



The Coach Approach

The Newsletter of the Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association

Volume XV Issue 1

September 2000

From the Clubhouse:

Golf's Popularity at Center of WHSGCA Role

As I watched Tiger Woods win the PGA in a dramatic duel with Bob May, I realized once again that golf has never been more popular than it is at the present time. We, as golf coaches, are in a wonderful position to take a leadership role in seeing this golf boom develop at the high school level. The fall and spring golf seasons should definitely be exciting for all the coaches and golfers involved. There will be one major change in the competition this year. In the spring golf season for boys, W. I. S. A. A. will merge with the W. I. A. A.. This merger has already taken place in the fall golf season for girls. This merger will strengthen the competition in Wisconsin high school golf!

The W. H. S. G. C. A. continues to grow in membership and I encourage all head, assistant, and retired coaches to join the association. Please make an effort to convince the nonmembers and new coaches in your area to join. Also, a special thanks to veteran board member Joe Harlow for his excellent work as the membership chairperson.

The golf world was saddened to hear that the renowned golf course architect,

Robert Trent Jones, died in this summer at the age of 93. He designed over 350 courses around the world including at least two courses in Wisconsin: Madeline Island Golf Club and The Springs. Madeline Island Golf Club is unique because of the fact that consists of 18 holes with only 11 greens. Of course, many of you remember playing The Springs at the June Clinic for 1997 and 1998. By the way, the June Clinic will be held for the next two years at Abby Springs near Lake Geneva. Plan ahead, this will be a great place to bring along your spouse for a little shopping and sightseeing.

Golf coaches should be aware and should pass the information on to their golfers that Southwest Tech, in Fennimore, is offering a two-year course in golf management. This is one of just a few schools throughout the nation offering such course. Scott Kennedy, the golf professional at Prairie du Chien Country Club, is the main instructor while, Tom Moffett is the coordinator of the program. This is an excellent program and fills a need for some of our student/athletes interested in pursuing a career in the field of golf.

I hope that you got to play some golf this summer and pursue your interest in the great sport. Two highlights for me were playing the new Deer Run Course in the Quad City's and Coghill #4 ("Dubsdread") at Lamont, IL. These two PGA courses are open to the public, expensive, awesome, and very playable from the middle tees. Also I added two "finds" to my golf collection: a 1903 Schenectady putter (like the one used by Walter Travis to win the 1904 British Amateur and then banned

by the Royal and Ancient) and the modern classic book entitled A History of Golf in Britain (written in 1952 by a group of elite golf writers including Bernard Darwin). And wasn't it great to see Tiger Woods on the cover of TIME? I hope you bought at least one copy and saved it. Bobby Jones on the cover of TIME (1930 — grand slam year) is worth a great deal of money. Collecting golf memorabilia can be an exciting hobby!

In closing, I look forward to being the President once again of the W. H. S. G. C. A.. Good luck to all the coaches and their teams. Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions or concerns pertaining the association (home phone: 608 — 348 — 9895). The next board meeting will take place on Sunday, Nov. 5th (10 AM) at Winnagamie Golf Course near Appleton.

Dick McKichan

Coaches:
**Enclosed in this
issue of the Coach
Approach are various
forms for nominations.
Please make neces-
sary copies for your
needs.**

The Practice Tee

Abbey Springs Golf Course

The W.H.S.G.C.A. will be visiting Abbey Springs Golf Club in 2001 and 2002 for its annual meeting, clinic and tournament. Abbey Springs is a Ken Killian and Dick Nugent design. It is, to describe it in only one word, "beautiful." This is an exciting layout, and those of you who have never had the pleasure will thoroughly enjoy your experience. It is a layout I could play six days a week and never get bored or sick of. Quite honestly, I can hardly wait to once again experience Abbey Spring's temptations and seductions. You too will find it to be a beguiling sensation!

Hole Number 1: A 397 yard par four. A difficult starting hole. The entire left side of the hole is marked as a lateral hazard. The tee shot is slightly downhill, and the second shot is uphill to a long narrow green. The second shot always seems to play longer than the indicated yardage. The green itself is very difficult to putt, especially if the flagstick is on the front portion of the putting surface because there is more slope toward the front of this green. Putting on this green can only be described as treacherous. There is one bunker to the left of this green, and a second bunker short right of the green. There are scattered trees down the right side and many trees down the left side.

Hole Number 2: We will be playing this hole slightly shorter than the measured distance on the scorecard. A 153 yard par 3, over a large pond to a severely sloped green which has two bunkers between the pond and the front edge of the green. The green slopes from back to front and from right to left. In addition, the right hand bunker is a small but ugly pot bunker. A most difficult hole which always seems to play longer than the measured distance. Hint: take one more club than you normally would!

Hole Number 3: A 346 yard par four. Finally, we face a somewhat benign golf hole. A very flat hole, it usually plays down wind, with water on the entire left side of the hole. The green, however, can play quite difficult. It is S shaped with the back two-thirds being quite severely sloped back to front. There is one bunker to the left to the green in addition

to a slope leading down to the water. A possible birdie hole!

Hole Number 4: This par 5 measures 508 yards from the white tee markers. It is a difficult driving hole with large scattered trees down the right side, and a very thick wood marked as a lateral hazard to the left. In addition, any tee shot longer than 200 yards must be shaped from left to right in order to prevent the golf ball from going into the left rough or woods. The second and third shots play severely uphill to a somewhat long green that slopes from back left to front right. There are no bunkers on this hole. The green itself perches at the top of the hill so extra club must be taken to get the ball up to the flagstick. This is a good par 5!

Hole Number 5: The shortest par four on the front nine, it measures 338 yards from the white tee markers. In addition, it is all downhill. It sounds easy, but obviously is not. The entire left side is a lateral hazard, and there are huge scattered trees down the right side. The green slopes from front to back away from the golfer, and there are two bunkers in the front and slightly to the left of the green. Most second shots will have to carry the front bunker and then stop quickly on this treacherous green. There is a severe slope behind the green. It is not necessary to hit a driver, or it even a wood on this tee, as a well struck two iron will leave you about 100 yards from the green. If you leave yourself a shot of less than 80 yards to the green, you may not be able to put enough to spin on the ball to hold this green. This is A Difficult Hole!

Hole Number 6: This par 3 measures 134 yards from the white tees. From an elevated tee, the shot is played to a wide but shallow green protected by bunkers in front, to the left and behind the green. In addition, there is a small creek short of and a small hazard to the right of the green. The tee shot is usually played into a prevailing wind. Selecting the correct club is therefore of paramount importance. There are a number of quite interesting slopes on this green.

First Tee

Allstate playing team nomination information

Beginning with the 2000-2001 school year, several major changes will take place with the nominating procedure for the boys and girls Allstate playing teams. Recently

the committee in charge of selecting the Allstate boys playing team agonized for over five hours, trying to select the most deserving candidates and placing them on the appropriate teams. The following day the teams were announced at the annual meeting. It was discovered later in the day that one young man's nomination form was incomplete. His coach had neglected to record, on the nomination form, one invitational score. Complicating matters was the fact that this young man was selected to the Allstate first team, and the unrecorded score, apparently in the high 80s would have probably resulted in his being named to the second Allstate team. Because we were not able to get confirmation of his score, he remains on the first team, but his placement is certainly tainted by the less than complete nomination form. Whether his coach accidentally or purposely failed to record this score is unknown. The committee also wondered how many other nomination forms were incomplete.

As a result of this situation this *Coach Approach* contains a new nomination form for the upcoming school year, which will require you to record All competitive scores. Failure to do so will result in the rejection of that nomination form. In addition, it is extremely important that ALL coaches who host an invitational Must fax or mail a copy of the results to Lee Kaczmarek in c/o the *Coach Approach* so that all player's scores can be verified during the selection process for the Allstate playing team. Should the selection committee not have verification of invitational results from a host coach or another coach appointed by him, scores from that tournament would most likely have to be ignored during the selection process. It will require a very small time commitment to fax the results of your tournament to 262-970-3720.

The WHSGCA would like to set some standards for matches and tournaments. Ideally, the varsity girls should play courses between 5400 and 5800 yards in length, while varsity boys should play courses set up between 6300 and 6650. While this is not a requirement, it is an ideal!

Coaches, please, make sure that your nomination forms are complete and post-marked by the date listed at the bottom of the form. You'll notice there is no spot to record the player's state tournament results. The committee will have that information available during the selection process. Also, make sure the entire top portion of the nomination form is complete. Again, incomplete forms will be rejected!

Academic Allstate nomination procedures:

Please pay close attention to the deadline dates on the Allstate academic nomination forms. Those states are Absolute deadlines. Nomination forms received after the deadline date will be rejected. The Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches As-

sociation executive board very much dislikes creating absolute deadlines, but when nomination forms are received in July and even as late as August, long after the academic Allstate teams have been announced, we can do nothing but hold our fellow coaches accountable for their lack of organization and foresight. The March 15th deadline for the girl's academic Allstate team allows the members of the executive board who are responsible, to compile the list, create and send out the certificates of achievement, and send a press release to the appropriate media. They are trying to complete their task prior to the beginning of their spring coaching responsibilities. If all coaches could remember to send their girls Allstate academic nomination forms shortly after first semester grades have been made available, it would be a huge help to the committee members in charge.

Pay very close attention to the deadline date on the boy's academic Allstate nomination form. This is also an absolute deadline and with the Allstate playing team nomination forms due and the end of the school year occurring at approximately the same time, responsibilities can be overlooked!

Finally, please make sure that you are using the correct nomination form and forwarding it to the correct party responsible for its acceptance. The name and address can be found in bold print at the bottom of the nomination form. The form is quite simple, with easy instructions to follow, so if you take your time and read carefully, just like we tell our students to do, mistakes can be eliminated! This article will be repeated in the first newsletter of the new school year due out in September. Please retain this newsletter so you will have this most important information available to you at the appropriate time. Thank you!

Using the new All State nomination form.

Hopefully you have read the article concerning the nominations for the Allstate playing teams. Included in this issue of the Coach Approach is the new playing nomination form. Please make sure that you read the following instructions before filling out this new nomination form.

1. Fill out the top portion of the form completely. Please do not leave any blanks empty.
2. List all 14 regular season competitions on the form. Please make sure you fill in all the requested information including the host school, name of the golf course, name of the tournament, the length of the golf course played that day, the course rating (for ex-

ample, /1.4), the nominee's score, his or her placement, and the number of teams in the competition. Please also indicate in the appropriate box whether this is a conference meet or an invitational. You must also fill in the requested information for the regional and sectional competition. The selection committee will have in its possession the state tournament results. If a player did not play in a competition, you must so indicate with the letters DNP, which means, did not play.

3. Nomination forms not completely filled out will be rejected immediately! Please do not jeopardize a possible high honor for your player's through your carelessness! Take your time, be thorough, and make sure you have all pertinent information at your disposal prior to filling out the form! The selection committee does not want to reject any nomination forms, but, by necessity, will do so if the specific instructions are not carefully and completely followed.

Thank you for your diligence in this matter. It is our hope that future selections to the Allstate playing teams will be based on complete, honest and timely information so that we may do our job to the very best of our ability.

New Putter Is Hot!

"Yes Two" is the hottest new putter on the market. It is also probably the most unique putter ever created because the shaft connects to the back of the face of the club at 2 points. It is the only golf club with this feature that has been approved for play by the United States Golf Association. Old-style blade putters had a dispersion rate of 10 to 12 percent when the ball was hit at three-quarters of an inch off center. The newer heel and toe-weighted putters reduced the dispersion rate to between 4 and 5 percent. In the Yes Two putter, the shaft is uniquely attached at 2 points approximately 2 inches apart, so the dispersion rate three-quarters of an inch off center is a phenomenal 2.1 percent. Using this putter, I have found that on a 15 foot putt the ball travels about 1 1/2 inches shorter when hit about 1 inch off center.

Through a great deal of study and trial and error it was determined that the optimum length of the putter head should be 4 1/2 inches in length. With the attachment points 1 inch on either side of the center of the face, the golfer literally "cradles" the ball resulting in an incredibly solid feel at impact. And yet, while the feeling is very solid, it is also a soft feeling due to the unusual bi-metal casting which is then milled to incredibly close tolerances.

There is no question that suspending the head through a two point connection to the back portion of the blade has reduced the torque or dispersion to the lowest rate of

any club in production. The shaft is centered perfectly between the toe and heel allowing for the putter to be face balanced. In addition a center-shafted putter allows for a more consistent stroke by keeping the face of the blade squared to the line of the putt. However, the negative with a center shafted putter is that it is very unforgiving if the ball is not struck precisely on the sweet spot. That problem has been eliminated because in this design the shaft is attached to a stabilizer bar which is subsequently attached to those two points to the back of the face.

The result is a putter with the most unique feel you can imagine. It is soft but it is solid at the same time. This is the putter that all good players have been searching for. As of yet players are not under contract to use this putter, but the list of club professionals and top amateurs in Wisconsin now using this club would absolutely astound you. At present, every single person who has picked up and tried my "Yes Two" putter has ordered one except for one individual who required the unavailable left-handed version. Think of that statement, everyone who tried it, ordered one! Have you ever heard anything like that before?

Golfer's who have tried this putter have made three comments consistently:

1. It really feels solid!
2. It feels soft and smooth!
3. The ball always rolls off the putter face. It never bounces! And that's because it has just two degrees of loft.

At present the "Yes Two" putter is available in a few shops around the Milwaukee area at \$129.95. But the "Coach Approach" has made special arrangements, which will allow high school golf coaches to purchase them direct for \$78 plus 9.95 shipping and handling.

To order: send a check totaling \$87.95 to:

Yes! Golf
P.O. Box 331

Muskego, Wisconsin 53150

Please indicate the length of shaft you require, 33 inches to 36 inches.

Help With College Player Information

A major Wisconsin golf magazine, *The Wisconsin Golfer* wants to do a feature story on our former Wisconsin high school golfers, now playing golf in college. Please forward information to *The Coach Approach* so we can send the information to the proper people. Send the players' name, high school, high school coach's name, year graduated, college now playing for, and year in school by October 1, 2000.

At the Turn

Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association District Structure: WIAA & WISAA Schools

WIAA District 1: Dave Blake, Hayward: (715) 634-2616.

Heart O North, Lakeland, Heart 'O North, Middle Border, Dunn-St. Croix, Big Rivers.

Amery, Baldwin-Woodville, Barron, Bloomer, Chetek, Chippewa Falls, Cameron, Cumberland, Durand, Eau Claire North, Eau Claire Memorial, Ellsworth, Frederic, Glenwood City, Grantsburg, Hayward, Hudson, Ladysmith, Luck, Menomonee, Mondovi, New Richmond, Northwestern, Osecola, Prescott, Rice Lake, River Falls, Siren, Somerset, Spooner, St. Croix Falls, St. Croix Central, Superior, Turtle Lake, Unity, Webster.

WIAA District 2: Tom Conrad, DC Everest: (715) 359-6561.

Cloverbelt, Wisconsin Valley, Lumberjack, Northern Lakes.

Altoona, Antigo, Ashland, Augusta, Crandon, D.C. Everest, Eagle River, Elcho, Fairchild, Laona, Marshfield, Medford, Merrill, Minoqua, Mosinee, Neillsville, Owen-Withee, Park Falls, Pembine, Phelps, Phillips, Rhinelander, Stanley-Boyd, Stevens Point, Thorp, Three Lakes, Tomahawk, Wabeno, Wausau East, Wausau West, Wisconsin Rapids.

WIAA District 3: Singh Grewal, Sparta: (608) 269-2107.

Dairyland, Coulee, Mississippi Valley, Senic Bluffs.

Alma, Arcadia, Bangor, Black River Falls, Blair, Cochrane-Fountain City, Eleva Strum, Gale-Ettrick, Gilmanton, Holmen, Independence, LaCrosse Aquinas, LaCrosse Central, LaCrosse Logan, Lincoln, Melrose-Mindoro, Onalaska, Onalaska Luther, Sparta, Tomah, Trempealeau, Viroqua, West Salem, Westby, Whitehall.

WIAA District 4: Dick McKichan, Platteville: (608) 348-2681.

Six Rivers, Southwest, State Line.

Albany, Argyle, Barneveld, Belleville, Blanchardville, Boscobel, Cuba City, Darlington, Dodgeville, Fennimore, Iowa Grant, Juda, Lancaster, Mineral Point, Monticello, Muscodia, New Glarus, Platteville, Prairie du Chien, Pecatonica, Richland Center, Schullsburg, Southwestern, Spring Green.

WIAA District 5: Don Marx, Madison Memo-

rial: (608) 829-4000
Capitol, Badger, Southern Wisconsin.

Beloit, Columbus, DeForest, Janesville Craig, Janesville Parker, Lake Mills, Lakeside Lutheran, Lodi, Madison Abundant Life, Madison Memorial, Madison East, Madison West, Madison LaFollette, McFarland, Middleton, Mononoa Grove, Monroe, Mt. Horeb, Oregon, Poynette, Sauk Prairie, Stoughton, Sun Prairie, Verona, Waunakee, Wisconsin Heights.

WIAA District 6: Bill Berkholtz, Burlington Southern Lakes, Rock Valley, Southeast, Lakeshore

Beloit Turner, Big Foot, Brodhead, Burlington, Clinton, Delavan-Darien, East Troy, Edgerton, Elkhorn, Evansville, Fort Atkinson, Franklin, Jefferson, Kenosha St Joe's, Lake Geneva Badger, Milton, Muskego, Palmyra-Eagle, Union Grove, Waterford, Westosha, Whitewater, Wilmont, Oak Creek, Racine Horlick, Racine Park, Racine Case, Racine St Catherines, South Milwaukee, Kenosha Tremper, Kenosha Bradford.

WIAA District 7: Kaz, Waukesha South: (414)970-3748.

Milwaukee City, Woodland, Classic Eight

Arrowhead, Cudahy, Greendale, Greenfield, Kettle Moraine, Milwaukee Washington, Milwaukee Custer, Milwaukee Bay View, Milwaukee Vincent, Milwaukee Madison, Milwaukee King, Milwaukee Juneau, Milwaukee Marshall, Milwaukee Pulaski, Milwaukee Hamilton, Milwaukee South, Milwaukee Tech, Milwaukee Riverside, Mukwonago, New Berlin Eisenhower, New Berlin West, Waukesha North, Thomas More, Waukesha South, Waukesha West, Wauwatosa West, Waukesha Catholic Memorial, Pius XI, Whitnall.

WIAA District 8: John Lonergan, Hartford and Robert Lehninger, Wisconsin Lutheran: (414) 453-4567.

North Shore, Wisconsin Little Ten, Parkland, Greater Metro

Beaver Dam, Brookfield East, Brookfield Central, Brown Deer, Divine Savior- Holy Angel, Dominican, Cedarburg, Germantown, Grafton, Greendale Martin Luther, Hamilton, Hartford, Homestead, Marquette, Menomonee Falls, Milwaukee Lutheran, Nicolet, Oconomowoc, Pewaukee, Port Washington, Shorewood, Slinger, St. Francis, Watertown, Waupun, Wauwatosa East, West Bend East, West Bend West, Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin Lutheran,

WIAA District 9:

South Central, Wisconsin Flyway, Eastern Suburban, Dual County.

Adams-Friendship, Baraboo, Cambria-Freesland, Cambridge, Campbellsport, Deerfield, Dodgeand, Fall River, Green Lake, Horicon, Hustisford, Johnson Creek, Laconia, Lomira, Markesan, Marshall, Mauston, Mayville, Montello, Necedah, Nekeosa, North Fond du Lac, Oakfield, Pardeville, Portage, Princeton, Randolph, Reedsburg, Waterloo, Westfield, Wisconsin Dells, Williams Bay

WIAA District 10: MaryBeth Nienhaus (Appleton West), Chuck Menzel (Green Bay Preble): (414) 832-6215 & (414) 391-2450.

East Central, Fox River Valley, Fox Valley Association.

Appleton East, Appleton North, Appleton West, Berlin, Fond du Lac, Green Bay Southwest, Green Bay East, Green Bay Preble, Green Bay West, Hortonville, Kaukauna, Kimberly, Little Chute, Manitowoc, Menasha, Neenah, Notre Dame, Omro, Oshkosh North, Oshkosh West, Ripon, Sheboygan North, Sheboygan South, Waupaca, Wautoma, Winneconne.

WIAA District 11: Ted Devine, Ashwaubenon: (414) 497-4216.

Bay, Central Wisconsin, Marinette-Oconto, Packerland.

Algoma, Ashwaubenon, Bay Port, Bonduel, Clintonville, Crivitz, De Pere, Gibraltar, Kewaunee, Luxemborg-Casco, Marinette, New London, Niagra, Oconto Falls, Oconto, Pulaski, Sevastopol, Seymour, Shawano, Southern Door, Sturgeon Bay, West DePere, Wittenberg-Birnarnwood.

WIAA District 12: Joe Harlow, Kewaskum: (414) 626-2166.

Olympian, Central Lakeshore, Eastern Wisconsin.

Brillion, Cedar Grove, Chilton, Denmark, Elkhart Lake, Freedom, Hilbert, Howards Grove, Kewaskum, Kiel, Kohler, Manitowoc Roncalli, Mishicot, New Holstein, Oostburg, Ozaukee, Plymouth, Random Lake, Reedsville, Sheboygan Falls, Two Rivers, Valders, Wrightstown.

WISAA:

Appleton Xavier, Edgewood, Fox Valley Lutheran, Lourdes Academy, Pacelli, St. Mary Central, St Mary's Springs, Sheboygan Lutheran, Brookfield Academy, Burlington St. Mary, Dominican, Holy Name, Kettle Moraine Lutheran, St. John's Military, Wayland Academy, Beloit Catholic, Northwestern Military, Northwestern Prep, Racine Prairie.

WHSGCA Competition Hole in One Award

Name: _____ School: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Course: _____ Hole # _____ Club: _____
Date: _____ Event: _____ Score: _____

Please enclose a photo for the *Coach Approach*.

Requirements: Any player on a high school boys or girls team making a hole-in-one during competition. Coach must be a member of the WHSGCA at the time of the hole-in-one. Please use this form to report the hole-in-one. Send to TJ Dieck, Milton High School; 114 W. High Street; Milton, WI 53563