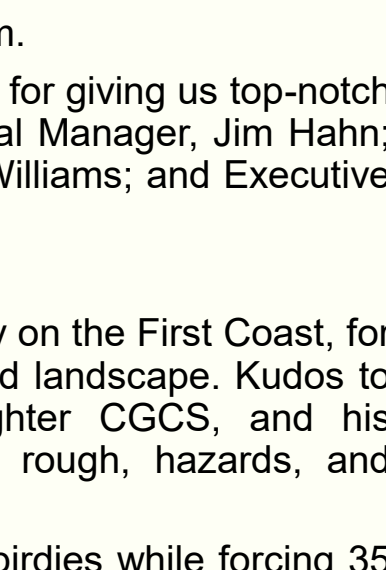


Today's Venue

98 senior golfers from the greater Jacksonville area teed it up today at the Eagle Landing Golf Club for the 259th match in the Senior Men's Interclub series.

Three huzzahs to Orange Park's co-representatives, Mac McKernan and Joe Pierce, and the Eagle Landing head golf professional, Josh Heinzman PGA, for coordinating today's event. Joe and Eagle Landing's assistant professional, Shane Altizer (*I-r*) delivered pre-round announcements in front of the staging area outside Eagle Landing's golf shop before launching 52 carts to their starting tees between 8:50 am and 8:52 am.



Thanks to Eagle Landing's clubhouse staff for giving us top-notch service under the direction of their General Manager, Jim Hahn; Food & Beverage Manager, Joe Halisko Williams; and Executive Chef, Bryan Nickels.

Game Day Setting

It was a typically mild, early-springtime day on the First Coast, for moving a golf ball across a well manicured landscape. Kudos to the course superintendent, Allen Slaughter CGCS, and his grounds crew for keeping the fairways, rough, hazards, and greens in pristine, verdant condition.

Today's layout yielded six eagles and 87 birdies while forcing 35 pickups. Eagle production set an all-time record, breaking the four-eagle day at Marsh Landing in September 2008. Birdie production was 16th highest in league history—Deerwood allowed 122 birdies in January 2008; Ponte Vedra Inn kept us to 26 birdies in December 2010.

Special Recognition

Seven gentlemen are among a growing list of avid senior golfers who enjoy competition at SMI's level of play. Today's field included six gentlemen playing their initial Interclub round:

- Rob Flanagan from Jacksonville
- Esbon White from Orange Park
- James Crosfield from Palencia
- Bill Walker from Sawgrass
- Jerry Pinkham from World Golf
- And returning after a seven-year absence, Jim Knutzen from San Jose.

Plus one gentlemen earned a hearty round of applause for his milestone round:

- Playing his 25th round—Ken Wiechert from Osprey Cove.

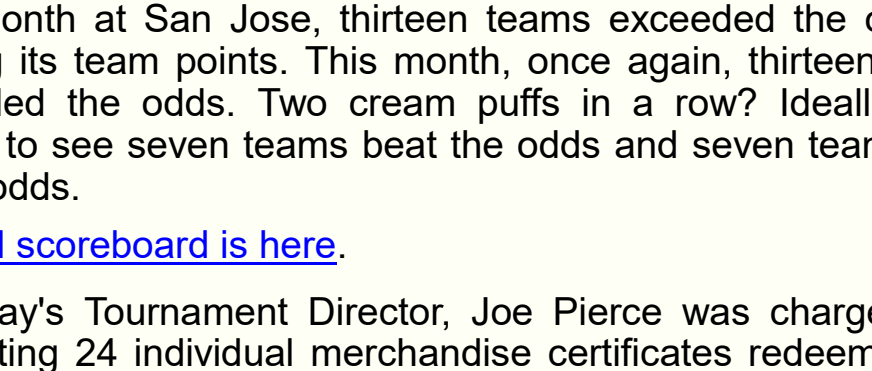
By eagling holes 7 and 10 today, Phil Grosnick DC added another line to the list (*below*) of all-time SMI records, tying the record set by Lee Fields DC on June 4, 2018.

All-time Individual Records	
Most rounds	153 -- Wib Finch JG 145 -- Odie Skeen MC 140 -- Barney Poston HH
Most holes-in-one in career	2 -- Leedom Kettell SG on 1/23/2012 and 7/18/2011 1 -- Ten players
Most eagles in a single round	2 -- Phil Grosnick DC on 4/8/2019 Lee Fields DC on 6/4/2018
Most eagles in career	6 -- Wib Finch JG from 5/19/2008 to 4/8/2019 3 -- Baughn, Ray EH from 10/20/2014 to 10/12/2015
Most birdies in a round	8 -- Lee Fields DC on 3/11/2019 Bob Wildner MP on 7/7/2014 Mike Simpson HH on 10/21/2009 7 -- Lee Fields DC on 8/17/2015 Wib Finch JG on 3/19/2012 Bob Barclay MP on 8/11/2008 6 -- John Grams EH on 11/16/2015 Jerry Glowe JG on 1/13/2014 Bob Wildner MP on 1/14/2013 and 9/17/2007 Wib Finch JG on 1/07/2008 5 -- 22 players 4 -- 85 players

Today's Competition

In our monthly event, we compete to determine the top three teams on the day; each of the winning teams' players receives a golf-shop merchandise certificate. In addition, for each par-3 hole, the player who lands closest to the flagstick receives a sleeve of golf balls.

Charting today's scores against those made in March at San Jose (*below*) suggests today's course, although 234 yards longer, was somewhat easier. While 54 percent of the players at San Jose beat their handicaps, 68 percent of the players at Eagle Landing measured up. Said another way, the average player at San Jose scored 37.8 points and 1.7 strokes less than a bogey player while the average player at Eagle Landing scored 39.1 points and 3.2 strokes less than a bogey player. 48 players reduced their indexes by shooting good scores while 24 players padded their indexes for upcoming events by shooting relatively poor scores.



Today's Leaderboard

The following table compares the order of finish in our previous event to the order of finish today. In first place, Marsh Landing catapulted from last place in March to edge Palencia by two points.

Compared to last month, seven teams rose and seven teams fell with Jacksonville sliding from third place last month to finish in 12th place.

Team	3/11/2019			4/8/2019		
	Best 6	Rank	Points	Best 6	Rank	Points
Osprey Cove	255	1	1168	259	1	1169
World Golf Village	254	2	1166	257	2	1167
Jacksonville	254	3	1162	249	3	1159
Eagle Harbor	245	4	1158	248	4	1157
Hidden Hills	244	5	1157	248	5	1157
Palencia	243	6	1156	247	6	1156
Marsh Creek	243	7	1155	242	7	1154
Deercreek	235	8	1154	239	8	1153
Orange Park	234	9	1153	238	9	1152
Sawgrass	234	10	1152	234	10	1150
San Jose	229	11	1151	232	11	1149
Queen's Harbour	221	12	1150	232	12	1149
Long Point	214	13	1149	226	13	1143
Marsh Landing	212	14	1148	162	14	1129

Last month at San Jose, thirteen teams exceeded the odds of scoring its team points. This month, once again, thirteen teams exceeded the odds. Two cream puffs in a row? Ideally, we'd expect to see seven teams beat the odds and seven teams lose to the odds.

[The full scoreboard is here.](#)

As today's Tournament Director, Joe Teack was charged with presenting 24 individual merchandise certificates redeemable in Eagle Landing's golf shop to the top three teams in today's event.

1st place	Marsh Landing	\$45 per man
2nd place	Palencia	\$32
3rd place	Orange Park	\$21

Reacting to the collapse of the scoring operation (*see Scorer's Table below*), Joe fulfilled his task with aplomb by explaining how golf-ball equivalents would be delivered in accordance with SMI Rule 7-3.1 after today's results were announced.

Season's Leaderboard

The following table shows how team standings on the season changed over the month. In summary, four teams rose and six teams fell this month with Long Point dropping two places.

Team	March 11, 2019			April 8, 2019		
	PTS	PB	Rank	PTS	PB	Rank
Osprey Cove	922	--	1	1169	--	1
Jacksonville	899	23	2	1166	23	2
World Golf Village	898	24	3	1162	38	3
Hidden Hills	852	40	4	1131	49	4
Eagle Harbor	873	49	5	1116	53	5
Orange Park	867	55	6	1107	62	6
Long Point	864	58	7	1103	66	7
San Jose	856	66	8	1098	71	8
Palencia	846	76	9	1096	73	9
Queen's Harbour	844	78	10	1092	77	10
Deercreek	840	82	11	1084	85	11
Sawgrass	831	91	12	1079	90	12
Marsh Creek	828	94	13	1057	112	13
Marsh Landing	825	97	14	990	179	14

By finishing in third place today, Orange Park came close to claiming the home-team advantage. However, as shown in the following composite table, Marsh Landing has a firm hold atop the ladder of all-time team records.

Rank	1st Place		Top Three		Home Wins	
	Club	Times	Club	Times	Club	Pct
1	ML	15	JG	31	ML	45%
2	EH	11	ML	30	HH	38%
3	DC	10	OP	28	LP	33%
4	JG	10	WG	28	SJ	30%
5	HH	9	HH	26	EH	29%
6	OP	9	SN	26	SN	20%
7	SN	9	EH	25	OP	18%
8	WG	9	QH	24	QH	17%
9	MC	8	DC	23	DC	17%
10	OC	5	SG	22	SG	14%
11	QH	5	MC	20	PV	13%
12	LP	4	SJ	18	JG	8%
13	SG	4	LP	16	WG	0%
14	PA	0	OB	0	PA	0%

Team Leaders

Generally, we say a big gun is someone who helps his team into one of the top three places by scoring at least 36 points. Why 36 points? That marks the line where a player overcomes 2:1 odds. 58 players crossed that threshold today; 20 of those were on the prize-winning teams. When that many players cross the 36-point outline, you can scratch your head or look for an underlying cause.

On the flip side, we observe that the seventh player on each team averages 29 points, which corresponds to 1:4 odds. Today, only four players scored 29 points or less.

1st Place				2nd Place				3rd Place			
Player	AGS	PTS	ODDS	Player	AGS	PTS	ODDS	Player	AGS	PTS	ODDS
Marsh Landing	82	46	31:1	Steck, Bob PA	81	51	26:1	Warren, Larry OP	80	48	58:1
Hamm, Ned ML	97	45	13:1	Tridoss, Phil PA	91	44	9:1	Babbitt, Lewy OP	88	42	8:1
DePinto, Tony ML	89	44	9:1	Gunter, Shelby PA	89	43	4:1	Hubbard, Bob OP	90	41	5:1
Miller, Bill ML	90	44	7:1	Herrn, Tom PA	94	43	5:1	White, John OP	88	41	5:1
Cabero, Roy ML	89	42	5:1	Crosfield, James PA	87	38	5:1	Deans, Jerry OP	75	39	5:1
Hakovsen, George ML	78	38	3:1	Kerr, Jim PA	101	38	1:1	Bikksbrandt, Earl OP	79	38	37:1
Selover, Ed ML	92	37	2:1	White, Jim PA	82	38	2:1				

Individual Leaderboard

Ten odds-breakers filled the twelve slots shown on today's individual leaderboard (*below*). In all, 58 players beat the odds associated with their handicap indexes while 27 players failed to match even odds.

POINTS		
51 -- Bob Steck PA	Odds=249:1	
50 -- Fred Track EH	=332:1	
48 -- Larry Warren OP	=58:1	
47 -- Wib Finch JG	=99:1	
47 -- Jon Peterson OC	=19:1	
47 -- Rich Bevilacqua WG	=1:19	
39.1 -- Today's average [2018 average=34.5]		
STROKES		
73 -- Wib Finch JG	Odds=99:1	
74 -- Jay Mueller DC	=25:1	
75 -- Jerry Deans OP	=5:1	
77 -- Skip Lunsford JG	=6:1	
77 -- Rich Track DC	=6:1	
77 -- Fred Track EH	=332:1	
87.1 -- Today's average [2018 average=91.5]		

Outstanding Shooters

- Eagles 6 Hole 5: Wib Finch JG
Hole 7: Phil Grosnick DC
Hole 10: Jim Grosnick LP, Phil Grosnick DC, and Larry Warren OP
Hole 12: Dave Vince HH
- Birdies 4 Jay Mueller DC, Rich Scott DC, and Fred Track EH
- 3 Carmine Ewald WG, Jim Begley EH, George Halvorsen ML, Bill Hammel SN, Gary O'Brien QH, Mark Rutland DC, Bob Steck PA, and Jeff Wofford HH
- 87 Today's total (2018 average=62 birdies)

Closest to the Flagstick

- Hole 02 Fred Track EH
- Hole 06 Jack Clancy DC
- Hole 13 Ken Wiechert OC
- Hole 16 Paul Trudeau PA

Toughest Holes

On average we record 92 pickups at each event. Today's course drew 35 pickups, the 30th easiest day of 146 recorded events. In comparison, we recorded 26 pickups at Eagle Harbor in 2006 and 31 pickups at Osprey Cove in 2016; the all-time high, 225 pickups, was set at Ponte Vedra Inn on December 10, 2010. Today, holes 2, 5, 10, and 11, the four easiest holes, drew no pickups, while hole 4, the 2nd toughest hole, tallied the most pickups, 5.

Hole	Par	Avg	Birdies	Par3	Bogeys	Others	Pickups
1	4	5.31	0	15	47	35	1
4	4	5.28	2	23	37	31	5
15	4	5.18	2	25	41	27	3
13	3	4.08	0	26	45	26	1
14	4	5.06	3	22	47	23	3
3	4	5.03	0	33	40	21	4

Scorer's Table

The first card was returned to the scorer's table at 1:30 pm which is five minutes earlier than standard. After processing 26 cards, it was found: I had to abort the scoring operation. As DeVincenzo said in 1968, "What a stupid I am."

I mistakenly loaded an untested version of our scoring app; it lacked one essential line of code. The intended version was tested on March 28 in a training session witnessed by four league officers. Here's a brief recitation of how this happened.

On April 1, my HP Photosmart 5520 printer went south: its black-ink inlet clogged and wouldn't free up after several days of trying. On April 5, I replaced it with an HP Envy 5055 printer which has a quirk that didn't suit our scorecard printing app. It cut me off at the pass with this message:

HP 5055 Display. Paper Size Mismatch
The paper size detected by the printer does not match the paper size selected for the print job.

Our scorecard printing app is programmed to print on a virtual 8.5"x11" sheet where the paper-width guides are adjusted inward to our 3.25"-wide Minuteman Press blanks. For three days, I struggled unsuccessfully to reprogram our app to print over the MMP blanks with specific game-day data. Using a one-step backup program, 104 home-brew cards were printed at the last minute, two to a sheet, and cut by me... imperfectly as it happens, but it was late and my eyes were tired. In a panic, I loaded the wrong version of the scoring app. End of story.

After loading the tested app at home, 18 cards were diverted for exception handling and the operator evaluated 21 cards due to marker's errors: five were unmarked and 16 had more than one response. Historically, an average of 31 cards are ejected for exception handling; the least number of cards ejected was 8, the largest number was 87. Generally, higher numbers are due to hard pencils supplied by the course or overly wide cards issued by the league.

Performance Forecast

Since November 2016, we have predicted the order of finish for each SMI match. Make of it what you will but our record is at least as accurate as the annual Punxsutawney Phil forecast. It certainly beats odds makers in Las Vegas and handicappers at the Orange Park Kennel Club.

This month, the forecast model performed a good deal better than last month. While the rank correlation (ρ) between the forecast and actual rankings at San Jose was very weak (-0.03), the rank correlation today was stronger (+0.22). In fact, it was slightly stronger than the correlation between the rankings at post time and the finish of this year's Kentucky Derby (+0.19).

OP 4/8/2019											
Forecast						Outcome					
Rank	Team	Pts	Rank	Team	Pts						
1	SN	238	1	ML	259						
2	OC	235	2	PA	247						
3	ML	235	3	OP	259						
4	WG	235	4	WG	248						
5	SG	230	5	JG	248						
6	EH	229	6	QH	248						
7	HH	229	7	OC	247						
8	DC	229	8	SN	242						
9	OP	229	9	DC	239						
10	LP	227	10	HH	238						
11	PA	220	11	EH	234						
12	QH	214	12	LP	232						
13	JG	208	13	SG	226						

Last 12 months -- Rank Correlation (ρ) between Forecast and Outcome												
Venue	ML	MC	OC	SG	EH	HH	DW	PA	JG	SN	EL	
Date	04/09/18	05/07/18	06/04/18	08/27/18	09/17/18	10/15/18	11/12/18	12/03/18	01/14/19	02/04/19	03/11/19	04/08/19
ρ	+0.43	+0.02	+0.33	-0.22	+0.62	+0.36	+0.36	+0.72	+0.46	+0.43	-0.03	+0.22

Next Match

What: Sixth match in the 2019 season
When: 8:30 am, Monday, May 13, 2019
Where: Slammer & Squire at World Golf Village
Designed by Bobby Weed (1998) along with Sam Snead and Gene Sarazen
5,711 yds, 66.7/113/87.7 (course/slope/bogey)

Who: Bob McBride WG, Tournament Director
Aric Zuberbier, PGA, Head Professional

Defending: Last time here, in August 2017, Jacksonville and World Golf tied for first place with Jacksonville winning the best-five-of-eight tiebreaker.

Financial News

Bruce MacDonald QH, our league treasurer, filed his latest end-of-month report as shown in the table below. The current balance increases each month in order to fund the team prizes and door prizes that will be distributed at our season-ending Barney Poston Cup event.

Date	Description	Income	Expense	Balance
12/03/18	BALANCE FORWARD			\$ 505.94
12/03/18	SMI Prize Fund: 112 PA rounds @ \$3	\$ 336.00		841.94
12/04/18	SMI Annual Meeting: Scott Johnson, Golf Genius		\$ 20.00	821.94
01/14/19	SMI Prize Fund: 112 JG rounds @ \$3			