

# Professional Golfers Are Better Teachers

In my computer room, a place where we used to eat our meals when we were a family of five, I have a set of shelves nearby which contains ready reference material on golf. The thickest book on that shelf is a book published by the Professional Golfers Association, titled: *PGA Teaching Manual*. I borrowed the manual over a year ago from Jim Campbell, PGA professional and one of the best teachers of the game I have ever known.

Jim is the father of Chris and Robin Campbell and has been an athletic booster, an instructor, and a supporter of our golf team at West Brunswick for the past four years. To say that Jim has been a valuable asset is a clear understatement. His assistance and moral support have had a direct effect on the success of the team. Jim's work with Scott Quaintance had a salutary effect on the 73 Scott fired in the state championships last month. The sad thing was that Jim was playing in a tournament at Landfall and could not witness the fruit of his labors.

The reason that I have held on to the PGA manual so long is that Jim already knows all that good stuff and doesn't need it. Besides he knows that he may have the book back anytime he wants to come and get it, providing he comes with a gun in hand.

I am writing an article for the July 4th, *Island Living* supplement to the *Beacon* on finesse shots from greenside bunkers and naturally I went to the manual to cross reference my stuff against their stuff. I must tell you that they have researched sand play very well. They even give you a little history on how the sand wedge came to be designed and how it has changed over the years. Fascinating stuff.

## Great Stuff On The Short Game

The chapter preceding "Bunker Play" in the manual caught my eye due to the manner the authors treated and related instruction on the short game. As you know, if you read this column occasionally, I am a true believer in the short game. I am convinced that more pars, more holes, more rounds and more tournaments are saved by short shots than any other skills in the bag.

Short shots comprise more than half the strokes in a round of golf and are a set of skills that any golfer can learn to master. You may not be able to rifle your drives down the middle of the fairway or fire elegant iron shots close to the pin, but there is no excuse for not being in command of your short game. Even if you are not a particularly good putter, the rest of the short game can keep you in a comfortable putting zone.

When a golfer knows that all he had to do is two-putt to make a respectable score, it is not surprising how often that first putt curls into the cup. Being able to play the short shots with confidence takes lots of pressure off of the rest of your game. It even takes pressure off of other short shots.

## A Learning Continuum

The interesting aspect of the chapter which I refer to is the way the PGA relates putting, chipping and pitching. It provides a continuum of learning which had never occurred to me. The grip, stance and stroke for all the short shots may be learned and mastered in a set and not as separate, individual shots. They may also be learned in a manner which is easily understood by the golfer.

The instructional methods do not rely on a separate set of swing keys for each shot. Instead they key on a common set of fundamentals which flow through all the short shots. The golfer not only learns how to execute each shot, but fully comprehends what produces the flat shot as well as the elevated shot.

As a result when the lie of the ball, the distance of the shot, or the intervening terrain presents special variations, there is no mystery about how to handle those situations. By comprehending the cause and effect, the golfer may even choose which variation of the fundamentals they want to use to solve the equation. Each variable is clearly understood and appreciated for the shot values it provides.

Well, there you go. I have once again been inspired by the endless fascination of the sport of golf...and the short game. I feel imposed upon to share this intriguing method of learning in the next few weeks. After all, I don't want Jim Campbell showing up on my doorstep with a gun so I must have a good argument for holding on to the *PGA Teaching Manual* for a while longer. Thanks, Jim.

# Chamber Tourney Offers Cash And Other Prizes

Win a television for a hole-in-one on a given hole, during the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce third annual golf tournament.

The tournament will be held Saturday, June 15 at Sea Trail Plantation on the Jones/Byrd Golf Course. There will be a 9 a.m. shotgun start and the event is Captain's Choice.

Other prizes will include team prizes for two flights—first place \$100, second place \$75 and third place \$50. Additional prizes will include dinner for two, a chair/cooler and a pair of sportglasses. These prizes will be given to closest to pin on all par 3's and longest drive on a given par 4.

Eighteen holes of golf will be played and businesses will sponsor a hole. In addition to hole sponsors, teams have been formed and more are needed.

Anyone interested in participating in the tournament or for more information please call the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce, 754-6644.

# Sea Trail Threesome Wins Best Ball With 59

Betty Geesey, Elsie Bolick and Eva Baham combined for a net 59 and won the Sea Trail Ladies Golf Association best ball tournament last week.

Finishing one stroke back in second place was the team of Kitty Smoker, Rosemary Walker and Betty Dawley.

Two teams tied for third place. Shirley Helmke, Carol Peters and Marge Gallop shot 61 to tie the team of Jane Bye, Jackie Roy and Rita Bilz.

## Brierwood Ninettes

Helene Baker chipped in at the sixth hole and won the Brierwood Ninettes low net tournament last Friday.

Low net winners on even-numbered holes were Wyarian Taylor and Margaret Pingo. Low scorers on the odd-numbered holes were Marian Allen and Rita Dugan.

Liz Bruce and Molly Hoke had low putts for the day. Ginny Hawkins had a chip-in at the eighth hole.

## Ruth's Renegades

Members of Ruth's Renegades competed in a low net tournament last week, with 20 golfers playing at Carolina Shores and 10 at Brierwood.

Sue Baer led the way at Carolina Shores with a score of 72. She took first on a match of cards over Kay Kennedy, who also shot 72.

Ruth Brown took third place on a

## GOLFING ACTION

match of cards over Cynthia Omundsen after both women shot 73.

At Brierwood, Mary Ahearn chipped in at the 15th hole and took first place with a net 68.

Alice Struck placed second, also with net 68. Toni Kobos birdied the 10th hole at Brierwood.

## Brierwood Ladies

Joanna Lang fired a net 62 and won the first flight in the Brierwood Ladies Golf Association tournament last week.

Runners-up in the top flight were Rose Reiter with net 63 and Ginny Dorshimer and Lois Beato with scores of 64. Mrs. Dorshimer had low putts with 27.

Three golfers tied for first place in the second flight. Ethel Brown, Pat O'Connell and Marie Dolan shot net 65. Mrs. O'Connell had low putts with 28.

Marge Harper fired a net 57 for the low score in the third flight and low net for the tournament. She also birdied the fourth hole and had low putts in the flight with 29.

Other top scorers in the third flight were Dot Crean with net 65 and True Schmalzer, Virginia Gibson, Kay Quackenbush and Joan Cowie with rounds of 66.

Audrey Salmon led the fourth flight with a net 60. Pierrette Tompkins chipped in at the ninth hole and

shot 62. Third place went to Bobbye Cordisco with a net 63. Emily Laughlin had low putts with 31.

Other chip-ins during the tournament were carded by Elsie Grubbs at the sixth hole and Catherine Clemmons and Marion Johnson at the ninth.

## Sea Trail Men

The foursome of Ray Roy, Guy Moulton, Bill Jones and Bill Pike shot 95 to win the Sea Trail Men's Golf Association "pink ball" tournament last week.

## Brierwood Men

Roy Havenga, Jack Causer, Jim Roach and Paul Keeley fired a 129 to win the Brierwood Men's Golf Association two best ball tournament last Thursday.

Two teams tied for second place. John Lang, Al Butler, Don Seitz and Odie Johnson shot 132 to tie the

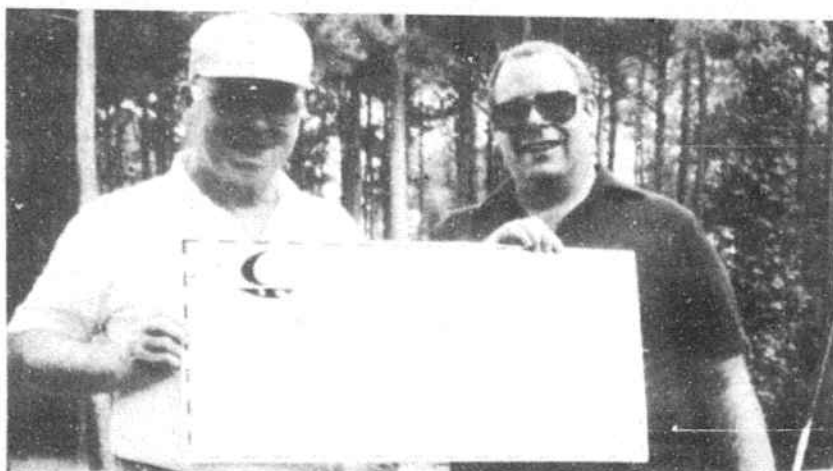
foursome of Joe Reiter, Dave Harper, Jerry Smith and Al Hierman.

Four teams shot 33 and tied for first in the nine-hole captain's choice mixed scramble last Wednesday at Brierwood.

Winning teams were Roy Havenga, Dick Baxter, Ann Causer and Mary Lamb; Hank Culp, Graham Justice, Marge Harper and Alene Sterner; Don Lamb, Burley Athan, Molly Roach and Ruth Crosby; and Joe Reiter, Nearle Einstein and Pat Narazinski.

On June 3, the team of Jack Causer, Dave Harper, Charlie Stransky and Paul Keeley shot 115 to win the Brierwood Men's best ball event.

Teams counted one ball on the par fives, two on the par fours and three on the par threes. Placing second with a round of 120 was the foursome of Joe Reiter, John Cowie, Jim Roach and Jim Thompson.



## Golf Tourney Nets \$3,500

The Brunswick County Literacy Council raised \$3,500 during its June 2 golf tournament at Carolina Shores. Pictured are tournament chairman John Crane and golf course manager Rick Moran. American Golf Corporation donated use of the course. A field of 114 men and women competed for prizes donated by local businesses. The winning team shot 59 in the captain's choice event.

## RECREATION BRIEFS

### Lions Sponsor Softball Game

Leland Lions Club is sponsoring a softball game between a team known as "The King and His Court" and a company team from Wilmington.

The benefit softball game is slated for Thursday, June 27, at 7 p.m. at the Northwest Park near Leland.

"The King and His Court," a four-man softball team that has played around the globe, will play against a nine-member team from Consolidated Builders.

Tickets purchased in advance cost \$4 for adults and \$3 for children under 12 years old. Tickets will be sold at the gate for \$5.

Leland Lions Club members are selling tickets. They also can be purchased at Young's Texaco in Winnabow, First Investors in Leland and other locations.

The ball park is located six miles west of Wilmington on U.S. 74-76.

### Run Winners Listed

Steve Moffat and Teresa Christian were the overall men's and women's winners in the Oak Island Five Mile Run May 25.

Runners-up were Robbie Burke

and Rex Whaley in the men's division and Ronni Taylor and Barbara LaGodna in the women's class.

The age group winners among the men were Robert Manuel, 19 and under; Ronald Hewett and Tim Russell, 20-29; Dan Trull, Bill Fairley and David Bartlett, 30-39; and Roy Murray, Doug Bland and Larry Wilson, 40-49.

Age group winners in the women's division were Wanda Yancey, 20-29; Jean Ann Trull, Cindy Parker and Susan Perry, 30-39; and Janet Musselwhite, 40-49.

Men's winners in the one mile run were Rex Whaley, Robert Manuel, Jeff Moffat, Chad Faircloth and Jeremy Moffat. Women's winners Andre Knight, Cara Consuegra and Cathi Faircloth.

### Day At The Beach

The Brunswick County and Long Beach parks and recreation departments will sponsor the second "Summer Fun Day" of the year Saturday, June 15, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Long Beach Cabana.

Entertainment will be provided by *The Beam*, which will perform classic rock and roll including music by *Jethro Tull*, *Deep Purple* and *Pink Floyd*.

For more information, call 253-4357 or 278-5518.

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