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



L-R: Shaye Chandler, Anita Wallace and Diane Thomas



Shaye Chandler and Diane Thomas

What are the Odds?

Here's the scenario. Three women were playing golf in a group of three. They came to a 105 yard par-3 hole. Each of them hit her ball and they proceeded to drive up to the green, which was elevated and therefore not visible from the tee. When they arrived, there was only one ball to be found, on the green approximately three feet from the hole. Each of them felt she had hit a good shot and so assumed that the ball near the hole was hers.

Looking quizzically at one another, they approached the hole, and there at the bottom of the cup were the two other balls! The par-3 eighth hole on Desert Mountain's Chiricahua course succumbed this sunny June 8th morning to the skills of members Diane Thomas, Shaye Chandler, and Anita Wallace as they each played pitching wedge to achieve a total score of 4 for the group.

Not only were these holes-in-one made in the same group, they were made back to back, as Anita, the player with the 3-foot birdie putt, had hit first.

According to the National Hole-in-One Registry, the odds of two people in the same group scoring a hole-in-one on the same hole are 17,000,000 to 1. But these three women are accustomed to beating the odds. They have 20 holes in one among them! Diane has 5, Anita has 6, and this was Shaye's 9th hole in one. We have

not been able to find any statistics about how the 17,000,000 to 1 odds change when the group has only three players or when two consecutive shots find the bottom of the cup. We invite any of you out there who are statisticians to work this problem through and let us know. We'd love to publish the odds in our next newsletter. In the meantime, congratulations to Diane, Shaye and Anita too!

Blustery Days on the Tortolitas: Four-Ball Stroke Play Championship

You would have thought that a page was taken directly from A.A. Milne as he talked about Pooh and Piglet on a blustery day in the Hundred Acre Wood. Change the location to the Tortolita Mountains in Marana at The Gallery Golf Club and you have an idea what players dealt with at the Four-Ball Championship April 26 and 27. The hardest thing the rules officials had to deal with was a foursome of javelinas that showed up at the scorer's table without scorecards. Come to find out, they had just come to the club for dinner. Day 2 was cooler and calmer. Some teams took advantage of the improved weather and visibility to improve

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Four Ball Championship *(continued from page one)*

their position in the field and their flights. Two teams in the Championship flight shot 69, but that was not enough to erase the lead held by Kim Eaton and Leigh Klasse, who held on to win the Championship. But it was enough for them to take the low gross and low net prizes in their flight. Two teams from The Gallery had to do a scorecard playoff before Jane Huff and Judi Lorenzen were declared the Overall Net Winners, shooting a 64 net each day.

It was a great showcase of the talent, camaraderie, and generosity of AWGA members. Smiles and fun were as much a part of this event as the competitive golf. On top of that, the raffling of rounds of golf at Highlands at Dove Mountain, Phoenix Country Club, and Superstition Mountain Country Club raised more than \$1,200 for the AWGA's Build a Team program, supporting high school girls' golf teams around the state. That's what makes these events fun, for golfers of all skill levels. Come out and experience it for yourself.

Golf 101 – Why Would You?

For 10 years the AWGA has been partnering with local LPGA and PGA professionals to help women get golf lessons and support so they feel comfortable making golf a part of their lives. The program has met with varying degrees of success at different venues. It was rebranded once in 2013 when the name was changed from The Ambassador Program to Golf 101. This change helped, in that it clarified “what” we are doing. The Adult Player Development committee at the AWGA is again revisiting the branding of this program, to help players and teachers alike understand not just “what” we are doing, but also “why” we are doing it.



Marvol Barnard, an LPGA and PGA teaching professional at Haven Golf Club in Green Valley, has been part of the AWGA's program since 2009. Marvol's efforts have truly accomplished the “why” of the Golf 101 program and can be an example to all clubs and facilities who are striving to improve the participation and enjoyment for women. She has put into place a number of groups that give new players a safe and fun way to participate in the game of golf, regardless of their skill level. The Nine & Wine group gets together on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays to play 9 holes at Haven. Women with varying skills and experience



levels team up and there is always fun, laughter, coaching and the sharing of lessons learned in life and in golf. This is a safe, nurturing, non-competitive environment, where ambassadors from the current Golf 101 program lead the ladies off both the championship course, or the par 3 course, depending on skill level, in a fun scramble format. Of course, there is wine, food and camaraderie shared after golf. For some people, that is all they want out of this



game. The mailing list for this group at Haven has more than 400 people on it! For those that might want something more, the Tuesday Niners League is an option. This group uses handicaps so they can have relaxed and friendly competitions of various formats each week. If the golf “bug” has really gotten a player, they also have the option of joining the Friday Fun Gals. This is an 18-hole league that has fun formats each week but is still non-competitive. For those that have the burning desire to win if they are playing a game, the Tuesday 18-Hole League is the place at Haven. This group is competitive and also plays against other clubs. This is the stepping stone to area, regional, state and national levels of competition, if that is what a player wants. Marvol has grown the Haven's Women's Handicap Roster by nearly 50% since she began working with the Golf 101 program. Being a member of

(continued on page five)



Is my Ball Unplayable?

by Lyman Gallup

A frequent problem when playing golf on desert courses is the interference of cacti and other desert shrubs. Even when a player locates her ball in the desert, she might feel she cannot play the ball from where it came to rest. Rule 28, Ball Unplayable, should be one of the simpler rules to apply since it is quite short and, for a penalty of one stroke, the player may select one of three options. However, some subtleties exist.

The first sentence of Rule 28 makes it clear that you may deem your ball unplayable anywhere on the course except in a water hazard. But if your ball happens to be in a water hazard you still have the options made available under Rule 26, Water Hazards. As well, the second sentence of Rule 28 clarifies that the player is the sole judge of whether her ball is unplayable--the opinion of a fellow competitor or an opponent is irrelevant.

Two factors might not be so clear from a casual reading of the rule. First, while the player must find and identify the ball as hers, she need not retrieve the ball or continue to use the same ball that was deemed unplayable. Notice that option a) says "playing a ball", while options b) and c) say "drop a ball." The use of the words "a ball" indicates that it can be any ball which includes not only the ball deemed unplayable but also a shiny new ball substituted for that ball.

A second concept not always understood is that taking relief under Rule 28 does not ensure that the ball will come to rest in a nice position. In fact, the ball could strike the course in the proper location and then roll back into nearly the same position from which it was deemed unplayable. That ball is in play as long as it did not violate one of the seven reasons to re-drop specified in Rule 20-2c. Sometimes the only remedy is to again deem the ball unplayable and repeat the process for another one stroke penalty.

Rules & Etiquette

with Lyman Gallup & Marilyn Reynolds



Marilyn Reynolds
AWGA Rules Committee

Lyman Gallup
AWGA Rules Committee Chair

Etiquette on the Green

by Marilyn Reynolds

The putting green is a special place on the golf course. Here, a golfer has the freedom to always lift and clean her ball. Here, the conscientious player takes special care to repair her ball marks, along with any others that she sees while scanning the surface of the green for imperfections. It is here that a well-informed and thoughtful player avoids walking on another player's line of putt.

For a group of golfers, the putting green is like a stage. When it is a player's turn to putt, the others in that group need to give that player "the stage" and refrain from interfering with her performance. Good etiquette on the green is like being a good audience at a play. In both cases, nothing should be done that might distract the performer.

In golf, that means staying out of the peripheral vision of the player putting, particularly on the extension of the line of putt through the hole. It means standing perfectly still with care that a shadow is not cast where it is a distraction. When tending the flagstick on a windy day, it means holding the flag so it is not whipping back and forth. It means remaining quiet. There should be no unnecessary noise. Whispering, ripping the Velcro on a golf glove, jangling pocket change, or making any careless sound should be avoided while another is putting.

In golf, as at a staged play, let the performer do her best work. It is the courteous and sporting thing to do.



Stop Stretching Your Low Back

by Debra Pentz, DC

Low back pain is the number one injury complaint for golfers. It's complicated, so we have a two part series on low back pain. Part one discusses the importance of flexibility and part two (in the next newsletter – don't miss it!) discusses stability to protect the low back.

Lots of golfers think their low back feels stiff, so they try to stretch it out. A better approach to treating and preventing low back pain targets flexibility for the upper back and hips. The upper back and hips are designed for mobility – the lower back is not.

To test the upper back - Lie on your side. Bend both knees. Take the downside hand and place it on the top knee – this keeps the knees stabilized. Bend the top arm so that the elbow is at chin height. Reach back with the elbow, rotating the upper back. The goal is to have both shoulders touch the ground. If both shoulders are not in contact with the floor, you have a flexibility problem.



The fix – Do the “test” movement daily until both shoulders touch the floor. Each stretch should be held 5 to 10 seconds. Repeat 5 to 10 times, depending on how restricted you are.

To test the hips – Lie on your back - knees up, feet spread apart. Allow the knees to drop from side to side. If you feel any tightness, the fix is the same as the test. The key to making this exercise effective – keep the low back on the ground as the knees drop from side to side.



Proper Set Up to Create Good Golf Motion

by Peggy Briggs LPGA

The way you set-up to the golf ball effects what happens to the golf ball and what happens with your body. A bad set-up creates a bad result. You can also start to create some strain on your low back. You blame it on golf, but it may be your set up causing the aches and pains.

You need strong glutes and abs to have a good posture at address. You also need a good hip hinge. To practice this take a golf club or a long dowel. Run it along your back as pictured, having it touch your head, mid back and hips. Slowly bend forward at the hips keeping the shaft of the club touching all parts. The hips should be doing the hinging, not your lower back. This allows better flexibility in your golf swing.

Bonus: Your golf ball may start to go straighter and farther with a good set up at address.



Golf 101 *(continued from page 2)*

these last three groups does not stop people from also participating in the Nine & Wine.

With all these options, how does someone know where they belong? It is important that players realize the goal is not necessarily to get to the top, but to find where you fit to get the enjoyment you want out of this great game. By having a variety of options available for players of all skill levels and experience, people can find a group with whom they feel comfortable. If their game changes and they want to try a different group, other options are available.

Does your club have multiple groups that are appropriate for different skill levels of players? Are groups open and welcoming to players who are new to the game or are inexperienced? Do you have members who help people learn about rules, pace of play and etiquette in a positive fashion? If you answered “No” to any of these questions, your WGA should work with club staff to put groups and programs in place to help new golfers learn the game and become an active part of your club. It will be good for everyone involved.

If you have been part of the AWGA's Ambassador/Golf 101 Program and would like to share your story, please email Julie Fenn at Julie@awga.org.

Aces



January 2016

- 16 | Colleen Zwach | Desert Mountain – Cochise
- 17 | Jane Underhill | Phoenix CC
- 18 | Pam Blue | Phoenix CC
- 20 | Judy Acino | Desert Mountain – Apache
- 23 | Barbara Grandfield | Desert Mountain - Geronimo
- 24 | Leigh Ann Fore | Desert Mountain – Cochise
- 29 | Sherry Johnson | Desert Mountain - Apache

February 2016

- 20 | Barb Adams | Tatum Ranch Golf Club
- 24 | Leigh Bradburn | Persimmon Course at Anthem CC
- 26 | Patti Ray | Continental Golf Course
- 26 | Cherie Palmer | Westbrook Village Lakes
- 28 | Sherry Deak | The Country Club at DC Ranch
- 29 | Frances Taillon | Apache Wells CC

March 2016

- 04 | Nancy Wilson | Desert Mountain - Chiricahua
- 10 | Kathy Wood | Desert Mountain – Cochise
- 03 | Bonnie Moore | Palo Verde GC
- 04 | Donna Carter | Chaparral CC
- 24 | Theresa Noreika | Terravita Golf Club
- 24 | Staci Bertenshaw | Phoenix CC
- 27 | Cissy LeGear | Desert Mountain - Apache
- 29 | Joy Ortiz | Alta Mesa Golf Club
- 29 | Jane Farnsworth | Desert Mountain – Apache
- 29 | Liz Horton | Huukan Golf Club
- 31 | Sandy Chavez | Palo Verde Country Club

April 2016

- 02 | Susan Ramsay | Las Sendas Golf Club
- 03 | Heather Verbitsky | Sunbird Golf Resort
- 03 | Karen Bristow | Red Mountain Ranch Country Club
- 03 | Suzanne Brian | Anthem Country Club – Persimmon
- 05 | Mary Grillo | Desert Mountain - Apache
- 07 | Susie Biggs | Corte Bella Country Club
- 08 | Fran Miller | The Phoenician Golf Resort
- 09 | Dang Parker | Sun Lakes Country Club
- 12 | Alisa Urban | The Country Club at DC Ranch
- 13 | Sandy Rowley | The Highlands at Dove Mountain
- 13 | Ann Dobbie | Ventana Canyon Golf Club
- 14 | Colleen Zwach | Desert Mountain - Apache
- 15 | Nancy O'neill Huss | Pebble Creek Palms Course
- 15 | Connie Phelps | Westbrook Village Golf Club
- 16 | Debra Ousley | SaddleBrooke Golf Club
- 17 | Nancy Nielson | Tonto Verde Golf Club
- 18 | Lana Jones | Kokopelli Golf Course
- 18 | Dawn Corley | Phoenix CC

- 19 | Jan Viall | Corte Bella Golf Club
- 21 | Sharon Moore | Antelope Hills Golf Course
- 21 | Sandy Barrett | Green Valley Country Club
- 22 | Karen Pate | The Gallery Golf Club
- 23 | Kay Little | Pebblecreek Golf Eagles Nest
- 24 | Karen Brown | Sun Lakes Country Club
- 29 | Robin Andrews | Silverbell Golf Course

May 2016

- 01 | Anne Watson | Corte Bella Golf Club
- 02 | Brenda Brown | SaddleBrooke Golf Club
- 03 | Cookie Kaplan | The Preserve Golf Club
- 03 | Debbie Jayne | Anthem CC - Persimmon
- 03 | Karen Brown | Sun Lakes Country Club
- 03 | Faith Massingale | Desert Mountain-Apache
- 04 | Barb Dunbar | Sunbird Golf Resort
- 05 | Cheryl Solano | The Country Club at DC Ranch
- 06 | Kathleen Cooper | Copper Canyon GC
- 07 | Lyn Warder | Scottsdale Silverado GC
- 12 | Karen Moorhead | Copper Canyon GC
- 13 | Kay Phillips | Oro Valley Country Club
- 13 | Deanna Minton | Copper Canyon GC
- 14 | Barbara Polhemus | Copper Canyon GC
- 15 | Brenda Armenia | Saddlebrooke Ranch GC
- 19 | Mary Fisher | Quailwood Greens GC
- 19 | Jan Viall | Corte Bella Golf Club
- 26 | Connie Chapman | Desert Hills MGC
- 30 | Mar Stephenson | Canoa Ranch GC
- 31 | Becky Sargeant | Sunbird Golf Resort

June 2016

- 02 | Yolanda Niemann | Saddlebrooke GC
- 02 | Deborah Zinser | Desert Mountain - Chiracahua
- 08 | Carlene Rogers | The Highlands at Dove Mountain
- 08 | Suzette Colley | Skyline Country Club
- 08 | Diane Thomas | Desert Mountain – Chiracahua
- 08 | Shaye Chandler | Desert Mountain – Chiracahua
- 09 | Claudia Omta | Red Mountain Ranch CC
- 12 | Sue Markovich | Grand Canyon GC
- 15 | Diane Grosse | Palo Verde Country Club
- 16 | Kelly Su | ASU Karsten Golf Course
- 19 | Diane Babes | Oro Valley CC
- 23 | Barbara Thomas | Troon North @ AWGA Match Play
- 28 | Patti Streit | Deer Valley Golf Course
- 28 | Linda Thompson | Auburn Golf Course, Auburn, Wa

July 2016

- 02 | Donna Black | The Highlands at Dove Mountain
- 09 | Sandy Rowley | The Highlands at Dove Mountain
- 10 | Natalie Ashburn | Oro Valley CC
- 12 | Sandy Mayhew | White Mountain CC
- 12 | Chris Vertucci | Huukan Golf Club

Congratulations Forest Highlands



Host Site for the
2019 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship

The USGA has named Flagstaff's Forest Highlands Golf Club as the host site for the 2019 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship, to be held September 14-19. The Mid-Am is the club's fourth time being chosen to host a prestigious USGA championship, out of the 16 times an Arizona club has been selected. USGA Championship Committee chairman Stuart Francis says, "Having already proved itself as an outstanding championship host, we're confident the club will once again provide a challenging test and wonderful experience for players and spectators alike." Robert Scott, club president, adds that the club is honored to work with the USGA in crowning another national champion.

The selection hardly comes as a surprise. Forest Highlands is regularly ranked in the top 100 courses in the U.S., and is among the top five in Arizona. The club offers exceptional service, which was a big factor in their being named our 2015 AWGA Host Club of the Year. Their commitment to women golfers is also noteworthy, and has earned them a GEM award every year since the award was created. Club member Peggy Jacobelli likes that pros often play with the ladies' groups and stay for lunch, and that tee times are as available for women as they are for men. It's no wonder they have such active women's groups, and have been tapped to host so many USGA events.

Yet to be announced is which of the club's two courses will be featured in 2019. Both the Canyon Course, known for its hilly natural terrain and pine-lined fairways, and the more traditional and park-like Meadow Course, which encompasses lakes, wildflowers and scenic wetlands, have hosted championships in the past. Hosting is prestigious, to be sure, but a great deal of time and effort will go into making the championship a success. We wish them good luck with the planning.



Inside the AWGA

Of the multitude of AWGA volunteers who serve our membership and give of their time to golf in Arizona, one special group stands out: the AWGA Board of Directors. Often, these women have progressed to leadership positions first by becoming engaged at their local club level, and then advancing through State-level committee work. They use the knowledge they've acquired along the way to help guide the AWGA through activities like Strategic Planning, where they set the AWGA's priorities, target ways of improving effectiveness, and ensure that everyone is working toward common goals. Earlier this year our Board completed the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan, and we're pleased to be able to share the results of their hard work. This year we've expanded our commitment both to women and to growing the game of golf. The Board has formally declared that we will offer programs, information and encouragement to girls and women from the time they first think of picking up a club throughout their lifetimes, in whatever fashion golf fits their lifestyle. Furthermore, we seek to create a shift in the culture around golf that will have women truly feel that golf is for them, so that they will make it a part of their lives at every stage of their lives. And we will inspire other organizations to join in and help us achieve this vision, in our state and in our country. We hope that you, too, will play whatever role you can in helping us achieve a world where any woman who wants to play has the resources and support needed to begin. Together, we can move more than divots... we can move mountains.



Our Mission

To inspire and encourage women to engage in the game of golf.

Our Vision

All women will have the opportunity to experience the joys of golf in every stage of life.

Our Values

Integrity • Equality & Inclusiveness • Respect • Service • Commitment

**CALL FOR
BOARD
MEMBERS**

If you or someone you know is a member in good standing who has leadership experience and a strong commitment to growing the game of golf among women, we want you for our Board!

Please complete a **Volunteer Interest Form** to be considered
www.awga.com/Volunteer

For more information, contact AWGA Vice President Janet Cothren: jcothren@msn.com



Record High Temps? Must be Time for Match Play!

In spite of the forecasted temperatures of 120° for Sunday, June 19 and 119° for Monday, June 20, not one player registered for the Match Play Championship cancelled. The hearty and well-hydrated group started tee times at 6:30 AM Monday, June 20 on the Pinnacle Course at Troon North Golf Club. A nice breeze and fast pace had players coming off the course in as little as 3 hours, well before the temperature hit 110°. The saying of the day was, “At least it was cooler than last year!” Monday’s round was to determine the seedings in each flight of the event. Tui Selvaratnam shot a 4 under 67 to win Medalist honors in the Open Division and Kim Eaton shot a 3 over 74 to win that honor in the Senior Division. The low 8 scores in each Division were in the Championship flights and the remainder of the players were seeded based on handicap index into the Dorothy Pease, Joanne Winter and Heather Farr flights, where they would be playing with full handicaps against their opponents.

Matches began on Tuesday. Most were hard fought and close, with 4 matches requiring extra holes to determine a winner. The most common result was 3 & 2, as matches closed out after the par 3 over water. Wednesday match results were much more varied, with results ranging from 1 Up to 8 & 6. But early tee times and quick play had players getting off the course before the worst of the heat settled in. Fatigue and

dehydration became a factor and players had to work to maintain their health and game.

The finals of each flight were contested on Thursday, along with the final consolation match. The first excitement of the day was the group of javelina’s on hole 4, then the bobcat on the first green. But Barbara Thomas’ hole in one on #8 got everyone talking. In the Championship match, a bogey by each player in the first 8 holes was their only difference. On hole 9, Megan Knadler took the lead again with a birdie. The match stayed that way until Tui Selvaratnam, a 3-time winner of this event, drained a 30-foot birdie putt on 15 to square the match. But Megan’s birdie on 17 put her ahead for good. Pars by both players on 18 made the final result 1 up in favor of Megan Knadler. Megan played high school golf at Pinnacle HS in Phoenix and was the JGAA Player of the year in 2012. In the Senior Championship match, Kelly Loeb was even par through 8 holes, giving her a 2 up lead over Kim Eaton. A conceded 9th hole had Kelly only 1 up at the turn. But that quickly changed to 3 up through 12 holes. Kim Eaton is an experienced player and has won this Division 3 of the last 4 years. She fought back to be 1 down after 14 holes, but could not get any closer. A bogey on hole 17 ended the match and Kelly Loeb won her first Senior Match Play Championship 2 & 1. Kelly is also our 2015 AWGA Senior Player of the Year.



Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.

A survey last year indicated that our volunteers collectively donated over 20,000 hours to golf on the local, state and national level. That's a HUGE number, and if the volunteers were paid for what they do, their contributions would be valued at nearly half a million dollars. The time they spend, their dedication, their willingness to do what it takes to get the job done... THEY are the reason that we're able to succeed as a nonprofit and provide all the services that we do.



We asked our volunteers recently why they volunteer. Some do it for love of the game and because it makes them feel good to share their knowledge and experience. Others say they like the challenge it presents and that they enjoy working on a team. Last year's Volunteer of the Year, Kathy Cline, likes to volunteer because she says it's a learning experience and she's able to pick up new information that she can pass on to her club. Course Rater Judy Fick knows her time as a volunteer is meaningful because without course raters people couldn't get handicaps, while Handicap Committee member Barb Klink volunteers to make sure people can understand those handicaps. New Board member Sandie Farnum chairs our Adult Player Development program because she's passionate about providing programs that support non-competitive golfers. Each volunteer's journey is different, yet each is part of the bigger story of the AWGA, as we work together to help women, to grow the game of golf, and to give back to the wider golf community. If you're reading this and are one of our volunteers already, we're thankful for all you do and are proud to have you on our team. And if you're not a volunteer? Well, there's always tomorrow....

Fun Fact

Evie Hill has been an AWGA volunteer for well over 50 years, and fellow History Committee member Donna Cuning started volunteering over 45 years ago. Tournament Committee Chair Tina Gray has been with us for over 35 years, while Rules Officials Barbara Simmons and Barbara Burton have been AWGA volunteers for over 30 years. All of these fine women have been inducted into the Arizona Golf Hall of Fame for their many contributions to golf.

Volunteer Opportunities

We're pleased to note that 205 out of our 258 committee positions are now filled after adding 21 volunteers to new committee positions in the last three months. The number of filled positions has seen 13% growth in just two years, but there are still many more volunteer opportunities available!

We're always looking for people who have Rules experience, or who are adept with numbers and are interested in Course Rating. We also need several people for the Fundraising Committee to help with charity tournaments, tee sign sponsorships, and Planned Giving. There's a new opening available for any one passionate about both women's golf and its history here in Arizona. And our Information &



Outreach Committee is currently recruiting PR people of all levels, from booth volunteers on up to Program Leaders adept at building relationships on a statewide level. If helping new women golfers is appealing to you, we're currently recruiting for two Golf 101 Program Leaders, one to help in the East & South and one for West



& North. Our High School Build a TEAM Program is also looking for Program Leaders in Tucson and the East Valley. Lastly, if committee work isn't appealing to you, we often need Occasional Volunteers to work on short-term projects, many of which can be done from home. Right now, for example, we're looking for a Photoshop expert to help edit photos for a website page devoted to the women in the Arizona Golf Hall of Fame.

For more information about these opportunities, please contact Robyn Noll at RNoll@awga.org or fill out a Volunteer Application [here](#). We look forward to hearing from you!