



April NEWSLETTER 2015



POINTS TO PONDER

“Always remember that if it was possible to speak in such a way that you could not be misunderstood; there would always be someone who would misunderstand you.” - unknown

"While you're throwing dirt, you're losing ground." ~ Letha Watts



MOGTT NEWS

Well it is almost the end of April and our first 2015 Annual event is coming up sooner than you think. Our first event is Sunday May 17, at Devil's Ridge, Oxford, Michigan

If you haven't registered yet you should go on-line at www.mogtt.com and do so. Our President, Charles Henry, has sent the following along to me for inclusion in this month's newsletter. You may think that you have lots of time to sign up BUT.....since the procedure has changed for this year, entrants have to have a check **SENT TO AND RECEIVED BY THEIR DIRECTOR prior to the deadline date.** ALLOW TIME FOR MAIL DELIVERY! If you have any thoughts about entering our first event then you MUST read the following from our President. The time to mail in your check is NOW!

Entry Deadline Fast Approaching

The first event of the 2015 season is fast approaching and like the warm weather, entries are a little slow in coming. To date we have 12 guys signed up. Devil's Ridge GC in Oxford, Michigan is the first event on Sunday May 17th. The entry deadline is one week prior....May 10th. Your entry check needs to arrive by May 10th too. Since the registration process has changed this year, it may need to be repeated – see the following on page two:

How to Register for an Event in 2015

1. Go to the website: www.mogtt.com

a. If you are new to the Tour, click on the “Join The Tour” tab and complete a Tour Agreement form. Click Submit.

2. Click on “Register” tab and complete the form. Click on the circle for all the events in which you’re planning to play. If you plan to compete in the Prize Money game and/or the Skins Game, click on the appropriate circles. Click Submit.

3. Send a \$50.00 check for each event in which you plan to enter to the Tour Director in your country.....Charlie Henry in the USA; Grant Gulych in Canada. If you have to withdraw from an event prior to the entry deadline date, a refund check will be sent to you. Otherwise, your entry check will be converted to host country cash based on the current exchange rate. A credit will be given at check-in against your total fees for the event. Pre-paid entry fees will not be refunded if cancellation occurs after the entry deadline. These fees will be added to the prize money pool for that event.

How to Pay Annual Tour Fee

The annual tour fee is \$15 U.S. if paid at or before the 1st event and \$20 U.S. if paid after the 1st event.

If you’ve registered for the 1st event at Devil’s Ridge, you can merely bring \$15 U.S. to the event, along with enough host country currency to enter the skins game, prize money pool, etc.

If you’re not playing in the 1st event and would like the early payment discount, send a \$15 U.S. check to Charlie Henry in the U.S. Or you can send a \$19 check (Canadian) to Grant Gulych in Canada. (The current exchange rate, CAD – USD, is .8176. The conversion calculation is $\$15/.8176=\18.35)

Once again a reminder about the bridge repairs at the Sarnia/Port Huron crossing. Be sure to allow extra time for delays when crossing the border at that crossing for our first 2 events.

2015 REGULAR SEASON EVENT SCHEDULE

Sunday May 17	Devil's Ridge, Oxford, Mich	Base entry fee \$ 35.00 *
Sunday June 14	Greenhills G & CC, London, Ontario	45.00
Sunday July 26	Verona Hills GC, Bad Axe, Mich	42.00
Sunday Aug 16	Tarandowah near London, Ont	45.00

*(Each regular season event has optional entry fees: Prize Money - \$50; Skins - \$10)

*(Starting times are 12 noon)

2015 KELLY CUP

Sunday Sept 13	Shepherd's Hollow GC, Clarkston, Mich	Holes 1-18	Noon Start
Monday Sept 14	Shepherd's Hollow GC, Clarkston, Mich	Holes 10-27	9:00 am Start

(\$125 includes all golf & prize money fees for both days)



RULES QUESTION: - Ball on cart path

Jerry and Phil were playing a match. Jerry was a right-handed player and Phil was a left-handed player.

Phil's tee shot landed exactly in the center of a cart path on the right side of the fairway. On the right side of the cart path was a large bush just slightly closer to the green than Phil's ball. Phil said to Jerry "Since the ball is in the middle of the cart path then I can drop on either side and so Phil picked up his ball and proceeded to find the nearest point of relief from the left side of the cart path to avoid the bush on the right.

Jerry said to Phil "You can't do that because your nearest point of relief is on the right side of the cart path". Phil replied that he would be punished by the bush if he dropped there and that wouldn't be fair".

Which of the following is correct:

- a) Since Phil picked up his ball he had to take relief on the right side of the cart path
- b) Phil could replace his ball and play it off the cart path
- c) Phil could take relief from the nearest point of relief on the left side of the cart path
- d) Jerry does not know the rules and should have to take a refresher course.

And the answer is....**for the correct answer read the section "Concluding Remarks" at the end of this newsletter.**



SIDESPIN – Bragging Rights

A New Yorker stood in London, England looking at a large building. A British boy walked by and stood beside the New Yorker.

"You know," said the New Yorker, "in New York we have that kind of building too but they are four times higher."

"Really?" replied the boy. "How sad – that is a mental hospital."



DID YOU KNOW THAT.....IT'S TIME!

Springtime! Tax Time! Daylight Savings Time! Showtime! Shoetime!

Shoetime? What the heck is that? Well, let me explain. If you were like me (and many others I bet) at the end of last golf season you put your clubs and shoes away for the winter but.....

did you remove all the spikes from your shoes, clean them and the holders on the bottom of the shoes, and replace any spikes that were worn out?

I recently finished my last round down in Florida this winter and decided to get my equipment ready for the upcoming season back home. First were the clubs, then the bag, and lastly the shoes. Amazing the crud that collects around the spikes! I had to clean the holes in the spikes for the spike removal tool to fit before I had any chance of removing them. With the help of an awl and some WD40 I met with success. After thoroughly cleaning everything, I threw away the worn out spikes and then lubricated with vaseline all the screw threads and locks before re-installing and making any necessary replacements. I'm confident now that I won't slip on the first tee (not sure I won't fall over though) – how about you?



NEW! MEMBER'S FORUM – a submission by *Carl Abel*

GRIP is a four letter word. This four letter word is probably the most damaging word in golf as it misleads most amateurs and new golfers. When someone is asked to Grip something the first thing that comes to mind is squeezing. Of course, we all know how detrimental that can be to good golf. Oh how I have wished that the forbearers of instruction had used the words “Hand placement” when referring to holding onto the club.

One day, while instructing on the range, a prospective student approached me and asked if I could fix his grip. I responded that if he went inside the Pro Shop that they had a whole selection of them and that they would be more than pleased to put one on for him. He looked a little perplexed and then was a bit more forthcoming when he said, “Oh no, I meant how I was holding the club.”

I told him that I really knew what he meant but that I wanted to make the point that we do not GRIP the club but merely place it in our hands in a position that allows the club to do its job correctly when we swing it correctly. Things went famously after that.

Some instructors say “GRIP LIGHTLY.” Well lightly to one may be tightly to another. Some instructors say use a scale of 1 to 10 with one being loose and 10 being tight and then use a pressure of 3, 4, 5, etc. But actually, what is a four or a five?

I like to place a club just in the crook of my index finger and under the heel pad of the hand and then (**with no other fingers or thumb on the club and no pressure with the index finger**) ask the student to pull the club out of my hand while I hold the club straight out in front of me. Of course, due to the taper of the shaft and Grip which acts like a wedge, the student cannot pull the club out; the harder they pull the tighter the wedge action!

After the surprised student releases the club I always make certain that the student themselves hold the club in the aforesaid manner and I try to pull the club out of their hand. This lets them see for themselves how little it takes to hold onto a club. Then I ask them “If one finger holds the club using very little pressure then how could the club possibly escape from your hands when all fingers and two hands are placed on the club?” A quick explanation of centrifugal force trying to pull the club outward when swinging it and thus automatically tightening the hold on the club usually cements the idea that the hands should have a LIGHT HOLD rather than a TIGHT HOLD.

As far as pressure from the hands is concerned I always say that you can hold a club as tightly as you like as long as there is no tension in the wrists, forearms, or shoulders.

Let's have some more submissions! Don't hesitate to offer rebuttals on anything that I have written in these newsletters. I sometimes am stretched to figure what to write and would welcome criticisms or opposing views - Carl!



TIPS – Hitting it Far!

Who doesn't want to hit it farther? If you want to hit it farther why not try to hit it better? When is the last time you used some talc or face tape to check just where on the clubface you are striking the ball and, just as important, how consistently are you striking it on the sweet spot (or close to it at least). Perhaps early in the season you might want to check this. Maybe you even want to buy one of those new technology gadgets that check everything for you (such as lie, angle of attack, clubhead squareness at impact, and clubhead speed)! Technology is great!



COMPUTER CORNER – Spring Cleaning!

It's time to check your e-mail folders such as “SENT”, “DELETED”, etc and emptied them out. Perhaps after that you should delete all the cookies or use a free program such as “[CCleaner](#)” (check it out on GOOGLE – its free) and finally see if the computer needs a defrag. Maybe after all the cleaning is done you might want to scan your drives for any viruses. HINT: Delete your sent messages before emptying the deleted folder otherwise if you delete the sent folder second then they will just refill the delete folder.



CONCLUDING REMARKS

I see in one of the latest PGA events Jordan Speith called in a rules official to ask if he could brush sand off the putting surface! Of course we all know that is permitted but, not on the fringe. Remember not too long ago Keegan Bradley was penalized 2 strokes for doing just that on the green. It pays to know the rules! Perhaps now is a good time for your own refresher!

I am looking forward to playing in our first event this year. If you plan to enter then do it now to make certain we will have enough entries to hold the event. Don't delay sending in those checks (cheques in Canada).

It will be good to see some of my old friends (not as old as me though) once again on the course. I could care less about how my score will end up compared to the fact that I will be playing once again!!! I have missed being on our Tour!



RULES QUESTION ANSWER –

The correct answer to the Rules question is:

A – Being a left handed golfer, Phil must take relief from the right side of the cart path because that would be his nearest point of relief. If Phil had been a right-handed golfer, then his nearest point of relief would be the left side of the cart path.

For a left handed player the point of relief on the right side would be just right of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the cart path distance whereas the point of relief on the left side would be the $\frac{1}{2}$ of the cart path plus the distance where the ball would be for the club being used for the shot. Thus, the nearest point of relief for Phil is the point on the right side of the cart path. It should be noted that even if the ball was closer to the left side of the cart path by a few inches the nearest point of relief would still be on the right side of the cart path. The distance is measured from the position of the ball.

We should all know the rules as well as Jerry does!

2014 MOGTT Executive Committee Members are:

President (also Michigan Director) – Charles Henry clh3@comcast.net

Dennis Babcock Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.

Grant Gulych, Ontario Director - grant@ggolfs.com

Jim Helmke jhelmke@comcast.net

Paul Kelly pkelly@interhop.net

Brent Davies btkadavies@comcast.net

Other office holders are:

Communications Officer – Carl Abel - cabelusqtf@bell.net



As a reminder to all recipients of this newsletter; if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter and wish to have your name removed from my directory then just please send me an e-mail requesting same to:

Carl Abel – cabelusgtf@bell.net

Be advised that doing so means that you are no longer informed of scheduling and important news about the MOGTT unless you go to the website www.mogtt.com .



Carl Abel

MOGTT Communications Officer