

Carolina GOLF JOURNAL

Vol 9 Issue 4

Free



**Gastonia's Harold Varner
Focusing on first PGA win**

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Brooks Koepka "too strong" for PGA competitors in St. Louis

Brooks Koepka is impossible to overlook, looking more like a power-lifter than a pro golfer, he won the PGA Championship with machine-like precision. This goes along with his back-to-back U.S. Open titles to set him apart from a talented field of professionals.

He closed with a 4-under 66 for a two-shot victory over Tiger Woods and took his place among the elite in golf. Koepka became the fifth



Brooks Koepka celebrates PGA victory with caddy Ricky Elliott

player to win the U.S. Open and PGA Championship in the same year, joining Woods, Jack Nicklaus, Ben Hogan and Gene Sarazen. He also joined Jordan Spieth, Woods, Nicklaus and Tom Watson as the only players with three majors before turning 30 since World War II.

"Three majors at 28 -- it's a cool feeling," said Koepka, who five

years ago was toiling in Europe's minor leagues.

With roars that could have been heard anywhere this side of Augusta National for Woods' exceptional come-back tournament, Koepka kept his cool and ran off two birdies on the back nine at Bellerive right after Woods closed within one shot.

"We knew what was going on," he said. "It's pretty obvious when Tiger makes a birdie. Everybody on the golf course cheers for him."

After wasting one chance to put it away by missing consecutive birdie chances from 7 feet, Koepka kept attacking flags and ran in birdie putts of 10 feet on No. 15 and 7 feet on No. 16 to end the drama. He tapped in for par on the final hole to set the PGA Championship scoring record at 264. It also tied the major championship record that Henrik Stenson set at Royal Troon two years ago in the British Open.

Adam Scott hung around by making big putts, just like he hoped, and was tied for the lead until Koepka's birdies. They both missed

6-foot birdies on the 17th, and Scott had to settle for third when he bogeyed the final hole for a 67.

Afterwards Scott talked about the new Champion. "He's won three majors now, so he's definitely winning the right ones," Scott said. "If I was him, I wouldn't change much at the moment. I'd just keep doing what he's doing because he's showing up at the right moments in the biggest events. There's something inside his brain that makes him believe that that's what he's destined to do."

Woods, who carded a 6-under par 64 in the final round, and Koepka played nine holes of a practice round Wednesday, and the 14-time major champion knew what he was up against.



"It's tough to beat when the guy hits it 340 down the middle," Woods said. "What he did at Shinnecock, (U.S. Open site) just bombing it, and then he's doing the same thing here. And when a guy's doing that and hitting it straight, and as good a putter as he is, it's tough to beat."

Koepka never imagined a year like this. He missed four months at the start of the year when a partially torn tendon in his left wrist, causing him to sit out the Masters. He outlasted good friend Dustin Johnson at Shinnecock Hills to become the first back-to-back U.S. Open champion in 29 years.

And now with the PGA Championship in his hip-pocket heading to the FedEx playoffs, with a leg up on "Player of the Year" title and the Ryder Cup in September, Koepka is bulging, not only with muscles, but with personal pride as well.



SKYBROOK GOLF CLUB

Friendly yet challenging

For more than 18 years, Skybrook Golf Club in Huntersville has been beckoning golfers to its 18-hole championship golf course featuring beautiful rolling fairways and incredibly scenic views.

Under management of Pinnacle Golf Properties, with their motto – “Exceeding expectations the PGP way” – golfers are finding Charlotte golf at its finest for daily and membership play and golf outings on one of the premier layouts in the Greater Charlotte area.

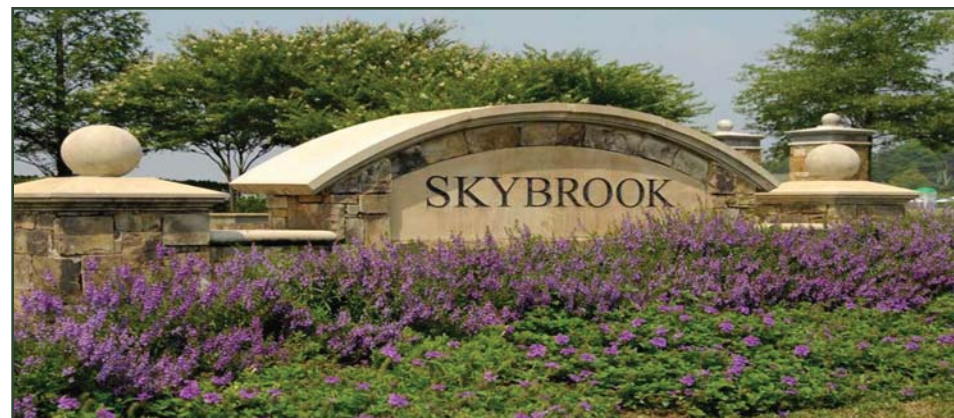
“We are excited to welcome the Pinnacle team as our new operating partner,” said Chris Allick, Managing Member of Hunting Dog Capital, owners of Skybrook Golf Club. “We feel strongly that Skybrook and its members will benefit from having a local partner with extensive knowledge, reach and experience within the market. With their executive team members having in excess of 25 years’ 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 Carolina’s.”

This John LaFoy championship course opened for play in the summer of 2000 winding through the Skybrook neighborhood.



From the championship tees the course covers over 7,000 yards of remarkable mountain-like terrain. The par-72 course offers six sets of tees to complement the skill level of each golfer. Dramatic elevation changes and generous landing areas provide a friendly yet challenging game.

You get a real feel of the golf course’s elevation changes right from the first hole with a 419-yard par-4 that comes complete with an 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.



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 uniqueness 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 number 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 with trees and a drainage ditch area on the right. Then on this S-shaped hole you’ll have to hit a narrow second 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, John LaFoy likes to place bunkers several yards in front of greens, creating Donald Ross type “false fronts”, giving the appearance that they are greenside traps, when in reality they are solid sand wedge shot away.

“We just completed restoring all of our course bunkers and they look fantastic,” said Skybrook General Manager Mike LaPierre. “Skybrook has always been a complete golf club. We have the goal of providing the golfers and their families a great experience on and off the course.”

At Skybrook, the two-tiered driving range tee, 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.

For information on improving your golf game, club memberships, or tee times contact Skybrook Golf Club at 704-948-6611 or visit skybrookgolf.com.



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Gastonia's Harold Varner, III

Focusing on the first of many PGA victories

Looking at PGA statistics some of the numbers can tell a progressive story of a golfer on the verge of breaking through for his first PGA Tour victory.

Stats like: Driving distance 308-yards (#18 on PGA Tour) 69% green in regulation (#75) and in number of eagles -10 for the year (#41). Collecting 1.2M of his career 3.4m money earnings in 2018, while making 16 cuts out of 25 tournaments and finishing 3-times in the Top-10 and 5-times in the Top-25.



Gastonia's Harold Varner, III is making this push in his third year on the PGA Tour. And has made it clear that he is focusing on his first PGA title as his main goal. And now as only two African Americans on the PGA Tour, he has an impressive up-bringing to fuel his fire to succeed.

Harold's father, Harold Varner, Jr. gave him his first golf clubs at age 2. Not being pushed by his father to devote time to

the game of golf, Harold picked an obvious hero to mold his desire to be the best.

Varner was six years old when Tiger Woods won the 1997 Masters by 12 strokes. Too young to realize the importance of the feat at that moment, he watched a documentary about it when he was 10 to get the impact.

"I appreciated him when I was growing up because of how good he was," Varner said. "If Tiger was green we'd (still) be like, 'Oh my god, Tiger's really good. I respected him way more for his dedication to his practice and game management than any one accomplishment during his great years. He helped drive me to get better every day.'"

Varner accelerated his game at nine thanks to a Gaston Country Club offering a \$100 junior membership. By 16, he was working the range at a country club when the pro started giving him lessons, and his game took off.

A Forest-view High School grad, Varner had thoughts of staying close to home at Belmont Abbey, but

wanted to test his skills at the Division I level. Recruited by East Carolina University Coach Press McPhaul, now current golf coach at NC State, Varner became sort of folk-hero of their golf program.

In Varner's time at East Carolina he became the first player in school history to be named Conference USA Player-of-the-Year. In his four years, Varner compiled two first-place finishes and 10 top-five finishes.

"He came to us initially very raw but his greatest strength has always been his competitive desire," McPhaul said. "He's a confident kid who's able to move to the next challenge quickly, which allows him to face each challenge without being too high or too low."

Varner turned pro in 2012, playing on the eGolf Tour and then three years on the Web.com Tour. The turning point in his career came in 2015 when Varner finished in the Top-25 of the Web.com money list to earn his PGA playing card, and becoming the first African American golfer to advance to the PGA via the Web.com tour.

"The primary reason people know me is that I'm black," Varner said. "I'm not afraid to say that. Maybe I'll get a bit more media coverage or be seen as the guy who can change the way the tour is perceived. Being black has helped me, no doubt."

The 28-year old Varner spent 2016 between the PGA Tour and the European Tour, where he became the first American since Hale Irwin in 1978 to win the Australian PGA Championship.



In addition to the victory on the foreign tour, Varner had 3 Top-10 finishes on the PGA Tour and closed the year with more than 1.3M in earnings and the #75 spot in the FedEx standings.

Varner slipped a bit in 2017, finishing #90 on the FedEx standings, and had only one Top-10 finish. And apparently falling back on



Coach McPhaul's words at East Carolina, "Harold faces each challenge without being too high or too low", 2018 has been another banner year in his climb toward his goal of a PGA victory.

In the eight previous tournaments prior to this writing, Varner has collected three Top-20 and two Top-10 finishes. This has helped him to nearly surpass last year's earnings with \$925K in that stretch and is well on his way to passing his career yearly earning total with 1.2M so far in 2018. In his 25 events this year, he has made 16 cuts, three Top-10 and five Top 25's.

His best finishes so far in 2018 have come at the Military Tribute at the Greenbrier (T5), John Deere Classic (6) and the Players Championship (T7).

Varner may be focusing on his ultimate goal of a PGA victory; but he hasn't lost sight of his personal responsibilities. The next morning after earning the second-biggest paycheck of his PGA Tour career at the Greenbrier, (\$247,000) Varner was back on the seat of his riding mower mowing his parents' lawn in Gastonia.

The 54-hole leader shot a disappointing two-over-par 72, seven shots back of red-hot Kevin Na who shot a 64 (6-under par) on Sunday for the victory.

"I hate to harp on it, but it's all about perspective," said Varner.

"If I win or lose I'm going to be able to go home, and my mom is gonna give me a kiss and be like, 'you're still a winner.' And I'm gonna be mad, but that's just how it is. And if I win, she's going to humble me and be like, 'you're not better than me.' And I thoroughly enjoy that.

"I'm gonna to mow my parents' grass on Monday . . . so that's just what I'm gonna do."

Harold Varner, III, quite a young man of honor for his family, a man focused on his future and with a strong dedication to his game - soon, and maybe real soon - will become a new PGA Tournament winner. Varner seems destined for big things.



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RIVER OAKS GOLF CLUB in Statesville

Challenges of a mountain tract

Turning into the River Oaks Golf Club golfers have a feeling that the Blue Ridge Mountains foothills can't be far away. With elevated tees and greens with wide inviting ribbons of green fairways all along the entrance road, the excitement of a fun day of golf is just one more hill ahead.

River Oaks is an 18-hole championship golf course nestled in a pristine wildlife area. Located between Statesville and Hickory, many have called it "the best kept secret in the western piedmont!" The course offers the challenges of a mountain tract - from rolling hills to dramatic slopes, River Oaks is not only a golfer's delight, but incredibly beautiful.

Designed by Lennie Younce, River Oaks Golf Club is a semi-private golf course that opened in 2007. The course measures 7,086 yards from the longest tees and has a slope rating of 133 and a 73.8 USGA rating. Golfers of all skill



#3 "This par-4 is considered by many to be a very challenging hole. There is ample room to the right on your tee shot, but going too far left is problematic. Your second shot should carry the pond and stay away from the right hand green side bunker. Hit enough club to allow for a slightly elevated green."

levels can enjoy their round by selecting one of the five sets of tees.

Conditions at River Oaks Golf Club have never been better. The bent grass greens are full and true, the bermuda fairways are lush allowing golfers to get a good lie throughout the course.

River Oaks is owned by retired Air Force Colonel Tony Henderson, and his desire to make the course the best in the area is apparent. Confessing that he is putting all of the profits made are going right back into the course speaks well as to why golfers are making River Oaks their golf course of choice.

"In the past this course has had several owners and names," said Henderson. "But with the progress we have made since buying the property it gives us a good feeling that River Oaks Golf Club is here to stay. More and more area golfers are playing here regularly and booking their golf tournaments, while



"From the upper tee boxes, Hole 8 is considered the most difficult tee shot at River Oaks. The fairway is guarded by a creek on the right and a wooded hill on the left. Your second shot must clear the creek to find the spacious green. A large waste bunker protects your approach shot."

many are also buying our inexpensive memberships to maximize the value of playing here."

The layout has always been quite challenging, particularly with elevation changes, some moguls, strategically placed bunkers, and a few blind shots.

A long hitter can overpower some of the course by flying some of the trouble spots, while the normal golfer has to be more strategic. In some respects, it feels very much like a true mountain course.

Greens are excellent with consistent speed, and well-protected by properly maintained bunkers. Well-placed approach shots and pitches are a requirement to keeping the score down. A few long shots to the green end up with a slightly uphill pitch from the bottom of the sloping fringe. Challenging, but fair. What a success Colonel Henderson is working hard to accomplish, this course has risen like a phoenix from the ashes of previous owners and poor conditions.

River Oaks is an excellent challenge for all level of golfers particularly compared to many local courses in the Charlotte to Hickory region.

GOLF RATES

Monday-Friday 18-holes- \$29 after 12 noon - \$25; 9-holes - \$18

Seniors: Monday-Friday 18-holes - \$24; 9-holes - \$17

Weekends/ Holidays 18-holes - \$37; after 12 noon - \$31

RIVER OAKS GOLF CLUB is a semi-private club offering exceptional value in a member's package.

GOLF MEMBERSHIPS PROVIDE THE AVID GOLFER W/ AMENITIES & SERVICE AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE

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- **Primary Membership:** \$60 per month
- **Family Members (spouse and minor children):** \$30 per month each
- **Pay \$15 cart fee to play 18 holes.**
- **Pay \$10 cart fee to play 9 holes.**
- **Use of the driving range (up to 2 buckets daily) is included. Members have access to a separate practice area including driving range tee boxes, putting green and practice bunker.**
- **Large lockers are available to our members in the Locker Room.**



EAGLE'S BAR & GRILL

Eagle's Bar and Grill offers great food, cold beverages, and a variety of snacks at reasonable prices; the menu provides something for every taste... breakfast sandwiches, lunch/dinner options, and bar food. Quench your thirst after the game with a variety of canned beers, and draft beer by the glass or pitcher. Eagle's Bar & Grill might just be the best part of your golf day!



GOLF OUTINGS - THE RIVER OAKS TOURNAMENT EXPERIENCE

Let River Oaks Golf Club host your next golf outing. Whether it's a charity fundraiser or corporate sponsored event, River Oaks' professional staff will make the day memorable and successful. Carts are marked by hole and name placards for each golfer!

PRACTICE FACILITIES

River Oaks Golf Club offers the best in practice facilities. The putting green and range are perfect for honing your skills before facing off with friends! The driving range is available to members and same day golfers, only. A small bucket of balls (about 45) is \$5 for non-members. Members hit balls for free and have a "private" area to practice.

RIVER OAKS GOLF CLUB – Statesville
704-883-8724 - www.golfriveroaks.com

SHORTEN THE COURSE

By Bruce Wilkins, PGA
Ballantyne Golf Academy

Course length and driver optimization are two major components to improving the performance of the average male amateur (AMA). The AMA has a driver club speed of around 93 mph and an average total distance of 220 yards. Most golfers are playing courses that are too long relative to their club speed and skill level. It is not



to suggest that a golfer should simply play a shorter course to shoot better scores, but a golfer should play a course length that is appropriate to their level.

One suggestion is to setup course length based on your club speed and driver efficiency. With average club speed at 93 mph, the AMA should be able to hit his driver around 250 yards. If a 50% greens in regulation stat was desired, then the approach shot would need to be approximately 140 yards. This

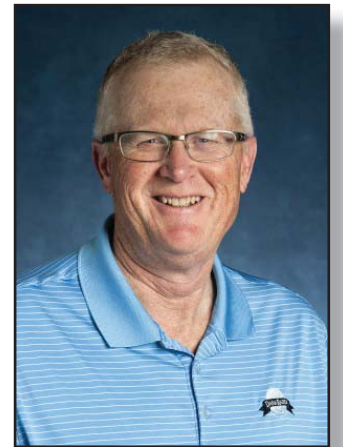
means your par 4's would average 390 yards. Playing from a shorter tee box is one easy and obvious answer.

Another way to effectively shorten a golf course would be to become more efficient with your current club speed and driver. With the AMA averaging 30 yards less than his potential, there is a lot of room for improvement.

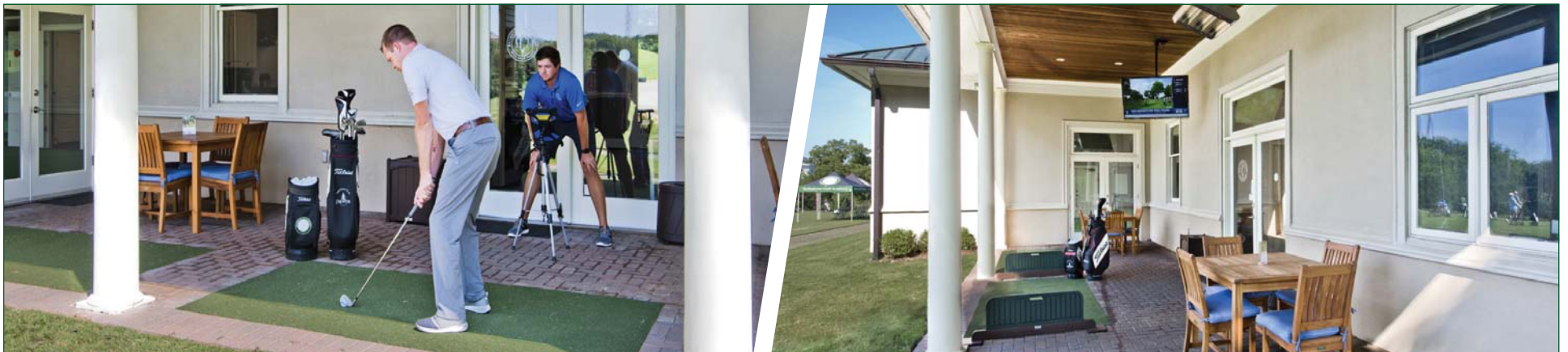
Schedule a session with Stan Roach, our certified club fitter, to help optimize your driver. As you become more efficient, you will have shorter approach shots, which can then lead to closer proximity to the hole and lower scores.

The Golf Academy at Ballantyne is committed to helping students improve their golf games and enjoy the sport more. Ballantyne Golf Academy, the Carolinas' only Golf Channel Academy, has the right instruction program for you.

Call 704-542-7635 or logon at ballantynegolfacademy.com.



Stan Roach



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2018 Charity Golf Tournaments for the Greater Charlotte area

Carolina Golf Journal would like to promote your 2018 fundraising golf tournament.

Send your information to: samcsmith@mindspring.com or call 704-774-7748

Lindsay Pettus Greenway Golf Tournament
Saturday, August 18
Lancaster Golf Club
Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 1:00pm
Cost: \$240 per team
Contact: Kathy Sullivan 803-416-6366
lindsaypettugreenway.org

Mindsight NP Fundraiser Event
Sunday, August 19
Top Golf - Charlotte
Time: 4:00pm - 7:00pm
Cost: \$75
Contact: Cameo Crumby 800-443-9289
subwaync.com

2018 ACC vs. SEC Challenge Golf Tournament
Presented by ESPN Radio 730 &
Red Bridge Golf Club
Friday, August 24
Red Bridge Golf Club
2-Person better ball match play
Ryder Cup Format Shotgun Start 1:00pm
Cost: \$150 per team
Contact: Mark Davis 704-781-5231
mdavis@redbridgegolfclub.com

Monroe Civitan Club Golf Tournament
September 10, 2018
Monroe Country Club
Captains choice
Shotgun start 12:30 pm
Cost: Individual \$75.00 / Team \$300.00
Contact: 704-219-6165
jcarpenter12@carolina.rr.com

Gaston County Amateur Golf Tournament
Proceeds benefit Cancer Services of Gaston County
September 14-15-16
3 courses: Catawba Creek, Cramer Mt. Club,
Gaston Country Club
Individual stroke play (Divisions)
Cost: \$175 per golfer (resident of Gaston County
-Register by 8/24
Contact Pat Morrow 704-616-8403
gastoncancerservices.org

6th Annual "Putt for Pups" Benefits - Project 2 Heal
Monday, September 17
Firethorne Country Club
Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 11:30am
Cost: \$150 per player
Contact: Sandy Petrizzo 704-577-3548
sandy@project2heal.org

15th Annual Samaritan's Feet Barefoot Invitational
Tuesday, September 18
Golf Club at Ballantyne
Captain's Choice Shotgun Start 1:30pm
Cost: \$300 per golfer / \$1,200 per foursome
Contact: Samaritan's Feet 980-939-8150
events@samaritansfeet.org

Land vs. Air & Sea Golf Tournament
Thursday, September 20
Olde Sycamore Golf Plantation
Sponsorship Levels - include
Sponsor a Vet to Play - \$100
Contact: Veteran Transport Services
veterantransportservices.com

Harlan's Heroes 4th Annual Golf Tournament
Monday, September 24
Tega Cay Golf Course
Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 9:30am
Cost: \$80 per players / \$300 per team
Contact: Harlan's Heroes 803-371-0922
info@harlansheroes.com

Charlotte Regional Partnership Invitational Golf Tournament
Thursday, September 27
Golf Club at Ballantyne
Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 1:00pm
Cost: \$500 per team
Contact: Charlotte Regional Partnership
704-347-8942
charlotteusa.com

Inaugural Harvick 4 Heroes PGA Reach Charity Pro-Am
Monday, October 1
Charlotte Country Club
Texas Scramble - Shotgun Start 10:00am
Cost: \$5000 per Pro-Am team
Contact: Kurt Battenberg 336-398-2672
kbattenberg@pgahq.com

Silver Cap Golf Tournament benefits The Garrett Thomas Foundation for Cystic Fibrosis
Monday, October 1
Cabarrus Country Club
Captain's Choice
Cost: \$100 per player
Contact: Katy Thomas 704-599-1100
katy@thegarrettthomasfoundation.org

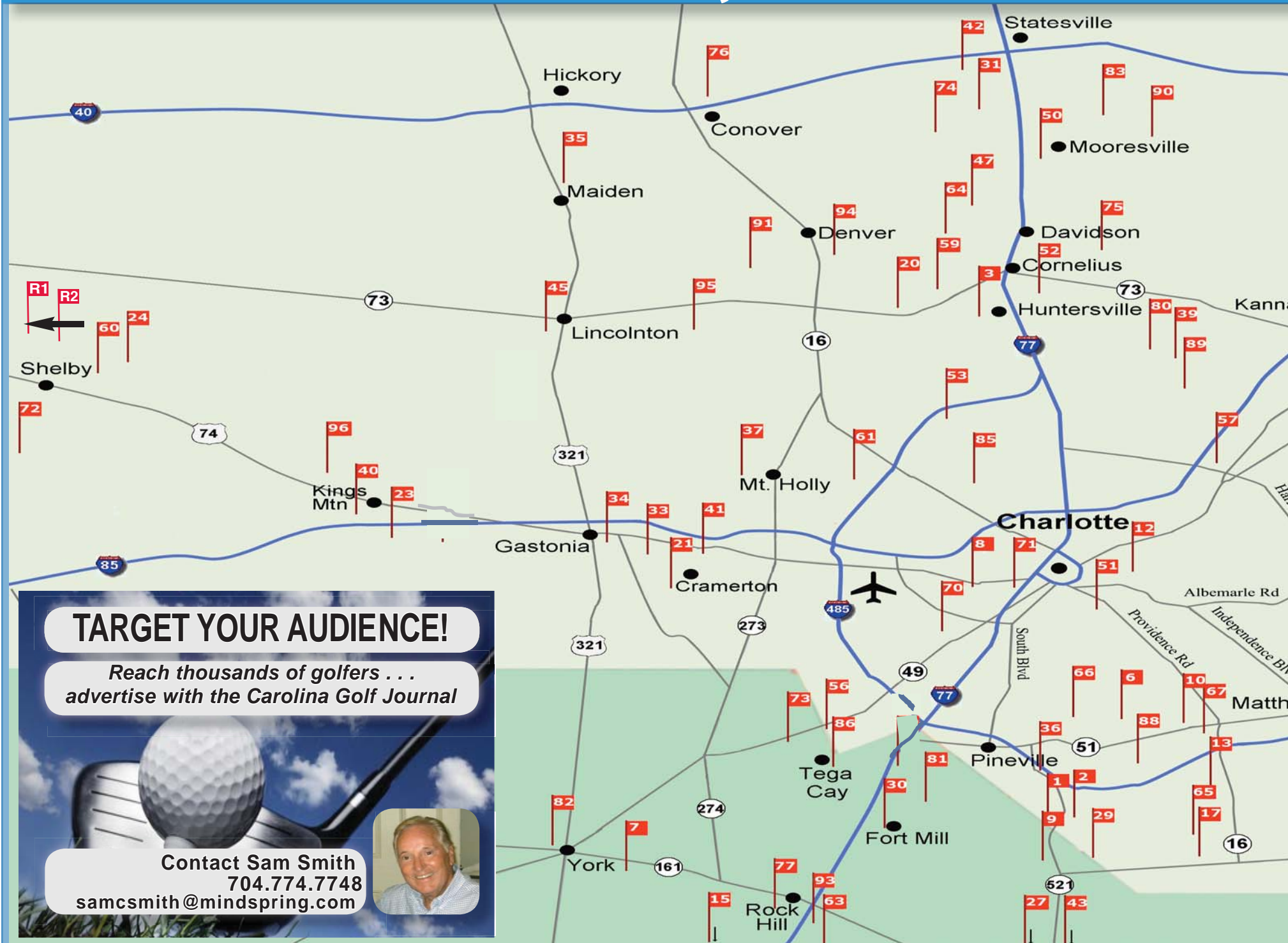
8th Annual Corvian Community School Golf Tournament
Friday, October 12
Skybrook Golf Club
Captain's Choice Shotgun Start 11:30am
Cost: \$125 per golfer / \$500 per foursome
Contact: Caroline Miller 704-595-9452
caroline.miller@corvian.org

The Charlotte Post Foundation 3rd Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser
Friday, October 12
Birkdale Golf Club
Captain's Choice Shotgun Start 9:00am
Cost: \$125 per golfer/ \$400 per foursome
Contact Linda Johnson 704-376-0498
linda@thecharlottepost.com

9th Annual Hospice & Palliative Care of Cabarrus County Golf Tournament
Monday, October 22
The Club at Irish Creek
Captain's Choice Shotgun Start 12:00pm
Coat: \$1125 per golfer / \$400 per foursome
Contact: Jeanette Scire 704-403-5277
Jeanette.Scire@AtriumHealth.org

3rd Annual UNPACKIN' it Golf Tournament
Monday, October 22
Raintree Country Club
Captain's Choice - Shotgun Start 10:00am
Cost: \$150 per player
Contact: Brent Bowlin 865-216-7628
unpackinit.com/golf

Carolina Golf Journal Golf Course G



R1. Apple Valley Golf Course - Lake Lure
Resort 18 ~ 828-694-3043

R2. Bald Mountain Golf Course - Lake Lure
Resort 18 ~ 828-694-3042

1. Ballantyne Country Club - Charlotte
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

7. Carolina Crossing Golf Club - York, SC
Public 18 ~ 803-684-5878

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.

16.

17.

Guide for the Greater Charlotte Area



Charlotte National Golf Club ~ Indian Trail
Public 18 ~ 704-882-8282

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

18. 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
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
Public 18 ~ 704-545-4653
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. Siffor Golf Course ~ Charlotte
Public 9 ~ 704-333-3949

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>72. Riverbend Golf Club ~ Shelby
Public 18 ~ 704-482-4286</p> <p>73. River Hills Country Club ~ Lake Wylie
Private 18 ~ 803-831-2249</p> <p>74. River Oaks Golf Club ~ Statesville
Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-883-8724</p> <p>75. River Run Golf & CC ~ Davidson
Private 18 ~ 704-896-7355</p> <p>76. Rock Barn CC & Spa ~ Conover
Semi-Private 36 ~ 828-459-9279</p> <p>77. Rock Hill Country Club ~ Rock Hill
Private 18 ~ 803-327-7790</p> <p>78. Rocky River Golf Club ~ Concord
Public 18 ~ 704-455-1200</p> <p>79. Rolling Hills Country Club ~ Monroe
Private 18 ~ 704-283-8201</p> <p>80. Skybrook Golf Club ~ Huntersville
Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-948-6611</p> | <p>81. Springfield Golf Club ~ Ft. Mill
Public 18 ~ 803-548-3318</p> <p>82. Spring Lake Golf Club ~ York
Semi-Private 18 ~ 803-684-4898</p> <p>83. Statesville Country Club ~ Statesville
Private 18 ~ 704-873-8376</p> <p>84. Stonebridge Golf Club ~ Monroe
Public 18 ~ 704-283-8998</p> <p>85. Sunset Hills Golf Course ~ Charlotte
Public 18 ~ 704-399-0980</p> <p>86. Tega Cay Golf Club ~ Tega Cay
Public 18 ~ 803-548-2918</p> <p>87. Tot Hill Farm Golf Club ~ Asheboro
Semi-Private 18 ~ 336-857-4455</p> <p>88. TPC at Piper Glen ~ Charlotte
Private 18 ~ 704-846-1515</p> <p>89. The Tradition ~ Charlotte
Public 18 ~ 704-503-7529</p> | <p>90. Twin Oaks Golf Course ~ Statesville
Public 18 ~ 704-872-3979</p> <p>91. Verdict Ridge Golf & CC ~ Denver
Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-489-1206</p> <p>92. Warrior Golf Club ~ China Grove
Semi-Private 18 ~ 704-856-0871</p> <p>93. Waterford Golf Club ~ Rock Hill
Semi-Private 18 ~ 803-324-0300</p> <p>94. Westport Golf ~ Denver
Public 18 ~ 704-489-8088 - Denver</p> <p>95. White Oak ~ Alexis
Public Par-3 18 ~ 704-263-9990</p> <p>96. Woodbridge Golf Links ~ Kings Mountain
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Callaway Fusion Drivers

Confidence builders for mid-to-high handicap golfers

Callaway has taken another step forward in designing a driver that fits the mid to high handicap golfer with the Big Bertha Fusion driver that helps build confidence off the tee. Exceptionally forgiving with every shot, it has more than enough adjustability to offer incredible stability through the ball allowing for consistent shot shape. Straighter drives!

In terms of design, it's fair to say that the face is wider than it is deep. There is the classic Callaway eight-way adjustable hosel, which, like the XR-16, means you can adjust loft without affecting the face-angle settings. The so-called 'Speed Step' crown is another continuation of the XR-16 features, and is said to help with reducing aerodynamic drag.

The stock version of the driver comes with shafts of two lengths: namely 44.5 inch and 45.5 inch. They say the shorter option is likely to further enhance forgiveness, but for tall players the 45.5 inch version is a no-brainer. But within that you've got a choice between UST's new-edition Recoil shafts (which weigh between 45-55g), or the slightly

heavier Diamana Red shaft (63g).

Distance-wise, the Fusion holds its own, without excelling in that category. But, on the whole, Callaway has taken innovation to another level, with a product made of high-quality materials and the pinnacle in technology.

In terms of loft, the 9.5 and 10.5 degree options are the most popular, but you can even choose the 13.5 degree clubface and adjust it down by a degree or two. It really does have all options covered.

Let the staff at Greater Golf Express fit a Callaway Fusion Driver to complement your swing, and enjoy a better round of golf with new confidence off the tee every time.



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Impacting the ball correctly

Bruce Parker

Owner/Creator/and Director - Effortless Golf Center

I would like to talk about instruction in the golf world we live in. It basically is really bad. The students and the instructors are consumed with "Golf Swing" instead of the golf game. It's about getting it in the hole as fast as you can, not looking pretty while you make doubles. It really "grinds my gears." (*Family Guy reference.*)

Don't get me wrong, we all want to hit the ball better and more consistently, that's why you all take lessons. The main goal is to shoot lower scores, right? I am here to say that the common popular way to teach and to learn is not working. The focus is all off. No one is making their intention on the things that will make them or their students better at golf.

So here we are... what is the answer?

Let me tell you... focus on impacting the ball correctly. If you miss hit the ball, the best swing in the world doesn't work! And conversely, a bad swing with great contact works really, really nicely.

I know you all have a friend who has a terrible swing who can beat youright?? Stop focusing on your swing and start focusing on your strike. Think about a round....if you made solid contact on most all of your shots, that includes putts, chips, sand shots, approaches, and drives....Think..... how much better you could have scored? Yes, way better right? So that's the answer!

Come see me and I will make YOUR swing function for YOU. You will make solid contact more often, your misses will be good, and your good shots will be more prevalent. All this adds up to lower scores. Let me add this, you're playing partners will think your swing is way better also. If you want to play better golf, come see me.

Have you checked your grip?

In a word? Playing with the right grip size is **HUGELY** important. If the grip is too small and the golfer has to wrap his hands too far around the grip, the muscles of the forearm tighten up. When the forearm muscles get tighter, it becomes much more difficult to take the club away from the ball smoothly and then becomes more difficult to achieve a consistent swing tempo and swing rhythm.

If the grip is too large, this can impede a proper release of the wrist-cock angle on the downswing which also can prevent us from rotating the face back around to square on the downswing.

Over the years, there have been several guidelines created by various golf companies or by people who perform clubfitting research for measuring the size of the hands and fingers, from which a proper grip size is recommended.



In addition, it has also been taught that the proper grip size is achieved when the golfer closes their hands around the grip and the finger tips come just short of touching the base of the hands. As a starting point, such charts or overlays for the hand are fine. But ultimately each golfer has to decide what their **MOST COMFORT-ABLE** grip size should be.



TOO THIN PERFECT TOO THICK

In short, if a hand and finger measurement chart says the grip should be one size and the golfer prefers a different size because it is more comfortable, you go with the decision for comfort – regardless what the golfer's handicap or playing ability might be.

Perhaps the best way for clubmakers to fit grip size for comfort is simply to keep a set of different grip size samples either on cut of shaft pieces or better yet, installed on actual golf clubs. Gripping a cut-off shaft section can fall a little short of giving the golfer a real sense of what a particular grip size will feel like when installed on a full length golf club. Most people have enough old clubs laying around that it would be possible to use them as your grip size samples for grip size fitting.

Remember – grip size for **COMFORT FIRST** so the hands and arms can maintain a secure hold on the grip without excess grip pressure or muscle contraction in the forearms.



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Top eight U.S. Ryder Cup players named for September battle with Europeans

Newly crowned PGA Champion and three-time major champion Brooks Koepka and world number one Dustin Johnson will play for the US against Europe in September's Ryder Cup in France.

The PGA Championship was the final event for eight players to earn automatic spots. U.S. Captain Jim Furyk will choose three captain's picks next month after the second FedEx Cup playoff event, with the last pick September 10 after

the third playoff.

Koepka, who won three of the eight majors during the qualifying period, overtook Dustin Johnson to lead the points list,



Dustin Johnson and Brooks Koepka played together in the 3rd round of the 2018 U.S. Open

and the next six players stayed the same — Justin Thomas, Patrick Reed, Bubba Watson, Jordan Spieth, Rickie Fowler and Charlotte's Webb Simpson.

Phil Mickelson failed to qualify for the Ryder Cup for the first time since 1993, his first full season on the PGA Tour. He was 10th in the standings and missed the cut at a PGA Championship. Bryson DeChambeau was at No. 9 and missed the cut. Xander Schauffele stands at No. 12. Right behind him is Matt Kuchar, who has played in every Ryder Cup since 2010 but who has only four top 10s this year and missed the cut in two majors.

And then there is Tiger. Woods, USA vice-captain, who started the year with zero points, moved from No. 20 to No. 11 on the strength of his tie for sixth at the British Open, where he briefly led during the final round, and his runner-up at the PGA in St. Louis.

"I do want to be there as a player," he said Sunday. "Our captain has some decisions to make. We'll all sit down and give him our input, who can contribute. Hopefully, my name will be part of that process."

Furyk said he and the eight players confirmed for the US team are "excited." He added: "We talked a lot about the type of player we were looking for on this team and the atmosphere in Europe - the boisterous crowds - and we talked about the team they will have, which will be strong," he added.

European golfers have three more events to play before their team is announced. Italian Francesco Molinari, who won The Open in July, currently leads the

European standings. The final one of those events is the Made in Denmark Tournament, which takes place from 30 August - 2 September.

European captain Thomas Bjorn will also make four wildcard picks to add to his eight automatic qualifiers on September 5th, with the Ryder Cup taking place from 28-30 September at Le Golf National, near Paris.



Ryder Cup captains Jim Furyk and Thomas Bjorn



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Maggie Valley Club & Resort

Adds new leadership to continue levels of excellence

With background information found in the Carolina Golf Journal, Charlotte area golfers and their families are finding their way to the Maggie Valley Club & Resort, 30 minutes west of Asheville in western North Carolina. With continued improvements to the 55-year old club, starting with a two-year multi-million dollar renovation in 2007, golfing groups and adventurous families are enjoying the best the North Carolina Mountains have to offer.

The centerpiece of the property is its 6,500-yard championship course, which offers panoramic views of the valley and mountain ridgelines. The course design by



William Prevost Sr. incorporates some of western North Carolina's most spectacular scenery, with an elevation rise of 800 feet between the front Valley Nine and the more challenging Mountain Nine.

Honours Golf, the premier golf management company in the Southeastern United

States, had enjoyed the continued improvements over the past four-years under the very capable leadership of General Manager Buster Inman since 2015. Inman announced that he was stepping down, but was very vocal about his replacement at the Resort.

"I was please to recommend Steve Wright for the position," said Inman. "I have known Steve for the better part of 15 years and have great confidence that he is the

perfect fit to take Maggie Valley to higher levels of excellence."

Wright moved from the Lost Key Marina and Yacht Club in Pensacola, Fl., one of several clubs where he headed the Golf

Operations and Amenities in Florida over a 25-year period. Wright also spent time in Alabama (University of Alabama grad) and Pennsylvania, as well as a stop at Nags Head Golf Links & Village Beach Club in Nags Head, NC.

"My family and I are trading in the beaches for the mountains," said Wright upon his arrival in Maggie Valley. "My wife Tammy, daughters Brooke & Madilyn, and dog Bailey cannot wait to get out and explore the area. Some of our hobbies include: tennis, softball, soccer, art, singing, & gymnastics. I am very excited to be here and to be a part of expanding Maggie Valley Club & Resort to its fullest potential."

Maggie Valley Club and Resort is nestled between the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains and the Great Smoky Mountains. At 3000-feet above sea level the golf course is the indeed the crown jewel of the Resort, but it's not alone - other exciting attractions in the area include white water rafting, horseback riding, zip lining, fly fishing, day hikes, the spa and skiing in the winter are bonus to the golf packages.

To enjoy the "labor of love" of new general manager Steve Wright and his staff, book your trip to Maggie Valley by calling 800-438-3861 or logon at maggievalleyclub.com.



Charlotte is now the Disc Golf capital of America

Regular golfers might be looking for a new challenge, with the same basic fundamentals of scoring but without a set of golf clubs. If you've never heard of it before, Disc Golf is a rapidly growing sport, but with discs (hard frisbees) instead of balls and clubs, and baskets instead of holes.

A golf disc is thrown from a tee area to a target which is the "hole". The hole can be one of a number of disc golf targets; the most common is called a Pole Hole® an elevated metal basket.



As a player progresses down the fairway, he or she must make each consecutive throw from the spot where the previous throw has landed. The trees, shrubs, and terrain changes located in and around the fairways provide challenging obstacles for the golfer. Finally, the "putt" lands in the basket and the hole is completed.

The growth of Disc Golf in the Greater

Charlotte area is being noticed by the main Disc Golf publications and websites as the best city for the sport. The publicity over the past decade by Reddit's Disc Golf Sub and DGCourseReview.com has resulted in Charlotte being rewarded the United States Disc Golf Championship, the final disc golf major of the year - regular golfers might view this as the PGA Championship.



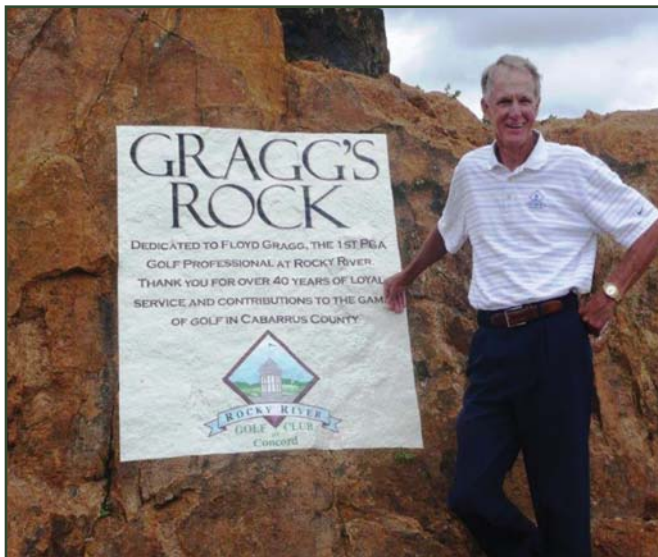
The Charlotte Disc Golf Club (CDGC) currently has a very active membership base and thousands more that play on a regular basis on 17 public courses around the city. Monthly meetings of the club are held every second Wednesday of the month, and the public is invite to attend and find out more about disc golf. For more information logon at www.charlottedgc.com.

ROCKY RIVER GOLF CLUB

Great location, beautiful course

When the South Mecklenburg Senior Golfer's group arrived at Rocky River Golf Club in Concord on one of their weekly stops, they were afforded first-class customer service to begin their golf experience. It was not a total surprise since Rocky River has built their outstanding statewide ratings in part on the first impression reception.

Handling the preparation was long-time Cabarrus golf professional Floyd Gragg. By his own admission, he has retired several times after spending 40-years as head golf professional at Cabarrus Country Club and as the first professional at Rocky River when it opened in 1997.



Honoring him is "Gragg's Rock" - one of the many rock outcroppings on the course, smack dab in the middle of the third fairway.

"We never have to worry about getting the golfers comfortable and welcomed when Floyd is in charge outside," said

Rocky River's PGA Director of Golf Ryan Brickley. "He lets us do our job inside to match his efforts of assigning carts, loading golf bags and offering advice on various guidelines about the course".

For 2018, Rocky River is ranked 24th of all public courses in North Carolina, appearing higher in the public course rankings than any other facility in the Charlotte metro. When compared against all courses in the region, Rocky River ranked #12 among all Charlotte area courses - public or private.

Rocky River also appeared in the Top 100 courses for the 16th time in the 23-year history of the rankings holding its #85 standing. The NC Golf Panel earlier selected Rocky River as the "Best Bang for Your Buck" public course in Charlotte.

"Our ranking is well-deserved based on the condition of the course, the great layout and natural beauty of the property, and the enjoyment most people get from spending a day here," said Ryan Brickley PGA Director of Golf. "To make that happen we offer a well-designed layout that is enjoyable to play. Great location and beautiful course, it's a nice combination."



Rocky River, owned by the City of Concord and managed by Embassy Suites Charlotte-Concord/Golf Resort & Spa has long been considered the premier public course in greater Charlotte. Designed by renowned golf course architect Dan Maples and opened in 1997, Rocky River uses existing features of the land - golfers experience rock outcroppings and various species of native wetland grasses, as well as four sets of tees. The course has mature ultra-dwarf Mini Verde Bermuda greens and Tifway 419 Bermuda fairways.

Located in the shadow of Lowes Motor Speedway, the par-72 Rocky River layout measures 6,970 yards from the tips and down to a comfortable 4,754 yards from the front tees. It's a challenging golf course that has not been tricked-up for show, but plays well with no sharp doglegs or hidden problems. The greens can be considered large compared to other public courses, and offer true-rolling with no severe undulations.



With the size of the greens, golfers still need to concentrate on accurate iron play to avoid being on the wrong side of the green and having long challenging putts. Well-placed bunkers will also test your mental-approach of attacking a short-sided pin, or playing it safe in the middle of the green.

The credit for the course condition goes to Head Superintendent Joel White, a former assistant at Myers Park before joining Rocky River as an assistant. White has also spearheaded a program that selected Rocky River as a Certified Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. The certification places the course on a list with more than 150,000 habitats across the country.

“It allows us to maintain a habitat for animals in our natural areas and keeps us moving in the right direction for sustainability,” White explains. “There will always be 120 acres on the course where there won’t be any development, so it serves as a sanctuary for wildlife.”

The Rocky River practice facilities is a joint effort between UNCC and Rocky River and features a state-of-the-art teaching studio and private instruc-

tion area that includes a grass practice tee with 30 stations and target greens.

Open during normal golf shop operating hours, the practice facilities offers right hand, left hand and ladies rental clubs. Private and group golf lessons are available from the PGA professional staff with rates listed online. Rocky River also offers golf schools and clinics that utilize the private teaching facility and are developing video instruction packages.

For an extended stay, contact the Embassy Suites, just minutes from the first tee at Rocky River. With this hotel association, Rocky River is one of the few public courses in North Carolina to offer a stay and play package with major hotel accommodations. Visit embassysuitesconcord.com.

The recently expanded clubhouse is available for events and meetings, and can accommodate up to 115 guests. As a City-owned facility, the course offers discounted rates for Concord residents. For rates, tee times, and detailed information on Rocky River Golf Club, visit rockyrivergolf.com or call 704-455-1200.

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Wake Forest coach Jerry Haas schools the field to win the 94th Carolinas Open

The golfers at Wake Forest University can certainly be sure the advice they are getting from their coach comes from a man that can play the game - PGA Professional, and head golf coach for the Demon Deacons, Jerry Haas. Jerry beat out 166 other professionals and amateurs to capture the 94th Carolinas Open Championship.

Haas held the lead all three days and had a great jumpstart to the event, shooting 8-under-par in the first round of play at Starmount Forest Country Club in Greensboro. While he shot even-par in the final round, it still kept him ahead of the field with the trophy in sight in the Carolinas PGA longest running major event.

Haas' mindset for the event was to "get off with a great start," which proved successful for him as he did just that and kept it up for the entirety of the round to finish at 11-under-par 202 for the 54-hole event. When reflecting on his final round, Haas said "I was trying not to get ahead of myself and I did a pretty good job with that."

With some special mojo on the field from his uncle, Bob Goalby, who won the 1958 Greensboro Open on this course, Haas stretched ahead of the field and never turned back. "It was my week."

Coming alone in second place was amateur Tripp Summerlin of Summerfield, NC, who shot even-par in the final round to stay towards the top of the leaderboard and finish three back from Haas at 8-under for the three rounds.

Three players finished tied for third at 6-under-par. PGA Professional Matt Vick of Pinehurst, NC, Gus Ulrich of Whispering Pines, NC, and Cory

Schneider of Powells Point, NC all share that spot ahead of the field. Vick shot the low round of the day, 5-under-par, to move up in the field by 21 spots.

Ulrich kept his momentum going after a second round hole-in-one and played a steady round. Schneider moved up three spots in the field, shooting 1-under for the day.

The Carolinas Open is the oldest professional golf tournament in the Carolinas, having been conducted since 1923 when the Carolinas PGA Section was first founded in Greensboro, NC. Some of the best players in Carolinas PGA history have won the championship including Henry Picard, Johnny Palmer, Bobby Locke, Bob Boyd, and Kelly Mitchum.

Two amateurs from Concord, Samuel Wimbrow and Stephen Carroll finished tied for 8th with 4-under-par totals (209). Charlotte amateur Will Stewart was 11th with a -3 total (210), followed by Springfield Golf Club PGA pro Aaron Black at -2 (211).



2018-2019 PGA Schedule - season will be slightly shorter

The PGA Tour has re-released its full schedule for the 2018-19 season, and the 2.0 version has a few noticeable changes. From new dates for some events to new venues for others - not to mention a few mainstay courses seeing changes to their rotation - the PGA Tour next season will have a slightly different look to it.

One of the key changes is the schedule itself is going to be slightly shorter so that golf no longer has to compete with the ratings juggernaut that is football (both college and professional). The PGA Tour season will conclude at the end of August, rather than going into September.

Stated goal from Tour commissioner Jay Monahan: "By concluding at the end of August, the FedExCup playoffs no longer have the challenge of sharing the stage with college and professional football."

2019 Major Championships

April 11-14 - Masters - Augusta, GA
May 16-19 - PGA - Bethpage -Farmingdale, NY
June 13-16 - US Open - Pebble Beach, CA
July 18-21 - The Open - Royal Portrush - Northern Ireland
Aug. 22-25 - PGA Tour Championship - Atlanta

2019 Local interest tournaments

Nov. 15-19, 2018 - RSM Classic - Sea Island, GA
April 18-21 - RBC Heritage - Hilton Head, SC
May 2-5 - Wells Fargo Championship - Charlotte, NC
Aug. 1-4 - Wyndham Championship - Greensboro, NC
Military Classic at Greenbrier - Will not be played - returns Fall 2019

Kris Laird shoots 60

New course record at Pine Lake Country Club

The most skilled team of two-man players at Pine Lake Country Club, Kris Laird & Jonathan Brightwell, put on quite a show in a Men's Interclub match against Rolling Hills Country Club last month with the results rewriting one individual record.

The pair combined for 18 birdies or better and even with that being said, lost the front 9. But the fireworks were just getting started by Kris Laird, after shooting 33 on the front he decided to put on a clinic on the back nine.

He birdied #10 & #11, made his only par on the 12th and then birdied #13 through #16. He then threw in an eagle on the 17th and finished with yet another birdie on the 18th for an outstanding 9 under par, 27 on the back 9. Congratulations Mr. Laird on a great round of 60!

The Pine Lake course record was previously held by Nic Peterson who shot 61 back in 2006.

The 60 by Laird and 61 by Peterson were both scored from the blue tees. There are three people who hold the course record of 62 from the black tees.



Patriot Golf Day breaks Folds of Honor record

\$7 million raised for families of veterans

The 2017 Patriot Golf Day, benefitting the Folds of Honor accomplished a record-breaking fundraising total of \$7,020,000, raising more money for scholarship funds for children and spouses of fallen or disabled veterans than any previous year since its inception in 2007. The event continually stands as the primary source of revenue for Folds of Honor, raising \$47 million for the organization in its 10-year history.

"We are so impressed by the outpouring of support the golf community has consistently shown for Folds of Honor over the last 10 years, and especially in 2017," said Major Dan Rooney, PGA, the CEO and founder of Folds of Honor and PGA Professional.

"I am very proud to stand with my fellow PGA Professionals and continue our mission to educate the legacy of our veterans."

The fundraiser is jointly supported by the PGA of America and the United States Golf Association (USGA). Over the last 10 years, Patriot Golf Day has paid for more than 16,000 scholarships to benefit Folds of Honor - in all 50 states and 41 PGA Sections.



Proudly the PGA Carolina has been the top fundraising section for the last 7-years, and with more than 150 facilities in North and South Carolina signed up to host the yearly event this year, our hard-working local professionals are expecting another banner year.

The 2018 Patriot Golf Day is set for the Labor Day weekend. Contact your favorite golf course and sign up to be part of another successful effort

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