****

**“The Tee Box”©**

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

***Vol #3 May 2018***

***And You’re Off . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . David Failuretee***

How about that. Your never-ending winter came to an abrupt close on May 2 at Salem Hills. The RIGC season is finally underway. Congratulations, you made it. The Salem Hills results are in and summarized in this edition. I made it to Augusta National and will cover that in here also. The 2018 President’s Medallion Match Play Championship is coming right up and I’ll share some thoughts about that.

**My Masters . . . . . . . . . . . . . DF**

Good news and bad news. The bad news is I didn’t get to attend all rounds of this year’s Masters. The good news is that I did get to attend on Tuesday. My ticket connection decided to retire from his position in the sports department of a major Georgia newspaper. He still got tickets but told me I was SOL. But I still got press credentials for my one day, and I spent the time well. Some thoughts and observations.

ANGC clearly has an unlimited source of cash to spend. Every year when I go back there is some major new facility. This year it was the huge retail shopping building. Unbelievable. You can get just about any Masters themed item. I don’t need any more Masters clothing, glasswear, hats, etc. But I did splurge on a fancy Masters walking stick, getting older and will probably need one soon enough.

Discovered a new tasty treat this year. I’ve always devoured the pimento cheese sandwiches, and the BBQ pork sandwiches also. A Masters veteran encouraged me to mix the two sandwiches together. I did. Awesome! These southern folks know how to eat.

Of course, the hot topic in the press building is the golf ball distance issue. That can be debated until the cows come home. Personally, I’d like to see the ball dialed back, just for pros. To me hitting a driver is at the essence of golf, and I want to see pros hitting driver more often. Will ANGC ever decide to dial back the ball for the Masters? Definitely think it could happen, they know if that is done still not a single player will decline the invitation to take the drive down Magnolia Lane.

My pick of DJ did OK, something is lacking currently in his game, maybe Paulina is to blame. Reed earned the jacket, but interesting how it was met with a lukewarm reception by the “patrons”.

**Goldner Is Gold At Salem Hills**

Your first RIGC event of 2018 was at Salem Hills on May 2. And how about the weather! High 70’s, too hot for some, my guess. Norm Goldner showed up with a golden tan after about seven months on the east coast of Florida. He also showed up with a golden golf game as a he shot a sizzling net score of 65 to take the overall top spot in the net score race. Congrats Norm! Max Fair, no surprise, took first place in the A Flight with a net 71, and he was followed by His Honor The Mayor Scott Moore with a net 73. Richard Schiff served notice that he belongs in the B Flight as he took the top spot with a net 69. In the C Flight it was Goldner on top, but he got a challenge from Mc Murray who had a very good net score of 69, good for second place.

**JUG Competition Update**

JUG competition CZAR Miller asked me to provide a refresher regarding the specifics of the JUG competition. First, the members will be divided, using handicap index, into three season long flights (Snead, Hogan, Nelson). In each open play event the low net score (and ties) in each flight will receive 30 JUG points, second 25, third 20, fourth 15, fifth 10, and sixth 5 JUG points. In match play you’ll get 10 JUG points for each win, a semi-final win will be worth 20 points, and the winner of the final match will get 30 JUG points. JUG points will also be awarded in team events. The winning team(s) will get 30 JUG points (each member), second 25, third 20, fourth 15, fifth 10, and sixth 5 JUG points.

The one round JUG Championship will be held at Dunham Hills on September 5. The top eight finishers (and ties) in each of the three flights will compete in the championship round. JUG points earned in the championship round will be added to the total already accumulated in order to the determine the JUG champion for 2018.

**PMMPC Is On The Way . . . . . . . . My Analysis . . . . . . . . . . DF**

The 2018 Presidents Medallion Match Championship will get underway very soon, on May 16 to be exact. There will be 21 first round matches contested on that date. Eleven members have received first round byes and will compete for the first time in the second round on May 23. In my fearless pre-season predictions I selected Fillion as the 2018 PMMPC Champ. I’ve had a chance to review the official bracket for the 2018 PMMPC and will say this, my pick Fillion has a tough road ahead of him. First he has to give Lederman a bunch of strokes in the first round. Then he could possibly meet the President himself, Scott Moore. Then he could face the number one seed Max Fair. Good luck with that.

Two brackets stand out as being the toughest. One contains Fair, Solomon, and Skiragis. The other contains McKay, Siegert, and Quintana. No picnic to be in either one of those. Some members will be giving up a bunch of strokes in the first round and are on upset alert. Those would be: Moore, Fillion, Gates, Gross, Small, Whitty, and Wedell. Pay attention you guys. I see these first round matches as being very competitive: Teller vs Goldner, Curto vs Schiff, Ed Phillips vs Miller, Gnewkowski vs Sands, Grace vs Ventura, Downey vs McMurray, and Landis vs Fournier. I’ll avoid placing any $ on those matches in the local sports book.

**Good luck to all. My advice, always know what’s going on with your opponent, and play smart.**

**DF**