

THE MULLIGAN TOUR CHRONICLES

Southeast Michigan's Premier Recreational Golf League



THE
MULLIGAN
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Halfway to the Slam

Thom Bales shoots 65-70 to win 2nd major title of the year

Lakes of Taylor GC, Taylor, MI -

Thom Bales won the 2010 Commercial Underwriters Harbour Pointe Open on June 27th by posting rounds of 65 and 70 for a total of 9-under par 135. He nearly lapped the field with a winning margin of 13 strokes. It was the first HPO to require 2 rounds of total net stroke play over 2 days.

Bales won the Memorial Tournament in May (with partner Mike Prieskorn) and became the 3rd player to win the first 2 majors of the year joining Rick Persichetti in 2004 and Jeff Klipa in 2007.

Bales also won the 2008 HPO played at Eagle Crest GC finishing 18-holes in even par 72. He is the 2nd player to win the HPO twice and became the 7th player in Tour history with at least 3 major titles on his resume.

With an opening round scorecard that included 9 birdies and an eagle, Bales established a 3-stroke lead going into the HPO's first ever "championship round". If not for the challenges of the Lakes of Taylor, it would have been a foregone conclusion that Bales would cruise to victory.

Only 3 other players could break par in Saturday's open round. Rookie



Thom Bales
2010
Commercial
Underwriters
Harbour Pointe Open
Champion

2010 Majors
Memorial - WIN
HPO - WIN
Match Play - ??
PLAYERS - ??
WESTERN - ??
EASTERN - ??
TOUR Ch - ??

Dennis LeMaitre posted a 4-under 68 and Don Morris and Joe Robar netted 1-under 71's to earn a spot in Sunday's final group. In all, 17 players made the cut at 7-over 79 and all 17 players committed to Sunday's championship round.

As the final 18 holes unfolded, and with the players playing in reverse order of their standings, no one from the early groups could mount a charge.

Rick Persichetti, the 2004 HPO champ, carded 4 birdies and an eagle in the first 8 holes but cooled on the

back nine. Lou Acosta rebounded from a couple of early bogies to get to 1-under for the tournament but could get no closer. He would finish at 4-over par 148 to take solo 2nd place. Persichetti would finish in a tie for 4th after a disastrous quadruple bogey at the Lakes' signature par-3 17th.

Playing in the final group, Bales did open with a bogey on the first hole and another bogey on the tough par-3 3rd. But if he left the door open to start the round, he closed it shut on the Lakes' 3 consecutive par-5's.

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Bales carded birdies on 8, 9 and 10 to reach 10-under par for the championship and a 9-stroke lead with 8 holes remaining. He played the long holes well both days going 6-under on the par-5's and 7-under on the par-4's while going 4-over on the tough par-3's.

Meanwhile, Bales' nearest pursuer lost 6 strokes to par in his first 6 holes. LeMaitre regrouped with birdies at 7, 9 and 10 but by then it was too late to catch Bales. Playing in his first individual major, LeMaitre finished in 3rd place at 5-over 149.

Robar played the front nine in 1-over par but a back nine 42 relegated him to a share of 4th place. And Morris had 1 birdie all day and slipped back to T10 with a final round 82.

Young Tom Litzler shot a pair of 75's and John Powell shot 74-76 to be included in the 4-way tie for 4th.

Under the new 2-day format, the \$235 purse extended prize money to the top-16 places. The earnings are recorded on the Tour's overall money standings.

With 3 wins this year - he also won the Par-54 Classic - Bales moved up to 2nd on the money list. His \$110 is \$17 short of the current money leader Greg Kline.

The HPO continued it's long tradition of supporting various charities. This year the Tour raised \$465 for the Lennon Pregnancy Center of Dearborn Heights through the sale of raffle tickets, extra mulligans and a 50/50 putting contest.

FINAL STANDINGS

2010 Commercial Underwriters Harbour Pointe Open

	NET	Player	Gross
1	135 (-9)	Thom Bales \$50.00	42-43-44-46 - 175
2	148 (+4)	Lou Acosta \$40.00	40-42-40-44 - 166
3	149 (+5)	Dennis LeMaitre \$30.00	41-41-47-48 - 177
4	150 (+6)	Rick Persichetti \$17.50	44-45-41-46 - 176
	150 (+6)	Tom R Litzler \$17.50	46-40-42-44 - 172
	150 (+6)	John Powell \$17.50	40-40-43-39 - 162
	150 (+6)	Joe Robar \$17.50	40-40-42-46 - 168
8	151 (+7)	Tom Moran \$8.50	49-45-51-42 - 187
	151 (+7)	Ned Loving \$8.50	53-46-50-46 - 195
10	153 (+9)	Charlie Roy \$6.00	37-44-45-45 - 171
	153 (+9)	Denny Ersig \$6.00	44-45-51-45 - 185
	153 (+9)	Don Morris \$6.00	46-44-49-52 - 191
13	154 (+10)	Tom W Litzler \$4.00	43-45-47-47 - 182
14	156 (+12)	Jim Cwikla \$3.00	47-50-49-46 - 192
15	160 (+16)	Greg Kline \$2.00	43-45-47-47 - 182
16	163 (+19)	Mike Sikes \$1.00	44-43-45-47 - 179
17	164 (+20)	Victor McCoy	48-43-46-51 - 189
MISSED CUT 79 (+7)			
18	80 (+8)	Chris Dunmore	49-50 - 99
19	81 (+9)	Steve Prew	45-47 - 92
20	82 (+10)	Jan Crawford	44-51 - 95
	82 (+10)	Han Kim	49-50 - 99
	82 (+10)	Erik Meland	46-49 - 95
23	83 (+11)	Sam Akunuri	55-49 - 104
	83 (+11)	Tim Markel	51-50 - 101
	83 (+11)	Chris Drake	54-50 - 104
26	84 (+12)	Tom Sachs	51-50 - 101
	84 (+12)	Karl Carter	51-51 - 102
28	85 (+13)	Dave Randall	49-47 - 96
29	86 (+14)	Tom Hoelzle	54-57 - 111
30	87 (+15)	Bob Vick	46-51 - 97
	87 (+15)	Dan Schwartz	49-59 - 108
	87 (+15)	Barb Hoelzle	52-51 - 103
	87 (+15)	Terry Baar	49-51 - 100
34	90 (+18)	Jeff Klipa	57-52 - 109
35	92 (+20)	Rich Dunmore	58-47 - 105
36	93 (+21)	Sharon Prew	57-61 - 118
37	95 (+23)	Bob Baar	53-59 - 112

How the Leaders Fared - 2010 Commercial Underwriters Harbour Pointe Open

		Score	FH	GiR	Putts	Eagles	Birdies	Pars	Bogies	Other
1	Thom BALES	135	14	7	61	1	17	10	6	2
2	Lou ACOSTA	148	23	11	60	2	6	16	10	2
3	Dennis LeMAITRE	149	15	8	65	1	12	10	8	5

The Course is a Thoroughbred

Double JJ Ranch hosts 6th Commissioner's Cup matches

The Mulligan Tour LLC, Belleville, MI -

The Commissioner's Cup debuted at the end of the 2005 season as the Mulligan Tour's first foray into team play. There was no money to play for and competitors became teammates - if only for a weekend.

The first Comm Cup was held at the Lakes of Taylor GC in October of '05 and was immediately deemed a success to those who participated - even though the Central won convincingly 16 to 8.

The 2006 Cup saw more bonding among the players as they travelled to the Legacy and stayed overnight in lodging at the course.

Travel became even more pronounced in 2007 and 2008 as the players drove 3 hours west to Manistee National in '07 and 3 hours north to Lakewood Shores Resort in '08. Those matches would also produce the most suspense as the outcome was only decided on the 18th hole of the final singles match both years.

Last year's matches were played at Buck's Run GC in Mt. Pleasant. And, although the score was lopsided, the course was a winner with the players. (The casino was also a winner, but we digress!)

The 6th edition of the Commissioner's Cup will take the players back to the west side. The Thoroughbred GC at the Double JJ Ranch will host the matches on September 25-26. The resort, located in Rothbury, just north of Muskegon, also includes a horse ranch and an indoor waterpark.

This year's matches will follow the same format of the past 2 years, where all 4 of the 9-hole team matches will conclude in the first day and the 8 singles matches will be showcased in the final day. With a

The 6th Commissioner's Cup Matches

September 25-26, 2010

Thoroughbred Golf Club at the Double JJ Ranch, Rothbury, MI

Qualifiers: Greg Kline and the top-7 on Central division's Money List after the PLAYERS Championship and Phil Abele and the top-7 on the West division's Money List after the WESTERN Championship (8th, 9th and 10th if needed and then Captain's picks if necessary)

Registration deadline: August 29

Entry fee: \$310 (includes golf, 2 nights lodging and team shirts)

Saturday morning Team Matches at 8:00am

Saturday afternoon Team Matches at 2:00pm

Sunday Singles Matches at 9:00am

total of 24 matches, Team Central needs 12 points to retain the Cup and Team West needs 12 ½ points to win the Cup.

The Thoroughbred is a par 72 layout that will play 5,960 yards long for the men and 4,879 yards for the ladies.

Members can automatically qualify for one of the Comm Cup teams by ranking in the top-7 of the Central or West money standings after the division championships.

If any members decline, then the 8th, 9th and 10th ranked players will be invited. If the teams are still not secured, then the Commissioner's will make "captain's picks" from any interested members to complete the teams.

The registration deadline for qualified players is August 29 and the \$310 entry fee includes the golf, 2 nights lodging and team shirts.

The lodging will be at the course in the Thoroughbred Suites - either 1 or 2 suites per team. A Friday afternoon practice round will probably be scheduled for those interested in getting an advanced look at the course before the competition.

The Commissioner's Cup

PAST RESULTS

- 2009** Central 19 West 5
Buck's Run Golf Club
- 2008** Central 13 West 11
The Gables course
Lakewood Shores Resort
- 2007** West 12 ½ Central 11 ½
Canthooke Valley course
Manistee National Golf Club
- 2006** West 14 ½ Central 9 ½
The Legacy by Arthur Hills
- 2005** Central 16 West 8
Lakes of Taylor Golf Club



Return to the Woodlands

Sixteen players vie for Match Play Championship at end of July

The Mulligan Tour LLC, Belleville, MI -

The 2010 Match Play Championship, the 3rd grand slam event of the season, is scheduled for the last weekend in July. The tournament returns to the Woodlands of Van Buren for the first time since 2005.

The Woodlands hosted the inaugural Match Play Championship in 2001 and again in 2003. In 2005, while the first 2 rounds were held on the Links at Whitmore Lake, the semi-finals and finals played out at the Woodlands.

The Woodlands presents a classic match play venue with many risk-reward holes on a shorter layout. Target golf is the name of the game at the course that also hosted the 1999 PLAYERS Championship.

All players ranked in the top-16 of the MT World Rankings, as of July 20th, will be invited to participate. With each member that declines their invitation, the tournament will extend invitations down the World Rankings to secure a field of 16 players.

The registration deadline to enter the Championship is July 20. The entry fee of \$110 includes all 4 rounds of golf for the players that advance. Participants that lose in the first round will be credited with \$85 and players that lose in round 2 will be credited \$50.

The first round will start at 2:00pm on Friday, July 30, with the #1 seed playing the #16 seed, the #2 seed playing the #15 seed, and so on. The 8 winners will advance to play on Saturday, July 31, with tee times starting at 1:00pm.

The 4 players that advance past round 2 will play semi-final matches on Sunday morning and either a final

or 3rd place match in the afternoon.

The winner earns a \$60 payday and the runner-up earns \$40. The 3rd place winner will get \$25 while 4th place is worth \$15. Second round losses will also earn \$5 in official prize money for a tie for 5th place.

Questions loom for the Tour's #1 player David Martin. His tournament schedule has been severely limited this year by an inconvenient work schedule. He did get a chance to play in the two Strategic Fox events in June, winning the Fox Hunt and finishing T6 at the Par-54.

And another top player also may not join the field. A new job for the reigning champ, Kelly Arnold, may keep him out. Arnold has not been able play in any tournament since the Sweet Sixteen in mid May.

Mulligan Tour World Ranking Rank as of July 1, 2010

1	Martin, David	55.11
2	Powell, John	49.66
3	Persichetti, Rick	47.82
4	Arnold, Kelly	41.91
5	Kline, Greg	38.69
6	Acosta, Lou	38.31
7	Robar, Joe	38.25
8	Bales, Thom	37.76
9	Roy, Charlie	36.04
10	Prieskorn, Mike	31.80
11	Mowry, Devonne	29.18
12	Rectenwald, Jason	28.21
13	Collins, Ray	27.36
14	Morris, Don	27.28
15	Randall, David	26.12
16	Litzler, Tom R.	26.09
17	Meland, Erik	24.80
18	Koch, Carol	24.75
19	Hoelzle, Barb	24.48
20	Ersig, Dennis	24.26

2010 Match Play CHAMPIONSHIP

July 30 - 31 - Aug 1
Woodlands of Van Buren

Top-16 in MT World Ranking

Entry fee: \$110 each player
Registration deadline: July 20
(\$85 refunded for 1st round loss)
(\$50 refunded to 2nd round loss)

Purse: \$160
1st Place = \$60
2nd place = \$40
3rd place = \$25
4th place = \$15
Tie for 5th = \$5



2009 Champion
Kelly Arnold

Last chance for a last chance

Foursomes nearly filled out for annual Skins Games

The Mulligan Tour LLC, Belleville, MI -

The post season Skins Games expands from 2 groups to 3 with the inclusion this year of the East Division. In fact, the East already has it's dance card filled for the October 3rd date.

East Division Commissioner Tom Hoelzle will join the 3 players that earned invitations at specific closet-to-the-pin challenges during the season. Mrs. Commish, Barb Hoelzle, earned a spot along with rookie Chris Dunmore and 2nd year player Lou Acosta.

Barb and Tom Hoelzle won the 2 Skins Games last fall - Tom winning the West group and Barb the Central. This year finds them both playing in the new East Skins Game.

Central Division Commissioner

Greg Kline will be joined by Mike Sikes and Thom Bales. The 4th member of the group will be chosen from a closet-to-the-pin challenge at the Crazy Brit on July 17.

In the West Division, Commissioner Phil Abele will play in a group with Dan Schwartz and Don Morris. A closet-to-the-pin challenge at the Strokes on a Rope tournament was to have determined the 4th member, but no one in the field hit the green. The 4th spot has been rescheduled for a CTP challenge at the Ugly Pants Open on August 21.

If any of the players that earned their spots withdraw, then Tour President Erik Meland will choose alternates to take their place. While he usually starts with himself, there is always the possibility he could pick a worthy player from the membership.

The Skins Game

October 3rd at Mystic Creek GC
Qualifiers

Central Division

Greg Kline

Mike Sikes (Tin Cup)

Thom Bales (Western Swing)

??? (Crazy Brit)

West Division

Phil Abele

Dan Schwartz (Animal House Cl)

Don Morris (Holy Grail)

??? (Ugly Pants Open)

East Division

Tom Hoelzle

Chris Dunmore (Sweet Sixteen)

Lou Acosta (Big Dog Pro-Am)

Barb Hoelzle (Spartan Classic)

Kim crosses Kline in the sand

Han Kim edges out Greg Kline in US Open Best Ball Challenge

The Mulligan Tour LLC, Belleville, MI -

Mulligan Tour rookie Han Kim won the MT group of the ESPN On line Fantasy Game "US Open Best Ball Challenge" on June 20th. He was awarded a sleeve of Titleist ProV1's for the effort.

Kim stayed with the foursome of Phil Mickelson, Jim Furyk, Tom Watson and Ricky Barnes for all 4 rounds. While the 4 started slowly - 7 under on Thursday's opening round - the group did nicely on Friday and Saturday to keep Kim in striking distance of the leader Greg Kline.

Kline was 34-under thru 3 rounds

and slept on a 3-stroke lead over another rookie, Sharon Prew. Kim was 5 strokes back entering the final round.

On Sunday, Kim's foursome mixed their birdies well - only duplicating birdies on one hole - while never taking a bogey in the best ball format. His final round 62 left him at 38-under par for the 72 holes. Kline's final round 68 left him a stroke back at 37-under.

The Tour will sponsor similar challenges when ESPN.com conducts the same best ball games for the British Open and the PGA Championship in July and August.

ESPN - US Open Best Ball Challenge

Top 10 RESULTS

1	Han Kim	- 38
2	Greg Kline	- 37
3	Sharon Prew	- 36
4	Erik Johnson	- 34
5	Jeff Klipa	- 33
6	Mike Percy	- 32
6	Jason Rectenwald	- 32
8	Steve Prew	- 31
8	Mike Sikes	- 31
10	Barry Kirsch	- 30

2010 MULLIGAN TOUR SCHEDULE / RESULTS

DATE	WEST	CENTRAL	EAST
May 1	Pine View Classic Phil Abele 74 (+2)	Tin Cup Mike Prieskorn 71 (-1)	
May 8	Chelsea Classic Karl Carter 80 (+8)	Western Swing Greg Kline 76 (+4)	
May 15	Animal House Classic Greg Kline 70 (-1)		
May 16			Sweet Sixteen John Powell 7-under
May 22	The Memorial Tournament Thom Bales and Mike Prieskorn 67 (-5)		
June 5		Dudlee's Plymouth Open Tom Moran 69 (-1)	Big Dog Pro-Am Tom Hoelzle 131 (-13)
June 11 Friday	The Fox Hunt David Martin 51 points		
June 12	The Holy Grail Philip Johnson 67 (-4)	Real McCoy Classic Terry Baar 63 (-8)	
June 18 Friday		Par-54 Classic Thom Bales 57 (+3)	
June 19	Strokes on a Rope Lou Acosta 80 (+8)		Sparty Classic Denny Ersig 65 (-7)
June 26-27	Commercial Underwriters Harbour Pointe Open Thom Bales 135 (-9)		
July 10			Casino Classic Twin Lakes GC
July 11 Sunday	MT Ladies Open Fieldstone GC		
July 17		Crazy Brit Whispering Willows GC	
July 18 Sunday	MT Senior Open Lake Erie Metropark		
July 24		UPS Store Quad-Tour Challenge Fox Creek GC	
July 25 Sunday	Two-Stick Classic Sandy Creek GC		
July 30 - Aug 1	Match Play Championship The Woodlands of Van Buren		
August 7			Fifty Cent Classic Stony Creek Metropark

2010 MULLIGAN TOUR SCHEDULE / RESULTS

DATE	WEST	CENTRAL	EAST
August 8 Sunday	Go Blue Classic Leslie Park GC		
August 14		Carrington Classic Carrington GC	
August 15 Sunday			Caddyshack Classic Links at Lake Erie
August 21	Ugly Pants Open Downing Farms GC		
August 22 Sunday			EASTERN Championship Greystone GC
August 28	WESTERN Championship The Grande GC		
Sep 4		The PLAYERS Championship Eagle Crest GC	
Sep 18	The TOUR Championship Polo Fields Golf & Country Club		
Sep 25-26	Commissioner's Cup Thoroughbred GC at JJ Ranch		
Oct 3 Sunday	The Skins Game (West) Mystic Creek GC	The Skins Game (Central) Mystic Creek GC	The Skins Game (East) Mystic Creek GC
Oct 10 Sunday	The President's Cup Fellows Creek GC		
Oct 17 Sunday	MT Skills Challenge Riverview Highlands GC		
Oct 24 Sunday	The Division Bell Farmington Hills GC		
Nov 20	Runny Nose Open Harbor Club GC		

Dan Schwartz, CPCU

(313) 278-3800
Fax: (313) 278-8467
Cell: (313) 917-6734
800-856-8701



22720 Michigan Avenue, Suite 210, Dearborn, Michigan 48124
40036 Michigan Ave., Suite 101, Canton, Michigan 48106
E-mail: dangobblue2@yahoo.com Web: www.cumins.com



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Backspin

From the Mulligan Tour archives

Greg Kline, master of the mano-a-mano format, wins 3rd straight MT Match Play Championship

August 12, 2006

The Mulligan Tour Match Play Championship was introduced in 2001 and was almost immediately accepted as one of the Tour's major tournaments.

The traditional golf format of match play requires players to take on other players in heads up, hole by hole scoring where the rest of the field matters not. Win against your immediate opponent - and you continue to the next match.

Greg Kline had joined the Tour in 2002 and his first attempt at the Match Play brought him to the title match, but he succumbed to the Tour's #1 player - David Martin in a 2&1 final. Martin would beat Kline again in the opening round of the 2003 tournament before Kline started an unprecedented streak.

Kline ran off 3 straight matches in the 2004 Match Play to win his first major championship. He continued in 2005 winning 4 consecutive matches as the tournament expanded to 12 players.

As the 2006 Match Play approached, Kline was confident of continuing his streak. Now a veteran of 5 seasons and with 9 wins on his resume, Kline earned a first round bye in the '06 tournament. After winning his opening match against Thom Bales, Kline faced his match play nemesis in the tournament's semi-final match.

Kline beat Martin 6&4 to avenge the losses in '02 and '03. He went on to beat the tournament's Cinderella story, Dan Schwartz, 3&2 in the final for his 10th straight win in match play and a 3rd straight Match Play title.

The streak would end in the 2nd round of the '07 tournament when the top-seeded Kline, with a bye through the first round, ran into a buzz saw named Bob Bruning. Playing a gross 4-over par thru 15 holes, Bruning beat Kline 4&3 to bring down the "Master of Match Play".

Kline has amassed a career 20-6 record in the match play format when including his 5-0 record in singles matches in the Commissioner's Cup.



Match Play Master

Greg Kline's 10 match winning streak

2004

1st rd: defeated Victor McCoy 22 holes
Semi-final: defeated Frank Caruana 3&2
FINAL: defeated Rick Persichetti 4&2

2005

1st rd: defeated Dennis Manning 3&2
2nd rd: defeated Tom W Litzler 6&5
Semi-final: defeated Rick Persichetti 3&2
FINAL: defeated Joe Castmore 2-up

2006

1st rd: bye
2nd rd: defeated Thom Bales 2&1
Semi-final: defeated David Martin 6&4
FINAL: defeated Dan Schwartz 3&2