

A REVOLUTIONARY SWING CHANGE

Take Advantage Of Bad Weather

Fortunately the sun never sets on the game of golf. That is certainly true for those of us lucky enough to live on the North Carolina coast. This fall and early winter has provided us with unbelievable golf weather. I don't want to jinx us, but we have really had a great golfing season this year.

Although most professional tournaments are over until January, we amateur golfers can continue with full steam ahead. Actually, most of our winter weather is playable. I don't mind playing in a normal rain shower, and as long as I can feel the grips, cold weather isn't all that bad if you make adjustments to your game.

When it gets cold and wet, I do tend to abandon ship. That combination of elements just does not compute for my game. A heavy wind combined with cold weather also will chase me to the barn on occasion.

Learn In Bad Weather

Believe it or not, there are some good things that can happen when we play in adverse weather conditions. We may discover a thing or two about our game that is not always apparent in pleasant weather. We may even allow the elements to force us into some game tactics which serve us well all year around.

Wet and windy conditions normally cause us to be more conscious of our stance and placement of our feet to gain a better purchase in the turf and to be aware of our balance: balance when taking our stance and balance during the swing.

I am convinced that too many golfers fiddle and faddle with all sorts of swing mechanics when they should concentrate more on the dynamics of the swing. Poor swing mechanics generally manifest themselves in a constant shot deviation. That is to say that we consistently pull our shots, routinely hit a duck hook, or we drill a hardwood slice that starts right and ends up farther to the right.

I know that for the better part of ten years I played a ball which ranged from a fade to a boomerang slice. On most days I was never sure which version of my slice would dominate my play. I do know that I always became very familiar with the right side of what ever course I was playing at the time.

The Fade Was Easy To Learn

That slice entered my game easier than any mechanical swing change I have ever made. I had been plagued with a mad-dog, duck hook for several years. I never, ever hit a draw. It was always a hook. A friend of mine at Fort Benning joined me on the driving range one day when I was frothing at the mouth trying to hit a smooth draw. It was too cold to play even nine holes, but I was on the range for some practice shots. Slow deliberate swings produced low screaming hooks and faster swings produce high hooks which just flew farther to the left.

Finally, my friend asked why didn't I just try to fade the ball. My reply, as I recall, was something you could only get away with saying to a good friend. He said, "Shucks, just open up your stance some, tee the ball a little higher and move it up an inch or so in your stance." In a mocking voice, I repeated his instructions as I set up for the next shot and then hit the nicest fade you ever saw right down the middle of the range.

I became more and more excited as I repeated the process with the same results. Every shot was a dandy and better yet it did not roll very far to the right after it landed. I changed from a driver to my long irons with the same result. I worked my way down to the seven iron with essentially the same trajectory on the ball. Only when I reached back for something extra, did the ball slice wildly to the right.

After playing for a week or so with the fade and occasional slice I found myself in a position where a hook would be a better choice of shots. I thought, no big deal. I will just go back to my old stance and set up. But, no, that ball sliced too. I decided not to aim right and hit it right again that day.

While practicing after that round, I tried everything I knew to hook the ball and nothing worked. The best I could do was a dead pull to the left or a push to the right. I was totally synchronized to the fade/slice. It did have the effect of improving my game by providing an element of control that had not been there before. It was also easier to plan my shots by aiming slightly to the left and it provided a level of confidence not formally found in my game. So I stuck to the fade for a long time.

If our weather ever gets too cold to play, hit a few practice balls and see what you can learn about your swing. I will keep your golf muscles in tune and may provide a surprise or two you had not counted on.

Next week: Balance is the key to maneuvering the ball.

State Changes Commercial Fish Licenses For Next Year

The N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries will change the way it sells commercial fishing licenses starting next year.

Commercial licenses for 1992 will go on sale Jan. 2 as usual, but will only be valid through June 30, according to a news release.

Starting in July, commercial fishermen will purchase annual licenses that will be valid from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.

Fishermen who buy new licenses next month will only pay half of what they normally pay. Licenses purchased in July will be the normal price.

Commercial licenses for vessel and dealer operations and shellfish-

ing must be purchased by Feb. 1, according to the news release.

The N.C. General Assembly mandated the shift in the license period so it coincides with the state's fiscal year instead of the calendar year.

Fishermen are expected to benefit in the future because they won't have to buy licenses during the slow winter months, the news release states.

The state is also expected to benefit by having license revenues match the annual budget cycle.

License revenues total about \$700,000 each year and help cover the cost of law enforcement and fisheries management.

For more information on the licenses, call the division office in Morehead City at 1-800-682-2632.

Foxy Ladies Compete At Ocean Isle Course

Nancy Bouldin fired gross 90 and Joanna Lang shot net 71 to win the first flight in the Foxy Ladies golf tournament last Thursday at Ocean Isle Beach Golf Course.

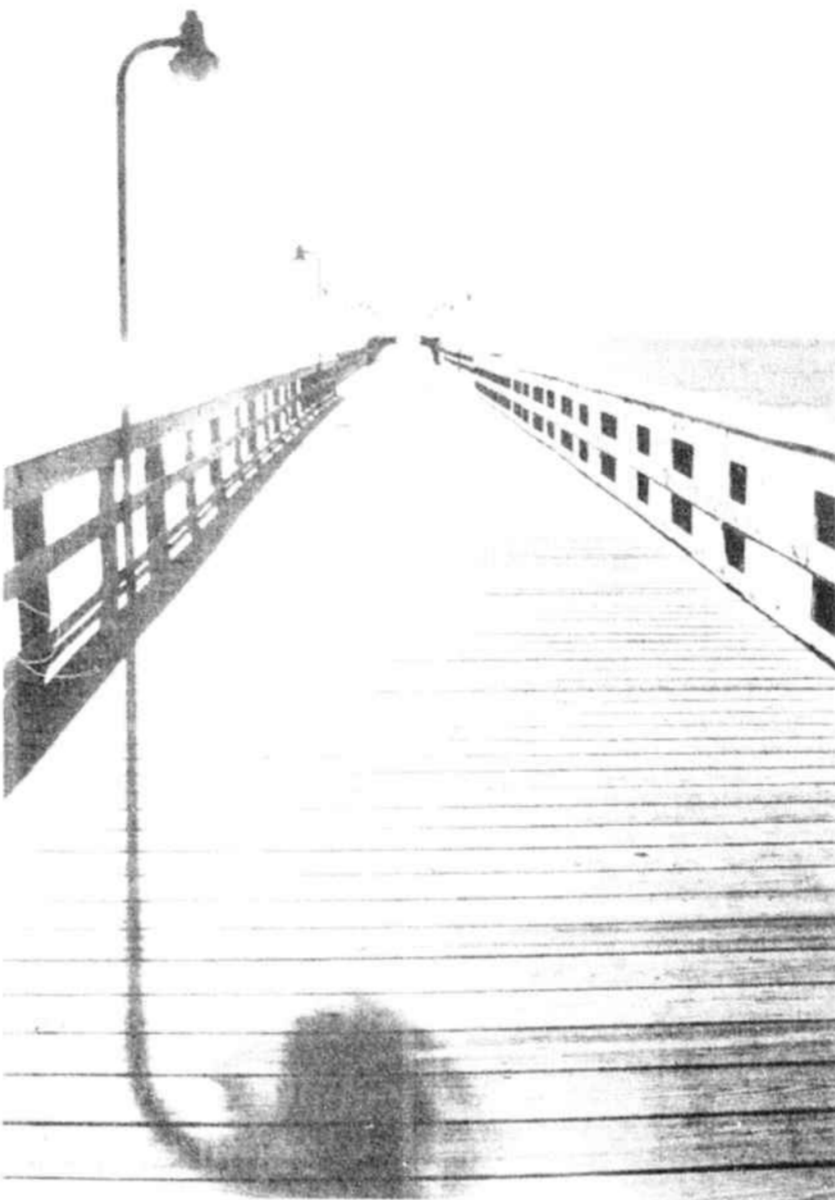
In the second flight, True Schmalzer had the low gross with a 107. Ginny Anzelone and Pierrette Tompkins tied for low net with 74.

Third flight winners were Marilyn Athan with gross 115 and Dodie Niland with net 75.

Birdies were carded by Hilda Hall at the seventh hole and Mrs. Bouldin at the 11th.

The group's next tournament is scheduled Jan. 16 at Lion's Paw Golf Links.

Brierwood Men



STAFF PHOTO BY DORIS DUDLEY

'Tis Not The Season

A vacant pier awaited visitors to Ocean Isle Beach last Sunday morning. Sunshine, breezes and pelicans were plentiful, but there were no crowds of people as temperatures were a bit too low for fishing in the chilly Atlantic.

GOLFING ACTION

The team of Roy Havenga, Greg Bouldin, Al Butler and Harry Pearson shot 134 to win the Brierwood Men's Golf Association two best ball event last Thursday.

Bob Tompkins, John Martocci, Dick Anzelone and Norm Soucie shot 137 to tie the team of Howard Bayne, Bill Rose, Don Seitz and Charlie Stransky for second place.

Three teams tied for first with rounds of 35 in the nine-hole mixed scramble last Wednesday.

Winning teams were Bob Hoke, Norm Soucie, Joanna Lang and Pierrette Tompkins; Frank Thompson, Joe Tymchak, Ginny Anzelone

and Marian Rockstroh; and Bob Tompkins, Bob Sterner, Dede Havenga and Liz Bruce.

Brick Landing

Martha Cullen won the Brick Landing Ladies Golf Association low putts tournament last Thursday with 30 putts.

Terry Ehlers and Marie Barry tied on the front nine with 15 putts each. Ruth Gardner had low putts on the back nine with 14.

Pat Sneyers had a chip-in at the third hole, and Mrs. Gardner birdied the second hole.

Sea Trail Men

Wayne Tribble fired a net 69 to win the Sea Trail Men's Golf Association tournament last week.

Dick Matheny was second with net 70. John Ewart took third place on a match of cards over Don Lowensten.

Al Consalvi was closest to the pin at the third hole, and Lowensten was closest at the 17th.

Ruth's Renegades

Ruth's Renegades held a crossover tournament last Thursday, with some members competing at Carolina Shores and some at Brierwood.

Top finishers at Carolina Shores were Ruth Brown with 28, Laura Paliwoda with 30.5 and Anna Clute with 31.

Blanche Johnson had the low gross of 114 and low net of 75 at

Carolina Shores.

Winners at Brierwood were Phyllis Harding with 28, Edith Wilkens with 30 and Dot Frey with 30.

Marion Corbin had the low gross of 107 and low net of 73.

On Dec. 10, Ruth's Renegades hosted a Texas Scramble with husbands and wives playing at Buck Creek Golf Club.

Len and Ruth Brown and Al and Jackie Storm shot 76 and won the scramble on a match of cards over two other teams.

Finishing in second place was the foursome of Tom and Jenny Briggs and Bennett and Anna Clute.

The foursome of Doris Dudley, Jan Kilgore, Blanche Johnson and Dick Merrick placed third with a 76.

Closest to the pin honors went to Ruth Brown at the fourth hole and Harry Caizzo at the eighth.

Brierwood Ladies

Pat O'Connell fired the low gross of 97 to win the Brierwood Ladies Golf Association tournament last week.

Marie Dolan was second with gross 98, and she also had low putts for the day with 30.

Molly Hoke and Bettilou Bayne tied for low net honors with matching scores of 71.

Louise Blizzard had the only chip-in of the tournament. It came at the 16th hole.

MORE GOLF FOR LESS GREEN
Presented By:



**Carolina Shores
And River Oaks**

Both Ranked in
Myrtle Beach's Top Five

18-Hole Golf Specials
To Suit Your Time and Pocket
All Rates Include Power Cart!!!



Carolina Shores
919-579-2181
803-448-2657

River Oaks
803-236-2222
1-800-762-8813

**Carolina Shores
Specials**

\$15 Before 8:30 AM
\$22 8:30-12:30
\$15 After 12:30

**River Oaks
Specials**

\$22 till 12:30
\$15 After 12:30

**9 Holes Early Bird Special
\$5.00 (Back Nine Only)**
Tee Time Reservations Before 8:00

Not valid for tournaments or groups.
Tee times no more than 3 days in advance.
All Offers Good Only With Coupon
Expires 12/25/91
THE BEACON

This Week's Tide Table

Day	Date	HIGH		LOW	
		A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday	19	5:42	6:02	-----	12:10
Friday	20	6:38	6:58	12:15	1:03
Saturday	21	7:30	7:52	1:07	1:53
Sunday	22	8:24	8:48	1:59	2:45
Monday	23	9:17	9:44	2:51	3:36
Tuesday	24	10:09	10:41	3:46	4:26
Wednesday	25	11:03	11:37	4:39	5:17S

ADJUSTMENTS

SHALLOTTE INLET—add 17 min. high tide, add 32 min. low tide.

LOCKWOOD FOLLY—subtract 22 min. high tide, subtract 8 min. low tide.


BALD HEAD ISLAND—subtract 10 min. high tide, subtract 7 min. low tide.

SOUTHPORT—add 7 min. high tide, add 15 min. low tide.


LITTLE RIVER—add 7 min. high tide, add 7 min. low tide.

**GOLF CLUBS
BOUGHT
AND SOLD
IN THE BEACON
CLASSIFIED ADS!
754-6890**

...Have you played at Brierwood yet?
They have unbelievable golf specials!




Yes! The course is in great shape



FALL FESTIVAL OF GOLF

ANY MORNING
\$20 G-FEE Play All Day
AFTER 12 PM
\$14 G-FEE
2 PM SPECIAL
\$15 Cart & Green Fee



CHRISTMAS SPECIALS REEBOKS from \$45 DEXTERS from \$31 Jackets unlined \$15 lined \$18 SHIRTS Mark Scott A.M. Player \$22 Pinnacle Golf Balls \$18 per doz. Plus many more specials

CALL FOR TEE TIMES 754-4660 Hwy. 179, Shallotte City Limits

Christmas Day Golf Special

\$20

Per Player

Includes green fee and cart

Dec. 25 only



SANDPIPER BAY

Call the Pro Shop for tee times

579-9120

Old Georgetown Rd. Calabash

GOLF and COUNTRY CLUB AT CALABASH

Best Bent-Grass Greens on the Strand!

**The 12 Days of Christmas...
Locals Special**

Dec. 20-31
\$15⁰⁰

green fee & cart included

Call 754-4373
ext. 311 for tee times





GOLF CLUB

All non-sale Pro Shop merchandise

25% Off

Ocean Isle Beach 754-4373