

GOLF

Vol. 16, No. 2

BRUCE GREYSIMCOE

Summer 2020

Game On!

Ontario competitive golf is back and the first event is at Saugeen Golf Club



The view from behind the putting green at Saugeen Golf Club, a 27-hole facility that will play host to the Ontario Junior Golf Championship July 27-30. Full story on pages 3 and 4.



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Positive signs

Seeing growth during these crazy times

Welcome to the Summer Edition of Golf BruceGreySimcoe. It has been an interesting season so far, with the new rules in place and clubs working hard to adapt.

And while the pandemic has made for some new challenges, it has also opened up some opportunities for growth.



Steve Harron

From the
Publisher

For example, men's leagues at Legacy Ridge and Ainsdale have set new records for participation this season.

And I'm also hearing that memberships are up at many local clubs this season.

Hopefully the growth in memberships and strong green fee play will help make up for some of the lost tournament business due to restrictions on large gatherings and indoor dining that we've had up until recently.

And amid all the craziness of this season there have been some exciting developments.

And amid all the craziness of this season there have been some exciting developments.

* Saugeen Golf Club is staging the Ontario Junior and Juvenile Championships (Pages 3-4).

* Saugeen Golf Club is also celebrating its 95th Anniversary (Pages 12-14).

* Braestone, the former Orillia Golf Club, is just about ready to open a new clubhouse (Page 19).

Enjoy the content!

And don't forget to sign up for an online edition at golfbrucegreysimcoe.com

Steve Harron

Publisher/Editor

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Super Senior



HAROLD AGLA

Harold Agla is a 79-year-old member of the Seniors League at Southampton Golf and Country Club. He has been playing golf since age 21 and this year on June 20 he shot his age. The first time he shot his age was at 73 and he also did it at 77 and 78. The Port Elgin resident's all-time low score at his home club is 71 (-1). He has played many famous courses in Scotland and Ireland and has golfed in Portugal, Mexico, Bermuda, Bahamas, Jamaica, Myrtle Beach, California, Florida and Pinehurst, North Carolina. He has also played twice with golf legend Moe Norman and once with 2-time U.S. Amateur champ Gary Cowan at Westmount in Kitchener where he was a member for 34 years.

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Saugeen set for championship

While staging an Ontario golf championship will have new challenges this season, Saugeen Golf Club is looking forward to the opportunity.

“We’re extremely excited. It’s one of Ontario’s largest championships and the field is going to be phenomenal,” said Saugeen General Manager Brad Young.

The Ontario Junior (and Juvenile) Golf championship is scheduled for July 27-30 with practice rounds available on July 26.

Ordinarily the field would be 156 but with new safety protocols in place due to COVID-19

Best juniors in province coming to area

concerns, the championship will be reduced to 114 golfers.

Young is expecting an extremely strong field this year because the pandemic has forced the cancellation of all national championships.

This means top-ranked golfers who might have skipped the provincial championships to play in the nationals are more likely to compete provincially this year.

The field has been determined by one-day qualifiers held July 13 at Black Bear Ridge Golf Club in Belleville, July 14 at Silver Lakes Golf and Country Club in Newmarket and July 19 at Cambridge Golf Club.

Cont'd next page

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Safety key in junior event

Saugeen working on protocols with Golf Ontario, local health authorities and province

Cont'd from previous page

Young noted that the qualifiers filled up quickly – one was full within six minutes of registration opening – and that indicates there is a strong appetite among the juniors for competitive golf this season.

The field will include four golfers from the region - Cade Preston, Jacob Stoddart and Michael Ikejiani of Barrie Country Club and Lucas Ross of Midland Golf and Country Club.

With a condensed schedule and Saugeen being the first club to hold a provincial championship this season, Young has been working very closely with Golf Ontario officials as well as regional and provincial health authorities to make sure all the appropriate safety protocols are in place.

A long list of measures has been provided to the club and they have tried to plan for every possible scenario.

Among the many considerations is what happens if a lightning storm occurs during the tournament. Ordinarily, golfers would take shelter in the clubhouse but indoor gatherings of more than 50 people are not allowed so that is not an option.

“Each player must have their own vehicle or a spot where they can wait out the storm,” Young said.

“We’re going to be following every proper procedure outlined by the Ontario government. We are going to be very, very cautious.”

To stage an event of this magnitude many volunteers are needed but filling that need was no problem.



Brad Young

“This golf course is absolutely amazing. We sent out a notice and within minutes we got so many people who were willing to help out. I’ve never seen a course like it,” Young said.

Among the benefits from the event will be a nice boost to Saugeen’s profile in Ontario.

Young has played in provincial events in the past and knows how the media coverage can help the host course.

“It’s a pretty cool thing for Saugeen to be hosting this event.”

Other Ontario Championships

Aug 4-7 - Women’s Am and Mid-Am Championship, Dalewood Golf Club

Aug 11-14 - Men’s Amateur Championship, Otter Creek Golf Club

Aug 18-21 - Junior (and Juvenile) Girls Championship, Shelburne Golf & Country Club

Aug 31-Sept. 1 - Bantam (and Peewee) Boys and Girls Championships, Cambridge Golf Club

Sep 1-2 - Public Amateur Championship, Meadowbrook GC

Sep 8-10 - Senior Men’s and Women’s Championships, Deerhurst Resort

Sep 22-24 - Men’s Mid-Amateur Championship, Loyalist Country Club

Sep 28-29 - Disability Championship, Woodington Lake GC

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The Ultimate Destination

for RBC PGA Canada Scramble participants

Photo by Steve Harron

Cabot Cliffs and Cabot Links on Cape Breton Island are the ultimate destinations for golfers in the RBC PGA Canada Scramble. The finals will be played at the two courses from Oct. 4-6. Shown is the par 3 16th hole at Cabot Cliffs.

Local teams qualify for regionals

Scramble squads competing for spot in national championship

Several teams from the area have qualified for the Regional Finals of the RBC PGA Scramble.

The regional events will be held Aug. 17 at Cutten Fields in Guelph for clubs in the southwestern Ontario region (Legacy Ridge, Duntroon Highlands and OslerBrook) and Aug. 24 at Summit Golf Club in Richmond Hill for clubs in the Greater Toronto Area (The Nest at Friday Harbour near Barrie and Innisfil Creek Golf Club in Cookstown).

A pro from the host club of each of the qualifying teams will join the team for the regional finals.

The results were as follows:

June 13 – The Nest at Friday Harbour

Winning team: Jeff Beedham, Joey Chua, Richerd Kivioja and Bill Commu.
Score: Net 49.9

July 4 – Legacy Ridge Golf Club

Winning team: Adam LeMaitre, Grady Linseman, Logan Widmeyer and Tanner Shlakat.

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Score: Net 51.8.

July 11 - The Nest at Friday Harbour

Winning team: Shahzad Ahmad, Corey George, Derrick Concklin, Donald Monto
Score: Net 51.4

July 13 - Innisfil Creek Golf Club

Winning team: Brett Backman, Kristy Moore, Kevin Hellyer, Derrick Rushton
Score: Net 50.1

July 19 - Duntroon Highlands Golf Club

Winning team: Aiden Nelms, Hayley Larkin, Thomas Tawaststjerna, Sean McMorrow
Score: Net 48.4

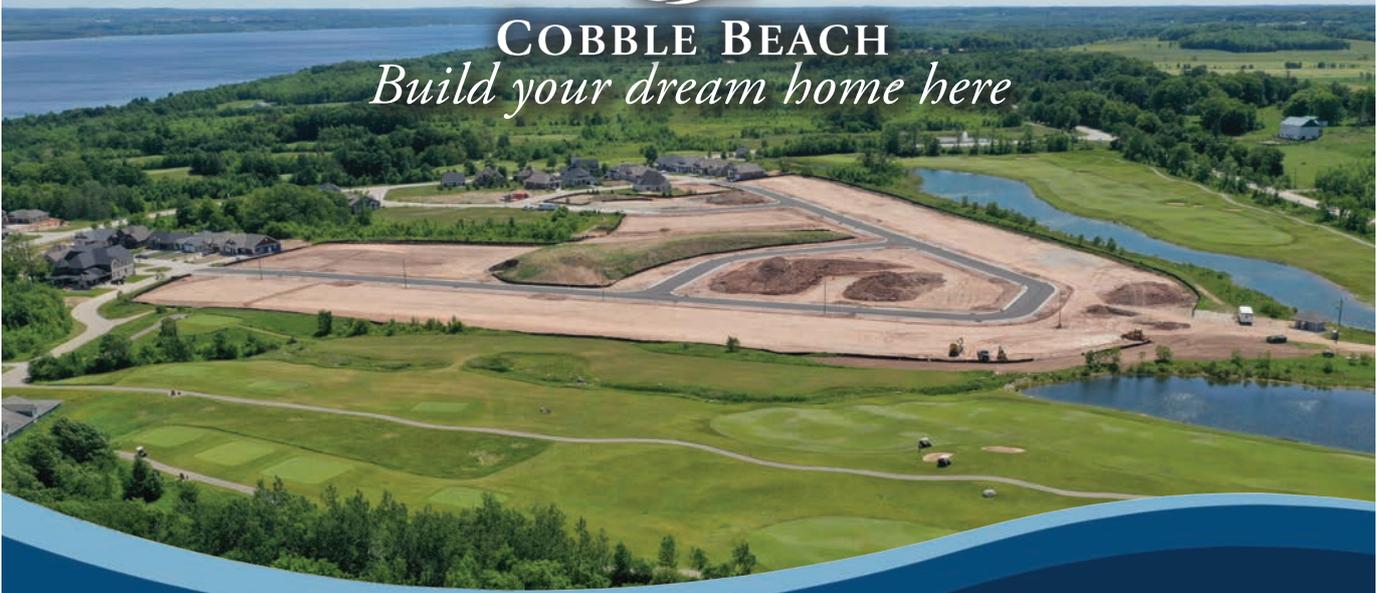
There is also a qualifier scheduled for July 27 at OslerBrook Golf and Country Club near Collingwood.

The national finals are Oct. 4-6 at Cabot Links and Cabot Cliffs on Cape Breton Island in Nova Scotia.



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Top photo: Sharon Mackenzie putts on 5th green. Left photo: Tammy Robinson exits one of the bunkers on #5. Right photo: Carol Smith chips on #18.

Georgian Bay Women's Open

Team of Smith, Barker, White and Coke wins A Flight of 2-day event

The team of Carol Smith, Deborah Barker, Sandra White and Marnie Coke won the A Flight of the Georgian Bay Women's Open at Legacy Ridge Golf Club.

The team shot -30 over the the two-day event (July 7-8) which featured a Net Scramble on Day 1 and a Net 1-2-3 Best Ball format on Day 2.

Winning the B Flight with a -36 total was the team of Janet Lougheed, Connie Lloyd, Wendy Horner and Linda Wilson.

The Net Scramble A Flight winners were Linda

Kieswetter, Mary Anne Alton, Jackie Mersich and Christine Yarwood, while the B Flight was won by Susan Hodgkinson, Betty Clark, Wendy Recoskie and Kathy Harker.

The Net 1-2-3 Best Ball winners were:

A Flight - Kathy Makcrow, Denise Reid, Maryanne Davies and Anja Pieper (-15)

B Flight - Janet Lougheed, Connie Lloyd, Wendy Horner and Linda Wilson.

Christine Yarwood was the closest to the pin on #8.



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John Salowski

AROUND THE CLUBS: SOUTHPORT

New instructor at SouthPort Golf Club

South Port Golf Club near Port Elgin now has a golf instructor available to provide lessons. John Salowski is fully certified with the United States Golf Teachers Federation and the Canadian Golf Teachers Federation. The Southampton resident can be reached through email at solo99ntjohn@aol.com

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Michael Todd's game was hotter than the weather during Men's League play at his home club on July 8. The PGA of Canada pro and co-owner of Legacy Ridge Golf Club shot 64 (-7) in close to 30 C-degree heat. His 32 (-4) on the front 9 gave him low gross honours for men's night. He followed that up with a 67 the next week and once again won low gross honours with a 33 (-2) on the back 9. The official course record was set last year at the club's annual Pro-Am when pro Austin Ryan fired a 63.



Michael Todd

Michael Todd fires 64-67 on consecutive men's nights
Hot rounds by Legacy Ridge pro

Summer Scramble

Team shoots -15 to win event

The team of Greg and Andrew Chesser, Tyson Louth and Tony Hill combined to shot -15 to win the Summer Scramble at Legacy Ridge Golf Club. The team won \$1,000.

Finishing second with a total of -14 was the team of Chris Frook, Trevor Brennan, Brent Keeling and Kris Coburn.

The third place team included Tyler Smith, Mark Wallace, Al Roach and Tyler Yourth.

Closest to the pin prizes went to Trevor Brennan on #8 and Ben Wagner on #17.

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Pro Austin Ryan, who grew up in the Owen Sound area, will be among the competitors in Saugeen tourney.

Pro event coming to Saugeen

PGA Tour Canada players among those competing in Aug. 3-4 tournament

Pros from the PGA Tour Canada (Mackenzie Tour) and the Great Lakes Tour will be coming to the area in less than two weeks.

The Toronto Players Tour – a new mini-tour in southern Ontario - has scheduled a stop for Aug. 3-4 at Saugeen Golf Club.

Players who have competed previously on the Mackenzie Tour who are currently signed up for the event include Brendan Leonard, Luke Moser, Mitch Sutton, Ryan Curran, David Sheman, Keaton Veillette, Mark Hoffman, who is from Wasaga Beach, and Keaton Jones, who has the course record at Westmount Golf and Country Club (63).

Also playing will be:

- Local amateur Blake Mackey, a former champi-

on on the Grey Bruce Junior Tour and a stand-out college player with the Fanshawe Falcons.

- Austin Ryan, a pro who grew up in the Owen Sound area and last year shot 63 to set a new course record at Legacy Ridge Golf Club.
- Selena Costabile, a Toronto resident who has played on the Symetra Tour – one step from the LPGA Tour.
- Robbie Oliver, the Director of Golf at Saugeen. Oliver expects about 50 golfers at the tournament, which will be played on the Sunrise and Legacy 9s.

The first place prize is \$5,000 cash.

With the amount of talent in the field, Oliver fully expects that the course record of 65 will be broken during the event.

Celebrating 95 Years

Saugeen Golf Club was founded in 1925 and the legendary golf course architect Stanley Thompson was involved in creating the original 9 holes



The History

The Saugeen Golf Club was founded in 1925 by Charles Bell, Herbert Stevens, Joseph Houde, Logie Foster and Dr. Clifford Belyea.

The first meetings of the group were held in the summer of 1924 at the Bell Furniture Company in Southampton, a firm Bell owned with his brother Harry.

They worked several months on a plan until they finally found a farm suitable for the layout they could afford to build.

It was a "dilapidated" farm north of Port Elgin near the White School and it was leased from Robert Reid with an option to buy.

Work began on April 15, 1925, to transform the 45 acres into a nine-hole golf course. In May 1925, the first Board of Directors was elected to oversee the club's beginnings, and that board chose Stanley Thompson & Co. - Golf and Landscape Architects of Toronto, to oversee the creation of the golf course.

At the time, Thompson was in the early stages of a career that would see him become one of Canada's top golf course architects with worldwide recognition for his excellence in course design.

Cont'd next page

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Thompson's many world-famous courses include the Banff Springs Hotel Golf Course in Banff, Alberta, the Jasper Park Golf Course in Jasper, Alberta, and Highlands Links in Ingonish, Nova Scotia.

The original name of the club was the Southampton-Port Elgin Golf Club, however during the summer of 1925, the name was changed to the Saugeen Golf and Country Club.

On April 24, 1946, the Provincial Secretary's Office approved the incorporation of the Saugeen Golf Club and the dissolution of the Saugeen Golf and Country Club.

The new charter permitted the club to operate on a non-profit basis. All shares were called in for the Saugeen Golf and Country Club Limited, and in return the members were given "certificates" to the Saugeen Golf Club.

These certificates allowed members to vote on club business and stand for offices within the club. The original course layout, which eventually was named Legacy, remained unchanged until 1951 when Thompson was hired once again to oversee changes that would provide enough length to make it a regulation 9-hole course.

To make the required changes, the club purchased an additional 25 acres on the northeast corner from Quint Cutsworth for \$1,800. The changes involved the removal of a fence and widening and lengthening of the 4th hole.

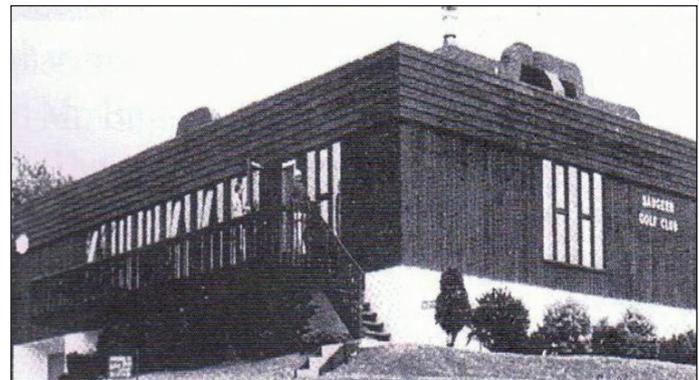
The 5th hole was also lengthened and some minor changes were made to the 6th hole. At the same time the club used the extra property to develop a driving range.

The course would remain that way until June 20, 1957 when an additional nine holes - known as the Sunset 9 - were officially opened.

And then on July 28, 1995 the Sunrise 9 was opened, making Saugeen the first club in the area to have 27 holes.



Building committee chairman Hank Smith officially turned the sod for the new Saugeen clubhouse in September of 1965. Also in the photo are contractor Burt Urquhart and club president Arthur Maundrell. The facility served the club well for many years but with a growing membership an upgrade and expansion was needed. The club spent \$1.85 million on the project and the renovated clubhouse opened in June 2013.



The clubhouse as it looked in 1966 and way it looks today (below).

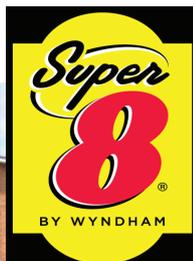


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Back in 2015 Saugeen Golf Club members had an opportunity to play the original 9 holes to celebrate the club's 90th anniversary. Shown at the 9th hole are, from left, Joel and Leslie Parr, Brian and Gloria Currie, Barbara and Jim McKnight and Joanne and Ian Wheeler.



Thomas J. Bell, left, son of club founder James Bell, putts in front of the clubhouse circa 1929-30.



Wearing their "Mad Scotsman" hats during the 90th Anniversary celebration were, from left, Bob McWade, Gary Walker, Brenda Kaake and Jim McKinnon.

Marking the occasion

It's a tough year to celebrate a milestone anniversary but Saugeen Golf Club is doing what it can.

General Manager Brad Young says provincial restrictions on large gatherings make it hard to plan a big celebration but he remains hopeful that the club can organize some form of an event to mark the 95th Anniversary before the season is complete.

In the meantime, they are promoting the anniversary by advertising an anniversary special of 18 holes with a cart for \$50.

History at a Glance

April 1925 - Work begins on the original holes

May 1925 - Board of directors choose Stanley

Thompson to oversee construction of course

June 1957 - Official opening of Sunset 9, making the

club the first in the area to expand to 18 holes

September 1965 - New clubhouse opened.

July 1995 - Grand opening of the Sunrise 9, making

the club the only one in area with 27 holes

Fall of 2008 - Work begins on golf course architect

Graham Cooke's master plan to improve the course.

June 2013 - Club opens new-look clubhouse after a

\$1.85 million renovation.

Photo Flashback



This photo of golfing legends Jack Northey, Ed Ervasti and Tony Matlock appeared in the August 2009 edition of this magazine. They were together for the Senior Invitational at BlackHorse Golf and Country Resort near Kincardine.
Photo by Steve Harron

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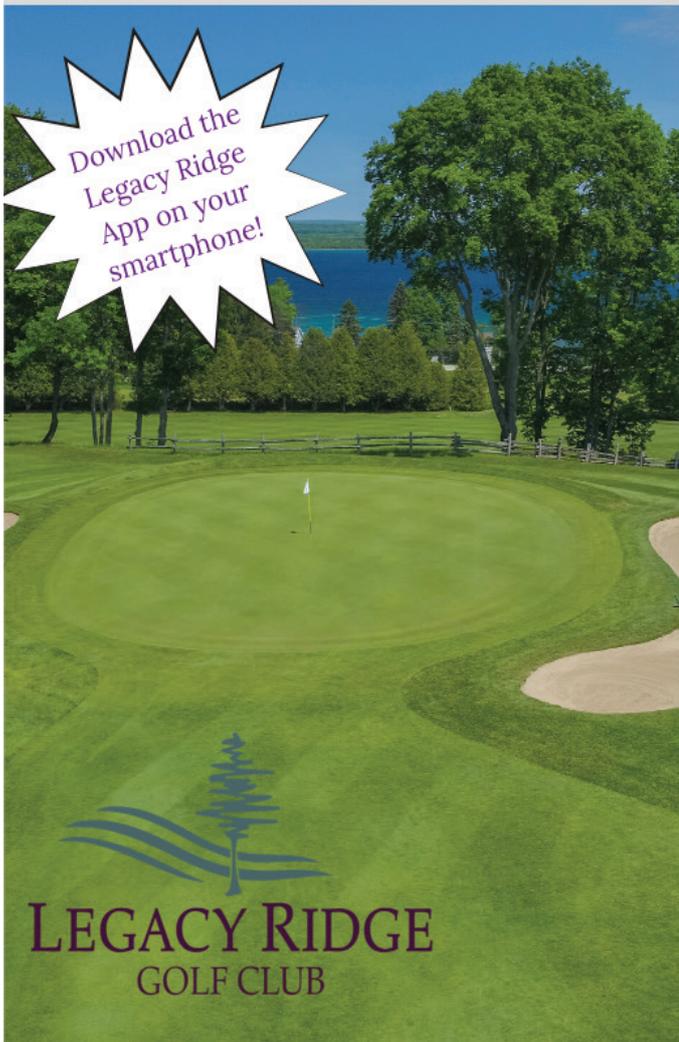


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Family rivalry in Ryder Cup

Ainsdale owners face off in team event

Household bragging rights will be on the line as Class A PGA Professional Chuck Candler and his wife Taylor, a former Division I collegiate player in the U.S., face off in a two-day Ryder Cup-style event at Ainsdale Golf Course.

The Chuck Taylor Ryder Cup is a team event scheduled for Aug. 15-16 at Ainsdale, the Kincardine-area course owned by the Candler.

Chuck, whose background includes jobs as a club pro, director of golf and general manager, will captain one team and Taylor, a standout at the University of Oklahoma, will lead the other team.

The event is open to all skill levels and both members and non-members. The entry fee is \$25 for members and \$25 plus the green fee for non-members.

The fee includes a power cart both days, an Italian sub and bag of chips at the turn both days and prizes. To sign up for the event, contact the Golf Shop at 519-395-5555.



Captain Chuck

Chuck is originally from Sanford, Florida. He graduated from the University of Central Florida in Orlando, FL with a BA in Marketing. After college, he worked at Stoneybrook Golf Club in Orlando, The Ritz-Carlton Golf Club, Orlando and Innisbrook Resort & Spa in the Tampa area. From Florida, he moved to Norman, Oklahoma where he was General Manager/Director of Golf at Belmar Golf Club, owned by country singer Toby Keith. In 2015, he was offered the AGM position at Flint Hills National Golf Club, a top 100 golf course in the US. He is a Class A PGA Professional & a member of the Club Management Association of America.



Captain Taylor

Taylor began playing golf at a young age, grew a love for the game and stuck with it, resulting in a full-ride golf scholarship to the University of Oklahoma. Taylor played for the Sooners from 2009–2013 in Norman, OK. During her time with the women's golf team, she recorded 7 top-10 finishes, won the Big 12 Team Title, and made 3 NCAA National appearances. She received her undergraduate degree in Human Resources. After her college golf career, she completed her Master's Degree from OU in Intercollegiate Athletic Administration, and began playing professionally on the LPGA Symetra Tour, Cactus Tour, and NWGA Tour.

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Changes at Horseshoe

The 18-hole Valley course at Horseshoe Valley Resort has been split into two distinctly different 9-hole courses.

The nine holes on the north side of Horseshoe Valley Road have been converted into a par 3 course and the 9 holes on the south side are operating as a championship course.

The move to a par 3 course was a way of responding to changing times, according to

Director of Golf Nate Clingersmith.

"Amid COVID-19 we saw an opportunity to open this 9 as a par 3 to promote access to new, returning or junior golfers in a time when demand is high and supply is low," Clingersmith said.

The 9-hole championship course has a strong membership from the local area, he said.



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Visitors to the new Braestone clubhouse will get to soak in the views of the water feature as well as the beauty of the surrounding Horseshoe Valley.

Braestone Beauty

Orillia -area club hoping to open new clubhouse sometime next month

The new clubhouse at Braestone Club near Orillia is nearing completion and could open sometime next month.

The ground floor is 4,000 sq. ft. with a mezzanine of about 900 sq. ft. The clubhouse also has a large, two-tiered rear patio and a screened-in porch of 900 sq. ft. that includes a fireplace and big-screen TV.

The pro shop will be located on the north side of the building and will overlook the new practice putting green.

The landscaping is now complete with two ponds connected by a waterfall providing a scenic water feature outside the clubhouse.

The clubhouse design is an adaptation of a design from the Braestone residential development a few kilometres away.

The patio is now open for drinks and barbecued food.

Braestone is located 12 minutes west of Orillia in the Horseshoe Valley.



View from the clubhouse of the 9th green.



The clubhouse as seen from the main entrance.



Ainsdale was a hot spot for aces recently with Dan Dodds, above, Victor De Guzman, right, and Gordon Yoon, below, all scoring hole-in-ones.



Gina Decavallas aced #8 at Legacy Ridge GC on July 9.



John Scott fires ace at Saugeen.



Jake Richardson aced #9 at Southampton G & CC.

Baywest Toyota's Hole-in-One Club

July 16 - **Andy McKerroll** with a pitching wedge from 110 yards on #8 at Legacy Ridge Golf Club. Playing Partners: Bill Corbett, Jim Dinsmore, Ed Grandman.

July 15 - **Bill McDougall** with a 9-iron from 110 yards on #8 at Legacy Ridge Golf Club. Playing partners: Don Marshall, Al White. It was his first ace in 54 years.

July 12 - **Ken Beitz** with a wedge on #5 at Somerhill Golf Club. He was playing with his daughter Serenity.

July 9 - **Gina Decavallas** from 95 yards on #8 at Legacy Ridge Golf Club. She was playing with her husband Olav and Al and Deb White.

July 6 - **John Scott** with a 5-wood from 168 yards on #7 Sunset at Saugeen Golf Club.

July 2 - **Dan Dodds** with a 4-iron from 145 yards on #8 at Ainsdale Golf Course.

June 28 - **Jake Richardson** on #9 at Southampton Golf & Country Club.

June 25 - **Victor De Guzman** with an 8-iron from 107 yards on #8 at his home club - Ainsdale Golf Course.

June 24 - **Gordon Yoon** with a 9-iron from 110 yards on #12 at Ainsdale Golf Course.

June 22 - **Liam Reany** with a 9-iron from 134 yards on #8 Legacy at Saugeen Golf Club.

June 20 - **Lucas Haugh** with a 5-iron on #2 at Somerhill Golf Club. He was playing with Steve Palmer & Ken Beitz.

June 18 - **Patti Alexander** with driver on #2 at Somerhill Golf Club. She was playing with Michelle Legrand, Tracy Neitzel and Vicki Zettel.



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Randy Ewart
General Manager



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