

Windy City Tee Times

August 2013 Newsletter



The More you Play...

President's Message

It's interesting to me – the more you play the more fun you have the more you play the more fun you have, maybe even toss in a ...the more you play the better you play and so on. I hope you are all taking full advantage of our golf events, educational events, "Just Golf" dates and of course our terrific leagues; I know I am!

How about these:

- *Good golf breeds more good golf.* (I made that up) If you want to get a little better, play with someone who shoots a score lower than yours. It can be really motivating.
- *Practice makes perfect as long as you are practicing the right things.* Hmmmm; might be time for a lesson? It's amazing how small adjustments in grip, takeaway or stance can help immensely.
- *You play how you practice* – of course that means you actually have to practice. This can be tough to work into your tee-time schedule, but certainly worth the time. I'm not as sold on this one since I hit balls so much more freely on the driving range with a perfect lie, my feet flat on the ground and frankly no crucial need to actually hit those targets at the range. But, if you can fit in some time at the range – it's almost always beneficial! Better yet – call a golf pro and ask for an on-course playing lesson.
- These are the things I've been thinking about as I drive to tee times all over the Chicago Metro area!
- I'm also thinking about how to squeeze in some more rounds before the snow flies (sorry to use that word.) Check these out and **SIGN UP today!**
 - Sept. 22 - Fall Finale – Scramble Event – bring a 4-some from your league to Maple Meadows
 - Oct. 13th - Solheim with a Twist – 2 person event at Oak Brook Golf Course
 - "Just Golf" events on Aug. 11th at George Dunn & Aug. 31st at Pine Meadow to list a few.
 - Sign up today and have some more golfing FUN!
 - See you on the course.....

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Contact Us

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New Registration Process (EventSpot)

By Julie Suh

The volume of league and event registrations has grown tremendously over the last few years, and the job of manually processing and confirming all payments has become onerous. To date in 2013, we have processed over 500 league registrations and 450+ event registrations (with payments). The Chapter has decided to test out a new event registration system called EventSpot for the upcoming Solheim with a Twist / Recognition Dinner on Sunday, October 13. If successful, we will roll out EventSpot in 2014. Many other EWGA Chapters, including Columbus, Cleveland, St. Louis and Dallas, have been using EventSpot with great success. EventSpot is a feature of Constant Contact, the platform used for Chapter e-blasts and newsletters.

In addition to EventSpot, the Board is considering a few other changes to the registration and payment process. The biggest change will be that events and leagues must be pre-paid by credit card only at the time of registration (no more Check option). This practice is consistent with other organizations that conduct business transactions via the internet and allows for automated confirmations. Credit card payments will continue to be via PayPal. Note: There seems to be a misconception that you need a PayPal account in order to pay by credit card for EWGA events/leagues – this is not true. You can also pay via a Guest Option on PayPal. Down the road, we will look into accepting credit card payments without having to leave the EventSpot website. In order to facilitate spreading out your payments to EWGA, registration for events and leagues will open approximately 6 weeks prior to the event/league start date.

EventSpot offers several advantages over our current system. It can accommodate multiple registration fees, custom question fields (e.g., handicap information, golf partners/teams), and automatic registration confirmation emails. Members can see who else has registered for an event (if the person elects to share this information). Chapter events and leagues will continue to be listed on our chapter website.

A huge thank you to Lizz Chung for her years as Billing Coordinator. Lizz will be stepping down at the end of 2013. We will be looking for a volunteer for the new Registration/Billing Coordinator position for 2014. If you have an accounting/bookkeeping background and are interested in helping out the Chicago Chapter in a “behind-the-scenes” capacity, please contact Julie Suh (financedirector@ewgachicago.com).

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding during this transition process.

Julie Suh, Finance & Records Director



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Want to putt like Phil?

Education Tip of the Month

By [Kelly Storm](#)

Please enjoy this article by [Butch Harmon](#) and learn to *putt like Phil*.

Below is a description of a putting drill that will help you improve the pace of your putts. If you'd like more help take a look at the web sites Butch cited below the article. Set a goal to eliminate three putts this month!

Here's a drill Butch learned from Phil Mickelson to improve the pace of your putts. Take five balls to the practice green, and stick tees in the ground 30, 40 and 50 feet from a hole. Your goal is to putt five balls in a row from each tee to within three feet of the hole. (Use your putter -- it's about 36 inches long -- to measure a six-foot circle around the cup.)

Start at 40 feet, then go to 30, and then 50. Mixing it up like this prevents you from just grooving a slightly longer stroke as you go. The trick is, you can't move to the next station until you get five straight within the circle. It's a real gut check: When you've got four in the circle and you're going for five, you'll be feeling it.

<http://www.golfdigest.com/golf/lag-putting>

<http://scoregolf.com/articles/x-feature-instruction/learn-to-lag>

<http://www.symetratour.com/golf/blogs/2011/4/tip-of-the-week--lag-putting-101.aspx>

If you have any suggestions for education tips, feel free to email me at [Kelly Storm](#)

Keep Hitting them straight!

Member Benefits at Golf Galaxy

Take advantage of our EWGA member benefits and shop at Golf Galaxy. This year's discount card is available electronically. Here's the link. http://www.ewgachicago.com/EWGA_Golf_Galaxy_discount_card.pdf
Happy Shopping!!!



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GOLF EVENTS

By [Sue Miller](#)

North – South Challenge

The South Siders reclaimed the infamous bobble head trophy at Arrowhead on August 4th, outscoring the North by 2 and a half points. Mara Wasar and Robin Natzke won Low Nets for their respective teams with 64's. We raised over \$400 for LPGA – Girls Golf. Thanks you Cindy Freeman and Kip Probst for your tenacious raffle sales. Thanks also to the remaining volunteers: Bev Wesolowki, Patsy Albrecht, and scorer Shirley Brown. I am sure the South Side Captain Patrice Al-Saden has since removed the yellow "N" from the trophy. I hope to enclose a photo of the newly decorated trophy in a future newsletter.

I have to relay Katie Engel's Par 3 at #4. She hit her first shot into the water in front of the green, tee'd up another ball, and proceeded to hit it in the hole for a 3. It proves to never give up!!

Fall Finale

Registration is ongoing for Fall Finale on Sept 22nd. This golf event pits league scramble teams against each other in a friendly competition and will also raise money for the American Cancer Society. Shirley Brown will be coordinating the raffle prizes and golf prizes. So of course there will be many "fabulous" prizes. In fact, she is probably out shopping as I type. For more info and registration: [Fall Finale](#)
Volunteers are needed for this event. If you are playing and want to assist in check-in prior to golf or scoring/raffle sales please register: [Fall Finale Event Assistance-Volunteer](#)

Match Play Tournament Results

The 3rd round of Match Play occurred this past weekend. Finalists in the Championship division are Karen Perlman and Ali Rogala. The Futures Division finalists are Alice Davitt and Carol Gouty. Congrats ladies!!!
The 4th and final round of the tournament are TBD.

Golfing Opportunities with Other Chapters

EWGA – GTA Chapter would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest PAR Level sponsor - Expérience Authentique. Expérience Authentique specializes in the design of travel experiences to Southwest France for small groups and individuals. Their latest adventure will be a group trip for EWGA members to golf in France! Check out their website for more details.

Golf in Southwest France & Experience French Living where it is at its best, with like-minded EWGA members & friends

<http://www.experienceauthentique.com/EWGA2013>

Contact US

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