

NEWS LINKS



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



Linda with the winning ticket



And the Winner is . . .

AWGA Build-a-TEAM Raffle

By Mary Ann Souter

October 31st was a lucky day for AWGA member, Linda Munson. Executive Director, Mary Pomroy; AWGA Board of Directors President, Robin Lane; and Board Member, Judy Polidori joined Uncle Buck on Arizona Golf Radio (AM 1440) to choose the winning ticket for the \$8,000 Yamaha golf cart raffle. It started with a long drum roll..... and the winner isLinda Munson from Alta Mesa Golf Club! Cheers filled the room. Then Uncle Buck decided to call Linda during show to tell her about her good fortune. Linda's husband answered the phone and skeptically told her it was Uncle Buck. "I don't know an Uncle Buck," she said. But when Uncle Buck introduced himself from Golfsmith Radio and told her she won the AWGA raffle for the Yamaha golf cart, her response was complete surprise. "You have to be kidding me!" she said. "I thought it was a joke! It just didn't click. Sometimes we get prank calls from our friends in Michigan so I thought that's what this was. We have several friends who like to kid around. When it hit me that the call was real, I was thrilled. What a return for \$10 worth of tickets!"

The idea for the golf cart raffle was conceived by Judy Polidori to raise money for the AWGA Build-a-TEAM program with the proceeds benefiting high school girls' golf teams across the state. Linda Munson bought three tickets at Alta Mesa on Tuesday, October 29th at her ladies play day. "Our whole table bought tickets," she said. Linda was excited about winning the golf cart. "I never win anything," she said. "The last thing I won was my husband 30 years ago and that wasn't even first prize!"

Linda and her husband are winter residents who have been coming to Alta Mesa every winter since 1991. They live the remainder of the year at their home on Stonegate Golf Course in Muskegon, Michigan where Linda plays golf with her husband, children and grandchildren. Linda is an active AWGA member and an avid golfer who has won several events at Alta Mesa.

The AWGA continues to add more programs and services to its already full agenda to support and nurture all levels of golfers. Some players thrive on competition, some are only interested in playing for fun and some are just learning to play the game. Our newest program, Build-a-TEAM, is already showing positive results as six of the girls from participating high schools competed in the state championship for the first time! It is rewarding to the Board, staff and volunteers who work on these projects to witness the benefits to women golfers and our Arizona golf community.

- Build a TEAM Raffle Winner1
- AWGA Partners Tournament Results.....2
- Xavier Shines3
- USGA/LPGA Girls Golf Day4
- AWGA Scotch Play Tournament Results ..5
- Rules School.....5
- Aces6
- Passages.....6
- 2014 GEM Winners.....7
- Dear Caddy.....8

AWGA Partners Tournament *by Robyn Noll*

The AWGA Partners Tournament is always full of fun and camaraderie, but this year's was particularly exciting. The event was hosted by the Tubac Golf Resort on November 18th & 19th, with some players getting practice rounds in on the 17th. That's when the AWGA's own Program Manager, Kelly Hollister, got the ball rolling when she got a hole-in-one on Anza #9, Tubac's signature island hole. Leslie Schaffer, who was playing in what she calls her first "big girl" tournament with a 26.8 handicap index, knows all about how intimidating that hole can be. She visited the course website beforehand, and wondered aloud to her husband how many times someone could hit the water before officials made them stop playing. It turns out she had nothing to worry about. She, too, aced #9 on the first day of play. "I watched it bounce and roll in and I screamed in excitement," she said. "It was surreal." Not only was this her first AWGA tournament, it was her very first hole in one, which made the day all the more special. She credits the women around her with making her feel at ease: "It's a challenging course and I was nervous, but the other players made me feel comfortable."



*Overall Winners
Sherry Mattiussi and Lisa Smego*



*Easy Game...
Kelly Hollister aces Anza #9*

The tournament was also a special one for Kathie Coil and Cathy Bishop, who were playing for fun but surprised themselves by winning the overall net trophy. They've been playing together for a number of years in the EWGA summer league, but this was their first big win together. They were both hitting the ball well and putting well, and "everything was in harmony" according to Kathie, but the pair weren't paying close attention to the scoring, which was a modified Stableford format. When she realized they were overall net champions Kathie said "I can't tell you how exciting it was. I've been on cloud nine ever since. I appreciate seeing the other ladies' styles of play and hope to compete more when I retire." Kathie now carries a 14.6 index and Cathy carries a 16.0, which proves you don't need to have a single-digit handicap to be victorious.

The tournament itself concluded with an on-course playoff between long-time partners and defending champions Kelly Loeb & Cristi Kittle, and new partners Sherri Mattiussi & Lisa Smego. Sherri & Lisa clinched the overall championship with Lisa's birdie on playoff hole two. "Sherri's birdies during the aggregate stroke play put us over the top," Lisa said. "The only one I made ... was on the second playoff hole to seal the deal." Sherri added: "I was thrilled! This was my best game ever in competition and my first big win."

Sherri began golfing when she came to the USA from Toronto in 2000. When she joined Red Mountain Ranch Golf Club in 2004, she saw a lot of good competitors around her, like Barb Byrnes, and it influenced her to get better. Thanks to Title IX, she was able to attend Gateway Community College as an adult on a golf scholarship, and was delighted to be on the team two years in a row when it qualified for the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) National Championships. She says "It's addicting when you practice and see yourself improving. The better you get, the better you want to be."

Lisa has an impressive golf résumé and is no stranger to winning. She plays in Arizona part-time, is also a member of the Washington State Golf Association (WSGA), and has qualified for 20 USGA championships spanning over 5 decades. She competed in both the US Senior Women's Amateur and the US Women's Mid-Am this year. She has been selected for USGA State Team three times, and has represented the WSGA in the Pacific Northwest Golf Association (PNGA) Cup six times. She won the 2013 Washington State Women's Best Ball, 2012 PNGA Women's Senior Team championship, and has won the WSGA Senior three times, the WSGA Mid-Am twice, and both the PNGA Amateur and Mid-Am. She is this year's Pacific Northwest Golf Association Senior Women's Player of the Year.



*Leslie Schaffer
Another ace on Anza #9*



AWGA Partners Tournament (continued from page two)

Sherri admits to having butterflies at first, but once she got in the flow, she made some great shots. Both players also credit Lisa's course management suggestions with influencing the outcome. Often, Lisa would pull out a 4 wood or a hybrid, making Sherri rethink using her driver. "This wasn't my first rodeo" Lisa quipped, referring to both Tubac's history as a working cattle ranch and to her recent partners successes. Experience has taught her to stay calm, be patient, and look for opportunities. "You also win more if you're having a good time." And by all accounts everyone did have a good time. As Sherri put it "It's competitive, but there are lots of laughs and hugs and cheering each other on."

The AWGA would like to thank everyone who participated and made this an unforgettable experience. We'd also like to thank Tubac for hosting their first Partners and eighth tournament overall. Kathie Coil describes the location as "restful and beautiful." She especially likes the Tubac Triangle, three isolated back holes surrounded by old growth cottonwoods, far away from city life. And with stunning views of both the Santa Rita and Tumacacori mountains looming nearby, who can blame her?

Hannah O'Sullivan Shines for Xavier Arizona High School Girls State Championship

By Mary Ann Souter

It was a satisfying event for Xavier College Prep High School at the Division I High School Girls State Championship. Not only did sophomore Hannah O'Sullivan win as state individual champion but she was instrumental in helping her team capture the state title for the 31st time in 34 years! Shooting a 73 on the first day and a 67 on the second, Hannah was three strokes ahead of her nearest competitor and Xavier's team finished with a remarkable 23 stroke lead.

Hannah has had an exceptional 2013. As the junior player on the AWGA State Team, she played a phenomenal tournament in Ohio finishing third as an individual in the 156 player field. On October 31st, she accomplished another goal by winning the Arizona High School Girls Golf Championship title for the second time in two years. "I really wanted to win State again," she said. "I didn't play my best the first day. But after a strong pep-talk from Sister Lynn, who helped our team to refocus, I played my own game and did what I do best on the second day." Hannah credits much of her success to the superior coaching by Sister Lynn Winsor, Xavier girls' golf coach, and Tui Selvaratnam, assistant coach. "They helped me get my confidence back after the first day at State." Hannah gives both coaches the highest compliment, "Knowing that Sister Lynn and Tui believe in me motivates me to practice and play my best." Hannah emphasized that she couldn't ask for anyone better to be guiding her - and with good reason! Sister Lynn has led Xavier's girl's golf team for 40 seasons, winning 31 state championships while Tui has 7 wins in the 8 seasons she's been there.

Coach Tui knows that student athletes come to Xavier because they want to go to a Division I college and Xavier offers a solid foundation for both their education and golf. As a champion golfer herself, the girls appreciate her suggestions. "I've been there -- done that! There's a reason for what I tell them. I want them to be the best they can be," Tui said resolutely. Coach Tui commended the girls saying, "This is one of the best teams Xavier has ever had." Xavier is enjoying the winning combination of a strong coaching team and the girls' drive to win.

When asked about her next goals, Hanna responded, "I want to earn a place on the 2015 Junior Solheim Cup team. I'd also like to play on the AJGA Junior Rolex All-American team. I'm on the second team now. Next year I hope to be on the first team. And my final goal is to become AJGA Junior Rolex Girls Player of the Year in my senior year." Hannah plans to major in Business while playing college golf. But her ultimate goal is to play on the LPGA Tour.

Tui, a member of the AWGA Board of Directors, praised the AWGA for getting involved in high school golf with the Build-a-TEAM program. "This program is helping high school teams statewide to compete at a higher level," she said. "It's giving the coaches and schools hope."





LPGA-USGA Girls Golf A Super Day in Tucson

By Mary Ann Souter

"It was a great day," an exhausted Rose Nehring said. As Site Director of the LPGA-USGA Girls Golf Program in Tucson, Rose spent months preparing for this day to make it perfect for the 55 girls who participated at the Randolph Golf Complex. The Super Girls Golf Day is an annual event to give girls ranging from 7 to 17 a well-rounded view of golf. Each girl received a goodie bag donated by Lisa Frank® – stuff girls love® – with gifts such as pens, pencils, stickers, folders and notebooks all in bright colors decorated with butterflies, hearts, feathers and glitter.

The event started with a presentation from Symetra Tour member and two-time Big Break contestant - Sara Brown. Sara, a native of Tucson, told the girls how she started with the girl's golf program when she was eight years old, continued through high school and attended Michigan State University on a golf scholarship. "At first I didn't think I'd like golf," she said, "but I won a pink ball at one of the events and then I wanted to win more and more!" Sara's enthusiasm spilled over to the attendees who were captivated by her success. Next, the girls' golf team from Sahuaro High School, who won the 2013 Division II State Girls Championship, took turns giving short presentations. Their excitement about golf was contagious. "I'm a junior and I really love golf," one player said. Not to be outdone, the next team member continued, "I'm a junior and I really, really love golf!" The girls were not only entertained but also saw the potential of being part of the LPGA-USGA Girls Golf program.

Then the girls were divided into six groups by age with three or four volunteers per group. According to Rose, the most important part of the program is the volunteers, who are a necessity for the success of the program. "Safety and protection of the girls is our primary concern," she said, "and we need volunteers to keep an eye on them during the event. I couldn't do it without the dedication of these women who enjoy working with young golfers as much as I do."

Six stations were set up to give golf instruction, teach physical fitness techniques, nutrition and the importance of skin care. Six PGA/LPGA golf professionals assisted in the event.

Station 1: Driving Range; Station 2: Chipping; Station 3: Putting; Station 4: Nutrition - girls made their own trail mix snack bags by mixing samples from bins of sunflower seeds, nuts, granola, dried cranberries and more healthy choices. At the end, they could add some M&M peanut candies to make their personal snack even more delicious! Station 5: Making hand sanitizer under the supervision of a Pharmacist from the University of Arizona; Station 6: Zumba class – 25 minutes of a dance/exercise mix.

There were contests and prizes – the favorite prize was the metallic pink golf balls! Rose particularly enjoyed watching the girls giggling in the Zumba class. "Some of them didn't miss a beat," she said. "The little girls kiddingly said Zumba taught them to move their hips so they could turn better for golf!"

It was a great introduction to the game for some and for those who had participated in previous years, it reinforced what they already knew – that golf is fun to play whether you're 7 or 70!



FOUR

VISIT US AT WWW.AWGA.ORG

Scotch Play Champions Eaton & Waynick Defend Title

By Mary Ann Souter

Defending champions, Kim Eaton and Liz Waynick, said Scotch Play at Prescott Country Club couldn't have been better and rightly so as they retained their title with a 13 stroke lead! Colleen Green, AWGA Tournament Official, agreed. The weather was mild and sunny both days; the course



Liz Waynick (L) and Kim Eaton

was in great condition; and the staff did everything possible to make the event run smoothly for our women. Colleen recruited volunteers, although she said the Head Pro rounded up about 30 men to help. "They were a capable group who really gave of themselves," Colleen said. From Monday morning registration to the scoring at the end of the event, all went well." Several women commented on the Halloween

motif. From flower pots on the tee boxes to locker room decorations and playing games for discount coupons and rounds of golf, the extra touches by the PCC staff made the event special for everyone.

Overall Winners: Kim Eaton and Liz Waynick

Kim said she played well on the first day, ending the round five shots ahead. "The course was tougher than I thought it would be because of the elevations," she said. "But I hit some good shots out of the rough." Liz agreed and added that Kim hits long drives to help position the ball in the fairway so she is able to chip and putt, which are her strengths. "Liz and I play complementary games," Kim added. "She's a great partner and she's stuck with me for awhile!" Kim and Liz have been champions as individuals and as partners. They are both skilled players who continue to be tough competitors in every event.



Lynn Kolstad (L) and Karen Hughes

Net Winners: Lynn Kolstad and Karen Hughes

This was a first major win for both Lynn and Karen. "We've been playing as partners for many years," Lynn said. "We know each other's game well and our strengths complement each other." Neither Lynn nor Karen expected to be Net Winners. They knew they were playing well but also knew that others were doing well too. Lynn and Karen are both steady and consistent players. Lynn's strength is hitting long drives. Karen's is her short game. According to Karen, Lynn was able to get their ball close to the green which put her in a good spot to follow through.

Lynn and Karen play in several partner events each year including the Classy Ladies and the Sweet Swingers along with other AWGA, Central Arizona Golf District (CAGD) and invitationals around the state. They both say they're not driven by winning prizes but in Lynn's words "it sure was a thrill to win that trophy!" Karen added, "We play because we enjoy the game." Lynn agreed, "We're not super competitive. We just like to have fun." But Karen admits she was excited about receiving that beautiful teardrop trophy. "I put it in a case which holds all of my husband's trophies. Now I have one too!"



New Decisions on the Rules of Golf 2014-2015

The USGA and the R&A have recently published the 2014-2015 Decisions on the Rules of Golf. Most of the amendments to the 2012-2013 edition are for clarification. For a complete list of these changes go to: http://www.usga.org/uploadedFiles/USGAHome/rules/Amendments_2012-2013_Decisions_on_the_Rules_of_Golf.pdf.

Some of the most noteworthy changes are in response to questions raised by today's technology. Amendments are effective January 1, 2014.

New Decision 14-3/18 confirms that players can access reports on weather conditions on a smartphone during a round without breaching the Rules. Importantly, this new Decision also clarifies that players are permitted to access information on the threat of an impending storm in order to protect their own safety. This Decision does not alter the prohibition in Rule 14-3 applicable to use of a thermometer or anemometer to measure weather conditions. **Revised Decision 14-3/4**

permits the use of a compass during a round of golf. This revision will permit use of the iPhone, with its compass utility, as a distance-measuring device (assuming it has no other features which would render it non-conforming). **Revised Decision 25-2/0.5** helps to clarify when a golf ball is considered to be embedded in the ground through the use of illustrations. **Revised Decision 27-2a/1.5** allows a player to go forward up to approximately 50 yards without forfeiting her right to go back and play a provisional ball. As the purpose of playing a provisional ball is to save time, this permits the player to go forward a short distance to determine if it would be expedient to go back and play a provisional ball.

ACES

February

1 | Linda Kalamar | Sun Lakes CC

May

14 | Arne Havens | Sun Lakes CC

June

28 | Patti Herf | Mountain Shadows GC

September

2 | Vandana Andreson | Forest Highlands

6 | Jamie Middleton | Pine Canyon

15 | Fran Niichel | White Mountain CC

15 | Aleta Rosenthal | The Preserve

17 | Elaine Naful | Sonnenalp Golf Club

21 | Ralene Peters | Mountainview CC

October

11 | Donna Smid | Sun Lakes CC

17 | Teri Merrifield | San Ignacio Golf Club

17 | Dawn Bush | Oakcreek CC

18 | Jan Herigodt | Ironwood Golf Club

20 | Karen Stolte | Trilogy at Power Ranch

20 | Carol Jones | Ironwood Golf Club

24 | Dixie Dewitt | Wigwam Golf Resort

24 | Colleen Yoder | Anthem CC

27 | Shirley Larson | Red Mountain Ranch CC

31 | Sherron Bearchell | Chaparral CC

31 | Eunice Milne | Apache Wells CC

November

2 | Sharon Emery | Pebble Creek GC

3 | Jennifer Walden | Sunbird Golf Resort

5 | Nenna Jennings | Ironwood Golf Club

5 | Marta Poyokko | Sunbird Golf Resort

7 | Marty Borgelt | Antelope Hills CC

9 | Eve McDermott | The GC @ Dove Mountain

12 | Clydene Dechert | Antelope Hills

17 | Kelly Hollister | Tubac Golf Resort

18 | Leslie Schaffer | Tubac Golf Resort

19 | Elaine Friesen | Sunbird Golf Club

26 | Kathleen Moloney | Pebble Creek GC

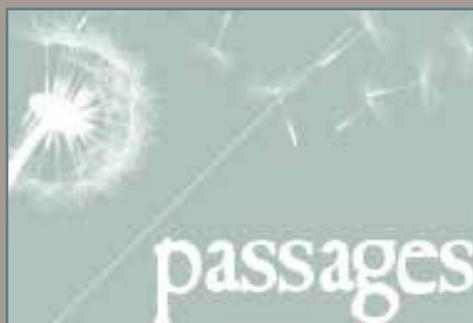
December

3 | Mary Wisdon | The Highlands at Dove Mtn.

3 | Glo Malmberg | Oakwood CC



Vash in 2009 with young friend Kayla Mortarello



Vash Matlon, 96 years young, passed away on November 30, 2013 in St Louis, Missouri. She spent her life in St Paul, Minnesota until she moved to Prescott, Arizona on her own, at the tender age of 72, to enjoy the outdoors and golf, her life passion.

As most women of her generation will tell you, female athletes were a non-entity in the 30's and 40's. During her college years at the University of Minnesota, although the school offered no golf program for women, the golf coach used Vash, along with classmate Patty Berg, as demonstrators at clinics for the men's golf teams. Vash graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1940, and later earned a Master's Degree in Psychology. Vash's playing career during the late 1940's and early 1950's included finishing 2nd in the Minnesota State Publinks Championship, progressing to match play in the 1952 US Women's Amateur, and finishing 3rd in the 1954 Swiss National

Amateur Championship. Ms. Matlon turned professional in 1963, and was one of the first two women teaching professionals to be certified by the LPGA National Golf School for women. She has presented golf seminars on television, is the author of a textbook on high school golf instruction, and developed one of the first women's golf programs in the country at Carleton College in Minnesota.

After regaining her amateur status in the late 80's, Vash moved to Arizona to retire. She remained very active in the game as a player in AWGA tournaments, winning the Masters Division (80 +) of the State Senior's Championship 5 years running. She also won the US Senior Olympic title for women over 85. Vash was also an officer in her local and regional associations. She served as President of NAWGA for three years and received the AWGA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2002. She dedicated the remaining years of her life to being a champion for junior golf programs in northern Arizona.

Vash is survived by her sons, Peter and Chris, their wives, five grandchildren and spouses who all say that her maxim was to live life to the fullest and above all "have fun."



2014 GEM Winners

The results are in! Your opinion counts and your voice has been heard! Your continued participation in the GEM (Golf Endorsed by Members) program throughout this past year has allowed the AWGA to collect and compile data in our quest to find the most "women friendly" golf courses in the State of Arizona. Our GEM program is truly a program that is endorsed by members. The multitude of surveys our members completed, providing personal opinions and golf course evaluations on their experience playing a course, enabled the AWGA to objectively calculate direct data and select only the most highly graded courses which provided a great golf experience for women. With that, your inaugural list of GEM designated golf courses (In Alphabetical order)

Alta Mesa Golf Club – Mesa
Cimmaron Golf Club - Surprise
Copper Canyon Golf Club - Buckeye
Desert Hills Golf Club – Green Valley
Desert Mountain Club – Scottsdale
Desert Springs Golf Club - Surprise
Encanterra Country Club – Queen Creek
Forest Highlands – Flagstaff
Gallery Golf Club, The – Marana
Grandview Golf Course - Sun City West
Granite Falls Golf Club - Surprise
Haven Golf Course - Green Valley
The Highlands at Dove Mountain – Marana
Omni Tucson National Golf Club – Tucson
Poston Butte Golf Club – Florence
Quail Creek Country Club – Green Valley
Rio Verde Country Club - Rio Verde
SaddleBrooke Country Club - Tucson
Sedona Golf Resort - Sedona
Superstition Mtn. GC – Superstition Mountain
Tonto Verde Golf Club - Rio Verde
Trilogy Golf Club @ Power Ranch - Gilbert
Ventana Canyon GC - Tucson
Whirlwind Golf Club - Chandler

Detailed information on endorsed GEM golf facilities can be found on the AWGA website (www.awga.org) A link to each club, providing survey comments, photos, contact information, course ratings, etc, will be available to AWGA members as long as the selected course maintains its GEM designation. AWGA members can

access GEM information by logging into their AWGA eGolfBag and navigating through the GEM section to find a course they may be interested in or to review a GEM designated course in a specific region as a guide in choosing a facility that will provide the most enjoyable experience for women golfers.

In order to be included in a GEM survey, a golf course must be an active course with the AWGA. In essence, a golf course must have at least one set of tees with a current USGA Course rating for play by women that has been issued by the AWGA. In turn, this allows a course to be included in our score posting database. Courses were evaluated by AWGA members on a variety of criteria from customer service to playability and restroom availability. Some of the positive comments shared by respondents included:

- I have brought many friends here to play... especially a senior friendly course with options for all levels of play.
- From the moment you enter everyone is very friendly and outgoing!
- It is beautiful and women-friendly.
- A variety of tee boxes for different skill levels and women's business is always welcomed.
- Aside from the fact that this is a very beautiful course, the after golf experience is equally great. Men & women get along and respect each other.
- The locker room is spacious and well equipped.
- Play this course if you get the chance. It's wonderful. Even the drive to the course is beautiful.
- The course is very female friendly regarding length, but you do have options if you prefer more length.

As an ongoing program, the next GEM year has already started. If your favorite course is not on the list, you can affect that by taking a survey and influencing your fellow golfers to take GEM surveys. For those members who may have "opted out" of participating in this important program, opting back in is as easy as an email to awga@awga.org.

The GEM program is a unique, one of a kind, member endorsed initiative, consistent with the goals and objectives of the AWGA - To preserve, promote, and enhance the best interests and true spirit of the game of golf among women in Arizona.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Robin Lane - Gallery WGA

Vice President

Ginny Zak - Superstition Mountain Women

Secretary

Robin Cook - Wigwam Ladies Golf Club

Treasurer

Mary Byrd - Ladies Executive Golf Society

Officer at Large

Melanie Bridges - Prescott Country Club WGA

Directors

Janet Cothren - Elephant Rocks Womens Club

Colleen Green - Great Eagle GC Women

Sally Larson - Dell Ulrich WGA

Judy Polidori - Alta Mesa WGA

Tui Selvaratnam - Mixed Stix WGA

AWGA STAFF

Mary Pomroy

Executive Director

Logan Erickson

Director - Member Programs & Services

Erin Groeneveld

Tournament Operations Manager

Susan Woods

Business Operations Manager

Kelly Hollister

Program Manager

Vivian Kelley

Administrative Assistant

Robyn Noll

Executive Assistant

Lauren Meldrum

PJ Boatwright Jr. Intern

AWGA NewsLinks is published 8 times per year and is an official publication of the Arizona Women's Golf Association.
141 East Palm Lane, Suite 210 Phoenix, AZ 85004-1555
602.253.5655 800.442.AWGA Fax 602.253.6210
E-mail: awga@awga.org
Web: www.awga.org

We welcome your comments and suggestions regarding the new "NewsLinks" newsletter. Please submit your ideas to Kelly Hollister at kelly@awga.org.



SEVEN

VISIT US AT WWW.AWGA.ORG

AWGA Season Opener



141 East Palm Lane, Suite 210
Phoenix, AZ 85004-1555

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wht Riv Jct, VT
Permit No. 86

Sunday | February 23, 2014
8:30 AM Shotgun
Briarwood Country Club
Sun City West

Format will be Four Ball (better ball of partners). Cost is \$100 and includes lunch and prizes.

Entries open January 6, 2014.

DEAR CADDY

Q Dear Caddy – I'm trying to improve my overall golf game; better scores, learning the rules, and general overall golf etiquette. One area I find challenging is in keeping a group scorecard. Keeping my own individual score is pretty easy, but when I play in a group I tend to get flustered and really mess things up. Do you have any suggestions to becoming a better scorekeeper?

A Kudos to you for wanting to make these improvements! You will become a better player and a well rounded golfer once you accomplish your goals. First, I want to offer a few general comments on keeping a scorecard and then I will make suggestions on how to approach your goal of being the "go to scorekeeper!"

General notes on scorekeeping - Write scores down AFTER you leave the hole just played (this helps with pace of play.) – Ask other players for their score JUST ONCE (scores can get embarrassing) - Repeat a score after it has been shared with you (helps with memory/recall) - Anticipate that some players are not willing to share scores. (Dear Caddy once covered this rude behavior in her column....) Keep a sharp pencil on hand and write each score down legibly. Use any down time to check entries or tally scores. Finally, get in the habit of signing scorecards. This is a requirement in tournaments and I like to think that it reflects that the person who signed the card took some pride in a job well done.

How to accomplish your goal: Practice, Practice, Practice – Tomorrow is your first day to volunteer to be the scorekeeper! Stop hiding behind the seasoned golfer, or the person who is "just so good at it." It's now your turn to step up and manage the scorecard. Let your fellow golfers know you are a bit intimidated as the keeper of the scorecard and ask them for their patience and assistance. Get in the cart with the best scorer in your group and ask her to hold your hand and give you a little help. The day after tomorrow, volunteer again! Continue to take on the task and your confidence will flourish. Challenge yourself by moving up to multiple scores with unique scoring or team games. Good luck in achieving your goals – Face your scorecard fears with a positive "can do" attitude and you will succeed.



EIGHT

VISIT US AT WWW.AWGA.ORG