



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Bob Denney
561/876-6735
bdenney@gpahq.com

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S WINDSOR GOLF CLUB SETS SIZZLING PACE TO GRAB FIVE-STROKE LEAD IN OPENING ROUND OF PGA McGLADREY TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

PINEHURST, N.C. – There is a reason why the slogan for The PGA McGladrey Team Championship – “*With the Right Team Anything is Possible*” resonates in golf.

If you have a pair of leaders like PGA Professional Jason Schmuhl and amateur partner Rene Purugganan of Windsor (Calif.) Golf Club, who made virtually every putt in sight as they did Monday at Pinehurst No. 8, then success on the course is inevitable.

Windsor Golf Club, a runner-up in last year's inaugural Championship and returning with three new amateur teammates, blistered the challenging 6,698-yard No. 8 layout for an 18-under-par 126 total. The lowest team score yet recorded in two years in the Championship was good for a five-stroke lead over Stonebridge Ranch Country Club of McKinney, Texas, which bogeyed 18 for a 131.

Savannah (Ga.) Golf Club was a stroke behind at 132, followed by TPC Snoqualmie Ridge, representing the Pacific Northwest PGA Section, at 133.

“It was a complete surprise; we couldn't do anything yesterday in a practice round,” said Schmuhl, the PGA head professional at Windsor Golf Club, who had a 7-under-par 65 on his own ball, including seven birdies, an eagle and two bogeys. “We just ‘ham-and-egged’ it so well today. Rene [Purugganan] birdied three of the four par-3s on the course and at No. 17, [a 489-yard par-5], I was just telling Rene where to lag his eagle putt down the slope for a tap-in. He putted it to the slope and it trickled down some 60-foot and broke and fell into the hole.

“Rene said he switched putters before the round and he ended up making everything. It's a great start and better than what I expected.”

The PGA McGladrey Team Championship, The PGA of America's first nationwide grassroots best-ball amateur championship, opened under clear skies but with a 30-minute frost delay. The Championship featured a 164-player field representing 41 PGA Sections and a total combined professional and amateur purse of \$200,000.

Stonebridge Ranch Country Club's foursome featured PGA Professional Joe Menton, who had last played at Pinehurst in 2001 in a ClubCorp event that included a round on Course No. 8. He was joined by brothers James and Mickey Freed, and Eric Kelley. James Freed, 65, was a member of the 2005 Net Division National Champion in the former Buick Scramble, an achievement that included a trip to meet Tiger Woods.

“There were two of us who contributed on all but one hole today, and that's why we had such a score as this,” said James. “It's about blending and not making any big mistakes. You get some adversity, but there are a couple guys to pick you up.

“We found ourselves on No. 6 today, the No. 1 handicap hole,” said Menton. “Two of us were out of the hole and Eric chipped in for par and James chipped in for a birdie. The golf course was gorgeous and it was a new experience for us guys from Northern Texas. There are trees here, everywhere! We aren’t used to trees and it contributes to having to make decisions on how to hit into the greens. The perception for approaches is difficult.”

Defending Champion Newport National Golf Club of Middletown, R.I., which edged Windsor Golf Club by two strokes last year, came in at 138. Newport National returns three of its winning foursome, led by PGA assistant professional Andy Farrea, who earned PGA membership last March after competing as an amateur last year.

The field competes Tuesday and Wednesday on Pinehurst’s Courses No. 2 and 4. Amateur players receive 50 percent of their course handicap allowance and each player must post a player on three of the holes. Two net best-ball scores are used to determine the overall 18-hole score.

The PGA McGladrey Team Championship is a result of a partnership between The PGA of America and RSM McGladrey, the Official Accounting, Tax and Business Consulting firm of The PGA of America. RSM McGladrey is the fifth largest accounting, tax and business consulting firm in the country when considered with McGladrey & Pullen LLP (a partner-owned CPA firm).

For more information, please visit www.PGA.com/teamchampionship

About RSM McGladrey

RSM McGladrey is a leading professional services firm providing accounting, tax and business consulting. McGladrey & Pullen LLP (a U.S.-based partner-owned CPA firm) delivers audit and attest services. RSM McGladrey and McGladrey & Pullen operate in an alternative practice structure. Though separate and independent legal entities, they can work together to serve clients’ business needs. Together, the companies rank as the fifth largest U.S. provider of accounting, tax and business consulting services (source: Public Accounting Report), with nearly 8,000 professionals and associates in more than 120 offices nationwide. RSM McGladrey Inc. and McGladrey & Pullen LLP are member firms of RSM International, an affiliation of independent accounting and consulting firms. RSM McGladrey is the official accounting, tax and business consulting firm of The PGA of America.

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Since 1916, The PGA of America's mission has been twofold: to establish and elevate the standards of the profession and to grow interest and participation in the game of golf.

By establishing and elevating the standards of the golf profession through world-class education, career services, marketing and research programs, the Association enables PGA Professionals to maximize their performance in their respective career paths and showcases them as experts in the game and in the \$76 billion golf industry.

By creating and delivering dramatic world-class championships and exciting and enjoyable golf promotions that are viewed as the best of their class in the golf industry, The PGA of America elevates the public's interest in the game, the desire to play more golf, and ensures accessibility to the game for everyone, everywhere. The PGA of America brand represents the very best in golf.

