



SUNNINGDALE GOLF CLUB



PRINCES

— SANDWICH BAY, KENT —



THE ROYAL ST. GEORGES GOLF CLUB



2018 Players Guide
The 3rd Ponce De Leon International Matches
May 30 – June 3, 2018
www.poncedeleongolf.com

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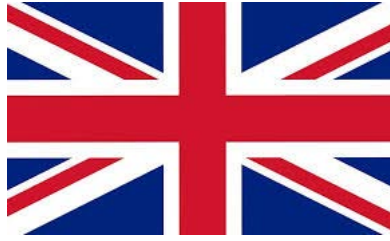
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OVERVIEW OF EVENTS

All times Local British Summer Time

Wednesday, May 30 th	1400 – Practice Round: Sunningdale – New Course
	On-own - Pub Dinner At RAC Long Bar (USA)
Thursday, May 31 st	1445 - 1 st Round: Sunningdale – Old Course
	2030 - Opening Ceremony Dinner at The Royal Automobile Club (Jacket & Tie)
Friday, June 1 st	1430 – 2 nd Round: Princes Golf Club
	2000 – BBQ Dinner at Royal St. George’s (Jacket & Tie)
Saturday, June 2 nd	0930 – 3 rd Round: Royal St. George’s Golf Club
	1430 – 4 th Round: Royal St. George’s Golf Club
	2030 - Champions Dinner at RSG (Black Tie)



A NOTE FROM THE BRITISH CAPTAIN

Dear fellow competitors,

It is with great pleasure that, on behalf of the UK team, I welcome you to the 3rd Ponce De Leon International Matches.

Never before has a PDL been attempted with as many exclusive locations, nor as many renowned players. The RAC is London's most splendid club. Sunningdale is the most prestigious golf club close to London. Royal St Georges was until very recently the only Open Championship venue outside Scotland. The US equivalent would be staying at the New York Racquet and Tennis Club and golfing at Pine Valley and Shinnecock. I look forward to telling you more about the players at the opening dinner. We can take pride in the fact that we have served up the very best that England has to offer.

I am delighted to welcome seven new players to the UK squad: Ali Spry, Bilal Ismail, Francesco Grana, Henry Crofton, Henry Finnegan, Jamie Gibbs and Nick Garrett. They have all earned their place in their own way and I have no doubt that they will enhance the tournament both on and off the field.

At a time when US/UK relations have never been more important, we should all feel proud of the service we shall be doing our countries over the next 4 days. We have the opportunity to prove to Mr. Trump and Mrs. May just how 'special' the relationship really is. In the interest of international relations, I would ask that epithets such "dotard" and "rocket man" are only to be used when players improve their lies or fail to finish their drinks.

First and foremost, this tournament is about making friends and having fun. The UK enters this contest with the home court advantage and, while we all long for a fair and well fought match, England expects every man to do his duty.

It is a big step to give a putt.
It is not to be done lightly.
I know of men who have given putts prematurely in other tournaments.
I can assure you they live with the mark of Cain upon them.

Let us be ferocious in competition but magnanimous in victory.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dominic Clive". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dominic Clive

Tournament Chairman & Team Captain
2018 Ponce De Leon International Matches



U.S.A. CAPTAIN MESSAGE

Dear Competitors:

I've read that the most sought-after letter in golf is an invitation to compete in the Masters. The opportunity for us middle-aged hackers to compete for our countries in an International competition of this magnitude, while creating lasting friendships over countless pints is special. You shouldn't take for granted what we've created here. For us mortals, the Ponce is simply *as good as it gets*.

Modeled after the Ryder Cup - just missing one Foursome match – the Ponce is simply my favorite week of the year. Who will be the match play assassin this year? Whether you're channeling Ian Poulter - "The Postman" because he always delivers points or Patrick Reed - "Captain America", – who can forget his duel with Rory or Sergio's battle with Phil at Hazeltine? The likes of Justin Thomas and Jon Rahm have yet to write their Ryder Cup storylines, but before we get to Paris, we have Sunningdale, Princes and Royal St. George's. Before we look forward to Spieth and Reed playing Poulter and Rory, Stenson and Rose vs. Rickie and Phil and the return of Tiger, will we have Michael Palmore vs. Ian Thompson in singles?

Four Brits have played in all three Ponce International matches. We understand that many of us are in the throgs of fatherhood and professional wonder years, but we hope that more of you will come to the States in the Summer of 2020. This is as much your tournament as it is ours and we welcome your input on where you'd most like to play - Kiawah/Charleston, the site of the 1991 *War on the Shore* Ryder Cup? Pebble Beach, Bandon Dunes, the TPC at Sawgrass, or guests of the Toaster at Augusta National? Let us know. You will also be pleased to know we have incorporated the Wooden Spoon into our annual awards. We appreciate the way you celebrate failure as much as glory.

No team has yet won on foreign soil. Adding that your home clubs are hosting - most don't think us Yanks have much of a chance. But that puts all the pressure on you. We'll see how you handle it. And if you slip up, maybe we'll be in position to take advantage in that last round on Saturday afternoon at St. George's when your heart beats a little faster and that four-footer starts to look more like six and you're not sure if that putt is one ball one cup outside the hole. That's the Ponce.

The Conquistador Helmet awaits.

I am most sincerely,

T. Westray Battle, III
American Tournament Chairman & Team Captain
2018 Ponce De Leon International Matches

DETAILED ITINERARY

Wednesday, May 30

1200 Optional Check-in at RAC for early arrivals (1400 is technically check-in time so may need to check luggage at Bell Desk)

*Anyone landing after 1000 – UBER/Taxi directly to Sunningdale

1230 Lunch at Sunningdale in bar/terrace
Attire: Golf

1400 - 1450: Tee Times for Practice Round at Sunningdale New Course
Attire: shorts permitted with WHITE socks ABOVE the Ankle, clubhouse: golfing attire + shoes (no sneakers, no golf shoes for some areas)

*US team to leave Clubs overnight at Sunningdale

Post-Golf US UBER to RAC (*Schedule w/UBER in groups of 3-4 (Uber SUV/X)
UK, self-drive home, offering lifts to US team where possible

2100 Team USA Pub Dinner at Long Bar in basement of RAC.
Team UK – no plans.

Thursday, May 31

1100-1200 US Depart RAC for Sunningdale (UBER in groups, playing partners together please)
UK self-drive to Sunningdale

1330 Proper lunch at Sunningdale (Full Carvery)
Attire: Jacket & Tie

1445-1555: Tee Times for Round 1 Fourball at Sunningdale Old Course
Attire: shorts permitted with WHITE socks ABOVE the Ankle, clubhouse: golfing attire + shoes (no sneakers, no golf shoes for some areas)
***Team Shirt: USA – White / UK - Red**

Post-Golf UBER to RAC (*Schedule w/UBER – Same groups as earlier, allowing space for your golf clubs)

2030 Opening Ceremonies and Dinner at RAC
Attire: Jacket & Tie (USA Team Ties and Blue Ponce Blazers, UK Team dark/navy blue jacket & RSG London tie, or other dark blue tie [Non-Members])

Friday, June 1

0900: US team departs RAC in bus to Sandwich (2.5 hrs.)
Booked w/ Maria Stewart, Coachdirect, 0843.0843.001
UK team make their own way to Kent to drop bags with host and be at RSG for drinks at 1200.

1145-1200: U.S. team re-board Bus to RSG.

1215-1330: Drinks and lunch at RSG
Attire: Jacket & Tie

- 1330-1345: US Depart RSG for Princes Golf Club in minibus
Booked w/ Princes (Judy) 2x runs
- 1430-1540: **Tee Times for Round 2 Fourball at Princes Golf Club**
***Team Shirt: USA – Red / UK - Navy**
- 1900: US Depart Princes clubhouse for lodge (earlier match finishes should ask UK opposition to give you a lift back to the lodge).
Booked w/ Princes (Judy) 2x runs
- 1930-2000: US Departs Princes Lodge for RSG.
UK team to try to offer lifts for US team.
Booked with RSG (David) 1x minibus run
- 2000: **BBQ at RSG**
Attire: Jacket & Tie
- 2230-2300: Depart RSG for Princes in minibus.
UK team to try to offer lifts for US team.
Booked w/ RSG (David) 1x run

Saturday, June 2

- 0830-0900: Depart Princes for RSG in minibus
UK team to try to offer lifts for US team.
Booked w/ Princes (Judy) 2x runs

*** You will not return to Princes until after Champions dinner: bring Jacket and tie, Black Tie, etc.**

- 0930-1019: **Tee Times for Round 3 Foursomes at Royal St. George's GC.**
Attire: Shorts permitted ONLY with knee high socks (any colour)
***Team Shirt: USA – Navy / UK – White**



- 1400-1500 **Lunch at RSG**
Attire: golf attire terrace lunch or Jacket & tie proper lunch (latter encouraged!)

- 1500-1645: **Tee Times for Round 4 Fourball at Royal St. George's GC**
***Team Shirt: USA – Navy / UK – White**

- 2030 **Champions Dinner at RSG**
Attire: Black tie

- 2300 Depart RSG for Princes in minibus
UK team to try to offer lifts for US team.
Booked w/ RSG (David) 1x run

Sunday, June 3

- 0700 Depart for LHR for flights between 1130-1215
Coulbourn, Winn, Battle, McAllister & C. Thomson (5)
- 0915 Depart for LHR for flights between 1340-1405

N. Thomson, Bird, Gilbane, Garnett, Morton, Rankin & Wainscott (7)

Mid-morning Trains from Sandwich
Palmore, Harrick (2)

1200 Depart for LHR for flights between 1600-1700
Bedell and McManamy (2)

PAYMENTS

You have already paid for all golf, the three dinners, your gear, transport to Kent (US only) and the charity contribution, hence these items will be paid centrally by the Captains. For everything else, please pay in cash (or by card) at the time of use/checkout, *note that Amex is NOT widely accepted in the UK but Visa and Mastercard are*. We will settle up some miscellaneous items after the tournament.

ACCOMODATIONS

Wednesday and Thursday Nights: US at The Royal Automobile Club / UK at home.

The RAC
89 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5HS
+ 44 020.7930.2345

*Located in the heart of London close to The Mall, St James's Park, Green Park and Piccadilly. The Club is one of the best equipped of all the Pall Mall "gentlemen's" clubs. It possesses Edwardian Turkish baths, an Italian marble swimming pool, squash courts (including a doubles court), a snooker room, three restaurants, two bars, a fully equipped business centre and a Club Shop and a small Post Office.

*The Long Bar (basement) is available for casual attire. (Jeans, shorts, hats, polo shirts, t-shirts, flip flops or sneakers are not permitted)

*Telephone calls may only be taken in the phone booths on the ground floor adjacent to the Club Shop or in the Simms Centre.

By public transport: The nearest mainline railway stations are Victoria and Charing Cross. The nearest tube stations are Green Park, Piccadilly and Charing Cross.

USA Room assignments: 10 rooms / 5 shares and 5 singles

1. Scott Winn and Clark Coulbourn
2. Jeremy Bird and Jamie Rankin
3. Muscoe Garnett and Isaac Morton
4. Neil Thomson and Clay Thomson
5. Dan Gilbane and Wes Battle
6. Chris Harrick – Single
7. Bill Wainscott – Single
8. Patrick McManamy – Single
9. John McAllister – single
10. Michael Palmore - single

Friday and Saturday Nights: US at The Lodge at Princes Golf Club / UK hosted as below

**The Lodge at Prince's
Princes Dr.
Sandwich, Kent
+44 130.461.1118**

USA Room assignments: 8 rooms / 7 shares and 1 single

1. Scott Winn and Clark Coulbourn
2. Jeremy Bird and Jamie Rankin
3. Muscoe Garnett and Isaac Morton
4. Neil Thomson and Clay Thomson
5. Dan Gilbane and John McAllister
6. Chris Harrick and Wes Battle
7. Patrick McManamy and Michael Palmore
8. Bill Wainscott – Single

UK Rooming arrangements in Kent, please contact your host separately to make arrangements:

Name	Host
Dom Clive	Clive
Henry Crofton	Clive
Henry Finnegan	Clive
Ian Thompson	Clive
Toby Davidson	Clive
Francesco Grana	Harvey
Brooke Short	Moger
Richard Moger	Moger
Ali Spry	RSG
Bilal Ismail	RSG
Jamie Gibbs	RSG
Nick Garrett	RSG
Andrew Carroll	Carroll
James Biddle	Carroll
Jonny Bates	Carroll
Rupert Finch	Carroll

Notes:

*EVERYWHERE: Phone calls may ONLY be taken in the phone booths provided, in your rooms or in a car in the carpark (or deep in the carpark without shouting and disturbing golfers).

*Sunningdale: As RAC mobiles may be used on silent as a diary etc. phone call rules per above.

*RSG: Phones not to be used AT ALL in the clubhouse, except in the phone booth. *This rule is generally disregarded as long as one is discreet, people tend to check texts/emails in the club without being told off, but I would avoid playing videos or passing phones around to show pictures etc.*



THE COURSES

Golf Digest World 100 Greatest Golf Courses ranking [When U.S. courses are included]

12 [23] SUNNINGDALE G.C. (OLD)

England / 6,627 yards, par 70

A Willie Park Jr. design that dates from 1901, it's perhaps the most advanced of its day. Chopped from a pine forest but routed like a links, with the ninth at the far end of the property, it plays like a links, too, for there's a sand base beneath the turf. The Old has big greens, as Park put a premium on approach putting, and artful bunkers, with both angled cross-bunkers and necklaces of sand hampering direct routes to some greens. To American visitors, the look of Sunningdale brings to mind Pine Valley or Pinehurst.

Many amateur and professional golfing events have been played here including the News of the World Professional Match Play Championship, numerous European Open Championships, many Ladies Open Championships, the Walker Cup, International Final Qualification for the Open Championship, and the Senior Open Championship in 2015.

33 [92] SUNNINGDALE G.C. (NEW)

England / 6,729 yards, par 70

H.S. Colt, who was the club's secretary from 1901 to 1913, laid out the New Course in 1923, well after he'd established his reputation as a grand golf architect. It's considered by most to be tougher than Sunningdale Old, mainly because Colt's greens are smaller, with subtle contours that nudge balls toward bunkers hard along the collars. It's a toss-up as to which course is prettier. Both have fields of heather, gorse, Scotch broom and clusters of pine, oak and silver birch.

PRINCES G.C.

Sandwich, Kent, England / 6,680 yards, Par 71

The course was completed in 1906 with a layout that was among the first to counter the longer distances being achieved with the new breed of rubber-core golf balls. At just under 7,000 yards, it quickly gained a great reputation as a top quality links and an excellent test of golf.

In 1932 The Open visited Princes for what would prove to be the first and only time. Gene Sarazen set a new scoring record for the Championship of 283 using his newly invented sand wedge. The present-day 27-hole layout is the result of a 1950 re-design following war-time damage to the original course which was redesigned and rebuilt by Sir Guy Campbell and John Morrison. Princes will host final Open Championship qualifying on July 3rd for the 147th Open at Carnoustie, July 19-22, 2018.

22 [45] ROYAL ST. GEORGE'S G.C.

Sandwich, Kent, England / 7,204 yards, Par 70

Royal St. George's, in dunes along the English Channel, is what writer Adam Lawrence calls the ideal mix of championship golf and gentle quirks. Its quirks include a duo of massive bunkers that howl at tee shots on the par-5 fourth. Once as tall as a six-story building, they've eroded over the years, and have been stabilized the past 20 years by the addition of 93 railroad ties along their top edges. A longtime member of the Open rota, Royal St. George's was the site of Darren Clarke's surprise victory in 2011. Royal St George's is the venue for the 149th Open in 2020.

It has hosted 13 Open championships since 1894, when it became the first club outside Scotland to host the championship. Past champions include Darren Clarke (2011), Ben Curtis (2003), Greg Norman (1993), Sandy Lyle (1985), Bill Rogers (1981), Bobby Locke (1949), Reg Whitcombe (1938), Henry Cotton (1934), Walter Hagen (1928, 1922), Harry Vardon (1911, 1899), Jack White (1904) and John Henry Taylor (1894). It has also hosted The Amateur Championship on 13 occasions.

The club was founded in 1887 in a setting of wild duneland. Many holes feature blind or partially blind shots, although the unfairness element has been reduced somewhat, after several 20th century modifications. The club's Challenge Trophy dates from 1888 and is one of the oldest trophies in golf; it has been contested annually except for war years. The course also possesses the deepest bunker in championship golf, located on its fourth hole. Author Ian Fleming used the Royal St. George's course under the name "Royal St. Marks" in his 1959 novel *Goldfinger*.

USA TEAM PLAYERS (By appearances)



Thomson, Neil 42, Attorney in Charleston, SC, Leland Country Club, 16 Appearances, Best Finish: Champion (5x), Founder & Chairman Emeritus, MVP 2010, Chairman of PDL I in Scottsdale & Wooden Spoon 2014.



Garrnett, Muscoe 42, Commercial Real Estate in Richmond, VA, Country Club of Virginia, 16 Appearances, Best Finish: Champion (4x), MVP 2011 & Chairman of PDL IV in Scottsdale.



Rankin, Jamie 42, Commercial Real Estate in Atlanta, GA, Country Club of Virginia, Piedmont Driving Club, 16 Appearances, Best Finish: Champion (5x), MVP (2x) in 2017 & 2013, Spirit Award Winner in 2010 & 2015 and the Chairman of PDL III in Palm Beach.



Bird, Jeremy 41, Insurance Broker in Atlanta, GA, Atlanta Country Club, 15 Appearances, Best Finish: Champion (8x), 2 X MVP 2004 & 2015 & Chairman of PDL VII in Palm Springs.



Palmore, Michael 43, Investment Advisor in Richmond, VA, Country Club of Virginia, 15 Appearances, Best Finish: Champion (4x), MVP 2006 & 2012, Chairman of PDL VI in Sea Island and PDL XII in Sea Island, 2014 Ted Oakey Spirit Award Winner.



Battle, Wes 43, Political and Strategic Communications in Washington DC, 14 Appearances, Chevy Chase Club /Army Navy CC/Timuquana CC/Farmington CC/ Rolling Rock Club, Best Finish: Champion (5x), Chairman (2x) 2018 and 2012, MVP at PDL XIV in Bandon Dunes & Spirit Award Winner (2x) at PDL X in St. Andrews, Scotland in 2012 & PDL XI at the Greenbrier in 2013 and Wooden Spoon 2017.



McAllister, John 42, Documentary Film Producer in Charlottesville, VA, Farmington CC / Kinloch GC/ Keswick Club, 13 Appearances, Best Finish: Tied 2nd & Chairman of PDL V in Sea Island.



Wainscott, Bill 45, AKA "The Toaster", Technology Consulting & Sales in Charlotte, NC, 13 Appearances, Best Finish: Champion (5x), MVP at PDL VII at PGA West in 2009 and Chairman at PDL XV in Pinehurst.



Winn, Scott 41, Software Sales in San Francisco, CA, The Olympic Club, 12 Appearances, Best Finish: Champion (2x) 2017 & 2007 and Spirit Award Winner in 2009.



Coulbourn, Clark 43, Software Sales in Richmond, VA, The Country Club of Virginia, 11 Appearances, Best Finish: Champion (3x) & Chairman of PDL IX at the Greenbrier.



Thomson, Clay 44, Investment Management in Charlottesville, VA, Farmington CC, 10 Appearances, Best Finish: Champion (2x) and Spirit Award Winner in 2007.



McManamy, Patrick 44, Real Estate Attorney in Atlanta, GA. Dunwoody CC, 3 Appearances. Best Finish: Champion 2x (2014/2017). Ted Oakey Spirit Award Winner in 2017.



Bedell, Kirk 43, Solar Energy Sales in New York, NY, Sakonnet Golf Club/ Fisher's Island Club, 3 Appearances, Best Finish: 2nd at PDL XI at the Greenbrier. Kirk is the only player to compete on both the U.S. and U.K. teams.

International Team Rookies (3)



Gilbane, Dan 42, Family Construction in Houston, TX, River Oaks Country Club, 3 Appearances. Best Finish: Champion (2016).



Morton, Isaac 42, Ironware in Charleston, SC. Yeamans Hall Club & Wequetonsing Golf Club, 3 Appearances. Best Finish: 2nd (2014).



Harrick, Chris 42, Software in San Francisco, CA. Moraga CC. 3 Appearances. Best Finish: 2nd.

U.K. TEAM PLAYERS (By appearances)



Biddle, James 39, Corporate Finance in London, Royal St. George's / Woking GC, 3 Appearances.



Clive, Dom 39, Private Equity and Real Estate, London, Royal St. George's / Sunningdale, 3 Appearances, Captain of the U.K. Team 2012 at PDL X, Tony Jacklin Award Winner in 2012 and Wooden Spoon 2014 at PDL XII.



Short, Brooke 39, Corporate Advisor in London, New Zealand Golf Club, 3 Appearances.



Thompson, Ian, 40, Derivatives Broker in Alton, Royal St. George's / Guards Golfing Society, 3 Appearances, Captain of the U.K. Team 2014 at Ponce XII and MVP.



Bates, Johnathan, 36, Marketer in London, Royal St. George's / 2 appearances (2014 & 2018).



Carroll, Andrew 35, Insurance Broker in London, Royal St. George's / R&A, 2 Appearances (2012 & 2018).



Davidson, Toby 35, Insurance Broker in London, Royal West Norfolk, 2 Appearances (2012 & 2018).



Finch, Rupert 36, Attorney in London, Royal St. George's and Royal West Norfolk, 2 Appearances (2012 & 2018), Wooden Spoon 2012.

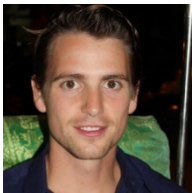


Moger, Richard, 40, Consultant in London, RAC Epsom / Guards Golfing Society, 2 Appearances (2014 & 2018).

International Team Rookies (7)



Crofton, Henry, 38, Real Estate Development, Royal St. George's, 1st Appearance (2018).



Finnegan, Henry, 35, Asset Management in London, The Berkshire, 1st Appearance (2018).



Garrett, Nick, 35, Real Estate investment in London, Sunningdale/RSG, 1st Appearance (2018).



Gibbs, Jamie, 43, Wealth management in London, Royal Dourgie & Swinley Forest, 1st Appearance (2018).



Ismail, Bilail, 30, Equity Sales in London, Sunningdale/ RSG, 1st Appearance (2018).



Grana, Francesco, 47, Financial Services in London / RSG, 1st Appearance (2018).



Spry, Ali, 42, Institutional Sales in London, RSG/ Rye, 1st Appearance (2018).

2003 SCOTTSDALE
2004 ORLANDO
2007 SEA ISLAND
2009 PGA WEST
2011 THE GREENBRIER
2013 THE GREENBRIER
2015 THE GREENBRIER
2017 PINEHURST

2005 PALM BEACH
2006 SCOTTSDALE
2008 SEA ISLAND
2010 SEA ISLAND
2012 ST. ANDREWS
2014 SEA ISLAND
2016 BANDON DUNES
2018 SUNNINGDALE / RSG
(INTERNATIONAL MATCHES IN RED)

FORMAT FOR THE 2018 PONCE DE LEON INTERNATIONAL MATCHES England (May 31 – June 2, 2018)

The Ponce De Leon Matches involve various match play competitions between two teams of sixteen players. Each player plays four matches. The matches consist of 16 FOURBALL matches, 8 FOURSOMES matches and 16 SINGLES matches. The winner of each match scores a point for their team, with ½ a point each for any match that is tied after 18 holes.

There will be 40 matches, so the winning team needs to score at least 20.5 points. In the event of a 20-20 tie, the match will result in a tie.

Notes:

- * You do not need to check-in at pro shops. All tournament rounds have been paid for by our hosts at all golf clubs.
- * All scorecards will be dotted off of the lowest handicap in the group. (For example, if Player A is a 7, B = 9, C = 11 and D=12, all players will stroke off of Player A. Player A will have no dots, Player B will have 2, C will have 4 and D will have 5 strokes. The strokes will begin on the #1 Handicap Hole and go down. Player B will have dots on 1 and 2, C on 1-4 and D on 1-5.)
- * The tournament Committee (Clive, Battle and N. Thomson) reserve the right to adjust any or all handicaps in between any round of the tournament, settle any rules disputes or use their discretion to alter these rules when appropriate.
- * For handicaps, we took the British team handicaps at face-value. For the Americans, we took their May 1st Handicap Indexes and applied RSG's Medal Tee Slope (145) to create Course Handicaps.
- * George Peper, former Golf magazine editor and American living in St. Andrews devoted a chapter in his book about how his USGA Handicap and his CONGU handicap have absolutely no similarity and are five or more strokes apart. We reached out to Dean Knuth, "the Pope of Slope", who created the USGA's Course Rating and Slope system, and asked his advice on how to compare the UK and USA handicap systems. Knuth's response? "It can't be done." So we have done the best we could. *There is good news on the way.* The USGA and R&A announced plans for a unified World Handicap System to be rolled out in 2020. Stay tuned...

There will be four Tournament rounds.
Round 1: Fourball at Sunningdale Old (8 matches with 8 points at stake)
Round 2: Fourball at Princes (8 matches with 8 points at stake)
Round 3: Foursomes at Royal St. George's (8 matches with 8 points at stake)
Round 4: Singles at Royal St. George's (16 matches with 16 points at stake)

PRACTICE ROUND

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30
SUNNINGDALE – NEW COURSE
Tee Times: 1400, 1410, 1420, 1430, 1440, 1450

FOURBALL: WHITE TEES: PAR 70, 6329 YARDS, SSS 70

No format or pre-selected pairings. Each group should have 3 Yanks with one Brit.

Caddies requested for all 16 U.S. players

FIRST ROUND

THURSDAY, MAY 31

SUNNINGDALE – OLD COURSE (WHITE TEES, PAR 70, 6444 YARDS, SSS 72)

Tee Times: 1445, 1455, 1505, 1515, 1525, 1535, 1545, 1555

FOURBALL:

2 MAN BETTER BALL MATCH PLAY. A fourball match is a competition between two teams of two golfers, where all four golfers play their own ball throughout the round rather than alternating shots, and each hole is won by the team whose individual golfer has the lowest score.

	U.S. TEAM (All 16 – C)			BRITISH TEAM	
1445	C. Thomson (16)	Harrick (17)	vs.	Moger (14)	Davidson (15)
1455	Winn (4)	Bird (6)	vs.	Ismail (3)	Finnegan (6)
1505	McAllister (7)	McManamy (8)	vs.	Finch (8)	Garrett (9)
1515	Garnett (10)	Morton (12)	vs.	Bates (10)	Grana (10)
1525	Rankin (12)	N. Thomson (12)	vs.	Thompson (11)	Carroll (11)
1535	Battle (13)	Coulbourn (13)	vs.	Spry (12)	Gibbs (12)
1545	Palmore (13)	Gilbane (16)	vs.	Clive (13)	Biddle (13)
1555	Bedell (18)	Wainscott (18)	vs.	Crofton (16)	Short (18)

“C” indicates that a caddie has been requested (16)

SECOND ROUND

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

PRINCES GOLF CLUB (Shore/Himalayas: White Tees, Par 72, 6,649 yards, SSS 72)

Tee Times: 1430, 1440, 1450, 1500, 1510, 1520, 1530, 1540

FOURBALL:

2 MAN BETTER BALL MATCH PLAY. A fourball match is a competition between two teams of two golfers, where all four golfers play their own ball throughout the round rather than alternating shots, and each hole is won by the team whose individual golfer has the lowest score.

	U.S. TEAM (All 16 – C)			BRITISH TEAM	
1430	Winn (4)	McAllister (7)	vs.	Finnegan (6)	Garrett (9)
1440	Bird (6)	McManamy (8)	vs.	Ismail (3) C	Finch (8)
1450	Garnett (10)	N. Thomson (12)	vs.	Grana (10) C	Thompson (11)
1500	Morton (12)	Palmore (13)	vs.	Bates (10)	Spry (12)
1510	Battle (13)	Rankin (12)	vs.	Carroll (11)	Clive (13) C
1520	Coulbourn (13)	C. Thomson (16)	vs.	Gibbs (12)	Biddle (13)
1530	Bedell (18)	Harrick (17)	vs.	Davidson (15)	Crofton (16) C
1540	Wainscott (18)	Gilbane (16)	vs.	Short (18)	Moger (14) C

“C” indicates that a caddie has been requested (21)

THIRD ROUND

SATURDAY JUNE 2

ROYAL ST. GEORGE'S (MEDAL TEES, PAR 70, 6630 YARDS, SSS 72)

TEE TIMES: 0930, 0937, 0944, 0951, 0958, 1055, 1102, 1109

FOURSOMES:

Also known as two-ball, a foursomes match is a competition between two teams of two golfers. The golfers on the same team take alternate shots throughout the match, with the same ball. Each hole is won by the team that completes the hole in the fewest shots. Teams play with 50% Handicap of Total Handicap. (For example, Side A-B with a combined Course Handicap of 15 competes against side C-D with a combined Course Handicap of 22. The higher handicapped side, C-D, receives 3.5 strokes ($22 - 15 = 7 \times 50\% = 3.5$))

	U.S. TEAM (All 16 – C)			BRITISH TEAM		STROKES
0930	N. Thomson (12)	C. Thomson (16)	vs.	Clive (13) C	Spry (12)	1.5
0937	Battle (13)	Harrick (17)	vs.	Gibbs (12)	Moger (14) C	2
0944	Bird (6)	Garnett (10)	vs.	Ismail (3)	Bates (10)	1.5
0951	Winn (4)	McManamy (8)	vs.	Finnegan (6)	Finch (8)	-1
0958	McAllister (7)	Morton (12)	vs.	Carroll (11)	Grana (10) C	-1
1005	Rankin (12)	Palmore (13)	vs.	Garrett (9)	Thompson (11) C	2.5
1012	Wainscott (18)	Coulbourn (13)	vs.	Biddle (13)	Crofton (16)	1
1019	Bedell (18)	Gilbane (16)	vs.	Davidson (15)	Short (18)	0.5

“C” indicates that a caddie has been requested (20)

FOURTH & FINAL ROUND

SATURDAY, JUNE 2nd

ROYAL ST. GEORGE'S (MEDAL TEES, PAR 70, 6630 YARDS, SSS 72)

TEE TIMES: 1500, 1507, 1514, 1521, 1528, 1535, 1542, 1549, 1556, 1603, 1610, 1617, 1624, 1631, 1638, 1645

SINGLES.

MATCH PLAY – WITH HANDICAPS. This is the tradition. This is what it is all about. 16 points remain for the taking, 40% of the total points. We will select the matchups at lunch when the 3rd Round Foursomes are complete.

Caddies requested for the singles (23):

UK: Carroll, Clive, Finch, Grana, Moger, Thompson, Spry (7) / **US:** All 16

Matchups – TBD

	U.S. TEAM		BRITISH TEAM
1500		vs.	
1507		vs.	
1514		vs.	
1521		vs.	
1528		vs.	
1535		vs.	
1542		vs.	
1549		vs.	
1556		vs.	
1603		vs.	
1610		vs.	
1617		vs.	
1624		vs.	
1631		vs.	
1638		vs.	
1645		vs.	

Matchup Selection Process

After the morning Foursomes matches, 24 points will have been awarded and 16 are up for grabs in Singles. After the completion of morning play, Captains Clive and Battle will select the pairings for the afternoon matches using the following format. The purpose of the format is to give the team that is losing an opportunity to choose as many favorable matchups as possible. Chairman Emeritus Thomson will run the process.

Definitions: Slot – to place a player in a twosome, unopposed.
Match – to place a player in a twosome against an already slotted player.

If the score of the team match is:

12-12 to 13-11: Both teams will slot 8 and match 8 players.

Procedure: If the match is tied, there will be a coin flip. (If not, Winning team will slot first two players) The loser of the coin flip will slot his first two players. Winner slots 2 then matches 2 players. This process repeats until 32 players have been matched.

13.5-10.5 to 14-10: The losing team will match 10 players and the winning team will match 6.

Procedure:

Winning team slots 2 players.

The losing matches 2 then slots 2. (6)

Winning team slots 2 then matches 2 players. (10)

The loser matches 2 then slots 2. (14)

Winning team slots 2 then matches 2 players. (18)

The loser matches 2 then slots 2. (22)

Winning team slots 4 then matches 2 players. (28)

Losing team matches 4. (32)

14.5-9.5 or 15.5-8.5: The losing team will match 12 players and the winning team will match 4.

Procedure:

Winning team slots 2 players.

The losing matches 2 then slots 2. (6)

Winning team slots 2 then matches 2 players. (10)

The loser matches 2 then slots 2. (14)

Winning team slots 8 then matches 2 players. (24)

The loser matches 8 (32)

16-8 or greater margin:

Procedure:

The winning Captain will slot all 16 players and the losing Captain will match all pairings.

CHAMPIONS DINNER & WAGER

In keeping with the spirit of the Ponce, the U.S. Team challenges the U.K. team to play for the Champions Dinner and its pre-selected price, *not to exceed* 150 GBP per person. If accepted, the winning team will enjoy the Saturday Champions Dinner at the expense of the losing team. In the event of a tie, each team pays for their own fare. All tournament awards are to be recognized on Saturday evening at the Champions Dinner.

The speaker at the Championship Dinner will be **Mark Burnyeat**. Mark is a financier in London with a great affinity for Golf and Royal St George's. A past Captain of both Royal St George's and New Zealand Golf clubs, Mark is currently the recorder of the Match Club and a member of a great many prestigious golf clubs. He lives in London and Kent and will immediately understand and even embody the spirit of the Ponce de Leon International.

AWARDS

Ponce de Leon Matches Trophy: the conquistador helmet will be given to the winning team. That team will possess the Helmet until the next Match. The winning team is responsible for engraving winning team player names / year on the Helmet prior to the next Match. In the event of a tie, both teams will share time with the helmet. Consumption of spirits from the Helmet is encouraged.

British MVP: to be voted via secret ballot by British team only. Open discussion at the beginning of the meal is encouraged, so that voting members are made aware of individual match records and noteworthy performances. The British MVP will receive a set of five hickory-shaft clubs in an old Tom Morris bag from the Ponce's charitable gift to St. Andrews' Keepers of the Green initiative to be passed down to future MVPs.

The Davis Love III American MVP Award is voted via secret ballot by American team only. Like his counterpart, the American MVP receives five hickory-shaft clubs in an old Tom Morris bag.

The Tony Jacklin Spirit Award is awarded to the British player who best exemplifies team spirit, sportsmanship, and leadership. The Tony Jacklin winner is the British man who best embodies the Ponce, both on and off the course. The American players are provided the opportunity (by written, secret ballot) to nominate whom they think should win this British award, and the Chairman Emeritus, Event Chairman and team captains take these nominations under advisement and consider them strongly.

The Ted Oakey Spirit Award is awarded to the American player who best exemplifies team spirit, sportsmanship and leadership of Ted Oakey. The Ted Oakey winner is the American who best embodies the Ponce, both on and off the course. The British players are provided the opportunity (by written, secret ballot) to nominate whom they think should win this American award, and the Chairman Emeritus, Event Chairman and team captains take these nominations under advisement and consider them strongly.

The Wooden Spoon is awarded to the member of each team who clearly demonstrates his commitment to horrible, losing golf over the course of the matches. Typically, this prestigious award is given to the member of each team who scores the least points in the tournament, but other behavior may be considered.

PAST RESULTS

Each team has won one apiece. No visiting team has ever won on foreign soil.

U.K. WINS INAUGURAL PONCE DE LEON INTERNATIONAL MATCHES 19-16 June 7-10, 2012 in Saint Andrews, Scotland

The Old Course, Carnoustie Golf Links, Crail Golfing Society – Balcomie, the Castle Course and Kingsbarns

Nick Hyde - U.K. MVP Award (2-0-2)

Michael Palmore - U.S. MVP Award (3-0-1)

Wes Battle - Tournament Chairman and "Champagne" Tony Lema Award

Dom Clive - Tony Jacklin Award & U.K. Captain

Neil Thomson - U.S. Captain and Chairman Emeritus

Rupert Finch - The Wooden Spoon

14 Americans trekked across the pond to play a four-round tournament over three days against 14 players from the U.K. Evening events at the Ben Hogan Suite at Carnoustie Golf Links, Saint Andrews Golf Club and R&A capped off some great days of golf in and around Saint Andrews.

The U.K. were apparently unfazed by the American caddie bibs and came out and blitzed the Yanks on the first day in blustery conditions at Carnoustie, winning five, halving one and losing only one match. The Americans would come back on day two, winning five of the seven matches to make it anyone's golf tournament. As the matches shifted to Kingsbarns, the U.K. rebounded for a 4.5-2.5 win in alternate shot. That same afternoon, the teams split the singles matches at 7 apiece, giving the matches to the U.K. 19-16.

USA TROUNCES UK 21-9 IN 2nd PDL INTERNATIONAL MATCHES July 23-27, 2014 at Sea Island, GA

Seaside, Plantation, and Retreat

Michael Aide - Davis Love III Award Winner – American MVP (4-0)

Ian Thompson - British MVP

Michael Palmore - Tournament Chairman and Ted Oakey Spirit Award Winner (U.S.)

Dan Blake - Tony Jacklin Spirit Award (U.K.)

Neil Thomson - American Wooden Spoon

Kirk Bedell & Dom Clive - British Wooden Spoons

The U.S. won a tightly contested Day 1 Four Ball 3.5-2.5 at Retreat. Day Two saw the U.S. take control of Foursomes 4.5-1.5 at Plantation to take an 8-4 lead. But it was the afternoon 18 Four Balls at Seaside where the Yanks ended any real hopes the Brits had at a comeback with a historic 6-0 sweep to take an insurmountable 14-4 lead. Team USA won Singles 7-5 to claim the Conquistador helmet 21-9. The Americans were led by two players who went undefeated (4-0): Michael Aide and Wes Battle.

In a purely poetic ending, Chairman Palmore was trailing by 2 with 5 holes to play in singles against Richard Moger. Palmore scratched back to tie the match on 17. The duel would be decided on 18. After making par, Palmore conceded a cagey par putt to Moger to halve the match. Although not as much on the line as the famous Nicklaus-Jacklin concession at the 1969 Ryder Cup, the gesture evoked the sportsmanship and spirit of the moment and provided a fitting end to the competition.

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES RECORDS

Most Team Points in a single Ponce International Matches

T1. W. Battle & M. Aide (2014) – 4.0 (4-0-0)

T3. I. Thompson & M. Palmore (2012) – 3.5 (3-0-1)

Least Team Points in a single Ponce International Matches

1. K. Bedell: 0 pts. in 4 matches (2014)

T2. R. Finch: 0.5 pts. in 4 matches (2012)

T2. M. Aide 0.5 pts. in 4 matches (2012)

Most Team Points in all Ponce International Matches (2012 & 2014)

1. I. Thompson: 7.5

2. M. Palmore 6.5

3. W. Battle 6

T4. M. Garnett & The Toaster 5

Best Overall Match Record (Played All)

T1. M. Palmore & M. Garnett 5-0-3 (.8125)

3. W. Battle 6-2 (.750)

4. I. Thompson 7-3-1 (.727)

Most Ponce International Matches Played

T1. 8 U.S. Players: N. Thomson, W. Battle, J. Bird, J. Rankin, C. Thomson, M. Garnett, M. Palmore & The Toaster (All 3)

T1. 4 U.K. Players: D. Clive, J. Biddle, B. Short & I. Thompson (All 3)

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 from the early days of the Tournament remain today. Among these are the 4 rounds of competitive play, allowing the singles matches to be selected by the Captains, and, of course, the Final Round Singles matches.

The first tournament was held the first week of January, 2003 with just 8 players. Typically, the field is 16 strong with a waiting list of at least that many. The Ponce is scheduled each year and played at the World's finest golf venues. To assist the community, each year a generous contribution is made by the players of the Tournament benefiting a charity that is selected by that year's Chairman.

The International Matches were hashed out over a few pints at the Open Championship at Royal St. Georges in 2011 when Chairman Battle, U.K. Captain Dom Clive and sometimes Yank and sometimes Brit Kirk Bedell decided that they would assemble teams to meet in St. Andrews in 2012.

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

THE ABF SOLDIERS' CHARITY

The 2018 charity is ABF The Soldiers' Charity (formerly the Army Benevolent Fund), the National Charity of the British Army, offering a lifetime of support to soldiers, veterans and their immediate families when in need. Their priorities are to help these individuals by making grants to them through the Regimental and Corps Associations, and to support a wide range of specialist charities that sustain the British Army 'family', both at home and around the world. Their mantra is to provide "A hand up, not a hand out". Whilst this term has become somewhat clichéd, none is more apt than President John F Kennedy's use of the term (in 1961), defining it as "doing something towards becoming self-sustaining" – this is exactly how we see it today.

PAST PHILANTHROPY

The PDL is proud of its commitment and tradition of philanthropy. Past charities have included:

2017: The Education Trust for the Children of Richard M. Massie

2016: The Dominic Fouts Memorial Cancer Fund

2015: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

2014: The Davis Love III Foundation

2013: The Greenbrier Hotel United Fund

2012: The Keepers of the Green

2010: The Davis Love III Foundation

2009: The September 11th Foundation in honor of "Deeg" Sezna

2008: Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Foundation

2007: The Wounded Warrior Project

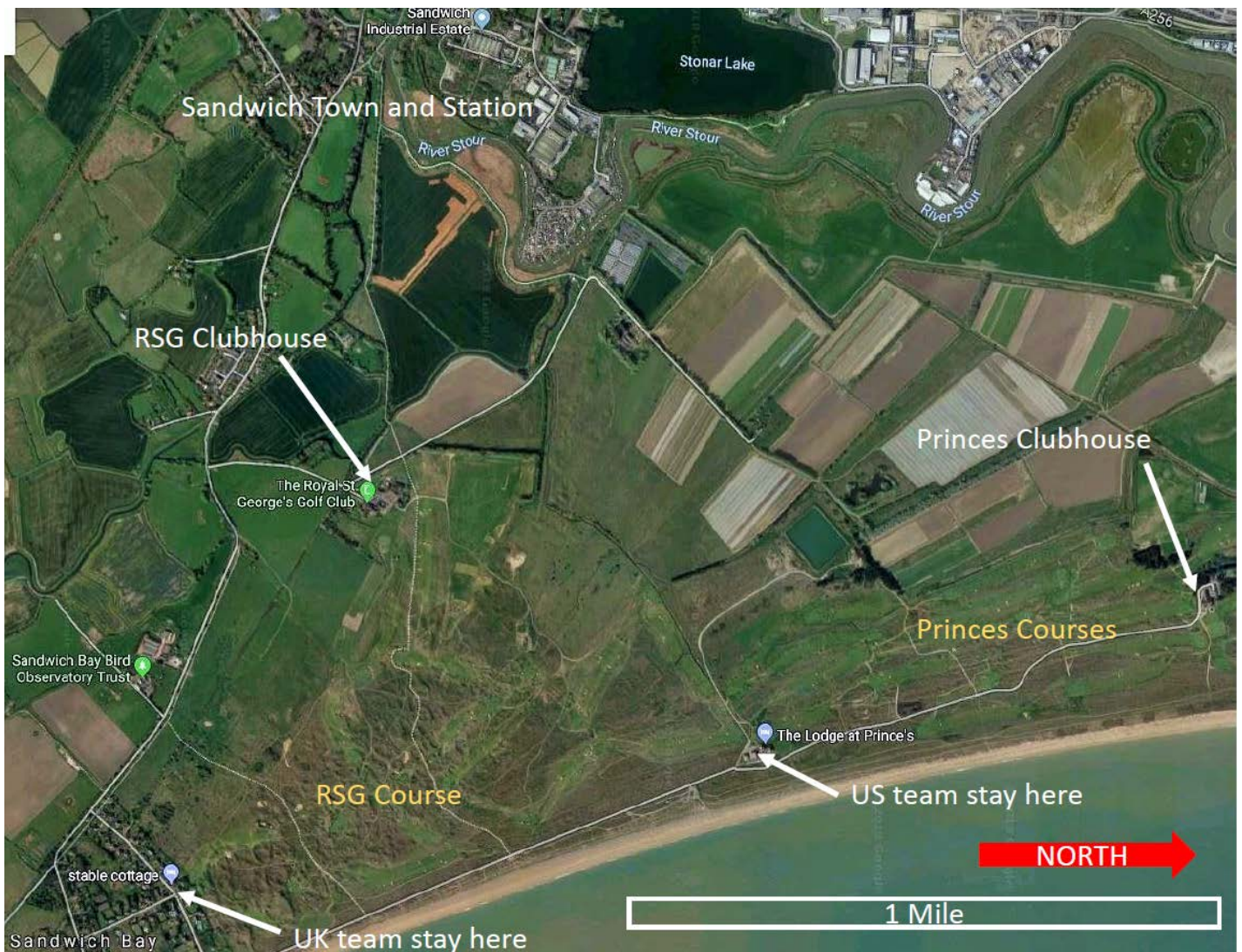
ETIQUETTE

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.

FOLLOW US

Information on the Ponce is available on the Internet at www.poncedeleongolf.com. The website includes scoring updates at the end of each round, stats and tournament history. Follow us on Twitter [@PDLGolf](https://twitter.com/PDLGolf) and Instagram at [@poncedeleongolf](https://www.instagram.com/poncedeleongolf).

MAP OF SANDWICH



A FINAL NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN EMERITUS

Gentlemen:

How fitting it is that our previous Ponce International Match ended on the 18th green at the Seaside course of Sea Island Golf Club in 2014? And here we are in May 2018, and our first tee ball will be struck on the New Course at Sunningdale! The tie that binds of course is none other than the greatest golf course architect of all-time, Harry Shapland Colt, who designed Sunningdale (New) in 1923 and Seaside in 1929. Colt was a varsity golfer at Cambridge; then a lawyer; next founding member of the R&A's Rules Committee; before ascending to serve as Sunningdale's first club secretary in 1902. He is widely known as the father of British golf course design (Royal Lytham & St. Anne's; Royal Portrush to name a few) and paved the way for the Golden Age of golf architecture globally and the pioneer of the "Philadelphia school" (Wilson, Tillinghast, Crump and Thomas). What an honor to proceed in our never-ending golf odyssey to the "Heathlands" outside London!

For the Match to then migrate to the coast at Royal St. George's for the 3rd & 4th rounds will be truly epic. Who will hoist the helmet in Sandwich on Saturday night!!! ~ what drama to ensue.

We are truly blessed to compete on such grand and historic stages. It is quite humbling to note that RSG follows a growing lineage of Ponce courses which have also hosted professional golf majors: The Old Course; Carnoustie; Pinehurst No. 2; and PGA National.

Yes, gents, we are embarking on an International Match for the ages. The PDL International series is knotted 1-1; with both teams holding serve on home soil. Who will rise the victor? Will the host Brits, with 7 rookies, be able to hold up under fire from a savvy veteran American squad which boasts zero rookies and a collective 150 Ponces played over the first 15 years? Which team is more complete: that is, who can card enough match wins across the unprecedented Heathland/Links combination? We shall see!

On a sincere note, I want to thank Capt. Dom Clive and his mates for hosting us. The Yanks are grateful to play and compete at the best and most prestigious golf clubs in England. Bravo! Let's play hard and play fair.

Friendships Renewed and Friendships Strengthened ~

Mr. Colt's Tee is Yours Once Again,



Neil D. Thomson, Esq.

Founder and Chairman Emeritus

16th Annual Ponce de Leon Invitational (The 3rd Ponce de Leon International Matches)

2018 Players Guide
Ponce de Leon Invitational
May 30 – June 3, 2018
www.poncedeleongolf.com



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