

# GOLF\*GRINDER

ISSUE 94 // 5TH AUGUST 2014

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TIGER WOODS IS IN DOUBT FOR THE PGA CHAMPIONSHIP THIS WEEK

**FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**

In his first start since a wire-to-wire victory at The Open, Rory Mcllroy wiped out a three-shot deficit in only three holes to close with a 66 on Sunday to win the Bridgestone Invitational at Akron, Ohio.

In the process Mcllroy regained the No. 1 spot in the world ranking from Adam Scott who finished in a tie for eighth, eight strokes back of Mcllroy.

Geoff Ogilvy won the Barracuda Championship at Reno for his eighth PGA Tour title and first since 2010, scoring five points with an eagle on the par-five 13th and pulling away for a five-point victory in the modified Stableford event.

Before Sunday's win, the 2006 US Open winner was in serious danger of missing the PGA Tour playoffs and had missed nine cuts in 20 starts this year.

Ogilvy and five other Aussies, Adam Scott, Steven Bowditch, Jason Day, Matt Jones, Marc Leishman and John Senden will contest this week's PGA Championship starting Thursday at Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Kentucky.

Tiger Woods' availability for the year's final major was put in question after he withdrew on Sunday from the Bridgestone Invitational after eight holes, citing lower back spasms.

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Adam Scott



Tim Clark



Steve Bowditch



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John Senden



Bubba Watson



Geoff Ogilvy



Matt Jones



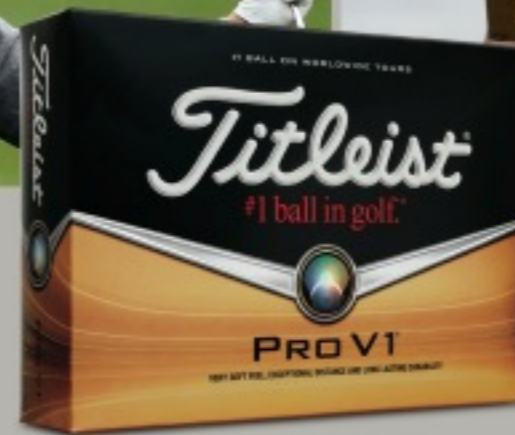
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**DRIVER:** Nike VRS Covert 2.0 Tour (8.5°)

**FAIRWAY WOODS:** Nike VR\_S Covert 2.0 (3W/15°), VR\_S Covert (5W/19°)

**IRONS:** Nike VR Pro Blades (4-9)

**WEDGES:** Nike VR Forged (46, 52, 56 and 59°)

**PUTTER:** Nike Method 006 Prototype

**BALL:** Nike RZN Black

# MCILROY WINS AT FIRESTONE, NEW WORLD NUMBER ONE

BY BERNIE MCGUIRE

Rory McIlroy has become golf's newest €20 million man while he also has a new victory trophy to drink from after capturing the WGC – Bridgestone Invitational in Akron, Ohio this morning.

McIlroy made it back-to-back triumphs coming from two shots down in shooting a final round 66 to win the stunning Gary Player ceramic trophy by two strokes with a 15-under par tally and just a fortnight after being handed the Claret Jug.

"I'm putting golf first...and really dedicating my whole time and everything I have into my career. I've worked extremely hard, and I'm reaping the rewards of it now," said McIlroy when asked about his current form.

"I've worked hard all year, but I just feel like I've just had this renewed focus and dedication, and it seems just to be paying off."

Garcia in contrast could only manage one birdie in his 71 for a 13-under par score just two days after birding his closing eight holes in a Firestone course-record equalling 61.

Australia's Marc Leishman finished in outright third place following a final round 67 to fall just three shots off the lead. The result will give the Victorian enormous confidence heading in to this week's PGA Championship.

"I'm feeling pretty good about my game at the moment. I probably didn't drive it quite the way I wanted to today. I'll sort that out early next week, hopefully," said Leishman.

"But I'm feeling great about my game and looking forward to getting to Valhalla."

McIlroy earned a cool €1.140m first prize cheque that has taken his European Tour prizemoney through the €20 million barrier with earnings from 139 events of €20.562 million.

The 25-year-old Irishman also moved back to world number one ahead of this week's PGA Championship with Australia's Adam Scott needing to be inside the top-five to retain top spot on the rankings but ending in a share of eighth place after a last day 71 for seven under.

It is the first time since March 2013 McIlroy has been world number one and he now heads to this week's PGA Championship in the Blue Grass State of Kentucky looking to make it three from three and also land a fourth Major Championship title.

McIlroy went into the final round of the US\$9 million event trailing two shots behind Garcia but three birdies in succession over the opening three holes put McIlroy in front of his newly-engaged rival.

And at the third there was a bizarre incident when an errant Garcia drive hit a female spectator on her wedding finger, knocking the diamond from her engagement ring.

Early efforts to find the stone were unsuccessful and with Garcia promising to buy her a new ring before another spectator found the diamond much to the delight of the woman.

However the bogey cost Garcia the lead with McIlroy holing a three-metre birdie putt.

McIlroy went two in front when he sunk a two metre birdie at the fifth but then found himself back level with Garcia when he bogeyed eight and the Spaniard holed a five-metre birdie at nine.

McIlroy then got his nose back in front when he drilled a 99-yard wedge shot from the right semi rough to eight feet for the fifth birdie of his round and move to 15-under par.

The fire died in Garcia's Firestone drive when he dropped another shot at the 15th handing back to McIlroy a two shot lead.

# WGC BRIDGESTONE INVITATIONAL

**DATE:** July 31 - August 03, 2014

**COURSE:** Firestone Country Club (South), Akron, OH

**PRIZEMONEY:** \$9,000,000

POS	+/-	NAME	R1	R2	R3	R4
1	-15	Rory McIlroy	69	64	66	66
2	-13	Sergio Garcia	68	61	67	71
3	-12	Marc Leishman (AUS)	64	69	68	67
T4	-9	Charl Schwartzel	65	69	73	64
T4	-9	Patrick Reed	67	68	71	65
T4	-9	Keegan Bradley	68	67	67	69
T4	-9	Justin Rose	65	67	70	69
T8	-7	Graeme McDowell	71	70	66	66
T8	-7	Rickie Fowler	67	67	72	67
T8	-7	Ryan Moore	65	73	68	67
T8	-7	Adam Scott (AUS)	69	68	65	71
T12	-6	Matt Kuchar	71	66	72	65
T12	-6	Hideki Matsuyama	70	71	65	68
T12	-6	Brandt Snedeker	68	68	68	70
T15	-5	Phil Mickelson	71	73	69	62
T15	-5	Hunter Mahan	71	65	71	68
T15	-5	Jim Furyk	69	68	69	69
T15	-5	Thomas Bjorn	69	68	69	69
T19	-4	Lee Westwood	72	71	70	63
T19	-4	Kevin Stadler	71	70	66	69
T19	-4	Gary Woodland	70	68	68	70
T19	-4	Henrik Stenson	71	66	68	71
T23	-3	Kevin Na	71	73	66	67
T23	-3	Zach Johnson	70	70	68	69
T23	-3	Branden Grace	69	71	67	70

POS	+/-	NAME	R1	R2	R3	R4
T26	-2	Ernie Els	71	69	70	68
T26	-2	Jimmy Walker	69	70	70	69
T26	-2	Fabrizio Zanotti	70	71	68	69
T26	-2	John Senden (AUS)	74	66	67	71
T26	-2	J.B. Holmes	69	69	67	73
T31	-1	Victor Dubuisson	72	70	69	68
T31	-1	Angel Cabrera	73	68	70	68
T31	-1	Webb Simpson	72	69	70	68
T31	-1	Francesco Molinari	67	70	73	69
T31	-1	Matt Jones (AUS)	70	70	69	70
T31	-1	Harris English	69	69	68	73
T37	Ev	Bubba Watson	69	70	73	68
T37	Ev	Brendon de Jonge	72	69	70	69
T37	Ev	Jamie Donaldson	68	70	71	71
T37	Ev	Seung-Yul Noh	69	69	70	72
T41	+1	Chris Kirk	69	73	72	67
T41	+1	Russell Henley	72	70	71	68
T41	+1	Bill Haas	71	69	69	72
44	+2	Steven Bowditch (AUS)	69	71	73	69
T45	+3	Brendon Todd	74	70	69	70
T45	+3	Miguel A. Jimenez	69	69	72	73
T47	+4	Stephen Gallacher	74	71	69	70
T47	+4	Matt Every	74	68	73	69
49	+5	Jordan Spieth	71	70	73	71
T50	+6	Tim Clark	72	73	70	71
T50	+6	Luke Donald	73	70	72	71
T52	+7	Ian Poulter	73	73	70	71
T52	+7	Scott Stallings	72	75	68	72
T52	+7	Thongchai Jaidee	70	74	71	72
T52	+7	David Howell	69	71	71	76
T56	+8	Joost Luiten	73	73	71	71

POS	+/-	NAME	R1	R2	R3	R4
T56	+8	Martin Kaymer	77	68	72	71
T58	+9	Alexander Levy	72	71	77	69
T58	+9	Richard Sterne	75	70	73	71
T58	+9	Jonas Blixt	75	72	69	73
61	+10	Louis Oosthuizen	75	73	67	75
62	+11	Gonzalo Fdez-Castano	79	71	67	74
T63	+12	Pablo Larrazabal	71	74	77	70
T63	+12	Steve Stricker	74	73	72	73
65	+13	Brian Harman	72	70	75	76
T66	+14	Mikko Ilonen	75	74	73	72
T66	+14	Jason Dufner	70	74	73	77
68	+17	Daisuke Maruyama	73	73	73	78
T69	+18	David Lynn	76	72	75	75
T69	+18	Yoshitaka Takeya	74	75	74	75
71	+20	Kevin Streelman	78	71	78	73
72	+22	Tano Goya	76	77	71	78
WD	-	Graham DeLaet	67	69	76	-
WD	-	Tiger Woods	68	71	72	-
WD	-	Ben Crane	73	70	-	-
WD	-	Jason Day (AUS)	74	71	-	-



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# LAST WORD: OGILVY BREAKS HIS DROUGHT IN RENO

BY LUKE ELVY (@ELVISGOLF)

One of my favourite sayings is 'tough times don't last but tough people do.' It perfectly sums up Australia's sixth PGA Tour winner this year - Geoff Ogilvy, who ended three years of misery to win again.

The 37-year-old stunned us all by claiming the event in Reno-Tahoe, which runs alongside the WGC at Firestone. It was his 8th PGA Tour victory, but first in four years... a stark contrast to the run four years previously, which included a major and three WGC titles.

What he has endured over the past three years you wouldn't wish on anyone, but it has been especially tough on Ogilvy. Cruising along in the world's top 20, his slump began after an injury to his shoulder at the 2011 Masters.

Ironically, he tied fourth that week, his best finish at Augusta National, but what transpired from there was a combination of bad luck, illness and form. It saw his world-ranking plummet from 4th all the way down to 216th.

Unable to overcome his bad shoulder, Ogilvy tried rehabbing it in a pool, instead of fixing it, he caught a virus and fell ill. It virtually made 2011 a write-off, a mongrel of a year to say the least.

From there it got worse. A usually reliable putter, the Aussie lost his groove on the greens and the perennial contender started missing more cuts than he made. One of golf's best thinkers had to start conjuring up ways to overcome it.

As is often the case trying to fix a problem only makes it worse and Ogilvy's game downward spiralled. As he said to me at last year's PGA Championship, professional golf is not fun when you're on the outside looking in.

No longer was he guaranteed starts in the Majors, WGC's or even the Invitational events for those in the world's top 70. There are no bright lights on PGA Tour when you are basically making up the numbers.

During this stretch, there were glimpses of good form and he almost won the 2013 Honda Classic in Florida. It proved the adage 'form is temporary... class is permanent', it's also the reason why he won in Reno on Sunday.

Only time will tell if this surprise win sees Ogilvy regain his confidence and return to the top echelons of world golf. What it has done though is buy him two more years to get there.

After 11 weeks as world number one, it was a shame to see Adam Scott shoved off his perch by a rampant Rory McIlroy. When the Northern Irishman snatched the Australian Open from Scott late last year, I tipped these two would duel it out for top dog in 2014.

Now that McIlroy has won The Open and WGC Bridgestone Invitational in consecutive starts, it appears very much the case. Although, the Australian will have to respond quickly and the PGA Championship is the perfect place to start.

By winning the final major of the year, Scott will not only reclaim top spot he'll also send the message that Rory isn't the only answer in the declining Tiger Woods era. But if McIlroy wins again, it might be the last chance Scott has off ruling golf for quite some time.

It's just one of many interesting stories this week at Valhalla.

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**DRIVER:** Titleist 915D prototype (9.5°)

**FAIRWAY WOODS:** Titleist 913F.d Low Spin (15°)

**IRONS:** Titleist CB 714 (2 iron), Titleist MB 714 (3-9)

**WEDGES:** Titleist Vokey Design SM5 (48-08, 54-10 bent to 55, 60)

**PUTTER:** Scotty Cameron Tour Rat

**BALL:** Titleist Pro V1x

# OGILVY CLAIMS BARRACUDA FOR FIRST TITLE SINCE 2010

BY ANTHONY POWTER

Geoff Ogilvy has won the Barracuda Championship for his eighth PGA Tour title and first since 2010, scoring five points in the modified Stableford event with an eagle on the par-5 13th and pulling away for a five-point victory.

The 37-year-old Australian was making his first appearance at Montreux since 2002 after failing to qualify for the World Golf Championship-Bridgestone Invitational.

Ogilvy, the 2006 US Open winner, recorded birdies on the par-4 14th and par-5 18th to finish with 49 points with American Justin Hicks second with 44 points. Ogilvy had 14 points in the final round with the eagle, five birdies and a bogey.

"It's pretty satisfying. (There's) been some pretty rough packing up in the locker rooms missing cuts and having bad finishes. "

"People watch the TV and see all the fun and happiness of the PGA TOUR golf, but it can be pretty desperately depressing as well spending time away from home, beating your head against the wall, just getting frustrated."

"Depressing is a bit strong a word, but really frustrating. So there has been some pretty rough times in the last couple years."

"Yeah, this is nice."

"It doesn't feel like a first win, but it's a very satisfying win."

"Maybe one of the most important wins ever."

The victory was significant for Ogilvy, who has been winless on the PGA Tour for four years during a period in which his world ranking had slipped outside the top-100 and questions raised regarding his form.

The 2006 US Open winner will now take his place in next week's PGA Championship at Valhalla in Louisville, Kentucky and has extended his exemption on the PGA Tour a further two years.

Before Sunday's victory, Ogilvy was in serious danger of missing the PGA Tour playoffs for the first time since their inception in 2007.

He had also had missed nine cuts in 20 starts this year and was yet to post a top-10 for the first time in his 13 years on the PGA Tour.

"All the other ones came soon after other wins and golf was going well. This is when I was way out of the FedExCup and the world ranking had slipped a long way. So nice to turn the ship around, if you like."

"Hopefully I can build on it. So maybe most important win. Maybe."

Ogilvy becomes the sixth Australian to win on the PGA Tour this year behind Jason Day, Adam Scott, Matt Jones, John Senden and Steven Bowditch

Fellow countryman, Rod Pampling, has also turned his year around this week with his top-5 finish the best of the year on the PGA Tour and only trails his T2 at the WNB Classic on the Webcom Tour.

# BARRACUDA CHAMPIONSHIP

**DATE:** July 31 - August 03, 2014

**COURSE:** Montreux Golf and Country Club, Reno, NV

**PRIZEMONEY:** \$3,000,000

POS	+/-	NAME	R1	R2	R3	R4
1	+49	Geoff Ogilvy (AUS)	16	7	12	14
2	+44	Justin Hicks	9	6	11	18
T3	+37	John Huh	12	7	7	11
T3	+37	Jonathan Byrd	7	6	13	11
5	+36	Rod Pampling (AUS)	11	5	9	11
T6	+35	Martin Laird	13	-4	14	12
T6	+35	Jason Allred	7	11	14	3
T8	+34	Tim Wilkinson (NZL)	16	5	1	12
T8	+34	Kyle Stanley	5	11	6	12
T8	+34	Ricky Barnes	5	6	12	11
T8	+34	Nick Watney	18	8	6	2
T12	+33	Eric Axley	11	4	3	15
T12	+33	Hudson Swafford	9	9	6	9
T14	+32	Chad Campbell	13	-1	7	13
T14	+32	Robert Streb	10	4	9	9
T14	+32	Bryce Molder	10	10	6	6
T17	+31	Miguel Angel Carballo	10	1	7	13
T17	+31	George Coetzee	11	-1	11	10
T17	+31	Joe Durant	9	1	14	7
T17	+31	Tommy Gainey	11	10	3	7
T21	+30	Steve Flesch	1	9	11	9
T21	+30	Wes Roach	12	10	E	8
T21	+30	Morgan Hoffmann	6	3	13	8
T21	+30	David Lingmerth	9	7	12	2
T25	+29	Retief Goosen	5	8	6	10

POS	+/-	NAME	R1	R2	R3	R4
T25	+29	Brendan Steele	9	11	10	-1
T27	+28	Andres Romero	7	7	4	10
T27	+28	Johnson Wagner	10	8	4	6
T27	+28	Woody Austin	11	8	3	6
T27	+28	Derek Ernst	11	E	5	12
T27	+28	Billy Mayfair	3	9	11	5
T27	+28	Doug LaBelle II	11	1	13	3
T27	+28	Lee Janzen	8	7	13	E
T34	+27	Jamie Lovemark	6	5	10	6
T34	+27	J.J. Henry	5	4	12	6
T34	+27	Kevin Chappell	12	-1	6	10
T34	+27	Brice Garnett	-2	10	15	4
T34	+27	Kent Jones	5	11	-2	13
T39	+26	D.J. Trahan	2	6	9	9
T39	+26	Patrick Rodgers	11	E	11	4
T39	+26	John Mallinger	4	5	19	-2
T42	+25	Jeff Overton	7	13	E	5
T42	+25	Kevin Tway	8	1	5	11
T42	+25	Greg Chalmers (AUS)	3	13	10	-1
T45	+23	Mark Wilson	8	9	2	4
T45	+23	Oliver Goss (AUS)	6	3	9	5
T47	+22	Troy Matteson	5	3	11	3
T47	+22	Padraig Harrington	10	7	2	3
T47	+22	Marc Turnesa	6	5	6	5
T47	+22	Kevin Lucas	11	2	3	6
T47	+22	Michael Putnam	8	3	16	-5
T47	+22	Thorbjorn Olesen	10	5	-2	9
T53	+21	Tim Petrovic	10	2	4	5
T53	+21	Arjun Atwal	7	10	6	-2
T53	+21	Danny Lee (NZL)	11	4	E	6
56	+20	Nicholas Thompson	10	5	-1	6

POS	+/-	NAME	R1	R2	R3	R4
T57	+18	Andrew Loupe	8	E	6	4
T57	+18	Trevor Immelman	7	1	6	4
T59	+17	Jim Herman	10	2	5	E
T59	+17	Bronson La'Cassie (AUS)	6	3	2	6
T61	+16	Ben Curtis	7	5	6	-2
T61	+16	John Merrick	3	5	8	E
T61	+16	Charlie Beljan	6	5	5	E
T61	+16	Cameron Beckman	7	2	4	3
T61	+16	Ryuji Imada	4	5	4	3
T66	+15	Tim Herron	4	8	3	E
T66	+15	John Rollins	12	2	1	E
T66	+15	D.H. Lee	11	5	-1	E
T69	+14	Len Mattiace	-1	9	7	-1
T69	+14	Mike Weir	4	10	E	E
T69	+14	Rory Sabbatini	-3	13	2	2
72	+11	Brian Stuard	4	9	-2	E
73	+10	Chris Smith	8	3	E	-1
74	+9	Chad Collins	7	4	3	-5

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# YOUNG GUNS HEAD CHANCES AT PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

BY ANTHONY POWTER

The 2014 PGA Championship at Valhalla stands to be one of the season's most dramatic tournaments as the stresses and strains of an entire season come to a head at the year's last major.

Whether it's waiting to see if Tiger Woods makes an appearance or if a streaking Rory McIlroy seizes the sport the way Woods did more than a decade ago, there are plenty of reasons to take notice when the world's best descend upon the Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Kentucky.

It's the third time Valhalla has hosted the PGA Championship following the 1996 event won by Mark Brooks and in 2000 captured by Woods.

Just 18 days after his name was etched into the silver Claret Jug and after winning the Bridgestone Invitational on Sunday, McIlroy tees off the red-hot favourite.

Aside from taking the world No.1 ranking from Adam Scott, McIlroy's form since May has been nothing short of stunning.

First, he won the BMW PGA Championship at Wentworth, the same week that he announced he had broken off his engagement with Caroline Wozniacki. Then, the 25-year-old from Northern Ireland led from start to finish at Royal Liverpool to win The Open.

On Sunday, McIlroy became the 13th player with a major and a World Golf Championship, and he joined Tiger Woods as the only players to win them in consecutive starts.

McIlroy will try to become only the sixth player, including Woods twice, to win the final two majors of the year. The last player to achieve that feat was another Irishman, Padraig Harrington in 2008.

The PGA of America promotes the final major as having the strongest field in golf, everyone from the top 108 in the world qualified or was invited, and with the richest purse US\$10 million, with US\$1.8 million going to Sunday's winner.

Since the world ranking began in 1986, no other major has produced more champions outside the top-100 - John Daly, Shaun Micheel, Y.E. Yang and Keegan Bradley. Those moments, however, are now becoming rare and it's been three years since anyone outside the top-40 won a major.

Six Aussies are playing this week including Adam Scott and Marc Leishman. Jason Day has entered but is in doubt after withdrawing from Akron last week with a thumb injury that has bothered him for much of the year.

Leishman posted a three-under 67 in Sunday's final round at Akron to finish at 12-under, three behind McIlroy. It was Leishman's best result at a WGC event, which are restricted to elite fields.

The 30-year-old has now had three top-three finishes this season and six inside the top-10. Coming off a top-5 at The Open, Leishman's form is there to clinch a major.

Adam Scott will certainly want in on the action as well after a third successive top-five Open finish at Royal Liverpool.

Scott now focuses on the majors where in fifteen starts in the last four years he has won once, finished runner-up twice and has had four top-5 finishes. Scott has also not finished outside the top-15 at the PGA Championship during this time, with his best result a tie for 5th last year at Rochester.





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# JOHNSON BANNED FROM US PGA TOUR

BY MICHAEL COURT



He's been conspicuous by his absence and rumours continue to do the rounds following Dustin Johnson's supposedly 'self-imposed' absence from the USPGA Tour.

There's no telling how much it will cost Johnson, who last week announced he would be taking an immediate leave of absence from the game.

And we're not talking money here either...it may well cost him his spot on the US team for next month's Ryder Cup.

Even Tiger Woods admitted a player like Johnson, who can hit a shot that carries 320 yards (293 metres) on the fly, is an absolute asset to any team.

"You always want guys with that kind of power to play on any team," said Woods.

"And when he [Dustin ] steps on it, he can hit it even further."

So when Johnson, who will definitely be sitting out this week's PGA Championship at Valhalla, announced he would be taking a break from the game, the warning bells began to ring.

Johnson's business affairs manager, David Winkle, issued a statement on the 30-year old's behalf saying:

"I am taking a leave of absence from professional golf, effective immediately.

"I will use this time to seek professional help for personal challenges I have faced.

"By committing the time and resources necessary to improve my mental health, physical well-being and emotional foundation, I am confident that I will be better equipped to fulfil my potential and become a consistent champion.

"I respectfully ask my fans, well-wishers and the media for privacy as I embark upon this mission of self-improvement."

The PGA Tour quickly responded issued a one-sentence response wishing Johnson well but then the statement really has done Johnson no favours.

Rumours abounded at last weekend's Bridgestone Invitational in Akron, Ohio that Johnson had been handed a mandatory three-month PGA Tour ban.

Johnson is certainly no stranger to controversy having been arrested for DUI in 2009, while there was doubt over his absence from the 2012 Masters.

If Johnson is out for three months, as many observers now believe, then he will be due to return a week prior to his defence of WGC - Champions event in Shanghai in the first week of October.

That's if he plays again in 2014!

# CRAWFORD TOPS AUSSIES AT WESTERN AMATEUR

BY ANTHONY POWTER

Cory Crawford (pictured) has finished the best of the Australians at the Western Amateur Championship in Chicago after progressing through to the quarter-finals before narrowly going down on the 5th extra hole of match-play to American Brian Campbell.

Crawford's encounter with Campbell tied the tournament record for the longest Western Amateur match played since 1961.

Overall the Western Amateur was a success story for the Australians.

Four players, Taylor MacDonald, Geoff Drakeford, Lucas Herbert and Crawford, qualified for the top-16 to progress to the match play segment.

With the tournament regarded as the world's third most important tournament, behind only the British and US Amateur and a field which included 50 of the world's top 100 players, including 21 of the top 37, the Australian effort at the Beverly Country Club south of Chicago was easily the best collective Aussie result to date.

MacDonald lost to Scottie Scheffler from Texas, 3&1, and Drakeford went down to Nick Hardy also in the first round, 6&4. In an opening battle of the Aussies, Crawford defeated Herbert, 1-up, in the first round.

Beau Hossler from Texas State defeated Xander Schauffele, of San Diego, 2up in the championship match after rallying from 3 down through 11 holes, winning six of the last seven holes.

Earlier in the day, Hossler won his semifinal match 4&3 against Illinois incoming freshman Nick Hardy.

"I'm proud of the way I was managing myself around the golf course," Hossler said.

"Even with some rounds this week not being my best, I was able to scramble, miss in the correct places and make key putts when I needed to."

For the majority of the Australians the Western Amateur was their last tournament in the US and they now head back home.

At present eight Australians are either exempt or have pre-qualified for the US Amateur, which starts 11 August at the Atlanta Athletic Club.

Aaron Wilkin pre-qualified for the US Amateur along with Kade McBride and Curtis Luck, who both took medallist honours at Notre Dame in Indiana and in Las Vegas respectively.

Lucas Herbert, Ryan Ruffels, Jarryd Felton and Taylor MacDonald were exempt as their world rankings was inside the desired top-50.




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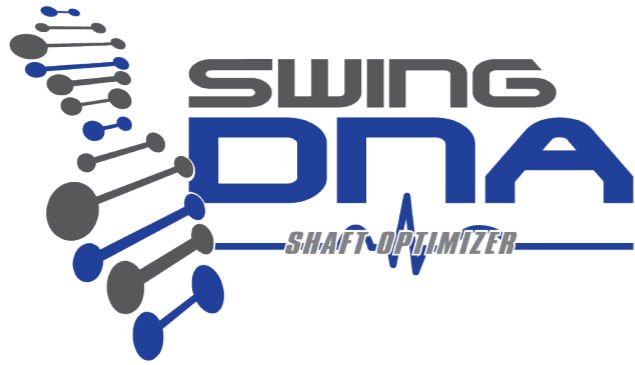




TW	LW	NAME	AVG.	TOTAL	EVENTS
1	2	Rory McIlroy	9.4077	470.38	50
2	1	Adam Scott (AUS)	9.2368	378.71	41
3	5	Sergio Garcia	7.7803	381.23	49
4	3	Henrik Stenson	7.6685	398.76	52
5	4	Justin Rose	7.4602	380.47	51
6	6	Matt Kuchar	6.7706	352.07	52
7	7	Bubba Watson	6.6678	313.38	47
8	8	Jim Furyk	6.4772	297.95	46
9	9	Jason Day (AUS)	6.1919	247.68	40
10	10	Tiger Woods	5.9077	236.31	40
11	11	Jordan Spieth	5.6858	272.92	48
12	12	Martin Kaymer	5.3785	279.68	52
13	13	Phil Mickelson	5.1451	246.96	48
14	14	Zach Johnson	5.0157	260.82	52
15	17	Graeme McDowell	4.9048	240.33	49
16	15	Hideki Matsuyama	4.8810	209.88	43
17	16	Dustin Johnson	4.8328	241.64	50
18	18	Rickie Fowler	4.7877	248.96	52
19	22	Charl Schwartzel	4.1714	216.92	52
20	19	Jimmy Walker	4.1548	216.05	52
21	23	Keegan Bradley	4.1462	215.60	52
22	21	Victor Dubuisson	3.8801	170.72	44
23	20	Steve Stricker	3.8790	155.16	40
24	26	Thomas Bjorn	3.8414	195.91	51
25	29	Patrick Reed	3.7627	191.90	51
26	25	Luke Donald	3.7408	190.78	51
27	24	Jason Dufner	3.7255	193.73	52
28	27	Miguel A Jimenez	3.4786	160.02	46
29	28	Ian Poulter	3.4601	169.54	49
30	30	Webb Simpson	3.4043	177.02	52
31	31	Stephen Gallacher	3.3499	174.19	52
32	32	Jamie Donaldson	3.3319	173.26	52
33	33	Thongchai Jaidee	3.2370	168.32	52

TW	LW	NAME	AVG.	TOTAL	EVENTS
34	34	Lee Westwood	3.1970	166.25	52
35	36	Brandt Snedeker	3.1779	165.25	52
36	38	Kevin Na	3.1517	126.07	40
37	39	Ryan Moore	3.0938	154.69	50
38	37	Bill Haas	3.0850	160.42	52
39	51	Marc Leishman (AUS)	3.0598	159.11	52
40	35	Graham Delaet	3.0415	155.12	51
41	40	Brendon Todd	2.9901	146.51	49
42	41	Kevin Streelman	2.9174	151.71	52
43	42	Francesco Molinari	2.8516	148.28	52
44	43	Chris Kirk	2.7513	143.07	52
45	44	Hunter Mahan	2.7322	142.07	52
46	45	Jonas Blixt	2.6236	136.43	52
47	46	Joost Luiten	2.5943	132.31	51
48	47	Gary Woodland	2.5741	133.85	52
49	49	Harris English	2.5669	133.48	52
50	48	Matt Every	2.5567	132.95	52
51	53	Matt Jones (AUS)	2.5047	130.25	52
52	54	Kevin Stadler	2.5042	130.22	52
53	52	Angel Cabrera	2.4718	121.12	49
54	50	Mikko Ilonen	2.4295	111.76	46
55	57	John Senden (AUS)	2.3938	124.48	52
56	54	Louis Oosthuizen	2.3696	120.85	51
57	56	Billy Horschel	2.3340	121.37	52
58	58	Shane Lowry	2.2586	112.93	50
59	59	Russell Henley	2.2441	116.69	52
60	62	Ernie Els	2.2034	114.58	52
61	65	J.B. Holmes	2.1722	86.89	40
62	60	Koumei Oda	2.1691	108.46	50
63	61	Ryan Palmer	2.1583	103.60	48
64	63	Pablo Larrazabal	2.1294	110.73	52
65	64	Gonzalo Fdez-Castano	2.1065	109.54	52
66	66	Brian Harman	2.0450	106.34	52

TW	LW	NAME	AVG.	TOTAL	EVENTS
67	67	Matteo Manassero	2.0306	105.59	52
68	68	Charley Hoffman	2.0212	101.06	50
69	69	George Coetzee	1.9876	99.38	50
70	71	Bernd Wiesberger	1.9622	102.03	52
71	70	Richard Sterne	1.9446	85.56	44
72	72	K.J. Choi	1.9082	97.32	51
73	73	Rafael Cabrera Bello	1.8619	96.82	52
74	74	Erik Compton	1.8336	95.35	52
75	77	Brooks Koepka	1.8194	87.33	48
76	75	Tim Clark	1.8164	89.00	49
77	76	Ben Martin	1.7965	93.42	52
78	80	Nick Watney	1.7909	93.13	52
79	83	Fredrik Jacobson	1.7677	77.78	44
80	78	Charles Howell-III	1.7617	91.61	52
81	79	Ryo Ishikawa	1.7516	91.08	52
82	82	George McNeill	1.7396	81.76	47
83	85	Brendon de Jonge	1.7348	90.21	52
84	81	Chris Stroud	1.7311	90.02	52
85	84	Paul Casey	1.7059	88.71	52
86	86	Boo Weekley	1.6746	87.08	52
87	87	Anirban Lahiri	1.6587	69.67	42
88	88	Chesson Hadley	1.6488	79.14	48
89	89	Scott Stallings	1.6446	85.52	52
90	90	Chris Wood	1.5639	75.07	48
91	98	Branden Grace	1.5589	81.06	52
92	91	Kim Hyung-sung	1.5395	80.05	52
93	100	Fabrizio Zanotti	1.5377	78.42	51
94	93	David Hearn	1.5246	79.28	52
95	92	Tommy Fleetwood	1.5230	79.20	52
96	94	Ross Fisher	1.5110	78.57	52
97	96	Edoardo Molinari	1.5070	61.79	41
98	95	Thorbjorn Olesen	1.5016	78.08	52
99	102	Danny Willett	1.4990	70.45	47
100	97	Daniel Summerhays	1.4967	77.83	52



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# NICKLAUS SAYS WOODS SHOULD BE ON RYDER CUP TEAM

BY MICHAEL COURT

It's not even up for debate, according to the greatest-ever golfer Jack Nicklaus.

If Tiger Woods says he wants to play for the US in the Ryder Cup next month then it's not an issue – he should be there.

At least that's what The Golden Bear suggested last week when he was quizzed about the subject in the lead-up to what is widely regarded as one of the world's greatest sporting events.

And what's more, Nicklaus feels Ryder Cup captain Tom Watson will almost certainly feel exactly the same way.

"I don't care what Tiger does between now and then, if Tiger wants to play I would certainly choose him," Nicklaus said.

"I'd be hard-pressed not to [pick him].

"I couldn't imagine a Ryder Cup team without him . . . unless he does absolutely nothing in recovering from his game between now and then."

Nicklaus was answering questions in a conference call as part of the lead-up to this week's US PGA Championship because it will be played on a course he designed – Valhalla in Louisville, Kentucky.

The man who won a record 18 major championships, also had a hand in a re-design of the 2014 Ryder Cup course at the famous Gleneagles in Scotland.

Captain Tom Watson had already intimated that he would be picking Woods if he showed some form in the remaining few events before the Cup.

Again, Nicklaus agreed:

"My guess is that Tom feels pretty much the same way [as I do]," he said. "Tom would certainly like to have Tiger on his team and I think anybody in their right mind would.

"Unless Tiger just doesn't want to play or doesn't think he could play, only then would you not choose him."

Although Woods is still searching for his 'A' game following back surgery, he has already expressed his desire to be on the team.

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# 2016 OLYMPICS: TIGER IN, PHIL OUT

BY MICHAEL COURT

This might sound hard to believe, especially given Tiger Woods injury-forced withdrawal from last weekend's Bridgestone Invitational.

But if the teams were picked for the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro then Woods would be there and last year's Open champion Phil Mickelson would be left languishing at home.

I know, I know, there is plenty of golf to be played before the sides are finalised but the fact is, when the initial Olympic Golf Qualification rankings were released last week Tiger was in and Phil was out.

Just to quantify that statement, the Olympic rankings are based on the Official World Golf Ranking.

And that takes into account two years of play and its occasional frustratingly-slow rate of change.

Each country will field four representatives when golf officially returns to the Olympics.

So that means Mickelson (13th in the World Golf Ranking), Jordan Spieth (11th) and Zach Johnson (14th) would miss the boat to Rio.

It would mean Woods, who was tied for ninth going into the Bridgestone, would be accompanied by Bubba Watson (sixth), Matt Kuchar (seventh) and veteran Jim Furyk in 10th spot.

And just for the record, the Australian team would be Adam Scott (2nd in world rankings), Jason Day (ninth), Marc Leishman (39th) and Matt Jones (51st).

And that looks like a team you'd be happy to cheer to a gold, providing, of course, Day overcomes that persistent wrist injury.

It does appear that the Olympics are more committed to diversity than the strongest field for the 72-hole, stroke-play event.

But it is more than two years until we have to take it seriously.

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## GOLF WORLD MOVES TO FULLY DIGITAL EDITION

BY MICHAEL COURT

With almost 100 issues out the door, Golf Grinder has helped lead the way with golf news online. Now one of the world's longest-running golf publications is following suit.

Golf World, something of an 'institution' in golf since 1947 has made the decision to move to an entirely digital format.

The weekly magazine that was launched the year after the late Ben Hogan won his first major can no longer be bought on newsstands across the US and around the world.

Doubtless Golf World has tracked the success of 'The Grinder' and other similar publications which now arrive each week with fresh golf news rather than with the delay of many print publications.

Golf World has always been known as the "news" arm of Golf Digest in the US and that monthly magazine will continue in print each month.

But Golf World will now be exclusively digital, boasting 50 issues a year, which is 19 times a year more than the print version, which would hit the streets 31 times during the US golf season.

According to chairman of both magazines, the long-serving Jerry Tarde, it was a tough decision but it was definitely the right one.

"This brand has been around a long time, and we want it be around for a long time," Tarde said. "The only way to do that is by meeting the expectation of our readers."

## WORLD-FIRST SYNTHETIC COURSE FOR QUEENSLAND

BY MICHAEL COURT

It's been hailed as a world-first.

And the only surprising thing about the 18-hole Zilzie Bay, near Rockhampton in Central Queensland, is that no-one thought of it sooner.

The course, a challenging 5750m layout, is entirely synthetic.

And the owners expect it could save them in the vicinity of a million dollars a year in upkeep.

Rita and Chris Dadson, who introduced artificial turf in their design, felt it was the only way to counter a high degree of salt content in the soil, which may maintenance an expensive and difficult exercise.

They expect this course to last anything up to 14 years - if they look after it.

The Dadsons expect curiosity will also attract a lot of golfers to inspect and play the Zilzie Bay layout.

Set amidst the stunning Central Queensland coastline, the course has been designed to exploit the natural beauty of the terrain, while providing a true test of skill and judgment for golfers of every level.

The 371m par-four fourth hole is the signature hole with a raised green protected by water hazards on the right and left and behind the green, hitting into the usually easterly winds.

In addition to the 18-hole course, Zilzie Bay also has a nine-hole course to keep seniors, juniors and local residents happy.



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# THE SHARK MOVES IN TO VIDEO GAME MARKET

BY MICHAEL COURT

He may have been the world's No.1 golfer for a long time, but Greg Norman has arguably had as much success, if not more, off the golf course.

His business acumen is second to none and when he decides to endorse a product, it is usually one that is going places.

Now he's found a way to mix business with pleasure with The Great White Shark's decision to link with a course-designer feature named The Golf Club for Canadian video game developer, HB Studios, almost certainly proving a reliable pointer to its success.

The Golf Club is currently the only game on the market with its own sophisticated course design feature.

Greg Norman Golf Course Design will apply the extensive features of The Golf Club's course designer software for some of their real-world golf course design projects.

With the ability to instantly deliver virtual draft plans to their clients, Norman and his team will be able to make immediate modifications throughout the design process while also providing the opportunity for clients to virtually play each course from the very start of the design process.

According to president of HB Studios Jeremy Wellard, the Greg Norman Course Designer in their game will not only let players create the golf courses of their wildest dreams and imaginations, but it will allow Norman and his team to demonstrate their design concepts to their clients.

Norman agreed: "We are excited about our new partnership with HB Studios which will allow my design company to visualize our golf courses before any dirt has been moved on-site.

"This new software tool allows our design clients to play the golf holes on a computer while the project is still in the design phase, providing significant cost savings as well as a sales and marketing advantage."

The game supports tours and tournaments, stroke play, match play and four-ball.

The Golf Club's course designer allows players to build an unlimited number of golf courses, which can then be shared and played with friends online.

The game is due for worldwide release on Sony PlayStation 4, Microsoft Xbox One and PC Windows platforms before the end of 2014.



# AUGUST 2014

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	TYPE
<b>NATIONAL DEMO DAYS</b>			
01 AUG	01:00 - 05:00PM	WARRAGUL GOLF CLUB	FIT*
02 AUG	10:00 - 02:00PM	WOODLANDS GOLF CLUB	FIT*
05 AUG	07:30 - 10:30AM	GOSFORD GOLF CLUB	FIT*
05 AUG	09:00 - 02:00PM	CAMDEN LAKESIDE CC	FIT*
05 AUG	11:00 - 03:00PM	WODONGA GOLF CLUB	FIT*
05 AUG	01:00 - 05:00PM	KOORINGAL GOLF CLUB	FIT*
06 AUG	01:00 - 05:00PM	COMMERCIAL ALBURY GC	FIT*
06 AUG	04:00 - 07:00PM	MELBOURNE GOLF ACADEMY	DEMO
07 AUG	04:00 - 07:00PM	MOORE PARK GOLF CLUB	FIT*
08 AUG	12:00 - 03:00PM	BATEAU BAY GOLF RANGE	FIT*
11 AUG	09:00 - 12:00PM	KINCUMBER DRIVING RANGE	FIT*
11 AUG	09:00 - 01:00PM	CAMDEN LAKESIDE CC	FIT*
12 AUG	12:30 - 04:30PM	CUMBERLAND GOLF CLUB	FIT*
13 AUG	09:00 - 02:00PM	BONNIE DOON GOLF CLUB	FIT*
13 AUG	10:00 - 02:00PM	THE SANDS TORQUAY	FIT*
14 AUG	02:00 - 07:00PM	THORNLEIGH GOLF CENTRE	FIT*
14 AUG	05:00 - 08:00PM	YARRA BEND GOLF COURSE	DEMO
15 AUG	09:00 - 02:00PM	ROYAL SYDNEY GOLF CLUB	FIT*
15 AUG	02:30 - 05:30PM	VIRGINIA GOLF CLUB	FIT*
16 AUG	09:00 - 12:00PM	GARY BURMESTER GOLF SHOP	DEMO
18 AUG	08:00 - 03:00PM	PENRITH GOLF CLUB	FIT*
18 AUG	12:00 - 04:00PM	YOUNG GOLF CLUB	FIT*
19 AUG	12:00 - 04:00PM	LEETON GOLF CLUB	FIT*
20 AUG	10:00 - 02:00PM	PENINSULA COUNTRY GC	FIT*
20 AUG	04:00 - 07:00PM	SANDRINGHAM DRIVING RANGE	DEMO
21 AUG	12:00 - 04:00PM	WAGGA CITY RSL GOLF CLUB	FIT*
22 AUG	12:00 - 04:00PM	WAGGA WAGGA COUNTRY CLUB	FIT*
23 AUG	09:00 - 01:00PM	GRIFFITH GOLF CLUB	FIT*
23 AUG	10:00 - 12:00PM	CLUB PELICAN	DEMO
30 AUG	08:30 - 11:30AM	GOLD COAST COUNTRY CLUB	DEMO

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	TYPE
<b>VICTORIA</b>			
SAT 1ST	1000-1400	WOODLANDS GOLF CLUB	FIT*
WED 6TH	1000-1400	YARRA YARRA GOLF CLUB	FIT*
WED 6TH	1600-1900	MELBOURNE GOLF ACADEMY	DEMO
THU 7TH	1500-1800	BARWON DRUMMOND GEELONG	FIT*
SAT 9TH	1000-1400	WARRAGUL COUNTRY CLUB	FIT*
WED 13TH	1500-1800	MORACK GOLF DRIVING RANGE	FIT*
THU 14TH	1000-1400	HOUSE OF GOLF - LONG ISLAND	FIT*
THU 14TH	1600-1900	YARRA BEND DRIVING RANGE	FIT*
FRI 15TH	900-1500	PATTERSON RIVER GOLF CLUB	FIT*
SAT 16TH	1000-1400	SETTLERS RUN COUNTRY CLUB	FIT*
WED 20TH	1000-1400	PENINSULA COUNTRY CLUB	FIT*
WED 20TH	1700-1930	SANDRINGHAM DRIVING RANGE	FIT*
THU 21ST	1100-1700	WODONGA COUNTRY CLUB	FIT*
FRI 22ND	900-1500	RICH RIVER GOLF CLUB RESORT	FIT*
SAT 23RD	1000-1400	YARRAWONGA MULWALA GC	FIT*
FRI 29TH	1300-1700	GREEN ACRES GOLF CLUB	FIT*
SAT 30TH	900-1500	SORRENTO GOLF CLUB	FIT*
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES/ACT</b>			
FRI 1ST	9AM-3PM	ELANORA COUNTRY CLUB	FIT*
MON 4TH	1PM-5PM	CABRAMATTA GOLF CLUB	FIT*
TUE 5TH	9AM-3PM	PENNANT HILLS GOLF CLUB	FIT*
WED 6TH	9AM-2PM	BONNIE DOON GOLF CLUB	FIT*
WED 6TH	4PM-7PM	THE RIDGE DRIVING RANGE	FIT*
THU 7TH	1PM-5PM	THE COAST GOLF CLUB	FIT*
FRI 8TH	8AM-1PM	MONA VALE GOLF CLUB	FIT*
MON 11TH	1PM-5PM	OATLANDS GOLF CLUB	FIT*
TUE 12TH	10AM-2PM	ILLAWARRA GOLF COMPLEX	FIT*
WED 13TH	10AM-3PM	TERREY HILLS COUNTRY CLUB	FIT*
THU 14TH	8AM-1PM	KILLARA GOLF CLUB	FIT*
FRI 15TH	11AM-4PM	SHELLY BEACH GOLF CLUB	FIT*
MON 18TH	12PM-4PM	ASQUITH GOLF CLUB	FIT*

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	TYPE
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES/ACT</b>			
TUE 19TH	10AM-3PM	EDEN GARDENS GOLF CLUB	FIT*
WED 20TH	10AM-3PM	TURA BEACH COUNTRY CLUB	FIT*
THU 21ST	8AM-12PM	NAROOMA GOLF CLUB	FIT*
THU 21ST	2PM-5PM	MOURYA GOLF CLUB	FIT*
FRI 22ND	9AM-1PM	MOLLYMOOK GOLF CLUB	FIT*
MON 25TH	3PM-6PM	GEORGES RIVER GOLF CLUB	DEMO
TUE 26TH	11AM-4PM	MAITLAND GOLF CLUB	FIT*
WED 27TH	4PM-7PM	MOORE PARK DRIVING RANGE	FIT*
THU 28TH	4PM-7PM	THORNLEIGH GOLF CENTRE	FIT*
FRI 29TH	12PM-5PM	HIGHLANDS GOLF CLUB	FIT*
<b>QUEENSLAND</b>			
FRI 1ST	0900-1130	GOLF WORLD KAWANA	FIT*
TUE 5TH	1730-1930	VICTORIA PARK DRIVING RANGE	DEMO
WED 6TH	0930-1330	BRIEBIE ISLAND GOLF CLUB	FIT*
THU 7TH	0900-1300	COFFS HARBOUR GOLF CLUB	FIT*
FRI 8TH	1300-1700	VIRGINIA GOLF CLUB	FIT*
FRI 15TH	1300-1700	HORTON PARK GOLF CLUB	DEMO
FRI 15TH	1300-1630	REDCLIFFE GOLF CLUB	FIT*
WED 20TH	1300-1700	BURLEIGH GOLF CLUB	FIT*
THU 21ST	1600-1830	PARKWOOD INTERNATIONAL	DEMO
FRI 22ND	1500-1700	COOLONGATTA TWEED HEADS	FIT*
WED 27TH	1000-1300	INDOOROPILLY GOLF CLUB	DEMO
THU 28TH	1500-1800	DRUMMOND UNDERWOOD	FIT*
FRI 29TH	1300-1700	PALM MEADOWS	DEMO
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA</b>			
WED 13TH	0930-1330	MOUNT LAWLEY GOLF CLUB	DEMO
FRI 15TH	1100-1500	COLLIER PARK GOLF CLUB	DEMO
FRI 22ND	1200-1600	MARANGAROO GOLF CLUB	DEMO
SAT 23RD	1000-1400	CARRAMAR GOLF CLUB	DEMO
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</b>			
WED 6TH	1600-1900	DRUMMOND GOLF WEST BEACH	DEMO

# PING®

## AUGUST 2014

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	TYPE
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</b>			
FRI 8TH	1300-1700	TANUNDA PINES GOLF COURSE	FIT*
SAT 9TH	1000-1300	BAROSSA VALLEY GOLF CLUB	FIT*
SAT 16TH	1000-1300	GRANGE GOLF CLUB	DEMO
SAT 30TH	0800-1200	ADELAIDE SHORES GOLF PARK	FIT*