

Margate Plantation at Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach, SC

THE SUMMIT

19TH ANNUAL MILLENNIUM INVITATIONAL GOLF SUMMIT

MARCH 17-20, 2018

2018 Summit
Recap and
Observations
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The Director*
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**Courses,
Games,
Prizes,
and More!!**



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*Pillow-fights, bunting,
and other lost arts*

**Straight From
Hale**

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Stats!!

Find out how your
favorite Summiteer stacks-up

Medical Miracle

Some are attributing it to divine intervention, while others are referring to it as a 'Black Swan' event. But, any way you slice it, Dr. Greg 'Doc' Beato defied all odds by surgically dismantling a series of much longer, more highly skilled opponents to win the 2017 SMC Championship.

A Word from the Director



Stranger Things

Summit 18 began like any other. John and Mike went down Wednesday for some 'us' time. John followed Thursday in his truck loaded with 10 boxes of gifts and prizes. Per Summit ritual, Bo, Phil, and Ben met Bart, Steve, and Greg at Clarence's. Jeff, Ken, and Chris converged from opposite directions, but Jeff and Chris arrived too late for practice round. After the round, the group split for dinner with half going to King Kong Sushi and the other half going to PF Chang's. Chris was sick, and Jeff got lost, so neither of them joined. The accommodations were fantastic, and we spent the remainder of the night laughing, drinking, and watching ACC Tournament.

In the absence of our traditional "free" breakfast, we ate at Hot Stacks every morning before discovering that the Bagel Depot was the ticket. Saturday was cool, but sunny, and River Hills was in great shape! Bart and Steve showed-off matching drivers, but it wasn't enough to save Bart, as Greg edged him out, 5/4, to advance to the Sunday round of Matchplay. Some were angry and argued that Greg was simply getting too many shots for even Bart to overcome. Bart took the high road by stating that Greg had just outplayed him that day, deserved to move on, and wished him the best of luck going forward.



John, in one of the Summit's great comebacks, clawed-back from 5 down after 11 holes to beat Ken 2 down. The victory was not without controversy, when Ken landed his ball amidst an oddly placed series of O.B. and hazard stakes. John insisted Ken play two balls. Some called it bad luck, some called it gamesmanship, either way, Ken was done after that and limped to the finish line. Jeff beat John Hudson 4/3 en route to shooting 100 and leading Low Net with a net 70. In the final match/pillow-fight of the day, Chris knocked-off Phil 4/3.

The par 4 from the ladies tees, known as the 'Twist', was a big hit and saw it's share of big

A Word from the Director (Cont.)

numbers as many tried in vain to drive the green. The 4-Man Stableford was won by the team of Bo/Steve/Jeff/Hudson with a score of 156, followed by Bart/Greg/Ken/John at 113.

Everyone except Steve went to the Overtime Sports Café to settle wagers and grab a post-round snack. Meanwhile, Steve spent 2 hours in the PGA Superstore by himself and emerged with nothing but a handful of coupons to Capt. George's and Benjamin's Calabash Seafood buffet.

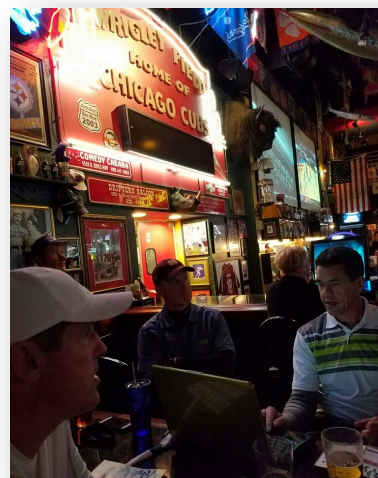


In Saturday's 'Shot of the Day', found himself in jail 20 feet behind/below the green with very little green to work with. His choices were to flop or pitch-out and make a putt. A la the Bambino, he called his shot by predicting he would save par by pitching-out and making a 10 foot putt, which he promptly proceeded to do. Meanwhile, Jeff chose to lay-up from 100 yards out by

'taking some off' a 3-wood. When asked about his thought process, he explained that he 'had a bad lie'.

Saturday evening was the Calcutta, and Chris was in charge of pizza. We nearly had to order Chinese take-out because, apparently, there are no good pizza restaurants in the entire Grand Strand area. After a lengthy struggle, Chris made a good choice, and the pizza was great! The Calcutta was a huge success with a record-setting pot of almost \$1,800!

Steve got into a little of his 'Duke's Mixture' of tequila and Fresca before the festivities began, so he was a little more talkative than usual. He attempted to instigate bidding banter by hurtfully observing that 13 of Jeff's 14 clubs hit the ball exactly 158 yards. And, that while Bart plays poorly 100% of the time immediately preceding



A Word from the Director (Cont.)

the Calcutta, he also plays poorly 80% of the time afterward— a comment that was clearly misconstrued. Everyone knew Steve was more than a little tipsy when, after the accusation that he was the 2nd best left-hander on the trip, he immediately confirmed it by turning to Mike and actually asking for shots in front of everyone.

He proceeded to put on a one-man-show that had the group in stitches. Along the way, we learned that the Lakeside Kroger has the best meat department in town, and is, apparently, the only place that carries catfish nuggets on a regular basis. His monologue ended when he then made the mistake of calling his daughter on speakerphone while on her



Bo, Chris Ken, and Hudson prepare to embark on their 'arctic expedition'

way back from spring break in Florida. He brought up the fateful 21st birthday celebration when Steve lost a drinking competition to the 105-pound former cheerleader, claiming that he had actually won because each 'Cube' drink contained multiple shots of bourbon— the fact that he couldn't put together a coherent sentence notwithstanding. The night wrapped-up without injury and John complained that nobody ever wants to go out anymore.

Where's Ryan when you need him?!

Sunday was brutal—37 degrees with rain. Lucky/smart players had covered wagons and heaters—others suffered. In hopes of more hospitable weather, the round was pushed back to 2pm, which only meant that the last group finished in nearly full darkness. The day saw Jeff fall to Ben, Bo lose to John, and Greg beat Steve— all 4/3— while Chris beat Mike in a tiebreaker after making a huge putt on 18 with the Match on the line (Some say he wasn't aware he was involved in a Match until others rushed to congratulate him). Apparently, all the excitement was in Steve and Greg's match where their comic



Ken tests out his new bamboo shafts

A Word from the Director (Cont.)



relief included Steve whiffing his ball twice after hitting the wooden crosstie hazard border, and controversy when Greg played the wrong ball on 18 after his flashlight burned-out. 4-Man Best Ball was won by Steve/Greg/Ben/Jeff with -12, followed by Bo/John/Ken/Phil at -7. From there, everyone went straight to Nacho Hippo, which was great, as usual! The group was cold, wet, and beat, so most, in typical Summit fashion, showered and went straight to

bed.

Monday brought more cold, but no rain, so it was bearable. Chris, whose '14 Summit Title was won under the most brutal of conditions, proved too much for Ben whose mental toughness has waned since his glory days on the mound against the likes of the Eastern Mennonite Royals and Shenandoah University Hornets. Meanwhile, Greg continued his juggernaut jaunt to the Finals by trampling a very worthy John 4/3. When asked about the proposed 'New Grudge' wherein Greg and John would partner against Steve and Bart, Greg replied, "I don't like that idea, considering I've never seen him break 80."

In other action, Chris and Phil captured the 2-man Stableford with a score of 71, followed by Greg and Ken at 64, and Bart and Mike at 63. Leading into the final day, the team of Dick/Parker led the Dual Day Double Dude Duel by a record margin with a score of -7, followed at a distance by Kurtz/Bradberry, Hudson/Hale, and Edmunds/Beato all tied at

+1. Clearly, there is no way any team can make up an 8 shot deficit in one round! The highlight of Monday's round was, without a doubt, the beverage girl, Aricka. She was a beautiful, blue-eyed 28 year old that looked 18. John temporarily slipped into some sort of hypnotic trance until Ken snapped him out of it by pointing out that he already had a daughter.

Post-round, the group went straight



A Word from the Director (Cont.)



to Liberty Steakhouse for our predictably good, consistent Summit dinner. As has been tradition since the earliest days of the Summit, the Calcutta winner



buys a round of drinks for the group. This year, as owner of Phil, Ben decided to start a new tradition and volunteered to dig into his own pocket and co-sponsor the round of drinks. After eating and drinking Phil and Ben's drinks, everyone headed back to the condos to get cleaned-up for the Yankee Swap. Always a fun event, but not without its share of controversy, Ben created quite a stir when he interjected himself into John's negotiation with Ken. John offered Ken a dozen Titlest NXTs plus \$10 for Ken's dozen Pro Vxs. Ken was poised to accept the deal when Ben whispered that he should hold out for \$15. Ken immediately backed-off, and John refused to offer more on principle. John refused to speak to Ben for the remainder of the evening. After Yankee Swap, most wound down the remainder of the evening watching the Phil Mickelson interview on Feherty.

Tuesday may have been cold, but at least it was windy. Early on, the decision to play was in serious question, but as the day wore on and the sun rose higher, so did the temperature. Jeff was in the first group, but at tee-time, was nowhere to be found, so Group 2 went ahead. This turned out to be foreshadowing of things to come, as, at the turn, Jeff inexplicably drove his cart to the parking lot, packed his clubs in the car, and, without fanfare or much in the way of goodbyes, left to drive home. It turns out that the wind was making it nearly impossible for him to keep his eyes open and see his ball— a situation that has never seemed to bother him before. Unfortunately, left to fend for himself, Phil's 8 shot DDDDD lead evaporated quickly, and his 'team' finished +19 on the day and in last place by 4 shots. *[Editor's Note: Don't shed any tears for Phil, as you might remember, he won the largest Calcutta only one day before.]*

In one of the most grueling rounds of golf ever recorded at the Summit, the final group rolled-in 1 hour after the second group, who, by then, had finished eating and gotten their

A Word from the Director (Cont.)

check. Hudson didn't even wait around for Awards presentation before bolting to get back for family obligations. It was a rough day for Chris, whose round was characterized by one tee-shot that actually hit the tee marker before dribbling off the front of the tee. He ultimately lost 5/4, as Greg coasted to his first, and likely only, SMC Championship.

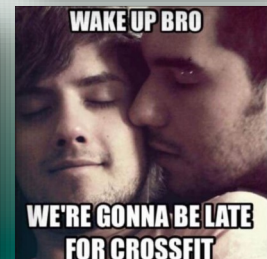
Much has been said about Greg's accomplishment and what it means for the disenfranchised everywhere. It speaks of what America has to offer those less fortunate or not blessed with any particular abilities. In America, anyone who sets their mind to it can accomplish something, whether it's becoming President or building a log cabin out of popsicle sticks. Greg reminded us of that, and, for that, we all owe him a debt of gratitude. So, thank you, Greg, and congratulations on winning the 2017 MIGS Title— no one can ever say you never accomplished anything.

Now, even with Summit 19 staring us in the face, the Tournament Committee has already begun looking ahead to the 20th anniversary of the Millennial Invitational Golf Summit in 2019. In recognition and celebration of this auspicious event, several select venues are currently under consideration and will be discussed further at this year's event. As usual, only those possessing extraordinary skills and those grandfathered in or who are friends with someone already in the Tournament will be selected to participate.

In the meantime, find out if Ben and John can shake the monkey from their backs, if Hudson will win a Summit match, and if lightning can strike twice in the same spot. All this and more at the 2018 Summit!



Not That There's Anything Wrong With It



The Summit Hall of Fame

In an effort to maintain objectivity, the Committee has established an elaborate scoring system for accumulating Hall of Fame points. Hall of Fame induction requires an individual to accumulate 110 HoF points. Points are accumulated as follows:

MIGS Attendance	1
Contribution to the Summit	1
Each SMC Individual Match Victory	1
Short Game Championship Title	1
Calcutta Win	2
SMC Runner-up	2
High Net	2
Individual Team Champion	4
Low Net	6
SMC Champion	10

Current Standings

Steve Hale	144
Bo Blankenship	103
Woody Deans	94
Bart Edmunds	86
Ken Rogich	82
Joe Assaid	61
Chris Colton	52
Ben Fry	48
Ryan Crush	36
John Bradberry	34
Greg Beato	24
Mike Kurtz	22
Phil Dick	15
Jeff Parker	14

The Summit Hall of Fame



Steve Hale

Inducted 2014

As one of the founding “Fabled Eight”, Steve has never missed an Event through the first 16 years of the MIGS. For many years, Steve helped Woody in selecting and procuring the annual Tournament Gift. He has accumulated 17 Matchplay victories, 3 Calcutta wins, 2 SMC Runner-ups, 1 High Net, 1 Individual Team Championship, 4 Low Nets, and 3 SMC Titles. His 2013 Low Net pushed him over the top to receive the honor of being the first Summit Hall of Fame Inductee. In 2014, Steve became only the second Player in Summit history to pass \$1,000 in career earnings.

Steve is a family man and pharmaceutical rep for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. He is deeply involved with his church and, in particular, shaping the lives of young people through his senior youth group leadership. In addition to his role as Virginia Tech football’s ‘Red Hat’, he manages to find time to referee Volleyball and Wrestling for which he was recently inducted into the Roanoke Valley Wrestling Hall of Fame, and now serves as Commissioner of the Roanoke Valley Wrestling Association. The Summit Hall of Fame represents Steve’s 3rd hall of fame induction, as he is also a member of the Patrick Henry High School Sports Hall of Fame for his exploits on the mat and gridiron. In his spare time, Steve excels, not only in golf, but pool, bowling, and, much to his surprise, darts. He is also, possibly, the 3rd or 4th best Cornhole player at the Summit. Please take a moment to extend your congratulations to Steve on attainment of this tremendous milestone in his life.

Lodging & Arrangements

Margate Plantation At the Kingston Plantation Resort

9800 Queensway Blvd.
Myrtle Beach, SC

Participants will share one of three luxury 4-bedroom resort condominiums conveniently situated in the heart of Myrtle Beach, SC. Each Margate Plantation condo comes equipped with electricity, indoor plumbing, and cable television. Also, guest may enjoy access to The Sport and Health Club located at the nearby Embassy Suites Hotel.

Plan to arrive at the Grand Strand by noon on the afternoon of Friday, March 16, 2018 if you plan to participate in the practice round at beautiful Myrtle Beach National South course arranged and negotiated exclusively for Summit Participants by the Committee. We will check-out prior to the final round on the morning of Tuesday, March 20, 2018.

In addition to the aforementioned accommodations, tournament entry fee includes four Tournament rounds of golf with cart on three luxurious Grand Strand area courses, some free range balls, tournament banquet, tournament gifts/souvenirs, taxes/tips, and over \$1,000 in daily and Tournament cash prizes.

Balance of entry fee is due one month prior to the event – February 16, 2018 (As in AWHILE AGO!). Final payment of should be made payable to Bart Edmunds via Paypal at jedmunds@cox.net or a check can be mailed to P.O. Box 20392, Roanoke, VA 24018.

Over \$100.00 in prize-money will be awarded each day with another \$250 awarded to the individual winners on the final day of the Summit.

Afternoon rounds are the responsibility of individual participants for those interested in prolonging the experience. The only additional expenses relate to out-of-pocket expenditures for food, drinks, souvenirs, the Calcutta, wagers and side-action, and/or entertainment (if you like that sort of thing).

Handicapping, etc.

The Summit Handicap System®

Initial handicaps have been determined by calculating 90% of last year's tournament ending handicap. Individual handicaps will be adjusted daily by one-third (33%) of the difference between a participant's actual score and his most recent handicap.

EXAMPLE: 2017 Ending Handicap = 11. 2018 Initial Handicap: $11 \times 90\% = 10$. 10 handicapper shoots 14 over par. Adjustment would be 1.33 $((14-10=4)/3=1.33)$, rounded down to 11.

Amendment 2014-01: Participants receiving a bye in the Play-in Round, will receive only 1/2 of the customary handicap adjustment as a result of their Day One score.

Amendment 2010-01: FOR HANDICAPPING PURPOSES ONLY, once a match is closed-out, neither competitor may score more than a bogey on any remaining hole in that round

Amendment 2009-01: FOR HANDICAPPING PURPOSES ONLY, no more than a double-bogey will be counted on any individual hole for single-digit handicappers, and no more than a triple-bogey will be counted on any individual hole for double-digit handicappers.

General Information

1. USGA rules prevail
2. No mulligans
3. Ball may be moved one club-length in *own* fairway
4. When in doubt about lost or out-of-bounds ball, play provisional
5. Double-par stroke limit per hole (No limit for match play purposes)
6. In case of rules disagreement, play second ball. Committee will decide after the round
7. Tie breaking procedure:
 - A. Most holes led in match
 - B. Last three holes
 - C. Last six holes
 - D. Back nine
 - E. Low net for round
 - F. Low net on *randomly* drawn hole(s)
 - G. Two out of three "Rock, Paper, Scissors" (no dynamite... that's silly).

Daily Contests

SKINS

TOTAL PURSE: \$144.00

- Classic \$2.00/hole skins game with carryovers
- Skins awarded for winning a hole outright versus the field.
- Orphaned skins at the end of a rounds 1-3 will be carried to the next day
- Orphaned skins at the end of the round 4 will be awarded to the individual winning the most skins for the tournament
- Skins will be paid at the end of each round
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

STABLEFORD (4-Man/2-Man)

TOTAL PURSE: \$100.00

- Points are awarded to team based on individuals' scores as follows:

DOUBLE EAGLE:	16
EAGLE:	8
BIRDIE:	4
PAR:	2
BOGIE:	1
DOUBLE BOGIE:	0
TRIPLE BOGIE+:	-1

- Team accumulates points throughout round
- Highest cumulative point total wins
- No tie-breaker. All ties split purse
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

Daily Contests

FOUR-MAN BEST BALL

TOTAL PURSE: \$60.00

- Best 2 individual scores from four-man team on each hole used for team score.
- No tie-breaker. All ties split the purse
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

DUAL-DAY, DOUBLE-DUDE DUEL

TOTAL PURSE: \$90.00

(1st: \$60/2nd: \$30)

- At the conclusion of Round 2, two-man teams will be objectively determined for the final two rounds in this net best ball event.
- Best individual score each hole is used to determine team score. Team with the lowest total net best-ball team score for the final thirty-six holes wins.
- No tie-breaker. All ties split the purse.
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

FACE-OFF

TOTAL PURSE: 6 Sleeves of Pro-V's

- Based on final day pairings, two teams will face-off in a series of six head-to-head matches.
- Low net score wins the hole.
- Each match is worth 1 Team point.
- Competitors in matches ending 'all square' will each receive 1/2 Team point.
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

(Bring both a solid BLACK and a solid WHITE shirt for this Event.)

The Calcutta

Participation optional... but encouraged

This is the only event that requires additional monetary commitment. Not for the faint of heart, this auction style event allows you to profit from the success of others—regardless of your own abilities.

ENTRY FEE: \$10.00

How It Works

- Contest is based on individual scores over two-day period consisting of Sunday and Monday morning rounds only
- Adjusted Summit handicaps will be used for this event.
- Calcutta participants bid on Summit contestants based on their anticipated performance.
- Calcutta participants must open bidding on themselves at \$20.00. Bidding then proceeds in \$5.00 increments.
- Calcutta participants are required to own at least 25% of themselves.
- Purchaser is obligated to sell up to 50% back to contestant at his request.
- Purchaser will receive a 20% discount on total amount invested in participants other than himself.
- Purchaser is responsible for all money related to their transactions.
- All purchases must be settled in cash at conclusion of auction.
- Prize-money will be paid as follows:

		<u>2017</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2017</u>
		<u>Prizes</u>	<u>Winners</u>	<u>Owners</u>
1st Place:	55%	\$986	Phil	Ben
2nd Place:	30%	\$538	Greg	Greg
3rd Place:	15%	\$269	Hudson	John B.

The Majors

The Majors are multi-day events designed to distinguish individuals with extraordinary talent and tenacity. Major events are printed in **ORANGE**.

SUMMIT MATCH-PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP (SMC)

REIGNING CHAMPION: Greg Beato

'17 Runner-up: Chris Colton

PURSE: \$100.00

Runner-up: \$50.00

- Series of three (or four) individual matches beginning Day 1 (or 2)
- All individual matches will be match-play format
- Seeding determined by combination of prior year finish and Round 1 results
- Full handicaps will be used in this event

LOW NET

DEFENDING CHAMPION: John Hudson

'17 Runner-up: Ben Fry

PURSE: \$50.00

- Awarded to individual with lowest four-day net score using full handicap

INDIVIDUAL TEAM CHAMPION

DEFENDING CHAMPION: Steve Hale

'17 Runner-up: John Hudson/Greg Beato

PURSE: \$25.00

- This oxymoronic title is awarded to the individual collecting the most team points over the four-day event

HIGH NET

DEFENDING CHAMPION: Chris Colton

'17 Runner-up: Ken Rogich

PURSE: \$25.00

- Awarded to hapless sap with the *highest* four-day net score using full handicap

NOTE: Player can win only one major. Prizes awarded as follows: SMC Champ, Low Net, Individual Team Champ, High Net Chump.

Interview with a Champion

An Underdog Story

Not since Sean Astin donned an Irish helmet of gold to play the title role in *Rudy* has a more inspiring underdog story emerged than Dr. Greg Beato's unlikely theft of the crown jewel of amateur golf—the Summit Matchplay Championship. Once every decade or so, an alignment of circumstances and planets creates an opportunity for someone seen by most as no more than a marginal participant to compete, if only for a of blink of time's eye, at a level far above their ability and capture a victory otherwise and forevermore out of their reach. This is one of those stories. Lest our readers think this a work of fiction, our staff endeavored to secure a personal interview with the 2017 SMC Champion himself, Dr. Greg Beato, to hear, firsthand, how this miracle unfolded. Our guest writer, Ralph Macchio, took time off the set of his latest movie, *Karate Kid: Remember What I Did Back in 1984?*, to visit with Greg in his palatial home in the mountains of southwest Virginia. Below is a transcript of that inspirational conversation.

RM: How does it feel to join the ranks of Summit Champions?

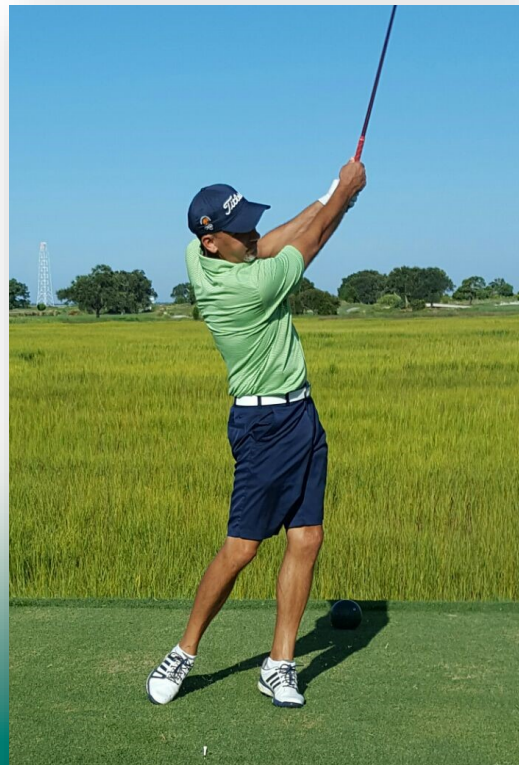
GB: *It's an honor and I'm seriously humbled. It's something no one can ever take away from me— plus, it'll be immortalized in The Book, which is cool.*

RM: Were you surprised that '17 was your breakthrough year? Why or why not?

GB: *I had ZERO expectations of winning the Summit this year [Editor's Note: This is an example of Greg's humility. Pre-Tournaments odds of him winning were 37-1, so his chances were actually more like 2.7%, not zero]. I always compete and love having matches and competition, so I knew I'd be tough to play, but didn't really think I'd win four matches in a row. I seriously had no clue how my back would fair, but didn't really want to make that into a big deal or excuse. I think the back ended up keeping me from trying stupid sh*t and [kept] me playing conservatively.*

RM: What does it take to win the Summit?

GB: *Consistency for four rounds. Since the handicapping [SHS®] is pretty solid, you really cannot have an off round and expect to ad-*



The Courses



SouthCreek at Myrtle Beach National

4900 National Drive
Myrtle Beach, SC

Par: 72 Yardage: 6,416 Rating: 71.0 Slope: 125



As one of three courses in the prestigious **Myrtle Beach National family**, **Southcreek** has its own distinct character that has made it a hit among local and visiting golfers alike.

This Arnold Palmer signature course is one of a kind in the Myrtle Beach area, incorporating the scenic terrain of hardwood forest and Low-

country wetlands into the legendary golfer/designer's blueprints.

The SouthCreek Course at Myrtle Beach National is the shortest of the three courses at Myrtle Beach National Golf Club and features waste bunkers, dogleg fairways and undulating Mini Verde greens. Measuring at only 6,400 yards from the back tees, Southcreek calls for accuracy and finesse over sheer strength and force, making it a challenging course for golfers of all handicaps.

This course requires accuracy off the tee, but if achieved can offer good scoring opportunities throughout your round. It features the dramatic par-5 10th hole that wraps as a dogleg right around a large lake; the par-3 13th that showcases a small green with a large waste bunker leading up to it; and the par-4 finishing hole at 18, measuring 380 yards from the tips and playing as a dogleg left with a steep-faced bunker fronting the green requiring a forced carry to the green.

Given a lack of distance combined with beautifully maintained terrain and a stellar background, it's of little surprise that the **SouthCreek Course at Myrtle Beach National** has found itself honored by voting panels recognizing top rounds for women and seniors. Golf Digest awarded Southcreek 4 stars in its exclusive "Places to Play" rankings, and the course was voted among the "Top 100 in America" by Golf for Women.

The Courses



MYRTLEWOOD
GOLF CLUB

Myrtlewood Golf Club Palmetto Course

48th Avenue North
Myrtle Beach, SC

Par: 72 Yardage: 6,516 Rating: 71.4 Slope: 130



Lush Fairways and Excellent Greens Make This Arthur Hills Course a Must Play. Home to 36 holes of championship Myrtle Beach golf, Myrtlewood Golf Club is set along the beautiful Intracoastal Waterway in the heart of Myrtle Beach.

Myrtlewood Palmetto golf course has a traditional design that offers gentle sloping fairways with a variety of hazards, bunkers and large, subtle undulating greens. Palmetto is consistently ranked as one of the top repeat-play courses along the Grand Strand.

The Palmetto Course offers well-manicured ti-f-dwarf Bermuda grass greens and fairways surrounded by scenic vistas of the Waterway and surprisingly serene woodlands that make it hard to believe you are playing so near downtown Myrtle Beach. The Palmetto Course is a great challenge for golfers of any skill level and presents players with a relaxed Low-country setting that is such a part of the coastal South Carolina lifestyle.

The Courses



King's North at Myrtle Beach National

4900 National Drive
Myrtle Beach, SC

Par: 72 Yardage: 6,481 Rating: 71.1 Slope: 111



One of three premier layouts at Myrtle Beach National Golf Club, King's North is an Arnold Palmer-designed gem offering several of the Grand Strand's most memorable holes.

Redesigned by "The King" in 1996, King's North made its way onto Golf Digest's prestigious list of "America's 100 Greatest Public Courses - 2004", and Golf Digest's "Places to Play" has awarded it 4.5 STARS ever since.

King's North features 18 of the most dramatic and picturesque holes you'll ever encounter. The par-5 6th hole (nicknamed "The Gambler") features an island fairway

that offers a "risk-reward" shortcut to the green. If the island fairway is chosen it could leave a good chance at going for this green in two, thus the "Gamble." However, a safe layup to the right and a short approach over water will always keep you guessing. The par-3, island green 12th hole creates a challenge of its own. A miss to the right and you could find the water, miss left and you could find the distinctive "SC" bunkers that would leave a delicate bunker shot. And, don't forget the par-4 finishing hole, featuring an array of 40 bunkers escorting you to an exciting finish of an exhilarating round.

The Courses



710 Hilton Road
Myrtle Beach, SC

Par: 72 Yardage: 6,446 Rating: 71.5 Slope: 132



Arcadian Shores Golf Club was designed by renowned golf course architect, Rees Jones. The uniquely contoured fairways and green complexes with an abundance of live oaks and well placed lakes, give this course a personality all its own. Located in the heart of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, Arcadian Shores is a quick trip from all area accommodations. The convenience of location makes this course a regular choice for all visiting golfers and a local's favorite.

At just over 6800 yards from the tips with a rating of 73.2 and a slope of 137, Arcadian Shores Golf can give the low handicappers all they want, but from the appropriate teeing ground this low country beauty can offer amateurs of all levels a great combination of challenge and fun. The elevated greens are surrounded by large strategically placed bunkers, but getting your tee shot into the fairway provides an acceptable approach shot from most angles. You'll want to play Arcadian Shores Golf Club again and again.

Beware of the beauty in Arcadian Shores' challenges, as seven holes of the course play along freshwater lakes, and there are 64 strategically placed sand bunkers around the Tif-dwarf Bermuda greens and 10 acres of natural lakes that border the 419 Bermuda fairways. Add to that, the elevation of many of the greens and the occasional nearby ocean breeze that comes into play on the back nine. Take note: Hole No. 13 has been named by the PGA as one of the best holes in South Carolina and revered by golfers in the Myrtle Beach area.

Dr. Greg Beato

Defending SMC Champion

#1 Seed

Summit Stats

Previous Summit Appearances	3
Average Starting Handicap	6
Majors	1
HOF Points Rank	24 11
SMC Win % Rank	.714 1
Average Gross Score Rank	87.67 10
Average Net Score Rank	80.17 2
Career Earnings Rank	\$209 15
Earnings Per Start Rank	\$69.67 5
Calcutta Shows	1



Accolades

2017 SMC Champion

Handicap: 4

Day 1 Matchup: BYE

**Assignment:
Summit Physician &
Co-Dinner Coordinator**

**Roommates:
Dick, Fry, Hale**

John Hudson

2017 Low Net

#2 Seed

Summit Stats

Previous Summit Appearances	2
Average Starting Handicap	4.67
Majors	1
HOF Points Rank	12 15
SMC Win % Rank	.000 17
Average Gross Score Rank	84.75 6
Average Net Score Rank	78.88 1
Career Earnings Rank	\$75 19
Earnings Per Start Rank	\$37.50 19
Calcutta Shows	2



Accolades

2017 Low Net
2016 Calcutta Winner

Handicap: 4

Day 1 Matchup: BYE

Assignment:
Designated Driver &
House Mother

Roommates:
Blankenship, Crush, Kurtz

Steve Hale

2017 Individual Team Champion

#3 Seed



Handicap: 0

Day 1 Matchup: BYE

**Assignment:
Comic Relief**

**Roommates:
Beato, Dick, Fry**

Summit Stats

Previous Summit Appearances	18
Average Starting Handicap	1.05
Majors	12
HOF Points	144
Rank	1
SMC Win %	.567
Rank	6
Average Gross Score	81.76
Rank	3
Average Net Score	80.75
Rank	6
Career Earnings	\$1,272
Rank	1
Earnings Per Start	\$70.68
Rank	4
Calcutta Shows	10

Accolades

2017 Ind Team Champion
2016 Ind Team Champion
2015 Ind Team Champion
2014 High Net
2014 Hall of Fame Inductee
2013 Low Net
2011 Ind Team Champion
2011 SMC Runner-up
2010 SMC Champion
2006 Low Net
2005 SMC Champion
2003 Low Net
2002 SMC Champion
2001 Low Net
2001 SMC Runner-up

Chris Colton

2017 SMC Runner-up

#4 Seed



Accolades

2017 High Net
2017 SMC Runner-up
2014 SMC Champion
2009 High Net
2006 High Net
2001 Ind Team Champion

Handicap: 22

Day 1 Matchup: BYE

Assignment: Pizza Consultant

**Roommates:
Bradberry, Edmunds, Rogich**

Summit Stats

Previous Summit Appearances	13
Average Starting Handicap	21.21
Majors	5
HOF Points Rank	52 7
SMC Win % Rank	.600 4
Average Gross Score Rank	106.99 19
Average Net Score Rank	84.42 18
Career Earnings Rank	\$894 4
Earnings Per Start Rank	\$68.77 6
Calcutta Shows	1

Bo Blankenship

Accolades

2016 Low Net
2015 SMC Champion
2012 SMC Champion
2009 SMC Runner-up
2007 Low Net
2007 Short-Game Champ
2005 Short-Game Champ
2004 Low Net
2004 Short-Game Champ
2003 High Net
2000 Low Net

Summit Stats

Previous Summit Appearances	18
Average Starting Handicap	3.47
Majors	7
HOF Points Rank	103 2
SMC Win % Rank	.500 9
Average Gross Score Rank	85.16 7
Average Net Score Rank	80.76 7
Career Earnings Rank	\$1,097 3
Earnings Per Start Rank	\$60.96 8
Calcutta Shows	5



Handicap: 4

Day 1 Matchup: Ben (6)

Assignment: Gaming Consultant

**Roommates:
Crush, Hudson, Kurtz**

John Bradberry



Handicap: 5

Day 1 Matchup: Edmunds (4)

Assignment: Calcutta Treasurer

**Roommates:
Colton, Edmunds, Rogich**

Accolades

2010 SMC Runner-up
2009 Low Net

Summit Stats

Previous Summit Appearances	12
Average Starting Handicap	3.31
Majors	1
HOF Points Rank	34 10
SMC Win % Rank	.474 11
Average Gross Score Rank	84.47 5
Average Net Score Rank	80.98 8
Career Earnings Rank	\$496 10
Earnings Per Start Rank	\$41.29 15
Calcutta Shows	4

Ryan Crush



Accolades

2013 Ind Team Champion
2012 High Net
1st to \$1k in Career Earnings
2011 High Net
2008 SMC Runner-up
2006 Ind Team Champion
2003 SMC Champion
2002 Low Net
2002 SMC Runner-up
2000 Ind Team Champion

Handicap: 1

Day 1 Matchup: Dick (17)

**Assignment:
Summit Trainer**

**Roommates:
Blankenship, Hudson, Kurtz**

Summit Stats

Previous Summit Appearances	6
Average Starting Handicap	.14
Majors	7
HOF Points Rank	36 9
SMC Win % Rank	.500 9
Average Gross Score Rank	81.25 2
Average Net Score Rank	81.25 10
Career Earnings Rank	\$618 9
Earnings Per Start Rank	\$88.21 2
Calcutta Shows	1

Phil Dick

<u>Summit Stats</u>	
Previous Summit Appearances	5
Average Starting Handicap	16.17
Majors	2
HOF Points Rank	15 14
SMC Win % Rank	.429 14
Average Gross Score Rank	101.95 17
Average Net Score Rank	84.60 19
Career Earnings Rank	\$245 14
Earnings Per Start Rank	\$48.90 13
Calcutta Shows	1



Accolades

2017 Calcutta Winner
2014 SMC Runner-up
2013 High Net
2012 Ind Team Champion

Handicap: 17

Day 1 Matchup: Crush (1)

**Assignment:
Summit Dinner Coordinator**

**Roommates:
Beato, Fry Hale**

Bart Edmunds

Accolades

2008 Ind Team Co-Champ
2006 SMC Runner-up
2005 High Net
2004 SMC Champion
2001 SMC Champion
2000 High Net



<u>Summit Stats</u>	
Previous Summit Appearances	18
Average Starting Handicap	4.21
Majors	5
HOF Points Rank	86 4
SMC Win % Rank	.548 8
Average Gross Score Rank	86.03 8
Average Net Score Rank	81.03 9
Career Earnings Rank	\$654 7
Earnings Per Start Rank	\$38.46 17
Calcutta Shows	2

Handicap: 4

Day 1 Matchup: Bradberry (5)

Assignment:
MIGS Director;
***The Summit* Editor-in-Chief;**
Handicapping Chairman

Roommates:
Bradberry, Colton, Rogich



Ben Fry

Summit Stats

Previous Summit Appearances	12
Average Starting Handicap	6.77
Majors	2
HOF Points	48
Rank	8
SMC Win %	.474
Rank	11
Average Gross Score	87.77
Rank	11
Average Net Score	80.59
Rank	4
Career Earnings	\$490
Rank	11
Earnings Per Start	\$40.88
Rank	16
Calcutta Shows	2

Accolades

2016 SMC Runner-up
2014 Low Net
2012 SMC Runner-up
2008 Low Net

Handicap: 6

Day 1 Matchup: Blankenship (4)

Assignment:
**Golf and Lodging
 Arrangements**

Roommates:
Beato, Dick, Hale



Mike Kurtz

Summit Stats

Previous Summit Appearances	3
Average Starting Handicap	.5
Majors	2
HOF Points Rank	22 11
SMC Win % Rank	.600 4
Average Gross Score Rank	80.58 1
Average Net Score Rank	80.25 3
Career Earnings Rank	\$174 17
Earnings Per Start Rank	\$58.00 10
Calcutta Shows	0

Accolades

2016 SMC Champion
2015 Low Net

Handicap: 1

Day 1 Matchup: Rogich (22)

**Assignment:
Summit Locksmith**

**Roommates:
Blankenship, Crush, Hudson**

Ken Rogich



Accolades

2013 Ind Team Champion
2012 High Net
1st to \$1k in Career Earnings
2011 High Net
2008 SMC Runner-up
2006 Ind Team Champion
2003 SMC Champion
2002 Low Net
2002 SMC Runner-up
2000 Ind Team Champion

Handicap: 22

Day 1 Matchup: Kurtz (1)

**Assignment:
Skins calculations**

**Roommates:
Bradberry, Colton, Edmunds**

Summit Stats

Previous Summit Appearances	17
Average Starting Handicap	18.89
Majors	7
HOF Points Rank	82 5
SMC Win % Rank	.462 13
Average Gross Score Rank	103.32 18
Average Net Score Rank	83.80 17
Career Earnings Rank	\$1,242 2
Earnings Per Start Rank	\$73.04 3
Calcutta Shows	4

Free Practice Round!

**Friday, March 16, 2018
1:02pm**



SouthCreek @ Myrtle Beach National

**4900 National Drive
Myrtle Beach, SC
Par: 72**

The SouthCreek Course at Myrtle Beach National is the shortest of the three courses at Myrtle Beach National Golf Club and features waste bunkers, dogleg fairways and undulating Mini Verde greens. Measuring at only 6,400 yards from the back tees, Southcreek calls for accuracy and finesse over sheer strength and force, making it a challenging course for golfers of all handicaps.

Day 1

Myrtlewood Palmetto

White Tees

SMC Play-in Matches/Qualifying

Stableford Teams and Round 1 Matchplay Pairings (Blind Draw)
(Play-in matches in boxes)

10:07

Greg (4)
Chris (22)

Ken (22)
Mike (1)

10:15

John H. (4)
Steve (0)

Bart (4)
John B. (5)

10:23

Ryan (1)
Phil (17)

Bo (4)
Ben (6)

The Twist

On the par-4, hole #2, all players will tee off from the 249-yard RED tee— commonly referred to as the “Ladies’ Tee”

Four-man Stableford

\$40.00/Team

Team Points: 2/1

Skins

Daily Purse: \$36.00

Day 2

King's North @ Myrtle Beach National

Gold Tees

Round 2 of SMC

12:36

12:44

12:52

A 1 **Greg** _____

8 _____

9 _____

11 _____

B 2 **John H.** _____

7 _____

10 _____

12 _____

C 3 **Steve** _____

6 _____

D 4 **Chris** _____

5 _____

Skins

Daily Purse: \$36.00

2 Best Balls (Four-man Teams)

\$60.00/Team

Team Points: 4/2

Calcutta

Day One

The Calcutta

PLAYER	HCP	OWNER	BID	POT	DAY 1	DAY 2	TOTAL
COLTON							
ROGICH							
DICK							
FRY							
BRADBERRY							
BEATO							
HUDSON							
EDMUNDS							
BLANKENSHIP							
CRUSH							
KURTZ							
HALE							
		ENTRY FEES					
			TOTAL				

Day 3

Arcadian Shores

Hilton (Blue) Tees

Round 3 of SMC

9:29

L(A) _____
L(D) _____
(10) _____
(11) _____

9:38

a

W(A) _____
W(D) _____

L(B) _____
L(C) _____

b

W(B) _____
W(C) _____

(9) _____
(12) _____

9:47

Skins

Daily Purse: \$36.00

Two-Man Stableford

\$60.00 (Pays 1st & 2nd)

Team Points: 6/3/1

Dual-Day Double-Dude Duel

Day One

Calcutta

Day Two

Summit Dinner

Liberty Brewery & Grill

Broadway at the Beach

Immediately Following Round

Day 4

King's North @ Myrtle Beach National Gold Tees

Final Round of SMC

Payout to Winner of Championship Match: \$100.00

<u>8:26</u>	<u>8:34</u>	<u>8:42</u>
I	II	V or IV
L(A) _____	L(C) _____	9 or 12 _____
L(B) _____	L(D) _____	W(a) _____
IV or V	III or VI	III or VI
L(a) _____	L(b) _____	W(b) _____
9 or 12 _____	10 or 11 _____	10 or 11 _____

Skins

Daily Purse: \$36.00

Dual-Day Double-Dude Duel

Day Two

\$90.00 (Pays 1st & 2nd)

Team Points: 8/4/2

Face-Off

Pro-V's

Day 4

Face-Off

Black

L(D) _____

12 _____

L(C) _____

9 _____

L(B)/11 _____

W(a) _____

White

L(a) _____

L(B)/11 _____

L(A)/10 _____

L(b) _____

L(A)/10 _____

W(b) _____

Awards Presentation

SMC Champion (\$100): _____

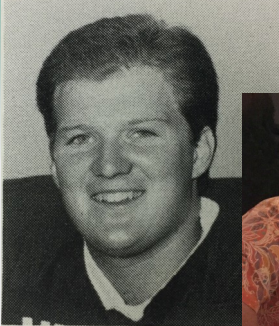
SMC Runner-up (\$50) _____

Low Net (\$50): _____

Individual Team Champion (\$25): _____

High Net (AKA: Hapless Sap)(\$25) _____

Photo Gallery



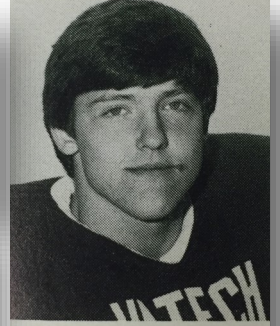
56 Steve Hale
So. • C



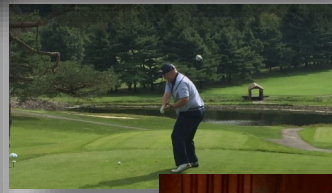
"Aren't you chilly?!"



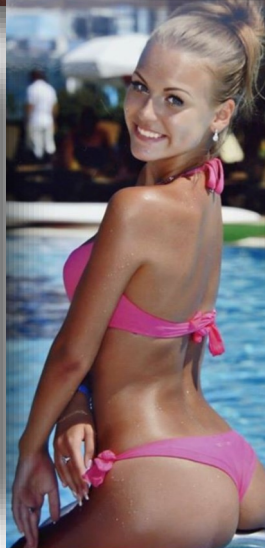
SageCreek is Summit bound!



35 Bo Blankenship
Jr. • DB



Family is #1!



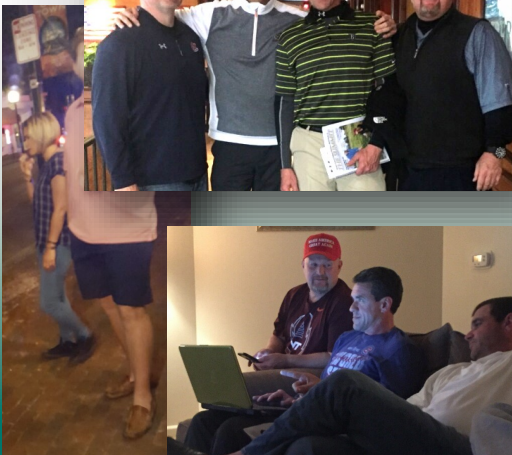
Bart and Ben share a yummy dessert



Greg and Steve share a beer



Who's the creeper behind Chris?



Mike complains to authorities about abundance of drunks on the VT sideline.

Straight from Hale



Steve Hale is a freelance writer from southwest Virginia. He is also one of only two 3-time SMC Champions on the planet earth. This is the 5th annual installment of Steve's column in *The Summit*.

Note: Ideas and opinions expressed by the author do not necessarily reflect those of *The Summit* or its staff. Please direct any replies or rebuttals to

“How To Bunt Your Way To A Championship”

Welcome, my friends, to the sixth installment of *Straight From Hale*, where I take a look back at the previous year's Tournament and uncover one or two hidden gems that may have been witnessed

by many but discussed only by a few—usually behind closed doors. It was this time two years ago that I discussed in this article the evolution of The Summit, as, that year, we had dispensed of “The best golfer never to win a Title”, Ryan Crush, and “The worst golfer in Summit history”, Sam Flint, and legitimized the field with the additions of Mike Kurtz and Greg Beato. Little did I know at that time that the latter duo of Kurtz and Beato would win the coveted Trophy back-to-back in the two years following. They will forever be linked as former Champions who joined the Summit together. It is at this point, however, where the similarities between these two come to an end.....

One might guess that the subject matter of this year's expose could be

Mike Kurtz' preparation, as he just finished a whirlwind tour of bucket-list golf, recently playing Pebble Beach AND Spyglass Hill Country Clubs. In addition, Mike has spent more weekends in Myrtle Beach this year than he has in Roanoke (FACT). But no, this is but a side note, as we have had Summiteers in the past who have ventured to the coast for a few winter practice rounds to no avail. No, this year's commentary is relates specifically to an ever increasing occurrence that has grabbed the attention of all the number-crunchers who love to dig into Summit statistics in an effort to crack the code on what it takes to win!

It all began on the way home from the 2017 Summit, where Greg Beato had just hoisted the Trophy after dismantling Chris Colton for the Championship. We'd basically walked off the course, eaten lunch, handed out awards, and then jumped in our cars for the ride home without even pausing for a second to digest the fact that one of the shortest hitters on the trip had just marched through the toughest side of the bracket

Straight from Hale (Cont.)

to win. He who averages just 227 yards off the tee with his driver just did the unthinkable—beating 3 players along the way who outdrove him by 40-60 yards on every hole! Phones were ringing constantly during the 5 hour trip home, all talking about the same phenomenon. But wait a minute..... was it a phenomenon? At the time, it just seemed like an unlikely occurrence, like catching 2 fish with a single cast or seeing Bo pour a long neck beer into Ben's waiting mouth. These things just don't happen! But it did, and we continued to our destinations just chalking it up to a perfect storm. In the off season, however, research began, and some interesting commonalities began to unfold. Going back through the record books of the past 10 Summits, an eerily familiar occurrence has gone unnoticed amongst our Champions and threatens to change the way the game is played going forward. After going back over a decade of Summit trips, with the exception of Kurtz, Bo, and Steve, the Champion of each of the past 10 years has been in the bottom 2 in Combined Driving Distance*.

(*Derived by using the Bell Curve Method where obvious non golfers' average driving distance met required exclusion criteria to prevent disproportionate skewing of numbers)

FORMER CHAMPIONS

2017 Greg Beato

2014 Chris Colton

2013 Woody Deans

2011 Kevin Dill

2009 Woody Deans

2008 Kevin Dill

As you can see, none of these would be considered "Long Ball Hitters", yet they all won. As a matter of fact, a couple of them requested that they be allowed to play from forward tees. Digging deeper into the stats shows that each of these players hit a high percentage of fairways and, even though they all were hitting fairway woods and hybrids into par 4's, they kept the ball in play, therefore reducing the number of penalty strokes added to the overall score. I can attest, in my matches with Greg and Woody, during their respective Championship runs, they both hit 3 woods or hybrids into almost every par 4 they played. At the time, I laughed it off, saying..."Damn that's a shame", but it turns out the joke was on me!

Think about it... Ken Rogich has won it, Joe Assaid has won it! Woody won 4 times! *The numbers don't lie!!*

After long discussions with several Summit members and based on this research, I think we must all give serious consideration to the fact that maybe the proper play is to pull out a 3 wood or long iron on that first tee box and take the trouble out of play. Of course this shines a light on the long asked question, "Why can't the trio of bombers, Ben, Bradberry and Crush, win out here?" The answer?.....simple....short and straight beats long and crooked at Myrtle

Straight from Hale (Cont.)

Beach. I believe John and Ryan can adapt to the “Bunt and Win” strategy, they must if they ever want to hoist the Trophy. Ben, however, is the true victim here. Despite numerous attempts by mentors and friends to coerce Ben into clubbing down, his natural instincts will fight it all the way into Murrells Inlet.

▶ Adapt and overcome! In conclusion, in an age where pro golfers are hitting the driver at every opportunity, let’s face it, we’re not pro golfers. We don’t play pro courses (Exception: Mike Kurtz) and for most of us, golf season begins once we arrive at Myrtle. Take heed in the numbers, and if you want to shoot lower scores..... Do what 70% of our Champions in the last decade have done.....Throttle Back!



vance. *I think priorities also need to be relatively intact. I don't play real well hungover or tired, so, since I hate playing badly and feeling like sh*t, I probably won't ever be hungover if I'm still alive in the match play Tourney. I know there's a lot of other side games and daily games and money on other things, but I think for me, the Matchplay is the marquee game.*

RM: Describe your game. What are your strength/weaknesses? When do you feel you have an advantage?

GB: *[That] weekend my consistency overall was what won me the trophy. I was incredibly consistent off the tee— I must have hit like 75% of fairways, or was just off a few. I only lost 2 balls in five rounds, which is pretty good. Generally speaking, the most consistently good part of my game is my chipping and short game (which would not include putting). My weakness is my inconsistent putting. Sometimes I'm hot and*

[really] good, but a lot of times it's very mediocre and my weakness. [Editor's Note: Greg has been described by competitors as a 'surprisingly good putter'.] I am certainly not a long hitter, which hurts on long courses— we're working on that this year. [Editor's Note: Tournament statisticians inform us that not only is Greg the shortest hitter ever to win the Summit Title, but the shortest hitter ever to compete in the Summit— a fact that makes his victory that much more impressive.]

RM: What is different about you from the other Summit competitors?

GB: *I can prescribe narcotics. [Editor's Note: See previous Editor's Note.]*

RM: Would you describe yourself as Type A, and how does that relate to your golf game?

GB: *I don't really understand the question, but I think you're trying to call me a Type A personality, off the course. [Editor's Note: "Objection! Argumentative."] Being Type A, though, doesn't help my golf game, I'd say. I feel like I'm not a good enough golfer to not be fully focused and grinding all the time when it's a competition. I think I like to have a good time when it's not as important, and like to talk and hold a conversation.*

RM: How do you respond to those that say you're foolish to buy yourself in the Calcutta?

GB: *No one says that now that I came in second and won more money than anyone else*

did, individually. I think you're going to find a new trend for those that have some confidence. [Editor's Note: '... said no one, ever.']

RM: Tell us what you remember about your path to the Championship as you defeated Bart, Steve, John, and finally, Chris for the Title.

GB: *Bart's been my nemesis for a couple years, so it was rewarding for me to beat him down in Myrtle Beach, since he didn't think my game traveled well. [Editor's Note: Witnesses attest that Bart was simply one of many listeners when the declaration was made that Greg's game didn't travel.] I think the Blacksburg CC is rated more difficult than it really is, plus I play it all the time, so my GHIN handicap is a little lower than it should be. It was very satisfying taking Bart down for sure. [Editor's Note: Last sentence is still in response to original question about golf.]*

Beating Steve was also satisfying for sure, but he had a few holes that were very uncharacteristic for him. I feel bad that I laughed at him after he hit some wood planks around a hazard on his down swing on The Gambler. [Editor's Note: Greg mentions this incident multiple times throughout the interview, but the redundant references were omitted for brevity.]

I have never played with John when he's played well. [Editor's Note: Our interpretation is that Greg meant this as a compliment.] He shot 87, I think, both rounds [the] weekend I played with him, I think. I thought straight up I didn't have much of a chance of beating him, so actually I might be most satisfied with beating him.

The finals win was great. I don't think I've ever played anyone in a match giving them 20 shots [Editor's Note: Again, meant as some sort of twisted compliment]. Match play against someone giving that many strokes is tough— especially when your opponent would prefer monsoons over sun, which is basically what he got. Chris played well overall four rounds in a row. He was much more consistent off the tee than I remember him being before, but I was just so consistent. [Editor's Note: This portion comes across as just plain mean-spirited and braggy.]

RM: Which was your most difficult match, and why?

GB: *I think Steve's match was the toughest given that it was the closest match overall. The weather was really bad that day, but I guess it was bad for everyone. [Editor's Note: An independent survey confirmed that, indeed, the weather was bad for everyone.]*



RM: Which victory was the most gratifying?

GB: *My goal for the weekend (if I didn't win the whole thing) was to at least advance farther than I had in the past, so I was real psyched to make it to the Semifinals for sure. Beating Steve will never get old and is always gratifying for sure.*

RM: If given a choice, which of those competitors would you be most and least anxious to face again, and why?

GB: *Honestly it doesn't matter to me who I play. I loved taking down SageCreek for sure, and would love to relive that moment every year.*

RM: In examining the 2017 Summit field, take a moment to give us a short thought or impression of each competitor.

GB:

- o Bo Blankenship: Competitor; How he remembers all the games and strokes, I don't have a clue*
- o John Bradberry: We need to get that guy to The Club. I think he would play better with other things on his mind*
- o Chris Colton: I feel bad he burned his pants/jacket*



o Phil Dick: Seems like he could be a better golfer with a little practice. He hit some of the best drives I saw this weekend

o Bart Edmunds: There's so much planning he has to do, it's a wonder he can concentrate on his golf game at all

o Ben Fry: I think a course in course management might really propel him to Summit glory

o Steve Hale: I really wonder what he was like 25 years ago at these golf weekends

o John Hudson: Enjoyed sharing Jack and Jill bathroom with him— except for his late night deuce dropping. We put a hurting on that poor room

o Mike Kurtz: Consistent; Still surprised he lost in his first round match

o Jeff Parker: I feel bad he's not at his peak physical condition. Super great guy

o Ken Rogich: I think he weathered the conservative hand grenades that were thrown at him really well

RM: In your opinion, of the current Summit

field, who is most and least likely to win next year's Summit, and why?

GB: Most: Me— someone's due to be first back-to-back in Summit history.

Least: Jeff Parker— vision is important in golf, as is actually participating.

RM: Who is the fastest player on the Summit, and who is the slowest? What makes someone slow, and how could they pick up the pace?

GB: Fastest: Bradberry; Slowest: Blankenship

RM: If you could make one change to the Summit, what would it be?

GB: I'd move the date 6 weeks later

RM: What are the odds that you become the first in Summit history to successfully defend their Title?

GB: I like my odds. I plan on improving my putting and continuing to strengthen my back, so why not? [Editor's Note: Current odds on successful Title defense are 53-1 in Vegas.]



The Summit MatchPlay Championship

Seedings

1. Beato
2. Hudson
3. Hale
4. Colton
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

DDDDD Teams are in Red.

