

XIX Ponce De Leon Invitational Showdown in Mid Pines – The Draft

April 27th – May 1st, 2021



2021 Ponce De Leon Invitational

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2021 Ponce De Leon Invitational

Letter from Chairman Emeritus

April 27th, 2021

What a difference 14 months makes. In February, 2019, as we completed our 18th Annual Ponce de Leon Invitational out in Palm Springs, little did we know how our world would change.

The Covid-19 global pandemic has affected us all, in so many ways. We can each count our blessings for health and family as we got through, and continue to battle through, this health crisis.

Covid-19 has dramatically interrupted the sports world as well. Just to cite two examples, since 1946 and the conclusion of World War II, both Wimbledon and the Open Championships have been contested each consecutive year since then – having crowned 84 consecutive champions in their respective sports. That all ended in 2020. Both of those iconic championships were compelled to delay their tournaments a full year, until 2021.

All of this underscores how proud and grateful we can be – to carry forward this April with our 19th consecutive Ponce de Leon Invitational. Our string of “Ponces” is unbroken.

Long live the Ponce!

Let's carry forward; let's compete!

There is no better place for a springtime renewal of the Ponce than MidPines and Pine Needles. Similar to 2017, we will be battling contemporaneously to the Kentucky Derby weekend (yet another event previously postponed in 2020).

Thank you to Kelly Miller, Ross Hutchison, and the entire staff for welcoming us back “home.” As we know, what Kyle Franz has done to revitalize these Donald Ross gems is simply superb.

Chairman Henry Oakey has done a masterful job orchestrating this year's event. Let's just say – this format stands on its own as a magical duel, but it also serves as an apt precursor to our forthcoming International Match as well!

May the best Team Win -

Cheers,
Neil

2021 Chairman's Letter

Gentlemen:

It is my distinct honor to welcome you as the chair the 2021 Ponce de Leon golf tournament.

In the past year, we have experienced numerous firsts for our lifetime. Things we thought were never going to pass have occurred, including but not limited to, a global pandemic, a historic election, and Jeremy Bird became a married man.

But we are here now, at the historic Mid Pines Inn, and we are grateful to be with one another. For the next few days we will enjoy the genius of Donald Ross and these two courses in Southern Pines, and after all of the separation and social distancing, we are grateful to be with one another.

Twelve months from now the International team will arrive and we must be prepared to defend our home turf. This year's tournament will be a preparation for that crucible which awaits. There will be two teams this year in an 8v8 format. Our esteemed Chairman Emeritus will captain Team Ross, and I will captain Team Boros. While no team has failed to defend its home turf, Team Great Britain's captain Clive, who we will be hearing from later this weekend, is intent on mounting a serious challenge.

I want to specifically thank Ross Hutchinson and Mid Pines team here, they have been great to work with. Please introduce yourself to them, they have gone above and beyond to make it work for us.

Enjoy the meal, enjoy the golf, and most importantly, enjoy each other.

Onwards,
Henry Fenton Oakey
Chairman, 2021

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 traditions are allowing the last place team going into the final day the advantage of selecting whom they would like to play, and, of course, the 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 local 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.

"To me, The Ponce is a Golf Odyssey. The Ponce is Friendships Renewed, and Friendships Strengthened. All Ponce players enjoy ownership over the event, and it has been wonderful to see our tradition grow. Only in this great game can camaraderie, sportsmanship, and old-school competition be evoked so strongly. I cannot imagine a fulfilled life without it."

- Neil Thomson
Founder & Chairman Emeritus

Schedule of Events

Wednesday, April 28 th	
1:30 P.M. - 1:50 P.M.	Practice Round Tee Times - Tobacco Road
7:00 P.M.	Opening Cocktail Reception - Mid Pines - The Terrace
8:00 P.M.	Dinner - The Terrace
9:00 P.M.	First Ever Ponce Draft

Thursday, April 29 th	
8:45 A.M. - 9:15 A.M.	1 st Round Mid Pines
4:15 P.M - 4:45 P.M	2 nd Round Mid Pines
7:30 P.M.	Dinner - Cookout at Mid Pines

Friday, April 30th

9:55 A.M. - 10:25 A.M.	3rd Round - Mid Pines
	Unstructured Grab and Go Lunch at the Halfway House
2:50 P.M. - 3:20 P.M.	4th Round - Pine Needles
7:45 P.M.	Buses to Pine Crest Inn
8:00 P.M.	
	Dinner at Pine Crest Inn

Saturday, May 1st

10:35 A.M. - 11:05 A.M.	4th Round Singles Competition - Mid Pines
7:01 P.M.	Post time Kentucky Derby - Hospitality Suite
7:05 P.M.	Remarks from Chairman, and Chairman Emeritus concerning PDL XX, video presentation
8:00 P.M.	Champions Dinner - <i>The Terrace Room</i>

Sunday, May 2nd

	Depart Mid Pines
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19th Annual Ponce de Leon Invitational

MidPines / Pine Needles

April 28 – May 1, 2021

TWO-TEAM, “RYDER CUP” STYLE

TEAM ROSS vs. TEAM BOROS

FIRST ROUND, Thursday, April 28th

MidPines

Tee Times: 8:45am-9:15am

FOUR BALL: MATCH PLAY. 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:

MATCH 1 (8:45 a.m.) _____ & _____ **(BOROS)** vs. _____ & _____ **(ROSS)**

MATCH 2 (8:55 a.m.) _____ & _____ **(BOROS)** vs. _____ & _____ **(ROSS)**

MATCH 3 (9:05 a.m.) _____ & _____ **(BOROS)** vs. _____ & _____ **(ROSS)**

MATCH 4 (9:15 a.m.) _____ & _____ **(BOROS)** vs. _____ & _____ **(ROSS)**

Point Value:

The winning 2-some of each match gets 2 POINTS for his overall 8-man team. The losing 2-some gets ZERO POINTS for his overall 8-man team.

A tie after 18 holes halves the match, so each 2-man team would receive ONE POINT for his overall 8-man team. There is no such thing as extra holes in this round.

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SECOND ROUND, Thursday April 28th

MidPines - EMERGENCY 9 / SCRAMBLE

Tee Times: 4:15pm-4:45pm

4 MAN CAPTAINS CHOICE/SCRAMBLE – 9 HOLE BLITZ. Play with your team...Camaraderie is critical here! There is a minimum of 1 DRIVE from each player that has to be used. **You are not permitted to borrow a teammate's club.** After the 9 holes, combine two 4-man team scores for overall score for 8- man team.

Order of Play:

1st Group (4:15pm): **TEAM BOROS (GROUP A)**

2nd Group (4:25pm): **TEAM ROSS (GROUP A)**

3rd Group (4:35pm): **TEAM BOROS (GROUP B)**

4th Group (4:45pm): **TEAM ROSS (GROUP B)**

Point Value:

1st Place: 3 POINTS

2nd Place: 0 POINTS

THIRD ROUND, Friday April 29th

MidPines

Tee Times: 9:55am-10:25am

PINEHURST (Modified) ALTERNATE SHOT – MATCH PLAY. 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 2nd SHOT IS USED, THEN PLAYER B HITS 3rd AND YOU ALTERNATE UNTIL IT IS HOLED. 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:

MATCH 1 (9:55 a.m.) _____ & _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ & _____ (ROSS)

MATCH 2 (10:05 a.m.) _____ & _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ & _____ (ROSS)

MATCH 3 (10:15 a.m.) _____ & _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ & _____ (ROSS)

MATCH 4 (10:25 a.m.) _____ & _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ & _____ (ROSS)

Point Value:

The winning 2-some of each match gets 2 POINTS for his overall 8-man team. The losing 2-some gets ZERO POINTS for his overall 8-man team.

A tie after 18 holes halves the match, so each 2-man team would receive ONE POINT for his overall 8-man team. There is no such thing as extra holes in this round.

FOURTH ROUND, Friday April 29

Pine Needles

Tee Times: 2:50pm-3:20pm

FOUR BALL: MATCH PLAY. 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:

MATCH 1 (2:50 p.m.) _____ & _____ (**BOROS**) vs. _____ & _____ (**ROSS**)

MATCH 2 (3:00 p.m.) _____ & _____ (**BOROS**) vs. _____ & _____ (**ROSS**)

MATCH 3 (3:10 p.m.) _____ & _____ (**BOROS**) vs. _____ & _____ (**ROSS**)

MATCH 4 (3:20 p.m.) _____ & _____ (**BOROS**) vs. _____ & _____ (**ROSS**)

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.

FIFTH ROUND, Saturday May 1st

MidPines

Tee Times: 10:35am-11:05am

FINAL ROUND SINGLES. MATCH PLAY – WITH HANDICAPS. This is the tradition. This is what it is all about. The match-ups will not be determined until Friday night at the Session.

Points are more heavily awarded. This is the most important round of the tournament.

Order of Play:

The team in the lead has to “blindly” slot 6 of its 8 players. So that the trailing team gets to select 6 of the 8 match-ups. Once those 6 match-ups are filled, the trailing team “blindly” slots the last 2 players, so that the leading team can match-up the final two matches.

1st GROUP (10:35am):

MATCH I: _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ (ROSS)

MATCH II: _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ (ROSS)

2nd GROUP (10:45am):

MATCH III: _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ (ROSS)

MATCH IV: _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ (ROSS)

3rd GROUP (10:55am):

MATCH V: _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ (ROSS)

MATCH VI: _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ (ROSS)

4th GROUP (11:05am):

MATCH VII: _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ (ROSS)

MATCH VIII: _____ (BOROS) vs. _____ (ROSS)

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.

Roster of Players

AIDE, M.	9.9
BATTLE, W.	11.2
BIRD, J.	5.5
COULBOURN, C.	9.9
GARNETT, M.	6.6
GILBANE, D.	11.8
JOHNSON, N.	6.2
MCALLISTER, J.	5.3
MCMANAMY, P.	6.2
MORTON, I.	5.7
OAKEY, H.	12.1
PALMORE, M.	9.9
PROUTT, R.	8.6
RANKIN, J.	9.8
THOMSON, N.	6.6
WAINSCOTT, B.	18.0

2021 Ponce De Leon Invitational
Ted Oakey Spirit Award

Sent to the family of Ted Oakey immediately following his death February 2014.

"One Saturday evening in the mid 1990s, in an eating establishment in the little town of Lossiemouth in North Scotland, a singsong was started up by a table of a few local couples out for a relaxing meal: in the restaurant, there was also a group of four golfing visitors from Virginia who were taking on some Scottish fayre to fuel them up for the next days' challenges on the links at Moray Golf Club. As is often, but not always, the case, communication developed between the two groups and so was started a remarkable friendship between the Virginian golfers and the Scots. The visits to Scotland from Richmond and Charlottesville became annual and the Scots played golf each year with their visiting friends and enjoyed meals (with a wee dram) together after the day's labours. R Stedman Oakey Jr - known to us all as Teddy - was one of those visiting guys from Virginia and, over subsequent years, Teddy was also one who faithfully returned to our shores each year to play real links golf. He fooled with us a little by turning up one summer and announcing that he had changed his golf swing and was now playing left handed. Equally as able left handed as right handed, he continued to win the Scots' pounds.

Recent years saw Teddy's energy levels reduce and, now and again, he would take a day's rest from golf on the annual pilgrimage to Scotland: but his Scottish friends were not aware until more recently that Teddy was starting a more serious form of personal combat with illness. We, his friends in Lossiemouth and Elgin, were deeply saddened to learn that Teddy had lost his fight earlier this month but we shall all cherish the memories of his quiet, fun-loving approach to life: he was the absolute gentleman at all times and we readily appreciated that he did really enjoy taking on the golf courses in Scotland, providing, of course, the sun kept shining on the links.

Long may the friendships and fellowship which is greatly enjoyed between golfers from Virginia and Scotland be nurtured and renewed: Teddy was a fantastic ambassador for how golfing friendships can be struck, enjoyed and continued.

We shall miss him dearly.

Our sincere thoughts have been passed to Elaine and Teddy's family members.

In closing, we would like to thank the golfers from Virginia who have come to North Scotland to join us: long may you return to our shores and play the game of golf."

Signed, James & Ruby Clark : Glen & Betty Elliot : Charlie & Irene Smith : Raymond & Etta Wood : Jim & Lilian Young

Lossiemouth, Scotland

Customs & 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.

Play the ball as it lies.