



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NORTHERN TEXAS FOURSOME PUTS TOGETHER A SECOND-ROUND GEM TO JUMP INTO LEAD IN THE PGA McGLADREY TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

PINEHURST, N.C. – Three years ago, Mickey Freed of North Richland Hills, Texas, was undergoing triple bypass surgery to repair genetically damaged valves in his heart. On Tuesday at renowned Pinehurst No. 2, Freed was knocking putts into the heart of the hole to help steer Stonebridge Ranch Country Club of McKinney, Texas to the second-round lead in The PGA McGladrey Team Championship.

Freed, a 60-year-old home builder, spent nearly nine months recovering from surgery and built a chipping green in his backyard to slowly find his way back to the golf course. He found the momentum he needed on the tricky Donald Ross-designed greens when it mattered most, with birdied on the 17th and 18th holes.

That effort allowed Stonebridge Ranch Country Club, representing the Northern Texas PGA Section, to post a second straight 13-under-par 131 and build a two-day total of 26-under-par 262. Stonebridge Ranch now owns a two-stroke lead over Northern California's Windsor Golf Club, the 2007 runner-up and first-round leader, and Savannah (Ga.) Golf Club in The PGA of America's grassroots best-ball amateur championship.

"This is a great course, and is such an excellent place to play," said Freed, who is joined in his foursome by his 65-year-old brother, James. "I'm blessed to be here. I didn't really play that well, but I was able to make two putts – a 15-footer for birdie at 17 and an 18-footer at 18."

Stonebridge Ranch Country Club PGA Professional Joseph Menton was all smiles as he watched his teammates keep the momentum from Monday's opening round.

"I think we had a day where one of us may be struggling and another picked us up," said Menton. "It was a solid team effort. I didn't play particularly well today. We came out thinking that this course 8- or 9 -under would be a great score. All of a sudden the sun popped up, we made a couple of putts and we had another 131."

Windsor Golf Club, which had enjoyed a five-stroke advantage after Monday's round of 126, began play on the back nine on the 6,767-yard Course No. 2 and never recovered from a bogey on the 18th green, finishing the day at 6-under-par 138.

"We had an OK start, but then on the ninth hole [the actual 18th] we all missed really short putts and it seemed like that set the tone for the round," said Windsor Golf Club PGA head professional Jason Schmuhl. "I three-putted from about 12 feet and the other two guys missed two-footers. After that, we didn't make anything the rest of the way. . . not our best day.

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“Until I saw Northern Texas, I always thought it was better to have low handicaps in this thing. You only bet half your handicap in this. It was kind of surprising to see three high handicaps shoot that low – especially on tough courses. We can just hope to relax tonight and go out tomorrow and hope to make some putts.”

Defending Champion Newport National Golf Club of Middletown, R.I., was not able to gain much ground. It turned in a 140 and was tied for 17th at 278.

The day’s best score from any team on Course No. 4 was posted by Hot Springs (Ark.) Country Club, the South Central PGA Champion, which turned in a 131 – sharing the day’s low round – and is tied for fourth at 265.

The PGA McGladrey Team Championship features a 164-player field representing 41 PGA Sections and a total combined professional and amateur purse of \$200,000.

The field competes 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

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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.

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