

### Women's International Four-Ball

The 2013 Women's International Four-Ball Championship was exceptionally close this year. Palm Beach's Tara Connelly and Oakland Park's Meghan Stasi battled through cold and windy weather to shoot an even par 72 during the final day, for a two-under (70-72) 142. However, the duo still had a challenging task ahead of them in order to win the Championship. Marie Arnoux and Alexandra Frazier came from behind and fired a final day 69 (73-69-142), forcing a sudden death playoff at The Wanderer's Club in Wellington, Florida.

This was a familiar setting for the U.S. Mid-Amateur Champ, Meghan Stasi, and The French Mid-Amateur Champ, Marie Arnoux. Stasi and Arnoux battled it out in the final match during last year's FSGA Women's Amateur Championship. Stasi came out on top the last time the two met, and she would not be denied victory this time either.

The intense playoff between the two teams ended on the fifth hole, where the Connelly/Stasi duo sank a birdie putt to claim the Women's International Four-Ball Championship. This is the duo's second win as a team; the first came back in September, when they won the FSGA Women's Four-Ball Match Play Championship.

Mary Jane Hiestand of Naples and Diane Lang of Estero continued their consistent play, shooting a 146 and finishing third in the event. Defending Champions Taffy Brower and Alexa Hammer finished tied for fourth with Gale Brudner/ Ellen Oswald.

Click here for full results.



## Senior Mid-Amateur Four-Ball Championship

The team of Stephen Anderson and Rick Woulfe went wire-to-wire to capture the 10th Senior/Mid-Amateur Four-Ball Championship at the Santa Lucia River Club in Port Saint Lucie, on March 23-24.

Stephen Anderson, of Hobe Sound, and Rick Woulfe, from Fort Lauderdale, posted a tournament total of 10-under par 134, to capture the first Men's Championship of the 2013 season. In the first round, the pair fired the low round of the Championship with an impressive round of seven-under par 65, highlighted by an eagle on the par 5 10th hole

to take a one stroke lead heading into the final round. Anderson and Woulfe continued their solid play in the final round posting a three-under par 69 in windy conditions to win the Championship by three strokes. This is the second year in a row Rick Woulfe has won the Senior/ Mid-Amateur Four-Ball Championship partnering with Don Bell in 2012.



The team of Matt Bianchini and Owen Joyner, of Naples, finished alone in second place after rounds of 69-68 posting seven-under par for the Championship. The team of Steve Earsley, of Hobe Sound, and Pete Williams, of Juno Beach, and the team of Jeff Neugebauer, of Tampa, and Ken Palladino, of Dunedin, tied for third place with a tournament total of five-under par 139.

The field included 47 teams of one partner over 55 years of age and the other between 25-54 years old. In the Championship, competitors played 36 holes of four-ball stroke play over the course of two days.

# Women's Senior Amateur Championship

Mary Jane Hiestand (pictured right) claimed the 2013 Women's Senior Amateur in wire to wire fashion at Worthington Country Club in Bonita Springs. The Naples native backed

up an opening round 72 with a final round 75 to best 3-time past champion and good friend, Diane Lang who shot 75-76 -151. Lang made it interesting however, erasing a three shot deficit with an opening nine of 35 in Tuesday's final round while Hiestand went out in 40. Lang, also a 3-time U.S. Women's Senior Amateur Champion, extended her lead with a birdie on the 10th hole. Mary Jane responded with a birdie on 11 followed by a string of pars which was good enough for a three shot victory. Hiestand is



a 3-time reigning Women's Senior Player of the Year (Sharing the honors with Lang in 2010).

In the Super Senior Division, Nancy Jackson, of Boynton Beach, (pictured left) came from behind to win by three strokes over Nancy Smith (84-77) of North Port. Meredith Wolf of Wellington, held the first round lead after an opening 80, but a final round 85 left her in third place. After a first round 83, Jackson heated up to the tune of a final round 75. It was the lowest round of the Championship in the Super Senior Division and was highlighted by a birdie on the difficult par three 13th hole.

#### Click here for full results

#### **Gross Winners**

Senior Championship First Flight - Debbie Court, Sarasota, FL 83-78—161
Senior Field First Flight - Susan Markin, Palm Beach, FL 83-78--161
Senior Field Second Flight - Susan Howen, Venice, FL 91-86—177
Super Senior Field First Flight - Connie Malenick, Naples, FL 82-82—164
Super Senior Field Second Flight - Jeannette Sullivan, Palmetto Bay, FL 98-87—185

#### **Net Winners**

Senior Field First Flight - Gilda Perez, Orlando, FL 71-70—141 Senior Field Second Flight - Liz Rees, Naples, FL 70-71—141 Super Senior Field First Flight - Connie Malenick, Naples, FL 69-69—138 Super Senior Field Second Flight - Jeannette Sullivan, Palmetto Bay, FL 72-61--133

# **Super Senior Championship**

Earl Daniell, Edward Craig and Ray Darmstadt claimed their respective division titles at Super Senior Championship conducted at the historic Lake Wales Country Club, in Lake Wales on April 9-10.

Earl Daniell, of Tallahasse, (pictured left) prevailed in a sudden death playoff to capture the 65-69 division title. After a first round of two-over par 74, Daniell found himself three strokes out of the lead heading into the final round of play. Daniell continued his solid play carding a final round 74 that included four birdies to find himself tied with his good friend Fred Peel, of Chipley. Peel also posted rounds of 74-74, but after costly bogey on the final hole, Peel would head for the sudden death playoff. The playoff commenced on the first hole where Daniell would go on to make par to capture the title.

The 70-74 age division was filled with excitement with Edward Craig prevailing in a four way playoff. Edward Craig, of Orlando (pictured center), Phil Leckey, of Tampa, Curtis Madson, of Mount Dora, and Blair Rugh, of Orlando, all found themselves tied for the lead after posting 149 for the tournament. The four would head for a sudden death playoff to determine the Champion. After the first playoff hole Madson and Rugh were eliminated after failing to make par which left Craig and Leckey to battle for the title. Craig would prevail on the second playoff hole by making a par to add to his impressive FSGA Championship resume.

Ray Darmstadt, of Cocoa Beach, (pictured right) went wire-to-wire to dominate the 75 & over age division. Darmstadt fired an impressive two-under par 70 in the first round to take a two stroke advantage into the final round. Darmstadt picked up where he left off in the final round posting 71 and win by five shots. Darmstadt was the only player in the Championship to finish under par.

#### Click here for full results







# "What's a Club-length?"

By Jack Pultorak
Director of Rules & Competitions

Throughout the Rules of Golf, the term club-length is used. Nearly every club in your bag is of a different length, so which one should you use?



Many times the term club-length is used in relief situations. For example, "within one club-length" when taking relief from an immovable obstruction or "within two club-lengths" from a reference point for an unplayable lie or relief from a lateral water hazard.

The term club-length is also used in defining the teeing ground; a rectangular area two club-lengths in depth.

That being said, what effect does the varying size of the clubs mean? Actually, it means that the player with the 52" putter probably has a larger teeing ground as well as a larger dropping area under some Rules. Is that fair?

Currently, everyone has the same ability to choose the putter of any length they wish. Other than putters, the maximum overall length of club is forty-eight inches and the minimum length is eighteen.

It seems safe to say that having a long club to measure is an advantage. But, not so fast!

What if I elect or am required to play my next stroke from where the previous stroke was last played (stroke and distance)? After dropping the ball correctly and having it roll into an unplayable position, which club should I use to measure to see if it has rolled more than two club-lengths which would require a re-drop under Rule 20-2c? If it has rolled more than



two putter-lengths but less than two driver-lengths, I'll use the 20" putter to measure. That way I'll get a re-drop!

Remember, use the index or the table of contents to find the correct Rule that applies to the situation and follow the Rules of Golf to help yourself to enjoy the game of golf.

# **Senior Amateur Championship**

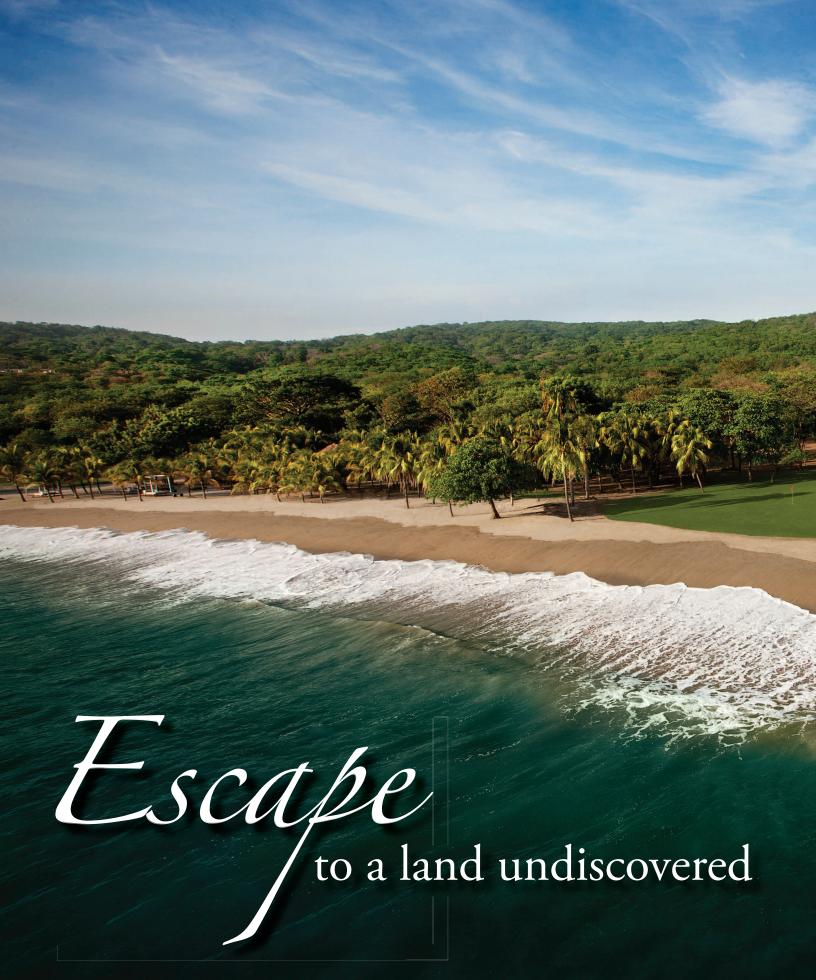
It was an action-packed day at Quail Ridge Country Club and the number of players in contention seemed endless. Heading into the 16th hole, four players were tied for the lead. Rick Woulfe, 64, of Fort Lauderdale, Doug LaCrosse, 60, of Tampa, Gordon Marshall, 57, of Sarasota, and Howard Logan, 56, of Naples were all at 3-under par for the tournament.

However, one-by-one, the nerves and over-par scores quickly surfaced. Marshall was the first to feel the pressure, bogeying the 503 yard par-5, hole 16. LaCrosse then bogeyed the long par-4 hole 17, while Howard doubled. This gave Woulfe (who was at 3-under) a one-stroke lead going into the final hole. However, an errant teeshot into the trees forced Woulfe to hit a punch shot which carried through the green. LaCrosse and Marshall also missed the 18th green. Both Woulfe and Marshall missed their putts on 18 to save par and carded bogeys on their final hole. LaCrosse then drained his par putt to pull off an incredible up-and-down, which forced a sudden death play-off with Woulfe.

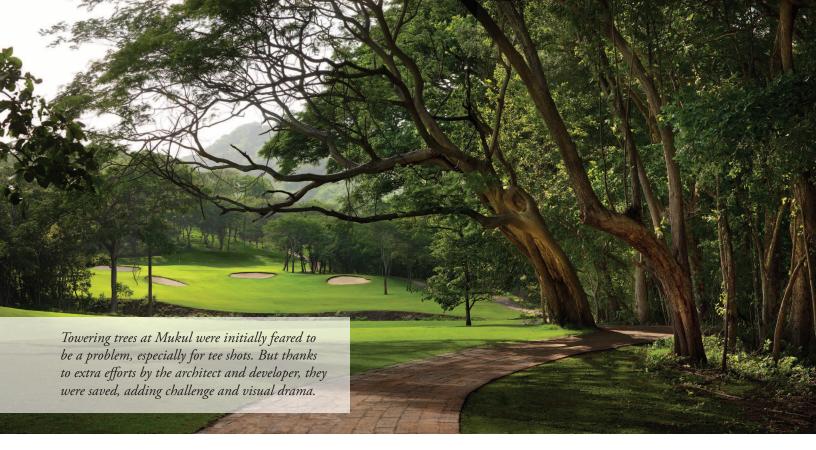


The two headed back to the 436 yard par-4, 18th hole to decide who would take home the hardware. LaCrosse stuck his approach shot close while Woulfe was unable to hit the green in regulation. With Woulfe lying 3 on the green, LaCrosse drained his birdie putt to defeat the seven-time Senior Player-of-the-Year.

It was a dramatic finish for the Tampa native, who also won the 2012 Senior Four-Ball Championship with fellow partner Steve Earsley. LaCrosse finished the tournament with a 2-under 214 (72-68-74) aggregate. This victory adds to Doug's impressive Championship resume which includes the 1992 State Amateur title and the 1995 State Mid-Amateur title.







The result is a golf course perfectly integrated into the land's contours, as Guacalito means "little bowl." Ancient trees – some 100 feet tall – loom in the player's vision across 17 holes until the par-3 18th hole spills spectacularly out of the jungle onto a broad, white-sand beach. In topography and ocean views, the Emerald Coast rivals California's Monterey Peninsula.

Guacalito's eco-friendly routing, which took Kidd four years to meticulously lay out, should remind people why his first major work – the minimalist, naturalistic Bandon Dunes – blew away

"We want this place to be an authentic destination for people who want to visit an unexplored destination."

– Carlos Pellas Chamorro

the golf world 20 years ago. "I realized that over the years I had gotten away from the concepts that made Bandon so successful, and I've gone back to the idea of not placing obstacles in front of the player," said Kidd, whose portfolio includes such other notables as the Castle Course in St. Andrews and Machrihanish Dunes in Scotland, as well as Tetherow in Oregon.

Guacalito is a part of a new luxury golf and beach resort and residential community that is about to become Central America's next red-hot destination, according to the Wall Street Journal and several other national publications.

Mukul, which means "secret" in a Mayan dialect, has 37 private villas sprinkled across a steep hillside overlooking the ocean. Each has a private pool and deck. Rooms are richly appointed with hand-made Nicaraguan furniture and art. The resort's spa offers seven distinct styles of massage, "One for every day of the week," said Federico Spada, the resort's manager.

The first phase of two-story condos are being handed over to their new owners, 96 percent of whom are wealthy Nicaraguans. More luxury condos and single-family home sites are being offered

> to American and Canadian buyers lured by Nicaragua's natural beauty and low cost of living.

Pellas, the resort's owner and developer, heads Grupo Pellas, a multi-national conglomerate with interests in land development, vehicle dealerships, citrus, sugar mills, ethanol and the highly regarded Flora de Caña rum distillery. Pellas built BAC-Credomatic, Nicaragua's largest bank, before selling it to GE Capital in one of the largest deals ever in Central America.

In the past decade, Nicaragua's once hard-line Marxist Sandinista government significantly loosened business restrictions. Pellas grabbed the chance to take the lead in pushing Nicaragua, the second-poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere, to build a sustainable tourism economy, and he's doing it from the ground up. And there are signs it is working, as extreme poverty, which once included 11.2 percent has dropped to 5.5 percent in the past five years.

"They say I am crazy making huge bets like this, that the country isn't ready, that I'm jumping the gun. But I think it's the

right time," Pellas, a Stanford business graduate, said in an interview.

Rather than hiring a golf-resort management company, Pellas recruited a team of veterans of the Mexican hospitality and golf industry to train a Nicaraguan workforce. People from the surrounding municipality of Tola, many subsistence farmers and fishermen, others who never had a job, now make up 70 percent of Mukul's staff.

Pellas established an academy, "Escuelita Mukul," to train workers on the intricacies of hospitality: to teach employees sanitary food handling, how to wait tables, tend bar, clean guest villas and caddie for golfers. Many workers who built the resort's roads and villas, transplanted trees and shaped the golf course had never operated mechanized equipment.

Last year, Mukul's Office of Corporate Social Responsibility (each of Grupo Pellas' business units has one) distributed ceramic water filter/purifiers to 550 families in five nearby villages, said program manager Jon Thompson. Another 550 filters will be distributed this year. Since the program started, "We've seen a drastic reduction in diarrhea and kidney infections," Thompson said.

Pellas' company has made small loans of between \$1,000 and \$5,000 to local small businesses. Recipients have included roadside food and craft stalls, small restaurants, hostels and B&Bs. Businesses that significantly improve standards can be forgiven their loans. "We want this place to be an authentic destination for people who want to visit an unexplored destination, and we want to do it in a sustainable way that benefits Nicaragua through what I call 'inclusive capitalism,' " Pellas said.

His push for sustainability led Pellas to Kidd, son of a Scottish golf superintendent, who walked Guacalito for months before clearing what Pellas calls "arbusto," the Spanish word for bushy, low-lying vegetation that obscured the forest's giant Guanacaste,



Madroño, Tamarindo and Genizaro trees.

Faced with Pellas' "no cut" dictum, Kidd transplanted 1,500 trees from fairways to the course's turfed margins – an arboreal version of Moses' parting of the Red Sea. Mukul set a world record for the largest tree ever moved, a 1-million-pound Guanacaste tree dragged and pushed by giant bulldozers to a spot inside Mukul's front gate.

The towering trees define holes and add challenges and visual drama. Guacalito's Penn State-trained agronomist and superintendent Chip Caswell agrees, but goes further. Tree limbs high above the 18th tee, for example, were left untouched to allow a band of howler monkeys living on the hillside above No. 17 to make the aerial commute across 18 to the rest of their territory.

Cutting the limbs would have reduced the band's habitat by as much as 50 percent. "In two years here, I've seen those monkeys on the ground maybe five times – those upper limbs are that important," Caswell said.

That kind of attention to environmental detail helps Guacalito

live up to Pellas' vision of sustainability. It also makes a course that you could play every day for a week and never tire of it. That being said, whether or not Guacalito's massive trees, arroyos and ballgobbling jungle make a monkey out of you – well, that's another story.



# Find Mukul online at: www.mukulresort.com

Dan Vukelich is a freelance writer in Albuquerque, N.M., who edits NewMexicoGolfNews.com. He also writes about golf and travel for the Chicago Tribune.



# 2013 Florida Junor Tour Champions



#### **January 12-13 - Deer Island Country Club, Tavares (13-15)**

Boys - Tyler Strafaci, Davie - Girls - Amanda Gartrell, Lakeland

#### **January 26-27 - Brooksville Country Club, Brooksville (16-18)**

Boys - Jordan Miller, Oneco - Girls - Yueer Feng, Orlando

#### February 9-10 - West Orange Country Club, Winter Garden (13-15)

Boys - Jake Holt, West Palm Beach - Girls - Victoria Mallett, England

#### February 9-10 - Amelia National Golf Club, Amelia Island (16-18)

Boys - Jacob Kline, Saint Augustine - Girls - Athena Yang, Winter Haven

#### February 23-24 - Southwood Golf Club, Tallahassee (16-18)

Boys - Matt Young, Tallahassee - Girls - Emmy Martin, Odessa

#### March 2-3 - LPGA International, Daytona Beach (13-15)

Boys - Zong Fan Li, Bradenton - Girls - Emma Albrecht, Ormond Beach

#### March 16-17 - Rio Pinar Country Club, Orlando (16-18)

Boys - Luis Gagne, Orlando - Girls - Yueer Feng, Orlando

#### March 23-24 - Pensacola Country Club, Pensacola (16-18 & 13-15)

Boys - Tyler Strafaci, Davie & Henry Westmoreland, Wacissa Girls - Madison Pacheco, Pensacola, & Kaeli Jones, Sumterville

#### April 13-14 - Viera East Golf Club, Viera (Boys 13-15 & Girls 13-15 & 16-18)

Boys - David Giandomenico, Boynton Beach - Girls - Yuanru Yin, China & Lantanna Stone, Valrico

#### **April 13-14 - Lake Wales Country Club, Lake Wales (Boys 16-18)**

Boys - Kevin Reilly, Oviedo

#### April 27-28 - Old Corkscrew Golf Club, Estero (near Fort Myers) (13-15)

Boys - Andy Zhang, Reunion - Girls - Kendall Griffin, Sebring

#### May 4-5 - Via Mizner Golf & Country Club, Boca Raton (16-18)

Boys - Zachary Smith, Palm Beach - Girls - Kristine Odaiyar, Ocala

#### May 11-12 - Quail Ridge Country Club, Boynton Beach (13-15)

Boys - Tyler Strafaci, Davie - Girls - Yuanru Yin, China

#### May 11-12 - Lemon Bay Golf Club, Englewood (16-18)

Boys - Ryan Celano, Naples - Girls - Athena Yang, Winter Haven

# **Upcoming Florida Junor Tour Events**

May 25-27	Innisbrook Resort & Golf Club, Palm Harbor (Boys 16-18)
May 25-27	Harmony Preserve, Harmony (Boys 13-15 & Girls 13-15 & 16-18)
August 17-18	Mayacoo Lakes Country Club, West Palm Beach (16-18)
August 24-25	Worthington Country Club, Bonita Springs (13-15)
September 7-8	Emerald Greens Golf & Country Club, Tampa (13-15)
September 14-15	Sugar Mill Country Club, New Smyrna Beach (16-18)
September 28-29	Sara Bay Country Club, Sarasota (13-15)
September 28-29	Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club, Dade City (16-18)
October 5-6	Timacuan Golf & Country Club, Lake Mary (13-15)
October 12-13	Eagle Creek Golf & Country Club, Naples (16-18)
November 9-10	Conservatory at Hammock Beach, Palm Coast (16-18)
November 16-17	Santa Lucia River Club, Port Saint Lucie (13-15)
November 23-24	Juliette Falls, Dunnellon (16-18)
December 14-15	TPC Sawgrass, Ponte Vedra Beach (13-15 & 16-18)
	**Tour Championship**



Ramsey Touchberry, of Bradenton, recently fired a nine-under par 63 to tie the lowest single round round ever shot on the Florida Junior Tour.



# Mid-Amateur Stroke Play Championship

Joe Alfieri went wire-to-wire to post a tournament total of nine-under par 207 to capture the Mid-Amateur Stroke Play Championship at Vero Beach Country Club in Vero Beach, on May 3-5.

Joe Alfieri, from Lutz, continued his solid play on Sunday to win by an impressive six strokes. Alfieri got off to a hot start in the first round posting the low round of the tournament with a five-under par 67 to take a two stroke lead into the second round. Playing Saturday afternoon, Alfieri fired a one-under par 71 to expand his lead to three shots heading into Sunday. Alfieri began where he left off in the final round, carding a three-under par 69 to capture his first Mid-Amateur Stroke Play Championship. Alfieri has had a great start to the 2013 season, which includes capturing the Camp Invitational for the fifth time. This victory also adds to his impressive FSGA Championship resume which includes: The Florida Open, Four-Ball Championship, Amateur Match Play, and the Mid-Amateur Championship.

Ryder Frerichs, of Saint Petersburg, finished alone in second place firing a tournament total of three-under par 213. Three players finished tied for third place with a 54-hole total of two-under par 214: Thad Hudgens, of Longwood, John Wegmann, of Southwest Ranches, and Pete Williams, of Juno Beach. Past champions of the event, Bobby Bird, of Vero Beach and Don Bell, of Port Orange, finished tied for ninth place.

#### Click here for full results





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# Two-Man Shoot-Out Championship

Don Bell and Roger Dean erased a two stroke deficit to capture the 2013 Two-Man Shoot-Out held at Black Diamond Ranch, in Lecanto, on May 18-19.

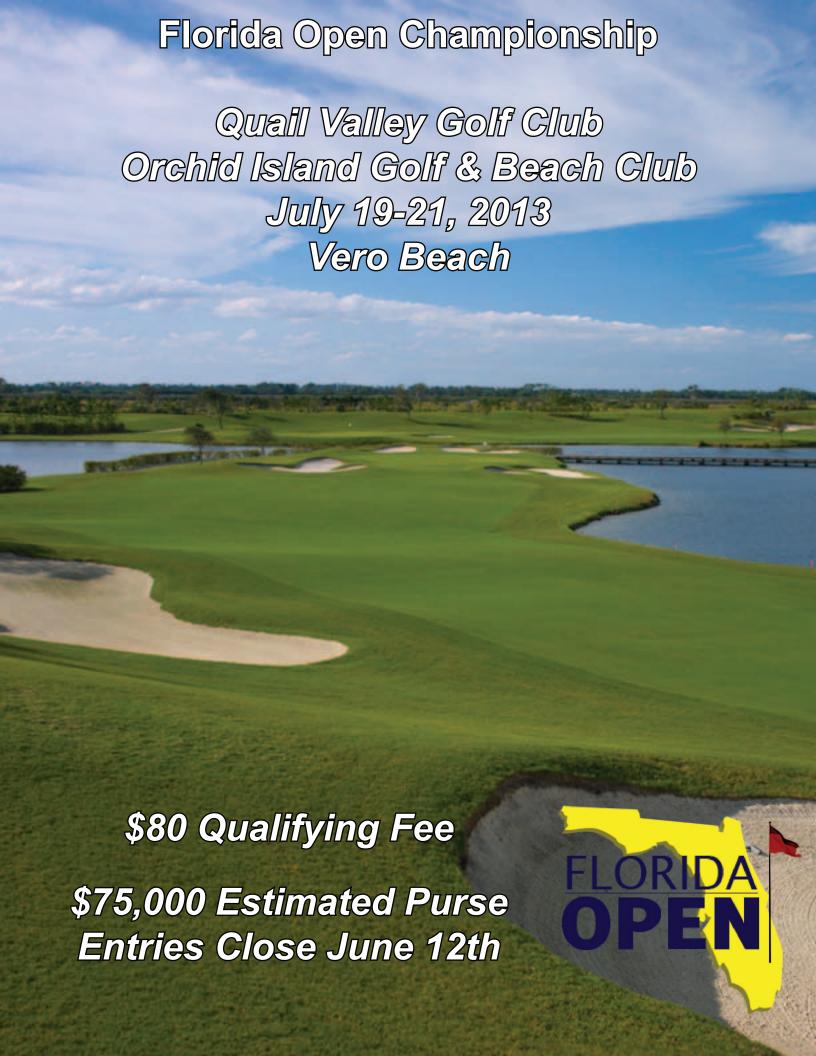
Don Bell, of Port Orange, and Roger Dean, of Ormond Beach, posted a tournament total of 16-under par 200 to cruise to a three stroke victory. In the first round of modified alternate shot on the Highlands/Ranch Course, the pair posted a two-under par round of 70, to trail the leaders by just one stroke. The second round was a scramble format also played on the Highlands/Ranch Course where Bell and Dean continued to stay hot, posting a nine-under par 63. With a two round total of 133, the duo would trail past State Amateur Champion, Brad Quiri, of Oldsmar, and James Kemp, of Pensacola, after their rounds of 70-61. Playing a Four-Ball format in the final round on the Quarry Course, Bell and Dean

went on to fire a fiveunder par 67 to secure their first Two-Man Shoot-Out crown.

The team of James
Kemp and Brad Quiri
finished alone in
second place with a
tournament total of
13-under par 203. The
team from Lynn Haven consisting of Rob
Maddox and Christian
McCarter and the duo
from Tampa, Andy and
Darin Green finished
tied for third place with
a tournament total of
11-under par 205.



The field of 52 teams played three competitive rounds consisting of modified alternate shot, two-man scramble and the final 18 holes of four-ball. The first round and second round was played on the Highlands/Ranch Course, with the last round played on the Quarry Course.



# **2013 One-Day Tournaments**

The 2013 One-Day season features over 150 events. These events are great opportunites for players to play Florida's premiere golf courses at great prices. Invite friends and fellow golfers to enjoy the One-Day Events.

#### **Entry Fee**

• Includes: Cart, golf, range balls and prizes.

#### **Divisions and Tees Played**

- Men's Gross All Ages 6,500 yards (No Handicaps)
- Men's Under 50 6,500 yards (Full Handicap)
- Men's 50-64 Years 6,200 yards (Full Handicap)
- Men's 65 & Older 5,700 5,800 yards (Full Handicap)
- Women's Long Tee 5,700 5,800 yds (Gross and Net Scoring)
- Women's Short Tee 5,200 yards (Gross and Net Scoring)

#### **Format**

- 18 holes of individual net stroke play within flights
- Players will play to 100% of their course handicap
- Gross Flight All ages; players play the same tees, and no strokes are given
- Shotgun starts

#### Enter Online at www.fsga.org

- Men & Women eligible.
- Players may play in all regions.
- Stay and Play Tournaments (Two one-days back-to-back with a hotel deal available).
- Players may make their own groupings.
- Men will be grouped with Men, and Women will be grouped with Women, unless players select a mixed group.

#### **Eligibility**

- Amateur golfers
- FSGA/GHIN handicap required (24.0 or less for men and 34.0 or less for women).
- Golfers who do not have an FSGA/GHIN handicap index from an FSGA member club may purchase a 2013 handicap online for \$30 at www.fsga.org.

#### **Prizes**

• \$10 per person (from the entry fee) is in the gift certificate pot.

Enter Online at

www.FSGA.org

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#### **Membership Levels**

**\$1,000** Chairman's Level - Foundation Member (Husband & Wife)

\$500 President's Level - Foundation Member (Husband & Wife)

**\$250** Director's Level - Foundation Member (Husband & Wife)

\$150 Director's Level - Foundation Member

\$50 Men's Regular Level

\$40 Women's Regular Level

\$40 FJT/Junior Level

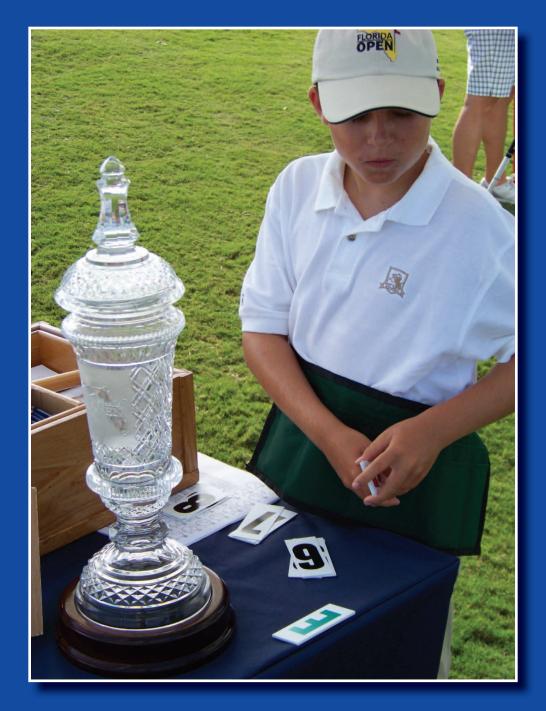
\$25 Patron Level

All membership dollars received above the Regular membership will go towards the Future of Golf Foundation. The Foundation is a need and academic based program that provides college scholarships to junior golfers and assists juniors with entry and travel expenses to national tournaments. Foundation Members will receive a Future of Golf Foundation golf shirt when joining as well as reduced entry fees into FSGA events.

#### **New GHIN Clubs**

The FSGA welcomes the following clubs that recently joined the GHIN Handicap System. These clubs join the more than 600 clubs state-wide on the GHIN Handicap System. For more on the GHIN Handicap System, please contact Aaron Skoviera at 813.868.5802.

GC of Amelia Island, Amelia Island Bay Area Golf Club, Seminole River Wilderness, Parrish



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