

STATE OF THE MAJORS

ADDRESS BEFORE THE UNITED BODY OF MAJORS PARTICIPANTS

TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION

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President Bradley P. Tilly

APRIL 25, 2025 w ORO VALLEY, AZ

Address Before the United Body of Majors Participants on the State of the Majors *June 2, 2025*

The President of the Majors: Members of the Majors Executive Council, Members of the current United Body of Majors Participants, Esteemed Retired Majors stalwarts, Families of those Majors warriors we have lost, Less-esteemed former Majors participants, Future Majors hopefuls, Invaluable Sponsors, and of, course, My Fellow Americans... The State of the Majors is Strong. Stronger, frankly, than maybe ever. Probably, I think, Stronger than many of the strongest things on earth and in space. I mean that. I mean that.

So it is with great pride that I proclaim that here in our 25th year, after all the growth, success, and good feelings, we are just getting started!

The heartbeat of the Majors remains, of course, the famed tournament lineup. Those beautiful tournaments, a little thing we call *The Majors*. The Unfrozen Caveman, The Mondo at Royal Madison, The Dick's Hatband, and the Hoo Hoo Shoot. So Simple. So Beautiful. One true mark of excellence is consistency, and I am excited to stand here as POTM and remind you all that we are in the midst of a historic uninterrupted run of 92 consecutive Majors that began with TBK's win in UFC #1 at Estrella Mountain in Phoenix circa Feb 2001. Estrella Mountain. They call it *Estrella Mountain*. What a day it was at the, as it turned out, *Gary* Nicklaus designed gem. Who could have known what had just started??

After MGY's total dominance at the 2024 HHS was complete in October 2024, we had played 92 Majors in 24 years. Twenty-seven different winners. \$78,000 in Majors prize money. Where's ERN? MEL? (crowd boos) Your times are coming! TBK, are you here? (crowd cheers). Still waiting for number 2, baby.

Many would have been satisfied with the Big Four, but The Majors Executive Council, with the firm support of the UBMP, has not rested in 25 years. In an unending quest for growth amid fierce competition, we have seen new and enduring chapters written over the years. The kindling of regional rivalries in the Astronaut Jones Cup team event. The celebration of year-long superiority and supremacy and crowning of a year-end champion in the Mike Miller Auto Park Cup. The chase for history and the battle for bragging rights in pursuit of the Erlenmeyer Flask. Most recently, the crashing and burning in the F1-inspired EMF Sprint. And finally, the pursuing of holes-in-ones to pocket the Ace-N-Geary Fund. Only happened once, right? Just once? Doed (looking around and pointing to the left) – there you are, stock seven? Nice work.

And as if that still is not enough! How about the Ultima Test, the Final Exam, the Midterms, the Backroom, the Cloakroom, and, of course, the highly misunderstood WOPR?

How does that all happen? Look to the Winter Summit. Every winter we summit to celebrate the past: the year and the winners. In 2024, it was STL at the UFC, LUF in the Mondo, DOED wire to wire in the DHB, and you know about MGY's Seven-Oh in the HHS. And we look to the future. For three hours every year, you—the little people— are allowed to believe that you have a voice. Ah the Winter Summit, where creativity meets cacophony meets cantankerousness. Good friends, weird food, bitter beer, and lots of yawns. In 2024 we had the highest attended Winter Summit probably ever with some really fantastic people, very smart people, thinking really big things for the future and some maybe not so good but we don't... we do good. Very big and very fast. TST – where is TST? Fine job on the Minutes. Funny. Pasatiempo to the Portola is 45 minutes. I've driven it many times.

Wow, what a 24 years!

To Mike Miller as you move into retirement, thank you for your 10 years of sponsorship in the Majors. We are proud to have called the winner of the Mike Miller Auto Park Cup our national champion. We trust it was also good for you and for all of our sponsors, as we buy cars, clean our cars and carpets, take pictures of our children, have breakfast, lunch, and dinner regularly, use toilets, move our families, and, of course, pay our fair share.

Our sponsorship is strong, but in the next 30 days (or maybe the next 30 minutes) we must reconfirm our sponsor team in 2025, replace our 10-year title sponsor from within or from the field, and rename the year end CUP. IPS to MMAP to whatever comes next.

Lots of good ideas have been raised about "whatever comes next". In late 2024, I pushed for a resolution to rename the CUP to something called the Redd Connor (like the Conn Smyther). It was weird and unpopular, but constitutionally sound and it got the votes. How about that Constitution of the Majors? In 24 years, we haven't needed to clarify the powers of POTM or the Executive Council very often, but this time we did put it to work. As POTM, in the end, I shut it down in favor of something more in keeping with my regime...something more democratic.

So now, by executive order, the former MMAP Cup will be known immediately as The Cup of America. It's a big, beautiful cup. Thank you for your attention to this matter. The Rule of Law prevails.

I am proud to say that for a long time now, the Majors have existed and thrived in a very Digital Age – we have the Discord, Email, Teams, Venmo, Zoom, Text (green and blue, by the way), Mondo Scoring, Fountain, SyncMaster – The Majors has really seen it all. My sincere thanks to TST for ushering in, pushing hard, and maintaining our data and communications superhighway.

Also, with great pride I can assure you that the Majors is finally fiscally responsible. We operate, as we always have, at a surplus and, finally in 2025, we are earning BIG MONEY...big, big money... on that surplus. Lots of zeroes.

Only one thing about these Majors that I can say I just don't get. The Serb. This guy... this guy is a lunatic! We gotta get rid of this guy! Maybe I'll deport him. Should we deport him? (Both sides of aisle rise in unabashed jubilation.). Would be a first for the Majors, but I tell you, long overdue! Can I do that? (Rumbling.) I think I'll so do that.

It would be a great example of an underestimated factor for long and lasting Majors success. The Majors is always in tunes with the times it is in and employs self-policing that allows for constant reflection and course correction. It's a master class in situational awareness. Despite many egregious acts through the years (you know who you are!) no one in our Majors family has ever been voted Perm-a-dead. The Majors Executive Council is nothing if not empathetic and compassionate. The Wightman remains, hasn't been back, but remains! Garnering votes and approaching dead-to-me status has proven to be just the wake-up call some need to revive the Majors way within them. Yes, we have seen the Dark Days. Da-ark! But I am proud to proclaim that we live our golf lives in an unprecedented Era of Good Feelings today and it will not be changing under my watch.

Pretty great. So, what's next?

How about Pebble Beach? How about Major #100 at the HHS in 2026? How about a four-figure prize at the Year End Cup? As I embark on the final half-year of my second term as POTM, I say, for me, the time for reflection is over. On to the next year of golf and growth. And then to the next POTM. I am quite confident we will continue prosperating like never before.

To all of you, Majors past and present, and to those poised for Majors future, just remember, we are the Majors. We can and will do anything!

God Bless you all.

God Bless the United States of America.

And God Bless the Majors of Majorstown.