

THE PLAYER'S CLUB PRESS

It has been great to see the participation levels increase in our last few events. We have another exciting event coming up on July 13th so save the date! As an overview it will include:

- ◇ 18 holes of Shamble golf
- ◇ Tee gift for all participants
- ◇ Prizes for winners!
- ◇ Post-outing meal
- ◇ Contests

Space is limited so please register early by clicking [here!](#)



For those wanting to register an official USGA handicap, we offer access to the GHIN system and member pricing of \$25.00 per year. There may be events that require official handicaps. Please inquire with our Head Golf Professional, Disney's LBV, Matt Hampson, for more information. (407) 966-1456, mhampson@palmergolf.com



Exciting Announcements & Reminders:

◇ Please remember that we offer special member pricing on all TaylorMade equipment. With their supply chain getting caught up, we now have stock available in the golf shop and for special order. Please contact Jason DeWildt at 407-454-5082 or by email at jdewildt@palmergolf.com.

◇ New Walt Disney World® Resort 50th Anniversary merchandise is now in stock and available:

- ◇ 50th Anniversary Pin Flag \$49.95
- ◇ 50th Anniversary Towel \$49.95
- ◇ 50th Anniversary Accessory Kit \$49.95
- ◇ 50th Anniversary Golf Balls \$59.95
- ◇ 50th Anniversary Head Cover \$74.95



PRO'S PAGE

Meet one of our Assistant Golf Professionals at *Disney's Palm, Disney's Magnolia, and Disney's Oak Trail* Golf Courses, Kevin Smith!



Kevin is one of our team managers, but is also in charge of overseeing the Golf Shop operations. His main goal is to “assist in the whole operation to ensure that the guest experience is the best it can possibly be. “

Which is your favorite golf course at Walt Disney World® Golf?

“Out of all three courses, I would have to say *Disney's Lake Buena Vista* Golf Course. I have only played that three times (far less than *Palm* and *Magnolia*) but I have always loved that facility. Conditions are always great. The shape of the holes are different and the course winds you through three Disney resorts, which is very scenic. “

What is your favorite hole at our courses, and why?

“I have two holes in mind. The first is *Magnolia* #6, the famous Par 3 with the Mickey Mouse bunker in front. Yes It is our most iconic hole but the hole is a great par 3 (150 yards to almost 220 yards depending on the tee selection) with a carry over the water and with a slight up hill to a huge green. Certainly, the look of Mickey right below the flag is very challenging. My second favorite is *Palm* #18. It is a great finishing hole back to the hotel. It is a tricky tee shot that calls for a driver or a long iron off the tee to be safe. This leads to a difficult second shot back into a green that is very small and elevated. The last hole of the your round can be very risky or rewarding if the proper shots are produced.”

What is your personal history with the game of golf?

“I started out when I was 8 years old in West Hartford, CT when we lived adjacent to a golf course. I am self-taught and adapted the motion as I grew up playing baseball. I decided to pursue the sport in high school instead of taking the baseball route. After playing Division 3 and club level golf in college, I decided to make the golf industry my career. Between Connecticut and Florida the last 10 years I have had the opportunity to work at public, private, and resort style facilities. The game of golf, and through my own young career progression, this sport has taken me to numerous places for travel and leisure, including Special Olympics nationwide golf events, and other opportunities that I am proud to have been associated with.”

What do you like to do outside of work?

“Even when I am not here at work, I like to be involved in many sporting activities. I still have the itch to be competitive and play, but I mainly enjoy the game for what it is. Furthermore, there is always something to do outside of work, and someone is always looking for a game. Travel is certainly something that I enjoy and look forward to at each opportunity. This can range from going to a local spot that I have never explored, or a new city somewhere in another state. “

Next time you visit *Disney's Palm, Disney's Magnolia, and Disney's Oak Trail* Golf Courses, make sure to make Kevin's acquaintance. Thank you Kevin, for all that you do!

Feedback, Policies, and Procedures:

We have received feedback and comments from many of you in regard to the program over the past six months and we want to thank everyone who has taken the time to share their thoughts with us. Since many of the topics have been shared multiple times, we thought that we could review them here for everyone's benefit:

- ◆ **Why do I have to share a golf cart, and can't just take my own?**

Single carts have a detrimental impact on the turf as more traffic causes more turf wear. We experienced this during the peak of COVID in 2020 with heavy volumes of play and additional cart traffic, but are now back to normal operations, and thus are requiring players to pair up accordingly at the first tee.

- ◆ **Why can't I just decide to not show up to play, or show up to play with less players than I booked?**

With the strong demand for starting times that we continue to experience, not honoring your start time prevents other golfers from having the chance to play. We continue to allow cancellations or player reductions to be made up to 24 hours in advance of the scheduled reservation.

- ◆ **Why do you not charge a fee for those that are abusing their tee time privileges or cancel their memberships?**

Both of these policies are once again now being discussed, but ideally we would prefer not to have to monitor and assess fees, so we are hopeful that a friendly reminder of how it affects the availability for others to play will be sufficient to curtail any detrimental behaviors. Unfortunately, if these behaviors continue, we will have no option other than to re-implement the no-show/short-show policy and assess fees for those that are not following the policies related to tee time reservations and membership.

Reminder:

At this time we are not renewing annual memberships. We have turned off the Player's Club enrollment feature for the time-being, and we will not be accepting new members for the foreseeable future. This will allow natural attrition to reduce the number of members and help allow for a better experience for those that remain in the program.

Until next month's edition... *"Hit them long and straight in the short grass!"*

