



MAY NEWSLETTER 2015



POINTS TO PONDER

The important thing is to be able, at any moment, to sacrifice what we are for what we could become. ~ Charles Du Bos

"The most important trip you may take in life is meeting people halfway." ~ Henry Boye



MOGTT NEWS

Well, our first event of the 2015 season is in the books. We all enjoyed a nice, warm, 80+ degree day. Congratulations to Jeremie Lopez and Dennis Babcock for finishing 1st & 2nd low gross respectively and to all the other participants who cashed, won skins, or just competed honorably.

Results for ALL winners are shown below.

DEVIL'S RIDGE RESULTS

1st Low Gross – Jeremie Lopez with a total of 38 points

2nd Low Gross – Dennis Babcock with a total of 35 points

3rd Low Gross – Charlie Henry with a total of 32 points

1st Low Net – Bob Richardson with a net score of 40.5 (Gross points 33)

2nd Low Net – Joel Michaels with a net score of 40 (Gross points 32)

3rd Low Net - was a tie between Brent Davies and & Don Smith with net scores of 38.5 (Gross points 34 and 32 respectively)

Skin winners were:

Hole #1 Dennis Babcock
Hole #5 Bob Richardson
Hole #11 Jeremie Lopez (eagle)
Hole #13 Charlie Henry (eagle)
Hole #14 Paul Chappel
Hole #15 Mike Terrill
Hole #17 Mike Terrill (eagle)

The next event is in Ontario at Greenhills G & CC, a superb track near London. The date is 12 noon on Sunday June 14th.....entry deadline is one week prior on June 7. To enter, go to the website: www.moqtt.com and complete the entry form. And remember to send a \$50 cheque (CAN) or a \$50 check (US) to Grant Gulych before the entry deadline. His address is on the website.

Charlie Henry
Michigan Tour Director

The following info (along with the remaining schedule) is repeated here from last month for newcomers and those not too sure how to register for an event etc. If you are well acquainted with this and know when the next event is, then just skip to the next section – RULES .

How to Register for an Event in 2015

1. Go to the website: www.moqtt.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. For this event (Greenhills), all entry checks can be sent to Grant Gulych directly. 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 now \$20 U.S. If you’ve registered for an event but not yet paid the Annual Tour fee, you can merely bring \$20 U.S. to the event, along with enough host country currency to enter the skins game, prize money pool, etc.

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 which includes the upcoming event at Greenhills G.C.

2015 REGULAR SEASON EVENT SCHEDULE – Remaining events*

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 with registration between 10:30 and 11:30)

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 against out of bounds stake

Bart and John were playing a match. Bart's drive came to rest lying against the out of bounds stake with the majority of the ball sitting on the white line with part of his ball overhanging the white line on the golf course side of the stake.

Bart said to John "part of my ball is still in bounds so I can play it with no penalty and since the stake is a movable obstruction then I can move the stake and replace the ball if it moves and then play my shot."

Which of the following is correct:

- a) Since most of Bart's ball is on the out of bounds line it is out of bounds
- b) Bart can play his ball but cannot remove the stake
- c) Bart can remove the stake & play his ball if he replaces the stake after playing his shot
- d) Bart can declare his ball unplayable and take a stroke penalty with two club length relief not nearer the hole.
- e) Bart must return to the tee and hit again counting his third stroke.

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



SIDESPIN – Not Holding Up The Deal

After being married for 42 years, I took a careful look at my wife one day and said, "forty-two years ago we had a cheap house, a junk car, slept on a sofa bed and watched a 10-inch black and white TV, but I got to sleep every night with a hot 23-year-old girl.

Now ... I have a \$250,000 home, a \$45,000 car, a nice big bed and a large screen TV, but I'm sleeping with a 62 year-old woman. It seems to me that you're not holding up your side of things."

My wife is a very reasonable woman. She told me to go out and find a hot 23-year-old girl and she would make sure that I would once again be living in a cheap house, driving a junk car, sleeping on a sofa bed and watching a 10-inch black and white TV.



DID YOU KNOW THAT.....PRIZE POOL

Every dollar of prize pool money is awarded at each event with 50% of it awarded to Gross winners and 50% of it awarded to Net winners. The first 2 highest paying awards always go to Gross winners to acknowledge their excellent play. After that, and depending on the number of players, awards are paid out in according to placements pre-determined in our Charter. All monetary percentages for awards also follow pre-determined values as per our Charter.

All players are eligible for awards in both the Gross and Net divisions BUT can only receive an award in one of the divisions. All players winning an award are paid the highest award if their play managed to qualify them in both Gross and Net divisions.

Handicaps are recalculated after each event for consideration in following events.



MEMBER'S FORUM – CLUBHEAD SPEED - a submission by *Carl Abel*

After the recent event at Devil's Ridge, and before the awards presentation, one of our members asked me if I could elaborate on clubhead speed. Boy did that set the old gray matter tumbling. On the way home I thought - wouldn't that make a nice article for the newsletter – so here goes!

Setting aside the obvious mechanical factors such as clubhead swing-weight, shaft type (steel/graphite), shaft flex, kick points, club lofts, and ball spin rate etc., I will attempt to discuss only swing factors which contribute to clubhead speed and greater distance.

To start with let's look at the areas of the swing where clubhead speed is generated. The physical factors (other than the size of the golfer) that determine clubhead speed are weight shift and hip turn, shoulder or torso turn, arm swing, wrist cocking/un-cocking, and forearm rotation.

These factors, when used correctly all contribute to developing clubhead speed. The desire is to maximize clubhead speed at contact but.....therein lies the problem. How do all these physical factors function properly together?

Well, there are swingers and there are hitters. Great golf can be played either way! Hitters usually use leverage in their swings which rely upon muscular effort to correctly apply the club to the ball. Swingers rely on centrifugal force being developed in the clubhead as the club is swung forward to produce the clubhead speed.

As one ages, they lose muscular strength and thus, hitters will find their distance falling off long before swingers do owing to the fact that as long as you can swing the club you can create centrifugal force and won't have to rely so much on leverage through muscular effort to develop clubhead speed. I committed long ago to become a swinger! Be assured that I didn't ask my wife's permission first!

In both cases though, it is highly desirable to make the highest, the deepest, and the widest swing possible, so as to have the largest possible arc which will allow either method to produce maximum speed.

I have a saying that I like to use to help promote that – LEARN TO TURN TO EARN!

There is one major factor that can definitely inhibit the creation of maximum speed and that is TENSION! In most cases that tension will reveal itself in the action of the wrists. Tension in the wrists is usually excessive due to an attempt to "HIT THE BALL" rather than "SWING THE CLUB" which leads to a tightening of the grip and creation of tension in the wrists, forearms, and shoulders.

The further the mind can get away from hitting the ball and more into the swinging of the club then the freer the wrists will respond through impact thus having a greater influence on clubhead speed. Grip lightly and swing freely!

I have heard it said that "I turned my hips too fast in the downswing and got the club stuck behind me." No less than Bobby Jones (if you haven't heard of him you shouldn't be playing golf) has said that it is impossible to turn your hips too fast – I agree as long as you remain in BALANCE! Don't slow down your hip turn; speed up your arm swing! Do so without swinging harder though – faster does not mean harder! This is not as easy as it sounds!

Do you have forearm rotation along with extension in your swing? If not, you should reflect on those two things. Just look at any of the PGA pros at the point where their rear arm is parallel to the ground after impact to see what forearm rotation and extension really are. The pros are swinging "through and past" the ball whereas in many cases most golfers swing "to" the ball

slowing down their swing at impact rather than speeding it up. One should strive to feel that their clubhead is travelling faster past the ball than at impact.

The most important term relating to clubhead speed is “Release”. One must “let the club go” (not let go of the club) as it passes through impact. Thus the swing must be moving freely – tightness equates to slowness. To move the club freely one must “free up their mind to free up their swing”. Get rid of all mechanical swing thoughts when swinging!

There is much more I could delve into but I want to conclude this segment so I am moving into the MENTAL aspect of the swing. The mental game plays a huge part in the golf swing so listen up.

TO SWING FAR YOU HAVE TO THINK FAR!

FORGET THE BALL - SWING THE CLUB!

YOU CAN'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT THE BALL DOES – CONCENTRATE ON WHAT THE CLUB DOES!

I like to refer to Bobby Jones again where he said “Swing with reckless abandon”, and “The clubhead should be released as a free flying projectile”.

To gain control of your clubhead you must give up trying to control it. Swing the club and let the clubhead respond to the swing – don't try to manipulate the clubhead. This goes a long way to helping you release the club and create clubhead speed.

Eddie Merrins's book “Swing the handle – Not the clubhead” is another thought along the same lines. Check out the following web site for good thoughts on swing Width, Depth, and Height.

<http://www.golf.com/instruction/three-steps-better-contact>

To Be Continued next month with – “THE FLAIL”

Let's have some more submissions from others! Don't hesitate to offer rebuttals or comments (good or bad) 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! cabelusqtf@bell.net



TIPS – Scoring

If you want to score better quit thinking about your score when you are playing. Treat a round of golf as 18 separate tournaments – each hole as its own tournament with par as your opponent. Try to not let your opponent (par) beat you on a hole but once that tournament is over (win or lose) start the next tournament with the next hole and forget the results of the last one. Your goal

is to not let your opponent (par) beat you on a hole. At the end, see how many tournaments you won and try to beat that number the next time you play. You may soon be playing par. When you worry about your score you cannot play good golf. We have scorecards to mark down the scores so that we do not have to think about them and can add them up when the round is over.



COMPUTER CORNER – HARD SHUTDOWN

Have you ever had your computer lock up on you and nothing would work for you – not your keyboard or mouse etc.? Have you forgotten how to get out of that predicament or do you go and unplug the power supply?

To shutdown an unresponsive computer just hold down the power on key for about 4 seconds or until the computer shuts down. This will not harm anything but you might lose any info that you were working on when the computer locked up. **SAVE** your info frequently when working on it with programs such as “WORD” or “EXCEL” etc.



CONCLUDING REMARKS

It was very pleasurable for me to have played in our first event this year (even though I was dragging at the end). It was great talking with old friends and new members. It was also nice to see and talk with the wives of some of my old friends on tour. I do not mean old age-wise but rather in terms of the length of my friendship with them. Of course, some of us are “OLD” but, boy are we smart!

My thoughts have already gone forward to the Kelly Cup in September knowing that I have already secured some points towards qualifying if the Ontario team has to reduce its number of players due to having more players than the Michigan team. The Kelly Cup will be played at Shepherd’s Hollow – a great course and I am looking forward to it. Be sure to get yourself out to some of our events and earn your own qualifying points – we have only 3 events left!



RULES QUESTION ANSWER –

The correct answer to the Rules question is:

Both **B** and **D** are correct. By definition a ball is out of bounds only if ALL of it is out of bounds. Thus, Bart’s ball is playable. However, you may not move an out of bounds stake so if Bart does

not want to play the ball as it lies, then he can declare it unplayable and take the appropriate two club length relief adding a penalty stroke to his score or use any other unplayable rule option.

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



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Carl Abel – cabelusqtf@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**