

SPRING 2015

RIGA

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RHODE ISLAND GOLF ASSOCIATION

A photograph of three people on a golf course. On the left, a woman in a pink shirt and white pants. In the center, a man in a striped polo shirt and khaki pants. On the right, a woman in a light blue shirt and dark pants. They are standing on a green with trees in the background. A golf club lies on the grass in the foreground.

**The RIGA will Tee it
Forward starting in 2015**

Plus ... 2014 in Review

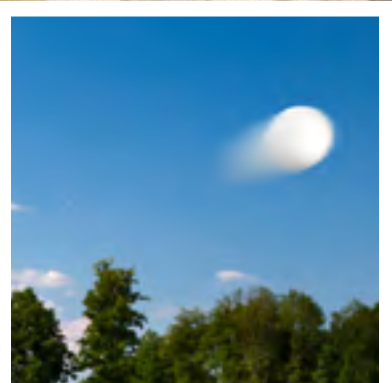
In Memoriam

Big News from Pawtucket CC

**110th Amateur
Championship
at Metacomet CC
July 13-17**

**2015 Women's Amateur
Championship
at Potowomut GC
August 4-7**

FEATURES



2

A Message from the Executive Director

3

A Message from the President What's to come in 2015

4

In the Golf World, Some Things Remain the Same

A look at the beautifully maintained courses at Metacomet and Ledgemont

7

Pawtucket Country Club Purchased

The 113 year-old course is in new hands

8

Tee it Forward

The RIGA will "Tee it Forward" starting in 2015

9

2015 Year Preview

11

2014 Wrap up

Looking back on a year of progress and growth

12

Championship Results

Men's, Women's and Junior's results

16

2015 Weekly Invitational Packages

17

Men's Tournament Schedule

18

Women's Tournament Schedule

19

In Memorium

Remembering four valued contributors to the RIGA

RIGA



RIGA

ABOUT RIGA

The Rhode Island Golf Association is a non-profit organization of private and public clubs and courses dedicated to the service of golf in Rhode Island. Founded in 1902, our primary mission is to promote and preserve the traditions of the game of golf in the State of Rhode Island.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Rhode Island Golf Association is governed by an Executive Board which is comprised of a representative from each member club. An operating committee formulate policies and directives for the Executive Director and staff to implement and manage.

2015 OPERATING COMMITTEE

President – Luke T. Hyder, Wanumetonomy G&CC

1st Vice President –Dr. Vincent J. Cavallaro, Kirkbrae CC

2nd Vice President – Kevin W. Clary, Potowomut GC

Secretary – Kevin S. McLoughlin, Montaup CC

Treasurer –Michael A. Montigny, Valley CC

Immediate Past President – Peter F. McBride, Pawtucket CC

ADMINISTRATION

Robert Ward

Executive Director

401-272-1350 | rward@rigalinks.org

Jim McKenna

Director Of Rules & Competitions

401-272-1350 | jmckenna@rigalinks.org

Katie DeCosta

Director Of Women's Golf & Member Services

401-272-1350 | kdecosta@rigalinks.org

Kate McCurry

Office Manager

401-272-1350 | kmccurry@rigalinks.org

Rhode Island Golf Association

One Button Hole Drive, Providence, RI 02909

401-272-1350 | rward@rigalinks.org

A Message from the Executive Director



Bob Ward

As the RIGA prepares for its 113th golf season I would like to thank everyone involved who helped and supported the association during the 2014 season - member clubs, their boards, golf pros, superintendents, support staff, members, volunteers and players. The RIGA had a successful year and contributed \$325,000 back

to its member clubs. In my opinion, a tremendous amount of funds being given back to member clubs and a consistent source of revenue that everyone is looking for these days.

The merger with the RIWGA made it through its first year with rave reviews. The hard work of Katie DeCosta who is the Director of Women's golf for the RIGA helped make the transition for ladies run smooth and seamless. During the first year of events the RIGA had close to 450 ladies join the membership program and close to 1400 ladies sign up for events. I'm looking forward to continued growth from the women's side of things which is great news for all involved.

Congratulations to all the 2014 RIGA champions and all who participated in one or more events. As always, I'm excited to see many first time winners throughout the season. Being a RIGA champion brings things to another level for the golfer and it's always good when new faces show up in the winner's circle.

The 2015 championship schedule is full of great venues for all RIGA events. We've added a new mixed event in June and as you may have read in the newsletter the RIGA will introduce a "Tee it Forward" program for some events this year. If you have never played in an RIGA event give it a try, the competition and camaraderie within our golfing family is like no other.

As always the RIGA must support our charitable partners in golf. Button Hole, the Burke Fund and the RIWGA Junior program are all valuable assets to the golfing community.

Please feel free to either contribute or volunteer to one or more of our partners to keep the wonderful game of golf viable in the future.

Spring is in full swing, and now we can enjoy a few rounds of golf in the good weather.

A Message from the President



Luke T. Hyder

I am incredibly excited to lead the RIGA in the year 2015. Sincere thanks go out to the Nominating Committee, Executive Committee and Operating Committee for their faith in me, and to have voted me into this prestigious office. I am truly humbled.

As our hard working and competent staff at the RIGA can tell you all, there is plenty of work to do. Bob Ward, Jim McKenna, Katie DeCosta and Kate McCurry do so much behind the scenes. The players of our Majors and Weekly Packages have the easy, although important part; they just pay. The above mentioned folks log a tremendous amount of hours throughout the year to procure courses (which is not an easy job), set up logistics and then manage and run our events. My thanks for their hard work and effort. Please take a moment to thank them when you see them at the next event you play in.

Under the guidance of our Operating Committee, I believe that 2015 will be an excellent year for the RIGA on many levels. First Vice President Dr. Vincent Cavallaro, Second Vice President Kevin Clary, Secretary Kevin McLoughlin, and Treasurer Michael Montigny; with the assistance immediate Past President Peter McBride and all of the members of the Executive Committee (which include Vice Presidents from most member clubs, Past Presidents and members of the former RIWGA) form a passionate and energetic body that volunteers their time, effort and ideas for the love of Golf.

Our marquis event, the Rhode Island Amateur will be contested at Metacomet CC in July. I played Metacomet quite a bit last year and I can tell you this; the greens can get fast. It will be a true test. Another true test for our championships will be the RI Women's Amateur to be held at Potowomut GC in August. Potowomut is always in great shape and I know that course will be a wonderful venue to crown our Women's champion this year. In addition to these championships, our Weekly Packages look phenomenal. The interest level in these is always high and the packages give you a chance to play

some courses that you may not normally have access to. I would encourage you all to sign up quickly.

Volunteers play a huge part in the success in running RIGA events. We see them at the registration and scorer's table, and out on the course monitoring ruling situations. Bob and his staff cannot do it without them. If your schedule permits, please consider contacting the RIGA office at 401.272.1350 to see how you can help.

As I type this, I am looking out the window at another "mega" snow storm. Although it seems as though the snow and subzero temperatures will never go away; I do have a remedy for those of you who shovel and snow blow. I play at least one round in my head as I clean the snow out of my driveway. The great part of that is I have never hit a bad shot. It is too cold to think about chipping and sand shots. I hit it right down the middle, on to the green, and then I roll it in dead center. Much like our top players here in Rhode Island who make it look so easy.

Financially, we are doing well and I look to improve upon our stance from 2014. I am confident that the President of the RIGA for 2016 will want to improve from the position I will leave us in 2015. This is a business as well as an organization that runs events that we have fun playing in. Please promote the RIGA within your member clubs and ask your friends to join as well. The more we put into the RIGA now, the stronger the RIGA will be in the future.

I am honored to have this position and will work diligently to help guide the RIGA through 2015. The list of names of the Presidents before me is incredibly impressive. Recognizable names from golf and industry. My hope is that I can uphold all the hard work they have put in years prior, and have future Presidents say the same thing about the work that we accomplish here in 2015.

The snow will melt soon and I look forward to seeing you at some of the RIGA's many events in 2015. Come out and watch some of the best amateurs in the country play at our RIGA events. I can guarantee you will not believe how high the talent level is.



In the Golf World, Some Things Remain The Same

As with so many courses these days, Metacomet and Ledgemont both have been undergoing some major changes in the last several years. One aspect that has remained the same, though, is course condition.

Both have been on the list of beautifully maintained facilities for a long time and they remain that way even as they go through transitions in the superintendent's chair. Matt Klida, the new man in charge at Metacomet, and Bill Sherman who has been at Ledgemont for more than 40 years, are typical of those who provide the conditions that make the game so much fun.

Sherman has given his life to the game, so it is not a surprise that even as he decides to slow down, he is continuing his participation in the game. Sherman got involved in the game when he was

11 years old and going to Swansea. More than a half century later, he decided over the winter to step down as Ledgemont superintendent.

"I learned about the game and a lot about life, too, from Tony Caranci," he said of the legendary former Ledgemont superintendent. "I started working as a mechanic and studied as I went along."

Sherman spent much of his life working 60 hour weeks, as so many superintendents do. Now, he has decided it is time to slow down.

"My assistant, Normand Tessier, has taken over and I'm helping him as his assistant," Sherman related. "We will work things out as the season goes along, but he will be in charge. Working 40 hours a week will be slowing down for me. I want to keep involved. I need to keep involved, just not

as much as I have been. For me, a 40-hour week will be a short week."

Klida knows what that is like.

When a course superintendent has had experience helping prepare facilities for a Ryder Cup match and both men's and women's U.S. Opens, getting ready for a state Four-Ball Championship might not seem like a big deal.

Klida feels otherwise.

The new superintendent at Metacomet jumped into his work with both feet this past season when he came to Metacomet. He was all over the course as his club hosted the 65th Four-Ball Championship, along with Warwick Country Club. Klida and his staff did all they could to give the more than 200 competitors a good impression of the 113-year-old Metacomet layout, and they succeeded.



“The greens were perfect,” said Kyle Hoffman, who combined with his partner, Ryan Pelletier, to record a sparkling 7-under 63 at Metacomet and start themselves on the way to their second straight title in the event.

Hoffman was not alone. Player after player came in and praised the course. In some ways, that was not a surprise. The Donald Ross-designed course long has been one of the top championships layouts in the state as well as one of the best conditioned courses. But Metacomet hit on some tough times, to the point of hiring Klida to come in and restore it.

Klida most recently had been the first assistant superintendent at famed Shinnecock Hills on Long Island. A graduate of Michigan State’s TurfGrass Management program, he also has worked on the 2012 Ryder Cup at Medinah and

the 2013 Women’s Open at Seabonack Country Club on Long Island. Klida likes what is happening at Metacomet.

“I’m happy how we’ve progressed so far,” he said as he took a break during the Four-Ball. “There’s still a lot of work to be done, but we’re moving in the right direction. I think that’s the important part, moving in the right direction.”

Metacomet is going through the same process as most courses. With the economy in tough shape and all facilities working to retain members, budgets have tightened. Courses must be maintained, but often budgets have been reduced.

Klida has implemented a new system of operating for his crew, one which Metacomet members say already is reaping benefits. Klida’s crew works what amounts to split shifts.

“What I do is what they call sectional maintenance,” Klida explained.

“Everybody has a job or multiple jobs they do that last until lunch. Everyone takes lunch, then they have a job that is going to last the whole afternoon, one that’s going to take the four hours in the afternoon.”

“Everyone stays busy the whole time. That way nobody’s coming back to the shop to get more tools, nobody’s looking for me to find out what they do next, or read the board to find out what’s going on,” he said. “Everybody as a job that lasts four hours in the morning and four in the afternoon.”

As the players in the Four-Ball learned, it is a system that is working. Metacomet is looking like Metacomet again, which makes everyone happy.

Continued on next page

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Pawtucket Country Club Purchased

Even as the snow kept piling up over the long winter, activity in Rhode Island golf circles continued unabated. Some of the most important work involved efforts to save Pawtucket Country Club, one of the state's top clubs.

The 113-year-old course, which straddles the state line with Massachusetts, was on its way to possible foreclosure. Two long-time members, David Rampone and Gary Reis, stepped forward and purchased the club. They promised not only to

keep the tree-lined, par-69 facility open, but to make capital investments on the property, which includes one of the prettiest clubhouses in New England.

"The sale marks a new beginning for Pawtucket Country Club," said Rampone, a club member for 28 years, in a press release. "The sale allows us to recruit new members and provide them with assurances that the club is financially sound and they can join without concern of assessments looming."

According to tax records, the club had a deficit of nearly \$600,000 and debt of \$1 million in the 2012 fiscal year. Past year, property on the back nine was sold to keep the club running. With the sale, the club is now debt free.

Such happenings obviously are not unusual in these difficult economic times. In the past four years, three others R.I. Golf Association members clubs, Valley, Crestwood and Ledgemont, all have been sold and now seem to be in more solid position.



The RIGA will Tee it Forward starting in 2015

The USGA and PGA of America have been promoting a new initiative to have golfers “Tee it Forward” and enjoy the game a little more. The theory is that golfers who can’t reach greens in regulation any longer can hopefully now putt for birdie a few more times a round. It should also help with pace of play when each golfer in a foursome is hitting fewer shots in which they normally can’t reach greens. The trick to the program is getting golfers to put their ego aside and enjoy the game of golf for whatever distance you may hit it.

Fast forward to the upcoming RIGA season in which “Tee it Forward” will become an option in many events. The Weekly Invitational program is usually played at a tee that is closest to 6200 yards. Players will now be able to compete and play from ANY set of tees they wish, moving forward or back. We will ask players on the first tee to indicate which tees were played so we can adjust handicaps accordingly. It is purely optional for any golfer to play whatever set of tees they would like.

In majors we will also have a “Tee it Forward” option for senior players who want to compete in the Burke Gross, Stroke Play and Mid-Amateur but don’t want to play from 6500+ yards. These tees will be set up between 6100-6300 yards depending on the golf course. Senior players who elect to play these tees must contact Jim McKenna prior to pairings being posted for each event. If a senior player elects to “Tee it Forward” in a major they will be playing for RIGA Senior Player of the Year points ONLY. Seniors who opt to play with the young kids will be eligible for both regular and senior Player of the Year points. Our belief is the new “Tee it Forward” option

will allow some of our senior players a chance to compete against their peers and enjoy the golf course at a somewhat reduced yardage.

On an experimental basis, we have also added a new Mid-Senior Division for the Senior Amateur Gross. This new category will allow players from the ages of 50-54 to compete in their own division who have not yet reached the age of 55. If you choose to play in the Mid-Senior division there will be no Player of the Year points (Jr. or Sr.) at this time. You would be competing to play against your peers for a trophy and gift certificate.

The RIGA players committee also decided that in the Super Senior (62-68) and Legends (69 + over) divisions a “Tee it Forward” option would help boost participants who no longer feel they can compete with players in their 50’s. The forward tee for these two divisions will be played around 5800-6000 yards. Players who wish to compete from the forward tee will not be eligible for Senior Player of the Year points. A player 62 or older who wishes to compete from the full length tournament tee could still win the Super Senior or Legends Division

and receive Player of the Year points.

A few other items of interest for the upcoming season.

With the success of the merger with the RIWGA it has been decided to add a one day Mixed Stroke Play event to the 2015 schedule. This tournament will be held at Pawtucket CC on June 16 with a morning shotgun. The format will be best ball gross and net which should give men and women a chance to compete at both the gross and net levels and enjoy the day, make some new friends and play a great golf course.

Rhode Island will be host to the 59th New England Women’s Amateur at Ledgemont CC on July 7-9. This championship will include the best female golfers of all ages from each of the New England states. 2015 is also a USGA State Team year for the women. The Championship will be conducted September 10-12 at Dalhousie GC in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. The RIGA will send three ladies to represent our state based off the Player of the Year points from the 2014 & 2015 seasons.

2015 Preview

The good news for those who participate in state events is that the RIGA's offerings will continue and indicate they will be growing. The schedule for both men and women will be much the same as usual. Changes for this year include a new one-day Mixed-Stroke Play tournament; the first RIGA event ever held in Connecticut, the men's Four-Ball and use of forward tees for seniors. They would take part in their own flight in three men's events; the Burke Memorial, the Stroke Play and the Mid-Am will see the use of these forward senior tees.

"We always try to tweak things a little bit to make our events more attractive and increase participation if we can," said Bob Ward, the RIGA's executive director.

The men's schedule is highlighted by holding the State Amateur at Metacomet, making a return trip to Agawam Hunt for the Open, playing the Juniors at Valley and the Seniors at Crestwood. The competition to earn a spot on the Tri-State team for the annual season-ending matches against Massachusetts and Connecticut should be more interesting than ever since the host this year is the Tournament Players Club in Norton. That facility, of course, hosts the Deutsche Bank Championship as part of the PGA Tour playoffs each year, which means our players will play the course one month after the PGA stars do. The course also is the site of MGA offices. In 2015, the RIGA has taken the USGA's lead by discontinuing the Public Links Championship.

For the women, the highlight will be a return to Potowomut for the Amateur. Potowomut long has been among the strongest supporters of women's golf in the state and just last year hosted the Mixed Championship. The Amateur will be held August 4-7. Another highlight will be having the New England Women's Championship at Ledgeмонт July 7-9, and the Stroke Play at Montaup July 27th. Our 2015 Junior Amateur will be held at Valley on August 10-14.

The tweaks in the schedule come after with consultation by Ward and tournament director Jim McKenna with the men's and women's players committees. One of the biggest changes reflects the new make-up of the RIGA which carries both men and women under the association umbrella.

"We've decided to hold a one-day Mixed Championship, the type of event that has been popular in other places," Ward said. "We're especially encouraging our women members to recruit a

male partner so we can get new players to see what our events are like."

The event gets Pawtucket, an ideal site for Mixed competition both on and off the course, to host the inaugural on June 16.

The men's Four-Ball Championship annually is one of the highlights, and it will have added interest this year because of the site. It will be contested June 9-10 at the Connecticut National Golf Club and the Quinnatisset Country Club.

"They're both outstanding courses. We're thrilled to have them," Ward said. "They will be great hosts for the Four-Ball. The fact that it will give so many of our players a chance to experience two terrific courses will make it that much better."

Connecticut National is a 20-year-old course that opened as Putnam Country Club, was purchased in 2007 by Jim Dandeneau and Brad Rabitor and underwent a complete redesign by architect Mark Mungeon. The course can play to nearly 7,000 yards.

Quinnatisset, located in the corner where Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut come together, is a traditional course. Like so many in Rhode Island, it is somewhat hilly and heavily wooded, with huge walls surrounding the property. The club goes back more than 70 years, but has been reworked first by Geoffrey Cornish in the 1960s and a decade ago by Roger Rulewich.

Still another first for 2015 is to incorporate the use of forward tees for three events to allow a tournament held within a tournament.

The USGA, of course, has been promoting its "Tee it Forward" program to allow more enjoyment and create faster play. The RIGA this year will allow players who are not able to contest for honors against the very best to play in their own flight on the Mid-Am, Stroke Play and Burke Gross to use the forward tees and have their own competition.

"What we've decided is that courses will be set up at 5,800 to 6,000 yards," Ward said. Players who use the forward tees will not be eligible to win points toward our Player of the Year, but they will have the chance to see what it is like to compete in some of our big events."

A final change this year will be the addition of a new mid-senior division for players ages 50-54, in the Senior Am Championship.

2014 Wrap Up



For the RIGA, 2014 will be recorded as a good year, even a very good year.

Everyone knew before the season began that the year would be special. The merger with the RIWGA meant changes were going to be significant. Few might have predicted, though, how smoothly the transition would go and how it would benefit all players, men and women.

Association officials could not be more thrilled with how the process went. Thanks in large part to the work of Katie DeCosta, our new director of women's golf and member services, and the willingness of everyone involved to change with the times, the association is now bigger and better than ever.

The good news is that the merger was not the only reason 2014 was so special. The year also marked the expansion of the Association into Connecticut and that process was a success, as well. Members from

two excellent Connecticut clubs, the Connecticut National Golf Club and Quinnatisset Country Club, became active participants in our events and proved to be a great addition.

The weather was incredibly cooperative. Only one day of competition was lost, that during the Juniors, to inclement weather and only one weekly, at Alpine, to rain, although Alpine was kind enough to reschedule that day without trouble.

The competition was first-rate as usual. One of the many highlights was the continuing rivalry between Bobby Leopold and Brad Valois at the very top of the competition ladder. Both have developed into regional, and even national-level players, in part because they have pushed each other to keep getting better and better. Leopold earned Player of the Year honors this time.

The year also will go down as a dramatic illustration on how the game is one for all ages. Hall of Famer George Pirie won another Senior Player of the Year crown, an honor not easily taken because of the depth of talent among the seniors.

The young players provided some of the most excitement. Susie Cavanagh put on a fabulous demonstration on the way to sweeping women's Player of the Year honors. Additionally, Patrick Welch and Will Dickson are showing immense potential and seem poised to become the best one-two punch of young stars the state has seen since Brad Faxon and Billy Andrade.

2014 was capped by another top 10 performance by our squad of Leopold,

Valois and Charlie Blanchard, in the USGA State Team Championship in Indiana.

It also was a good year for a number of our members clubs in solidifying their positions. With the poor economy, many of our clubs have struggled and have been forced to adjust their offerings to keep up with the times. Even as adjustments continue, there is hope that the worst is over and clubs will be able to return to firmer footing.

Finally, we also were able to expand our online presence with the help of a new blog and regular reports from our tournaments from Paul Kenyon, the retired Providence Journal sports writer. If all goes as planned, we will continue to expand in that area and provide more updates for our members through through our website, tweeting and facebook page.

Put it all together and it truly was a very good year. It is a situation we hope to build on into the future.

As good as the competition was on the course, one of the highlight moments came at the season-ending banquet at Metacomet. While he was recapping the events of 2014, Ward paused for a second to note that the crowd at the dinner included a large delegation of the new women members of the association.

"I don't know if there has ever been as many women in this room as there is right now," Ward said.

The remark drew laughter. But they also rang very true. A new era began in 2014, and the entire association is all the better for it.

2014 RIGA YEAR IN REVIEW

MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

16th John P. Burke Memorial (Net)

May 6-7 – Newport CC / Wanumetonomy G&CC

1	Michael Botelho	Montaup CC	66-68—134
T2	Anthony Caprio	Melody Hill GC	65-74—139
	Anthony DeFusco	Ledgemont CC	66-73—139
4	Keith MacWhorter	Montaup CC	74-66—140
T5	Mark Steffey	Cranston CC	70-73—143
	Richard Salzman	North Kingstown GC	71-72—143

114th U.S. Open (Local Qualifying)

May 13 – Point Judith CC

1	Robert Leopold	Coventry, RI	74
T2	Camiko Smith	Bermuda	75
	Chris Houston	Gilford, NH	75
	Greg Horvath	Manchester, CT	75
	Matt Arvanitis	Hooksett, NH	75
	Ryan Gay **1st Alternate**	Pittston, ME	75
	Rob Corcoran **2nd Alternate**	Melbourne, FL	75

16th John P. Burke Memorial (Gross)

May 14-15 – Shelter Harbor GC / The Misquamicut Club

1	John Jackopsic	Meadow Brook GC	73-68—141
		won on 2nd playoff hole	
2	Bobby Leopold	Wannamoisset CC	69-72—141
3	Mike Douillette	Crestwood CC	73-71—144
4	Jason Kalin	Metacomet CC	72-73—145
T5	Jamie Lukowicz	Metacomet CC	71-75—146
	Ryan Pelletier	Pawtucket CC	70-76—146

21st Ed Perry Senior Four-Ball Champ. (Gross)

May 19-20 – Crestwood CC

1.	Tom Acciardo,	Agawam Hunt	
	Dr. George Pirie	Valley CC	65-65—130
2.	Dave McNally	Foster CC	
	Peter Sozek	Metacomet CC	65-67—132
3.	Paul Quigley	Swansea CC	
	Mike Soucy	Valley CC	69-68—137
4.	Marc Forbes	Wannamoisset CC	
	Tom Goryl	Wannamoisset CC	67-71—138
T5.	John Barber	Potowomut GC	
	Kevin Clary	Potowomut GC	71-68—139
T5.	Gary McLane	Rhode Island CC	
	Dave Patrick	Rhode Island CC	70-69—139

65th Four-Ball Championship

June 3-4 – Metacomet CC / Warwick CC

1.	Kyle Hoffman	Pawtucket CC	
	Ryan Pelletier	Pawtucket CC	63-65—128
2.	Charlie Blanchard	Wannamoisset CC	
	Jamie Griffiths	Wannamoisset CC	66-64—130
T3.	Richard Audette	Metacomet CC	
	Jason Kalin	Metacomet CC	67-67—134
T3.	George Cidade	Metacomet CC	
	Dr. George Pirie	Valley CC	66-68—134
T3.	Antonio Giorgi	Louisquisset GC	
	Tom McCormick	Kirkbrae CC	68-66—134
T3.	Rob Grossguth	West Warwick CC	
	Jamie Lukowicz	Metacomet CC	69-65—134

21st Ed Perry Senior Four-Ball Champ. (Net)

June 10-11 – Green Valley CC

1.	Dan Laferriere	Louisquisset GC	**Won on 1st playoff hole**
	Richard Ward	Louisquisset GC	60-66—126
2.	Anthony Dionizio	Valley CC	
	Ed Silva	Kings Crossing GC	62-64—126
T3.	Jim Arruda	Metacomet CC	
	Peter McBride	Pawtucket CC	64-63—127
T3.	Joe D'Ambra	Cranston CC	
	Tom Silva	Cranston CC	63-64—127
5.	Ralph Apici	Potowomut GC	
	Rodger Jeremiah	Potowomut GC	63-65—128

53rd Northeast Amateur Invitational

June 18-21 – Wannamoisset CC

1	Stewart Jolly	Birmingham , AL	67-67-69-71—274
2	Jordan Niebrugge	Mequon, WI	71-68-65-72—276
T3	Seth Reeves	Duluth, GA	70-68-71-70—279
	Scott Scheffler	Dallas, TX	73-67-70-69—279
	Lee McCoy	Clarkesville, GA	70-73-68-68—279
	Chelso Barrett	Surry, NH	71-69-70-69—279

2014 Rhode Island Public Links

Championship

June 28-29 – Cranston CC/Triggs Memorial GC

1	Rob Grossguth	West Warwick CC	70-72—142
T2	Paul Quigley	Swansea CC	73-73—146
	Brian Bardier	Connecticut National GC	74-72—146
4	Dave McNally	Foster CC	73-74—147
T5	Rick Bernard	Triggs Memorial GC	74-75—149
	Jon Fasick	New England CC	75-74—149

109th Amateur Championship

July 7-11 – Montaup CC

Qualifying

T1	Bobby Leopold	Wannamoisset CC	73-68—141
	Jamison Randall	Alpine CC	74-67—141
	Brad Valois	Metacomet CC	71-70—141
T4	McKinley Slade	Wannamoisset CC	70-72—142
	Rob Grossguth	West Warwick CC	70-72—142
	Dr George Pirie	Valley CC	69-73—142

Quarterfinals: Andrew Fiorenzano, Metacomet CC def. Rick Audette Jr, Metacomet CC 1 up Rob Grossguth, West Warwick CC def. Jake Bauer, Green Valley CC 1 up Bobby Leopold, Wannamoisset CC def. Dave Nuttall Jr, Metacomet CC 2 up Brad Valois, Metacomet CC def. Christopher DeLucia, Foster CC 2 and 1

Semifinals: Andrew Fiorenzano, Metacomet CC def. Rob Grossguth, West Warwick CC 2 up Bobby Leopold, Wannamoisset CC def. Brad Valois, Metacomet CC 3 and 1

Finals: Bobby Leopold, Wannamoisset CC def. Andrew Fiorenzano, Metacomet CC 4 and 2

114th United States Amateur –

Sectional Qualifying

July 15 – Kirkbrae CC

1	Kyle Hoffman	Lincoln, RI	72-67—139
2	Robert Leopold	Coventry, RI	71-69—140
T3	Danny Guise	Greenwich, CT	75-67—142
1st Alternate-Michael	Hamilton,	Lincoln, RI	72-70—142
2nd Alternate - McKinley	Slade,	Saunderstown, RI	71-71—142

2014 RIGA YEAR IN REVIEW

31st Stroke Play Championship

July 29-30 – Pawtucket CC

1	Brad Valois	Metacommet CC	70-64-69—203
			Won on 2nd playoff hole
2	Bobby Leopold	Wannamoissett CC	67-70-66—203
T3	Kyle Hoffman	Pawtucket CC	70-69-66—205
	Mike Hamilton	Kirkbrae CC	70-70-65—205
T5	Jamison Randall	Alpine CC	70-67-70—207
	Ryan Pelletier	Pawtucket CC	66-71-70—207
	Patrick Welch	Metacommet CC	70-68-69—207

83rd Rhode Island Open

August 5-7 – Agawam Hunt

1	Troy Pare	Wannamoissett CC	63-69-67—199
			Won on first playoff hole
2	Richy Werenski	Orchards GC	68-65-66—199
3	Matt Doyle	The Misquamicut Club	66-67-67—200
T4	Shawn Warren	Falmouth CC	66-68-67—201
	John Elliott	Shelter Harbor GC	67-66-68—201

74th Mixed Foursomes Championship

August 18-20 – Potowomut GC

Championship Division: Tyler Cooke(Potowomut GC) & Suzie Cavanagh (Agawam Hunt) def.David Apuzzo & Katie Rockwell (Wannamoissett CC) 5&4

First Division: Ralph Apici & Joanne Zanella (Potowomut GC) def. Rick Bernard (Triggs Memorial GC) & Virginia Bernard (Quidnessett CC) 1 up

Second Division: Anthony Defusco & Jessica Brier (Ledgemont CC) def. John & Barbara Barber (Potowomut GC) 4&3

56th Senior Amateur Championship (Net)

August 26-27 – Pawtucket CC

1	Joe Halpin, Montaup CC	67-68—135
2	Dennis Pierce, Pinecrest GC	65-72—137
T3	Ray Penza, Triggs Memorial GC	70-68—138
	Paul St Laurent, Montaup CC	74-64—138
	Jim Wade, Valley CC	67-71—138
	Mark Lapin, Cranston CC	71-67—138
	Michael Lenarcic, Wannamoissett CC	67-71—138

56th Senior Amateur Championship (Gross)

September 8-9 – Triggs Memorial GC

1	Dr George Pirie, Valley CC	66-71—137
2	Paul Quigley, Swansea CC	71-71—142
3	Gary McLane, Rhode Island CC	70-75—145
T4	Tom Goryl, Wannamoissett CC	71-76—147
	Don Wright, West Warwick CC	70-77—147
	Dave McNally, Foster CC	74-73—147

2014 Robert Mulligan Interclub Championship

September 18 – Metacommet CC

Team Champions: Metacommet CC- Ricky Audette, George Cidade, Jamie Lukowicz, Steve Merluzzo & Brad Valois

1	Metacommet CC	293
2	Kirkbrae CC	299
3	Quinnatisset CC	301
4	Rhode Island CC	305
5	Carnegie Abbey	307

Individual Medalist: Ricky Audette (Metacommet CC)

21st Mid-Amateur Championship

September 22-23 – Rhode Island CC

1	Jamie Lukowicz, Metacommet CC	69-69—138
2	Kyle Hoffman, Pawtucket CC	73-69—142
T3	Bobby Leopold, Wannamoissett CC	73-71—144
	Ryan Pelletier, Pawtucket CC	67-77—144
5	Rob Grossguth, West Warwick CC	74-73—147

81st Tri-State Matches

October 9-10 – Tumble Brook CC, Bloomfield, CT

Rhode Island Team: Jay Tom Acciaro (Senior), Kevin Blaser, Tom Goryl (Senior), Rob Grossguth, Mike Hamilton, Kyle Hoffman, Jamie Lukowicz, Gary McLane (Senior), Dave McNally (Senior), Ryan Pelletier, Dr. George Pirie & Paul Quigley

Final State Point Totals: Massachusetts 62, Connecticut 54.5, Rhode Island 45.5

8th Annual Weekly Invitational Net Championship

October 14 – Montaup CC

T1	Guy Iacobbo**, Cranston CC	41
	Juan Amado**, Triggs Memorial GC	41
T3	Anthony Caprio, Melody Hill GC	40
	Peter Grafe, Gloucester CC	40
5	Anthony Candelmo, Jamestown GC	39

*Net Stableford Points Scoring

** Co-Champions

2014 Player of the Year

1	Bobby Leopold	Wannamoissett CC	1182
2	Brad Valois	Metacommet CC	762
3	Kyle Hoffman	Pawtucket CC	515
4	Ryan Pelletier	Pawtucket CC	465
T5	Jamie Lukowicz	Metacommet CC	415
T5	Rob Grossguth	West Warwick CC	415

2014 Senior Player of the Year

1	Dr. George Pirie, Valley CC	813
2	Paul Quigley, Swansea CC	487
3	Tom Acciaro, Agawam Hunt	470
4	Dave McNally, Foster CC	310
5	Gary McLane, Rhode Island CC	260

WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

Women's Four-Ball Championship

June 2&3 – Wanumetonomy G&CC

Gross	
Jackie Booth / Nancy Diemoz	154 (won in playoff)
Lauren Collins/ Annie Corio	154
Net	
Denyse Conrad / Jane Lippincott	128
Raye Pietch / Pat Walsh	130 (match of cards)
Dottie Maher / Judy Naugle	130

Women's Amateur Championship

June 23-26th – Agawam Hunt

Overall	
Susan Cavanagh 3&1 over Nicole Scola	
Qualifying Scores Championship Division	
Susan Cavanagh	76
Kelsey Hayward	77
President's Cup Overall	
Gale Hanna 2&1 over Kay Bullock	
Qualifying Scores President's Cup	
Kay Bullock	98
Sharon Volpe	99

Women's Stroke Play Championship

July 14 – Pawtucket CC

Gross	
Susan Cavanagh	74
Isabel Southard	75
Net	
Annie Corio	70
Caroline Farber	70

President's Team

July 22 – Ledgemont Country Club

Gross	
Robyn Catley/Linda Kacewicz	82
Kay Bullock/Susan Salzman	86
Net	
Mindy Sherwin /Windy Wachtenheim	67
Melody Acciardo/Colleen Mahoney	68

Women's Senior Amateur Championship

July 29 – Alpine CC

Overall – Kibbe Reilly	76
Gross	
Seniors – Karen Gladney	82
Super Seniors – Robin Krieger	82
Legends – Nancy Chaffee	83
Net	
Senior – Jane Lippincott	72
Super Seniors – Shirley Henebury	73
Legends – Mary Ann Lisa	74

"Lib" McLoughlin Net Team Championship

August 6 - Potowomut GC

1 Ledgemont CC	225
2 Wannamoisett CC	228
T3 Potowomut GC	230
T3 Point Judith 1	230

Women's Junior-Senior Championship

September 15 – Point Judith CC

T1 DiDonato / White	79
T1 Callaghan / Pellegrino	79
3 Booth / Diemoz	80

2014 Player of the Year

1 Susie Cavanagh – Agawam Hunt	990
2 Kibbe Reilly – Wannamoisett	845
3 Nancy Diemoz – Montaup	560
4 Annie Corio – Wannamoisett	509
5 Bette Didonato – Wanumetonomy	370

2014 Net Player of the Year

1 Jane Lippincott – Wanumetonomy	582
2 Gale Hanna – Wannamoisett	534
3 Annie Corio – Wannamoisett	498
4 Caroline Brown Farber – Agawam Hunt	350
5 Kibbe Reilly – Wannamoisett	317

Team Matches

ASSOCIATION BOWL

Crestwood Country Club

Carol Clarey
Doreen Martin
Laura Nesteriak
Catherine Parente
Dina Savoie
Ellen Woods

BAKER BOWL

Wannamoisett Country Club #2

Paula DeBlois
Jean Giorgio
Kathy Landry
Betsy McCoy
Sharon Volpe
Rosemary Zehntner

RHODE ISLAND CUP

Ledgemont Country Club

Debbie Benharris
Jessica Brier
Joyce Cotoia
Megan DiOrio
Cathy Oresman
Sandy Salvatore

FERNALD BOWL

Wanumetonomy Golf & Country Club #2

Peggy Ellis
Diane Germani
Dottie Maher
Maggie Moy
Judy Naugle
Joyce Zimmerman

MACCOLL CUP

Quidnessett Country Club #1

Susan Boyle
Sandy Gertz
Kim Schold
Ashley St. Amand
Grace Smith

MCLOUGHLIN BOWL

Quidnessett Country Club #2

Beth Angus
Virginia Bernard
Patricia Carney
Inez Dunne
Debbie Kazlauskas
Lynne Romano

JUNIOR RESULTS

Parent & Child Championship

June 24-July 1 – Alpine CC

Senior Division – Bob & Bobby Depetrillo

Junior Division – Tom & Bo Kellogg

Parent & Daughter Championship

June 24-July 1 – Alpine CC

Senior Division – Tom & Casey McCormick

Junior Division – William & Monica Brennan

93rd Junior Amateur Championship

August 12-15 – Metacomet CC

Boys' Division/18-Hole Qualifying

1.	Patrick Welch	Metacomet CC	73
2.	Matthew Corio	Wannamoissett CC	74
T3.	Jesse Boog	Wanumetonomy G&CC	75
	Joseph Tucker	Potowomut GC	75
	Sean Ferreira	Montaup CC	75

Championship Division

Quarterfinals: Patrick Welch, Metacomet CC def. Theo Montalbano, Wannamoissett CC 8 and 7 Joseph Tucker, Potowomut GC def. Jesse Boog, Wanumetonomy G&CC 1 up Sam Knowlton, The Misquamicut Club def. Matthew Corio, Wannamoissett CC 3 and 2 Will Hall, Wanumetonomy G&CC def. Mitch Kubik, Metacomet CC 2 and 1

Semifinals: Patrick Welch, Metacomet CC def. Joseph Tucker, Potowomut GC 5 and 4 Will Hall, Wanumetonomy G&CC def. Sam Knowlton, The Misquamicut Club 4 and 3

Finals: Patrick Welch, Metacomet CC def. Will Hall, Wanumetonomy G&CC 7 and 5

First Division

Finals: John Aitken, Connecticut National GC def. Corey Zegarzewski, Laurel Lane CC 5 and 4

Second Division

Finals: Nicholas Corrente, Metacomet CC def. Danny DePetro, Potowomut GC 2 up

Third Division

Finals: Sam Martel, Beaver River GC def. Davon Driscoll, Rumford, RI 5 and 4

Girls' Division/18-Hole Qualifying

1.	Katie Um	Green Valley CC	81
2.	Caroline Farber	Agawam Hunt	84
3.	Courtney Breen	Rhode Island CC	85
T4.	Alexis Florio	Alpine CC	86
	Bridget Hagerty	Potowomut GC	86

Quarterfinals: Katie Um, Green Valley CC def. Allison Paik, Providence, RI 5 and 4 Alexis Florio, Alpine CC def. Bridget Hagerty, Potowomut GC 1 up Caroline Farber, Agawam Hunt def. Alexis Annarummo, Crestwood CC 8 and 7 Courtney Breen, Rhode Island CC def. Daria Delfino, Alpine CC 4 and 2

Semifinals: Katie Um, Green Valley CC def. Alexis Florio, Alpine CC 2 and 1 Caroline Farber, Agawam Hunt def. Courtney Breen, Rhode Island CC 4 and 3

Finals: Caroline Farber, Agawam Hunt def. Katie Um, Green Valley CC 1 up

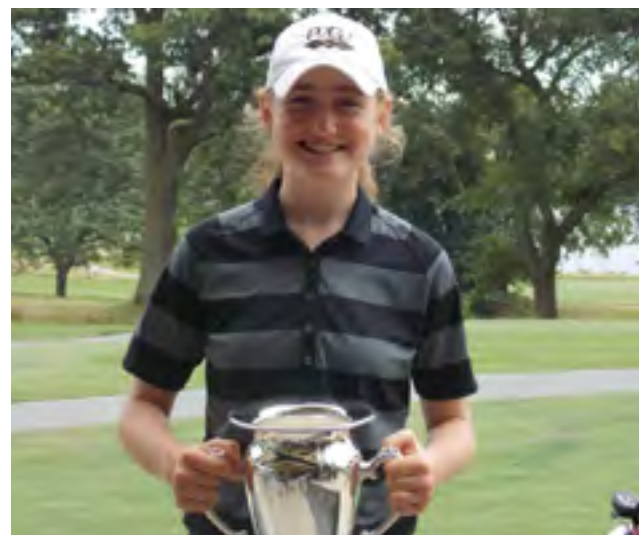
New England Junior Amateur Invitational Championship

August 19-20 – Ledgemont CC (Seekonk, MA)

Rhode Island Team: Will Hall, Patrick Welch, Jake Bauer, Joey Tucker, Sam Knowlton, Jesse Boog & Sean Ferreira

2014 Junior Player of the Year

1	Patrick Welch, Metacomet CC	690
2	Will Dickson, Ledgemont CC	500
3	Jake Bauer, Green Valley CC	485
4	Will Hall, Wanumetonomy G&CC	470
5	Matthew Corio, Wannamoissett CC	445





2015 Weekly Invitational Packages

Registration for the 2015 RIGA Weekly Invitationals will be the same process as it has been in recent years.

The program is open to all members of a RIGA member club and players are required to sign up as a foursome. The designated captain will be the contact for each group. Captains are asked to ensure that each player join the RIGA member program before the first event. When completing the registration form please include the email address of each player in the group. This will help with communication in the event something changes for a given weekly.

The only applications that will be considered are those that arrive via U.S. Postal Service Mail postmarked no earlier than February 24. Tee times will range from 7:30-12:45. If early groups cannot keep pace the RIGA reserves the right to assign that group a later time.

The Stableford scoring system will again be used in an effort to speed up play for each round. The top 15 players, the highest point totals, from each round will accumulate points toward the Weekly Net Championship (October 13–Metacomet CC). Again, players will collect points for each hole with a net double bogey being the limit. Gift certificates for each weekly will be distributed by GROSS Stableford points within your handicap division. Points for the Weekly Net Championship will still be the top 15 NET Stableford point totals for each weekly. To be eligible for the Weekly Net Championship a player must turn in a card for four of the six weeklies. Players are not obligated to participate in the “point’s race”, but may choose to play in the weekly program on a noncompetitive basis.

Groups need to check in with the RIGA representative when ready to play. Any substitute players need to be changed so accurate scoring can take place. All scorecards should be turned into the golf shop once play is complete. The RIGA will again be posting all scores to the GHIN system.

The fee to participate in the Weekly Invitational program packages for 2015 will be \$1440.00 per package or \$360.00 per player and includes cart fees for each event. Credit cards will again be accepted as a form of payment, Visa or MasterCard only. Please complete the registration form completely if a credit card is used as the form of payment. If a Group would like to participate in multiple packages please indicate in the check box located on the bottom of the registration form. Packages are distributed on a first come first serve basis and multiple packages will be given out once everyone participating gets one package. The sign-up period will begin on Tuesday, February 24th. Any mail postmarked prior to February 24th will be returned. No USPS Express Mail will be accepted that was initiated prior to February 24th. “Walk-ins” to the RIGA office are NOT permitted. The RIGA office will inform the captains by mail & e-mail in late March.

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Package 1

Mon, April 27	Pawtucket CC
Mon, May 11	Rhode Island CC
Mon, June 1	Montaup CC
Mon, July 20	North Kingstown GC
Tues, Sept 1	Agawam Hunt
Tues, Sept 29	Warwick CC

Package 2

Tues, April 28	Wannamoisett CC
Tues, May 12	Agawam Hunt
Tues, June 9	Newport National GC
Tues, Aug 11	Fenner Hill GC
Tues, Sept 8	Potowomut GC
Mon, Sept 21	Wanumetonomy G&CC

Package 3

Tues, April 21	Quidnessett CC
Tues, May 26	Metacomet CC
Mon, June 29	Foster CC
Wed, July 15	Swansea CC
Tues, Aug 25	Kirkbrae CC
Thurs, Oct 1	Sakonnet GC

Package 4

Mon, May 4	Ledgemont CC
Mon, May 18	Carnegie Abbey
Mon, June 15	Crystal Lake GC
Tues, July 7	Crestwood CC
Mon, Aug 17	Cranston CC
Mon, Sept 28	Point Judith CC

Package 5

Tues, May 5	Alpine CC
Tues, May 19	Potowomut GC
Tues, June 2	Valley CC
Tues, Aug 4	Triggs Memorial GC
Tues, Sept 15	Pawtucket CC
Wed, Oct 14	The Misquamicut Club

Weekly Invitational Net Championship

Tues, Oct 13	Metacomet CC
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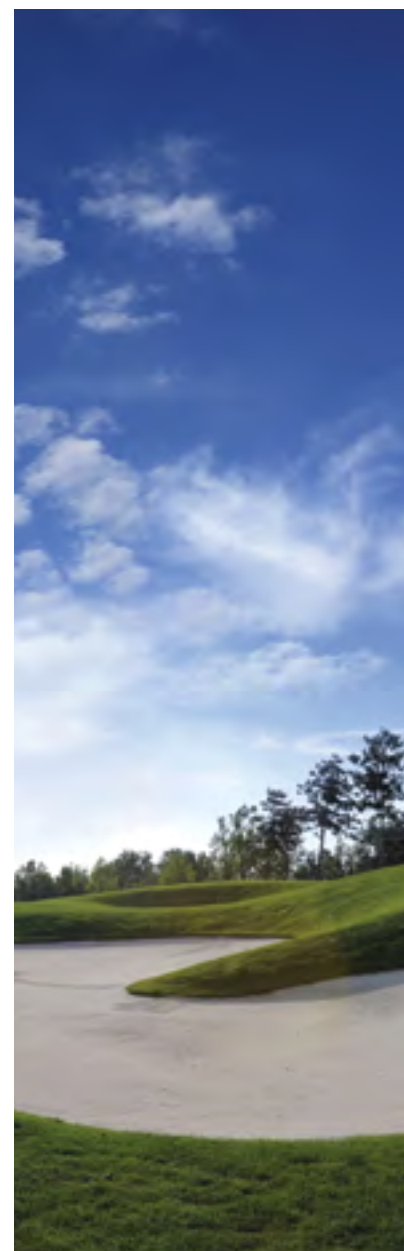
2015 RIGA MEN'S MAJOR TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

May 5-6	John P. Burke Memorial (Gross)	Newport CC, Wanumetonomy G&CC
May 12-13	John P. Burke Memorial (Net)	The Misquamicut Club, Shelter Harbor GC
May 18-19	Senior Four-Ball (Net)	Crestwood CC
May 19	USGA Open Qualifying	Alpine CC
May 26-27	Senior Four-Ball (Gross)	Warwick CC
	Amateur Qualifying	
June 1	Agawam Hunt	
June 3	Fenner Hill GC	
June 17	Cranston CC	
June 9-10	Four-Ball Championship	Connecticut National GC Quinnatisset CC
June 16	Mixed Stroke Play Championship	Pawtucket CC
June 24-27	Northeast Amateur	Wannamoisett CC
June 30 (Sr) & July 7 (Jr)	Parent – Child Championship	Kirkbrae CC
July 9	USGA Amateur Qualifying	Pawtucket CC
July 13-17	Amateur Championship	Metacomet CC
July 21-23	New England Amateur	Baker Hill GC (NH)
July 27-28	Stroke Play Championship	Green Valley CC
Aug 4-6	Rhode Island Open	Agawam Hunt
Aug 10-14	Junior Amateur Championship	Valley CC
Aug 16-18	New England Junior	Purpoodock Club
Aug 24-26	Mixed Foursomes	Warwick CC
Aug 31-Sept 1	Mid-Amateur	Ledgemont CC
Sept 15-16	Senior Amateur (Net)	Kirkbrae CC
Sept 22-23	Senior Amateur (Gross)	Crestwood CC
Sept 24	Mulligan Interclub Team Championship	Valley CC
Sept 28	USGA Four-Ball Qualifying	Carnegie Abbey
Sept 29-30	New England Seniors	Oyster Harbors (MA)
Oct 20-21	Tri-State Matches	TPC Norton (MA)



2015 WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Tu May 5	Best Ball of 2 8:30 TT	Shelter Harbor GC
Tu May 12	Blind Draw (for scoring)	Kirkbrae CC
Tu May 19	Best Ball of 4	Metacomet CC
M/Tu June 1-2	Four-Ball Championship	Wanumetonomy G&CC
Th June 4	RI vs CT	Alpine CC
Tu June 9	2 Best Balls of 4	Warwick CC
Tu June 16	Mixed Stroke Play Championship	Pawtucket CC
Tu June 23	Ryder Cup – Day 1	Crestwood CC
Tu June 30	Ryder Cup – Day 2	Valley CC
Tu June 30 (Sr) & July 7 (Jr)	Parent – Child Championship	Kirkbrae CC
Tu-Th July 7-9	NEWGA	Ledgemont CC
M July 13	2 Best Balls of 4	Quidnessett CC
M July 20	President's Team	Metacomet CC
M July 27	Stroke Play Championship	Montaup CC
Tu-F Aug 4-7	Amateur Championship	Potowomut GC
M-F, Aug 10-14	Junior Amateur	Valley CC
M-W Aug 24-26	Mixed Foursomes	Warwick CC
M Aug 31	Senior Amateur Championship	Agawam Hunt
Tu Sep 8	Junior – Senior	Rhode Island CC
Th-Sa Sep 10-12	USGA State Team Championship	Dalhousie GC, Cape Girardeau, MO
Tu Sept 15	Lib McLoughlin Team Championship – Net	Point Judith CC
Tu Sept 22	Best Ball of 4	Carnegie Abbey
W Sept 30	2 Best Balls of 4	Sakonnet GC
M-W Oct 5-7	Endicott Cup	New Seabury CC (MA)
Tu Oct 6	Best Ball of 4	Wannamoisett CC
Tu Oct 13	2 Best Balls of 4	Newport CC
Th Oct 15	Best Ball of 4	The Misquamicut Club
Team Matches	Aug 11, 18, 25 & Sept 1	





Barbra Wotherspoon

It was a horrible winter for most in New England, including the members of the RIGA.

Dealing with the miserable weather was only part of it. More importantly, the association lost four valued contributors: Fred Bruno, the popular long-time pro at Rhode Island Country Club, Leo Marcotte Jr., one of the special players in association

history, Peter Koch, one of the special contributors off the course as well as on, and Barbra Wotherspoon, one of the special in service to women's golf.

The losses began in January with the passing of Wotherspoon.

Barbra was someone who helped make the game special through a willingness to donate her time. In fact, Barbra began volunteering with the RIWGA in the 1980's and was one of the first coordinators trained by Barbara Sullivan. Until it merged with the RIGA, the RIWGA had no fulltime employees, so arranging and coordinating events was a major concern. Wotherspoon became a key person in that regard, contributing in numerous roles to make events run smoothly.

She was known as the "human calculator" and her smile and warmth was something each lady looked forward to at all events. Additionally, Barbra had an alter ego known as "Bonnie Mann" in the music world, and sang jazz in many area venues from Pawtucket to Newport. Her passion for golf and music is something that will always be remembered and cherished. In fact, our 2015 Women's Season will be dedicated to the memory of Barbra J. Wotherspoon and memorial gifts can be sent to RI Philharmonic Youth Orchestra & Music School. At this time, we do not have any information on a "Celebration of Life," but once we have that information, it will be shared.



Leo Marcotte Jr.

Marcotte was one of the first stars produced through public course golf. At about the same time as the association going moving from a group primarily for private club members to one open to everyone, Marcotte proved players who learned the game on the public courses could not only compete with anyone, but win.

He was the 1974 Amateur champion, beating Paul Quigley in the title match. Three years later, he won again, this time edging Jerry Pascale in the finals. He also won the Four-Ball with partner John Ritacco in 1977. While he was a member of Metacomet later in his career, Marcotte learned the game at Triggs. He was a former Club Champion at Triggs and captured the Public Links Championship twice.



Peter Koch

Koch was a fine player, too. He was involved in the game for a half century, from his days as one of the mainstays on the golf team at what was then the new school in the state, Bishop Hendricken, to his time at the College of the Holy Cross. Even as he put together a hugely successful business career, he remained devoted to the game as evidenced by his

willingness to serve as Carnegie Abbey's representative to the RIGA's executive board. He was in line to eventually become association president.

It was not until his death, though, that everyone became fully aware of how much he gave back to the game and the community.

Few enjoyed life more than Peter. As the Rev. David Ricard, the principal celebrant of Peter's Funeral Mass, pointed out, "Peter lived life to the fullest."

Koch loved to travel and he loved to play golf. He had six holes-in-one. He was a member of courses in Florida and Scotland. He won the World Senior Amateur held in Provence, France.

Through it all, he never left Rhode Island and never stopped contributing to the state. He gave back so much. He was a board member and active participant of the Rhode Island Mentoring Partnership, the Sargent Rehabilitation Center and the Workforce Partnership of Rhode Island.

He also became active in assisting at the Button Hole Children's Golf Course, where RIGA offices are housed. Peter loved to talk about golf and tell stories and the game and enjoyment it provided him through the years.

It was only after he passed away when RIGA officials spoke about how Peter and his business had become major financial boosters for Button Hole. The fact that he provided funding to help others was one of the few areas he did not talk about. He just did it.

continued on next page

Continued from previous page



Fred Bruno

"Peter was," as Father Ricard said, "a very generous man."

That description was one that fit Bruno as well. Bruno did things the old fashioned way, beginning with working his way up the ladder from caddie to become one of the most respected pros the state has ever seen.

He worked with Brad Faxon, Billy Andrade, Dana and Brett Quigley, among many others. He was especially close with Faxon, who enjoys speaking about how Bruno was the first to give him a golf lesson. The two remained close throughout Faxon's career and kept in contact to the day Bruno passed away.

Beyond working with the top players, Bruno helped create an atmosphere that made RICC perhaps the finest family club in the state. The club produced as many, or more, good young players than any facility in the state.

RICC members thought so much of Bruno that they made him the pro emeritus at the club, where he continued to assist Kyle Phelps and the pro shop staff. As recently as last fall, when the Mid-Am was held at RICC, Bruno was a visible presence, riding around on a cart and showing off the course of which he was so proud.

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