

THE MULLIGAN TOUR CHRONICLES

Southeast Michigan's Premier Recreational Golf League



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A Brand New Season

Anticipated growth yields 3 new tournaments for 2011 schedule

The Mulligan Tour LLC, Belleville, MI -

Onward and upward. The Mulligan Tour is starting the 2011 season with 80+ members and will conduct a record number of tournaments in its 13th season.

Membership may not reach the record 89 members of the 2010 season but the Tour added 3 new tournaments anticipating growth. The Tour will conduct 43 events in 2011 starting with the Qualifying Schools in mid April and ending with the Runny Nose Open in November.

The Tour's regular season starts on April 30th with the Pine View Classic, a West Division tournament, and the Tin Cup, a Central Division event. The East Division gets started a week later at Blackheath GC with the Sweet Sixteen tournament.

Generally, each regional division will conduct 2 or 3 tournaments each month before breaking for one of the Tour's major championships.

In all, the Tour's Central Division will conduct 10 tournaments including the PLAYERS Championship for those players finishing in the top-20 on the Central money list. The West Division will also hold 10 tournaments, including the WESTERN Championship for the top-20 money winners, and the 2-year old East

Division has a schedule of 9 tournaments culminating in the EASTERN Championship for the top-20 East money winners.

Among the new tournaments on the 2011 schedule, the East Division will unveil the Cherry Creek Classic on June 4th and the East Side Charity Classic on July 23rd. The other new tournament to debut in 2011 is the UPS Store Golf Classic scheduled for August 21 at Northville Hills GC on the Central schedule.

The UPS Store sponsored the Quad-Tour Challenge in 2009 and 2010, but will launch a new tournament for 2011.

Other returning title sponsors include Victor McCoy's Real McCoy Classic and Karl Carter's Dudlee's Plymouth Open. Farmington Hills GC will host the Real McCoy for the 6th year in a row and Fox Hills is the host course for the Dudlee's.

Dan Schwartz's Commercial Underwriter's Risk Management has been the title sponsor for the Harbour Pointe Open since 2001.

Later in the season, Tour member Jason Rectenwald continues to sponsor the Carrington Classic while the consortium of Tom & Barb Hoelzle, Dick Spiers and Denny Ersig bring the Fifty Cent Classic back to

2011 Schedule Highlights

Central Division
10 tournaments (\$850 total purse)

Western Division
10 tournaments (\$820 total purse)

Eastern Division
9 tournaments (\$770 total purse)

The Memorial Tournament - May 21
Harbour Pointe Open - June 25-26
Indigo Salon&Spa Ladies Open - July 10
MT Senior Open - July 17
Match Play Championship - July 29-31
Division Championships - August 27
TOUR Championship - September 17

Commissioner's Cup - Sep 24-25
President's Cup - Oct 9
The Division Bell - Oct 23

Stony Creek Metropark.

And, the 2011 season will introduce 2 new corporate sponsors to the Mulligan Tour. The Indigo Salon, Spa & Boutique, located in Canton, will sponsor the 2011 Ladies Open. And, Doc's Sports Retreat of Livonia is the new sponsor for the Quad-Tour Challenge.

The Indigo Salon & Spa Ladies Open is scheduled for Sunday, July

(Continued on page 2)

www.themulligantour.com

Rules meant to be Broken

USGA rules just don't make sense for the recreational golfer

By Erik Meland -

Articles in Golf Digest and Golf World magazines this past winter made me chuckle when they detailed some of the ridiculous golf rules that the pros must abide.

I suppose golf is their profession and most of them make very good money for playing a game. Still, some of these rules seem a bit arcane for the recreational golfer.

Among some of the silliest rules violations last year:

Ian Poulter, Dubai World Championship - Penalized a stroke when his ball marker moved when he dropped his ball on it.

Dustin Johnson, PGA Championship - Penalized for grounding his club in a "bunker" in which spectators were allowed to walk.

Juli Inkster, Safeway Classic - Disqualified after the 2nd round

when officials discovered that she used a weighted practice aid on one of her clubs trying to stay loose during a back-up on the 10th hole.

Of these occurrences, none would be infractions on the Mulligan Tour.

Some things are just too trivial for me. I have seen and heard about Mulligan Tour players just brushing the sand on the takeaway of a bunker shot. Or about the player that marks his/her ball on the green and then does not bring the ball back to the same position. Some players seem to move their ball forward a half inch after marking.

But does anyone really think there is an advantage in lightly touching the sand in the bunker or having a 21' 8" putt verses a 21' 8½" putt?

The Mulligan Tour has rules - rules that are needed to keep the field level for all competitors, but let's not sweat the small stuff. Life is too short and rule #1 is to "have fun".

A few USGA Rules NOT followed by the Mulligan Tour

1) Stroke and distance for OB or lost ball

(Yeah right, let's back everything up on Saturday morning!)

2) Play it as it lies

(Sorry, we don't get paid hundred of thousands of dollars to hit out of fairway divots)

3) Cannot repair spike marks on greens

(Really? That's part of the game - putting through defects??)

4) No mulligans

(A golf league called the "Mulligan Tour" must have a mulligan)

(Continued from page 1)

10th, at Pheasant Run Golf Club and will continue to be a "Rally for the Cure" event supporting the efforts of the Susan G. Komen Foundation for breast cancer awareness.

On July 16, Whispering Willows GC will host the Doc's Sports Retreat Quad-Tour Challenge. Doc's Sports Retreat will benefit the English Springer Rescue America, Inc.

Other season highlights:

- The season's first grand slam event - the Memorial Tournament - invites teams of 2 to Gateway GC to battle for the Green Towels. The tournament will be played for the 17th time on May 21st.

- The Majestic at Lake Walden

will host the 2-day Commercial Underwriters Harbour Pointe Open on June 25 and 26. The Tour's only 36-hole, stroke-play tournament is the 2nd major of the year.

- The Match Play Championship will play on the Woodlands of Van Buren for a 2nd consecutive year - and 5th time overall on the final weekend in July.

- Saturday, August 27th, will be "Division Championship" day. The Tour is returning to the original plan of having the division championships on the same day. Players that qualify for more than one of the division championships will have to make a choice.

The PLAYERS Championship is

scheduled for a return trip to the Golden Fox - host course for the 2004 PLAYERS. The WESTERN Championship returns to the Coyote Preserve GC - host course for the 2007 WESTERN. And, the 2nd EASTERN Championship is planned for the Orchards GC.

- The TOUR Championship will conclude it's 3-year run at Polo Fields G&CC on September 17. The season finale of tournament stroke-play will invite the top-20 on the overall money list to participate.

- The 7th Commissioner's Cup will take the Tour outside of Michigan borders for the first time, as the matches will be hosted by Maumee State Park in Oregon, Ohio.

Helping Hands

MT members support charities as they play

The Mulligan Tour LLC, Belleville, MI -

The Mulligan Tour continues to grow and use the PGA Tour as a model. Like the PGA, the MT is continually striving for title sponsors and charity tie-ins for every tournament.

Charitable contributions from Mulligan Tour tournaments have totaled more than \$5400 over the years including \$3400 going to different charities sponsored by the Harbour Pointe Open and another \$1400 to the "Rally for the Cure".

The 2011 season is sure to be a record setting year for charitable contributions from the Mulligan Tour with no less than 6 tournaments planning support of favorite charities.

In 2011, the Harbour Pointe Open will benefit the Open Door Food Ministry, a Canton based charity helping needy families with food and

education. Raffle prizes, a putting contest and the sale of extra mulligans will raise the donation.

The Dudlee's Plymouth Open will benefit the Leader Dogs for the Blind in 2011. Tournament host Karl Carter is looking forward to a new twist on the 50/50 putting contest - blindfolded putting.

The 2011 Ladies Open, with new title sponsor Indigo Salon, Spa & Boutique, will continue to support the Susan G Komen foundation as a "Rally for the Cure" event. In addition to a 50/50 putting contest, there is rumor that neck and shoulder massages will be available for a donations to the Rally.

The Quad-Tour Challenge gets a new sponsor in 2011, Doc's Sports Retreat in Livonia, and will support English Springer Rescue America.

The UPS Store is sponsoring a

Giving Back

Charities supported by 2011 tournaments

Commercial Underwriters Harbour Pointe Open
Open Door Food Ministry

Dudlee's Plymouth Open
Leader Dogs for the Blind

Indigo Salon & Spa Ladies Open
Rally for the Cure

UPS Store Golf Classic
Toys for Tots

Doc's Sports Retreat Quad-Tour Challenge
English Springer Rescue America

East Side Charity Classic
Make A Wish

new tournament in 2011. The UPS Store Golf Classic, August 21 at Northville Hills GC, will support the Toys for Tots program as players can acquire an extra mulligan by donating a new toy.

Tour welcomes back old veteran

Jeff Kellstrom returns to the Tour, and introduces daughter

The Mulligan Tour LLC, Belleville, MI -

Jeff Kellstrom, a 6-time winner from 2001 to 2006, is returning to the Mulligan Tour in 2011.

Kellstrom's wife, Heather, was also a member from 2001 to 2006 and the two played in more than 70 events during those seasons. They introduced their daughter Samantha to golf in 2003 at age 4.

"Ultimately," said Kellstrom, "I decided to take time off from the Tour to spend my weekends with Samantha and Heather playing golf as a family. I

enjoy golf the most when it's the two or three of us playing together"

Samantha is now 12 years old and played in some Junior tournaments in 2010. Now, father and daughter are ready to "tour" together.

Jeff and Samantha will be the first father / daughter members on Tour. There have been 4 father / son members.

"I'm most excited about playing in the Memorial with Samantha as my partner", exclaimed Kellstrom. Jeff and Heather had 3 top-4 finishes in 4 starts together at the Memorial.

The Kellstrom file

Jeff Kellstrom

Tour member: 2001-2006

51 starts

6 wins

24 top-4 finishes

\$448.00 in career earnings

Finished 6th on 2005 Money List

Victories

2002 Two-Stick Classic

2002 Strokes on a Rope

2004 Quad-Tour Challenge

2005 Holy Grail

2005 Real McCoy Classic

2005 Big Dog Pro-Am

Meland hosts 17th Memorial

Green Towels hang in founder's home, but never for long

The Mulligan Tour LLC, Belleville, MI -

The golf room at the Meland home is adorned with golf memorabilia of all kinds, including those from professional players from the PGA, Champions and LPGA Tours.

There are items from the 2004 Ryder Cup and the 2008 PGA Championship, both played at Oakland Hills Country Club in Bloomfield Hills. There are also autographs of Ray Floyd, Ben Crenshaw and Larry Nelson, obtained in person, from a Senior PLAYERS Championship when the tournament was held at the TPC of Michigan.

A Tiger Woods autographed Upper Deck trading card probably holds the highest value in the collection. His autographs seem to be holding their value - even after his personal improprieties.

And then there is the Mulligan Tour memorabilia. Autographed hats from the winning Commissioner's Cup teams from 2006, '07, and '08 are on display.

And, of course, the Green Towels.

As the tournament host of the Mulligan Tour's Memorial Tournament, Erik Meland commissions the Green Towels adorned with the tournament logo and the year. Each winter the towels hang on the wall awaiting their unveiling in late May.

And, so far, each year Meland has presented the towels to other players that have prevailed at the Memorial.

The 2011 event is the 17th Memorial Tournament hosted by Meland. The first, in 1995, was an individual, 18-hole gross score tournament. Meland won that inaugural event, a late August affair, with a 20-over par 91.

2011
Memorial Tournament
May 21 at Gateway GC

Entry fee: \$60 each player
Registration deadline: May 12

Purse: \$240
1st Place = \$40 each

2-player SCRAMBLE format
Gateway Golf Club
Par 36-36 - 72
6,138 yards

Defending Champions
Thom Bales and Mike Prieskorn



The 2011 Green Towels on display at the Meland home

The format was changed in 1996 to a 2-player scramble and the Green Towels were first introduced in 1998 - with towels made retroactively for the '96 and '97 champs. But Meland did not make a towel for his inaugural win - hoping instead to earn one under the new format.

The Memorial Tournament was brought into the fold of the year-old Mulligan Tour in 2000 and became the first grand-slam event of the Tour season starting in 2001 when the tournament moved to May

Meland will team with wife Sue for the 13th time in 2011 and try once again to earn the Green Towels that would finally make a permanent home in the golf room. But the competition is always tough.

Gateway GC will host the Memorial for the 6th time on May 21st. And, the 2011 Green Towels are ready to be awarded to the team with the lowest score.

PAST CHAMPIONS

<u>2010</u>	Thom Bales / Mike Prieskorn	67 (-5)
<u>2009</u>	John Powell / Joe Robar	65 (-7)
<u>2008</u>	Rick Persichetti / Kelly Arnold	68 (-4)
<u>2007</u>	Jeff Klipa / Victor McCoy	68 (-4)
<u>2006</u>	Greg Kline / Bob White	71 (-1)
<u>2005</u>	Tom W.Litzler / Tom R.Litzler	65 (-6)
<u>2004</u>	Ray Collins / Rick Persichetti	66 (-5)
<u>2003</u>	Frank Caruana / David Martin	69 (-2)
<u>2002</u>	Jim Cwikla / Chris Drake	68 (-3)
<u>2001</u>	Frank Caruana / David Martin	66 (-5)
<u>2000</u>	Jim Cwikla / Sue Cwikla	66 (-5)

2011 INDIGO SALON & SPA LADIES OPEN


July 10th at Pheasant Run Golf Club



www.indigosalonanddayspa.com

2011 UPS Store Golf Classic

August 21st at Northville Hills Golf Club



37637 Five Mile Rd
Livonia, MI 48154

SW corner of Five Mile
and Newburgh

The UPS Store

Eric Ladwig
Store Owner

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Fax: 734.542.0111

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2011 Doc's Sports Retreat Quad-Tour Challenge

July 16th

Whispering
Willows GC



2011 Commercial Underwriters Harbour Pointe Open

June 25-26 at the Majestic at Lake Walden

Dan Schwartz, CPCU
Executive Officer
Benefit Specialist

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FINAL RESULTS

Qualifying School I - April 16 Fox Creek GC

POSTPONED to APRIL 22 due to weather

April 22 CANCELLED due to weather

Qualifying School II - April 23 Whispering Willows GC

1	Klaus Juska	44-44 - 88
2	Jeff Kellstrom	43-46 - 89
3	Kevin Morin	44-47 - 91
4	Robert Lopez	47-47 - 94
5	Jan Cepiga	50-46 - 96
6	Niall Berkery	48-49 - 97
7	Kurt Ross	55-49 - 104
8	Leo Bechard	46-59 - 105
9	Samantha Kellstrom	56-50 - 106
10	Scott Belanger	53-54 - 107
11	Mike Harmon	53-58 - 111
12	Kathy Carter	66-68 - 134

The Majors

Host sites for the 2011 major championships

Memorial Tournament

Gateway GC May 21

Harbour Pointe Open

The Majestic at Lake Walden June 25-26

Match Play Championship

Woodlands of Van Buren July 29-31

EASTERN Championship

The Orchards GC Aug 27

WESTERN Championship

Coyote Preserve GC Aug 27

PLAYERS Championship

Golden Fox GC Aug 27

The TOUR Championship

Polo Fields G&CC Sep 17

2011 MULLIGAN TOUR SCHEDULE / RESULTS

DATE	WEST	CENTRAL	EAST
April 30	Pine View Classic Don Morris 73 (+1)	Tin Cup John Powell 77 (+5)	
May 7		Western Swing Reddeman Farms GC	Sweet Sixteen Blackheath GC
May 14	Chelsea Classic Pierce Lake GC		Sparty Classic Pine Trace GC
May 21	The Memorial Tournament Gateway GC		
June 4	Animal House Classic Salem Hills GC		Cherry Creek Classic Cherry Creek GC
June 10 Friday	The Fox Hunt Strategic Fox		
June 11			Big Dog Pro-Am Riverview Highlands
June 12 Sunday		Dudlee's Plymouth Open Fox Hills (Classic) GC	
June 18	The Holy Grail St. Johns GC	Real McCoy Classic Farmington Hills GC	
June 24 Friday		Par-54 Classic Strategic Fox	
June 25-26	Commercial Underwriters Harbour Pointe Open The Majestic at Lake Walden GC		
July 9	Strokes on a Rope Huntmore GC		Casino Classic Twin Lakes GC
July 10 Sunday	Indigo Salon & Spa Ladies Open Pheasant Run GC		
July 16	Two-Stick Classic Links at Whitmore Lake	Doc's Sports Retreat Quad-Tour Challenge Whispering Willows GC	
July 17 Sunday	MT Senior Open Kensington Metropark		
July 23		Crazy Brit Fox Creek GC	
July 24 Sunday			East Side Charity Classic Rammler GC
July 29-31	Match Play Championship The Woodlands of Van Buren		
August 6			Fifty Cent Classic Stony Creek Metropark

2011 MULLIGAN TOUR SCHEDULE

DATE	WEST	CENTRAL	EAST
August 7 Sunday	Go Blue Classic Hudson Mills Metropark		
August 13		Carrington Classic Carrington GC	
August 14 Sunday			Caddyshack Classic Links at Lake Erie
August 20	Ugly Pants Open Downing Farms GC		
August 21 Sunday		UPS Store Golf Classic Northville Hills GC	
August 27	WESTERN Championship Coyote Preserve GC	The PLAYERS Championship Golden Fox GC	EASTERN Championship The Orchards GC
Sep 3			
Sep 17	The TOUR Championship Polo Fields Golf & Country Club		
Sep 24-25		Commissioner's Cup Maumee Bay State Park (OH)	
Oct 2 Sunday	The Skins Game (West) Mystic Creek GC	The Skins Game (Central) Mystic Creek GC	The Skins Game (East) Mystic Creek GC
Oct 9 Sunday	The President's Cup Riverview Highlands GC		
Oct 16 Sunday	MT Skills Challenge Riverview Highlands GC		
Oct 23 Sunday	The Division Bell Farmington Hills GC		
Nov 19	Runny Nose Open Harbor Club GC		

The 7th Commissioner's Cup matches go green

The Commissioner's Cup team matches started in 2005 when the Tour created 2 regional divisions - the Central and the West. With the addition of the East division last year, the PAC (Player Advisory Council) agreed this past winter to begin rotating the matches among the 3 divisions. Starting in 2011, the winning Comm Cup team will defend the Cup against a team from the division that did not participate the year before.

Thus, the 2011 matches, scheduled for September 24-25 at Maumee Bay State Park east of Toledo, will feature the defending champs, a team representing the Central Division, competing against a team from the East. For the first time, the "green" division will form a team to compete in the annual Commissioner's Cup. East Division Commissioner Tom Hoelzle, a veteran of 5 Comm Cup teams, is looking forward to the opportunity.

This new formula is expected to continue, meaning the winning team in 2011 will make a team in 2012 and defend the Cup against a team representing the West division that sat out in 2011. The 2012 matches are planned for a trip to Forest Dunes GC in northern Michigan.

Backspin

From the Mulligan Tour archives

Jeff Klipa and Victor McCoy battle the elements, veteran field to earn the Green Towels in 2007

May 26, 2007

Another Memorial Tournament played in wet conditions was no surprise. Erik Meland's Memorial had been plagued with rain over the years and he had even succumbed to moving his tournament from Willow Metropark, the host course from 1995 to 2005, to Gateway GC after one too many washouts.

The 13th playing for the Green Towels in 2007 was met with familiar, if not frustrating, sogginess. Rainfall continually came and went but Gateway remained playable with some casual water drops along the way.

And so it was unlikely to find the Jeff Klipa / Victor McCoy team at the top of the leaderboard - the two were well known for their dislike of wet golf.

Klipa and McCoy had joined the Tour in 2003 and quickly became good friends. They partnered in the '03 Memorial and finished 5th. They followed that effort with a T5 in '04 and a T3 in '06.

In their 5th attempt for the Green Towels, the pair maneuvered around Gateway avoiding the brunt of the downpours and taking what the course would give. They recorded 5 birdies against a lone bogey to lead a veteran field.

The shot of the tournament came at #14 when Klipa chipped-in from behind the green for a birdie 2 that provided a cushion over the field.

Among the closest pursuers were the '02 champs, Jim Cwikla and Chris Drake, and the '05 champs, Tom Litzler and son. But no other team could get into red numbers.

Having won the Sweet Sixteen earlier in the season, Klipa would go on to win the Harbour Pointe Open and the Quad-Tour Challenge in 2007 for a 4-win season.



Victor McCoy and Jeff Klipa
2007 Memorial Tournament Champs

Top-5 Finishers at the 2007 Memorial Tournament

	NET	Name	Gross
1	68 (-4)	J.Klipa - V.McCoy	36-35 - 71
2	72 (E)	J.Cwikla - C.Drake	37-38 - 75
T3	73 (+1)	R.Persichetti - K.Arnold	35-38 - 73
T3	73 (+1)	T.W.Litzler - T.R.Litzler	34-40 - 74
T5	75 (+1)	B.Baar - T.Baar	36-41 - 77
T5	75 (+1)	B.Randle - T.Hoelzle	41-42 - 83



The Memorial Tournament
Hosted by Erik & Susan Meland