

# Sea Island

**2010 Players Guide**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Annual Ponce de Leon Invitational**  
**July 15-19th, 2010**  
**[www.poncedeleongolf.com](http://www.poncedeleongolf.com)**

## **“Bagpipes and Cocktails”**



Voted best golf resort in North America by *Golf Digest* 2006, The Lodge, a Mobil 5-Star property, is home to 54 holes of world class golf.



## **Customs and Etiquette**

The Ponce is strictly an invitation Tournament. The qualification regulations are the principal means of determining the player invitation list. The eligibility under these regulations does not oblige the Tournament Committee to issue an invitation, nor does failure to invite imply unfitness of any kind. As always, the primary objective of the Ponce is good, fair golf and old-school competition.

## **Safety**

For your personal safety, we ask that you exercise caution at all times. Please be reminded that under wet conditions the grounds could become slippery.

## **Autograph Policy**

For player safety, there will be a NO AUTOGRAPH POLICY enforced on the golf course for the practice round and tournament play. Autographs are allowed only outside of the ropes when the play is complete.

## **Schedule of Events**

**All times Eastern Daylight Savings Time**

- Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup> - Practice Round 1:00PM at The Seaside Course
- Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup> - Opening Ceremonies at The Lodge 7:30PM
- Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> Round, 8:30AM at The Seaside Course
- Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Round 8:30AM at The Seaside Course  
3<sup>rd</sup> Round 2:30PM at The Seaside Course
- Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Round 10:00 AM at The Seaside Course
- Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup> - Champions Dinner 7:30PM



### Television Schedule

Thursday, July 15 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 – 5:30	Live Coverage, Golf Channel
Friday, July 16 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 – 3:00	Live Coverage, Golf Channel
Saturday, July 17 <sup>th</sup>	7:30- 6:00	Live Coverage, CBS-TV
Sunday, July 18 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 – 3:00	Live Coverage, CBS-TV

### Ponce Web Site

Information on the Ponce is available on the Internet at [www.poncedeleongolf.com](http://www.poncedeleongolf.com). The website includes real-time leader board, leading player/team interviews, and tournament history.

### Ponce De Leon Invitational History of The Ponce

Looking to hold a golf challenge with his friends, Neil Thomson decided to introduce a golf event similar to the Ryder Cup in January 2003. In the early days, there was no assurance that there would be enough interest for the tournament to become an annual event. Thomson proposed the event be called The Ponce De Leon Invitational.

Many decisions in the early days of the Tournament remain today. Among these are the 4 rounds of competitive play, allowing the last place team going into Sunday the advantage of selecting whom they would like to play, and, of course, the Sunday Singles matches.

The first tournament was held the first week of January, 2003 with just 8 players. Today the field is 16 strong with a waiting list of at least that many. To assist the community, each year a generous contribution is made by the players of the Tournament benefiting a charity that is voted upon during the Opening Ceremonies.

We hope that the Ponce stages a golf tournament that is enjoyable to our players, patrons and the golf community.

The Ponce is strictly an invitation Tournament.



### Tournament Results

2003 Scottsdale, AZ	Chairman: Neil Thomson	Winning Team: N. Thomson/Rankin/Garnett/H Massie	
2004 Orlando, FL	Chairman: John Klim	Winning Team: Dawgs	MVP: Jeremy Bird
2005 Palm Beach Gardens, FL	Chairman: Jamie Rankin	Winning Team: Black Sunday	MVP: Richard Massie
2006 Scottsdale, AZ	Chairman: Muscie Garnett	Winning Team: Black Sunday	MVP: Michael Palmore
2007 Sea Island, GA	Chairman: John McAllister	Winning Team: Lacoste	MVP: John Klim
2008 Sea Island, GA	Chairman: Michael Palmore	Winning Team: Virginia Gentlemen	MVP: Cole Clarkson
2009 La Quinta, CA	Chairman: Jeremy Bird	Winning Team: Sam Snead	MVP: Bill Wainscott

### Tournament Records

Best Team in Tournament History

**Black Sunday 2006 (Bird, Coulbourn, Palmore, Wainscott)**, Most Team Points, 18 out of a possible 20 Points

Best Individual Sunday Singles Record

**Jeremy Bird 5-1**

Best Overall Record

**Muscie Garnett 14-3-2**

Most Championships

**Bird (3), Coulbourn (3), Hollowell (3), Palmore (3)**

Hole In One

**Lawrence Thompson 2006**

Most Tournaments Played

**Neil Thomson, Jamie Rankin, Muscoe Garnett, John McAllister (7)**



## Player Biographies and Statistics

(Stats Since 16 player format in 2004)

<b>Aide, Michael</b>	Houston, TX, 6 <sup>th</sup> Appearance
<b>Battle, Wes</b>	Washington, D.C., 6 <sup>th</sup> Appearance Member of United States Armed Forces
<b>Bird, Jeremy</b>	Atlanta, GA, 7 <sup>th</sup> Appearance (2004 MVP) (2009 Chair)
<b>Coulbourn, Clark</b>	Richmond, VA, 5 <sup>th</sup> Appearance
<b>Garnett, Muscoe</b>	Richmond, VA, 8 <sup>th</sup> Appearance (2006 Chair)
<b>Hollowell, Andrew</b>	Charleston, SC, 6 <sup>th</sup> Appearance
<b>Massie, Henry</b>	Atlanta, GA, 6 <sup>th</sup> Appearance
<b>Massie, Richard</b>	Atlanta, GA, 6 <sup>th</sup> Appearance (2005 MVP) (2010 Chair)
<b>McAllister, John</b>	Charlottesville, VA, 8 <sup>th</sup> Appearance (2007 Chair)
<b>Palmore, Michael</b>	Richmond, VA, 7 <sup>th</sup> Appearance (2006 MVP) (2008 Chair)
<b>Rankin, Jamie</b>	Atlanta, GA, 8 <sup>th</sup> Appearance (2005 Chair)
<b>Thomson, Neil</b>	Charleston, SC, 8 <sup>th</sup> Appearance (Chairman Emeritus)
<b>Thomson, Clay</b>	Charlottesville, VA, 4 <sup>th</sup> Appearance (2007 Spirit Award)
<b>Vinson, Nelson</b>	Atlanta, GA, 4 <sup>th</sup> Appearance (2005 Spirit Award)
<b>Wainscott, Bill</b>	Charlotte, NC, 5 <sup>th</sup> Appearance (2009 MVP)
<b>Winn, Scott</b>	San Francisco, CA, 5 <sup>th</sup> Appearance (2009 Spirit Award)



2003 SCOTTSDALE  
2004 ORLANDO  
2007 SEA ISLAND  
2009 LA QUINTA

2005 PALM BEACH  
2006 SCOTTSDALE  
2008 SEA ISLAND  
2010 SEA ISLAND

**FORMAT FOR THE 2010 PONCE DE LEON INVITATIONAL**  
**Sea Island, Georgia (July 15 – 19<sup>th</sup> , 2010)**  
**The Lodge at Sea Island**

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**BCT**

JEREMY BIRD (CAPT) (1.5)  
MICHAEL PALMORE (9.3)  
JAMES RANKIN (10.7)  
CLAY THOMSON (15.2)

**SEASIDE SANDBAGGERS**

SCOTT WINN (4.9)  
HENRY MASSIE (CAPT) (10.8)  
MICHAEL AIDE (10.9)  
NELSON VINSON (15.3)

**MONEY SHOT**

JOHN MCALLISTER (3.3)  
MUSCIE GARNETT (8.8)  
CLARK COULBOURN (CAPT) (12.7)  
BILL WAINSCOTT (18.5)

**RED NUMBERS**

ANDREW HOLLOWELL (CAPT) (9.0)  
NEIL THOMSON (9.6)  
RICHARD MASSIE (12.9)  
WESTRAY BATTLE (16.5)

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**PRACTICE ROUND**

**THURSDAY JULY 15**

SEASIDE COURSE  
TEE TIMES: 1:00 – 1:30PM

No real format. Play with your teammates. It is the only round where mulligans and practice shots are permitted.

**FIRST ROUND**

**FRIDAY JULY 16**

SEASIDE COURSE  
TEE TIMES: 8:30AM – 9:00AM

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**MATCH PLAY (2 MAN).** Play your own ball (HOLE BY HOLE). Concessions are allowed by the opponents. It will be 2 vs. 2. Handicaps will of course be used. Use your course handicap as indicated on the card. **The lowest net score per hole = that 2-some's team score.**

## **Order of Play (8:30am – 9:00am):**

**1<sup>ST</sup> GROUP: BIRD/RANKIN VS. HOLLOWELL/R. MASSIE**

**2<sup>ND</sup> GROUP: MCALLISTER/COULBOURN VS. WINN/AIDE**

**3<sup>RD</sup> GROUP: PALMORE/C. THOMSON VS. H. MASSIE/VINSON**

**4<sup>TH</sup> GROUP: GARNETT/WAINSCOTT VS. N. THOMSON/BATTLE**

(NOTE: A REPRESENTATIVE FROM 2008 CHAMPS, MICHAEL PALMORE, HAS HONOR TO HIT FIRST TEE BALL OF THE TOURNAMENT)

### **Point Value:**

The winning 2-some of each match gets 2 POINTS for his overall 4-man team.

The losing 2-some gets ZERO POINTS for his overall 4-man team.

A tie after 18 holes halves the match, so each 2-man team would receive ONE POINT for his overall 4-man team. There is no such thing as extra holes in this round.

## **SECOND ROUND**

**SATURDAY JULY 17 (AM)**

SEASIDE COURSE

TEE TIMES: 8:30AM – 9:00AM

**PINEHURST ALTERNATE SHOT. THIS IS A CLASSIC GAME – AND AN OLD GAME PLAYED AS A DERIVATIVE OF THE RYDER CUP ALTERNATE SHOT FORMAT. IT IS A USGA SANCTIONED FORMAT.**

**BOTH TEAMMATES DRIVE. YOU MUST SWAP AND HIT YOUR TEAMMATE'S BALL AS YOUR SECOND SHOT. FROM THERE, YOU AND YOUR TEAMMATE SELECT THE BEST SHOT AND PLAY THAT ONE BALL IN FROM THERE BY ALTERNATING TURNS. IF PLAYER A'S 2<sup>ND</sup> SHOT IS USED, THEN PLAYER B HITS 3<sup>RD</sup> AND YOU ALTERNATE UNTIL IT IS HOLED.**

**THIS IS A STROKE PLAY FORMAT. YOUR 2 MAN HANDICAP WILL BE BASED ON A FORMULA OF 60% OF COURSE HANDICAP FOR BETTER PLAYER AND 40% OF COURSE HANDICAP FOR OTHER PLAYER ON YOUR TEAM – AND THESE NUMBERS ARE ADDED TOGETHER TO GET ONE HANDICAP FOR THE 2-SOME. JUST SUBTRACT YOUR GROSS SCORE**

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MINUS YOUR ADJUSTED 2-MAN HANDICAP TO GET NET SCORE AT END OF ROUND. THE LOWER NET SCORE OF THE 2 TEAMS IN THE 4 SOME WINS THE MATCH. HOPEFULLY, YOUR 2 MAN ADJUSTED HANDICAP WILL BE INDICATED ON YOUR SCORECARD PRIOR TO COMPETITION.

## Order of Play (8:30am – 9:00am):

**1<sup>ST</sup> GROUP: MCALLISTER/GARNETT VS. HOLLOWELL/N. THOMSON**

**2<sup>ND</sup> GROUP: BIRD/PALMORE VS. WINN/H. MASSIE**

**3<sup>RD</sup> GROUP: RANKIN/C. THOMSON VS. COULBOURN/WAINSCOTT**

**4<sup>TH</sup> GROUP: R. MASSIE/BATTLE VS. AIDE/VINSON**

### Point Value:

In this round, there will also be 2 separate point values at stake:

Value #1: Total Strokes of Winning 2-some = 1 POINT for overall team  
Total Strokes of Losing 2-some = ZERO POINTS for overall team  
Tie here would be HALF a POINT each for overall team

Value #2: Total Strokes of all 4 players of Team:  
1<sup>st</sup> Place gets 2 POINTS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place gets 1 POINTS  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place gets 0.5 POINT  
4<sup>th</sup> Place gets ZERO POINTS  
Tying issues: split the point value.

## THIRD ROUND

**SATURDAY JULY 17 (PM)**

SEASIDE COURSE

TEE TIMES: 2:30PM – 3:00PM

**4 MAN CAPTAINS CHOICE/SCRAMBLE.** Play with your entire team...Camaraderie is critical here! There is a minimum of 2 DRIVES from each player that has to be used. **Please note:** if all 4 rounds can't be completed due to darkness, the match will officially conclude when the last group is able to finish a hole—that group then has to declare to the group ahead that they are finished (i.e. cannot start a hole and then decide to quit in the middle of a hole). For handicap purposes, each team consists of an A, B, C & D player. **The following percentages of Course Handicaps are used: A- 20%; B- 15%; C - 10%; D - 5%. So, your team will have one set course handicap and you can deduct your gross score to get your net score.**





**Order of Play:**

**1<sup>ST</sup> GROUP: MONEY SHOT**

**2<sup>ND</sup> GROUP: BCT**

**3<sup>RD</sup> GROUP: SEASIDE SANDBAGGERS**

**4<sup>TH</sup> GROUP: RED NUMBERS**

**Point Value:**

1st Place: 3 POINTS

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: 2 POINTS

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: 1 POINT

4<sup>th</sup> Place: ZERO POINTS

**FOURTH ROUND**

**SUNDAY JULY 18**

SEASIDE COURSE

Tee Times: 10:00 – 10:30am (Caddies Recommended)

**SUNDAY SINGLES. MATCH PLAY – WITH HANDICAPS.** This is the tradition. This is what it is all about. The match-ups will not be determined until Saturday night at the Session. Points are more heavily awarded. This is the most important round of the tournament. You must ride with your opponent in the cart, even if you have a teammate in your 4-some (UNLESS WE GET CADDIES – If we get 1 caddie for 2 golfers, please have that caddie carry you and your opponent's bag).

**Order of Play:**

The easiest way to picture this is 4 tee-times of four 4-somes, similar to the other rounds, except, visualize a blanks for the names....An "A" player need not be matched up with another "A" player...that is the beauty of handicaps.

1<sup>st</sup> Place team's Captain after Saturday Round submits his Order of Play to the 3 other Captains immediately following the Captain's Choice round Saturday. Each of the 4 players of this leading team will be playing in a different 4-some. The only strategy for this Captain is who he wants starting off, and who he wants anchoring. This leading team is most disadvantaged by this order. Not only are each of his players "on an island" (i.e. guaranteed to have no teammates in his 4-some), but this leading team has ZERO SAY over who they will be placed up against.

Next, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place team's Captain submits his 4 players, with the stipulation that he has to put each player at a different tee time (different 4-somes--each of his guys are also "on an island.")

**RULE: This 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Captain has some control though, as he can opt to pit none, one or**

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**two of his players against the 1<sup>st</sup> place opponents.** (He cannot place more than 2 of his players against the leaders, so as not to inhibit 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> from having a mathematical chance of winning). Obviously, if he does not want to have one of his players face a 1<sup>st</sup> Place player, he will have the mystery of not knowing who exactly his guy will be playing (one of the 8 remaining players from the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Place teams).

Next, the 4<sup>th</sup> Place team's Captain fills in his 4 players. It is OK (and maybe necessary) for more than one of his players to be in the same 4-some (obviously different cart). He gets the advantage over the 3<sup>rd</sup> Place guy b/c he doesn't get the feel that he is stuck with certain opponents. At the same time, he could put a guy in a blank 2-some and this will give the 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Captain a chance to have some control over a match-up.

1<sup>ST</sup> GROUP: MATCH I \_\_\_\_\_ VS. \_\_\_\_\_

MATCH II \_\_\_\_\_ VS. \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>ND</sup> GROUP: MATCH III \_\_\_\_\_ VS. \_\_\_\_\_

MATCH IV \_\_\_\_\_ VS. \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>RD</sup> GROUP: MATCH V \_\_\_\_\_ VS. \_\_\_\_\_

MATCH VI \_\_\_\_\_ VS. \_\_\_\_\_

4<sup>TH</sup> GROUP: MATCH VII \_\_\_\_\_ VS. \_\_\_\_\_

MATCH VIII \_\_\_\_\_ VS. \_\_\_\_\_

Finally, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Place team's Captain fills in the final 4 spots with his 4 players.

**Point Value:**

**The winning singles player gets 2 POINTS for his overall team.**

The losing singles player gets ZERO POINTS for his overall team.

A halved match results in 1 POINT each for their respective overall teams.

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\*\*Note: A team sweep of all 4 of their individual matches gives that team 8 POINTS which could obviously be a huge swing. This value should keep a lot of teams, if not all, still in it going into Sunday Singles.

## **The Wager:**

1<sup>st</sup> Place = Names Engraved on Trophy and Possession of Trophy until the Next Year's Invitational

= Free Sunday Night Dinner.

= Right to Return as Defending Champs

2<sup>nd</sup> Place = only pay for their own tab at Sunday Night Awards Dinner

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Place = pay for Champs and themselves at Sunday Night Awards Dinner

**NEW TIEBREAKER RULE: This tie-break is used if there are 2 or more tied teams. Also, this tie-break is used if there is tie between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> as well (since difference in dinner tab). The Tie-breaker will be a 4 man scramble, sudden death. No handicaps; just a match-play, sudden death. Yes, 8 players playing together on the same hole! (If there is a 3 or 4 way tie for first, it will be reduced to a 2 man scramble –with Captains choosing players) Play-off hole is TBD and under discretion of the Chairmen along with Sea Island staff). Play continues to additional hole (either next hole, or repeat same hole), until there is a winner. Only if we are unable to play a play-off hole due to darkness or for other good cause, then we go back to Capts Choice round and the team with best score of that round breaks the tie.**

PLEASE TURN ALL SCORECARDS INTO ME OR WES AFTER EVERY ROUND. WE KEEP THEM FOR STATISTICAL/HISTORICAL PURPOSES.

## **Postscript:**

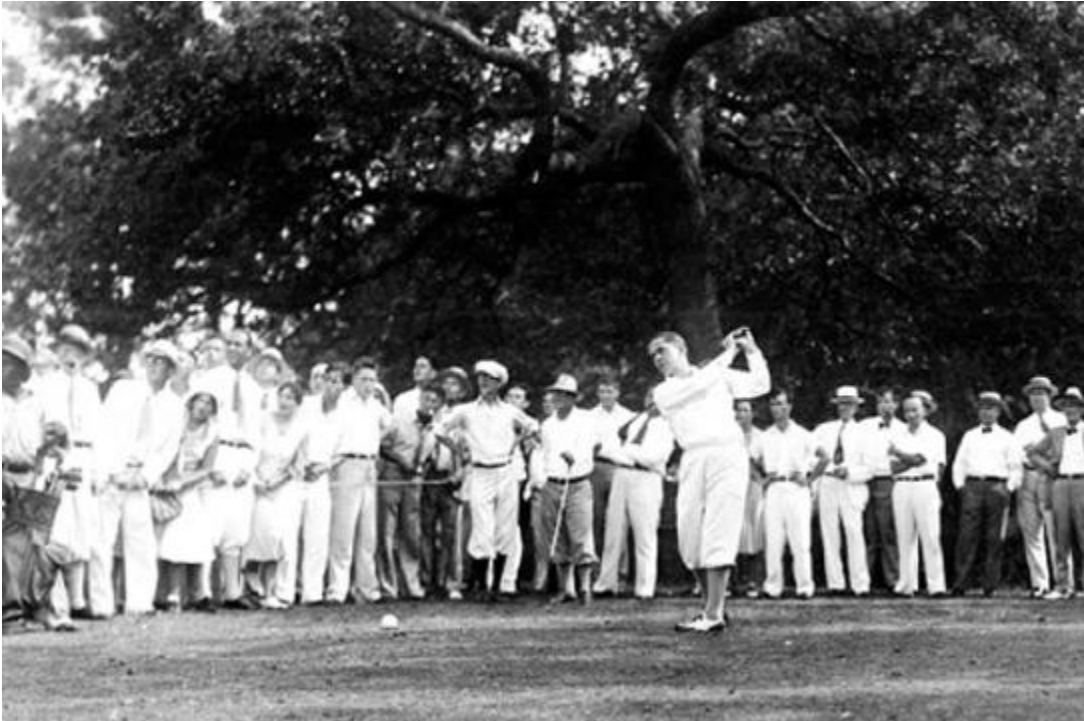
What can I say. Ponce Ocho! We return to Sea Island for a 3<sup>rd</sup> time, and the last time we were here – it was an absolute war. In 2008, all 4 teams had a real chance to win, coming down to the final 9 during Sunday Singles. We can only hope for a similar tight one here in 2010.

Richard has worked diligently on putting together a wonderful tournament. For the first time in Ponce history, the Invitational is held in the Summer. Also unprecedented is the fact that all rounds will be played on the same course (Seaside). With the PGA Tour's McGladrey Classic debuting this fall on the Seaside Course, this will mark the 7<sup>th</sup> year in 8 Ponces that we will have played on a course where a PGA event has also been held.

Well, we have waited 18 months to get from Ponce VII to Ponce VIII. We are getting on a Summer rota for a couple of years, in anticipation of Ponce X, to be played in the U.K., where the game was born.

No doubt, all 16 players are chomping at the bit – all 16 of us have played in at least 3 Ponces, and the majority of us have played in many more. This is an experienced group – we all know what this is about. So enough rambling – let's get after it!!!

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The immortal Bobby Jones strode the same fairways that welcome today's Ponce golfers.

Finally, please wear a sportcoat or blazer to the Sunday awards dinner, pursuant to tradition. It promises to be top notch and private, per tradition. At the dinner, the Fountain of Youth Cup will be awarded to the winning team. Of course, there will be a 16 man vote for individual MVP, and Chairman Richard Massie and I will recognize the 2010 Spirit Award winner.

Game on.

Respectfully,

Neil D. Thomson  
Chairman Emeritus

Richard Massie  
Chairman, 2010 Ponce de Leon Invitational

July 15<sup>th</sup> 2010