

Paulina Gretzky Shares a Nude Photo to Celebrate DJ's Masters Win



Celebrating in style: Paulina Gretzky, 31, posed nude on Instagram on Sunday to celebrate her fiancé Dustin Johnson's win the week before at the Masters Tournament. (paulinagretzky/instagram)

BY BRIAN MARKS

Her fiancé Dustin Johnson earned his first green jacket a week earlier by winning the 2020 Masters Tournament in Augusta, Georgia.

And Paulina Gretzky celebrated in high fashion by sharing a nude photo of herself the following Sunday from their vacation in St. Barts.

The 31-year-old daughter of

Wayne Gretzky was dressed in nothing but a floppy straw hat as she posed outdoors.

'Je l'aime St. Barths,' she captioned her photo.

The photo was an unmitigated success on Instagram, as it was bombarded with approving comments.

'I need a green jacket,' joked one user, while another wrote,

Gretzky – PAGE 9

U.S. Facility Financial Health Update

BY JOSEPH F BEDITZ, PH.D.

Back in 2009, towards the end of the Great Recession, we surveyed U.S. golf courses and clubs regarding their financial health. We did it again in 2016 to see how things had changed, and again over the course of the past few months.

In both 2009 and 2016, roughly a quarter of public courses admitted to being in bad shape, financially. Among

private clubs, 21% were doing poorly in '09, but seven years later that proportion had dropped to 14%.

Did these self-reported financial health measures have any predictive validity? Yes, they did.

- Nearly 20% of the public courses in our previous samples who rated their financial health 0-4 on a 0-10 scale are no longer in business — a 4x higher

Update – PAGE 8

The Dollars and Cents Behind Streb's Winning Shot

BY BILL FELBER

On the second hole of his playoff with Kevin Kisner Sunday for the RSM Championship, Robert Streb stiffed a 120 wedge from the left rough to within inches of the flag. It was the shot that effectively finished off Kevin Kisner and finally sealed the playoff victory.

Purely on a dollars and cents basis, what was the value of that shot?

The immediate calculation is: \$468,600. That's the difference between Streb's \$1.188

Winning Shot – PAGE 3



Robert Streb (right) fist bumps Kevin Kisner after winning a second hole playoff at the RSM Classic. (Stephen B. Morton/Associated Press)

Capital One's 'The Match': Odds for Mickelson and Barkley vs. Manning and Curry

BY JOSEPH ZUCKER

This might come as a surprise, but the team with the professional golfer isn't favored to win Capital One's "The Match: Champions for Change."

Peyton Manning and Stephen Curry are joining forces to take on Phil Mickelson and Charles Barkley on Friday at Stone Can-

yon Golf Club in Oro Valley, Arizona. Manning and Curry are -175 favorites (bet \$100 to win \$57.14) on DraftKings, while Mickelson and Barkley are +138 (bet \$100 to win \$138) underdogs.

That's probably in large part because of Barkley's well-documented exploits on the course.

The 57-year-old was crowned NBA MVP in 1993 and entered the Basketball Hall of Fame in 2006. His greatness on the court hasn't carried over to the links, though.

Barkley's swing has been a regular source of lighthearted mockery over the years.

The Match – PAGE 8

Thanksgiving Week: Looking Back at the First Skins Game, Controversy

BY TIM LETCHER

Thanksgiving week used to be a lot of fun for sports fans. There were the traditional Thanksgiving Day NFL football games and college football. In college basketball, there was the Maui Classic. And for golf fans, there was the Skins Game, an interesting invention in the history of golf.

For those who don't remember here's the basic concept of the Skins Game. It was a competition between four golfers where, if one player scored lower than the other three on a hole, he won that hole, or skin, and the prize money that went with it.

Skins Game – PAGE 9



Tom, Jack, Gary and Arnie began the Skins Game.



Mulligans

News, Notes, Quotes & Anecdotes from the Local Golfing Community

80th Monroe Invitational Sets New Dates; Scheduled for July 5-10, 2021

The members of Monroe Golf Club are pleased to announce that the 80th edition of The Monroe Invitational will be held July 5-10, 2021. The event is one of the longest running amateur tournaments and perennially draws together a field of top amateur players from around the world for a week of competition in beautiful upstate New York. “The Tournament Committee felt that the move to July would allow us to draw the strongest possible field and showcase our

golf course at the time when it is at its best condition for competition, firm and fast,” said Tournament Director Mason Grower. The Official Schedule of Events for the 2021 Monroe Invitational will be as follows:

- First Round: Wednesday, July 7
- Second Round: Thursday, July 8
- Third Round: Friday, July 9 (54 Hole Cut to Low 42 and Ties)
- Final Round: Saturday, July 10

Many current PGA Tour players have played in The Monroe as amateurs, including a young


Tiger Woods before he entered college. Past champions of the event include Dustin Johnson (2007), Thomas Pieters (2012) and most recently Andy Ogletree (2019), who went on a few weeks later to become U.S. Amateur Champion at Pinehurst. The reigning U.S. Amateur Champion, Tyler Strafaci, is a multiple time participant as well. “The Monroe Invitational has a great tradition of hosting the best amateurs in the country, and seeing players like Andy and Tyler succeed at the highest level continues to show how our event contributes to their development as players,” said Joe Merlin, Monroe’s PGA Head Professional.

Earlier this year, the Monroe Invitational tournament committee and the Rochester District Golf Association announced a working partnership to collaborate in the promotion, staging and operation of the annual Monroe Invitational. Both organizations look forward to planning for the 2021 championship in the months to come. ➡



A LEGACY OF GREAT PLAYERS: Andy Ogletree won the 2019 Monroe Invitational, above, before winning the U.S. Amateur Championship later that year. Most recently, he finished as the low amateur in the 2020 Masters last weekend and is expected to turn professional in the near future. (Monroe Invitational)

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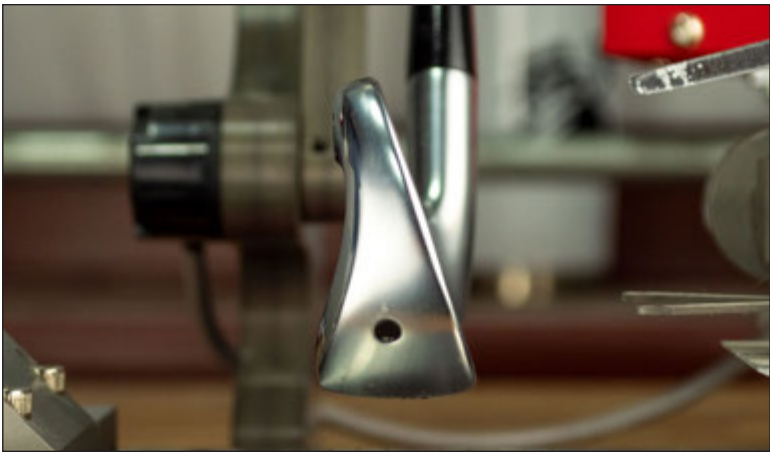
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Mainframe Goes Mainstream

BY JOHN BARBA
**Srixon ZX Irons –
Key Takeaways**

The new Srixon ZX lineup replaces the highly successful Z85 series. ZX7 is a one-piece forged cavity back for better players; the ZX5 is a multi-piece iron for distance and forgiveness. The updated ZX utility is more streamlined than the Z85 utility while still keeping the center of gravity low. Srixon’s computer-driven Mainframe technology designed variable thickness face for the ZX5 and ZX utility.

There’s a clear and present challenge for the new Srixon ZX irons: When you have a powerhouse iron lineup like the Srixon Z85 series, how do you make it better? Can you realistically improve on one of the best game improvement irons, one of the best player’s irons and one of the best utility irons of the last half-decade? After all, if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it. Right? Srixon’s Z85 line has completed its two-year mission. And while the Z585 copped Most Wanted Game Improvement iron in 2018 and was still a top runner-up in 2020, some were turned off by the looks — specifically, the black poly frame highlighting the back cavity. And even though the Z785 cavity back was also an



MGS top performer, many golfers preferred the older Z765 for looks and feel. Those may be nits to pick but picking nits is at the heart of Srixon’s iron development. “We don’t jump around significantly from generation to generation,” says Dustin Brekke, Srixon’s Director of Engineer-

ing. “There’s two sides to that. On the one hand, you want the brand-new bell or whistle that’s going to give you big marketing bullets. But at the same time, you just want to tweak what’s really needed. It allows for improving the design for each generation rather than wildly swinging from

Goes Mainstream

(Continued from Page 2)

design to design.”

The new Srixon ZX5 is the replacement for the Z585 while the ZX7 is an update for the Z785. And the ZX utilities represent an interesting upgrade over the very popular Z85 series. And much of what’s new can be chalked up to what Srixon is calling Mainframe.

Srixon ZX Irons: AI + HI = MF

A.I. (artificial intelligence) is quickly becoming the bedrock of golf research and development. A powerful computer and intelligent software allow designers to iterate thousands of different design possibilities quickly. The likely outcome may very well be something a team of engineers would never have been able to consider.

But the machines haven’t taken over yet.

“If our strategies are inefficient, the most powerful computer in the world won’t get you where you want to be,” says Brekke. “That’s where the human interface (H.I.) comes in. I won’t let the computer go too far in one direction because I know the result will feel terrible and you’ll have a clicky sound.”

“We’re a ways away from saying, ‘Hey, computer, here’s a club head and here’s a goal — maximize ball speed’,” he adds. “What we’re doing is combining artificial Intelligence with Human Intelligence. We still want a clean look and a nice sound and feel. We don’t want it going wild and looking at solutions that really aren’t solutions.”

For the Srixon ZX irons, the result of the A.I. and H.I. collaboration is called Mainframe. It’s a unique variable thickness face

design Srixon says maximizes ball speed no matter where you hit it on the face.

In non-marketing speak, that means minimizing ball speed loss on off-center strikes, but you get the idea.

Srixon ZX5 Irons

Of the Srixon ZX iron lineup, the ZX5 is on the better-player side of the game improvement category. They share plenty of DNA with the Z585s but there are enough differences to matter.

The biggest is the Mainframe-designed face. Specifically, it’s a variable thickness pattern of grooves, channels and cavities co-designed by Srixon’s A.I./H.I. team and pressed into the back of the face. The idea is to make the face as thin and as fast as possible while optimizing the pattern to maximize ball speed where golfers are most likely to hit it.

“If a player hits it toward the toe x percent more than on the heel, you want to weigh that more intelligently in your design decisions,” says Brekke. “In our optimization model, we can consider impact variation and adjust our design to best optimize the overall average, not just your center face average.”

The ZX5, like the Z585 before it — and even going back to the Z565 — features a forged 1020 carbon steel frame with a face made from high strength SUP10 steel.

“We’ve been using it for several iron generations and we continue to refine its capabilities,” says Brekke. “When you go chasing new materials, you might run into manufacturing issues that end up watering down or completely washing out any gains you thought you were achieving through some textbook numbers.”

SUP10’s strength-to-thickness ratio makes it ideal for Mainframe.

“You couldn’t do Mainframe with 1020 carbon. You’d need a massively thicker face,” says Brekke.

So, while the body is forged, the part you actually hit the ball with isn’t.

“The densities are similar but you have different needs,” says Brekke. “You need high strength in the face and you need bendability and vibration absorption in the hosel. Two-piece construction lets you optimize both of those.”

Progressive Groovy Sole Power

Srixon is introducing progressive grooves in the ZX series. We’ve seen it in wedge design: 46- through 52-degree wedges with wider grooves better suited to full shots and 54-degree and up with narrower grooves better suited for partial shots. Srixon is doing the same thing — only different — with the new ZX irons.

“With long irons, we’re going for distance and consistency,”



says Brekke. “In short irons, we’re not worried so much about distance or maximizing face hotness. We want consistent spin out of the rough or in wet conditions.”

Specifically, the 3- through 7-iron grooves are wider, shallower and farther apart. That allows Mainframe to make the face as thin as possible without compromising durability.

The 8-iron through pitching wedge grooves are deeper and narrower and there are more of them. Brekke says it’s more of a wedge groove spec to enhance spin.

Srixon is also going back to the future with its Tour V.T. Sole. The Z25 and Z45 models featured sole notches on the heel and toe. Those were absent in the Z65 and Z85 models but are back for the ZX series

“The notches are for drag,” says Brekke. “More so on the heel when a player’s hands get a little low at impact or if the club hasn’t dropped all the way down. We put a little more bounce into the leading edge of the V sole but we don’t have to continue down to the heel and toe.”

One thing you can say about Srixon’s turf interaction: shots you swear were hit fat still fly.

“That’s the extra bounce on the leading edge,” says Brekke. “You’re not going to dig in and lose head speed. And the trailing edge of the Tour V.T. Sole helps you get through the rest of the turf.”

Srixon ZX7 Irons

It’s hard to make any significant changes in a one-piece forged cavity back. It’ll take a discerning player to notice sub-

stantive differences between the new Srixon ZX7 and the previous Z785, but they’re there.

First off, the ZX does not have Mainframe technology. It’s a one-piece 1020 carbon steel forging and, as mentioned earlier, 1020 carbon steel isn’t compatible with the Mainframe process.

“ZX7 is more focused for center face impact for better players,” says Brekke. “It has added mass behind the ball for better and more consistent feel at that impact location. Those benefits far outweigh what a two-piece design could ever do for that player.”

Added mass at the point of impact comes at a cost, however, since that mass has to come from somewhere. It’s usually the perimeter and taking away perimeter mass sacrifices forgiveness. That’s where the tungsten comes in.

“Tungsten is always something you wish you could use more of,” says Brekke. “For the ZX7, we reduced the blade length just a touch (compared to the Z785), which is something Tour players wanted. But that sacrifices heel-toe MOI, so we put tungsten out on the toe to keep the performance numbers up.”

The Srixon ZX7 is also noticeably more bottom-heavy than the Z785, with what looks like a shelf or bridge at the very bottom.

“If you hit it high on the face, the club is going to want to rotate backward and you’re going to add loft,” says Brekke. “We want to move mass as far away from that as possible.”

“You can only change so

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Golf Therapy: Congressional Reform



(Bradley S. Klein)

BY BRADLEY S. KLEIN, PH.D

Goodness, has Congressional Country Club come a long way. The legendary 36-hole facility in Bethesda, Maryland, in a Beltway suburb 12 miles northwest of the U.S. Capitol Building, is undergoing a season-long makeover. It won't reopen until the spring of 2021, but based upon what I saw during a fall preview visit of the work in process it will emerge from its chrysalis totally transformed. It's not quite a restoration; nor a renovation. Let's just call it a complete transformation in place.

Credit the club, its board, general manager Jeffrey Kreaflle, the director of golf, Jason Epstein and course superintendent Peter Wendt and his entire crew. Also kudos to Maryland-based golf course architect Andrew Green, whose meticulous commitment to historical documentation and on-site inspection ensured the details of an ambitious overhaul by McDonald & Sons, the contractors, that left not an acre of the golf course untouched or unimproved.

On a personal note, it has been fascinating for me to watch the transformation. I've been visiting Congressional since 1980, when I caddied in two Kemper Opens while looping (summers) on the PGA Tour. As a journalist, I had also covered U.S. Opens there in 1997 and 2011, during the last of which I walked as close to Rory McIlroy as press protocol allowed for 27 holes over the four days of his triumphant march. I should also add for purposes of full disclosure that at the invite of the club in 2016 I returned for a day-long (paid) consulting visit in which I shared with them my sense of the course and its potential for improvement. But I've had no subsequent involvement with the club and had not the slightest inkling of how far they would take things — until a visit on my own dime in mid-October.

Congressional is a big place: 380 acres, with two 18-hole golf

courses, the Gold Course and the championship venue Blue Course (home to the U.S. Open in 1964, 1997 and 2011, the PGA Championship in 1976, and the Ryder Cup in 2031). It also boasts one of the largest clubhouses in the country, a Spanish Revival affair, some 140,000 square feet. The club was founded in 1924 as the focal point for recreation among the nation's leaders in industry and politics on a non-partisan basis. It remains that way, a rarity in DC culture.

The Blue Course was something of a hybrid curiosity. An original 18-hole routing by Devereaux Emmet was split in half by Robert Trent Jones Sr, with the front nine rerouted and revised completely and a new back nine added. The original back nine was used to become the Gold Course in 1977. When Congressional was home to the 1964 U.S. Open — won famously by Ken Venturi — the layout included two holes from the Gold Course and finished with a dramatic par-4 leading down to a peninsula green, though it was actually the Blue Course 17th hole.

Without getting lost in the details, the course underwent subsequent renovations in the run up to its two more recent U.S. Opens, with Rees Jones adding his trademark mounding, variously tinkering with a new par-3 that was the 18th hole in 1997 and the 10th hole in 2011. In the process, Congressional Blue became heavily tree-lined, with fairway bunkering left and right and play strictly aerial and down the middle. Metro Washington, notorious for its summer heat and humidity, made the place feel like a vegetable steamer, with no relief in the form of air movement. The turf showed the strain. The course provided little emotional engagement for the golfer.

A lot of us who took architecture seriously thought the place was overrated: its land a kind

of "under-performing asset" given its beautiful native contours and the way creek beds ambled across the site. That's what I told them in 2016, in the process showing them an aerial of the original Devereux Emmet front nine that showed a virtually tree-less stretch dotted by necklace bunkering cross hazards, angular mounds and ground game access to the putting surfaces. It started, by the way, with a par 6 that linked its current first and second holes and ended on a dramatic little drop-shot par-3 across a ravine to its current practice putting green.

Enter Green, who by 2017 had made his mark with a major transformation of Inverness Club in Toledo, Ohio and was slated next for restorations of Oak Hill East Course in Rochester, New York, and thereafter, Scioto Country Club in Columbus, Ohio. He works as a one-man band, meticulous in his archival research but also drawing upon technical expertise gleaned from over a decade as a field coordinator for McDonald & Sons.

Work at Congressional began in October 2019 with extensive tree work and reconstruction of every green, bunker and tee. Along the way, Green solved a perennial routing problem by finding a new site for the 10th hole — the third incarnation of the par 3, this one easily situated astride the clubhouse between the ninth green and 11th tee and eliminating an awkward walk back.

It was the only hole routing change, though many hole corridors were expanded dramatically and the entire fifth green was shifted to the right. The main achievement of the feature work was to make the elements fit in at grade level, provide ground game access to at least part of the greens, and bring the native areas and creek beds more into prominence while enhancing interior views across the site. Green

was especially impressed with the prominence of the clubhouse and has now opened it up to view from most of the golf course — including a stunning infinity-edge vista behind the long, uphill par-4 15th hole.

Fairways went from 25 acres to 46 — all of it sodded with a 50/50 mix of 007 and Matchplay bentgrasses. The greens, newly planted in 007 (50 percent), Piranha (25 percent) and Coho (25 percent) got 16 percent larger, from 6,100 square feet on average to 7,200, with far more varied whole locations. Every bunker has been outfitted with Better Billy Bunker drainage and snuggled closer to the playing surface, with the leading edge into it mowed down to accentuate its impact on play. The course also got 350-yards longer, to over 7,800 yards — at the same time getting

shorter from more forward tees. And all of that tree work has opened up the course to wind. It's as if somebody turned on a big fan.

The engineering work was not simple. In order to maximize erosion control a series of acre-plus temporary holding ponds had to be built to collect any silt. Eventually, they will be removed, the areas established with native fescues to create a contrasting palette of plant material. The result overall will be a golf course that looks, feels and plays entirely differently to the old Blue Course.

Who said there were no prospects for Congressional reform? Amazing what happens when decision makers take a serious look and decide it's time for a major change. 🌱

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Take Steps to Lower Your Breast Cancer Risk

BY JANE E. BRODY

Fear of breast cancer is widespread, yet many women don't realize that adopting protective living habits may help keep it at bay. The habits described below may also help to ward off other life-threatening ills, like heart disease and diabetes.

Certainly, women have ample reason to worry about breast cancer. The disease is very common. One woman in eight in the United States will develop it in the course of a lifetime. The American Cancer Society estimates that this year 252,710 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed, and 40,610 women will die from the disease.

Regular screening is touted as the most effective way to reduce breast cancer deaths, although experts continue to debate who should be screened, how often and at what ages. But not nearly enough is said about what women can do on their own to lower their risk of getting breast cancer in the

first place.

One of the most important actions is an inaction: not smoking. The incidence of smoking has fallen significantly in the last half century, yet every day on the streets of New York I still see young women and teenage girls smoking. A decades-long study conducted among 102,098 women in Norway and Sweden found that, compared with non-smokers, those who smoked 10 or more cigarettes a day for 20 or more years had a third higher risk of developing invasive breast cancer, and girls who started smoking before age 15 were nearly 50 percent more likely to get breast cancer.

An editorial in The Journal of Clinical Oncology last year stated that as many as 20,000 women in the United States continue to smoke even after a diagnosis of breast cancer. The authors, Dr. Barbara A. Parker and John P. Pierce of the University of California, San Diego, said breast cancer patients who quit smoking can add significantly to the benefits of postoperative chemotherapy and radiation.

Another important factor under personal control is weight. As body mass index, or B.M.I., rises, so does a woman's risk of developing breast cancer, especially if she carries much of her excess weight around her waist. That's because abdominal fat is particularly metabolically active, producing growth factors and hormones, including estrogen, that can stimulate the growth of breast cancer cells.

Dr. Walter Willett, professor of epidemiology and nutrition at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, told Nutrition Action Healthletter in 2010: "Probably the single most important thing women can do to reduce their risk of breast cancer is to avoid weight gain in adult life."

Being overweight also diminishes a woman's chances of surviving breast cancer, though it is not known whether losing weight after a breast cancer diagnosis enhances a lasting remission. My vote: Don't wait for definitive evidence, since shedding excess weight can reduce the risk of heart disease, diabetes and several other cancers.

A third factor clearly related to breast cancer risk is alcohol. Women who consume two to five drinks a day are 40 percent more likely to get breast cancer than nondrinkers. In fact, just one

drink a day can raise a woman's cancer risk by about 7 percent.

Alcohol consumption affects the level of sex hormones that increase cancer risk in both premenopausal and postmenopausal women. Among women already treated for breast cancer, consuming the alcohol equivalent of three or four drinks a week increases the risk of a recurrence, especially for postmenopausal women and women who are overweight or obese.

However, a drink now and then is not likely to be a problem. As a breast cancer survivor for 18 years, I remain an occasional drinker who has at most two drinks a week and often none.

As for what to eat, I'll give you one guess. The diet widely promoted as protective against heart disease also is most effective against breast cancer. That diet emphasizes fiber-rich vegetables, fruits and whole grains, minimizes protein foods like red meat that are rich in saturated fats, and includes few if any sugar-sweetened foods and drinks.

A recent analysis of 15 prospective studies found the lowest risk of breast cancer among women with the highest intake of fruit and vegetables. However, the strongest association was found, not for women who changed their diets after breast cancer, but for those who ate lots of fruit and vegetables early in life and continued to do so as adults.

Especially protective are vegetables and fruits rich in substances called carotenoids, the orange-colored plant pigments that are precursors of vitamin A. These include not just sweet potatoes, carrots and winter squash but also dark-green leafy vegetables like spinach and kale, as well as fruits like cantaloupe and tomatoes.

With regard to soy foods, the jury is still out. Although Asian women who consume lots of these foods all their lives have one of the lowest rates of breast cancer, the supposed protective substance in soy — isoflavones — showed no benefit among women who eat a Western diet. And experts caution against taking supplements of isoflavones, a source of high concentrations of plant-based estrogen.

It's also best to avoid saturated fats. Although there is no overall link between dairy products and breast cancer risk, high-fat dairy foods like cheese, ice cream and whole milk, which naturally con-

(Steps — Page 7)



November is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

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Improvements for Independence



(Getty Images)

Being safe and comfortable at home is a large part of living well. Home modifications and repairs can help everyone, especially older adults and people with disabilities, maintain an independent lifestyle and prevent accidents.

Many older adults prefer to stay at home for as long as possible, but too often don't think about whether their homes will meet their needs as they age. Making improvements for independence before they are needed is a good way to ensure that a home is ready for aging in place. *Forward-thinking* improvements may also help prevent falls, which often cause the need for long-term care.

Many changes, such as adding grab bars in bathrooms, can be done without a major redesign or full-blown renovation. Depending on your circumstance, it may also make sense to consider things like widening doorways and lowering countertop heights for someone who uses a wheelchair.

Here's how you can get started:

Home Assessment

Before making any changes, assess the entire home. This checklist can help identify areas

that might need improvement. Everyone has different needs, but in general, a "no" answer may be cause for action.

- Are exterior walkways and entrances well-lit?
- Is there a step-free entrance to the home?
- Are entrance doors easy to lock, unlock, open and close?
- Does the main floor include a kitchen, bedroom and full bathroom?
- Are doorways wide enough for someone using a wheelchair, walker or service animal?
- Are hallways, staircases, bathrooms and the kitchen well-lit?
- Is wall-to-wall carpeting secure and in good condition?
- Are area rugs secured to the floor with grips?
- Are walkways free from obstructions and hazards like cords and furniture?
- Do stairways have sturdy handrails on both sides?
- Can bathroom and kitchen cabinets be easily reached?
- Is there a step-free shower entrance?
- Are grab bars available in or near the shower and toilet?
- Do showers have non-slip mats

or adhesive strips?

- Will smoke detectors provide visual as well as audio alerts?
- Are telephones and emergency supplies easily accessible on all floors?

Cost and Contractors

Minor improvements can cost between \$150-\$2,000, and major renovation costs vary depending on the job. However, many contractors offer reduced rates or sliding-scale fees based on income and ability to pay. Public and private financing options may also be available.

If hiring a professional, remember to get a written agreement with specific tasks, a timeline and cost estimate. Make sure the contractor is licensed, bonded and insured for the specific type of work.

More information about home modifications, including financial assistance, can be found at eldercare.gov. 🌿 – *Family Features/ Administration for Community Living*

Steps (Continued from Page 6)

tain estrogen, may shorten the lives of breast cancer survivors.

Based on a number of studies, including a 20-year follow-up of young American nurses, the American Cancer Society suggests that women limit their consumption of red meat (beef, pork and lamb) to two meals a week and greatly limit or avoid processed meats like bacon, sausage, luncheon meats and hot dogs.

Now to a personal favorite: physical activity. Not only can regular exercise help to prevent breast cancer and promote recovery from the disease, it also pro-

TECTS against many other chronic ills and can help women achieve and maintain a normal body weight.

More than 50 observational studies conducted here and in many other countries have found that active women have a lower risk of developing breast cancer and lower mortality if they get it.

You don't have to become a jock or run marathons to glean protection. Activities like brisk walking are effective, especially if done for an hour a day. But even 30 active minutes a day are better than none. 🌿 – *The New York Times*





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America’s Greenkeeper: What the Doctor Ordered

BY **MATTHEW WHARTON,**
CGCS, MG

I do not know about you, but watching Dustin Johnson win the Masters was just what the doctor ordered. It did not matter who won, the fact we were able to watch the Masters in 2020 would have been classified as good medicine in a year unlike any of us has ever endured.

It is hard to believe that at this time last year families were preparing for Thanksgiving celebrations with hopeful thoughts for what the new year would bring. Now, here we are one year later after enduring arguably — actually, I do not even think it is arguably — the most stressful year on the planet in our lifetimes.

Lockdowns, quarantines, self-isolation and closed businesses led to high numbers for unemployment and uncertainty.

Mix that with civil unrest, peaceful protests and riots in parts of the country, followed by a contentious election and it felt like 2020 was guilty of piling on.

And I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic surged again late in the year, leading to increased measures and more lockdowns and closures for parts of the country. As Charlie Brown would say, “Good grief!”

So, back to Augusta National Golf Club and the November Masters. For those who truly know me, it is no surprise the Masters is my favorite tournament and I binge on everything Augusta National each spring. Shoot, I wrote about the awesomeness of their impeccable attention to detail in these very pages shortly after the 2019 Masters, won by Tiger Woods.

Seeing Augusta National sprinkled with the golden hues of autumn was breathtaking. Seeing more of the golf course without patron stands and patrons certainly added an interesting element for those of us who geek over architecture. And seeing the golf course looking spectacular as expected, but simultaneously not its very best, was something else I believe the doctor ordered.

For those of you who abstain from social media, you are missing out four weeks a year (only three in 2020) when the majors are played. Golf/turf Twitter is an interesting place to hang out when the biggest prizes in golf are up for grabs. This November Masters was no different.

It started in September when pictures of a brown Augusta National surfaced on Instagram. Then, about three weeks later, it was green again. That’s the magic of Augusta National and perennial ryegrass. The Masters is played the second week of April because it is the optimum time of year for peak ryegrass, peak bentgrass performance,

and peak spring blossoms and blooms.

The folks at Augusta National could have easily canceled this year’s tournament and not permitted a glimpse behind the curtain at a time of year when things are not yet up to typical Masters standards. But thank goodness they did not. Kudos to chairman Fred Ridley and the Augusta National membership for allowing the world to see the work of Brad Owen and his amazing staff and team of volunteers this year. We needed it.

Granted, no one would have predicted the first day of the tournament would be interrupted for three hours as tropical moisture from a storm named Eta would collide with an approaching cold front to kick off a torrential line of downpours in mid-November. But, hey, it’s 2020! That same line of storms hit my hometown of Charlotte, North Carolina, later that same morning, kicking off widespread flash flooding and setting a record for one-day rainfall. We saw 4.28 inches at Carolina Golf Club. “Good grief!”

So, the overseed at Augusta National was still juvenile, the warm fall temperatures kept the base Bermudagrass actively growing and areas of the course experiencing the severest of shade showed the signs of less than perfection. And not one player complained.

Personally, I thought the fact the overseed was thin in places and the 12th green was starving for sunlight showed the golfing world that the perfection we’re accustomed to in spring does not exist 52 weeks a year, and hopefully that in turn is a good thing.

Golfer expectations are a widely discussed topic in our world, and the conversation is rarely if ever positive. And Augusta National is widely criticized each year for creating the unrealistic expectations the rest of us try and live up to. Heck, it has even been named Augusta Syndrome by some.

But in this year of all years, we saw an Augusta National on a global stage unlike we have seen her in decades. I believe it was just what the doctor ordered. 🍀

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Update

(Continued from Page 1)

‘closure rate’ compared to those on the upper end of our health assessment scale

- A third of private clubs who rated their health 0-4 in those previous studies are now either closed (7%) or converted (26%) to semi-public or public facilities (8x higher rate)

So where do things stand today? Much improved. See graphic below.

There’s been a dramatic rise in the proportion of U.S. golf facilities reporting to be in good financial shape compared to our previous studies, including more than half of public courses and nearly 2/3 of private clubs. And, fewer than 1 in 10 (public and private combined) suggest that they’re currently in bad shape (0-4).

For public courses especially, the summer swell has had a profound impact on financial well-being. Coming into 2020, 14% of public courses would have rated themselves in financial distress (down from 25% in 2016), but today that proportion has been cut almost in half (8%), thanks to over 2,000 extra rounds on average.

NOTE: Our 2020 sample consisted of 876 public courses and 337 private clubs, but because 9-hole and value-priced (<\$40 rack rate) facilities are under-represented in our sample, a slightly higher overall percentage of public courses may be distressed than our results show.

So, what do the courses and clubs who remain in trouble have in common?

- They are disproportionately

9-hole and/or value-priced facilities (<\$40 rack rate)

- They claim to be in oversupplied/bad markets
- They have made little/no investment in capital improvements over the past 5 years, and don’t have plans to make any

The takeaway here is that the overall financial health of U.S. golf facilities has improved significantly since 2016 — a function of stabilizing participation, an improved overall economy and the closing of many lower-performing courses, and now the surge in rounds played. And, with fewer facilities now financially “at risk,” we should expect the rate of closures/conversions to slow down, and the marketplace to find its way closer to equilibrium. 🍀

© **National Golf Foundation**

The Match

(Continued from Page 1)

He has made a concerted effort to improve his game, though, going so far as to work with legendary instructor Hank Haney for the show, The Haney Project. Haney didn’t have much luck in helping Barkley, but the former NBA star had a breakthrough at some point.

Barkley showcased a far cleaner swing during Capital One’s “The Match: Champions for Charity” in May.

Still, there will probably be a gap between Barkley and his amateur golfing peers.

Curry has twice competed in the Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae, an event on the Korn

Ferry Tour, and his handicap has peaked at plus-1.5. You can picture the Golden State Warriors star plying his trade on the PGA Tour if he hadn’t chosen basketball as his career path.

Manning, meanwhile, has had a little more time for golf after retiring from the NFL in 2015. The seven-time All-Pro quarterback looked pretty natural when he and Tiger Woods beat out Mickelson and Tom Brady in the spring.

Curry and Manning together will be a formidable pairing.

And while Mickelson is a five-time major champion, age is beginning to get the better of the 50-year-old, who debuted

on the PGA Tour Champions in August. During the 2020 season, he had two top-10 finishes in 16 events. He opened the 2021 campaign with a 44th-place showing in the Safeway Open and then missed the cut in the U.S. Open.

Still, this is Phil Mickelson we’re talking about. He and Brady looked dead in the water on the back nine of Capital One’s “The Match: Champions for Charity” before mounting a late comeback.

Going with Barkley and Mickelson to prevail may not be a bad play if they’re going to be given longer odds. 🍀

© bleacherreport.com

The Slam: Meet the Baby-Faced Bomber Who Makes Bryson Look Like a Chopper, and the Bizarre LPGA DQ



(Getty Images)

BY ALEX PERRY

Well, it's the week after the Masters unlike any other and, frankly, I'm yet to come down. How wonderful to see Augusta National in all its glory without all those pesky patrons getting in the way. (By the way, I'm absolutely loving watching golf in America with no fans. It's a genuine treat. I hope it continues for a long time. Don't @ me.) And then came the news that Tiger Woods will tee up before the end of the year. Not only that, he'll be playing in the PNC Championship alongside his cub Charlie, the 11-year-old who drove social media wild while ripping balls on the range at the start of the year.

I love it whenever there is some news about Woods, because the comments section is almost certainly guaranteed to be inundated with people telling you they "don't care" or, if they're feeling particularly witty, the sleeping emoji. Classic. Spoiler alert: If they've gone to the effort to write a comment, they absolutely do care. But don't tell them. It's fun. Winking emoji. Anyway, it's going to be on Sky Sports, so it should provide a little pre-Christmas golf fix with a strong field and the GOAT. Right, what else is going on in the tour world this week? The big-hitting South African Wilco Nienaber was in the thick

of the action at either end of the Joburg Open. He started his week by wowing the golf world with a 439-yard drive on the 597-yard par-5 fourth hole during the opening round, and ended it by carding back-to-back bogeys and hand Joachim B Hansen his maiden European Tour title. Nienaber, who has averaged just shy of 337 yards with the driver this year, was tied with Hansen on the 17th tee at Randpark when his tee shot at the 223-yard par 3 missed the green and somehow stayed out of the water that surrounds the green. The 20-year-old popped the ball up and look just how close he was to making par... Nienaber then took an iron off the 18th tee and found a fairway bunker from which he failed to rescue par. Hansen's winning margin, in the end, was two. And look what it meant to him... There was drama on the LPGA Tour too. Not at the top of the leaderboard, where Sei Young Kim cruised to victory at the Pelican Women's Championship. Kim, who opened her major account last month at the KPMG

— how can you forget the blue wall? — led by five on the 18th tee and could afford a bogey down the last to eventually win by three. At the other end of the standings, just under the withdrawals of Jasmine Suwannapura and Natalie Gulbis, is the disqualification of Yu Liu. Well the rules have been relaxed so she must have done something pretty bad to be boot-ed out of the tournament... Is that it? Maybe just let her come back and sign it? Yeesh. On the flipside, how do you forget to sign your scorecard? The 25-year-old bogeyed four of the final six holes, so may have had other things on her mind. But that's like forgetting to

put your ball in the hole before picking it up. Unforgivable. Or, as it is, DQ-worthy. Up the road in Georgia, everyone was rooting for Camilo Villegas at the RSM Classic after the personal tragedy the Colombian's family has been through recently. But how nice to see the four-time PGA Tour winner back challenging. As it was he finished three back of Robert Streb and Kevin Kisner, who played out a two-hole play-off that was ended by this shot: It's Streb's second PGA Tour win and first since this very same tournament in 2014. [↗](#) © [nationalclubgolfer.com](#)

Gretzky

(Continued from Page 1)

'DJ won more than masters...' Paulina and Dustin had escaped to the Caribbean island this week in celebration of the golfer's record-breaking win at the prestigious golf tournament. The athlete came in at 20-under 268 at the end of the tournament, with a score that was two shots under Tiger Woods' 1997 record, which was later matched by Jordan Spieth in 2015. Johnson also finished five shots below the second-place finisher, giving him the largest

margin since Woods won by 12 strokes in 1997. Fittingly, Woods honored Johnson by presenting him with his first green jacket, the exclusive attire of Masters winners. Gretzky is a regular at the golf course when her fiancé is competing, and the Masters was no different. The model was spotted on the course in a sporty gray tank top that highlighted her cleavage, along with figure-hugging white leggings and white trainers. She also wore a green mask

throughout the event to protect against the coronavirus, though she removed it when far from others. After Johnson's big win, Gretzky shared a photo of herself embracing him. 'Honey, i'm forever & always your biggest fan. so proud of you @djohnsonpga,' she wrote lovingly. She seemed to have predicted her future husband's success, as she wore a more casual green jacket of her own during the tournament. [↗](#) © [dailymail.co.uk](#)

Skins Game

(Continued from Page 1)

It was definitely a made-for-television event that first happened in 1983. The first Skins Game was a collection of some of the all-time best players in the game. Just how good was the first foursome? It was made up of Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Tom Watson. Wow. That group combined to win 42 major championship titles. The event aired on NBC with the legendary Vin Scully handling the play-by-play as the four legends hit the course. That made it five legends in attendance that day. There was big money on the line at the Skins Game.

It may not sound like it now, but for these players, it was a lot of money. And remember, this was 37 years ago. For example, Palmer made a putt to win the 12th hole that was worth \$100,000 with the carryover from the previous holes that were tied. That dollar figure was more than double any purse that Palmer won at any point during his career. Player made a birdie putt on the 17th hole to claim the skin and \$170,000. In his career, Player only had one season in which he earned that much money. In the end of the first Skins Game, Player was the big winner with that \$170,000 prize money. He edged out Palmer to

win the title. But the first Skins Game was not without controversy. On the 16th hole, television cameras picked up Watson basically accusing Player of cheating. Watson saw Player patting down a root behind his ball, which would be improving his lie. Watson could be heard saying "I'm accusing you Gary, you can't do that." Player responded by saying that he was "within the rules." That exchange actually led to a feud between the two greats that lasted for a number of years. They eventually made their peace but that was another memorable moment in the first Skins Game. [↗](#) © [progolfnow.com](#)

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Motocaddy Launches Adds a New Laser Rangefinder to Impressive 2020 Line



BY JACK SEDDON
Motocaddy, the world’s biggest-selling electric trolley brand, has launched the premium PRO 3000 Laser Rangefinder as its latest move into the distance measurement device (DMD) market.
Seen as the perfect addition to the award-winning Motocaddy product range, the PRO 3000 is quick and easy to use and offers accuracy to less than a yard with class-leading 7X magnification at a range of 1,300 yards. Featur-

ing cutting-edge PinLock technology with vibration and visual confirmation, the PRO 3000 ensures the golfer can always trust the distance and better prepare for their next shot.
“We regard Motocaddy as the ultimate caddie company, so developing a heavily-featured laser rangefinder was the logical next step for us after adding GPS distance to our top-of-the range trolleys,” said Motocaddy Marketing Manager, Oliver Churcher.

“By any standards, the PRO 3000 Laser is a match for any rangefinder on the market, offering pin-point accuracy in distance measurements at a really attractive price point,” he added.
Featuring a high-resolution LCD display, a pin can be locked on from 450 yards away. It also includes slope compensation (competition legal with slope disabled) to account for any undulations; background noise filtration to make it easier to lock onto a

target; an adjustable eyepiece for clearer visuals; the ability to toggle between yards & metres; plus an automatic standby mode after 10 seconds.
Easy-to-hold with textured rubber grips, the PRO 3000 comes as standard with a premium hard-shell carry case with carabiner bag clip. In a world-first, the exclusively designed case also attaches to a Motocaddy Accessory Station for quick and easy access out on the course.
Compact and lightweight

(196g with battery), the PRO 3000 is also completely rain-proof and comes with an impressive 24-month warranty, plus 3V Lithium battery included.
Available from this month, the PRO 3000 has an RRP of £269.99.
For more information on all Motocaddy products, including trolleys, bags, batteries and accessories, please visit www.motocaddy.com or follow @MotocaddyGolf on social media. 
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The 19th Hole... News, Notes & Quotes From the World of Golf

Tony Finau Being Sued for Nearly \$16 Million



Tony Finau

BY TIM LETCHER
Tony Finau has had an outstanding career already on the PGA Tour. Since joining the big tour in 2015, Finau has nearly \$20 million in earnings alone, not to mention his endorsement deals, which are on top of that amount.
Now Finau, and his brother Gipper, are being sued by a former business associate for nearly \$16 million. According to the Deseret News, Molonai Hola sued the brothers in their home state of Utah, with the lawsuit stating that Hola is owed the money after he paid the family’s expenses for several years. Hola claims that he was promised that

he would be paid back.
Hola’s suit claims that the expenses he covered totaled \$592,371.37 over the course of several years. His suit indicates that he expects to be paid back, with interest, a number that comes close to \$16 million. He claims that he was promised 20 percent of Finau’s career earnings.
This arrangement is not uncommon among young professional golfers who are in need of individual or corporate “sponsorships” to cover the cost of traveling and entering events on lower tours. The majority of these arrangements involve the sponsors to be reimbursed, often

with interest, for sponsoring a young player early in his career.
The suit has not been proven in any way at this time and this could turn out to be a whole lot of nothing. However, if there is any merit to the suit, it would certainly be a bad look for Finau and his family.
Finau has only won once on tour, and that came at the 2016 Puerto Rico Open. However, he does have 40 top 10 finishes in 165 career starts, including six runner-up finishes and three third-place showings.
Again, whether the suit has any merit or not will be decided the the courts. If it ends up that Finau loses to Hola, it could be a costly verdict for the 31-year-old standout.

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• • •

A Near Death Experience Sparked a Golf Obsession for Boris Nesterchuk

A motorcycle accident nearly killed Boris Nesterchuk.
Now just two years later, Nesterchuk and his team will travel from New York City to Kiawah

Island for the Nextgengolf City Tour Championship Dec. 4-6.
Nesterchuk was involved in a head-on collision with a vehicle in 2018, suffering a collapsed lung, splenic lacerations, broken bones, and was put in a medically-induced coma.
The accident led to a renewed love and obsession for the game that was in part inspired by one of the great golfers of all time.
“While I was bedridden watching Tiger Woods overcome injuries and return to the game of golf at the highest level, it inspired me to get back into the game of golf better than ever.”
Not able to do much in the first couple of months, he picked

up a putter and started to go through the motions. He became obsessed, not only with playing better but developing a better understanding of the game as well.
He used golf as a way to work through recovery and ultimately fell in love with the game and competing. It culminated with the ability to play full rounds of golf again and his involvement in a series of City Tour tournaments. Nesterchuk won a medalist pair in the scramble format of the first New York qualifier earlier this year.
With players coming from all over the country, teams are



A motorcycle accident nearly killed Boris Nesterchuk.

Family Matters in Fort Lauderdale

Rees Jones returned to his family roots for one of his latest restoration projects. Built in 1954 and designed by his legendary father, Robert Trent Jones Sr., Coral Ridge Country Club in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, will open in December following a project resulting in new greens, updated irrigation and improved drainage. The same design, playability and challenge will remain as a tribute to Jones Sr., whose vision was carved into the community. Like the club itself, a family legacy lives on.

Aiming to be as authentic as possible in the restoration, changes were not made to the original design, staying true to the design of the course while solving infrastructure issues. “My goal was to enhance and restore, not replace the masterful green contours and approach shot challenges,” Rees said. “Today’s construction techniques allowed me to improve irrigation and ‘lift up’ fairways and green complexes to improve drainage.”

Bunkers were updated, retention areas were added, and all updates followed modern standards and technologies for irrigation, drainage and greens construction methods.

“This is not a typical Florida course,” said Coral Ridge general manager JJ Sehlke, also a partner in the club’s ownership group. “Mr. Jones called it an ‘easy bogey and hard par.’ It’s not extremely difficult, but it’s fun. We have members who play 250 or 300 times per year and we think having a higher quality course will make a difference in attracting new members.”

The renovation work includes the addition of 35,659 feet of underground drainage pipe to efficiently move water to catch basins that will empty into retention areas creating dryer fairways



(Courtesy of Coral Ridge Country Club)

more quickly. Design concept of aircraft carrier tee boxes were restored to Jones Sr.’s signature runway style. The construction of additional tees and tee boxes allows more opportunities for different levels of players and lengthens some holes to play longer. Par 3 tees were enlarged due to wear and tear during the high season.

Many greens had shrunk from the encroachment of collar grasses and bunkers had lost their original shape, size and impact on play. The improvements restore the classic bunker shapes intended by creating more manicured and sculpted edges, helping to keep the sand white and clean. Coral Ridge now features 94 bunkers.

The course, which has been played by the likes of Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus, includes Champion Bermudagrass on its greens, Celebration Bermudagrass on its fairways, and TifGrand Bermudagrass on the tee boxes and collars.

Sitting on only 120 acres, the renovated course will play from 4,700 yards to more than 7,300 yards. Wall-to-wall concrete cart paths, mirroring those on the Club’s Rees 9 short course, enhance travel to and from holes, eliminate damage to the turf edges, and reduce maintenance allowing players to get on the course quicker after a rain event.

The new irrigation system incorporates 1,287 heads with approximately 29 miles of irrigation pipe. Benefits of new sprinkler technology include precise control of the coverage and amount of water and allow the club to conserve water and become better environmental stewards. The new course delivers 102,610 square feet of consistent, high-quality playing conditions that will regain normal playability quickly after rainfall.

The Jones history at Coral Ridge starts in 1954, when the course was originally designed and built by Jones Sr. Since its opening on Feb. 3, 1955, the Coral


Ridge has been a community landmark. It was built on the original site of the defunct 1920s Floranada course (a combination of Florida and Canada). The land had languished until Jones and members of the Coral Ridge Golf Course, Inc. saw the “ghost course” and pursued the lease of the land to construct the championship 18-hole course, clubhouse and the adjacent American Golfers Club.

Ten years later, Jones Sr. purchased the course he built and surrounding acreage, including the old American for \$1 million. Jones, his wife, Lone and sons, Robert Trent Jones, Jr. and Rees Jones, made Coral Ridge their home course and club, overseeing and managing it with pride and hospitality. Jones established the quintessential South Florida country club, complete with golf, a pool, tennis courts and a membership deeply rooted in the growing Fort Lauderdale community.

Rees was born into the game of golf and spent much of his youth at Coral Ridge. He traveled with his family to golf courses all over the world and in the summers worked for his father, but he never lost touch with Coral Ridge. He created the nine-hole, par three course from the American Golfers Club his father built adjacent to the main club. The Jones Family controlled the club until 2004, when Rees and his brother Robert, Jr., sold the club to a partnership group led by Fort Lauderdale businessman and philanthropist Phil Smith. Smith died of ALS in December 2016. The restoration is a tribute to the legacies of Smith and Jones Sr.

“My restoration of Coral Ridge allowed me to make my Dad look good again,” Rees joked.

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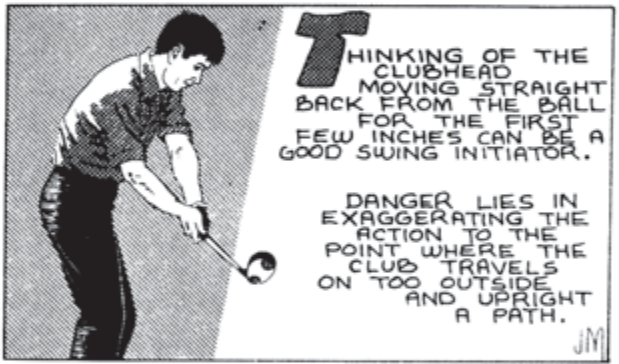
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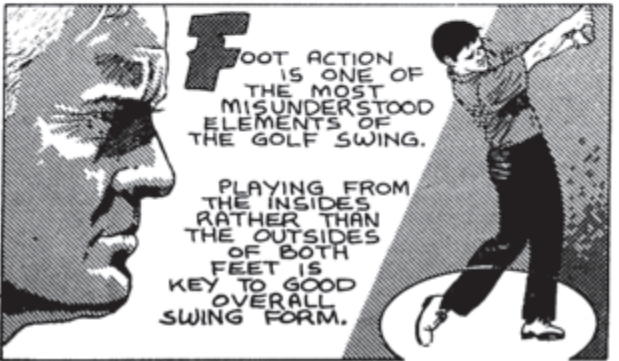
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Play Better Golf With Jack Nicklaus







Goes Mainstream

(Continued from Page 4)

much. Finding the ways to shape within a very small design space becomes the challenge. It's all very deliberate."

The ZX7s are also getting the same progressive groove update as the ZX5s, along with the same updated Tour V.T. Sole.

Srixon ZX Utility Irons

Srixon's ZX utilities are getting perhaps the biggest upgrade from the Z85 models. The new ZX utilities get the full Main-frame face upgrade but the thing you'll notice most is there's considerably less junk in the trunk.

"We made it more compact from face to back to eliminate the distraction of seeing the back muscle on your 2- or 3-irons," says Brekke. "It's definitely a narrower sole and chassis width so you don't see the backside at address behind the topline."

Any time you change the basic geometry of a club, you have to deal with unintended consequences. By making the chassis narrower, CG starts to creep up, which impacts MOI, gear

effect and overall performance. To keep CG low enough, Srixon added tungsten weighting to the ZX utility sole.

In addition, Srixon was able to slim down the top line so it's only two millimeters thicker than those of the ZX5 and ZX7.

"The design game is how to invisibly hide weight and how to invisibly control weight," says Brekke. "That's from the player's perspective, and the topline has some visual trickery with a chamfer you don't really see at address."

Srixon actively promotes the idea of mixing and matching irons into any combination of utilities, ZX5s and ZX7s that suits your game. However, both the sole width and offset of the utilities indicate they're a better match with the ZX7s.

"That's the most expected combo," says Brekke. "They're all very similar but the finer view is we're definitely looking to pair the utility irons with the ZX7, and giving that player an easy transition if he's stepping into the utility after his 4- or 5-iron."



The ZX5 player is more likely looking to transition to a hybrid."

Specs, Pricing and Final Thoughts

The Srixon ZX irons are the only major OEM offering the Nippon N.S. PRO Modus3 Tour as its stock iron shaft. The ZX5 is more of a better player's game improvement iron and features the lighter PRO Modus3 Tour 105 in both R flex (103 grams) and S flex (106.5 grams). The UST Mamiya Recoil 95 is the

graphite option. Both manufacturers categorize those shafts as mid-launch. The Golf Pride Tour Velvet 360 grip is stock.

The ZX7 features the heavier and lower launching PRO Modus3 120 shaft as stock in both S flex (114 grams) and X flex (120 grams). There is no stock graphite offering. Again, the Golf Pride Tour Velvet 360 is stock.

The loft structure of both the ZX5 and ZX7 isn't what you'd call traditional but they aren't what you'd called "jacked",

either. They are, in fact, unchanged from the Z85 lineup.

The ZX utility irons will be available in 18-, 20- and 23-degree lofts to replace your 2-, 3- and 4-irons. The UST Mamiya Recoil is the stock shaft (R, S and X flex). You'll note Srixon is not offering Miyazaki as its stock graphite shaft in the ZX series. Srixon's parent company also owns Miyazaki but when it comes to retail, you have to play the shelf appeal game. We saw this in 2018 when Srixon offered the Project X HZRDUS Black and Red as stock offerings in the Z85 drivers.

Lefties rejoice! The entire Srixon ZX irons lineup is available for both sides of the plate.

The ZX5s and ZX7s will retail for \$1,299.99 in steel (eight-piece sets) or \$162.49 per club. The ZX5 in graphite will sell for \$1,399.99 (eight-piece set). The ZX utility irons will retail for \$219.99 each.

Presale starts Jan. 6 on Srixon's website, while the full retail launch is set for Jan. 15.

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The 19th Hole... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10



(YONHAP News)

constructed of local groups of friends as well as those who have met during City Tour tournaments and have continued to play together all the way to the championship.

Golf has always been a way to bring people together and the field for this year's championship is a great example of that.

South Korean Golfer Kim Sei-Young Earns Second LPGA Win of Season

South Korean golfer Kim Sei-young captured her second victory of the season with a win at the inaugural Pelican Women's Championship.

Kim finished at 14-under 266 and won the title at Pelican Golf Club in Florida on Sunday, beating Ally McDonald of the United States by three strokes.

Kim, ranked No. 2 in the

world, picked up 225-thousand U.S. dollars in prize money and climbed to the top of the money list.

She also leads the Player of the Year points race with 106. Fellow Korean player Park In-bee, who had been at the top with 90 points, didn't play at the Pelican Women's Championship.

Kim captured her maiden major title last month at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship and Sunday's win marks the 12th of her career.

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WX Brands and PGA of America Produce Limited-Edition Ryder Cup Wines

WX Brands and the PGA of America have joined forces to produce a series of limited-edition wines in celebration of one of the premier sporting events

in the world – the Ryder Cup. These co-branded wines will be available through WX Brands' popular Revel Wine Club as well as at select PGA of America future US-based host sites including Woodlake Market in Kohler, Wisconsin, home of 2020 Ryder Cup host site, Whistling Straits.

"The Ryder Cup is one of the most iconic team events in all of sports. We are so excited to be able to produce wines that honors the tradition of excellence and teamwork that are synonymous with this special event," said Jeff Ngo, Senior Vice President of Marketing for WX Brands.

"We're excited to partner with WX Brands to produce these limited-edition Ryder Cup wines. In collaboration with the producers, we believe we've created some dynamic wines that will resonate with wine connoisseurs and Ryder Cup enthusiasts," said John Handley, Director, Championship Sales & Marketing for the PGA of America.

An ideal gift for the wine and/or golf enthusiast this holiday season, the first release in this one-of-a-kind collection is the 2017 Silver Spur Napa Valley Limited-Edition Cabernet Sauvignon (\$34.99). The product of award-winning veteran winemaker Linda Trotta, Silver Spur delivers all the hallmarks of a classic Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. Vineyards from throughout the valley were hand-selected by Trotta and their grapes blended to create this powerful wine, which is available for purchase now at Revel Wine.

"I loved creating this special bottling in celebration of the Ryder Cup," said Trotta. "I aimed to create a full-bodied and layered wine worthy of this one-of-a-kind global sporting event. The result exhibits elegant flavors of black cherry and ripe plum with a backbone of refined tannins to hold it all in place – a delicious accompaniment to holiday celebrations!"

Golf and wine enthusiasts can

look forward to future additions to the collection, including the limited-edition True Myth Edna Valley Chardonnay and True Myth Paso Robles Cabernet Sauvignon. Crafted by Baileyana Winery winemaker Rob Takigawa, these wines will be available on Revel Wine as well as at select restaurants and retailers across the country early next summer in advance of the September 2021 competition.

Established in 1927, the biennial Ryder Cup brings together 24 of the best golfers from Europe and the United States. The Silver Spur label features 12 stars representing the players on the American team. Always a much-anticipated event, the Ryder Cup is known for its transcendent moments along with full-throated displays of passion, raw emotion, rivalry and sportsmanship.

The 2020 Ryder Cup will be held September 24– 26, 2021, at Whistling Straits in Kohler, Wisconsin.

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READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS!