



NEWSLINKS

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



Nicole Tombs: 2010 Senior Division Match Play Champion

by Mary Ann Souter

Nicole Tombs, Senior Division Champion and member of Desert Highlands, won her final match with Kelly Hollister 1 up. At 66 years old, Nicole played with stamina and skill as she competed against women more than 10 years younger. Players must be 50 years old to enter the Senior Division. With a Handicap Index of 6.7, Nicole went into the event with experience, proficiency and proven competence. She describes the first few matches as “very close” and the final match as “tight and tough.” Nicole explains, “I sunk my putt for a par on the last hole which allowed me to win the Championship match. I was a bit tired since Match Play is so mentally demanding with a need for real concentration on every hole but I felt excited and exhilarated at the same time.” Originally from Montreal, Canada, Nicole and her family moved to New Hampshire in 1972. As a member of the New Hampshire Women’s Golf Association, Nicole accumulated a string of victories including:

- New England Senior Championship - 3 years
- New Hampshire Senior Championship - 3 years
- New Hampshire Super Senior Championship – 2 years
- Club Champion at Manchester Country Club – 7 years.

In 1980, Nicole and her husband, Richard, started coming to Arizona to visit their daughter, Tina, who was enrolled in Arizona State University at the time. By 1984, they were lengthening their visits and coming more often. And by 1989, they made Arizona their home for most of the year only traveling back to New Hampshire in the summer months. It wasn’t long before Nicole joined the AWGA and started playing in state tourna-

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

New Course Ratings

Nicole Tombs:

2010 Senior Division Match Play Champion

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ments. Her skill on the course quickly became apparent. She captured the AWGA State Amateur Match Play Championship in 1991 and won the AWGA Senior Stroke Play Championship three times before she was 55 years old.

Over the years, Nicole has captured the title of Club Champion several times at both Desert Highlands and Rio Verde. Her days on the golf course changed dramatically five years ago when Nicole broke her shoulder. Her doctors believed she would not be able to play golf again, and she didn't for almost two years. But Nicole didn't give up the game she loved and couldn't imagine her future without golf in it. So she started slowly trying to get mobility back in her shoulder. She began taking lessons from her daughter, Tina Tombs, who is now a Class A LPGA Teaching Professional at the Arizona Biltmore. Tina has been working with her mom on her swing for the past three years, carefully avoiding injury and trying to encourage her mother as she worked on getting her swing back. Tina was at Gold Canyon watching her mother advance to the final match. "I was so happy Tina was there to see me play and support me," Nicole said. "All of our hard work together paid off." She added, "I was always the one on the sidelines rooting for her when she was on tour. This time she was in the walking gallery watching me!"

"Nicole's husband, who inspired her interest in golf about 25 years ago, was her caddie during the Match Play Championship. "Richard and I play golf together often," Nicole said. "He was a great caddie, helping me choose the right clubs and keeping me focused on my game. We discussed each shot, taking into consideration the wind and the distance." Golf is definitely in the genetic material of this family. As with most women golfers, Nicole's experience with golf is a happy and fulfilling one. "I've made many friends on the golf course," Nicole said with a smile. "Many women that have been my friends for more than 20 years are still playing golf with me. It's an amazing game and rewarding in so many ways!"

The AWGA congratulates Nicole, on her 2010 AWGA State Amateur Match Play victory!

Concho Valley Country Club

White	72.8/137
Women's	70.9/120
Mixed Nine	35.8/126

Heritage Highlands

Hummingbird	65.9/117
Roadrunner	71.2/128
Quail	70.5/123
Tournament Quail	69.2/119

Prescott Country Club

Red	71.2/124
White	74.7/132

Whirlwind Golf Club

Devils Claw	
Silver	74.7/130
Copper	71.6/126

Wigwam Golf & Country Club

Red Course	
White	74.9/128
Red	71.7/122
Gold Course	
Club	76.3/133
Forward	73.7/128



Tui Selvaratnam: 2010 AWGA State Amateur Match Play Champion

With a field of past champions and highly skilled players, the competition was tough at the AWGA State Amateur Match Play Championship. The matches at Gold Canyon Golf Resort were challenging and difficult with the weather going from high winds on Tuesday to a beautiful sunny day on Wednesday. In the end, Tui Selvaratnam won the final match against Kim Eaton, 5 & 4. "I remember the final match," Tui said. "It was a long week and I was expecting an intense match." She continued, "I played consistent and steady with two birdies, two bogeys and 14 pars. I also putted well which helped me to win the final match."

Tui, AWGA Player of the Year for nine consecutive years, is no stranger to capturing Match Play titles. She won the AWGA State Amateur Match Play Championship in 2005 and 2008 and was runner-up in 2006 and 2007. "This is a great honor," Tui said after the tournament. "I competed with accomplished players whose experience showed on the course."

So far in 2010, Tui has played in three major events – the Phoenix City Championship in March, AWGA Four-Ball Stroke Play Championship in April and State Amateur Match Play Championship in May. Not surprising, she won all three. She was also the medalist in the Match Play Championship with a gross score of 69, 2 under par.

In addition to her golf game, Tui now has a new challenge in the Arizona women's golf community. She was appointed to the AWGA Board of Directors for a one year term in January 2010. Although she has worked with Boards in the past, this is the first time she is serving as a member of a Board. "I am very interested in the direction the AWGA Board is taking us for the future," Tui said. "Since I am new to this, I am observing and learning and offering input when I can."

Once again Tui proved to be a capable golfer with focus and determination leading her to another major victory. Tui Selvaratnam is continuing her legacy as one of Arizona's greatest amateur women golfers.



Tui and the AWGA Match Play Trophy



Tui and her caddy with the AWGA Match Play Trophy

Have you logged into your eGolfBag at www.awga.org? This is a great way to stay informed, sign-up for events and post scores. The fall ambassador schedule will be available soon!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Colleen Green - Great Eagle GC Women

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Judy Polidori - San Marcos WGA

Jane Ross - Elephant Rocks Women's Club

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AWGA NewsLinks is published 8 times per year and is an official publication of the Arizona Women's Golf Association.

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We welcome your comments and suggestions regarding the new "NewsLinks" newsletter. Please submit your ideas to Logan Erikson @ logan@awga.org.

Game Improvement: Get Golf Ready

As summer approaches in the various areas of the state, the AWGA Ambassador Program winds down until the fall. If you or someone you know are interested in a structured group lesson program during the dog days of summer, try the Get Golf Ready Program. PGA and LPGA Teaching Professionals will make sure you not only learn to play the game but also have fun each step of the way.

Get Golf Ready is an industry-wide, nationally branded program that has two main goals:

1. Bring new golfers into the game in a fast, fun and gratifying way.
2. Bring former golfers back to the game of golf.



Series of Five Lessons Includes:

- Introductions to the fundamentals -- Proper attire, etiquette on the golf course, purpose of each club along with grip, aim, stance and posture
- Putting, chipping, pitching and bunker play
- Full Swing -- introduction to the fairway and how to use your irons
- Teeing off -- including which of your metal woods to use and choosing between the different tee markers
- Play one hole of golf, learn to book tee time, keep score, operate a golf cart and some basic rules
- Graduate outings -- play golf with others of similar ability with mentors available to help you move around the course

There are many Get Golf Ready facilities that are officially certified to offer both the Level I and Level II programs. Among them are: Anthem, Antelope Hills, Arrowhead CC, Augusta Ranch, Bear Creek, Continental Scottsdale, Eagle Mountain, Ken McDonald, Kokopelli, Stonecreek, Sun City CC, Talking Stick, TPC of Scottsdale, Trilogy @ Vistancia, Troon North and Tucson Golf School in Green Valley. Please check your local golf course to find out if it is offering the Get Golf Ready Program this summer. Then get back to the AWGA Ambassador Program in late fall.

FOUR

VISIT US AT WWW.AWGA.ORG

Carol Peterson Chosen as Finalist in "Service Philanthropy for the 2010 Health Care Heroes Awards"



Carol Peterson, member of Johnson Ranch WGA, received an email from the Phoenix Business Journal announcing that she was one of a small group selected as finalists for a most prestigious philanthropic award. "It is my pleasure to be the first to congratulate you as a finalist

in the category of Service Philanthropy for the 2010 Health Care Heroes Awards," the message began. Carol read on to discover she was one of three finalists in her category.

According to Rebecca Light, Events Director at the Phoenix Business Journal, they received over 200 nominations in 10 categories of recognition. The Service Philanthropy Award, which is Carol Peterson's category, honors organizations or individuals for educating or informing the public about important health care issues and working in ways that improve the overall quality of life in our community.

Many of you may know that Carol Peterson is a warrior against heart disease and is tirelessly involved in fundraising efforts to find a cure and treat heart disease. According to information on WebMD, heart disease is the leading cause of death in women over 40 years old, especially after menopause. Once a woman reaches the age of 50, (about the age of natural menopause), the risk for heart disease increases dramatically. Since her own battle with heart disease began several years ago, Carol has become a compassionate and dedicated leader in raising funds through golf tournaments in the area. "It's quite an honor and I'm quite stunned," Carol said about her nomination and advancement as a finalist. "My last event at Alta Mesa provided \$15,567 to the new Women's Heart Center at Banner Heart Hospital." This was the third event Carol organized as a fundraiser to further research and provide assistance to women with heart disease.

The winners will be announced at an awards breakfast on Thursday, August 19, at the Arizona Biltmore Resort in Phoenix. The finalists and winner for each category will also be featured in the Health Care Heroes magazine to be included in the August 20th edition of the Phoenix Business Journal.

The AWGA is pleased to congratulate Carol for using her love of golf in a most selfless and benevolent way.

RULES

Rules Tips

By Erin Groeneveld
AWGA Tournament Operations Manager

Ball Unplayable

When taking an unplayable it is essential to remember ALL of your options and to survey the areas of where you would potentially be dropping your ball; BEFORE you lift your ball out of the unplayable situation. The following are your options for relief under Rule 28 Ball Unplayable; all of which will cost you a 1 stroke penalty:

- a. Play a ball as nearly as possibly at the spot from which the original ball was last played.
- b. Drop a ball behind the point where the ball lay, keeping that point directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped. There is no limit to how far behind that point that the ball may be dropped. If your ball is unplayable in a bush in the desert and you would like to go back 120 yards to another hole's fairway you may do that. There is no limitation or restriction on changing terrain when dropping a ball under Rule 28.
- c. Drop a ball within two club-lengths of the spot where the ball lay, but not nearer the hole. It is very important to be careful when taking this option, because if your ball rolls back into the bush or into another near by situation that is unplayable, you do not get to re drop your ball you MUST take another unplayable to obtain relief.

Before making a decision on how you will take relief after deeming your ball unplayable be sure you've surveyed ALL your options choose the best option for you!



FIVE

VISIT US AT WWW.AWGA.ORG



Ambassador Program participant, Carol Lacey, with her a Hole in One ball



PGA Teaching Professional, Brian Calhoun with Carol Lacey.

AWGA Ambassador Program's Carol Lacey has Hole in One!

Bear Creek Golf Complex, one of our most successful sites for the AWGA Ambassador Program, had exciting news to report. New golfer, Carol Lacey, had only played twice before, and on May 15th, while playing golf with AWGA Ambassador Program participants, Carol stunned her foursome with an ace on the #4 hole of the Cub Course. Carol used a 3 wood on the 140 yard hole.

Fellow golfer and first time player, Becky Rutledge, said, "My first thought was how happy and excited I was for Carol. My second thought was, no wonder everyone loves this game. I'm playing my first 9 holes and I already have the greatest golf story ever and the pictures to prove it." PGA teaching professionals, Brian Calhoun and Eric Kulinna, were in the clubhouse waiting to congratulate Carol and listen to her amazing story. The two went over every detail of her ace with Carol's foursome. Brian Calhoun has been involved with the AWGA Ambassador Program at Bear Creek for more than three years and according to Rutledge, he's been a motivating and gifted instructor to all the women in the program. As Bear Creek reports, "The odds of any golfer getting a hole-in-one are slim; the odds of a beginner doing it are practically non-existent!"

Congratulations, Carol, from the AWGA on your amazing accomplishment!



Girls on the Go!

The AWGA invites you to take a vacation with the girls! Join us August 27th-29th as we take a trip to beautiful San Diego. Escape the heat and take advantage of a trip designed exclusively for AWGA members. The cost of the trip is \$350 which includes 2 nights of lodging, 2 rounds of golf and transportation to and from the airport. Please check www.awga.org for full details or call the AWGA office at 602-253-5655 and ask about Girls on the Go!





Swing Tip: Efficient Practice

by Tina Tombs, AZ Biltmore Country Club

LPGA Teaching Professional

Tina Tombs Golf, 480.225.0948

If you have the same pre-shot routine every time you practice, it will help you maintain a consistent rhythm and a comfortable state of mind to retain and use during tournament rounds. Here are a few things that I have found that have helped me and many

of my students prepare themselves to compete in their tournaments.

1. Have a Purpose for Every Shot!

Every shot that you hit on the driving range should have a purpose. You should use your pre-shot routine -- see the shot shape and target you want to aim for. Practice your short game and shots from 70 yards and closer more than half of your practice time and use your pre-shot routine as often as possible to ease the transition to the golf course.

2. Have a Plan and Set Goals

Set goals and a plan for your practice time. Work on specific things, for example, Grip, Posture and Alignment (GPA), or work on a specific swing mechanic. When you work on a swing mechanic it is best not to worry about where the ball is going. Hit a few balls (10) with a routine and a few (10) with a mechanical swing thought and keep switching back and forth. Staying focused on the task at hand is important for the most positive results and it is the easiest transition to the golf course and playing your best!

3. Set a Time Limit

Make your practice time efficient. Especially with our heat in the summer there will be a tendency to mentally and physically exhaust. If we achieve what we want in a minimal amount of time, give yourself permission to move on to something else. You do not want to tire yourself. Your mind and body need to stay efficient and alert to be effective. Once your job is done congratulate yourself and know that you did your best!!

Hit Them High and Let Them Fly!!!



December 2009

31 | Barbara Payne | Desert Hills GC WGA

January

1 | Joann Walker | Desert Hills GC WGA

March

20 | Sandra Knight | Ironwood Country Club WGA

April

26 | June Wentworth | Boulders Ladies Golf Club

27 | Cheryl Collyer | Mountain Shadows WGA

28 | Jan Hawkes | Palo Verde Country Club WGA

May

4 | Jane Powell-Campbell | Desert Hills GCWGA

4 | Cathy Lastrofka | Palo Verde Country Club WGA

6 | Lee Weller | Beaver Creek Golf Resort WGA

10 | Sandra Lee Keefer | Estrella Mtn. Ladies Golf League

11 | Gladys Berens | Fountain of the Sun WGA

13 | Paula Scafuri | Quail Creek Country Club WGA

13 | Tracy Ferrell | Arizona National GC Women

16 | Justine Lewis | Quail Creek Country Club WGA

20 | Loella Speer | Country Club of Green Valley

20 | Mary Train | Sun City West - Grandview Women

21 | Barbara Heaps | Mountainview/Preserve WGA

25 | Jody King | Trilogy @ Power Ranch

25 | Patricia Bibler | Palo Verde Country Club WGA

27 | Sue Searcy | SaddleBrook WGA 9er's

28 | Paula Michaels | MountainView/Preserve WGA

30 | Brook Podesta | Desert Hills GC WGA

June

4 | Elaine Salladay | SaddleBrook WGA

7 | Kathy Bannon | The Gallery WGA

21 | Lauren Smith | The Gallery WGA

29 | Nancy Hurlburt | FLGA



Upcoming Tournaments

AWGA Day in Hades
July 12, Ventana Canyon Golf Club

U.S. Girls Junior, The Country Club of
North Carolina
July 19-24, Championship Site

SDWGA Summer Scotch
July 19, Oro Valley Country Club

U.S. Women's Amateur Qualifier
July 21, Desert Forest Golf Club

80th Women's Trans National
Championship, CC of Lincoln, NE
July 26-31, Championship Site

AWGA Mixed Stix
July 31-1, Tubac Golf Resort

U.S Women's Amateur, Charolette C.C.
Aug. 9-15, Championship Site

AWGA State Amateur Stroke Play
Championship
Aug. 23-15, Flagstaff Ranch Golf Club

NAWGA Stroke Play Championship
Aug. 31, White Mountain Country Club

U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Qualifier
Sept. 3, Country Club at DC Ranch

U.S. Sectional Qualifier Results

The US Sectional Qualifier was held at Pinnacle Peak Country Club on May 24th and 25th. The six qualifiers are: Aiko Ueno, Shi Hyun Ann, Paige Mackensie, Nicole Zhang, Julian Marcia Ortiz, and Esther Choe. The alternates include Louise Stahle and Lindsey Weaver. They will compete at the 62nd U.S Girls Junior Championship at The Country Club of North Carolina, in Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina, July 19-24.



AWGA Mixed Stix, July 31-August 1 Tubac Golf Resort

Picture Kevin Costner about to tee off the fourth hole on the Rancho course. Well you can see this very moment in the movie Tin Cup which was filmed here at Tubac Golf Resort. The tournament is 36 holes of Four-Ball stroke play (Better Ball of Partners) that will consist of teams, one man and one women who must both be a member of the AGA or AWGA. Entry fee is \$170 which includes green fees, cart fees, range balls, awards, and an awards luncheon. Sign up today to play the same hole Kevin Costner did in the film!



Girl Golf Day at The Rim Club

Come play some non-competitive golf with your friends. \$85 gets you a round of golf and lunch at the Rim Golf Club! This event will take place on August 2nd. Sign up at www.awga.org today!

2010 Partners

We are working on our 2010 partners, call for information.



Amateur Golfers May Receive Help With Expenses Associated With Competitions

Highly-skilled amateur golfers who have chosen to retain their amateur status have historically had the opportunity to participate in many prestigious championships. During the last few years, several local and national tours limited to amateur golfers have developed, giving amateur golfers of all skill levels the opportunity to have a “tour” experience. One thing that all of these golfers soon realize is that it can be very expensive to participate in these competitions. Fortunately, the USGA Rules of Amateur Status allow amateur golfers to receive help with these costs as described below. (Please note that junior golfers should refer to the article “Helping Junior Golfers With Expenses” at: <http://www.usga.org/news/2010/February/Helping-Junior-Golfers-With-Expenses/> as there are some exceptions to the following criteria for junior golfers).

The Rules allow an amateur golfer to receive any amount of financial support directly from a family member or legal guardian. The Rules also allow an amateur golfer to receive financial support directly from anyone for an individual competition where the expenses are less than \$300.

If the expenses for an individual competition exceed \$300, he or she may still receive financial support from sources other than family members, but the funds must be approved by and paid through the golfer’s state or local golf association. Amateur golfers may also use prize vouchers they have won in a competition for expenses in a subsequent competition, provided the prize vouchers are processed through the golfer’s state or local golf association. The forms, to be completed by the sponsor or the tournament organizer (where prize vouchers are used for expenses), and the amateur golfer (when the expenses are to be paid through the state or local golf association), can be found on the USGA’s website at: <http://www.usga.org/Rule-Books/Rules-of-Amateur-Status/Amateur-Status/under-Individual-Tournament-Expenses>. Players’ expenses associated with a competition normally include transportation, lodging, meals, entry fees and caddie/cart and practice fees. They should ensure that any expenses they wish to have funded are reasonable. They may not receive funds for general living costs that are not associated with a competition.

Although an amateur golfer may receive financial support from sources other than family members, he or she must not promote or advertise the source of any expenses received. Therefore, an amateur golfer may not publicly recognize the donor of the expenses or wear or carry anything that has the donor’s logo. The amateur golfer could issue a generic statement thanking their supporters such as “Tom Smith thanks those who have supported him in golf competitions.” Also, an amateur golfer must not accept expenses, directly or indirectly, from a professional agent or any similar source under any circumstances.

While the USGA Rules of Amateur Status allow amateur golfers to receive and use funds from sources other than family members as described above, in some cases the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) may prohibit or limit the receipt and use of such funds. Therefore, before accepting or using funds from a source other than a family member, amateur golfers who have collegiate eligibility remaining should check with the NCAA to determine whether receipt and use of such funds could affect their collegiate eligibility. They can contact the NCAA at: National Collegiate Athletic Association, 700 W. Washington Street, P.O. Box 6222, Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222, Phone: 317-917-6222, Website: www.ncaa.org

An amateur golfer should also maintain detailed records of any funds received from sources other than family members and how those funds were used, in case the USGA or NCAA wishes to review the sources and uses of the funds. If you have additional questions concerning amateur golfers receiving expenses, contact Bernie Loehr, Director, Amateur Status and Rules of Golf at the USGA at: 908-234-2300 (x1238) or 908-655-7491.

