultra Dwarf Bermuda grass greens were installed. The mature greens have kept the course in prime condition throughout the year, with little downtime for maintenance. Also, in 2011, the 2nd and 8th holes were redone to improve play and allow for additional construction on the resort property.

The golf course and most of the Ballantyne Corporate Park has been purchased by Northwood Investors, a New York-based investment firm, in the largest single real estate transaction in Charlotte's history.

The total sale price of Ballantyne Corporate Park wasn't given, though real estate sources said the sale would total more than \$1 billion. The Bissell Companies developed the corporate park and owns office buildings, four hotels, the golf course and other property – almost all being purchased by Northwood Investors.

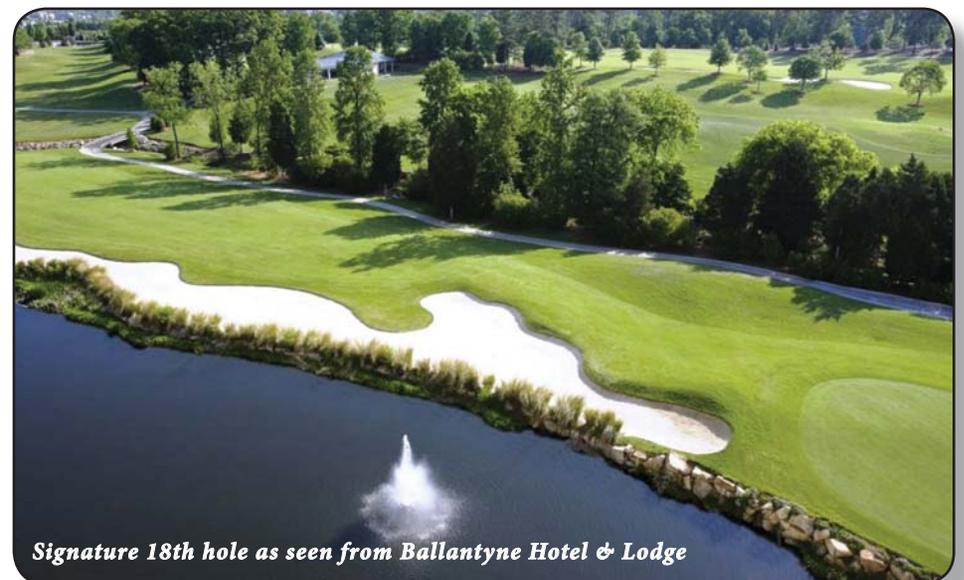
Playing 6,740 yards from the championship tees, the par-71 Golf Club provides generous landing areas from all tee boxes that make the course playable for any level of golfer, as tilted fairways have a funneling effect helping to keep the ball in play. Medium size undulating, speedy greens, massive bunkers, a meandering creek and several ponds provide the challenge.

“It is a firm, fair course,” claims PGA golf professional Matt Zvanut. “When it dries out you will get a lot of roll off the tee, but the greens are well-protected by the bunkers. There are not a lot of holes that you can't run the ball up.”

The par-5's are reachable in three shots, but a solid tee-shot lets you take a shot at getting there in two if you can avoid the well-placed bunkers. There is only one par-5 on the front and three par-5's on the back side highlighted by the challenging 17th hole that plays 445-yards from the white tees with a pond lining the left side of the fairway and three bunkers protecting the green.

The par-3's are each backed by trees and fronted with bunkers to catch an errant shot. The three par-3's on the back side are highlighted by the testy 10th hole, that requires full carry over water, and the lengthy 16th hole, that is the longest par-3 on the course at 225-yards from the back tees with the largest green on the course guarded by a huge bunker all along the left.

By the time you reach the 18th hole you may have thought that you had seen the signature hole...guess again. The par-4 finishing hole starts on an elevated tee with a meandering creek on the left that cuts across the fairway below.



*Signature 18th hole as seen from Ballantyne Hotel & Lodge*



With the spectacular hotel and spa as a backdrop, an elongated bunker lines an equally long lake along the right and juts out into the fairway, and three circular bunkers protect each side of the two-tiered green, helping this hole earn the honor of signature hole.

Also featured at the Golf Club at Ballantyne is a well-manicured grass prac-

tice area, golf outing pavilion and outstanding food and beverage service and venues to accommodate the daily players and tournament guests. "Helping groups grow their fundraiser charity golf tournament is extremely rewarding for us," proclaims Allen.

Adding to the golf opportunities at the Golf Club is the renowned Dana Rader Golf School, a Golf Channel Academy, which offers group and individual lessons and clinics, completing the package of the region's best service and top quality golf course facilities.

For a first class golf experience from start to finish, a totally public golf course with a country club feel, please call 704-248-4383 for a tee time.

For golf event and outing inquiries, please contact Noelene Grosso at 704-248-4036 or [ngrosso@golfballantyne.com](mailto:ngrosso@golfballantyne.com).



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# Barefoot RESORT & GOLF

## Selected the best by golf tour operators

Barefoot Resort & Golf, home to a quartet of courses designed by Greg Norman, Davis Love III, Tom Fazio and Pete Dye, has been named North American Golf Resort of the Year by the International Association of Golf Tour Operators (IAGTO).

“We are honored to have won this award and it’s a testament to the entire team at Barefoot Resort, beginning with the ownership of the Puglia family and their dedication to making Barefoot a premier resort,” said Dave Genevro, Barefoot’s General Manager. “Every day our goal is to provide an outstanding golf experience that begins at the bag drop and extends through to the 19th hole. This award is validation of our hard work and one that we are extremely proud of.”

Barefoot Resort & Golf succeeded Arnold Palmer’s Bay Hill, a long-time PGA Tour host, as the winner of the IAGTO award.

“Barefoot Resort & Golf is richly deserving of this honor,” said Bill Golden, President of Myrtle Beach Golf Holiday. “The golf courses are outstanding, but what really helps separate Barefoot from a crowded field of America’s best resorts, is the attention paid to customer service, conditioning and delivering an experience – on and off the course – golfers fondly remember long after they’ve headed home.”

In 2000, Barefoot Resort became the first American facility to open four courses simultaneously and it has delivered on that immense promise. The Love, Fazio and Dye courses have all been ranked among America’s top public layouts and the Norman course, with seven holes that play along the Intracoastal Waterway, might be the most visually pleasing.



For more information on Barefoot Resort & Golf call 866-638-4818, or logon at [www.barefootgolf.com](http://www.barefootgolf.com)

## Monitor your grip for more consistency and distance

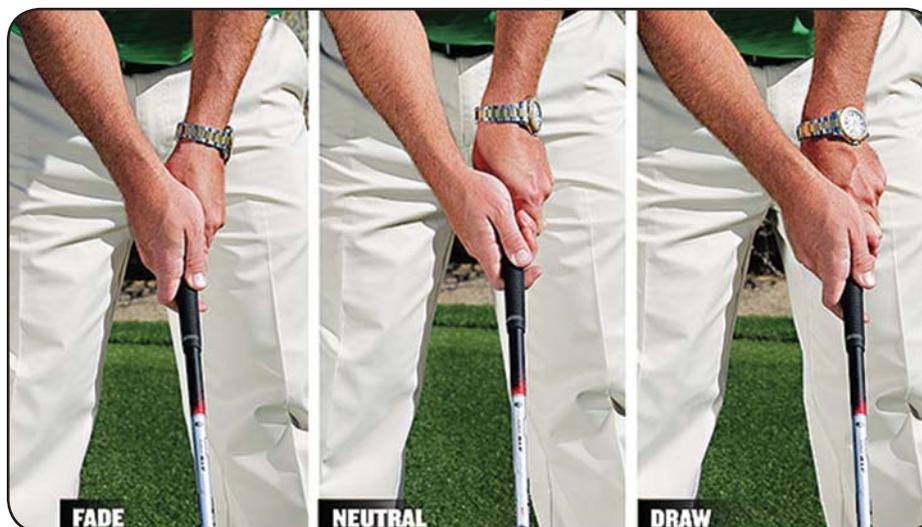
Movement in the grip and excessive tension lead to errant shots and lost distance. Here is a drill to monitor hand movement and grip pressure during the swing.

Take some practice swings concentrating only on your hands. Eliminate all other thoughts about your legs, head, etc. and just monitor your grip. Rate your grip pressure on a scale of 1 (softest) to 10 (hardest). You should strive to be under a 5 on 80% of all golf shots.

On the left hand - grip pressure is primarily applied through the last three fingers. With the right hand - apply most of the pressure through the ring and middle finger.

Major championship winner Fred Couples learned to grip the club so lightly that he sometimes lets his right hand come slightly off the club after he has hit the

ball. This light grip pressure contributes to his fluid, powerful golf swing. The pressure in Couples’ grip remains consistent with every adjustment for different shaped shots.



During practice, identify what your grip pressure is at the setup. Compare this to what it is during the initial part of the take-away, or the first two feet of the backswing.

What happens to your grip pressure at the top of the backswing, at the start of the downswing, at impact and the finish? Is it consistent throughout your entire swing? Evaluate one area at a time.

It may also be good to close your eyes to really feel your hands. Start with some practice swings and then try it with a ball.

Have fun and good luck.

# 2017 Charity Golf Tournaments for the Greater Charlotte area

Carolina Golf Journal would like to promote your 2017 fundraising golf tournament.

Send your information to: [sam@carolinagolfjournal.com](mailto:sam@carolinagolfjournal.com) or call 704-756-9909

## 2017 YMCA Golfing for Good Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, May 15  
Carolina Golf Club  
Captain's Choice  
Shotgun Starts: (2 tournaments) 8:00am & 1:30pm  
Cost: \$300 per player/ \$1,200 per foursome  
Contact: Heather Hammond  
[heather.hammond@ymcacharlotte.org](mailto:heather.hammond@ymcacharlotte.org)

## 15th Annual Friends Fore Hospice Golf Tournament

Monday, May 15  
Catawba Country Club, Newton, NC  
Format - Captain's Choice  
2 Shotgun Starts - 8:30 am and 1:30 pm  
Light Breakfast - 7:30 am, Buffet Lunch 11:00 am-2:00 pm  
Cost - \$125 per player/\$500 per team  
Contact - Sue Mulay 828-466-0466 ext. 2357  
Email - [smulay@pchcv.org](mailto:smulay@pchcv.org)  
[www.CatawbaRegionalHospice.org/golf](http://www.CatawbaRegionalHospice.org/golf)

## 8th Annual Ella Foard Foundation for Rett Syndrome Charity Golf Classic

Monday, May 15  
Cabarrus Country Club  
Captain's Choice  
Shotgun Start: 10am  
Cost: \$125 per player  
Contact: Grant Goodwin - 404-667-0141  
[ggoodwin@bbridgefin.com](mailto:ggoodwin@bbridgefin.com)

## 2017 St. Jude Charlotte Charity Golf Classic

Tuesday, May 16  
The Peninsula Club Club  
Captain's Choice  
Shotgun Start: 8:30am  
Cost: \$125 per player  
Contact: Megan Hannon - 704-554-7710  
[megan.hannon@stjude.org](mailto:megan.hannon@stjude.org)

**DSA-GC Annual Golf Tournament:  
in memory of Nicholas G. Kwiatkowski**  
Friday, May 19  
The Divide Golf Club

4-Man Modified Captain's Choice  
Shotgun Start: 11am  
Cost: \$135/player, \$540/team  
Contact: Down Syndrome Association of Greater Charlotte  
(704) 536-2163 or [scook@dsa-gc.org](mailto:scook@dsa-gc.org)

## William Wilson Celebrity Invitational

Tuesday, May 23  
TPC @ Piper Glen  
Captain's Choice  
Shotgun Start: 8:30am  
Cost: \$250 per player  
Contact: William Wilson Foundation  
704-269-8869  
[info@williamwilsonclothing.com](mailto:info@williamwilsonclothing.com)

## 15th Annual Hooptee Celebrity Golf Classic

Thursday, July 20 (Pairing Party July 19th)  
Golf Club at Ballantyne  
Captain's Choice  
Shotgun Start: 10:15am  
Cost: Individual w/hotel - \$2,100  
without hotel -\$1,700  
Team w/hotel - \$8,200  
wo/ hotel - \$6,500  
Contact: [hooptee@theeventauthority.com](mailto:hooptee@theeventauthority.com)

## 12th Annual Cassandra M. Thompson Charity Golf Tournament

Saturday, August 19  
Rocky River Golf Club  
Captain's Choice  
Shotgun Start: 1:30pm  
Cost: \$125 per player/ \$500 per team  
Contact: Carolina Cross Connection 704-721-0033  
[info@teesfortuition.org](mailto:info@teesfortuition.org)

## Tees for Tuition Charity Golf Tournament

Tuesday, October 10  
Golf Club at Ballantyne  
Captain's Choice  
Shotgun Start: 9:00am  
Contact: Tees for tuition - 980-321-7562  
[nc.wish.org/make-a-wishgolfflassic](http://nc.wish.org/make-a-wishgolfflassic)



**A Challenging Tom Jackson Design**

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**Spring Specials**

Monday - Thursday - \$34  
after 1:00 - \$29

Senior Monday-Friday - \$28  
Friday - \$37 after 1:00 - \$29

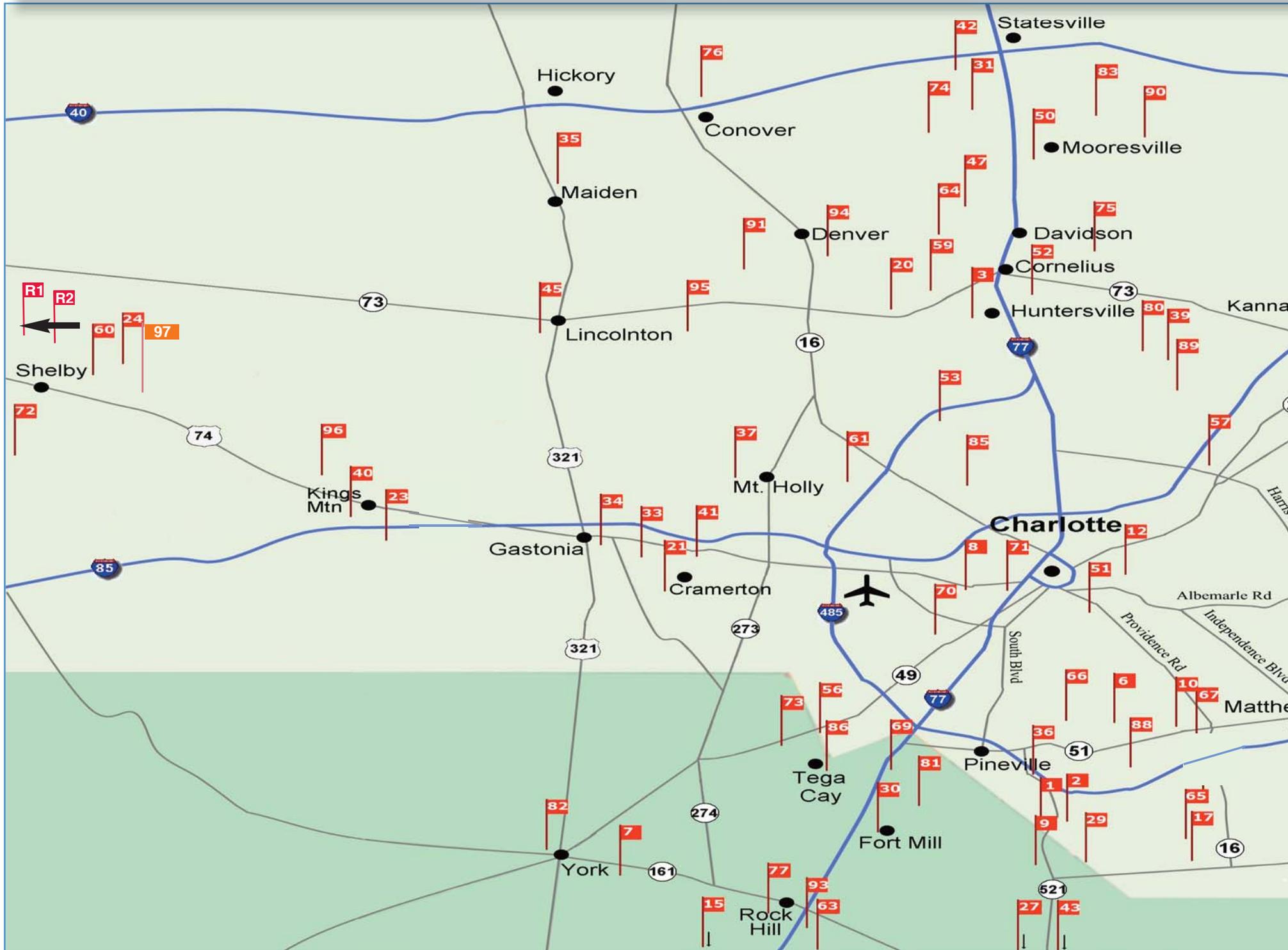
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5. Cabarrus Country Club - Concord

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6. Carmel Country Club - Charlotte

Private 36 ~ 704-542-2457

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8. Carolina Golf & Country Club - Charlotte

Private 18 ~ 704-392-6366

9. Carolina Lakes Golf Club - Indian Land

Public 18 ~ 803-547-9688

10. Cedarwood Country Club ~ Charlotte

Private 18 ~ 704-542-0206

11. Charles T. Myers Golf Course ~ Charlotte

Public 18 ~ 704-536-1692

12. Charlotte Country Club ~ Charlotte

Private 18 ~ 704-333-9809

14.

15.

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17.

# Guide for the Greater Charlotte Area



18. Corbin Hills Golf Course - Salisbury  
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19. Country Club of Salisbury  
Private ~ 704-636-7070

20. Cowans Ford CC  
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21. Cramer Mountain Club ~ Cramerton  
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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  
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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  
Semi-Private 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  
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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  
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40. King's Mountain Country Club  
Public 18 ~ 704-739-5871

41. Lakewood Golf Course ~ Cramerton  
Public 18 ~ 704-825-2852

42. Lakewood Golf Course ~ Statesville  
Public 18 ~ 704-873-6441

43. Lancaster Golf Club  
Public 18 ~ 803-416-4500

44. Larkhaven Golf Course - Charlotte  
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45. Lincoln Country Club ~ Lincolnton  
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49. Monroe Country Club  
Public 18 ~ 704-282-4661

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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  
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63. Pinetuck Golf Club ~ Rock Hill  
Public 18 ~ 803-327-1141

64. Trump National ~ Mooresville  
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65. Providence Country Club ~ Charlotte  
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66. Quail Hollow Country Club ~ Charlotte  
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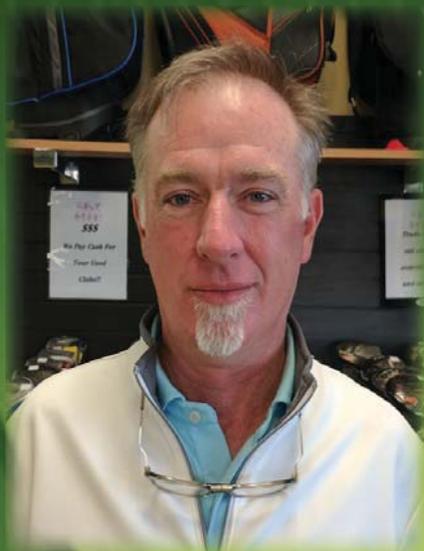


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# Swing tip: the elusive grip

*Bruce Parker - Owner/Director of Golf @ The Effortless Golf Center*

**T**he grip is our connection to the club. Some say that a good swing starts with a good grip. Well what's that? Let me show you the different types of grips so you can find the grip that works for you properly.

The grip is a reactionary moving part of the swing. The grip is designed to release and cross over exactly that way, AS A REACTION. There is a "neutral face" grip, "open face" grip, and a "closed face" grip.

What exactly are these grips for you? Well, that all depends on how you swing the club. The more body rotation, the more closed faced your grip should be. The more an arm swinger, the more an opened faced grip works.

The GOAL is to have the face pointing in the direction the swing path is going - that way the ball won't curve.

To find out why my clients keep improving, come see me. I will change your game.

Bruce Parker Owner/Director of Golf  
@ The Effortless Golf Center



Neutral face grip



Opened face grip



Closed face grip

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# Callaway Chrome golf balls adds an incredibly soft feel and better distance

**E**ven the Callaway Golf organization will admit that Titleist golf balls have dominated the market for many years, and are still considered the #1 golf balls available to golfers of all levels of play. However, that hasn't stopped Callaway from taking their next step in improving a golf ball that has drawn raves from amateurs and pros alike.



one chip shot would come off low,

The Chrome Soft Golf Ball is designed for Tour Proven performance with exceptional feel. The 4-piece construction and Dual SoftFast Core provides higher ball speeds and optimal spin rates to maximize performance through the bag.

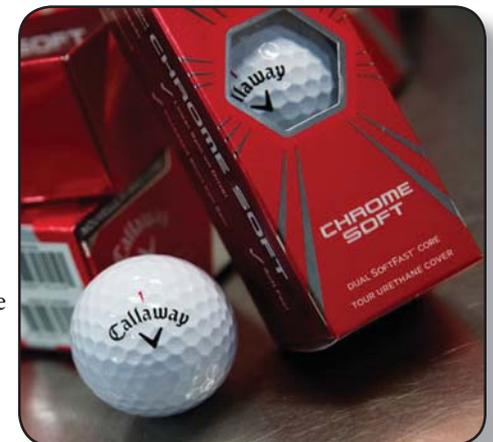
"This is the best ball I've ever played," says Callaway staffer Phil Mickelson. "It is revolutionary and the average player can see the difference. I'm getting lower spin, but more stability from 5-iron through to driver. I noticed practicing at home with my Callaway SR3+ that

another a little high, it was inconsistent. But with the Chrome Soft the flight was the same every time. My short game has never been as good as it has been with this ball."

It has a compression of around 65, lower than the majority of balls used out on tour, and it features a new 'SoftFast' core, which retains energy as the ball compresses and deforms on the face at impact, but also returns to its original shape quicker. This results in lower spin and more distance. Finally, hexagonal aerodynamic dimples create optimal performance on both low spin and high spin shots.

In local testing, shorter shots were a bit of a shock, as this ball really did check quickly! When the ball would hit the fringe and only just trickle onto the green, it took quite a while for golfers to be confident enough to throw the ball closer to the flag. You get a lot more confidence to do this as the ball really feels to grip the wedges!

One of the most underrated parts for ball testing is the feel off the putter. Much has been written about the soft feel of the Chrome Soft off the putter. Golfers are finding out that what they thought would be just rubbish or Callaway hype was really true, as the ball 'felt' fine from the putter, quiet too.



## Olde English District offers high quality golf in Upstate South Carolina

No state does glitzy golf destinations like South Carolina. Players know all about the great golf courses in Myrtle Beach, Hilton Head and Kiawah Island.

But closer to home local golfers can find high quality golf just off I-77 between Rock Hill and Columbia in seven counties known as the Olde English District. Named for British settlers who made this their home near the start of the Revolutionary War, the area is a paradise for golfers who like to play fast, pay less and take the road less traveled.

Highlighting the top courses in the district with its extraordinary setting is Springfield Golf Club just minutes south of I-485. It winds through a friendly housing development that never encroaches on the course, its holes traversing surprisingly rugged land, dotted with ponds and crisscrossed by streams that flow into the Catawba River.

Designer Clyde Johnston didn't waste the land, creating a course full of stunning holes - notably numbers 10 and 12, both with elevated tees and greens, but with vastly different visual appeal.

There is a downside to the rugged terrain: With drop-offs on many fairways and around the greens -- especially on the front nine -- Springfield can severely penalize shots that are slightly off line. The upside at Springfield, without a doubt, is the immaculate greens, which are fast, true and moderately sloped. Hit a putt on line here and it will go in the hole.



#9 and clubhouse at Springfield Golf Club

Five other Olde English District courses that have drawn rave reviews include Edgewater Golf Club in Lancaster; Donald Ross designed Fort Mill Golf Club and Camden Country Club; the popular muni-parkland course at Cheraw State Park and Cobblestone Park Golf Club near Columbia.

There is not an Upstate Golf Trail at the moment, however making a short ride along I-77 could easily provide several days of golf enjoyment in the Olde English District.

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# Statesville Country Club

## Rebirth of a Classic

The dictionary defines the word “classic” as: “Judged over a period of time to be of the highest quality and outstanding of its kind”.

With the rebirth of the Statesville Country Club, a true classic can be enjoyed by golfers and their families with renovated facilities and a new attitude of excellence.

The Statesville Country Club was sold to Conover-based Statesville Club Properties - owned by Hickory businessman Don Beaver, who also owns Rock Barn Country Club & Spa and three minor league baseball teams, including the Charlotte Knights and Hickory Crawdads. Beaver, a Troutman native believes that the club can be successful once again.

“We have provided the capital needed to not only fix the immediate maintenance problems, but also a complete renovation of the Club to enhance the experience of the members,” Mr. Beaver said. “Dues will remain reasonable and the emphasis will be to grow the membership so the Club can have the revenues for a first-class facility.”



An introductory membership program has been initiated to provide dues for up to a year-and-a-half as low at \$100 for the Athletic level to only \$200 for the Full & Corporate membership. Junior (30-39 years-old) will pay only \$175 per month, while young professionals (29 & under) will pay

just \$100. Non-residents of the Statesville Country Club can enjoy the low monthly dues of only \$150. A \$500 non-refundable application fee will be charged, and there is a \$60 food minimum for each category. (Details of the membership drive can be found on the Statesville CC ad on page 2 of this CGJ issue.)

A complete renovation of the Club began following the sale to Statesville Club Properties, starting with the 18,800 square foot Clubhouse that combines traditional warmth with modern elegance overlooking breathtaking views of the golf course.

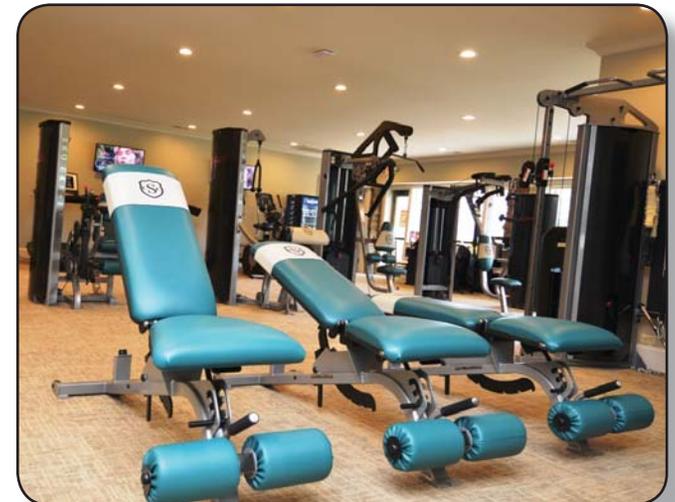
“The remodeling of the Clubhouse now gives a wonderful flow into the formal dining room and the bar lounge,” said Brian Bauer, General Manager/COO. “Our members can start with breakfast, break for lunch and enjoy



delicious dinner, all managed by our professional culinary team and wait-staff in a very inviting and comfortable atmosphere.”

The Club has taken strong steps to improve the health and well-being of its members with a new state-of-the-art Fitness Center. TPI Certified Golf Fitness Director Kathi Guild supervises the programs on Pro Maxima cardio and strength equipment and the use of the K-VEST technology that provides bio-feedback so that your body builds muscle memory and therefore each and every time you swing, your position is perfect.

“Golf fitness isn’t about looking like a bodybuilder or the best player on Tour,” said Guild. “It’s about being fit to play the game at an individual’s highest level and doing so without causing injury by knowing the body’s limitations in a golf swing and how to address those limitations through the proper channels; whether it’s through swing instruction, physical rehabilitation or strength and conditioning exercise”.



With all the renovations happening at the Clubhouse, golfers are also noticing the eye-to-detail being given the classic 1944 golf course under the watchful eye of new golf course Superintendent Shane Harrelson, formerly of the Donald Ross designed Lenoir Golf Course. The current improvements include a full-blown irrigation system, restoration of the course bunkers and careful preparation of the bent grass greens to meet the harsh summer heat.

Famed architects Alexander J. McKay and Seth Raynor originally sculpted the course from the natural rolling terrain and the abundance of trees. In 1998, renowned golf course architect, Tom Jackson, magnificently renovated the 18-hole course to perfection.

The par 72 course offers challenges for golfers of all skill levels. The course stretches over 6,700 yards with multiple tees, manicured bent grass greens, plush Bermuda fairways, challenging bunkers and lakes that provide spectacular views at every turn.



All of the par-5's are reachable including the 461 yard 6th hole that begins with an uphill tee shot over a sprawling valley that will bring the ball back to the bottom if not long enough. The back side par 5's measure up to 503 yards, but wide fairways allows golfers to hit full drivers and fairway metals to reach the green or set up comfortable approach shots. That includes the third shot over a lake that fronts the 469 yard 13th hole.

One of the first things golfers will notice is that the course is very walkable if they want to leave the golf cart behind and enjoy the stroll through the towering tree-lined fairways. There are several elevation changes that add more



character and challenge beginning with a blind uphill approach into number 2, the par-4 and 415 yard #1 handicap hole.

No major big problems on the par 3's that stretch from 168 yards to 190 yards from the member's tee. The greens are considered medium in size, but are very receptive to approach shots, including flat pitch-and-run strokes on true rolling surfaces.

A well-maintained grass hitting area driving range, practice greens, short game area, and bunkers are all in close proximity to the clubhouse. The clubhouse patio and lounge are conveniently located above the 18th green where members can enjoy refreshments while watching fellow golfers finish up their round.

Statesville Country Club members can enjoy reciprocity with Rock Barn Country Club & Spa providing the convenience of two separate Golf Clubs, and three Championship courses, for one great price.

The tennis complex is conveniently located within walking distance of the main clubhouse. With four clay courts and three hard courts, Director of Tennis Alex Cagide and his staff offers a balance of social, instructional and competitive programs for all ages. There is an active social calendar, plus adult and junior clinics with private and group lessons available upon request.

Club members will be beating the summer heat at the Aquatic Center, remodeled in 2014 to include a salt water filtration system which offers both an Olympic multiple lane lap pool and an adjoining children's pool. The Pavilion Pool Cafe is equipped with a full bar and grill for anything from burgers to salads. Adjoining the Aquatic Center is a completely fenced "Kiddie Playland" featuring a range of physical exercise equipment and swings.

If you haven't been to the Statesville Country Club, or it's been a while since your last visit, do yourself a favorite and enjoy the "rebirth of a classic". To be a part of this excitement call 704-873-7240 extension 101, or logon at [www.statesvillecc.com](http://www.statesvillecc.com).

# Memories galore – Palmer honored at the Masters

## *Sergio Garcia captures first major title*



The 2017 Masters was filled with storylines - one carefully planned and others that just developed before our very eyes as only the four days of brilliant play at Augusta can do.

After 73 holes of heart-pumping play, and after nearly two decades of heartache in the tournaments that define careers, Sergio Garcia finally showed the mettle to win a major. He overcame a two-shot deficit against Justin Rose and won on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff to capture the Masters title.

Garcia became the third Spaniard to wine the green jacket, winning on what would have been the 60th birthday of the late Seve Ballesteros. And it was Jose Maria Olazabal, who won the Masters in 1994 and 1999, who sent him a text on the eve of the Masters telling Garcia to believe and “to not let things get to me like I’ve done in the past.”



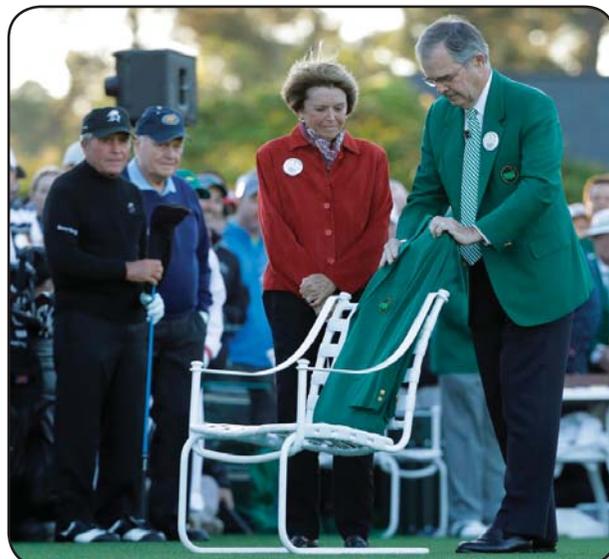
The carefully planned storyline at the Masters was the emotional week-long dedication to the memory of a golf idol missing for the first time in six decades.

The opening ceremony of the 81st Masters was full of heartfelt emotion because it was the first time since

1954 without four-time champion Arnold Palmer - who passed away last September at the age of 87.

“It is a wonderful, but in one respect, difficult day,” said Billy Payne, the chairman of Augusta National Golf Club on the first tee. “For the first time in six decades, someone is obviously missing from the first tee here at Augusta National and the Masters. The almost unbearable sadness we all feel at the passing of Arnold Palmer is surpassed only by the love and affection for him which will forever reside in our hearts.”

Before the ceremonial opening tee shots from Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player, Payne added a further heartfelt tribute to the third member of golf’s “Big Three”.



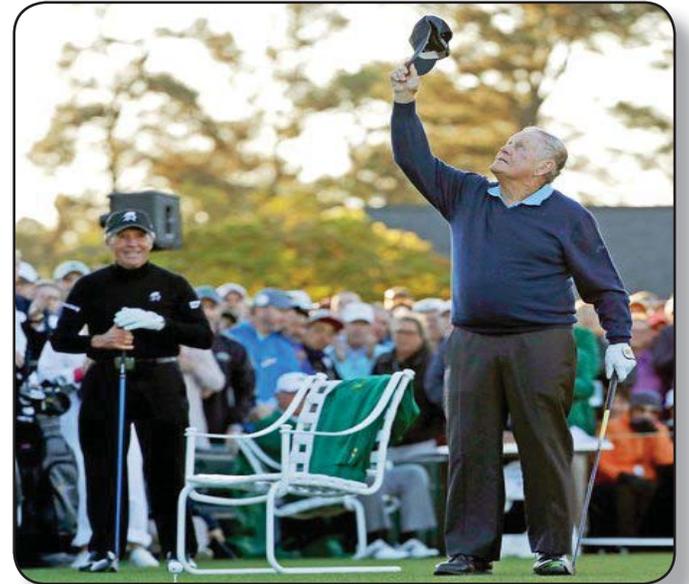
Billy Payne with Palmer’s widow “Kit” Gawthrop Palmer

“I have no doubt that history will place its own special mark on the 81st playing of the Masters, as it is competed over the fabled hills of Augusta. A man whose greatness as a player and a champion was exceeded only by his qualities as a man, for all of us at Augusta National Golf Club, that history has already been written. It is the celebration of the life story of Arnold Palmer.”

For the first time since 2006, Arnold Palmer was not alongside them on the first tee box. Last year, a weakened Palmer sat in a white deck chair and watched Nicklaus and Player hit their drives. Five months later, Palmer passed away.

The white chair was again on the tee box, with the green jacket from one of Palmer’s four victories draped over it. In tribute to his foe turned friend, Nicklaus, 77, tipped his cap in the air and wiped tears from his eyes before placing his drive in the fairway. Player, 81, who also was rubbing tears from his eyes, found the fairway with his shot as well.

“I don’t know how many people realize how much Arnold took me under his wing when I was 22 years old,” Nicklaus said. “When I first started on the tour, Arnold was very good to me. I may have had to fight Arnold’s gallery, but I never had to fight him. He was very kind to a young guy starting out, I appreciated it very much.”



Player choked back tears thinking of the friend he’d lost and the warmth emanating from the crowd on a brisk spring morning. He thought back to last year, when Palmer, struggling to walk and too weak to hit a tee shot, mustered the strength to lift himself up off that white chair on the first tee to give the crowd a little wave. It was a touching moment for Player, and the memory flooding back as he looked at the empty chair.

“There will be other Big Threes,” Player said. “But I don’t know if you’ll ever have another Big Three that will live together like we did. And it was a privilege and we all appreciated each other, which was a great friendship. It’s hard to be highly competitive against

*“Arnold Palmer let us all into his life. Not from the distance that is typically maintained between a superstar and a fan, but into his life, close up, so that we could literally push him to greatness and regale in his accomplishments as though they were our own.”*

- Billy Payne, Chairman of the Augusta National Golf Club



people and have a great friendship. And yet I sit here today and Jack Nicklaus is my best friend in the world. And our hearts are filled with the memories of our lost friend...Arnold Palmer”.

“I’ve respected a number of players who came before me but Arnold Palmer was my model on and off the course,” said Phil Mickelson. “I’m like every other fan of his enormous influence on the game and his great generosity

off the course. His spirit is here. It always will be here,” Mickelson added. “But to not actually have his physical presence is extremely awkward.”

There were little reminders all around the course, from Callaway bags adorned with pink head covers — Palmer’s favorite shirt color — to Jordan Spieth mimicking that knock-kneed putting form for a tap-in at Amen Corner during a practice round.

When the tournament began, patrons received a commemorative badge honoring “Arnie’s Army” — the passionate fans who cheered him on by the thousands during his rise to greatness, mesmerized by the swashbuckling player from western Pennsylvania who always seemed like one of them, even as he accumulated unimaginable wealth and fame.

“I am a member of Arnie’s Army,” which prompted Nicklaus to joke that Palmer “would have dropped over if he had seen one on Gary and me,” he laughed, “It was very nice.”

Yes, it was a Masters without Arnie, but when all that was said and done . . . you have that feeling that “the King” was looking down with his famed thumbs up, cheering on every great shot of the 81st Masters....truly one full of memories for a lifetime.

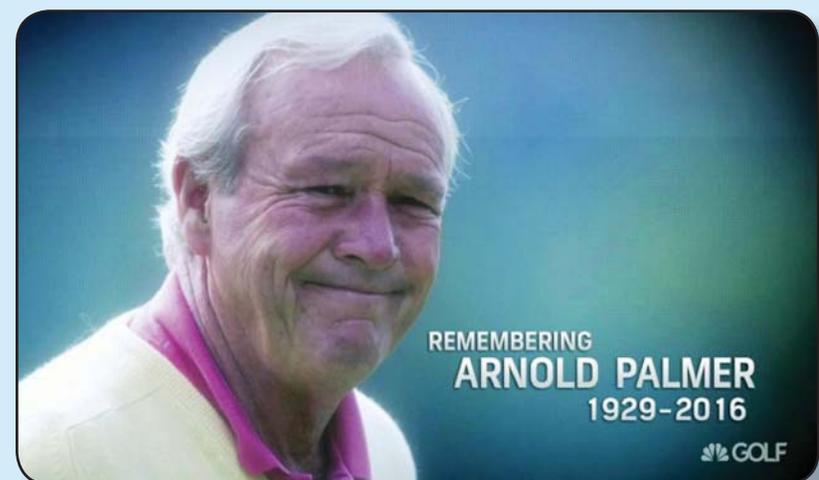


## ARNOLD PALMER

**Birth** place: Latrobe, Pennsylvania ~ Birth name: Arnold Daniel Palmer  
Education: Attended Wake Forest College, 1947-1951 (dropped out senior year)

**Fast Facts:** Learned to play golf at age three, taught by his father, Deacon, the Latrobe Country Club golf pro ~ Quit Wake Forest and joined the US Coast Guard (1951-54) after his roommate, Bud Worsham, was killed in a car accident ~ Winner of over 90 golf tournaments and was the first person to make \$1 million playing golf ~ Is credited with bringing golf into the mainstream and making it popular with people outside of country clubs ~ Palmer’s fans were known as Arnie’s Army and followed him on the weekly PGA Tour events ~ Built a financial empire with endorsements and golf-related ventures, including co-founding the Golf Channel

**Timeline:** 1954 - Wins the United States Golf Association Amateur Championship.  
November 1954 - Turns pro and signs a sponsorship contract with Wilson Sporting Goods.  
1958, 1960, 1962, 1964 - Wins The Masters.  
1960 - Wins the US Open.  
1961, 1962 - Wins the British Open.  
1971 - Buys the Latrobe Country Club, the same course where he learned to play golf.  
1974 - Inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame.  
1980 - Wins the Seniors Championship, his first event on the Seniors Tour.  
1981 - Wins the US Seniors Open.  
1993 - Presented with the National Sports Award by President Bill Clinton.  
1994 - Makes his final appearance at the US Open.  
1995 - Makes his final appearance at the British Open.  
1996-1997 - Diagnosed and successfully treated for prostate cancer.  
1997 - The Palmer Cup is established, a competition showcasing American and European college golfers.  
2003 - Arnold Palmer Prostate Center is established at Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage, CA.  
2004 - Receives the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush.  
2004 - Makes his 50th and final appearance at the Masters. 2006 - Plays his last Champions Tour event 2007 - The Bay Hill Invitational, held at Palmer’s Bay Hill Club, is renamed the Arnold Palmer Invitational. Second PGA tour competition to be named after someone; the Byron Nelson championship is the other.  
March 25, 2012 - Is hospitalized overnight due to high blood pressure. He is unable to present the winner’s trophy to Tiger Woods after the final round of the Arnold Palmer Invitational.  
September 12, 2012 - Palmer receives the Congressional Gold Medal that was signed by President Barack Obama in 2009 in a ceremony at the US Capitol. Jack Nicklaus attends the ceremony. Palmer is the sixth sportsman to receive the award.  
March 2016 - Palmer is ranked third on Forbes’ 2016 list of The Highest-Paid Retired Athletes, with estimated earnings of \$40 million in 2015.  
September 25, 2016 - Passes away at the age of 87.



# Local Pro and Amateur Golf Schedules - 2017

## Swing Thought Tour – Carolina's Events

May 17-18	Gaston Country Club	Gastonia
May 26-27	Myrtle Beach National	Myrtle Beach
May 31 – June 2	Bryan Park	Greensboro
June 15-18	TPC Myrtle Beach	Myrtle Beach
July 7-8	Lions Paw	Ocean Isle Beach
July 28-29	World Tour Golf Links	Myrtle Beach
July 31 – August 5	The Patriot	Grand Harbor
August 9-12	Three Ridges Golf Club	Knoxville
September 1-3	Grand Dunes & Pine Lakes	Myrtle Beach
September 9-10	TPC Myrtle Beach	Myrtle Beach
October 23-28	Columbia	Columbia
October 31 – Nov. 2	Carolina Series	TBA
November 9-12	The Club at Irish Creek	Kannapolis
December 12-17	TPC Myrtle Beach	Myrtle Beach

## Senior Amateur Tour – Charlotte Area

May 17	Club at Irish Creek	Kannapolis
June 7	Country Club of Salisbury	Salisbury
June 19	Peninsula Country Club	Cornelius
June 28	Cowans Ford Country Club	Stanley
July 12	Pine Island Country Club	Charlotte
August 7	PGA @ Peninsula Club	Cornelius
August 8	Club at Irish Creek	Kannapolis
August 21	Firethorne Country Club	Marvin
September 5-6	The Players @ Cabarrus CC	Concord
September 20	River Hills Country Club	Lake Wylie

### **Contact information for local tours:**

Charlotte Senior Amateur Tour: 704-844-8264  
[senioramateurgolftour.net/charlotte](http://senioramateurgolftour.net/charlotte)

Charlotte Golfweek Amateur Tour: 704-844-8264  
[amateurgolftour.net/charlotte](http://amateurgolftour.net/charlotte)

Swing Thought Tour: 800-992-8748  
[swingthought.com](http://swingthought.com)

National Junior Golf Tour: 704-824-6548  
[nationaljuniorgolffassociation.com](http://nationaljuniorgolffassociation.com)

## Charlotte Golfweek Amateur Tour

May 30	Peninsula Country Club	Cornelius
June 5	River Run Country Club	Davidson
June 24-25	Golfweek Open ~ Club @ Irish Creek	Kannapolis
July 22-23	Southern Regional	Kiawah Island
August 5	Firethorne Country Club	Marvin
August 12	Northstone Country Club	Huntersville
August 26	Cabarrus Country Club	Concord
September 16	River Hills Country Club	Lake Wylie
September 23	Local Finals ~ Cowans Ford CC	Stanley
September 24	Local Finals ~ Club @ Irish Creek	Kannapolis

## National Junior Golf Tour – Charlotte Area

May 20-21	IMG Jr. World College Prep	
	Rumbling Bald Resort	Lake Lure
June 5	Rock Barn CC & Spa	Conover
June 12	Stonebridge Golf Club	Monroe
June 13	River Hills Country Club	Lake Wylie
June 19	NC West District Optimist Qualifier	
	Catawba Country Club	Newton
June 24	Monroe Country Club	Monroe
June 26	Olde Sycamore Golf	Charlotte
June 27	Edgewater Golf Club	Lancaster
July 6	Statesville Country Club	Statesville
July 13	Twin Oaks Golf Club	Statesville
July 25	Meadowlands Golf Club	Winston-Salem
July 27	Lenoir Golf Course	Lenoir
August 1	Warrior Golf Club	China Grove
August 10	Deer Brook Golf Club	Shelby
August 22	Oak Valley Golf Club	Advance
September 3-4	NJGT Ntl Championship	
	Gen. James Hackler Course	Conway

For other junior golf schedules in the Carolinas go to: [www.tygajuniorgolf.org](http://www.tygajuniorgolf.org)

# PREMIUM CLUB FITTING = INSTANT SUCCESS

Golf Digest finds 8 out of 9 golfers added 21 yards off the tee.

By Leonard Finkel



With advances in club technology, most golfers could easily hit the ball farther and more accurately, yet a *Golf Magazine* study found that 90% of U.S. golfers may be playing with improperly fit clubs. Says world-renowned instructor David Leadbetter, “It never ceases to amaze me that golfers buy clubs off the shelf and assume they’re right for them. Whether you’re a great golfer or a casual one, getting a custom club fitting is one of the quickest ways to improve your game.”

Club Champion delivers a Tour-quality fitting that produces longer, more accurate shots with a nearly 100% satisfaction rate. Their approach is unbiased; no specific vendor is promoted. The only goal – find the best combination of components to lower your scores. Leadbetter adds, “Club Champion is the #1 premium club fitter, builder and retailer of the best brands in golf. Their master fitters and builders are unrivaled experts. With over 35,000 combinations, Club Champion will build the perfect clubs for you.” A *Golf Digest* study found that 8 out of 9 Club Champion custom fit golfers lowered their scores by as much as six strokes per round and added 21 yards off the tee.

Ranked by *Golf Digest* among the 100 best club fitters four times in a row, Club Champion’s unique coupling system allows them to combine any head and shaft together. Golfers hit the precise combination to be custom-built for them. Most stores use fitting carts provided by club manufacturers. While they offer options, golfers are unable to mix-and-match across carts to determine their ideal combinations. Club Champion offers hundreds of shafts, many not available through most other fitters and retailers.

Frank D’Angelo (Malvern, PA) reveals, “I was a 12 index before I went to Club Champion and I’ve shaved

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**Whether you’re a great golfer or a casual one, getting a custom club fitting is one of the quickest ways to improve your game.**

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– David Leadbetter, World-Renowned Instructor

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about six shots off my handicap. It’s a premium store and you get premium service.”

Numerous PGA Tour players have been fit at Club Champion. Because of their unparalleled expertise, PXG Golf sends many of their Tour players into Club Champion studios to fit their premium clubs.

Club Champion stands out because they build clubs in-house to exacting, unrivaled tolerances. Variables such as swing weight, length, lie and flex DO alter performance. PGA Tour veteran Jay Williamson says, “I had access to every brand of shaft and head, but never understood what they did for me. I couldn’t experiment like I do at Club Champion. They bring the same level of service players receive on Tour; the newest components and most advanced fitting technology. If you’re committed to golf on any level, I highly recommend it.” Incidentally, Club Champion added an average of 15 yards to Jay’s driving statistics.

The experience and know-how combining these intricate parts together is what separates Club Champion from its competition. Chuck Thiry (VP Strategic Partnerships – Cleveland Golf) says, “In our experience, Club Champion represents the finest in the art of club fitting and building. We are confident that Club Champion will fit, service and support the most discerning golfers at the highest possible levels.”

While anyone will benefit from premium club fitting, it’s for the golfer who wants to optimize performance. When Club Champion says you’ll add 20 yards off the tee, they mean it. Using a TaylorMade driver and Callaway irons, Gary Lichenstien said, “My distance off the tees has increased by 20 yards consistently, on occasion even more. My average score has dropped about 4-5 strokes on average. I feel, over time, I can still pick up a few more strokes.”

Whether you’re looking to buy new clubs or just fix your current set, premium club fitting is the answer. Fittings range from \$80 for wedges to \$350 for an entire bag and they have 20 studios across the country. At Club Champion, you don’t just buy clubs, you buy guaranteed improvement! For more information, visit [clubchampiongolf.com](http://clubchampiongolf.com) or call (888) 350-5065.

Club Champion  
Sharon Corners  
4724 Sharon Road, Suite 2J  
Charlotte, NC 28210





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