

## 2024 Winter Summit and Its Future

### INTRODUCTION

The Winter Summit for 2024 was held on or about November 26, 2024. The location was The Game Stop Backparlor at Industry'a'Peoria.

The Winter Summit was held in open session. In attendance were Majors President BT3 (no license plate) and Tournament Directors LUF, W and TST. No science phone call-ins were allowed. Also in attendance - in reverse order of appearance: JUD, AMB, ERN, MGY, TBK, STL, DOED and PVT.

The decision to hold the Winter Summit in open session was made by the President. The decision was unanimously supported by the remainder of the MEC.

*PVT and TST and BT3 all agreed that Uber transport was required so as to allow for free and open consumption of adult beverages without worrying about any threat from Big Law Enforcement. With that in mind, TST drove his truck with the new agreement that BT3 would do the driving home as "he wasn't going to have that many". PVT remained unconcerned and went along for the ride. Upon arrival at Industry, TST invoked oblitus hominum and declared that he had forgot all of his materials for the meeting. BT3 and PVT went in and TST drove back to retrieve his note taking supplies. Inside, several minutes were spent among the early gatherers determining the appropriate seating arrangements in the otherwise empty collection area. This included initial positions being assumed, followed by uprooting and repositioning against the wall, accompanied by shifting of tables and chairs. With the approach of even more Summit-goers, eventually a rectangular shape of tables was agreed upon and was effected. A pre-meeting motion to reduce or eliminate altogether the unhelpful loud music emanating from the overhead speakers was carried heartily. Alas the motion's directive was not effected by the staff.*

**Meeting Opening** AMB's late arrival coincided brilliantly with the opening of the the Summit at 19:04 further marked by the distributing of pencils. Presiding officer BT3 informed AMB that there would be no Games Of War at this meeting. AMB understood and elected to stay. TST had a pencil already but somebody needed one. Most did not want. At 19:09 the meeting restarted and moved on to general pleasantries.

**General Pleasantries ("The Calm Before The Storm")** TBK commenced with multiple "How you doin'?" inquiries. There were not many responses but JUD, who arrived even later than AMB, astutely noted that BT3 had said "fine".

**Airing of Grievances / Dead To Me Voting Opens ("The Storm")** Scholars note that participants aired more grievances at this Winter Summit than at any of the other meetings combined. Paradoxically, the rest of the meeting was rather non-confrontational. BT3 logged the first complaint by reestablishing that the unhelpful music was too loud. Then AMB lit off on Discord. He inexplicably is not a member of Discord even though he never signed up for Discord. LUF was equally grieved by the fact that the Money List was not updated based on the fact that his Mike Miller winnings were not posted

there. DOED chimed in that LUF was correct and that the List was indeed out of date. TST, incredulous, insisted that he had certainly updated the Money List. BT3 also pointed out that Mike Miller winnings are customarily not included as official Money List winnings. “See!” exclaimed TST. Scholars have since determined that BT3 was right, DOED was right, LUF was partially right and TST was providing alternative facts which were right. Unrelated, someone observed and grumbled “there are too many people here”. Concerning Player Profiles on the website, ERN was miffed that his profile was not included. After all, he had won the Sprint the previous year and therefore was within his rights to be disenfranchised about this. TST asked ERN if he was sure no profile existed. ERN rebutted “I’m sure” and as proof referenced the relevant webpage at which point ERN became unsure. TST though craving a gloat after his Money List humiliation explained that really only a few players have profiles and besides, the one he wrote for ERN wasn’t really that good. Then TST posted a grievance to TBK because TBK is supposed to be writing these things. All of this took four minutes. Then time was called to allow for beer and food orders. In the time that it took (8 minutes) TBK uncovered the name ‘Gene Niggemeyer’ on the Money List page while perusing the website on his phone. Note the time. This was the start of TBK’s fascination with the Majors Diversity program (since cancelled). Historians note that TBK revisited his new favorite subject at regular intervals throughout the remainder of the meeting. The Summit resumed at 19:21 with The Business of Majorstown.

### **The Business of MajorsTown (with Old and New Ideas)**

**1. General Year in Review Comments** BT3 completed a comprehensive Year in Review for us including winnings for the year (\$4,330 with DOED taking \$590 of it) and winnings for all time (\$78,100). He noted that Hoo Hoo Shoot 2026 will be Major number 100. STL as Player of the Year was recognized while SMBA’s Rookie of the Year award sparked a few puzzled looks. SMBA is so much much a rookie that he could actually win the same award next year. As BDD did that one time DOED astutely remarked. Old business of changing the name of the Majors to Majorstown was swiftly rebuked with a motion to trademark “The Majors” instead.

**2. Unfrozen Caveman** STL’s 2024 win in a “war of attrition” was reviewed. The experiment of holding every round at the same course was overwhelmingly viewed as a success. And not just because it was dirt cheap.. This format would be good on any decent course. Tournament Director BT3 directed TST to attempt to get our scorekeeping app Squabbit up and running for the 2025 UFC. He agreed but warned that it would debut “untested”. TW5 in absentia suggested a UFC only team putting contest at the Hay Putting Course. “When are we gonna have time to do that?” replied one nattering nabob of negativism. Although the idea did have a certain *je ne said quoi*, nobody knew what it was. And since TW5 was not present to elaborate and defend, this proposal was declared *nullatenus tenuit* until further notice. LUF led a discussion about playing our own ball at Spanish Bay and Spyglass and changing those two rounds to two-man better ball instead of the traditional two-man scramble. TBK had a few different responses to that including “what for?” and “what the ^!#! for?”. TST would be happy to play his own four dozen balls at Spyglass. The TD vowed to consider. Finally there will be eighteen holes a day with no thirty-six hole days. Except for the Astronaut Jones Cup which will be played all in one day at the Ocean Course in Half Moon Bay. There was a quick discussion of UFC courses. Musings that Pasatiempo was “an hour and a half” from Pebble Beach and “if Nicklaus likes it, it must be terrible” floated about the air.

**3. Mondo** BT3 noted that LUF “shot his age twelve and a half years early” Participants were having a difficult time judging if that was a good score or a bad score. The maths were too lofty. But since LUF won the Mondo, it must be good right? Topic raised: Doing a St. Louis trip, just like the 2023 DHB trip, in conjunction with the 2025 Mondo. LUF, STL, TST (why TST?) to analyze and consider. TST seriously wanted commitment on getting approval for a grand “Home of The Mondo” mural to be painted on the exterior wall of the Madison clubhouse. TBK had earlier poodled this idea so you know its a good one. DOED, who knows everybody worth knowing, vowed to get our approval from either the royal and ancients at the Madison cash register or the Peoria Park District as appropriate. BT3 wants Mondo skins to split the pot instead of the way it has always been done which is, of course, not widely known. Tournament Director LUF repeatedly nodded either in the affirmative or in a lets-move-on-ery way.

Guess we will find out. TST asked what should be the fixins on a Big Papa Jake's "Mondo Dog". He equivocated however by saying he proposed the eponymous dog concept BEFORE encountering the real BP Jake in the flesh. TST noted that BPJ was a nice fellow but could be described as a Food Truck Supremacist as he seemed militarily not open to suggestion. Any suggestion. About anything. Including hot dogs which he does NOT do. He mentioned some old lady tried it once and that was enough for him. SO... with that in mind, crushed Lays came up as a popular ingredient. MGY, with his extensive food related history, agreed to come up with the recipe. Bacon. Bet on bacon too. DOED will have his hands full sweet talking this into reality. Its going to happen. Somebody might get ninja-starred but its going to happen. In other Mondo action, TST had written that he was unhappy with what he described as "provisional mully abuse" in recent contests. "Too scramble-like" was his claim. STL wrote that he too wanted a provisional mully too. TBK appealed to logic with his angle that "you have to use your mully". BT3 seconded and thirded the posting. Then our discussion quickly devolved into What's a Trump?, should people get rewarded for being anti-shapiroed then hitting a "better" shot, can I go back and hit a mulligan if I get up there and my first is no good?, penalties for NOT using an anti-shapiro during the round, "protecting the field" by using your anti-shapiro is expected, etc. Permanent signs came up again. LUF may or may not visit any of these subjects in the off-season.

**4. Dick's Hatband** DOED's wire to wire domination and lack of collapse was reviewed with admiration. W had a proposal that the DHB Champion should choose the location for the next Champions Dinner. Tournament Director TST, customarily flexible, agreed that this could be done. But that we should probably stick to Sponsor locales. ERN opened up a quick beef with the Performance Improvement Quotients or PIQs used at the DHB. Specifically he could not understand how he could be expected to compete when he has to give DOED, the aforementioned champion, thirty-two strokes over the course of the tournament. "That's like eight shots a day!" Experts are busy calculating but differing theories range from - if ERN and DOED had played straight up ERN would have won by one shot, to DOED would have still won by thirteen! Other models have ERN winning by thirty-two. One had W by five. Lastly and alas, JUD renewed his commitment to "Client #9" who annually keeps him out of the DHB. TD TST, while disappointed, agreed to appoint a commission to look into this mystery client that keeps the ever-popular JUD across state lines. The 24th DHB will be held August 14-17, 2025.

**5. Hoo Hoo Shoot** MGY received his due accolades for his 7-0 table run. Furthermore, his victory was subsequent to his beloved Schmoopies again winning the prestigious Doed Event just a few days prior. How many years in a row is it now for the Exuberant Schmoopies? In a review of old business, TBK's "let's get rid of handicaps and play straight up" idea resurfaced and was given way more consideration than pundits predicted. The low handicappers were understandably hush-hush on the subject whereas others shouted things like "Have Fun Losing!!" and "Are you challenged in the brain? You must be challenged in the brain!" and "You Have A Concussion!" No further commentary was observed except for a reference to "4-4-4-4" of which the meaning of has been lost. TBK also suggested adding a skins game to the HHS with associated logical payout schedule. All shellshocked from his previous idea, it is unknown how this was received. The Tournament Director W may or may not have a look at it. BT3 stressed that benefiting the HHS greatly would be: aeration avoideration. DOED and PVT glommed on to the import. Checking with the course on the timing of planned aeration was put forth as an out-of-the-box way to avoid aeration altogether. That idea seemed to make sense. TST wants the tournament pushed to later in October to allow for cooler temps and more colorful foliage. Plus time for aeration to heal. So pushing the HHS appeared like it was going to work until... Whoa, whoa, whoa! Wait a minute! The Doed Event is already set for the end of September! Can't move it. Can't move The Smoker. Anything Doed related - can't move it!!!! Well, we all guessed that decided the issue once and for all.

**6. Astronaut Jones Cup** Surprisingly assigning 2025 Captains was a nothingburger like no other. TBK jumped up, raised both hands and volunteered to helm Team Peoria before anyone else could. No one else did. Meanwhile, on the winning side, BT3 (a member of Team USA once the court gets packed, see below) announced that BKB will captain his team. See here: BT3 then suggested that six, not four, players on each team is what we are shooting for. W seconded. Over on Team Peoria, Captain TBK

announced that uniform colors do not matter to him but his crew will be wearing half-length fishnets. In unfinished business from previous years, we still need those AJC stickers up on the walls of the Industry restrooms. TST was ready to install in the men's room but alas, can't find his lot of stickers. As for the ladies, Suzanne Miller of Suzanne Miller Realty Empire is on call to affix at a moment's notice. Failing that, BT3 will do it once his transition is complete. If we can locate the stickers that is.

**7. Mike Miller Auto Park Cup** 2024 Review: Once again thank you to our sponsors and thank you to "the other things" as point 0016 million dollars in prize money was awarded entry fee free. And tax free if that's how you choose to live your life (Doed plug your ears). LUF took home \$0.0008 million as the 2024 champion. Majors President BT3 announced that the 2025 payout will be \$.0017 million with the winners share up to \$.00085M. How are these increases possible year after year? Everyone wanted to know. LUF raised the unfortunate news that Mike Miller is retiring from his job. Congrats to him and woe to us. As such he will be resigning his cup sponsorship effective Jan 1, 2025. We have no cup sponsor after the end of the year. Oh suggestions were made. Like taking the highest bidder. To wit, "Nobody wants a bidding war", retorted STL, which seemed to imply he knows who would win. Nobody wanted a bidding war. "The PVT Cup" was well received. "The Tilly Cup" met with some "eww"s. TBK really thought "Lips on Brad's \_\_\_\_\_ Cup" might be popular. "Lets just vote 3-2-1 on the options". "Yeah with write in votes too". President BT3 will have his hands full coming up with a solution in 2025. Our nation turns its lonely eyes to him to figure this mess out. Finally, TST wanted our stated goal to be to pay out all sixteen places in the Tour Championship Cup (whatever it may be called). And pay enough to at least cover #16's greens fees. About \$3420 a year should cover it. DOUBLE our current payout. Lofty, son.

**8. Participants/Participation** 2024 Review: We played 58 events. That seems like too many? With 28 players in returning action and one new addition, namely SMBA, our deserving Rookie of The Year. Things that got undecided: What should the criteria be for new invites and exclusions for each Major? What should be the punishment for the "I'm in, if you need me" affront? What's with all the willy-nilly Majors ID changes? Who is Willy Nilly? To whom will we be looking as candidates for new player status? Note the time: The meeting has now transitioned from looking for progress and solutions to just getting it over with. Retrospectively however, we did make some forward movement in the willy-nilly department. It turns out, only one player has ever felt the call of the willy-nilly. Twice! So what's the big deal? Webmaster LEX pointed out that willy-nilly ID changes mean amending at least twelve different web pages, changing all pre-loaded Squabbit tournament pages. Making adjustments to all Majors files and documents if we can even find them all. There are Discord implications also. Changing of the EMF Sprint posters - don't forget that. Its too much work! Besides, Daniels is flash-in-the-pan! His birdy legs are too fragile. Even so, TST relented and seemed to agree that if any Majors participant really-truly (opposite of willy-nilly) wants to change his ID, say from BPT to BT3 or from BT3 to BT5, he will not object. Provided! - an accompanying authentic vehicle license plate change is made with his appropriate state government reflecting this change. Once the plate is installed and in use, the willy-nilly ID change will be made real and true. By the way, TST had another solution in mind, but he did not like it as well as the license plate idea, and nobody wanted to hear it anyway. In a helpful way, ERN added an idea that linguists are now studying. It amounted to possibly a "clearing house" plan or perhaps a "cheery horse" idea. Finally, if we did find somebody new to play, folks agreed that the Mondo is the best place to introduce them to the Majors given that many new players have come in this way including Curran, Ed Sullivan, Guido, Jeffy and many others.

**9. Sponsorships** In 2024 we were blessed to collect \$1,525 from our sponsors. In 2025 we will lose two sponsors - Mike Miller and Hog Trof. That's not a small thing. Our funding will suffer if we don't come up with something. DOED tried to maintain calm with "we can get sponsors". Then suggested we introduce gambling - tip boards, Doedywood Squares, etc. However, to date, everything Majors related has been done using our cherry skills and pure geometric logic. Everything from the UFC to the Ultima Test and Final Exam to The WOPR. All using our dexterity, ability and prowess. Buying a pig in a poke and other speculative ventures to patch up our leaky boat did not lead to warm and fuzzy feelings. "We can get sponsors" seemed to be where its at. So the outlook is this for '25: Twelve sponsors (down from fourteen), \$1,275 in sponsor money. That is \$250 under! Will this aggression stand, man?

**10. Ace & Geary** 2024 Review: We added \$116 to the pot and the total in it is \$276. Note: At 21:13 time out was taken to explain what is the Ace & Geary anyway. After that The Doed Conjecture was addressed. Remember, The Doed Conjecture states that a hole-in-one made during the Mondo that is summarily erased by an anti-shapiro SHOULD INDEED COUNT for the purposes of collecting the Ace & Geary monies. Apparently this was put to an unofficial vote of the attendees. No count was taken but there were an alarming number of “yes” votes offered. Nevertheless, The Doed Conjecture was proven false when BT3’s “What ace?” argument was considered. PTG although not present, side-face laughed and cried. Scholars will debate whether the crying was also side-faced or just normal-faced. After hours, some would say even years, real progress was made on the pesky and dodgy areas of the A&G. Should an ace made in the EMF count for A&G? YES! Should an ace made in the EMF Sprint count? YES! In the Astronaut Jones Cup? YES! In the HHS after a match has been decided? NO NO NO! What do we do when the A&G funding is back to where it was before it was filched? As you may or may not recall, after the 2022 filching episode where the A&G was depleted, we enabled Gas Mode whereby entrants would contribute not \$1 per Major but \$2 per Major until the A&G is restored to its previous high level. So when that level is re-reached we will then disable Gas Mode and contributions will return to the customary \$1 per Major per player. Hooray! We decided something!

**11. Erlenmeyer Flask** 2024 Review: The Syndicate went undefeated posting a 1-0 record. The cold windy rain was also undefeated at 2-0. There is \$720 in the flask today. BT3 raised the idea of enacting EMF scheduling rules for each Major in order to maximize participation by “being predictable”. W thought we should really consider deploying the government’s weather control technology to give us some sunny skies to play under. It was unclear which government has this know-how exactly. The Tic-Tokkers maybe? In any case pre-cancelling the event was a bad idea twice. From now on there will be no cancel until we are wet and/or frozen. W also was very convincing in his argument that we should “aspire” to something that was unintelligible in the current note taking format.

**12. EMF Sprint** 2024: It took a totally made up event to do it but BT3 was back in the Winner’s Circle in Albuquerque. Does it count? Yes. For what? We don’t know. Its not a Major victory we know that. And we know ERN likes the EMFS because he said “I like it, the EMFS”. TST moved to penalize a player with a 10-place grid penalty for the egregious act of displaying a World No. 1 golf towel when that player is not the current World #1. And a 3-place penalty for failing to display the W No. 1 towel whilst serving as the current W#1. Where “displaying” means hanging from a player’s golf bag. The towel. Motions carried by all paying attention.

**13. Ultima Test** In 2024 TST got the 13’s and skillfully avoided the 19 (thanks to Max Muncy in Week 27) and took home \$449 of the \$1,745 available. Mention was made of dealing in whole dollars and forwarding any cents on to the Mondo Trunk. No never mind was made of that though. BT3, executor of UT (is it UT #12?) promised significant changes to next season’s event. Namely, keeping it a 13 run pool. And keeping it a 19 run disaster-pool. He also promised to think about it some more but that it was a “done deal”.

**14. Final Exam** TST also finished first in the FE as Xanderfogel finally came to life in one of these deals. 2024 was a good year for utilizing pure geometric logic to win events like the FE and UT. ATR with the first pick in the draft (Scotty S.) pocketed \$72 for his second place FE showing. Thinking he now is the expert on the Final Exam, TST urged a change to “the Paige Sweet deal”, i.e. Easy Office Pools, to easily keep shot by shot track of the next Final Exam. We can all follow the action live! BT3, experts believe because he didn’t win, shut down that nonsense real good. Somebody was “pig-headed” but it was unclear who said who was. It was decided that waiting for the BT3 Postulate to kick in was the most prudent way forward.

**15. Handicaps/PIQs** Very little was addressed. W suggested a more substantial sanction for a player not owning an official USGA handicap index. Right now only the EMF Sprint cares about that. W’s new five stroke penalty would apply not just to the EMFS but to ALL events! Hammer time!

**16. The Serb** 2024 Review: The Serb was out of control. He was whack. He should be fired. He should be fired for falsification of documents. What is everyone talking about?

*\*\*\* Time uncertain. Patience was going away. "We gotta go" people were coming out. In turn, "We gotta go people gotta go" people were coming out. The remaining topics were discussed or not discussed in an expedited and haphazard manner to get it over with. It happens every year. \*\*\**

**17. World Ranking** 2024: LUF reclaimed the top spot. The sweet ass Count Istvan Telecki towel exists! We need lesser sweet ass towels for former #1s now. "Lets see how the yellow one goes first". Here is something interesting: BT3 has made or wants to make or will make access available to all historical OWGR details.

**18. Comms Methods** Discord Hot Items channel. What is it and why is it? Its there for tournament directors to post time critical big dirty news items regarding their event. Theoretically a user could allow notifications for only the Hot Items channel and would then get all the relevant info. on his phone. I say, theoretically. Same with the Headline Updates channel. Subscribe to it and get notified when there is new news posted to the Majors website. TST asked if we need a Stonks channel to keep track of, assess, and comment on hot stonk tips. Like MNMD or Mind Mendelsohn which is going crazy today and whatnot. Stares.

**19. Winter Summit** Further clarification of an old truth. The WS channel on Discord is for *posting* WS topics only. It is not for *evaluation* of said topics. That is for the WS itself. So post the topics on Discord, discuss them at the WS, see. TST wants BT3 to put together some form of statistical analysis that each player can receive at the WS. How each player did in the Majors, EMF's etc. Average scores. Number of birdies. Trends over the years. Things players would be interested in. ERN reawakened and resurged and used Discord to announce his intent to attend his first ever WS. Or his potentiality for putting it on his calendar and then attending. Bloody good use of Discord, ERN!

**20. Dead-to-Me Voting** 2024 Review: Many players received DTM votes but nobody was expelled from the Majors in a permadeadory way. Alas, no one has ever attained permadead status. TST wanted publishing of DTM's this time around and produced a copy of the Majors Hurt Feelings Report (available online in the DOWNLOADS section) if anyone was feeling especially girly about it. TBK agreed, publish. He acknowledged that he gets a lot of votes and is always interested in knowing who is voting for him so he can hate them. BT3 wanted to determine if newcomer SMBA was listed on the DTM ballots as he was eh-sharpening his pencil.

## ADJOURNMENT

At an undetermined time the Summit adjourned with the metaphorical smack of the gavel by new President BT3.

## FINAL NOTE

The 2024 Winter Summit concluded after a period of approximately an undetermined number of minutes. Historians and scholars will look upon and consider this to be another successful day in the history of The Majors.