



NEWSLINKS

A publication of the Arizona Women's Golf Association | Dedicated to promoting Golf for Women in Arizona



Spotlight: The Best of the Best

Kim Eaton wins State Seniors Championship

by Mary Ann Souter

94 women from 50 years old to over 80 participated in the 2009 State Senior Championship at Antelope Hills Golf Course in Prescott on October 18-20th. But only one became the Champion winning the title just two months after reaching her 50th birthday. Kim Eaton has had an ongoing celebration since her August birthday which enabled her to participate in senior events. She captured the title of State Seniors Champion in both Arizona and Colorado and made it to Quarterfinals in the US Senior Women's Amateur Championship! That's quite a

list of accomplishments for just a two month period. "I was looking forward to turning 50," Kim said, "and it has definitely been good so far."

Kim began the Arizona State Seniors Championship by shooting a 68 on the first day of the event. "I was three under par after four holes," she said. "Then I four-putted the 7th hole, which wasn't good for my confidence level, but I got back on top of my game when I eagled the 17th hole." She was in the lead at the end of the first day and knew she had to play well to keep it. "The competition was tough," she remembered. "I played with Judy Miller on the last day of the tournament and she was on her game. That helped to keep me focused and steady." Kim ended the championship tournament with a 3-day total of 216 with Judy Miller, a past State Seniors Champion, four strokes behind.

After retiring in 2007, Kim decided to spend a few months in Arizona to get away from the harsh Colorado winters. She quickly joined the AWGA and began playing with the Mixed Stix group. Soon after, she joined the women's leagues at both Dobson Ranch and Papago. In 2008 Kim began to demonstrate her skill level on the course when she won the Weekend Classic Tournament. She was Runner-up with her partner, Cindy Pallatino, in the AWGA Four-Ball Stroke Play Championship in both 2008 and 2009. In 2008, Kim won the AWGA Scotch Play Tournament with her partner, Lynn Zmistowski and won the title of Phoenix City Champion. This year she qualified to represent Dobson Ranch in the State Medallion Club Team Tournament to be held at Pebble Creek Golf Club, December 7th. With a +2 Handicap, Kim has become well-known for her competence on the course during her short but successful time in Arizona.

Colorado was Kim's home for many years and she still resides there six months of the year. Her first career from 1981 – 1987 was as a Class A LPGA Teaching Professional. She taught at Briarwood Country Club in Sun City West in 1985 – 1986 and she played on the Futures Tour for two and a half years. Her energy sapped, Kim left her livelihood as a Golf Teaching Professional and in 1987 entered the police force where she enjoyed a second career for 17 years. She was reinstated as an amateur golfer in 1991. She was inducted into the Colorado Golf Hall of Fame in 2006. Kim represented Colorado in the last four USGA State Team Championships. They had a memorable sixth place finish this year. Kim also qualified for the USGA Mid-Am for the past three years and made it to Match Play each time. Kim currently holds a part-time position as Executive

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Help us reach more women golfers... when you're finished reading this newsletter, pass it along to a friend.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Katherine Olson - Dobson Ranch GC

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Jane Ross - Elephant Rocks Women's Club

Jan Wobken - Terravita Golf & CC WGA

Ginny Zak - Supersition Mountain GC

Spotlight: Kim Eaton

continued from page one

Director of the Colorado Golf Hall of Fame.

Kim is enjoying her place in the amateur golf community. Her passion for the sport has become more intense as she plays more golf. "I enjoyed teaching golf but I really love playing," Kim said. "The AWGA has provided me with a wonderful venue for meeting great people and playing competitive golf. And I've made some good friends in what seems to be a very short time. When I played on the national level, women at Dobson Ranch kept in touch through Facebook and supported and encouraged me along the way. Living in Arizona has added a new dimension of enjoyment to my life and I'm looking forward to many years of being part of the women's golf community here."

Congratulations, Kim, from all of your fellow women golfers on becoming the 2009 State Seniors Champion!

AWGA Partners with PGA at Frys.com Tournament

It was a four-day event and one that drew thousands of spectators. Thanks to the generosity of the Southwest Section PGA, we were able to set up a table and distribute information to women as they were entering Grayhawk Golf Club. PGA Teaching Professionals held contests and vendors enthusiastically offered their newest equipment for attendees to evaluate. AWGA volunteers talked to passers-by who were interested in learning more about the women's golf community in Arizona and encouraged everyone to enter their names to win prizes.

There are hundreds, maybe thousands of women who play golf in our state who are not aware of the women's golf groups at almost every course. They don't know that the AWGA holds tournaments and state championships for women golfers who enjoy competition, developmental programs for newer golfers, and that there are other educational opportunities as well as discounts for shopping available. The benefits of belonging to this larger women's golf community are immense. In addition to the tangible benefits, it's the best way possible to get connected with other women for fun and/or competitive play.

It is up to us to connect with recreational women golfers and show them the camaraderie associated with being part of the AWGA. We have many opportunities to reach out to other women, sharing with them our own experiences of fun and friendship playing golf. So many women are new to the state or new to golf and are quietly waiting for someone to befriend them.

Make a New Year's Resolution to reach out to just one other woman to share your golf experience and enhance hers. 2010 is the year to be an Ambassador for women's golf and for the AWGA!

NEW COURSE RATINGS

| | |
|--|----------|
| El Rio Country Club (Mohave Valley) | |
| Copper | 73.6/128 |
| Teal | 70.1/118 |
| Chaparral Country Club | |
| Blue | 64.9/103 |
| Torres Blanca GC | |
| White | 73.0/132 |
| Red | 68.9/122 |

AWGA STAFF

Mary Pomroy

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Tournament Operations Manager

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We welcome your comments and suggestions regarding the new "NewsLinks" newsletter. Please submit your ideas, stories or photos to Jody Chandonnet at jody@awga.org.



TWO

WWW.AWGA.ORG

2010 AWGA Board Members Elected

The November 4th meeting of the AWGA Board of Directors ended with the election of new officers and three new Board members. The 2010 AWGA Board of Directors consists of:

Executive Board Members:

Katherine Ehrlich, President – First elected to the Board in 2004; Currently serving her second term as President of the Board; Served as Vice President and Sites Chair; Former Human Resource Manager, Program Manager and Sales Manager in the healthcare industry including with Philips Medical Systems and Hewlett Packard; Former Executive Director of the Arizona Golf Industry Association; Kathy is an avid golfer who is affiliated with Silverleaf GC, Moon Valley CC and Foothills GC and has been a member of the AWGA for 10 years.

Robin Lane, Vice President – Joined the Board in 2008 and holds the position of Communications Chairperson; Served as Chair of Golf Channel volunteers at the Fry's.com tournament at Grayhawk; Represents the AWGA on Golf AZ Radio each week; Successful career as a Major Account Manager for Sun Microsystems in Atlanta and Phoenix; Robin is an avid tournament player and a member of The Gallery GC; She has been a member of the AWGA for 6 years.

Barbara Simmons, Treasurer – Joined the Board in 2006; Served as Secretary of the Board in 2009; Served on USGA Women's Regional Affairs Committee for 10 years; Appointed to the US Senior Women's Amateur Committee in 2002; Active member of Course Rating Committee since 1985; Member of Rules Committee; Pharmacist by profession; Barb has been an AWGA member since 1984.

Carol Springer, Secretary – First elected to the Board 2006; Education & Training Chair since 2005; Past Treasurer and Vice President; Active member of Course Rating Committee and Rules Committee and serves on the Document Control Committee. Award winning teacher as well as manager in the banking industry and human resources professional; Carol has been an AWGA member for 14 years.

Barbara Kahler, Officer at Large – AWGA Board member for two years; Will serve as Sites Committee Co-Chair in 2010; Served as Chair of the Membership Committee for two years and on the Volunteer Development Committee for one year; Retired from the corporate world in her career as Director of Learning at IBM for over 30 years in 2001; Currently self employed, Leadership-in-Action, as Executive Life Coach; Barb has been an AWGA member for 11 years.

Ginny Zak, Handicap Chair

Melanie Bridges, Course Rating Chair

Jane Ross, Sites Chair

Judi Polidori, Fund Raising Chair

Board Members starting their initial term in January of 2010:

Mary Byrd, Volunteer Development Chair.

Colleen Green

Robin Cook

Other Committee Chairs include:

Sally Larson, Rules Chair

Barbara Byrnes, Tournament Chair

Donna Cuning, History Chair



Overall Champions: Kerry Postillion & Betsy Bro

2009 AWGA State Scotch Play Palm Valley Golf Club November 16 & 17, 2009

Overall Gross Champions

Kerry Postillion & Betsy Bro 73 | 67 | 140

Overall Net Champions

Suzie Hite & Jane Ross 68 | 65 | 133

Flight 1

1st Gross | Kim Eaton & Lynn Zmistowski 70 | 72 | 142

1st Net | Janet Cothren and Sharon Gibson 71 | 70 | 141

Flight 2

1st Gross | Norma Hill & Vickie Bricker 82 | 79 | 161

2nd Gross | Wendy Stone & Cheryl Harm 81 | 80 | 161

1st Net | Janet Cothren & Sharon Gibson 71 | 70 | 141

Flight 3

1st Gross | Amy Kim & Lisa Hoffman 80 | 88 | 168

2nd Gross | Mary Henson & Nancy Hermanson 71 | 67 | 138

1st Net | Mary Henson & Nancy Hermanson 71 | 67 | 138

Flight 4

1st Gross | Veronica Foltz & Betty Koch 83 | 90 | 173

2nd Gross | Suzanne Barbee & Pat Kuntz 95 | 81 | 176

1st Net | Susan Bonthius & Nancy Howell 72 | 73 | 145

Flight 5

1st Gross | Sharon Taylor & Peggy Hettinger 84 | 89 | 173

1st Net | Carol Hisey & Sharon Wilson 71 | 71 | 142

A complete list of all winners is posted at www.awga.org



RULES

Lost Ball

A Ball is deemed lost if:

- a. It is not found or identified as hers by the player within five minutes after the player's side or her or their caddies have begun to search for it; or
- b. The player has made a stroke at a provisional ball from the place where the original ball is likely to be or from a point nearer the hole than that place or;
- c. The player has put another ball into play under penalty of stroke and distance. Rule 27-1a); or
- d. The player has put another ball into play because it is known or virtually certain that the ball which has not been found, has been moved by an outside agency (see Rule 18-1), is in an obstruction, is in an abnormal ground condition or is in a water hazard; or
- e. The player has made a stroke at a substituted ball.

Time spent in playing a wrong ball is not counted in the five minute period allowed for search.

Submitted by: *Jan Wobken*
Rules Chair
rwobken@cox.net

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

For 2010 Tournament Dates, information and entry forms, please visit the Tournament Page at www.AWGA.org.



FOUR
WWW.AWGA.ORG



Playing in the Fun Zone

by Rita Hartness

Golfers love to play golf! But it's amazing how much better we play when we play for fun. We are confident and relaxed. Fear and tension melts away and our game flows easily. We have picked up a bag of magic clubs! What makes the difference? We have the same skill level, same clubs and shoes, even our same lucky visor. The difference is how we focus our awareness, attention and energy.

Alignment, mechanics of our swing, strength, flexibility and techniques are all important. However, we are so busy perfecting certain aspects of our game that we feel stressed. We miss the obvious performance enhancer: focusing ourselves, in a consistent, relaxed, fun way. How do we play in the fun zone?

1. Cultivate an Attitude of Gratitude. Have a receptive, spontaneous and playful state of mind. Appreciate that we are playing golf-the game we love. Focus on what we love about golf and being on the course.

2. Focus our thoughts. Our thoughts keep us from enjoying and playing our best game. Is that playful fun? Let go of all the things we are supposed to be doing or not doing. Notice the thoughts that arise. Self-talk blocks our flow and concentration. What we focus on creates the experience that expands our skills. For now, in this moment, let go of results, expectations and outcomes. This allows joy to fill the moment and we feel a relaxed presence. Let our subconscious instincts take over allowing all the hours of practice and experience to guide us.

3. Engage and observe the breath, releasing tension and allowing the mind to focus on the task. We become fully absorbed in what we are doing.

Staying present, aware and alert we develop the ability to relax in the moment.

We remain focused yet playful allowing our energy to flow without tension. We notice what is happening and effortlessly adjust to what is needed. By focusing awareness we awaken the body, clear the mind and fully experience the joy of golf.

Rita Hartness, PT, CYT is a licensed physical therapist and certified yoga teacher. She has over 20 years experience helping golfers enhance performance. Rita can be contacted at 480-756-0248 and briohart@yahoo.com.

La Paloma WGA Raises \$18,521 in their Rally for the Cure

The La Paloma WGA members once again raised the bar by contributing an amazing \$18,521, a 32% increase over 2008, to Rally for the Cure.

The Silent Auction and sale of raffle tickets at the October 23rd Pink Apron Mixer alone raised \$10,000. The October 27th golf tournament and luncheon had 120 participants with one of the highlights being the surprise attendance by a group of ladies from the Boot Camp Survivors. Additionally, Chris Butler had her beautiful long hair cut to donate to Locks of Love.

Many, many thanks to Miki Jackson, Blanca Cain, Linda Raezer, their committee members, and all the staff at La Paloma for making this year's event spectacular. Patti Bauer has assembled a wonderful Smilebox showcasing all activities.

A donation of \$16,500 will be given to the Susan G. Komen Southern Arizona Affiliate in Tucson.

Skill Level and Equipment go Hand in Hand

According to Rick Graves, PGA Golf professional, in his book 52 Amazingly Simple Secrets for Better Golf, "Golf is an expensive game. Visit your PGA professional and ask him to help you select the best equipment you can afford, thus maximizing your potential."

We have been reading tips from Sue O'Connor from Cool Clubs throughout the year addressing issues that arise when your clubs are not properly fitted for you. And we have read tips from Mindi Boysen about faults that may be helped by maintaining physical fitness and faults that cannot be helped because of physical limitations. Rick Graves agrees.

He says, "A professional today can muster a good score with ancient Hickory clubs only because she sports an excellent swing. But especially for the average golfer, properly fitted shafts are essential to producing good golf shots. Weak shafts over-oscillate throughout the swing, causing shots to fly both left and right. You will not be able to fix this fault even with practice."

NEWS from Green Valley

QUAIL CREEK LGA RAISES \$15,000 IN RALLY FOR CURE



Dreama Fumia reported, "This year, the ladies of Quail Creek's Ladies' Golf Association, Lady Niners and Lady Putters, hosted their "Rally for the Cure" and raised over \$15,000 to benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation's effort to eradicate breast cancer. Their Rally events on Oct 18th and Oct 20th included a Rally BBQ, golfing events, and luncheon/fashion show that was attended by nearly 250 ladies! The highlight of the Rally was the recognition of the cancer survivors who were among us and shown in the photo."

Many thanks to the ladies in Green Valley for their enthusiasm in creating this most successful event!

Arizona Golfer Newspaper now online

Arizona Golfer, Arizona's oldest monthly newspaper for golfers in Arizona, has recently launched its new website to celebrate their 19th anniversary of publishing. It is designed in a simple format allowing readers to subscribe at no charge and receive the issue each month via email. So it won't matter where you are. You'll still be able to read the Arizona Golfer newspaper each month.

Readers who prefer the hard copy format won't be disappointed. They will still be able to pick up a copy at their favorite distribution center.

Check out their first online issue at www.azgolfernews.com. Click on View online version to see the entire publication.

Mark your Calendar

for the AWGA Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner

The time is fast approaching for our 2010 Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner when we'll be celebrating another year of success for the AWGA. January 27th is the date and Moon Valley Country Club is the place. Mark your calendar now to enjoy an evening of festivities with fellow golfers.

Attend the business meeting at 4:15 PM to hear the AWGA's past accomplishments and future goals. You may even find that you'd like to become more involved in the leadership of the Association. You can start by joining a committee and move up to a position on the Board of Directors. The opportunities are endless. The AWGA is successful in its outreach programs because of its hundreds of volunteers. Perhaps you'd like to be one of them!

Enjoy catching up with golf buddies that you may not have seen for awhile. The event usually begins at approximately 4:15 pm and is completed by 8:30 pm. Awards are presented after dinner and usually present opportunities for hilarious comments. Prepare for an evening of fun and laughter.



Happy Holidays!

The Board and staff of the AWGA wish all of our members a very happy holiday season! Enjoy this special time of year with family and friends remembering to be thankful for all the blessings in our lives.

Our next newsletter will be sent in mid February so that we can include information from our 2010 Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner.



AWGA, 85 Years Strong Growing and Preserving the Legacy

The Arizona Women's Golf Association (AWGA) was founded in 1924 for the purpose of promoting and maintaining the best interest and true spirit of the game of golf among women in the state or Arizona. Now 85 years strong, AWGA's 25,000 members can pride ourselves on being Arizona's premier women's golf association, recognized nationally and locally as effective agents and advocates for women and women's golf.

Our importance and impact 85 years later is unquestionable! The AWGA, a 501c3 non-profit organization, is the only statewide Arizona women's golf organization and one of the largest women's membership organizations in Arizona. The AWGA plays a pivotal role in facilitating access to golf instruction for all women whether they are first timers who want to see for themselves what the game is really about or veteran golfers who never tire of trying to improve their game and lower their scores.

Philanthropically, the AWGA wants to expand its reach and impact by launching an annual giving campaign allowing members to support both the mission and vision of the AWGA through annual gifts designed to broaden AWGA's role in and impact on the community. The annual giving campaign is the foundation of our new philanthropic strategy, giving members and supporters an annual vehicle for making a tax-deductible gift to grow and preserve the AWGA legacy for our daughters, granddaughters and women across the state. Committed to growing and preserving the AWGA legacy, 100% of the Board has pledged their personal financial support to this year's annual campaign and urges you to give at a level that is comfortable and meaningful for you.

We encourage you to go to the AWGA website, www.awga.org to make your tax-deductible gift today. Your gift, no matter how large or small, in combination with all the gifts of AWGA members will ensure that the AWGA legacy is strong and still growing when we celebrate our centennial in 15 short years. Thank you for your membership and for your support.



The Story Behind the Picture – The Legacy of Golf (or The Game for all Ages)

Adapted from the Fall, 2004 AWGA NewsLinks article by Mary Ann Souter

It's not every day that a 14 year old and an 87 year old vie for a championship title.

In a state championship tournament, the age range is usually not newsworthy information; however, the 2004 AWGA Stroke Play Championship was anything but the usual mix of talent and ages. That year 14 year old Kayla Mortellaro from Ahwatukee Country Club won the state title. She was also the youngest golfer to ever win the title. LPGA Champion Heather Farr, won it as a 15 year old in 1980 and the record stood until 2004. In 2009, Kayla still remains our youngest Champion.

Playing right alongside of this 14 year old was long-time AWGA member and legend in her own time, Vash Matlon. Vash is an 87 year old from Prescott, who at the time was also the President of NAWGA (Northern Arizona Women's Golf Association). Playing in a championship competition at 87 and holding a high-level position in a golf association should be considered grand achievements on their own. But the amazing reality about Vash is that she is blind. Not being able to see well enough to play unattended, Kim Haddow, a class A LPGA Teaching Professional (currently at Antelope Hills), acted as her "Coach" to give her directional advice and yardage.

The AWGA is proud of its diversity, embracing differences in age, ethnicity and handicap index equally. We exist to promote the game of golf for women. Our purpose, as an advocate and governing body for women golfers, is paramount in everything we do. We value each and every one of you, whether you play daily or once a month and whether you are a teen or a senior. Our strength lies in the diversity of our membership. That year's Stroke Play Championship accurately describes our organization – an all-inclusive, innovative group of women golfers dedicated to the true spirit of the game of golf and each other.

Of course I want to add my tax-deductible gift for
AWGA, 85 Years Strong
Growing and Preserving the Legacy
in support of AWGA's mission, vision and programming.

- \$500 Ensures the AWGA tradition and legacy
- \$250 Sponsors recreational & competitive tournaments
- \$100 Attracts women golfers through instructional opportunities
- \$ 50 Recruits & trains volunteers
- Other Supports the many dimensions of golf

Or donate online at www.awga.org

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Many Thanks to Retiring Board Members

Two past Presidents, Katherine Olson and Barbara Byrnes, and our 2008 & 09 Rules Chairman, Jan Wobken, are retiring from the AWGA Board of Directors this year. The initiatives of these women and their passion for golf have led the AWGA into a new era of innovation, accomplishment and growth. As natural leaders and passionate golfers, their ideas and efforts have contributed to the efficient running of the association.

Katherine Olson is a natural people-person. With a background in Intervention Counseling, she knows the importance of team building and working together for the good of all. Her energy and dedication over the years has been demonstrated by her leadership positions starting in 2002.

She began her term on the Board serving as Secretary for two years followed by two years as Board President. In 2006, she served as Chair of the Communications Committee and moved to Volunteer Development Chair from 2006 through 2009. She was Treasurer in 2007 and Officer at Large in 2008 and 2009. Katherine also volunteers on the Rules Committee and has been actively participating as a Rules Official since 2007. She is currently one of our most seasoned volunteers as a mentor in the Ambassador Program. She acknowledges her service in the AWGA as helping her to grow as a person and says she will continue to be a supporter of the AWGA. Katherine is a member of women's groups at both Ken McDonald GC and Dobson Ranch GC and at Elephant Rocks in Williams making her eligible to play in Northern District tournaments. In her words, "Mucho fun!"

Barbara Byrnes has played a vital role in the advancement of policies in the AWGA. As a former Financial Executive and winner of several awards for excellence in corporate financial strategies, Barb has put her specific talents to work with the AWGA. She spearheaded the effort for the AWGA to become a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, allowing it to reach out to women in additional ways. She encouraged increased technology use for association activities – accepting online payments is one example and she enhanced budgeting and financial reporting of AWGA. She has actively assisted to organize the first Fundraising Annual Giving Campaign for the AWGA.

Barb was elected to the Board of Directors in 2004 and served as Treasurer until elected President in 2007 for two years. She served once again as Treasurer in 2009. She was Tournament Committee Chair in 2009 and in the past has been a member of the Course Rating Committee. In 2005 she became actively involved in running the Challenge Series and organized all of the events since that time. Although Barb will not be on the Board in 2010, she will continue as Tournament Committee Chair and will serve as a member of the Fundraising Committee. In 2007, Barb was appointed to the USGA Regional Affairs Committee. Barb is a member of the women's groups at Red Mountain Ranch CC, Papago GC and Quintero Golf and CC.

Jan Wobken started her service to the AWGA on the Rules Committee in 2003 and continues to remain an active member. In 2007 she became Chairman of the Rules Committee and joined the AWGA Board of Directors in 2008. Jan worked as a Rules Official on 10 tournaments in 2008 and five in 2009. She is also a presenter at several AWGA Rules Seminars each year.

Jan has been a member of the USGA Senior Women's Committee since 2000 and has organized and run five regional qualifying tournaments. Phoenix is one of the USGA qualifying locations and is always first or second in the number of entries each year making this a work intensive volunteer job for Jan. She is also a Rules Official at the US Senior Women's Amateur Championship each year in the fall.

Before moving to Scottsdale permanently where she is currently a member at Terravita, Jan served on the Nebraska Women's Board of Directors for nine years. Her positions included serving as Handicap Chairman for three years and Rules and Tournament Chairman for six years.

Sincere thanks and gratitude go to Katherine Olson, Barbara Byrnes and Jan Wobken for their tireless efforts and continuous enthusiasm volunteering for the AWGA. Their legacy of eagerly sharing their passion for golf will be noted in the annals of AWGA history for years to come.



May

9 | Mickey Brewer | Wickenburg CC WGA

August

10 | Marsha Kroschel | Rio Verde CC WGA

17 | Sally Siebert | Oakcreek CC WGA

September

11 | Betty Harvey | Palo Verde CC WGA

October

2 | Cindy Holcomb | Rio Verde CC WGA

2 | Sue Kirkland | Leisure World HL Ladies 18

2 | Sandy Worden | Cottonwood CC WGA

3 | Lynda Jones | Prescott Lakes WGA

19 | Sue Bashford | Sun City North Women

21 | Michele Poetsch | Legend Trail Women

25 | Marjean Good | Oakcreek CC WGA

29 | Ursula Bird | Ironwood Golf Club WGA

29 | Gail Fosmire | Mountainview/Preserve WGA

November

5 | Retha Chappellear | Sun City West Echo Mesa Women

6 | Barb Halpin | Sun City Willowcreek WGA

6 | Paula Elbery | Palo Verde CC WGA

6 | Alice Adams | Desert Hills WGA

8 | Gayle Moeller | Sun City West Deer Valley Women

9 | Linda Thomas | Mountainview/Preserve WGA

10 | Eleanor Gold | Palo Verde CC WGA

11 | Gladys Dodge | Fountain of the Sun WGA

11 | Carol Arend | Sun City Willowcreek WGA

17 | Joyce Sbur | Oakwood CC WGA

18 | Carol Beck | Lake Havasu WGA

18 | Mary Henson | Cottonwood CC WGA

20 | Suzanne Lankford | Desert Hills WGA

24 | Shirley Read | Oakwood CC WGA

Clubs listed are member clubs, not necessarily where the hole in one was made.



Use the W-I-N Rule for a Better Game

Lou Holtz, famous football coach and TV sports personality, is regularly highlighted on ESPN for his witty and often profound answers to questions from his viewers. He even recaps values taught by his mother which have served him well over his career.

One bit of wisdom that seemed particularly appropriate for the game of golf was his W-I-N Rule. Simply stated, it means What's Important Now. How does that align with playing golf? His straightforward principle recommends that we concentrate all of our energy and focus on the shot at hand. That's what is important now. Don't expend valuable energy over your last errant shot. Don't look ahead to the bunker or water hazard coming up on the next hole. Just concentrate on the shot you are making and your overall score and enjoyment will undoubtedly improve. As Dr. Lou so aptly says, "If you try to fight the course, it will beat you."



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TECHNIQUE

CHIPPING AND PUTTING GO HAND IN HAND

Swing Tip from Peggy Gustafson, LPGA

Director of Instruction, Golftec-Arrowhead

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Many of my students complain that they are poor putters because they have so few one-putts. Often times it is not that they are poor putters, but in reality are poor chippers. They don't get the ball close to the hole to have a consistently makeable putt. The moral of this story is the closer you have for the first putt, the greater chance there is for making it.

Chipping is simply putting with loft and is used within 10 yards of the putting surface where the terrain is relatively flat and you have no big hills or bunkers to pitch over. The chipping setup for a right handed golfer consists of feet close together, ball position back in your stance off the inside of the right heel, toes point to the left of the ball and your weight should be primarily on your left foot. Grip

down on the shaft to the bottom of the grip and have the ball position approximately one foot in front of your right big toe. Clubface at setup is square to your target line with the bottom of the club more toe down and heel up. This will allow the golf shaft to be more vertical like your putter shaft. Hands are slightly ahead of the ball and your grip pressure is light like holding an egg. (Don't break the shell!)

The chip stroke should be similar to your putting stroke; the hands stay "quiet" or inactive, the wrists stay firm. The shoulders rock up and down like a pendulum on a clock. Your backstroke equals your follow-through stroke or like the clock pendulum "your tick equals your tock." Practice using different lofted clubs for different distances – 6, 7, 8, 9, pitching wedge, gap wedge, sand wedge and lob wedge. The less loft on the club, the more roll and the greater distance the ball will go. The more loft, the higher the ball will fly and the shorter the ball will go. When the hole is on the back of the green, clubs with less loft such as 6 or 7 irons work best. If the hole is in the middle of the green, try an 8 or 9 iron, and towards the front of the green, the most lofted wedges work best.

Short game practice should make up over 50% of your total practice. Dave Pelz's research shows that the world's best putters, Tour Players, only make 50% of their 6 foot putts. As the length of the putt increases, your percentage of making the putt drops drastically. The better chipper you become, the more one-putts you will be able to make and subsequently the lower your scores will go.

