

# NWO GOLF LINKS

January 2016



**GREG  
SCERBA**  
*BEDFORD HILLS  
GOLF CLUB IS  
PREPARED FOR  
ALL SEASONS*

*BOOK REVIEW*  
**FIVE GREAT  
WINTER GOLF  
READS**

**SET YOUR  
INTENTION  
BEFORE YOU  
SWING**

**PLUS**

- Choose Wisely
- Mark Your Calendars for The Toledo Golf Show
- Golf Life Navigators Hosts Inaugural Radio Show
- North Palm Beach Country Club: A Tropical Delight
- Develop A Mental Game Strategy For The Golf Course

# Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Begins



FRED ALTVATER



“

**THE ARDENT  
GOLFER WOULD  
PLAY MOUNT  
EVEREST IF  
SOMEBODY  
WOULD PUT  
A FLAG STICK  
ON TOP**

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FAMED GOLF  
ARCHITECT, PETE DYE

Exactly one year ago NWO Golf Links published its first issue as a fully digital golf magazine. We are excitedly looking ahead to 2016 and have a wide variety of golf news, information and features already planned for the coming year.

We are just a little over one month away from the 2016 Toledo Golf Show. Rich and Andrew Brown have been tirelessly working to make this year's annual extravaganza bigger and better than ever before.

Since colder temperatures finally hit the Greater Toledo area, the indoor golf simulators at Pro Golf Fairways, Tamaron Country Club, Blue Skies Fore Ever, Fallen Timbers Fairways, Bedford Hills Golf Club and Fore Golfers Indoor Golf are seeing full tee sheets. On that note, our intrepid golf writer, Bryan Renius, offers timely tips about cleaning out our golf bags, prior to heading out to the indoor simulators.

Mark Croft contributed an interesting story this month about losing a dream to play in the NFL, but finding a better life and passion on the golf course. Sandy Earl's article on "Setting Your Intention," has meaning, not only for golfers, but can be applied in everyday life, as well.

Travel writer, Mike May takes us on a trip to Palm Beach and gives us a tour of the recently renovated North Palm Beach Country Club, a stop on the Florida Historic Golf Trail. Mental Golf Coach, Greg Liberto serves up his second piece in the series, "Play Like a Navy Seal, Prepare a Mental Game Strategy."

We hope you enjoy our inaugural 2016 issue of NWO Golf Links and that you make this your BEST Golf Year EVER!

I'll Catch You on the Back 9.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fred Altvater".

You Are Are A Golfaholic If: You use shovel to a clear patch in the snow to hit golf balls in January.

# FIND INSIDE



04



08



19



20



21



27



30

**04** Bedford Hills Golf Club is Prepared for All Seasons

**19** Successful Ottawa Hills Boys Golf Coach Jim McGill Retires

**30** Choose Wisely

**08** It's Just A Video Game! Tips To Enjoy Indoor Golf

**20** Develop A Mental Game Strategy For The Golf Course

**33** Golf Life Navigators Hosts Inaugural Radio Show

**11** Marathon Classic Donates \$538,000 to Area Charities

**22** Equipment Review: Callaway Apex CF 16 Irons

**34** NWO Golf Links Contributing Authors

**12** When in Doubt, Play a Provisional Ball

**24** North Palm Beach Country Club: A Tropical Delight

**35** Our Favorite Videos

**14** Toledo Golf Show

**27** Set Your Intention Before You Swing

**16** 2019 U.S. Junior Amateur At Inverness Club To Benefit First Tee of Lake Erie

**28** Golf Books We Recommend for Winter Reading

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# Bedford Hills Golf Club A Course for All Seasons

Bedford Hills Golf Club sits on the Michigan side of the Ohio/Michigan state line in Temperance. For the last 23 years, it has provided an excellent location for Toledo-area golfers to meet, work on their game and enjoy a round.

During the golf boom of the early 1990's, 22 new golf courses opened in the state of Michigan in 1993 alone, one of those was the first 18 holes at Bedford Hills. Buckeye/Wolverine was designed and built by Fred Burning and opened for play in 1993.

With the addition of the Irish course, Bedford Hills has developed a reputation as a full-service golf center with three nine-hole championship courses that pay tribute to the three nearby NCAA football powerhouses, Ohio State, Michigan and Notre Dame.

It is one of the busiest facilities in the area, with over 50,000 rounds played each year.

The three nine-hole courses assure that a plentiful supply of open tee-times are always available at Bedford Hills. They also have a driving range, as well as, chipping, pitching and putting greens to work the kinks out of your game.

The Bedrock Putt-Putt center offers two 18-hole courses, the Lagoon and the Falls for even the littlest golf fan.

In 2009, the Pavilion was constructed to provide a beautiful setting for wedding receptions, reunions, family gatherings and corporate outings. It can comfortably seat a group of up to 170 and offers an excellent spot to serve post-outing dinners and award ceremonies.

General Manager Greg Scerba is a recent addition to Bedford Hills, but he is committed to carrying on the tradition of great service and a well-maintained golf course for area golfers. Scerba is a life-long golfer, who began playing at the age





of 19 and has been enjoying the game for over 30 years.

He is not a Toledo native having grown up in New Jersey. He spent 30 years moving up the ranks with various financial service companies, serving major credit card clients all over the United States. After landing a job in Toledo, a little over 20 years ago, he never left and now considers Toledo his home.

In addition to great golf and meeting accommodations, the Matt Lake Golf Academy at Bedford Hills, provides a professional learning facility for men, women and juniors. PGA Professional Matt Lake is an experienced tournament professional and spent time on the PGATour as a professional caddy, as well.

He was born with a hearing impairment and specializes in teaching golf to physically challenged children. Lake draws from his

own experiences with impatient teachers, as well as, discrimination and understands how to correctly teach special needs children. He is also seeking to obtain funding to establish a foundation that will provide special golf training for children with learning or physical disabilities.

Bedford Hills Golf Club is owned by three partners, John Rutter, Bob Moore and Denny Long. As a group they are constantly monitoring course conditions. Rutter served as the course superintendent until his retirement last November, when his long-time assistant, Ken Schumacher was promoted to fill Rutter's big shoes.

Schumacher spent 16 years working at Bedford Hills and knows every nuance of the course. He assures it is always in the best condition possible and if there is no snow on the ground, the course is ready for the Bedford Hills Regulars that show up to play, even in less than perfect golfing weather.

When we talked with the general manager, Scerba after Christmas, he reported to

NWO Golf Links that 151 golfers showed up on Christmas Eve this year and played the course.

Bedford Hills is constantly seeking to improve the course and has made several tweaks over the years. This past season a renovation was completed to the No. 2 hole on the Buckeye Course. In September, a swampy wetlands was expanded and turned into a water hazard that was extended to guard the front of the green.

Even with the large number of rounds that are played every year at Bedford Hills, the greens are manicured to precise cut and smoothness. Routine rolling, aeration, fertilization and watering keep the greens rolling pure.

Bedford Hills Golf Club suffered a huge loss in September, 2008, when a fire completely destroyed the clubhouse. Construction began as soon as the debris was cleared away and the current clubhouse was opened to the public by the spring of 2009.



As the title mentions, Bedford Hills is a course for all seasons. During the winter months, Bedford Hills installs three TruGolf Virtual Simulators in the Clubhouse to provide the best golfing experience for indoor golfers.

Play Tom Doak's famous Pacific Dunes at Bandon Dunes, iconic Pebble Beach, or even historic St. Andrews within the comfort of the Bedford Hills Clubhouse, with the snack bar and fully stocked bar just a few steps away. Over 80 famous golf courses from around the world are available for play on the giant screen.

If you just want to work on your game, TruGolf Simulators provide instant feedback on swing speed, launch angle, spin rate and distance. Get your clubs dialed in and be ready to hit the links full bore next spring

by practicing the right way over the winter on Bedford Hill's indoor simulators.

Speaking of the snack bar and clubhouse, Scerba and his staff keep the inviting and comfortable clubhouse snack bar stocked with everyone's favorite sandwiches, snacks and cold beverages. The lounge area is the perfect place to relax after a tiring round, tell a few golf lies and settle up the day's wagers.

Bedford Hills Golf Club also welcomes league play and is happy to quote a competitive price to bring your buddies to Bedford Hills in 2016.

With three nine-hole courses, two 18-hole putt-putt courses, a driving range, practice greens, indoor simulators and meeting and event accommodations, Bedford Hills Golf Club is a course for All Seasons.



For more information on Bedford Hills Golf Club visit their website at: <http://www.bedfordhillsgolf.com/> or call 734-854-4653.



**“  
IT IS  
JUST A  
VIDEO  
GAME!**



## IT'S JUST A VIDEO GAME! *TIPS TO ENJOY INDOOR GOLF*

BY: **BRYAN RENIUS**

It's that time of year again here in the northern United States when Golfaholics make the annual migration from pristine outdoor golf courses to indoor simulators. There are advantages, of course, but there are perils, as well. For all that must suffer cold and snowy winters, let me give you a few tips to help with the transition.

**The first item of business, clean out your bag.** If your bag is anything like mine, there is probably something that you stuffed in there that has long been forgotten, and it probably stinks.

When you are playing golf in the great outdoors, unsavory odors get mixed in with the aromas wafting from the landfill next door, but in the warm comfort of an indoor golf facility those old sandwiches, dirty socks and moldy rain gear can create a fog that will bring tears to your eyes.

Mine had a heavy perfume of 'Old Yeti,' at least it's what I think an Old Yeti would smell like. Outside, not an issue, but when you bring that bag inside, with the scent of Sasquatch emanating from somewhere deep inside, it causes nasal and sinus trauma of monumental proportions. Trust me it will not help you keep friends and it definitely won't help you make a good first impression on new ones.

The process may also help you discover, why your dog has been so attracted to your golf bag.

What I found was astonishing! A mangled, gnarled and somewhat greenish bologna sandwich, that my loving wife had packed in JULY, was emitting smells that nearly made me swear off bologna for the rest of my life, and I really like bologna sandwiches. I only hope that you do not meet with a similar fate.

**Removing excess mud and dirt from your clubs is also advisable** before you head indoors for a round on St. Andrews or Pebble Beach. With all of your outdoor hacks, old divots still cling to your golf club and have probably bonded with the metal and will require considerable elbow grease or possibly even a shop grinder to eradicate.

Be sure to also clean the grooves, you don't want to be the guy requested to vacuum the simulator after your round. Most men run from the sound of a screaming vacuum cleaner and we certainly don't want to make it known that we actually know how to operate one in front of our golfing buddies.

**Next let's sort through that pocket** containing the mishmash of random balls you have accumulated. You can remove most of them to lighten the load, you don't lose too many balls playing indoors.

I take that back, I actually remember once witnessing my father lose a ball in a simulator, a feat that has befuddled the owner of that establishment to this day. With that I say, I love you Dad.

Another important reason to clean out that bag is the removal of the extra bottle of "medicine" you have stashed in the side pocket. You must resist the temptation to keep it. Indoor simulators present a much smaller atmosphere, than the great outdoors. The rangers are much closer and always lurking.



There are also state laws for that kind of thing and you wouldn't want to have to call your wife to post bail after a day out with your lads. Besides, indoor golf facilities that sell adult beverages, frown upon self-medication without proper exchange of monies for said medicine.

Another timely tip, be sure to tip your waiters and waitresses too.

Finally, **throw out any excess**. The simple practice of "Chinese Fung-Shui" demands an orderly life, which includes your golf bag. If you are like me, you have 34 ripped gloves, 642 broken tees, \$5.76 in assorted change, as well as, 27 sliced and smiling golf balls. (This is a 'no judgment zone' so keep your untoward comments to yourself.)

Finally, and most importantly, during the indoor golf season, remember these six words in order to maintain your winsome personality. As the wagering begins and the beers are consumed, keep this in mind, no matter what happens,

### **"IT IS JUST A VIDEO GAME!"**

I must give credit to B.I.G. T. (Best Indoor Golfer in Toledo), you know who you are, for this quote as uttered after watching someone throw their club into the simulator screen not once, but **TWICE**.

Enjoy Winter Golfers, The Masters is less than 100 days away.



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# Marathon Classic Donates \$538,000 to Area Charities

The Marathon Classic annually donates proceeds from the LPGA tournament to area children's charities in northwest Ohio. This year they were able to donate a total of \$538,000 to 20 area organizations.

The largest contribution of \$75,000 was given to the Ronald McDonald House, which brings total contributions since 1984 to that deserving charity to \$1.476 million. The Ronald McDonald house provides housing for families of children subjected to long hospital stays. They were one of the original organizations that helped Tournament Director Judd Silverman hold the first tournament and continue to support the tournament.

2015 Tournament General Chairman, Jim Hoffman also announced that this year's check to the Jamie Farr Scholarship Fund of \$25,000 brings that total to \$788,000 since 1995. The

fund annually awards five \$3,000 college scholarships to area students.

The generous support of several local corporations including, Anheuser-Busch, Beam Suntory, The Blade, Brooks Insurance, Buckeye Cable, Dana, Fathead, Fifth Third Bank, Hollywood Casino, Hylant, The Image Group, KeyBank, Kroger, Labatt, Marathon, McDonald's, Mercy Health, Northwest Ohio Chevy Dealers, O-I, Owens Corning, Pepsi, ProMedica, University of Toledo and Welltower, help bring the best women golfers to Toledo every July and make this huge donation to local children's charities possible.

In its 30-year history, the Marathon Classic has generated \$9.2 million dollars for 152 local children's charities. The 2016 Marathon Classic will once again be hosted by Highland Meadows Golf Club on July 11-17.



## RONALD McDONALD HOUSE

# When in Doubt, *Play a Provisional Ball*

BY: **RICHARD TOD**

Last summer my brother and I were playing a quick nine. One of his approach shots hit a cart path, took a huge bounce, and landed in a sand trap (officially called 'hazard', see USGA Rules 'definitions'). As he entered the bunker and was set to play his recovery shot, he realized **his ball was scratched**.

My dear brother requested a new ball to replace his scratched one. I calmly explained **Rule#5-3** of the Rules of Golf clearly does not permit a substitution in this case. A ball must be visibly cut, cracked, or out of shape to be considered unfit for play. A ball with scratches, mud, discolored, or other materials adhering to it is considered playable under the rules of golf.

In true brotherly fashion, he argued and stated I was wrong. He continued to protest that he was permitted to declare his ball damaged and replace it. Seeing he wasn't going to give in to logic or fact, I presented him with a legal alternative.



First, alert your competitor of your intention to play two balls (a Provisional) and which interpretation of the rule you select. Next, play the ball as it lies, the scratched one. Then, hit a second ball from the same lie. Hole them both out and record both scores. Be sure to note, which score matches the rule being used for each ball. When you return to the clubhouse, ask the rules committee for clarification and count the score that correlates to that ball played.

This is the correct procedure to handle such agreements in stroke play under **USGA Rule #3-3**. It should be noted that in Match Play two players can decide and agree how the rule is to be interpreted.

**Have you ever had a disagreement about the rules while during a round?** How did you handle the situation? There are a couple ways to handle such a disagreement. One way that's allowed by the USGA is to play two balls!



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# Toledo Golf Show

## February 19 – 21, 2016

The Toledo Golf Show is making preparations for the area's biggest golf extravaganza to be held February 19-21 at the Tam-O-Shanter in Sylvania. Only a few vendor booths remain unsold and three days of golf nirvana await Toledo Golf fans.

Treetops Golf Resort in Gaylord, Michigan has been a huge supporter of the Toledo Golf Show over the years and they have BIG plans for this year's show. Treetops will be offering reduced pricing on buddies' trips and couples' getaways to their golf resort in northern Michigan.

Maple Hill Golf will once again be on hand to offer golf equipment at huge savings. Winter is the best time to update your equipment and Maple Hill has everything needed to take shots

off your handicap in 2016.

Local golf simulator manufacturer, About Golf will have one of their simulators set up for use by attendees. You can check out your spin rate, launch angle, swing speed and distance on the monitors. About Golf simulators are currently in use at Fore Golf Indoor on Airport Highway, Tamaron Country Club and Blue Skies in Point Place. Golf TEC will also set up a virtual simulator and offer complimentary 10 minute swing analysis for show attendees.

Treu House of Munch will once again be hosting a Craft Beer tasting during the show and Tony Packo's will be providing their delicious and famous hot dogs on the show floor.



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Sunday, February 21, 2015 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

### Admission (Public):

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# 2019 U.S. Junior Amateur At Inverness Club To Benefit First Tee of Lake Erie

The USGA, wanting to recognize the best young golfers in the country, created the U. S. Junior Amateur Championship in 1948. In fact, their first tournament was held in Ann Arbor at the University of Michigan Golf Course, with Dean Lind from Rockford, Illinois, beating a young Ken Venturi in the final.

The USGA is bringing this national event to Toledo's iconic Inverness Club for the 2019 U.S. Junior Amateur. By hosting this event, Inverness becomes the first and only club to have hosted the U.S. Open, U.S. Senior Open, U.S. Amateur and U.S. Junior Amateur Championships.

It has also been announced that The First Tee of Lake Erie will benefit from the proceeds

of the event. Executive Director of The First Tee of Lake Erie, Adam Reny said,

*"The 2019 U.S. Junior Amateur Championship continues the great tradition at Inverness Club of hosting high profile, world class tournaments. With The First Tee of Lake Erie being selected as the benefitting charity, we look forward to assisting the Inverness membership in successfully hosting a great tournament, which will bring worldwide attention to Toledo and historic Inverness. The First Tee of Lake Erie's mission is to enhance children's lives through the game of golf and we can think of no better event to introduce the possibilities of what golf can provide to our participants"*

***than the most prestigious junior golf tournament in the U.S.!"***

The U.S. Junior Amateur has seen the best young players, under the age of 18, achieve national prominence. Only two golfers have ever won it multiple times. Tiger Woods (1991-1993) won this event three times and Jordan Spieth won it twice (2009 & 2011).

A strange fact surrounding the U.S. Junior Amateur, it is the only USGA Championship that was never won by Jack Nicklaus. His best finish in five attempts was a loss in the semi-final match.

Other talented juniors that won this tournament and went on to achieve golfing stardom include, Johnny Miller, David Duval and Hunter Mahan.

The First Tee of Lake Erie and Toledo golf fans will be the beneficiary of watching the future of golf compete in the 2019 U.S. Junior Amateur at Inverness Club.

To get involved or make a contribution to The First Tee of Lake Erie visit their website.



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# SUCCESSFUL OTTAWA HILLS BOYS GOLF COACH JIM MCGILL RETIRES



Jim McGill with 2013 Ottawa Hills State Champions

Jim McGill spent his lifetime helping junior golfers in the Toledo area. He announced at the end of the 2015 high school golf season that he would retire from his coaching position as the Head Coach of the Ottawa Hills High School Boys Golf Team. A post he has held for 26 years.

McGill led the Green Bears to the Ohio State Golf Tournament Championship in 2013. His teams have qualified for state tournament action on numerous occasions and many of his talented players have gone on to compete at the collegiate level.

McGill also spent 35 years in the Toledo Public School System, before retiring nearly five years ago. He taught technology to both students and faculty, keeping Toledo schools updated in the latest uses of computers and technology to better educate area students.

He told NWO Golf Links,

"I will always cherish the relationships that have been built over the years with the students and my golf team members. I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Ottawa Hills Golf Teams over the past 26 years and thank the parents and everyone that helped our past golf teams realize success."

McGill has also been involved with the Toledo Junior Golf Association for the past 15 years. He served as co-chairman of that organization with Karen Stone for the past 10 years.

He brought the scoring process of Toledo Junior Golf Association events into the 21st century, with all tournament results immediately entered online. He also developed the Toledo Junior Golf Association APP for member golfers and their families.

Toledo Junior Golfers are extremely lucky to have had McGill as a coach and he will continue to be involved at Toledo Junior Golf Association tournaments.



Jim McGill and Karen Stone Toledo Junior Golf Association

# DEVELOP A MENTAL GAME STRATEGY FOR THE GOLF COURSE



BY: *GREG LIBERTO*

“

**MENTAL GAME STRATEGY IS A THOUGHT PROCESS TO KEEP YOU FEELING CALM, CONFIDENT AND FOCUSED FROM THE FIRST SHOT TO THE LAST.**



In the December issue of NWO Golf Links I discussed how to incorporate the mental toughness of a Navy SEAL into your golf game. This month I want to help you to think like a SEAL and create a **Mental Game Strategy**.

By successfully completing the Seal's grueling physical and mental tests, they have total confidence in their skills. They are physically and mentally prepared for even the most difficult or dangerous assignment and at 100% readiness at all times.

Naturally, they feel nervous, or excited, as well as, a host of other emotions, but being a highly trained professional, they immediately put these

distractions to rest and revert to their mental and physical preparation. They are involved in serious life-or-death missions, so they must be **100% READY** at all times.

Golf is certainly not life-or-death, and it is difficult to be as prepared as a trained professional for a round of golf. You can, however, start thinking more like one by approaching golf with a **Mental Game Strategy**.

Golfers continuously debate whether golf is more mental or physical. The answer, of course, is neither, it requires both mental acuity and physical strength. You can, however, improve the mental part of your golf game in a few easy steps.

**Mental Game Strategy** can be defined as, a thought process to keep you feeling calm, confident and focused from the first shot to the last. Playing golf with a **Mental Game Strategy** is like having your coach with you on the course. It is the ultimate starting point to help you play your best, and have the most fun!

To identify your **Mental Game Strategy** for any given round of golf, you must first ask yourself,

**"How Do I Feel Today?"** If you are playing the most important round of your life tomorrow and feel uncertainty or doubt,

something needs to change, fast! Lack of confidence breeds uncertainty, which leads to poor performance.

Understanding your emotional state is critical in identifying your Strategy. Therefore, the next question would be,

**"What Will It Take to Play My Best Today?"** As you ponder the uncertainties that create the lack of confidence prior to your round, you realize that you have a negative emotional connection with this course, due to unfavorable past results. Once the problem is identified you can take the necessary steps to control this anxiety.

Analysis of your previous round concludes that a momentary lack of focus resulted in your poor scores the last time. For this round you commit to staying Mentally focused to alleviate any bad shots or holes. **No Exceptions.**

The best Mental Game Strategy for you is to be 100% READY on Every Shot. Let nothing distract you and commit to playing golf in "The Zone" on every single shot!

Start thinking like a Navy SEAL, play golf with a Mental Game Strategy.

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# Equipment Review

## Callaway Apex CF 16 Irons

BY: MATT SATERNUS



"Apex" is a bold name. It's bolder still in the golf world where it carries the legacy of Ben Hogan and some of the best irons ever made. The Callaway Apex CF 16 Irons do not shy away from that challenge. With distance-enhancing technology, superb aesthetics, and the shot control that better players demand, these irons live up to their billing.

The Callaway Apex CF 16 Irons walk the line between a player's club and game improvement irons. There is a slight offset, but not too much. The top lines and soles are small but not razor thin. They are fairly compact from heel to toe, but the straight leading edge does make them appear a bit longer. Overall, most players from 15 to scratch will be thrilled to have them in the bag.

The sound quality for a strike is quiet, crisp, and hot. The forged face of the Apex CF 16 Irons provides excellent feedback without stinging your hands on those occasional mishits. Although there are differences in construction between the long and short irons, the feel and sound remain consistent throughout the set. First impressions are always important with golf equipment, and the Callaway Apex CF 16 Irons made a strong first impression with me. My very first swing with the Apex 6-iron, right out of the car without a warm up, went right down the center line, a full club longer than my gamers. As I warmed up and worked through the set, I found that extra club length extending to a club and a half. There are a few reasons for this distance boost. First, the lofts are strong and second, the long irons use 'Cup 360' face technology that Callaway originally put into their fairway woods. This makes the face feel hot even when you slightly miss the center. Finally, the stock True Temper XP 95 shafts are lighter and have more pop than your average shaft. For those that would prefer a different shaft, Callaway is offering a variety of options at no upcharge, just as they have been doing with their drivers.

Beyond the distance and forgiveness, it's important to recognize that the Apex CF 16's are an



incognito combo set. Though the irons all look the same in the bag, the 3-7 are designed differently than the 8-AW because Callaway recognizes that players need different things in their long irons compared to their scoring irons. This, combined with the progressive offset, sole width, and CG height, means that each iron does exactly what you need it to. The long irons are easy to hit, forgiving, and high launching. The scoring clubs produce a more penetrating trajectory and consistent distances.

If you're looking for an iron that combines distance and forgiveness with great looks and feel, the Callaway Apex CF 16 Irons are a great choice for the single-digit handicap, the

aspiring player, or the scratch player looking for more yardage and forgiveness.

Visit your local golf shop today and test a set of Callaway Apex CF 16 Irons for yourself.



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# NORTH PALM BEACH COUNTRY CLUB

## A TROPICAL DELIGHT

BY **MIKE MAY**

The North Palm Beach Country Club has experienced a true transformation, including a facelift and name change, since it opened in the mid-1920s. Golfers today are reaping the benefits of the change to one of the 51 courses on the Florida Historic Golf Trail.

Funded by developers, Paris Singer and Harry Kelsey, it was designed by Seth Raynor and opened for play in 1926. Originally called the Palm Beach Winter Club, it is located not far from the Atlantic Ocean and alongside the Lake Worth Lagoon. Local newspaper articles at the time reported that the club was accessible by either an automobile or a fast motor boat, directly from the Everglades Club, its 'sister' club in Palm Beach. Back then, the green fees were quite affordable at, \$2.50. Oh, how times have changed!

In 1962, the club and golf course were purchased by the Village of North Palm Beach. A new clubhouse was built and opened in 1963, but the original 1926 clubhouse remained until 1980.

On May 3, 2006, local resident and golf legend Jack Nicklaus entered the picture and oversaw major renovations on the course. During the renovation process, the Golden Bear took an

active role in the course redesign and the course re-opened for play in November.

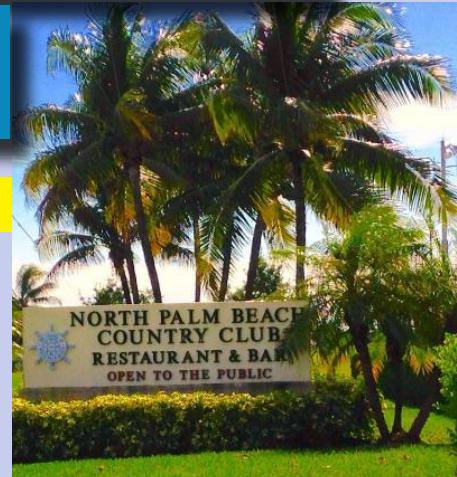
With his creativity, Nicklaus maintained the integrity of the original design, while sharpening its appearance. And, in some cases, the Golden Bear added a 'roar' to the course, especially to the 10th, 11th, and 18th holes which have heavily, but not unfairly, bunkered fairways.

As you play the 5th and 6th holes, you get a great view of the Lake Worth Lagoon and its upscale boat traffic. The waterway flanks both fairways, but doesn't impact play. Many of the greens have enhanced undulations, which makes putting an experience at times.

North Palm Beach became only the second public municipal golf course in the U.S., at that time, to bear the prestigious moniker of a Jack Nicklaus "Signature" Golf Course. Nicklaus stated,

"The North Palm Beach Country Club is a great showcase for Palm Beach County."

He was right and golfers, who have played the course, agree.



**“THE NORTH PALM BEACH COUNTRY CLUB IS A GREAT SHOWCASE FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY.”**





For this major renovation project, Nicklaus charged the Village of North Palm Beach just one dollar for his expertise.

"This was my way to give a little something back to the community and the people who have given me so much," said Nicklaus, who has lived in the area since the early 1960s. The North Palm Beach Country Club remains an 18-hole, par-71 golf course, which now features six sets of tees, including a family tee. The course can play from 3,600 to 7,000

yards, so each golfer gets to play the course in a manner that is equal to their level.

The course features first-class practice facilities, a lighted driving range, a practice putting green and a pitching/chipping green.

The renovated North Palm Beach Country Club has received many accolades. It was named the No. 1 municipal golf course in the state of Florida and the No. 27 ranked municipal golf course in the U.S. by Golfweek. The Palm Beach Post has ranked North Palm Beach Country Club as the top public golf course in Palm Beach County. Plus, AAA Magazine rates this course as a Must-Play Course in Florida.

Next time your heading to the southeastern portion of Florida, be sure to put North Palm Beach Country Club on your itinerary.

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# Set Your Intention Before You Swing

BY SANDY EARL

“

I am relaxed,  
confident,  
and focused  
in the present  
moment.

Last summer on vacation my husband and I invited all who were vacationing with us to join us on the driving range. Our purpose was to give them the basics of golf so that they could take the initiative to practice more on their own and allow them to discover that golf can be enjoyed by players of all levels.

As we worked with our kids, we encouraged them to state what they wanted with each swing, rather than worry about a negative outcome. Everything you give attention to grows, whether it is positive or negative.

Before they attempted a shot, I asked them to ‘state their intention,’ allowing the mind and the body to fully come together for a smoother, swing that was totally focused and in the present.

This is ever so evident in the transition of many golfers practice swing to their actual swing. The practice swing is smooth, complete, and effortless because the **intention** is to make a swing that feels good and sends the ball to the target. Then like Jekyll

and Hyde, intentions shift as the players addresses the ball and the smooth, complete and effortless practice swing is history.

**The intention of a smooth, complete swing** is forgotten, the ball becomes the target, and a defensive slash of a golf swing emits the body language of one of hope, caution and fear. The player created the context, his body simply reacts to what it’s told.

Don’t know where to start setting the proper intention for your golf game? Simply begin by repeating,

**“I am relaxed, confident, and focused in the present moment.”**

Saying this to yourself, or even out loud, can allow your body to respond to the intention that you desire, giving a specific focus with each shot.

Who knows, you just might discover the simple act of setting intentions will have a tremendous impact on your enjoyment of the game and may even produce a lower handicap.

# GOLF BOOKS

## WE RECOMMEND FOR WINTER READING

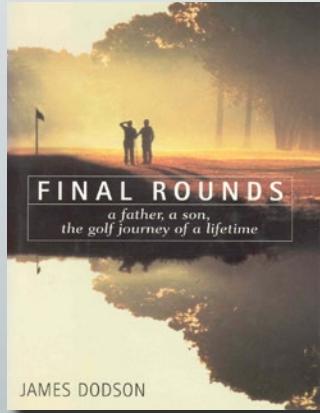
With the temperatures finally beginning to drop in the northern part of the country and another college football season in the books, you may be looking for some reading material that revolves around golf.

Here are five enjoyable reads that will let you enjoy the comfort of your living room and help you resist the urge to brave the cold artic winds to head for the golf simulator or book a golf trip south to warmer climes.

One of the best books I have ever read, **"Final Rounds"** was written by New York Times best-selling author, James Dodson. A career newspaperman and former editor of Golf Magazine, Dodson is a 'son of the south,' who tells his poignant story with a smooth southern charm that will defy any reader to put the book down.

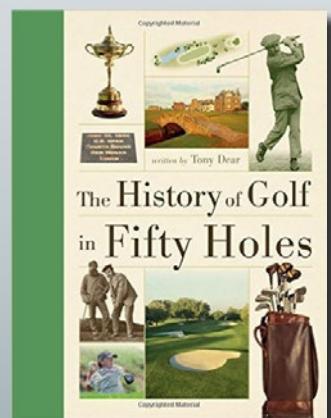
Published in 1996, "Final Rounds" was Dodson's first effort at writing a novel. It led to his being chosen to author Arnold Palmer's autobiographical, "A Golfer's Life," and the only authorized biography of Ben Hogan, "Ben Hogan, An American Life." Both which eventually led to his best seller, "American Triumvirate," the story of the intertwined lives of Byron Nelson, Ben Hogan and Sam Snead, all born in 1913.

"Final Rounds" takes the reader on a journey with Dodson and his ailing father on one last golf trip to Scotland, where his father had served in the U.S. Air Corps during World



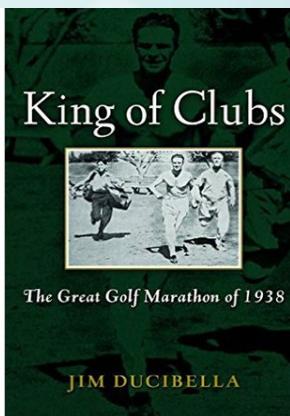
War II. Keep the tissues handy, you will not have a dry eye at the end.

Tony Dear has authored several books centered on golf and his current book, **"The Story of Golf in 50 Holes,"** is certainly one of his best. Dear was a teaching professional in England and has been a contributing golf writer for several large golf publications.



The book breaks down fifty of the best golf holes in the world and relates true stories unique to that particular hole. Whether the hole is best known for its tournament play, unusual construction characteristics, unique design or its historical significance, each hole is explored in detail for the reader's enjoyment.

Dear presents an easy read loaded with enough information to whet any Golfaholic's appetite for golf knowledge.



The “**King of Clubs, The Great Golf Marathon of 1938**” written by Jim Ducibella, is a golf adventure involving, a winner-take-all wager, an unbelievable feat of endurance and transcontinental travel during the Great Depression.

Ducibella weaves a story of an unbelievable golf exploit, dreamed up to promote air conditioners and the 1938 World’s Fair held in New York. It involves wealthy businessmen, con-artists, big-time gamblers, and the grueling task of playing 600 holes of golf, in eight different cities, from the Los Angeles to New York, in just four days.

FDR was in the White House, Adolph Hitler was rattling war drums in Europe and plush private jet travel was not an option. The challenge and herculean feat of golf was conceived over drinks and was born from a wager involving 500 acres of prime Virginia real estate.

This book will appeal to history buffs and provides an inside look at golf in the late 30’s, as well as an insight on how businessmen with big egos liked to have an occasional wager to add a little spice to their golf.



Craig Brass has a rather unique, self-deprecating humor that works well in his book, “**How to Quit Golf**.” As Brass points out, there are books about the history of golf,

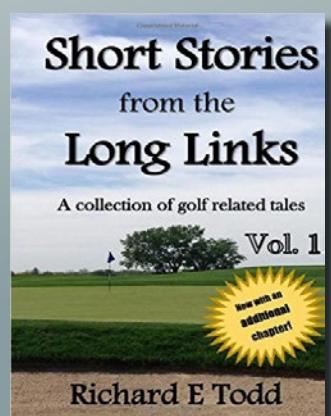
where to play, how to swing my way, his way and that-a-way, but zero books about how to quit golf.

Brass uses his tongue-in-cheek humor to comically poke fun at golfers and question the sanity of chasing a little white ball around a cow pasture. Alcoholics Anonymous’ 12 Step Program provides the basis for the book and he combines his own personal struggles with the game, he so dearly loves.

Actor Jeff Daniels penned the foreward for the book and relates a true story about how both, he and Brass questioned their devotion to the game, wondering why they continued to play the silly game after a particularly disappointing round.



If you have or ever had questions about the “Rules of Golf,” Richard Todd helps make them easier to understand in his book, “Short Stories from the Long Links.” By using sometimes humorous, but always timely stories from the golf course, he guides the reader through murky waters of, is it a red stake or a yellow stake hazard, to better understand the often misinterpreted rule book.



Todd is an expert on the golf rules, has been interviewed on several radio shows and contributes a regular column on the rules of golf to NWO Golf Links.

# CHOOSE WISELY

BY: **MARK CROFT**

“ WHEN I PLAY GOLF, EVERY TIME I GO TO PLAY A ROUND, I LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT MYSELF AS A PERSON.

As parents we hope our children make wise choices. I want to share a true story, directed towards parents, that illustrates the point that expectations are often clouded by success.

It is not meant to belittle any sport, but is only to share a perspective that is often overlooked when viewing the future of a child.

My cousin was a phenomenal football player. He was strong, could run like a deer and he possessed a brilliant mind. Unlike most top athletes, he remained humble and was

the most kind and gentle person you could ever meet.

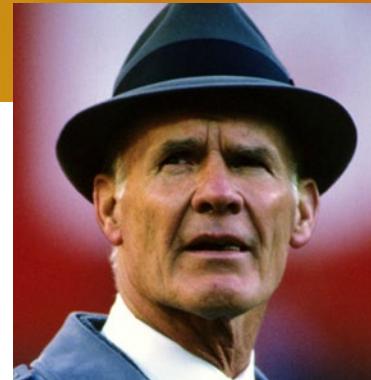
He was a College All-American on both defense and offense, which is unheard of in today's sports world. When he graduated from college, he realized every young boy's dream and was drafted by the Dallas Cowboys.

The expectations being that, since he had been a standout collegiate football player, he would naturally want to be a successful professional. Even more important were the expectations of those around him that believed it was his

desire to be an NFL star also.

During training camp, he made it through to the final cut. Stoic Dallas Cowboy Head Coach, Tom Landry called him into his office and outlined a problem,

“I have a dilemma. You are one hell of a football player, but at the end of today, I must release one more player. I am going to leave that decision up to you. Should I keep you or Charlie Waters?





In truth, my cousin was not that excited about being a professional athlete and cut himself from the team allowing Charlie Waters to enjoy a highly successful NFL career with the Cowboys.

My cousin was very happy to return home, to his small town. He became a teacher, who eventually took up the game of golf. Golf was a sport he never even imagined playing as a child, but like football he soon excelled and became a low handicapper.

We were talking, one day, and I ask him about golf and football. I felt his answer had meaning for everyone,

*"When I played football, every time I put on that helmet, I felt I was learning something about myself as a man. When I play golf, every time I go to play a round, I learn something about myself as a person. Golf has given me so much more in life than football ever could have"*

This is a true story and I bring it up to illustrate to every parent that life's trials may be offering opportunities. Here was one of the best football

players in the country that chose to let another take his spot and learned a game that may have brought him more insight and a meaning in his life than continuing in football ever could have provided.

### **Don't allow Expectations to Drown Out Each Child's Own Desires and Success.**

Golf Skills are Life Skills, they provide a wonderful learning ground for every young person.

Choose wisely my friends, and put a golf club in their hands.



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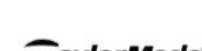
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## Niblicks

By Dean Harris



# QUAIL CREEK

# Golf Life Navigators Hosts Inaugural Radio Show

The inaugural broadcast of Golf Life Navigator's "Guide to Success" radio show can be heard on TuneIn.

Don Hunter, the General Manager of **Quail Creek Country Club** in Naples, Florida, was interviewed and talked about why his club provides the perfect location for future retirees to consider, when planning their retirements years.

Naples is a wonderful area that offers miles of white sandy beaches, a wide variety of outdoor activities and a multitude of dining opportunities, as well as, a vibrant community. In addition to two 18-hole Arthur Hills designed golf courses, Quail Creek offers a tennis and fitness center, as well as, a multitude of other activities and amenities for its members.

Hunter stressed that the strength of any club is found in its membership and even though Quail Creek offers one of the finest all-around clubs in the country, its members are the real asset.

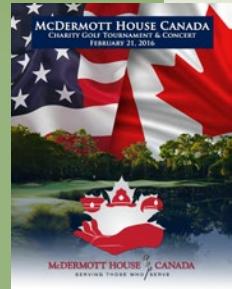
He also stressed that future retirees should take time to examine any club that they are considering for their retirement years to assure the social fabric and financial requirements fit their overall plan.

During the broadcast Stephanie Wilseck, the Executive Director of **McDermott House Charities**, talked about Canadian entertainer, John McDermott's goal to raise \$3.5 million for veteran medical needs and the 2016 Friends of McDermott House Canada Charity Golf Tournament and Concert, planned for Naples at the end of February.

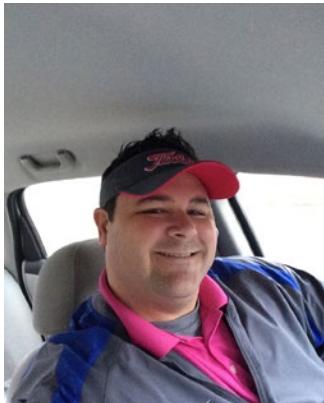
Golf Life Navigators has partnered with McDermott House Charities to bring the successful one-day outing to **Forest Country Club** in Ft. Myers, Florida on February 21st.

McDermott House Charities has raised over \$2 million for its cause and is expecting to add over \$100,000 from this event alone.

Golf Life Navigators is a leading planning and advisory firm for people from the northern portions of the United States planning to retire to a warm, sunny, golf club in Florida. They assist retirees to match them with just the right home and golf facility for an enjoyable retirement.



# CONTRIBUTORS



BRYAN RENIUS

Bryan Renius is a recent convert to golf and tends to put a humorous twist on the game. He resides in Lambertville, Michigan with his wife and three children.  
<https://www.facebook.com/bryan.renius?ref=ts>



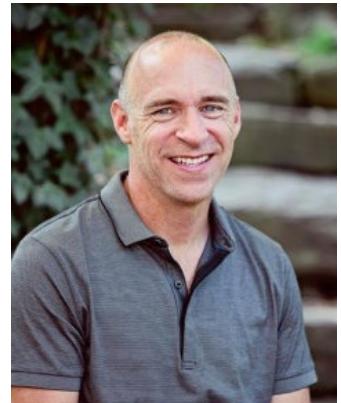
RICHARD E. TODD

Richard E Todd, author of The Golf Rules series and Short Stories from the Long Links, has been heard on the PGA Tour radio station and seen in On The Green magazine.  
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MIKE MAY

Mike May is a freelance golf travel writer based in Wellington, Florida. As you would expect, he is a "Golfaholic" focused on beating 'Old Man Par' each time he steps on a golf course.  
 mmaymarketing@gmail.com



GREG LIBERTO

Greg Liberto developed various mental game training options and has been featured in several publications and on radio and television. He authored "18 Holes," a book with mental game tips. <http://mymentalgamecoach.com/>



SANDY EARL

Sandy Earl has been golfing for over 25 years. She completed Levels One and Two of Yoga for Golfers with Katherine Roberts. Contact Sandy at [sandyearl\\_rower@hotmail.com](mailto:sandyearl_rower@hotmail.com), 419-351-7409 or [www.sandyearl.com](http://www.sandyearl.com).



MARK CROFT

Mark Croft is a PGA Class A Professional and long-time resident of Yuma, Arizona. He hosts the "Desert Southwest Golf Talk" radio show on 560 KBLU every Tuesday morning.



MATT SATERNUS

Matt Saternus is a co-founder of PluggedInGolf.com, a golf instructor, club fitter, and writer living in the northwest suburbs of Chicago.

# VIDEOS

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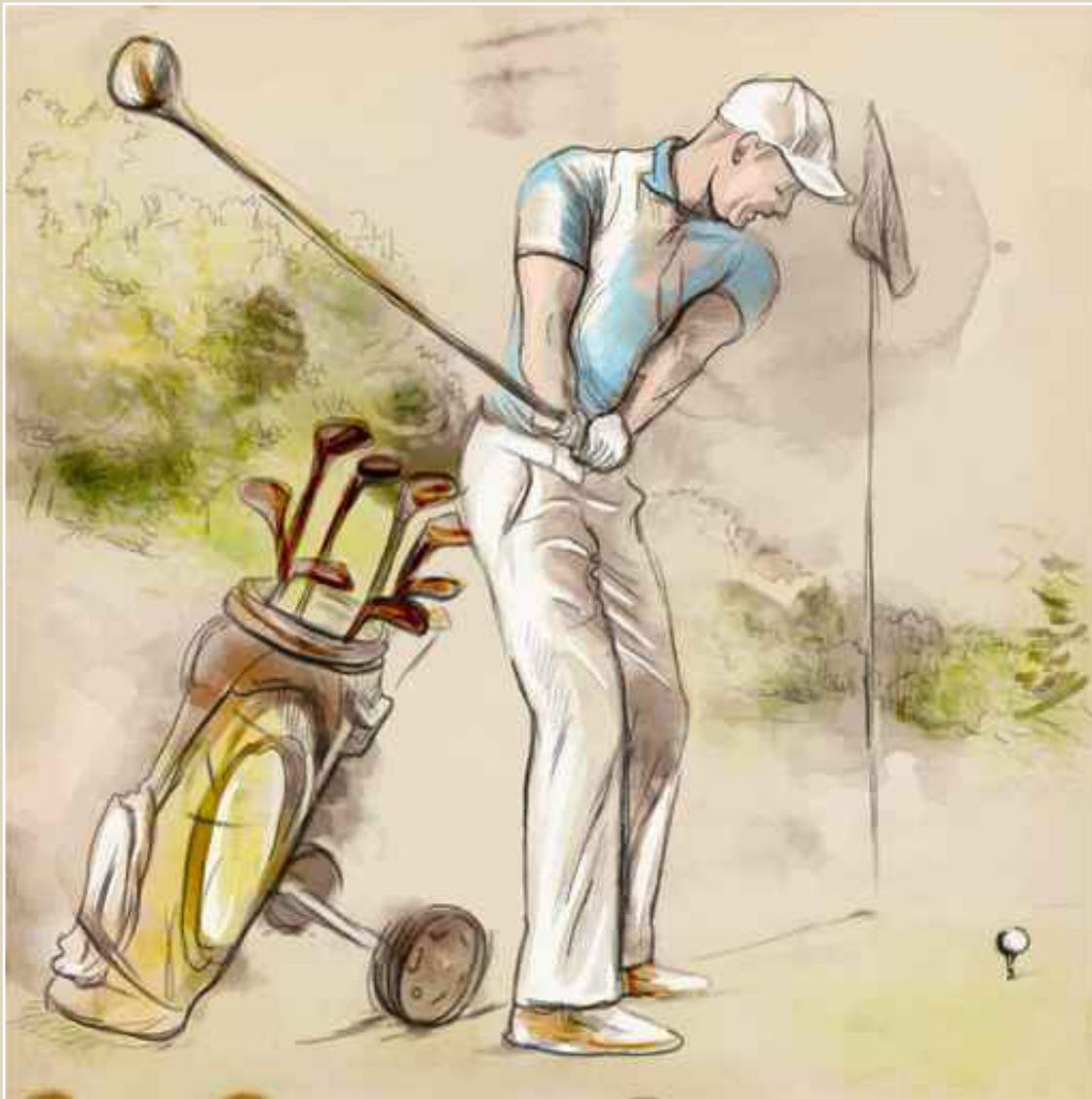
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## GOLF TRICK SHOTS



Next time you visit the range to work on your game, try this little trick and impress your golf buddies. Do try not to hurt yourself though.

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