

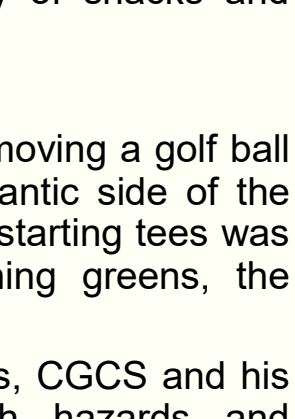
## Today's Venue

107 senior golfers from the greater Jacksonville area teed it up today at Marsh Landing Country Club for the 264th match in the Senior Men's Interclub series. This marks the 12th time that Marsh Landing hosted an SMI event, taking first place in five of those events. Hidden Hills and Marsh Landing share the league record for the most home-advantage wins.



Three huzzahs to the Marsh Landing club representative, Ray Cabano, and his head golf professional, Bryan Cooper PGA, (*l-r*) for coordinating today's event and giving pre-round announcements at the front of the parking lot before launching 56 carts to their starting tees from 8:49-8:54 am.

Thanks to Marsh Landing's clubhouse staff for giving us top-notch service under the direction of their Managing Partner, Bruno Couturier, First Assistant Golf Professional, Jarrod Barsamian; Food & Beverage Director, Jennifer Angus; Banquet Manager, Melanie Skiba; and Executive Chef, James McClure.



And our very special thanks and a tip of 107 caps go to Jordan and Kaycee (*l-r*) for hustling around the course with a well stocked supply of snacks and beverages for hungry, thirsty senior golfers.

## Game Day Setting

It was a rain-free, gust-free summer day fit for moving a golf ball across a well manicured landscape on the Atlantic side of the Intracoastal Waterway. The temperature on the starting tees was 77°F; by the time we approached the finishing greens, the temperature had barely risen to 79°F.

Kudos to the Course Superintendent, Tim Lyons, CGCS and his grounds crew for keeping the fairways, rough, hazards, and greens in pristine, verdant condition.

Today's layout yielded one eagle and 42 birdies while forcing 58 pickups. Birdie production was 19th lowest in league history—Deerwood allowed 122 birdies in January 2008; Ponte Vedra Inn kept us to 26 birdies in December 2010. Pickup rate was the 26th lowest in league history—Ponte Vedra Inn forced 225 pickups in December 2010; Eagle Harbor drew 22 in October 2006.

## Special Recognition

Today's field included five rookies playing their first SMI round:

- Bob Maguire, Billy McCarter, and Dave Peterson from Long Point
- Greg Bland from Marsh Creek and
- Mike Lawlor from Palencia.

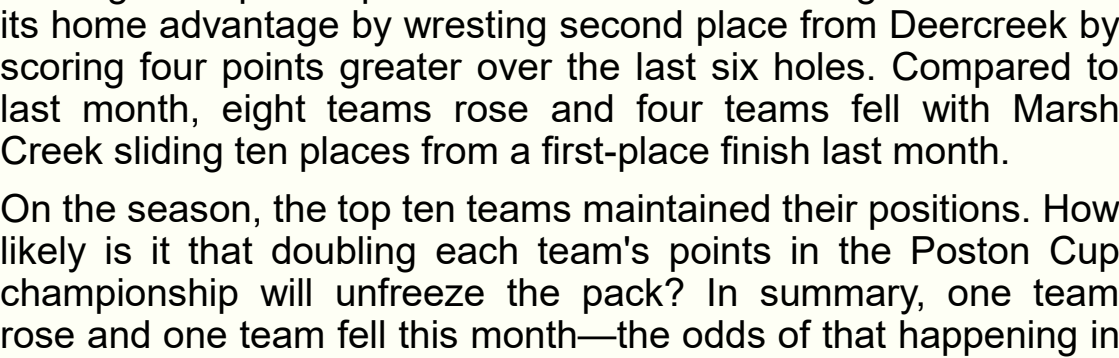
Plus two gentlemen earned a hearty round of applause for their milestone rounds:

- Jerry Pribanic from Jacksonville playing his 25th SMI round
- Jim White from Palencia playing his 50th SMI round.

## 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 September at Marsh Creek (*below*) suggests today's course, even though 100 yards longer, was less difficult to master. While 25 percent of the players at Marsh Creek exceeded their handicaps, 38 percent of the players at Marsh Landing measured up. Said another way, the average player at Marsh Creek scored 31.5 points and 2.2 strokes more than a bogey player while the average player at Marsh Landing scored 33.4 points and one stroke less than a bogey player. 26 players reduced their indexes by shooting good scores while 32 players padded their indexes for upcoming events by shooting relatively poor scores.



## Today's Leaderboards

The following tables compare the gameday and season standings at the completion of our gameday event to their respective orders of finish today. Queen's Harbour took first place by a wide margin—12 points—over Marsh Landing and Deercreek while finishing seven places better than last month. Queen's Harbour's feat bodes well for its prospects at the season-ending championship next month. Marsh Landing cashed in on its home advantage by wresting second place from Deercreek by scoring four points greater over the last six holes. Compared to last month, eight teams rose and four teams fell with Marsh Creek sliding ten places from a first-place finish last month.

On the season, the top ten teams maintained their positions. How likely is it that doubling each team's points in the Poston Cup championship will unfreeze the pack? In summary, one team rose and one team fell this month—the odds of that happening in our lifetimes are astronomical.

Team	09/23/19 Best 6 Rank	Team	10/21/19 Best 6 Rank	Team	09/23/19 PTS PB	Team	10/21/19 PTS PB
Marsh Creek	223 1	Queen's Harbour	232 1	Osprey Cove	2075 --	Osprey Cove	2287 --
Palencia	214 2	Marsh Landing	220 2	World Golf Village	2053 --	World Golf Village	2251 --
Deercreek	212 3	Deercreek	220 3	Queen's Harbour	2009 68	Queen's Harbour	2241 45
Marsh Landing	211 4	Palencia	215 4	Deercreek	2007 68	Deercreek	2227 60
Sawgrass	208 5	Osprey Cove	212 5	Marsh Landing	2006 69	Marsh Landing	2226 61
Long Point	201 6	San Jose	210 6	Palencia	1998 77	Palencia	2213 74
Osprey Cove	200 7	Hidden Hills	207 7	Eagle Harbor	1992 83	Eagle Harbor	2198 89
Queen's Harbour	198 8	Eagle Harbor	206 8	Hidden Hills	1975 100	Hidden Hills	2182 105
World Golf Village	198 9	World Golf Village	206 9	San Jose	1966 109	San Jose	2176 111
San Jose	193 10	Orange Park	205 10	Orange Park	1961 114	Orange Park	2166 121
Eagle Harbor	191 11	Marsh Creek	204 11	Long Point	1959 116	Long Point	2152 135
Hidden Hills	181 12	Jacksonville	204 12	Jacksonville	1948 127	Jacksonville	2147 140
Orange Park	179 13	Sawgrass	203 13	Sawgrass	1937 138	Sawgrass	2140 147
Jacksonville	154 14	Long Point	188 14	Marsh Creek	1892 183	Marsh Creek	2096 191

Last month at Marsh Creek, five teams exceeded the odds of scoring their team points. This month, nine teams exceeded the odds. 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, Ray Cabano was pleased to present 24 individual merchandise certificates redeemable in Marsh Landing's golf shop to the top three teams in today's event.

- 1st place: Queen's Harbour \$48 per man
- 2nd place: Marsh Landing \$35
- 3rd place: Deercreek \$24

## 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 generally marks the line where a player overcomes 2:1 odds. 42 players crossed that threshold today; 11 of those were on the prize-winning teams. It was a fairly easy day to break through the handicap ceiling.

On the flip side, we observe that the seventh player on each team averages 29 points, which corresponds to 1:4 odds. Today, 23 players scored 29 points or less.

1st Place					2nd Place					3rd Place				
Player	AGS	PTS	ODDS	Rank	Player	AGS	PTS	ODDS	Rank	Player	AGS	PTS	ODDS	Rank
Felice, John QH	82	42	17:1	1	Cabano, Ray ML	89	41	7:1	1	Ryan, Bob DC	80	40	8:1	1
O'Brien, Gary QH	83	40	8:1	2	McCaw, Joe ML	88	38	3:1	2	Lebednick, Mike DC	85	39	5:1	2
Spence, Donald QH	83	40	8:1	3	Tancredi, John ML	92	38	3:1	3	Grant, Tom DC	92	36	2:1	3
MacDonald, Bruce QH	100	36	2:1	4					4	Roitstein, Paul DC	107	36	1:1	4
Smith, Benny QH	85	38	4:1	5					5					5

## Individual Leaderboard

Ten odds-breakers filled the twelve slots shown on today's individual leaderboard (*below*). In all, 42 players beat the odds associated with their handicap indexes while 41 players failed to match even odds.

POINTS		Odds=2:1
43 -- Len Davis WG		2:1
42 -- John Felice QH		2:1
41 -- Ray Cabano ML		2:1
41 -- Fred Trackr EH		2:1
40 -- Jack Emmer MC		1:1
40 -- Bob Ryan DC		1:1
33.4 -- Today's average [34.5=2018 average]		
STROKES		Odds=2:1
76 -- Mark Kontny SG		2:1
78 -- Jay Mueller DC		2:1
79 -- Ken Wiechert OC		1:1
79 -- Mike Klosterman OP		3:1
79 -- Len Davis WG		2:1
80 -- Bob Ryan DC		1:1
92.0 -- Today's average [91.5=2018 average]		

## Outstanding Shooters

- Eagles: 1 Hole 14, Mark Dalziel SG
- Birdies: 3 Mark Rutland DC
- 42 Today's total (2018 average=62 birdies)

## Closest to the Flagstick

- Hole 03 Dennis Fallen JG 4'10"
- Hole 07 Charlie Bowers OC 10'3"
- Hole 11 Mike McBride WG 8'6"
- Hole 17 Jerry Deans OP 6'5"

## Toughest Holes

On average we record 92 pickups at each event. Today's course drew 58 pickups, the 21st toughest day of 152 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 in December 2010.

Holes 7, 11, and 12—among the seven easiest on the course—exacted one pickup each along with hole 16, the second toughest. Holes 1 and 3, the tenth and eighth toughest, forced the most pickups with seven a piece.

Hole	Par	Avg	Birdies	Pars	Bogeys	Others	Pickups
9	4	5.58	0	13	39	52	3
16	4	5.57	1	14	42	49	1
14	5	6.45	2	12	42	44	6
18	5	6.41	3	19	34	45	6
8	5	6.38	5	18	35	43	6
13	4	5.24	2	30	31	42	2

## Scorer's Table

Thanks to Bill Miller ML for joining Skip Lunsford and Jack Garrity to round out the three-member scoring crew with John Tancredi ML pitching in. The crew experienced a fairly smooth operation that began when the first scorecard was returned at 1:41 pm, six minutes earlier than at last year's ML event. The operation lasted 44 minutes after which the competition was closed and the prizes distributed.

In all, 10 minutes of the operation were lost handling 20 errored scorecards. In league history, 29 cards are ejected on average for exception handling; the least number being 3, the largest number being 88. High numbers are generally due to hard pencils supplied by the course or overly wide cards issued by the league.

## Pace of Play

Coming into this match, our scorecard proxy model predicted the fastest group would finish in 4h 19m from starting tee to ending green. In fact, Groups 01A and 01B were the fastest, both groups finishing in 4h 40m. Congratulations to our pace-of-play rabbits: Ray Cabano ML, Rob Flanagan JG, Peter Hatch MC, and Dick Fruechtenicht LP in a dead heat with Glenn Green SN, Ray Mantle QH, Wayne McAllister OC, and Bill Miller ML.

At the other extreme, today's turtles took 34 minutes longer to play the same course—we're still working to understand how that can happen.

## 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 poorly: while the rank correlation ( $\rho$ ) between the forecast and actual rankings at Marsh Creek was spectacular (+0.67), the rank correlation today was weak (+0.24). Who'd a thought Sawgrass would take a nosedive while Queen's Harbour soared like an eagle?



## Next Match

What: Barney Poston Cup, 11th match in the 2019 season  
 When: 9:00 am, Monday, November 11, 2019  
 Where: Deerwood Country Club  
 A George Cobb design (1960)  
 Renovated by Brian Silva (2004)  
 5,649 yards, 69.0/117/90.7 (course/slope/bogey)

Who: Ray Cabano ML and Jon Peterson OC, Tournament Co-Directors  
 Tim Cooper, PGA, Head Professional

Defending: Last time here, in November 2018, Long Point took first place on the day over Hidden Hills by eleven points while Eagle Harbor earned the Barney Poston Cup in a rule 7-5 tiebreaker over Long Point based on their respective standings entering this match.

## 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	\$ 336.00		1,157.94
02/04/19	SMI Prize Fund: 111 SN rounds @ \$3	\$ 333.00		1,493.94
03/11/19	SMI Prize Fund: 111 SN rounds @ \$3	\$ 333.00		1,826.94
04/08/19	SMI Prize Fund: 98 OP rounds @ \$3	\$ 294.00		2,120.94
05/13/19	SMI Prize Fund: 110 SS rounds @ \$3	\$ 330.00		2,450.94
06/10/19	SMI Prize Fund: 110 DC rounds @ \$3	\$ 330.00		2,780.94
06/20/19	Jack Garrity: 1,300 Minute Man Press Scorecards		\$ 303.53	2,477.41
07/27/19	LGB Industries: Website ad	\$ 152.00		2,629.41
08/19/19	SMI Prize Fund: 108 OC rounds @ \$3	\$ 324.00		2,953.41
09/23/19	SMI Prize Fund: 107 MC rounds @ \$3	\$ 321.00		3,274.41
10/21/19	SMI Prize Fund: 107 ML rounds @ \$3	\$ 321.00		3,595.41

## Website News

We're trying to make the website more user friendly on smart phones. You can now submit your rosters from your phone. It seems to be best in landscape mode (phone sideways). Give it a try and let the webmaster know how it works.

Our website is now 'secure'. Safe for conducting commerce, tougher to hack, etc. Notice the https (was http) in our site's URL.

Clicking on Google ads pays off. Doing so from our webpages puts cash in our bank account. Each click generates income that helps to offset the annual cost of our web site. Google last sent us a check for \$101.78. Our earnings as of October 2019 are at \$86.36. Google will pay us when the amount due is \$100 or more.