

In This Issue

October 2015

- 2 Clubs:** Children had to hold on to their heads at Sleepy Hollow's Halloween bash.
- 4 Competition:** Winged Foot paved the way for a new collegiate event, The Bush Cup.
- 5 Gear:** Many swear by their hybrids. Will these new offerings find their way to your bag?
- 7 Championships:** The Carey Cup reunited with its own history at Metedeconk National.
- 9 People:** Adversity can discourage many, but not Kewan Beebe.
- 11 Met Moments:** Gary Player and his world-touring invitational made a stop at GlenArbor.
- 12 54 Holes:** In Orlando, where theme parks aren't the only place for great up and downs.
- 14 Parting Shot:** It's time to say goodbye to the active score posting season.

This page: Earlier sunsets surely make fall's presence known. Here, the last bit of play is squeezed in on day one at the 13th Carey Cup, but diminishing sunlight forced one match to conclude the next morning. Read more about the Carey Cup on page 7.



Halloween of Horror

When it comes to Halloween, the Met Area knows how to treat the occasion. For those at Sleepy Hollow Country Club, the celebration started a whole week early with a spooktacular party. The highlight of the evening was a frightful haunted hallway, where fog and shrilling sounds echoed through the basement of the former Vanderbilt mansion clubhouse. Those taking on the frightful path encountered surprises around every corner, ranging from moving corpses and skeletal remains to lurking creatures and pulsating lights.

It wasn't all screams for attendees though, as a buffet dinner, face painting, costume contests and a variety show for kids and adults alike made it a fun-filled evening for all.



Kids' screams were traded for laughs with a variety show.

The Met Golfer EXTRA

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
METROPOLITAN GOLF ASSOCIATION

Volume 3, Number 10 • October 2015

Editor: MGA Staff

Met Golfer Editorial Committee: Gene M. Bernstein, Leslie A. Schupak, Co-Chairmen; C.A. Wimpfheimer, Chairman Emeritus; Donald J. Hendler, Jeanne McCooey, Jay Mottola, Beth Z. Post, Dr. William Quirin, Allan W. Small, Roger Tulcin

Metropolitan Golf Association
49 Knollwood Road, Elmsford, NY 10523 •
914-347-4653 www.mgagolf.org •
mgagolf@mgagolf.org

MGA Executive Committee: Stephen F. Boyd, President; Michael J. Sullivan, Vice President; Tod D. Pike, Secretary/Treasurer

Committee Members: Gregg M. Angelillo, Joe Bardon, Robert J. Bluestone, Patrick L. Donnelly, Philip T. Fabrizio, Norman A. Feinstein, Steven J. Green, Phillip M. Halpern, Dennis Lynch, Beth Z. Post, Andrew G. Stock, H. Craig Treiber, Stephen Worth, Ned Zachar, Jordan Ziegler

Past Presidents: Allan W. Small, Gene M. Bernstein, Jeffrey R. Holzschuh

President, LIGA: Michael J. Sullivan

President, NJSGA: Daniel Meehan

President, WGA: Michael McCarthy

President, WMGA: Valerie DePiro

General Counsel: Mario Ponce

MGA Staff: Jay Mottola, Executive Director; Barbara Bradley, Millie Burt, Louis Cutolo, John Dolan, John DeTemple Jr., Nick Fischer, Beth Francese, Chris Gaffney, Tim Hartin, Kate Keller, David Klenk, Kevin Kline, Holly Kotiadis, Jim Landers, Brian Mahoney, Jeanne McCooey, Maddi Vetrano, Susan O'Dowd, Tom Ott, Jeff Pepe, Helen Stock, Rose Tomassetti, Lynn Turnesa, Gene Westmoreland

Published for the Metropolitan Golf Association by:

Great Golf Resorts of the World, Inc.
2600 Philmont Avenue, Suite 325
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006
Phone: (215) 914-2071

CEO & Publisher: Richard K. Summers

COO & Art Director: Peter J. Sansone

Executive Vice President: Brian Folino

General Manager, Operations: Patrick Cherry

Production/Pre-Press: Frederick Yantz

Design: Jim Gerhard, Matt Hulnick, Steve Higgins, Marina Kohls

Advertising Production Manager: Julie Yuen

General Manager, Digital Operations: Matt Frey, PGA

Operations: Mike DiMeglio, Tom Gauss

Accounting: George Kotlyar, Mary Beth Bidwell

Advertising: For information, please contact: please contact: Tom Ott at 914-347-4653, ext. 321, or Nick Fischer at 914-347-4653, ext. 345, or Brian Folino at 623-337-5802 (office) or 661-312-6412 (cell)

Executive Director, Travel & Real Estate: Mike Agee

Regional Advertising Managers: Howard Derkay, Scott Miller

ALL FOR 41

BY TIM HARTIN



Winged Foot Golf Club, West Point and Yale led the introduction of a new collegiate match play competition on October 9. The event was conceived by Winged Foot president John Schneider in honor of George H. W. Bush, and will consistently feature West Point, rotating venues and opponents around the country.

Yale led by as many as four points in the inaugural playing, which is contested in Walker Cup style with foursomes and singles matches. But, West Point charged back late in the action, leading to a 6-6 tie and “retained” the cup as hosts.

“Not only will the tournament bear my name, but more importantly, it recognizes service to country,” wrote the former U.S. president in a letter to the club. “It is always an honor to be associated with any effort that involves our men and women in uniform, and I am proud to be part of what I am sure will become a hugely successful annual event.”

While the first playing may not have produced a victor, a performance from the world-famous Yale Whiffenpoofs and an address from Former U.S. Army Chief of Staff General (ret.) Raymond T. Odierno during a closing dinner, highlighted the day of festivities.



West Point Coach Brian Watts and former U.S. Army Chief of Staff General Raymond T. Odierno pose with the Bush Cup.

BRIDGING THE GAP

BY SCOTT KRAMER

Hybrids are compelling clubs that can fill the void left between your shortest fairway wood and longest iron -- with respect to distance and ease of use. New models from several brands have just been unveiled, to make short work of your long game.

Titleist's two adjustable 816H models (\$269 apiece) feature a channel behind an ultra-thin face, to amplify ball speed and lower spin for distance. They aim to land shots steep enough to stop on the green, instead of rolling through it. The larger 816H1 is for golfers opting to sweep through impact, while the smaller, pear-shaped 816H2 is for those preferring to hit down on the ball as they do with irons.

Callaway's forgiving Apex (\$220) has a Carpenter Steel forged face cup that helps bump up ball speed on dead-center and off-center hits. The clubhead features a longer, iron-like blade length and a neutral bias for better players wanting ball flight control and workability.

TaylorMade's adjustable M1 Rescue (\$249) boasts classic shaping that extends playability from a range of lies. Golfers can tune the loft by +/- 1.5 degrees and swap the two sole weights, to adjust ball flight right and left. A pocket behind the clubface increases sweet spot size while reducing spin.



THE CONK AND THE CUP

While the Golfing Union of Ireland halted the MGA's two-match win streak in the recent Governor Hugh L. Carey Challenge Cup, there was still a lot to revel in as the international contest celebrated its 25th anniversary and returned to Metedeconk National Golf Club, the site of the inaugural competition.

Bob Housen, a decorated player and strong supporter of golf in the Met Area, served as the MGA's Honorary Captain. Housen was part of the victorious MGA team in 1990 – when the match was introduced as the Metedeconk International Challenge Cup – and then captained the team in 1992 at Waterville, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to this year's MGA team.

To also honor the quarter-century of competition between the MGA and GUI amateurs, Metedeconk member Chauncey Durkin commissioned a painting of the original teams. At the awards ceremony, the painting was presented to the two sides, both of which will receive their own copy.

The visitors from the Emerald Isle may have reclaimed the cup, but both captains remarked on the high level of play and competitiveness over the two days – five of the 12 total matches went to the 18th hole. With the Carey Cup out of its possession for the first time since 2011, the MGA is sure to be hungry for victory when visiting Ireland in 2017.

MGA President and Captain Steve Boyd presents GUI President Michael Connaughton and Captain Tony Goode with a painting commemorating the 1990 match.



MGA Honorary Captain Bob Housen addressing the teams and guests at the opening ceremony, which was emceed by Golf Channel's Rich Lerner.

BY MADDI VETRANO

BOUNCING BACK



Kewan has been welcomed as part of Carla and Frank D'Ambra's family.

Kewan first attended SUNY New Paltz, but has since transferred to Nassau Community College to complete an associate degree.

The late Joseph C. Cantwell was a great friend to the game of golf, and now a memorial scholarship presented by the Long Island Caddie Scholarship Fund will bear his name. There is no one more deserving than Kewan Beebe for the scholarship's first awarding.

At 21, Kewan has experienced more hardships than most face in a lifetime, yet nothing in his modest, optimistic and kind-hearted nature would lead one to believe all he's been through growing up in the South Bronx.

Kewan was struck in the abdomen by a stray bullet at the age of 14, as he looked out his window after hearing the initial shots. That led to multiple surgeries over five months, with long hospital stays raising questions of how his body would recover. He fought hard and was finally released, only to find that his aunt—who took over as his guardian after his mother passed away from a long-fought illness the year before—had decided to move the family to Virginia.

Everything began to change for the better in 2011, when he started making trips to Glen Cove, N.Y., to visit friends and go to the Boys

and Girls Club. It was there where Carla D'Ambra heard Kewan's story. She and her husband Frank took Kewan under their wing, enrolling him in Glen Cove High School where he would become a star basketball player and graduate the following year.

Though basketball is Kewan's main passion, he enjoys caddying for his dad, Frank, at Wheatley Hills. "It gives us a father-son feeling, which is something that I didn't really grow up with, so it's nice to be out on the course—just joking around—and being together."

Receiving the first Joseph C. Cantwell Memorial Scholarship was a meaningful moment for Kewan. "I'm truly grateful for this scholarship. It's helped a lot with my school," he said. "The most amazing thing about it was the way they were talking about Mr. Cantwell—the way they described him. That they gave it to me was really special."

While golf has helped guide Kewan's path, he will continue to chase the dream of playing basketball professionally. "It's a dream and I'm going to do it."



Edward Diller Photography



SHOOTING FOR

1000

BY TIM HARTIN



Natalie Gulbis, Hendrik Riehmer of Berenberg, Gary Player, Annika Sorenstam and Mark O'Meara participated in a media roundtable.

The Black Knight himself drew an outstanding lineup of guests for the Gary Player Invitational, October 12 at GlenArbor Golf Club in Bedford Hills, N.Y., as the fundraising series for The Player Foundation made its first-ever stop in the Met Area. The “Union of Golf and Giving” welcomed stars such as Annika Sorenstam, Jason Dufner, Natalie Gulbis, Retief Goosen, Hunter Mahan, and Chi Chi Rodriguez, just to name a few.

While Player turns 80 years old on November 1, the number he’s really focused on is 100. That is, \$100 million—the fundraising goal for his foundation. “It’s very rewarding to reach \$60 million,” he said. “My dream is to raise \$100 million before I hang it up. As long as I stay well, I think we can achieve this.”

“Gary touches people’s hearts,” said managing partner Hendrik Riehmer of Berenberg, who served as the title sponsor for the event which brought in \$212,000. Player’s foundation has a worldwide impact, aiming to provide education for underprivileged children and strengthen impoverished communities.

“I admire him for what he’s done,” said Sorenstam, who paired with Player in the four-ball pro-am. “You see the global reach that he has, not only with his foundation, but just the way he gets people together and changes lives. I think it’s incredible that golf has such an amazing ambassador.”

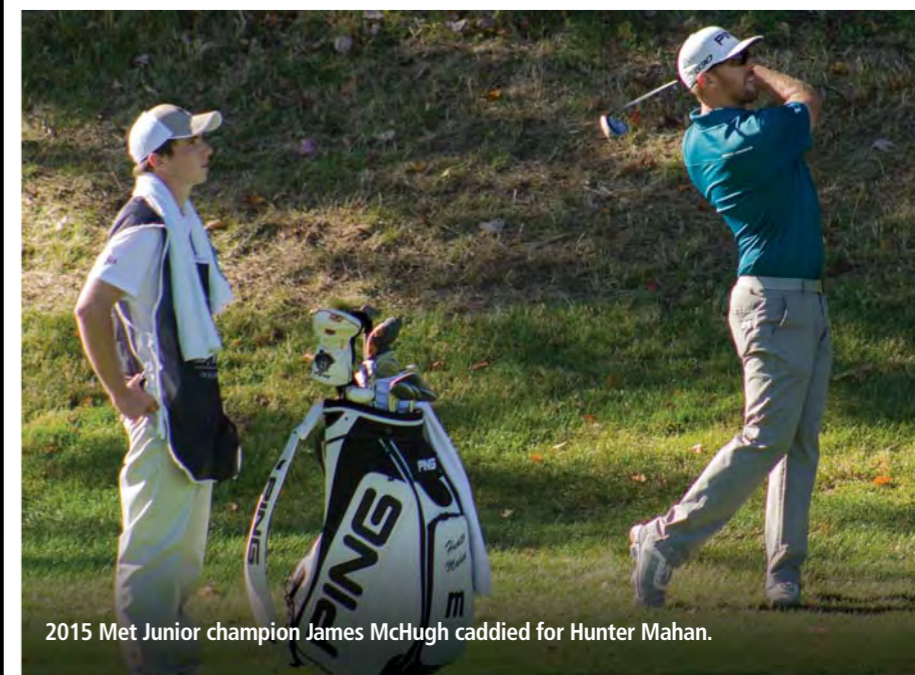
Beginning in July in England, this year’s tournament series will continue with stops in China, South Africa and Abu Dhabi.



Sorenstam & Player shared instructional tips as they played in the Pro-Am.



Michael Douglas dropped in to catch up with friend Gary Player.



2015 Met Junior champion James McHugh caddied for Hunter Mahan.

54 Holes in Orlando

BY TIM HARTIN

The recognizable 6th hole at Bay Hill wraps around a lake, making water ever present.

While Orlando, Florida is certainly known as a family vacation destination due to its more than a dozen theme parks, it is also a hot spot for golf. Many PGA Tour pros make their home at private clubs close by, but the typically reasonable cost of flights and a host of public and resort courses make the area an ideal cold season escape.

COURSES:

- 1 Bay Hill Club & Lodge** – The property features 27 holes, with the Challenger/Champion nines comprising the layout for the PGA Tour’s Arnold Palmer Invitational. Five sets of tees make the course—which is straightforward with strong bunkering and a fair amount of water—playable for anyone.
- 2 The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes** – This Greg Norman design is heralded as one of the most challenging yet luxurious experiences in the area. Located on the Headwaters of the Florida Everglades, the course is eco-friendly and well-manicured. Its ponds, wetlands and bunkering providing a stern, yet fair test.
- 3 Grand Cypress Golf Club** – Another bonus with 45 holes on its property, Grand Cypress features differentiated options among its Jack Nicklaus layouts. The North/South nines present elevated, guarded greens while the East nine is less bunkered. The New Course is Nicklaus’ tribute to the Old Course at St. Andrews, utilizing double greens, gorse mounds, pot bunkers and very few trees.

WHERE TO STAY:

- **Bay Hill Club & Lodge** – If you want to play where The King does, you’ll need to be invited by a member, or stay at the Lodge. A full service spa, fitness center, three dining options and lounges highlight the many on-site luxuries, which all come with distinct, personalized service.

OFF-COURSE:

- **Eco-Tours** – Ritz-Carlton has additional offerings to help you avoid the bustle of theme parks and enjoy the natural landscapes of Orlando. Two-hour guided canoe and kayak tours of Shingle Creek provide insight on the preserve’s history and inhabitants.



LAST CALL

Rounds of golf in the later portion of the fall are always a bonus. But, while the play is certainly pleasure, the scores are not acceptable for handicapping purposes since the MGA's active season—the period when you can post local scores for your Handicap Index—runs from April 1 to October 31.

Why, you may ask? It simply relates to Course and Slope Ratings. These key figures represent a course's difficulty when rated during mid-season, but winter months bring unpredictable conditions which don't depict the true rating. This could go either way: the course could be easier with lighter rough, or perhaps play more difficult due to damp conditions.

However, if you're able to travel and play a round where there is no inactive season, your score must be posted. The easiest way to post a score away from your home club? Jump on www.mgagolf.org and find "post your score" under the handicapping tab, or simply use the MyMGA app.

For more handicapping information, visit www.mgagolf.org/handicapping.