



2024 Season Opener Newsletter

Pen Pushers of America

Golf Society

www.penpushers.us



Welcome to the Pen Pushers of America's 23rd season. It is hard to believe that our Irish Open in March will be our 195th event since we started this golf society. We hope to see everyone at our first event of the season, the Irish Open, March 20th, at Westfields Golf Club. ...And the Big News for this season is that we will be holding our Pen Pushers of America 200th event in August at Loudoun Golf and Country Club. We will definitely be doing something very special for our members to celebrate that event.



Pen Pushers of America 200th Event will be held at Loudoun Golf and Country Club, August 8th, 2024

2024 January Committee Meeting

Your 2024 Pen Pushers Committee Members met in January and finalized the event schedule for our 2024 season (attached later in this Newsletter). We have a couple venue changes from last year that includes starting the Season Opener at Westfields instead of Bull Run. Westfields Golf Club in Clifton Virginia is a new venue on the schedule this season, and the event will be organized by our newest committee member Ralph Tener. Welcome to the committee Ralph!. We also continue to update the Handbook that captures how we manage our competitions and our memberships. A new version will be posted on the site a couple of weeks before the season opener event and we will send out a reminder to everyone to read it before the season begins. Thanks in advance to everyone for taking the time to read it each season.

(Especially the Code of Conduct part....)

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Westfields in March!
The Tradition Continues in 2024, our 22nd years in the colonies of America.,

Enjoy it every day!

Sully
Pen Pushers of America Chairman

Topics of interest in this Newsletter: (Please read it all)

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[The Website](#) is now open for event registration and we are ready to accept your membership dues for the season, Make sure you sign up ASAP for our first outing which is only a few weeks away. We expect a good showing so go now and [register for our opening event at Westfields](#).

2024 Committee Members:



Kibok Lee
2024 Captain



Ralph Tener
2024 Vice-Captain

Special thanks to **Kibok Lee** for serving as our 2023 Captain. As a result of us honoring Jeff Haymaker (posthumously) as our Vice Captain last season, Kibok kept the duty of setting up the putting contest for each event. Kibok, your hard work and dedication to our events is much appreciated. Now, let's all welcome **Ralph Tener** as our 2024 Vice-Captain. Thanks, Ralph, for taking on the putting contest duties for the 2024 season. We are also looking forward to your contribution as a committee member.

Thanks to everyone who helps plan and work at our events. Without these volunteers' hard work and dedication, we would not have our Golf Society.

2024 Committee Members:

<p>John Sullivan</p> 	<p>Chairman/Event Organizer</p>	<p>Kibok Lee</p> 	<p>Captain/ Membership Chairman/Event Helper</p>
<p>Brian Hogan</p> 	<p>Co-Vice Chairman/Director of Events/Communications</p>	<p>Chris Eller</p> 	<p>Event Helper/ Fall Ocean City Trip Organizer</p>
<p>Joe Radakovich</p> 	<p>Co-Vice Chairman/Event Helper/Golf Genius Manager</p>	<p>Bob Caines</p> 	<p>Event Organizer</p>
<p>Steve Smingler</p> 	<p>Handicap Secretary</p>	<p>Gary Vanderheiden</p> 	<p>– Event Organizer/Event Helper</p>
<p>Mike Rubin</p>		<p>Jon Fraim</p>	

	<p>Treasurer /Event Organizer</p>			<p>Event Organizer/ Fall Ocean City Trip Organizer</p>
<p>Paul Tierney</p>	<p>Website Master</p>			<p>We are always looking for more help. Please Volunteer!</p>
		<p>Charity Organizer/Fall Ocean City Trip Organizer</p>		<p>Ralph Tener</p> 
				

Pen Pushers Golf Society: 2024 List of Events

Date	Event	Location	Holes
March 20	Irish Open	Westfields Golf Club	18
April 17	Spring Challenge	Stonewall Golf Club	18
May 22	British Cup	Stoneleigh	18
June 19	Founders Trophy	Bull Run Golf Club	18
July 17	Patriots Memorial (27 Holes)	Shenandoah	27
August 8	Summer Championship	Loudoun Golf & Country Club	18
Sept 17	John Denale Memorial Captains Day	Piedmont Club	18
Oct 9	Autumn Challenge	Rock Harbor Golf Course (BOULDER)	18
Oct 25	Shore Tour in OC (Fri Sat Sun)	Various Courses	54
Nov 13	Turkey Shoot-Out	Raspberry Falls	18

Policy and Rules Review:

We have updated the [Pen Pushers Handbook](#). Please read the section on “Code of Conduct”. When you pay your membership fee, you are committing that you have read it and will adhere to it. It should not be a big deal, but we wanted everyone to know what is expected and what is not tolerated at our events. (See a copy at the end of this document).

The Handbook is there because our golf society has grown to a size in membership that we can no longer rely on word of mouth to educate everyone regarding who we are, how we run our tour events, and what our rules are. It is posted on the website for all to read and to know. It covers both general policies of the golf society (membership benefits, rules and policies) and our event structure (rules and guidelines). We expect every member to have read this document before playing this season. If anyone has any questions or suggested input regarding what is in the Handbook, please reach out to a committee member. It is still new and we will be improving and evolving the document going forward.

Here are a few of our basic rules to remember:

Generally, we play by all USGA rules. We do have a few Pen Pusher exceptions and clarification.

- **SCORING** – Our events are scored by the Modified Stableford scoring format. Points are scored in the following manner: 1 Point for a Net Bogie, 2 points for a Net Par, 3 Points for Net Birdie, 4 Points for Net Eagle and 5 Points for a Net Albatross. (Double Eagle).
- **No GIMME's** - You must PUTT-OUT in order to score any Stableford points on the hole, the ball must come to rest in the hole, no whining about the ball would have gone in if the stick was out, etc.

- **The PICK UP rule.** This is a Speed of play rule. If you have hit enough shots such that you cannot score on the hole, please pick up your ball, declare that you are a “blob” for the hole, (record as “0” points, gross score as shots to earn “0” points).
- **LOST BALL/ OUT OF BOUNDS** – This is also a speed of play rule. If you hit a ball out of bounds or lose your ball the penalty is the same, ONE STROKE. Out of bounds and lost ball have two options. Please read the Handbook Event Rules section for more details on this rule.
- **Closest to Pin winners** - must make Par or Better to win this award.
- **Long Drive** - ball must be in our own fairway.
- Go to the [Pen Pusher Handbook](#) for more information and details.

2023 Tour Winners and Champion

The Pen Pushers Tour of Events is our version of the PGA FedEx Cup. Our 9-event tour is scored with a Grand Prix point system. Everyone who plays in each of our events receives points. The member with the most total points for the season is our tour champion. In addition to our tour champion title, we also award season tour titles in other categories. All of these prizes and trophies will be awarded at the first event of the season, The Irish Open, at Westfields, March 20th. For 2023 our winners are as follows:



Kibok Lee/Greg Lawerence
(playoff at the Irish Open to determine)
“Big Dog”
Long Drive Competition



Chris Eller
“Putting Master”
Putting Competitions



Kibok Lee
“Birdie Master”
Most Birdies at Events



Ross Charles
“Lion Man”
Most gross score wins



Ralph Tener
“TOUR CHAMPION”
Most grand prix points.

At our first event this year, the Irish open, we will present the awards for the 2023 season.

Upcoming Events and Activities: The Irish Open

Location:	Westfields Golf Club 13940 Balmoral Green Ave., Clifton, VA 20124
Date:	March 20th, 2024 (Wednesday)
Time:	8:30 – 9:30 Registration, Putting Competition, driving range 9:30am Shotgun Start Tee off
Prizes, Awards and Meal:	Hot Dog at Turn, Buffet meal (Directly after the golf – as usual) Champion, Long Drive, Closest to the Pin, Goat-boy, Putting Champion, and Lion Man
Entry Fee:	\$100 - Includes Golf, Practice Range, Prizes, Awards, and Food

Use web site if you are a member,
www.penpushers.us

2023 – 2024 Fall Ocean City Golf Trip



The Shore Tour Event was held again in Ocean City in October. This was our third “official” Ocean City - Pen Pushers Autumn Tour Event, Shane Langdon, Chris Eller and Jon Fraim organized another fantastic 3 days of golf at some premium courses: Lighthouse Sound, Glen Riddle, and Rum Pointe. The format was Pen Pushers Modified Stableford points daily, total Stableford points (3 days), and some 2-man team blind draws for each day. It was well organized, and the courses were in perfect shape. We were lucky enough to have a few Pen Pusher “Heritage Members” join us for the weekend: They were Pen Pusher regulars for our first 10 years, had moved to Ocean City a while back and were able to join us for the event. It was great to see them and take their money....

Day 1 Winner: Bob Caines

Day 2 Winner: Rick Langdon

Day 3 Winner: Derek Langdon

but, in the end, it was Chris Hughes who took top honors for the weekend.



**2023 Shore Tour Champion
Chris Hughes**

The Shore Tour is now on the schedule for the end of October this year (25th ,26th & 27th). Make sure you registered now and pre-pay your \$150 Dollar deposit to reserve your spot.

Social Membership Status

We have decided to continue with the Social membership for the guys who want to come out and just have fun with the Pen Pushers group and not be part of the actual competition. We are calling this new membership, Social Members. It is similar to playing as a guest, where their scorecard results are not counted towards handicap, winner, Goat Boy etc. This is for situations where someone might have been injured or playing with a bunch of friends, or just otherwise want to play for fun.

2024 Golf Genius Again for this season: -No More Math Mistakes



Golf Genius software is used by many golf clubs to manage Tournaments and Golf Outings. It provides a stable quick way for us to input each member's scorecard and Golf Genius will correct the mistakes on the spot so our awards will be validated before we hand out the trophy. Joe Radakovich is our resident expert and will continue to be the manager of our Golf Genius scoring at each event. This year Kibok has also agreed to be a backup for Joe and help with event set up and managing the system. Thanks Joe and Kibok for stepping up!

2024 Membership Dues and Outing Fees:

You should all know that Pen Pushers of America is a not-for-profit, fully volunteer managed and operated Golf Society. There are no paid employees here. Our goal is to create a golf experience for our members that is fun, challenging, fair, competitive, and rewarding, with members who are fun to play with, at the best possible cost/value to our members. Our events are funded in two ways, 1) membership dues, and 2) event registration fees. In recent years, there has been a big increase in demand for tee times at golf courses everywhere. This increased demand has been driving course fees up which has challenged our funding budgets. We also try to make the prizes and awards as nice as possible, but it is always a challenge to balance the cost with the value.

Having said all of this, we still feel that we have created the best golf value in America!

This year we will keep our "Fixed Rate", of \$100.00 for each event registration fee.

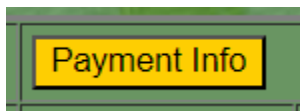
The hundred dollars automatically includes a portion for the charity, and everyone is now automatically paid into our Raffle that will be included at the conclusion of each event. This year's events have all gone up in price due to food and wage increases by the clubs. We strive to keep our events affordable for everyone.

Annual Membership Dues help offset the increases that the club's charge us. Please pay your dues as soon as possible as we have had to make deposits for our events early.

2024 - Membership Renewals

It's that time of the year again! It's important for the funding of the upcoming events to get renewal fees collected ASAP. Thanks for taking care of this straight away!

- **Past Members:** We have activated your account for registration on the website for 2024 events. You can now go to the web site and register for events. Call or e-mail Paul Tierney if you forgot your login ID and password. If you register for the Irish Open you should also pay annual MEMBERSHIP dues then. Follow the payment instructions listed by clicking the button on the Event Registration Page. And remember to always put a note with your payment about what it is for, ie, which Event or MEMBERSHIP.



- **For your GUESTS:** email your guest information to the same address. (penpushers@gmail.com)
 - **Members who want to bring guests:** register them on the website and pay for them when you make your payment. **Annual Membership Dues: \$100 (Still the greatest golf value in America!)**
- Please pay your membership dues ASAP. This allows us to make deposit payments for our events to reserve the dates for our events. Payments are only accepted by electronic payment methods: Venmo and PayPal.

Contact Mike Rubin if you have any problems with the payment process.

2023 Recap of Event Results:

Event:	Location:	Champ	Goat Boy	Long Drive	Closest to the Pin	Putting Champ	Lion Man
Irish Open	Bull Run	Ralph Tener	Jon Fraim	Kibok Lee	Andrew Reamer	Ross Charles	Ross Charles
Spring Challenge	Stonewall Golf Club	Ralph Tener	Andrew Reamer	Matt Snyder (G)	Ralph Tener	Marc Steigerwald	Ross Charles
British Cup	Stoneleigh	Gregory Lawrence	Brian Hogan	Gregory Lawrence	Chuck Harrington	Chris Eller	Gary Pulino
Founders Trophy	Heritage Hunt Country Club	Andrew Reamer	Mike Rubin	Kibok Lee	Sonny Phonseya	John Coyle (Guest)	Gary Pulino
Patriots Memorial	Shenandoah Valley	Brad Cooper	Jon Erickson	Gary Pulino	Brad Cooper	Shane Langdon	Gary Pulino
Summer Championship	Loudoun Golf and Country Club	Kibok Lee	Gary Pulino	Gregory Lawrence	John Slye	Bob Caines	Kibok Lee
John Denale Memorial - Captains Day Challenge	Piedmont Club	Mark Dudek	Kenny Fallon	Sandeep Musinipally (G)	Chip Ikwild	Chris Eller	Brad Cooper
Autumn Challenge	Rock Harbor-Boulder	Ross Charles	Gary Vanderheiden	Patrick Hawn (G)	Brian Hogan	Mark Dudek	Ross Charles
Turkey Shoot-Out	Raspberry Falls	Alan Egge	Ralph Tener	Chris Eller	Gary Pulino	Sandeep Musinipally (G)	Ross Charles

Perpetual and Photo Gallery Trophies:

We have a perpetual trophy for each of our ten events. All the past winner's names are captured on each trophy.

Congratulations to all those Pen Pushers winners!

2023 Perpetual Trophy Winners: (Click each picture to see Event Photos)



[2023 Irish Open](#)
[Ralph Tener](#)



[2023 Spring Challenge](#)
[Ralph Tener](#)



2023 [British Cup](#)
[Greg Lawrence](#)



[2023 Founders Trophy](#)
[Andrew Reamer](#)



2023 Patriots Memorial
Brad Cooper
(No Photos)



[2023 Summer Championship](#)
[Kibok Lee](#)



[2023 John Denele Memorial](#)
[Mark Dudek](#)



2023 Autumn Challenge
Ross Charles
(No Photos)



[2023 Shore Tour](#)
[Chris Hughes](#)



[2023 Turkey Shoot-Out](#)
[Alan Egge](#)

Pen Pushers of America Golf Society: Code of Conduct

Pen Pushers Golf Society is an organization of gentlemen who play golf. It is expected that Members and their guests will be honest, courteous, polite and respectful while at our events. This Code of Conduct helps to explain why we have a code and describes what we mean by the term “gentlemen”. This Code of Conduct has been developed to ensure a safe, friendly and respectful place for members and guests to gather in the spirit of cooperation, relaxation, goodwill, fun and friendly competition. The Code of Conduct differs from rules in that it addresses acceptable/unacceptable behavior. In the event of unacceptable behavior, the committee retains final review and disciplinary authority to impose suspensions and/or expulsions of members from membership.

All members and guests are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that:

- Is respectful and reflective of personal integrity, honesty, and responsibility to members, guests, and course staff at our meetings. This same integrity, honesty and goodwill is expected whether at the clubhouse, in the parking lot or on the golf course at a Pen Pusher sponsored event.
- Does not insult, harass, talk down to, scream at staff, members, and/or guests and does not create unnecessary strife and divisiveness.
- Does not damage the character, integrity, good will, property, or community perspective of Pen Pushers Golf Society.
- Observe proper golf etiquette while at Pen Pusher events. This includes observing event and local rules, proper speed of play, and adhering to Pen Pusher scorecard practices for accuracy and completeness.
- Accepts responsibility for the conduct of their guests.
- Abides by all rules and policies as specified in the Pen Pusher Handbook.
- Avoids unsafe circumstances/activities for oneself, or other individuals.
- Serves as an ambassador for Pen Pushers when out in the community. We are all representatives of the Pen Pushers Golf Society.
- Acknowledges that Pen Pushers is a family social environment that prohibits the use of obscenities and/or loud boisterous behavior in an offensive or threatening manner.
- Precludes member or guest from over intoxication, for both the individual and collective safety and well-being of all Pen Pushers members.
- Acknowledges and meets all financial obligations.

Commitment Note:

By paying Membership dues each year, the member confirms that they have read and understand this document and agree to follow and help to enforce this Code of Conduct. If a member is witness to an infraction of this code, they are obligated to report it (with discretion) to a committee Member as soon as possible.