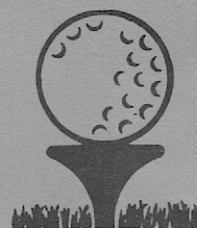


Published by the Greater Lansing Amateur Golf Association

GOLF NEWS



GOLF: The Game of a Lifetime

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 1

MARCH, 1990

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Years Members!! Another season of Golf Festivities approaches. Not only do we find ourselves in a New Year and New Decade, but we're beginning our 6th year of operations as your Golf Association. Here's some of the new ideas GLAGA will implement this year.

In May we will kick off the season with a Member Event. The event will probably be a blind draw (A,B,C,D Format) scramble. This will be held at one of our sponsoring courses. There will be prizes for the Low Finishing Teams, various Hole Prizes (closest to pin, long drive, long putt,...), and a dinner all to be included in the entry fee. More details pertaining to this event will appear in the next issue of Golf News.

The next new plans will address the subject of more activities for Junior and Senior Members of GLAGA.

As for the Junior Golfers, it is our intent to feature a Junior Tournament at the conclusion of our Junior Golf program this year. Though the plans are still in the making, we are sure this will be an added incentive for the golfers in the Junior program.

With respect to the Senior Golfers in the Lansing Area, our goal is to add a Senior Flight to the popular All-City Medal Play Tournament. This will happen

primarily due to the overwhelming suggestions and responses that our Senior members have supplied.

Our last new idea goes hand in hand with our first one. We are planning on ending the season just as we started it, with some type of a member event. Many of the decisions that will go into organizing the Fall event will come about from members input that we will attain from the Spring event, and throughout the season.

In closing, be sure to sign up for the Spring event, and feel free to make suggestions with regards to your Golf Association. Remember, our goal is to promote Golf in the Lansing Area, and what better way to do that than to respond to the input from our members?! Keep in touch, and "stay connected".

Tim Russell
President - G.L.A.G.A.

1990 GLAGA NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

MARCH 1ST--MEMBERSHIP ISSUE
MAY 1ST----TOURNAMENT MAP/SCHEDULE
JULY 1ST---ALL CITY ISSUE
SEPT 1ST---HIGH SCHOOL PREVIEW
RENIGER FEATURE
NOV 1ST----ALL CITY GOLF TEAM
RECAP OF 1990
DEC 15TH---FINANCIAL STATEMENT
1991 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

BOOK, MAGAZINE, AND VIDEO TAPE REVIEW

As a service to our members, GOLF NEWS will review golf related books, magazines, video tapes, and give you our opinion as to their quality. In this our first column we will review Dave Pelz's new book "Putt Like The Pros" and the new magazine "Golf World-United Kingdom".

Dave Pelz's book "Putt Like The Pros" is the newest book on putting. It is published by Harper & Row Publishers and sold locally for \$18.95. This book is probably the most thorough on putting that has ever been written. It covers everything from all the reasons that it is virtually impossible to make a putt to how to overcome these same reasons. The best thing about this book is that it is not so technical that you can understand it without being an engineer. One of the most interesting chapters in the book deals with the golf ball and how it can fool you. This chapter explains in detail how the ball is one of the most important elements in putting. The balance and the thickness/roundness of the cover can affect a putt as much as 1 1/2 inches between 8 to 10 feet. Pelz also tells you how to avoid this through a simple test with normal house-hold products. Note: Two of us tried this simple test and were amazed at the results and how true Pelz's findings turned out to be.

In our opinion this book is well worth its cost and we rate it an excellent buy.

There is a new magazine on the racks now and it goes by the title of "Golf World-United Kingdom". It is published in England at costs \$3.95. This magazine is a cross between "Golf World", "Golf Magazine", and "Golf Digest" publications. While it carries the same basic title as our "Golf World" it is a monthly rather than weekly publication. It is thicker than any U.S Golf publication and with basically the same amount of advertising. We reviewed the Vol. 28, No. 8 issue and were impressed with the coverage it gives world-wide golf. We found the instruction featuring David Leadbetter and Bernard Langer to be well worth the reading time. It is a glossy and well done publication that we rate a good buy.

Next Issue: In the next issue we will review the Ben Crenshaw video on putting, Golf Illustrated, and Ben Hogan's Five Modern Fundamentals of Golf.



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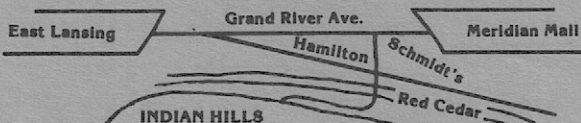
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1990 BEGINS WITH SANDY

- SANDY BUNKEY -

What can I say? I told you people to hang on to your Pings - that they'd settle out of court and the clubs would double in value. Well, for those of you who didn't listen last time, maybe you will this time. Here are my first predictions for 1990:

*The City of Lansing's Parks and Recreation Department will sign contracts with a noted Golf Course Architect and plans for the renovation of Groesbeck will begin in earnest.

*M.S.U. Forest Aker's Golf Course will announce a new Best-Ball tournament for this coming Summer.

*Curtis Strange will win the 1990 Masters Tournament.

*A new speed record will be set for Lansing during the "Fun Day" at Groesbeck Golf Course.

*A Mutt and Jeff look alike team will surprise the field and win the Portland Best-Ball.

*Several Lansing area players will start carrying the tube-type Dunlap Bag which is light and offers more protection from rain and water.

*The GLAGA will announce that two PGA tour pro's will be at their Junior Golf Clinic this year.

As I will now make predictions in each issue, this is all for now.

You'll have to wait until the next issue to see what lies in store for the MSU Golf Team, the All-City Spring Best-Ball, Oak Lanes Spring Best-Ball and the Match-Play tournament.

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SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT!

- JIM DONAHUE -

In the last few days I have heard several people telling me and others as well, that the U.S.G.A. paid Ping \$5,000,000.00 as part of the out-of-court settlement. This couldn't be further from the truth.

The February 2, 1990 issue of Golf World details the settlement and states: "The Associated Press late Saturday quoted Karsten Solheim in Scottsdale, Arizona, as saying the U.S.G.A. would pay \$5 million to the company as part of the settlement. Both sides confirmed for Golf World that there was no cash involved, and a cash exchange never arose during negotiations.

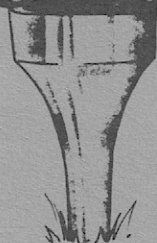
Are the USGA's Rules of Golf for us?

After watching the Ping vs. USGA battle over the last 4 years, I wonder if the USGA is the governing body that should be making rules for all golfers?

I've had a pet peeve for years and it deals with the "Out-of-Bounds" rule. Let's say you and I are playing #7 at Groesbeck. You get up and hit your tee shot down the left rough. It hits a small tree and rolls over to the fence and through the fence. You are "Out-of-Bounds."

My turn comes and with you O.B. I decide to really lean on my drive and hit behind the ball and because I swing so hard, the club literally jumps the ball and I have wiffed the shot.

M!CH!GAN

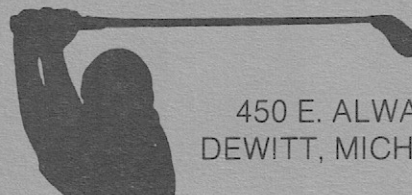


Who has hit the worst shot?

Who gets the most severe penalty?

Somehow I just don't think the penalty fits the infraction. The O.B. shot forces you to hit 3 off the tee, while I (with my wiff) am hitting 2. Why? It seems to me that the USGA designs the rules for country club players only. To prove this point - The USGA doesn't recognize "Winter Rules" or "Preferred" Lies. Other rules are "Spike Mark Rule", "Lost Ball Rule", etc. Most of the golfers in the United States play "public golf courses" and face conditions that the average country clubber will not see in years at the "club." Why are the rules designed for the "privileged few"?

If you want more information about why rules need to be designed for the public player - read Dave Pulz's book "Putt-Like a Pro" or read the book review in this newsletter.



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WHAT'S IN THE BAG

- STEVE WAKULSKY -

Driver: Cleveland Persimmon,
TA 588, S400 True Temper

3 Wood: MacGregor Nicklaus Muir-
field Metal, MT Open,
S300 True Temper

1-iron: Ping Eye, D-2, Black Dot
ZZ lite

2-PW: Hogan PC, Standard Lie,
Apex 4, D-2

SWedge: Ping Eye, D-6, Black Dot
ZZ lite, 2 Degree Strong

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BEHIND THE COUNTER--
A Pro's Point of View

**This column represents a new feature of your newsletter this year. Jack Boman, PGA Professional at The Players Club, will report on events, issues, affecting golf in Michigan and specifically GLAGA members.

Recently, two important meetings were held pertaining to golf and golfers in the Mid-Michigan area. I would like to pass on a few of the news ideas.

On Monday, October 23, the Michigan Section PGA held its Fall Meeting. Now not to often does news from the Michigan PGA pertain to GLAGA members, but this fall was an exception. There was a report by Joe O'Brien from the National PGA office. He informed everyone that the newly formed Hogan Tour had offered the Boyne U.S.A. Resorts a date opposite the British Open. Boyne U.S.A. declined the offer for 1990 but asked for consideration in the future. Boyne U.S.A. felt that with such events as the Buick Open (August), Greater Grand Rapids Senior Event (July), Michigan Open (June), and the new TPC Mazda Seniors Championship, that there were to many scheduled events in Michigan to make another tournament worthwhile.

Closer to home, on Friday, November 10, 34 representatives from Lansing area golf courses met at ElDorado Golf Course to discuss problems at area golf courses. In

attendance were Portland, Glenbrier, Royal Scot, Branson Bay, Charlotte, Centennial Acres, Candlestone, Mason Hills, Timber Ridge, Highland Hills, Ledge Meadows, Oak Lane, and The Players Club.


Many topics were discussed among the group, including reports by Cecil McKay on the golf summit held at E.M.U.'s Huron Golf Club and Dr. Paul Rieke from M.S.U.'s Turf Sciences school on updates in the maintenance of golf courses for the 1990's. Also, Dale Soderstrom from Spartan Distributors reported on improved irrigation systems and Jim Courtade from Golfers Passbook reviewed new ways to increase play at golf courses during low peak times.

Tim Murphy from ElDorado chaired the daylong meeting, and everyone left encouraged for the 1990 season. The importance of such a meeting is to not only encourage the operator but also all area golfers. Meetings and the ideas brought to the surface will be beneficial to the golfer and the game as a whole. This Pro's point of view is golf will be better for all involved in years to come.

**B-O-C LANSING SUPERVISOR'S COUNCIL
GOLF OUTING**

This organization of First-Line Supervisors from the Lansing area General Motors facilities will hold it's 4th Annual fund raising outing at Oak Lane in Webberville on June 9, 1990. In each of the three years they have raised in the neighborhood of \$5,000.00 for local charities such as AREA 8 Special Olympics, Child Abuse Center, Crisis Center, and our own Junior Golf Program.

This four-person scramble is open to everyone and includes 18 holes of golf, lunch, and door prizes for \$140.00 per team. For additional information please contact Terry Verus (885-8085) or Scott Walker (885-8116).



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TOUR ASPIRATIONS

- STEVE WAKULSKY -

Since I was last in Lansing (August), I decided to turn pro. I am in the process of looking for sponsors to pay for the entry into some mini-tour events. The events I have played in I have paid for out of my own pocket. I think I can make money if given the same opportunities that my peers have been handed. I have worked very hard and am seeing alot of improvement in every aspect of my game.

I am trying to support myself by working at Grenelefe Resort (Florida) in their cart barn. I am in the P.G.A. apprentice program, that way I have something to fall back on if competitive golf does not work out in the future. In order to improve ones game you need a place to practice when not competing and also enough time to practice! This is a difficult balance in my circumstance, because at the same time I am practicing I have to work enough hours to pay for necessities and mini-tour entry fees. This is why sponsors are such a successful ingredient in the success of any individual trying to move their golf game up to the mini-tour level. Hopefully, I will be able to gain some sponsors so I can put my full attention on my golf game and alleviate some of the hidden pressure.

In my first mini-tour event, I shot 151 on the Disney Magnolia Course. I did not cash but I played decent, just a few mistakes here and there. In my second mini-tour event I shot 153 on Grenelefe's West Course. The score was higher than Disney but the course was considerably more difficult. My 74 on the second day at Grenelefe would have won \$300 if I had entered the 2nd day event (\$40 to enter if your score on 1st day is above the median). That was a difficult lesson to learn, but at the time \$40 seemed like alot of money.

On the average 1 out of 4 players make a check on the 3 Florida mini-tours: Florida Tour, Space Coast Tour, and North Florida Tour. The Florida Tour runs 52 weeks a year, while the others run September thru May. The Florida Tour plays the best courses, the Space Coast pays the best, and the North Florida tour, which is sponsored by the North Florida section of the P.G.A. Club Pro Association, plays courses not as revered as the other two tours. All 3 tours have entry fees in the \$1200 range for a series of 4 events.

Anybody can play the mini-tours as long as you have the money. The mini-tours make a living off of dreamers who think they are better then the high scores they post. A normal field consists of players who just missed gaining their tour card for the P.G.A. on down to guys who are simply donating their \$250 every event. Some of these guys have no chance of making any money but they found hometown support because they hit the ball a long way or some other unrealistic reason.

The main ingredient in making it to the big time in my opinion is mental toughness and ability. In my two events I was fortunate to play with three guys who played on the P.G.A. Tour. They didn't hit the ball any better or farther than I, but they had a mental toughness and awareness about them. I felt comfortable playing with them and I believe that if I can get myself into the right situation financially, I can move to the top of this level and build a good foundation to finally get a chance at the big league.

**Since this article, Steve has joined the heralded staff of David Leadbetter and continues to work toward playing on the tour. We at GLAGA wish Steve the best, and look forward to updating his adventure in a future issue.

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FROM MEMBERSHIP OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989

REVENUES

MEMBERSHIPS:

REGULAR (219 @ \$5.00)	1,095.00		
JUNIOR AND SENIOR (34 @ \$3.00)	102.00	1,197.00	
INTEREST		144.87	1,341.87

EXPENDITURES

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS/POSTERS		196.17	
POST OFFICE BOX FEE		42.00	
POSTAGE		154.70	
BULK RATE FEE		60.00	
BAG TAG LAMINATER AND ENVELOPES		349.96	
MISCELLANEOUS		717.21	
BANK SERVICE CHARGES		25.87	1,545.91
REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES			(204.04)

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE NEWSLETTER
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989

REVENUES

ADVERTISING			1,350.00
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EXPENDITURES

PRINTING		1,154.13	
CAMERA/FILM		132.98	
MAILINGS		402.90	1,690.01
REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES			(340.01)

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR 1989 ALL-CITY MATCH PLAY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989

REVENUES

ENTRY FEES (48 @ \$15.00)			720.00
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EXPENDITURES

PRINTING AND MAILING APPLICATIONS		40.00	
TROPHIES		91.56	
MERCHANDISE PRIZES		475.00	606.56
REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES			113.44

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR 1989 ALL-CITY MEDAL PLAY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989

REVENUES

ENTRY FEES (261 @ \$55.00)	14,355.00	
CART RENTAL (12 @ \$25.00)	300.00	
HOLE SPONSORS (20 @ \$50.00)	<u>1,000.00</u>	15,655.00

EXPENDITURES

PRINTING AND MAILING APPLICATIONS	80.00	
TROPHIES	220.00	
N.S.F. CHECK CHARGE	5.00	
GREEN FEES (261 @ \$30.00)	7,830.00	
CART CHARGES (12 @ \$25.00)	300.00	
MISCELLANEOUS	320.00	
MERCHANDISE PRIZES	<u>6,232.00</u>	<u>14,987.00</u>
REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES		668.00

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR 1989 LONG DRIVE CONTEST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989

REVENUES

ENTRY FEES (17 @ \$5.00)		85.00
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EXPENDITURES

MERCHANDISE PRIZES		<u>150.00</u>
REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES		(65.00)

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989

REVENUES

ENTRY FEES	470.00	
DONATIONS (B-O-C SUPERVISORS COUNCIL)	1,000.00	
RAFFLE	<u>1,037.00</u>	2,507.00

EXPENDITURES

MISCELLANEOUS	202.07	
T-SHIRTS/HATS	1,440.00	
GIFTS TO GOLF PRO RAY BARR	<u>137.96</u>	<u>1,780.03</u>
REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES		726.97

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR 1989 WOMEN'S ALL-CITY MEDAL PLAY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989

REVENUES

ENTRY FEES (46 @ \$25.00)	1,150.00
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EXPENDITURES

PRINTING AND MAILING APPLICATIONS	46.00	
TROPHIES	161.00	
GREEN FEES/CARTS (46 @ \$15.50)	713.00	
MERCHANDISE PRIZES	230.00	1,150.00
REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES		0.00

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR 1989 BUD RENIGER MEMORIAL INVITATIONAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989

REVENUES

ENTRY FEES (59 @ \$65.00)	3,835.00
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EXPENDITURES

PRINTING AND MAILING APPLICATIONS	105.00	
HATS	593.79	
GREEN FEES/CARTS (59 @ \$18.00)	1,062.00	
MEALS	472.00	
MISCELLANEOUS	50.00	
MERCHANDISE PRIZES	1,871.00	4,153.79
REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES		(318.79)

GREATER LANSING AMATEUR GOLF ASSOCIATION
BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989

ASSETS

CASH	1,233.04
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	150.00
TOTAL ASSETS	1,383.04

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

LIABILITIES	0.00
FUND BALANCE	1,383.04
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	1,383.04

GREATER LANSING AMATEUR GOLF ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989

REVENUES

MEMBERSHIP OPERATIONS	1,341.87
NEWSLETTER	1,350.00
TOURNAMENTS:	
1989 ALL-CITY MATCH PLAY	720.00
1989 ALL-CITY MEDAL PLAY	15,655.00
1989 WOMEN'S ALL-CITY MEDAL PLAY	1,150.00
1989 BUD RENIGER MEMORIAL INVITATIONAL	<u>3,835.00</u>
LONG DRIVE CONTEST	85.00
JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM	<u>2,507.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>26,643.87</u>

EXPENDITURES

MEMBERSHIP OPERATIONS	1,545.91
NEWSLETTER	1,690.01
TOURNAMENTS:	
1989 ALL-CITY MATCH PLAY	606.56
1989 ALL-CITY MEDAL PLAY	14,987.00
1989 WOMEN'S ALL-CITY MEDAL PLAY	1,150.00
1989 BUD RENIGER MEMORIAL INVITATIONAL	<u>4,153.79</u>
LONG DRIVE CONTEST	150.00
JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM	<u>1,780.03</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>26,063.30</u>

REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES	580.51
ADD: ADJUSTMENT TO FUND BALANCE	(142.82)
ADD: BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	<u>945.35</u>
ENDING FUND BALANCE	<u>1,383.04</u>

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NEW PLACES TO PLAY

The High Point Golf Club
Williamsburg, Michigan

In a recent issue of Golf Digest the best new courses of the year for 1989 were presented. Local golf course architects Jerry and Bruce Matthews' creation, and in a parochial sense "our own", Timber Ridge received one of three honorable mention awards in the Best New Public Course category. Timber Ridge finished just behind Cartigry in Wheaton, Illinois and Eagle Bend in Bigfork, Montana (Montana??!). Indeed an excellent test of the game, Timber Ridge ranked high in shot values, playability, design, balance, memorability and aesthetics: the five criteria used to determine a course's overall worth. A second Michigan course which also ranked high in these five criteria failed to crack into the top five new public courses. The fact that High Point Golf Club opened for play later than Golf Digest's reviewing year, had subsequently fewer reviews and was designed by landscape architect Tom Doak, a Golf Magazine writer and photographer, probably kept it off of the Golf Digest list.

Nevertheless, it deserves your attention. I came to play the High Point Golf Club, located three miles east of Acme on M-72 near Williamsburg, because of a bit of miscommunication. What was to be a round of golf at Crystal Downs near Frankfort (oops, wrong day) helped me discover what I consider one of the finer tests of golf skills in our state. Fred Muller, the pro at Crystal Downs highly recommended and graciously called High Point and made arrangements for my partner and I to play that day.

As much as I personally enjoy Timber Ridge and respect Jerry and Bruce Matthews' work (the Michawye Lakes Course and Grand Haven among their best) there is certainly as much and probably more to be revered at High Point. It is truly a British character course that has a certain aura about it which makes you feel as if you are in a special place. And indeed you are. Doak uses the lay-of-the-land as well as on any course I have played. Ample fairways bump and roll their way along the natural contour of the land creating interesting bounces and occasionally more interesting and challenging lies. Where Matthews' designs demand extreme accuracy off the tee and are in fact penal, Doak's philosophy allows one to at least attempt recovery shots. That is unless you hit the ball far enough astray to find the knee-deep grasses reminiscent of the gorse and heather of the British courses. The open nature of the course, in particular the front nine, makes the player consider carefully the wind in shot selection while placement of bunkering allows one to play lower run-up type shots to negate the wind if necessary.

The more than moderate undulation in the greens present particular challenges and may in fact be the most unique aspect of High Point. Where most new courses in the temperate and cool climates of the upper midwest and lake states use the faster surface of bent grass greens, Doak employed fescue grasses. This is the feature that allowed him to create greens with more severe rolls and undulations than most courses offer. A truly fun (or frustrating) challenge for even the best of putters! You'll either love them or hate them! The fescue grasses are also a lower

NEW AMATEUR TOUR FOR MICHIGAN

maintenance type of putting surface. Hopefully the savings in maintenance will be reflected in lower greensfees...but given the courses location on Michigans "Gold Coast of Golf", probably not. Nevertheless, High Point's greens command your attention for more reasons than the grasses and undulations. Some greens are mounded and will deflect high shots coming in. Others are sloped one way or the other demanding that you work the ball in from left-to-right or right-to-left. Still others are bowl shaped to collect shots or relatively flat...if you are on the tier where the pin is cut.

This demonstrates a different philosophy of how the game is to be played. And that is just what is so refreshing here. A philosophy of golf from near it's roots. No contrived grass mounding ala Pete Dye or Jack Nicklaus. No mud-soft greens to hold hot shots...you need touch. Fairways that let the ball run...so get it on line. This philosophy has fairness about it because it offers shot options to all players. It allows one to be creative with their own repetoir of shots...it doesn't demand the clone-like, sky high six iron only the touring pro has in his bag. It is truly a public golf course with a British aura about it. But don't take my word for it. Next time you are near Williamsburg put on your mental knickers, tee it up and let it fly.

Information:

The High Point Golf Club
Williamsburg, Michigan
Phone: (616) 287-9900
Par 71/72
6819 - Back Tees/71
6375 - Middle Tees/71
5260 - Forward Tees/72
\$48.00 - included cart in 1989
\$34.00 - twilight rate

by Paul Nieratko

Michigan has a new amateur golf tour. It contains four handicap divisions, 0-5, 6-9, 10-13, and 14-18. Thus almost anyone will have a chance to see what it would be like to play a tour. There will be 12 tournaments starting on May 12 and ending on October 6. Prior to the first tournament there will be a "Q" school, (a 36 hole qualifying school from which 65 players in each division will earn "Tour Cards". More information and an entry form entry form will be provided in the May issue. GLAGA would like to see Lansing represented on the tour in all handicap divisions.

-Aumaugher-



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IS "HIGH-TECH" FOR YOU?

- JIM DONAHUE -

For those of you who do not subscribe to "Golf World," I would like to tell you about one of the most interesting articles I have ever read concerning golf equipment. This article appeared in the January 26, 1990 issue and was written by Peter Kostis. This article covers every aspect about why the current "High-Tech" golf clubs are best.

The first thing Mr. Kostis points out is that older clubs were basically designed for golfers who stood 5'9 to 5'10" tall and who weighed between 175 and 180 pounds.

He feels that may have been the reason that yesterday's "better players" were shorter. It is his opinion that with the development of shafts, shaft lengths, flex points, etc. added to the increased study and changes in the lies and lofts, taller and stronger players can be fit more properly. Thus the emergence of the larger players on the amateur and professional circuits.

He then points out that it is not square grooves that has changed golf, but rather the introduction of perimeter weighted clubs, especially woods (metal) that has changed golf, but not in the way you might think. The article points out that metal woods give you less negative feedback on mis-hit shots than does wood. Kostis considers this a positive because it is easier to maintain a high confidence level which enables you to hit more shots solidly. This high level of confidence then translates into more distance because you swing more aggressively with your driver.

It should be pointed out that a recent study by an independent research firm found that wooden clubs do in fact hit golf balls farther than metal clubs. This fact remained true even on heel and toe hits. Wooden club makers feel that they can make a club that better fits any person than any metal club maker. They point to the fact that they can alter the head size, shape, and weighting for any player whereas the metal-wood can't because of the perimeter weighting and manufacturing process.

In my conversation with Ray Barr Jr. last summer, he may well have put it best when he said, "When I play soft courses, where the ball doesn't roll, I use wood because it carries the ball farther. But on courses where fairways are firm, I use metal, because the ball rolls more off metal."

So here is what I've come up with: all iron standards have changed from those of 10 years ago. They are at least 1/2 inch longer and 2 degrees stronger in loft. When you think about replacing your old clubs, you must take the time to measure and weigh your old clubs and order accordingly. Ask your pro for his/her advice and if possible, try clubs before you buy them. Some shops have samples that you are more than welcome to try. The wait and testing may well save you a lot of money and aggravation in the long run.

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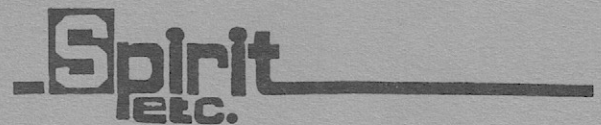
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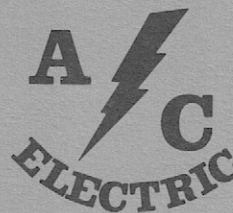


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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

The golf season is almost upon us and with it GLAGA is ready to start its 6th year of existence. A lot of refinements have happened in that time period, especially with respect to this newsletter. As the new editor, I hope that all members will not be shy in their constructive criticism toward this newsletter. I encourage all comments and ask for a large quantity of exchange from our members on all subject matter covered and not covered in this publication. The success of this newsletter and association depend upon the involvement of our membership, so please get involved.

Odds & Ends Dept.: I need membership or anybody else to send in any tournament dates of interest. There will be a tournament schedule and map coming out in the May issue, so please send in all dates!.....This April, Mason Hills G.C. will again be hosting a series of two-man scrambles on every Sunday. This will be highlighted by the annual "Pot Tournament" in early May. Please check with Mason Hills for tee off times or call Bob Aumaugher for further details.....Attention all members---TROPHY DRIVE FOR JUNIOR GOLF---please drop off with any Board member. These trophies will be used during our Junior Golf Clinics this year.....I want to again urge all members that this newsletter represents you and all comments/responses on any articles in the newsletter or about golf in general will be printed in the Correspondence Section of our newsletter. So let's see some chatter!.....Be looking for information on our membership tournament--what a great way to start the new year.....On a personal note: I was watching

Robert Gamez win the Tucson Open a couple of weeks ago and realized this was the same Gamez that defeated me in the 1988 U.S. Publix Championships in Jackson Hole, WY by the score of 3&2. I think superstars like that should pay the peons they have beat to get to the top a small dividend--like \$5,000-6,000. Somehow though I don't think Robert remembers me. Please send all correspondence to Bill Kost, 702 N. Hayford, Lansing 48912. Look forward to hearing from you!

- BK -

NEW FACES AT FOREST AKERS

M.S.U.'s Forest Akers G.C. has announced the hiring of two new golf professionals for the 1990 season. These two additions are: David Wheeler--Dave will have the title of Assistant Golf Course Manager. A Grand Rapids, Michigan native, Dave is 26 years of age. He is married (Barb) and is a graduate of P.G.M. program at Ferris State University. Dave comes to M.S.U. after two years in Utica, New York. Robert Medoris--Robert will serve as Steve Ruthenburg's Assistant Professional. Robert is from Detroit where he was an All-State golfer for Detroit Catholic Central. A graduate of Saginaw Valley State University, Robert comes to M.S.U. from Hidden Valley G.C. in northern Michigan.

In addition to the two new faces, Steve Ruthenburg has told "Golf News" that Forest Akers intends to open their practice range as early as possible (weather permitting). The use of the new artificial tees will enable Forest Akers to provide this service.

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WHEN: MARCH 10, 1990 SATURDAY

HOW LONG: 9AM TO 3PM

WHAT SWAPPED: Anything to do with golf. GLAGA has reserved the golf hitting room and one across the hall as places for golfers to swap, sell, or find used golf equipment. Bring any item that is golf related in anyway and maybe find a replacement or trade up to something that you have been looking for. Clubs can be tried out in the golf hitting room. GLAGA memberships for 1990 will be available for \$5.00, Juniors & Seniors only \$2.00! If you don't have any equipment to swap then come anyway and swap golf stories. See you there!

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