***Happy New Year***

**COMMENTARY . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . DAVID FAILURETEE, EDITOR**

HAPPY 2017 EVERYONE !!  My tradition is to begin every New Year with golf predictions for the upcoming season.  This will go out to my readers here in the land of Bermuda grass and also to my RIGC readers back in the frozen tundra of Michigan.  For your entertainment only, not to be used in a casino sports book.

Good luck in 2017 . . . . . . . . . . DF

**PREDICTIONS  FOR  2017**

Who will be the number one male pro golfer at the end of 2017?  I will predict that Dustin Johnson claims the honor.  Rory is switching to new clubs, and Day has recurring health issues, so it looks like DJ to me.

Who will win The Masters?  As far as I know, sushi has never been served at the annual Champions dinner on the Tuesday before the tournament.  That will end in 2018 because Hideki Matsuyama will don the green jacket this year.

Who will win the U. S. Open this year?  Again, a new course will host this year, Erin Hills in Wisconsin.  Remember the issues at Chambers Bay two years ago.  This year Spieth will contend, but his friend Justin Thomas will win his first major.

Will Tiger win a tournament in 2017?  In a word, No.  However, I think he will contend in some events, The Masters being one of them.  Past champions frequently do well in that tournament because of the smaller field and the importance of course knowledge.

Who will win the Solheim Cup, the women’s version of the Ryder Cup?  This year I’m picking the Euro women.  Why?  Because it looks to me like many USA women spend more time being social media mavens than working on their golf game.  In fact, I’ll predict that no USA woman wins on the LPGA Tour this year.

Who will win the President’s Cup?  Really?  A no brainer, the USA once again.

Who will buy Taylor Made?  I’ll predict Tiger Woods under the umbrella of his TGR organization.

Any big news on the PGA Tour?  It won’t happen this year, but in 2018 look for The Players to move back to March on the schedule, and the PGA Championship to be held in May.  This will free up August for the FedEx Cup playoffs which will be concluded before football gets going.

Who will be the U.S. Captain for the next Ryder Cup in 2018 to be held in France?  Look for Monsieur Jim Furyk to be selected for that honor.

**PREDICTIONS FOR RIGC**

How about some predictions for the 2017 Rolling In Golf Club season, which should be the equal to 2016, likely even better.

The President’s Medallion Match Play Tournament.  Last year Jim Walenczak came very close as he finished second to Mike Whitty.  I think that experience, along with his steady play, will help him, therefore, I’ll pick Walenczak to be the PMMPT champion for 2017.

As for the Club Championship, Max Fair and Greg Quintana have been the champions the last two years.  However, I’ll predict that string will end in 2017, for both members.  No three peats in 2017.  But it’s still very unclear at this time who will be the champs for 2017.

JUG Championship.  Last year John Gross and AJ Polizzi tied as JUG champs, and I see both contending this year for a possible repeat win.  But there will be others who should be in the picture, including: George Karam, Al Kemp, Willie Smith, Dennis Hansinger, Bob Diedrich, and John Huizdos.

And that fellow readers, followers of the prognosticator David Failuretee, is another start of a year predictions. Now if we could only take that to the bank---NOT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Have a safe winter members, and see you in April-------------------------------

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Rod Cooper