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**“The Tee Box”©**

***“The Only Official Newsletter of Rolling In Golf Club”***

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***What a first Month of Play***

***COMMENTARY: BY DAVID FAILURETEE***

***I’ve just returned from covering “The Players” at Sawgrass. What can you say about the final round on Sunday? Lackluster golf, no, more like a fifty-car pileup on the Pennsylvania Turnpike! J.B Holmes is in contention after round #3 and shoots an 84! Bad rounds were also carded by other big names: Garcia, Fowler, McElroy, and others. So what’s the deal? Many now claim that when the course is dry & windy it doesn’t favor the big name bombers. Rather, the course as it was this year favors the scramblers, which is exactly what Kim did to perfection on Sunday. Also, all the greens had been redone and were hard and with new breaks from the prior years. Therefore, this year’s event did nothing to further the claim that “The Players” should be the fifth major, IMHO. The course needs to be lengthened to bring the big names back into contention.***

***Also in this issue will be reporting of the action at Dunham Hills on 5-10 and Pine Knob on 5-17, an update about the fast approaching President’s Medallion Match Play Tournament (PMMPT), a JUG update, and other valued information. . . . DF***

***ROLLERS BOMB AT DUNHAM . . NOT GNEWKOWSKI***

***The event at Dunham Hills on 5-10 may have set a record for the number of net scores in the 80’s, lots of them, by low, mid, and high handicappers alike. Why? Possibly the slick greens, which have plagued you fellows in the past. It probably took a while to realize that if you were putting from above the hole you were SOL. That, and because Dunham is just a challenging course, always has been & always will be. However, there were somehow a smattering of decent rounds and leading the way was Jim Gnewkowski who shot a fine 83 for an eye-popping net score of 61. Congratulations Jim . . . and welcome to the RIGC Watch List! Gross has been on a roll this year and won the A flight with a net score of 70, and equally hot Solomon took second with a net of 71. Another hot golfer in 2017, Polizzi, won the B flight with a net score of 72, and tying for second with nets of 75 were Goldner and Curto. Gnewkowski ran away with the C flight with his 61, and Hill came thru with a very nice 68 for second place. Some of you may have noticed that Hill was videotaping some of the goings on, purportedly as a possible future feature on Golf Channel. DF***

***DWYER TUNED IN AT PINE KNOB***

***It was a quiet round at Pine Knob on 5-17, no sound check music from ZZ Top or Chicago this time. But Joe Dwyer made a lot of noise as he fired an excellent round of 89, for a net score of 65 and first place in the net score competition. Way to go Joe! The second best net score came from Steve Sands with a net 69. Strangely, there were no net scores in the 60’s by anyone in either the A or B flights. What’s up with that? In addition, all were playing from the same tees. In the A flight Hussong claimed the top spot with a net 71, and Diedrich & Whitty tied for second with a net of 73. In the B flight, Gnewkowski took first with a net of 72, while the threesome of Cooper, Hagedorn, and Polizzi took second with 73’s. Dwyer cruised to the top spot in the C flight and was followed by Sands. Good playing by your fellows . . . DF***

***PACE OF PLAY REPORT BY SCOOTER COOTER***

***There were some respectable times recorded by a few of the groups at both Dunham Hills and Pine Knob. Several groups in the 4.5-hour range, and at the Knob some around 4:15. Excellent! HOWEVER, several groups were at the 5.5-hour period, or more. Way too long! After the round at Dunham and the Knob there was grumbling by some members about the slow pace of play by the RIGC group ahead of them. At this point it is becoming apparent who some of the slow play culprits are and do not be surprised if this is pointed out to them, in a positive manner of course. In addition, if you are one of them, please heed the advice. All of you can pick up your pace of play once you receive ideas just how to do it. SC***

***QUEST FOR THE JUG UPDATE***

***The following JUG points were awarded for Dunham Hills. Snead flight (Gross 30, Solomon 25, McKay 20 & Karam 20, Fair & Quintana & Henderson 15, Diedrich & Skiragis & Moore 10, and Bonjernoor 5), Hogan flight (Polizzi 30, Gates & Goldner & Curto 25,Kemp 20, J. Stencel & Ventura 15, Blanton 10, and Miller 5), and Nelson flight (Dwyer & Hill 30, Filak 25, Graham & Salucci 20, Whitmore 15, Hansinger 10, and Matthews 5). The first JUG point update will be calculated as of the end of May, and at each month end thereafter. These will be posted to the Web site.***

***The following JUG points were awarded at Pine Knob. Snead Flight (Hussong 30, Diedrich & Whitty & Cooper 25, Fair 20, Small & Fillion 15, Skiragis & Walenczak & Bonjernoor 10, and Quintans & Karam & Gross 5). Hogan Flight (Matthews 30, Hagedorn & Polizzi 25, J. Stencel 20, Kemp 15, Grace & Goldner 10, and G. Stencel 5). Nelson Flight (Dwyer 30, Sands 25, Gumbel & McMurray 20, Whitmore 15, Smith 10, and Hansinger 5).***

***JUG points for each JUG event will now be posted to the website.***

***REPORT FROM THE COMPETITION COMMITTEE***

***The Competition Committee has asked me to alert you to a couple of their requests. First, when completing your scorecards always record the last names of the players in your group. There are multiple John’s, Bob’s, Bill’s, and Mike’s in the club. Also, make sure someone turns in an official scorecard for your group. At Pine Knob, there was no scorecard for one group. After several cell phone calls to the offending group members a card was finally located and the individual holes scores had to be communicated via phone. A big waste of valuable time. In the future, if there’s no official scorecard turned in there will be no scores posted for the group members, no more cell phone calls, no more contacting the state police, no more checking the pictures on milk cartons. Could possibly cost someone in your group a little $$.***

***PMMPC IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER***

***The President’s Medallion Match Play Championship commences on 5-31 when the first round matches will be played at Boulder Pointe. A total field of around 50 is anticipated. If you cannot play, make sure to communicate this to Rod Cooper ASAP. Last year this prescient prognosticator predicted Whitty to win and he came very close. So now, it’s time to consult the Magic 8 Ball for this year’s prediction, which I’ll reveal in the next issue of this publication. Plus, I’ll pass along some valuable match play pointers which I’ve picked up from PGA Tour players over the years. DF***

***NEXT UP IS BRENTWOOD G. C.***

***Next, the club makes another the trek over M-59, but this time not to Dunham Hills but to Brentwood G.C. This is the first time RIGC has challenged this course, which is owned and run by the folks at Greystone G.C. Most of you have not played the course, but initial reports from the small number who have are positive. Pay attention . . . . DF***

***Commentary by the Publisher—Rod Cooper***

***Many got the email sent from last Wednesday trip to Pine Knob in reflection of the frustration build up over the past half year. All of you members are not aware, I am sorry I should say are aware and maybe just to really take it seriously that at the end of a round at one of our “playing venues” I meet with the course PGA Pro and go over some specific points. Those points are:***

1. ***How well did the members care for the course-and under this is the conditions and pin placements***
2. ***How did the members feel about the hospitality-i.e. the cart hospitality and the bag hospitality***
3. ***What does the club expect from the course and their employees?***

***Now there becomes a reverse and it is time for the Club Pro to point out flaws within our club not to mock us but to make us a better club--------------Here are a couple of issues they always bring up:***

1. ***Be on time and in your carts at least 10 minutes before the shotgun is to start***

***Fellas when we say shotgun start that is you should be at your designated hole and ready to tee it up at that time not in the cart getting ready to go out to your designated hole.***

1. ***“Let’s” talk about speed of play-------They-the Pro will show me time that goes on after the 4 ¾-hour mark and really point out those that hit the 5 hour mark. Here is the big bite in my butt---think about this—if we are not out at the designated hole say at 10 ready to t off—then we get there about 10.10 which according to the Pro his clock is on the shotgun time at 10 catch 22---***

***Improvements that are still needed---------------shotgun starts are ready to go at 9.45 in your cart—this will be noted again to you all when the final pairs are posted. Keep up with the group in front of you—if notice the group in front of you is behind a hole or so to the next group—call the ranger/proshop to go out and speed the group up or, one of you in your foursome, take the initiative and go up to them and tell them to pick it up.***

***PMMPC is coming right around the corner and the Board of Directors is meeting in a week with two specific points on the agenda: “Competition Committee rulings on slow play, scorecards…..***

***The discussions and responses will be available after print.***

***Let’s show Brentwood Golf Club that RIGC really has their act together---see you all there. RC***