

# FAIRWAY NEWS



JUNE  
2023



## Upcoming MiScore Updates

Look out for these upcoming features and fixes that users will see over the next few months.

- Score Comparison (June) – Only matched hole-by-hole scores between player and marker can be submitted
- Near Pins (July) – Players enter their names and distance in MiScore App for NTP
- Clubs sorting by distance – Users can enable through menu settings to sort the nearest club based on GPS
- Ver1.3 of MiScore App was gradually released till the end of May. Restarting the app should resolve most initial update problems

### This Issue includes

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## Late Breaking News

In a move that caught most observers by surprise the PGA Tour, the DP World Tour and the Saudi investment fund (PIF) that owns LIV Golf have agreed to create a new overarching golf entity to oversee and manage professional golf.

Whilst it looks like there will be no change to each tour's schedule for 2023 there are a lot of uncertainties about how professional men's golf will look in 2024. All legal action between the tours has stopped as a result of this move saving buckets of cash in legal fees. The on course future of players who defected to LIV and were fined and stripped of membership on the regular tours is uncertain. The players who stayed loyal (Rory McIlroy!) to the regular tours and passed on the big LIV \$s must be wondering why they bothered!

No mention of the future for our Greg!

It's front page news everywhere so why not on Fairway News!

## Upcoming events

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 10 June | Stableford                               |
| 17 June | Stableford, Captain's Trophy R1          |
| 24 June | Pairs Aggregate Stableford (rescheduled) |
| 1 July  | Stroke, VGL Medal, LG McDonald R4        |
| 8 July  | Stableford                               |
| 15 July | Stableford, Captain's Trophy R2          |
| 22 July | Par Club Medal                           |

Recent Results

- Sarah Adam-Gedge's excellent 43pts topped the field on 8 April. Daniel Owens was next best with 42pts and won C Grade. Michael Kent (40pts A Grade) and Pat Maginness (39pts B Grade) won the other grades and Liz Mitchell won the Women's Division on a countback from Ruth Branagh after both scored 38pts.
- The Ray Fraser Pairs Aggregate competition on 15/4 was postponed due to problems with the competition set up in MiScore.
- The round on 22/4 was a tale of two countbacks. The overall and all three men's grades were won with the same score – 38pts. James Mackie got the overall on a countback but at least the others got some reward. Hiroshi Tetsuhito (A Grade), James Staib (B Grade) and Leigh Busby (C Grade) got the prizes. The story was different in the Women's Division. Fiona Reynolds (32 pts) took win but Lynda Doutch and Linda Best missed out on prize as they were in the same division as Fiona.
- Kurtley Brandt scorched the course for 44pts on 29/4 to win the overall. Alan Wright's 40pts won A Grade and Grant Nicholson (34pts). James Mackie backed up his win from the previous week to win B Grade with 39pts. Linda Best (37pts) bounced back from missing out the previous week to win the Women's Division.
- George Bakrnchev took out May's VGL Medal and A Grade with a net 62. The best scores of the day came from two visitors with James Walkingsaw taking the overall from Garrick Rollason on a countback after both scored net 61s. Garrick took the C Grade title. Jenni Clarke (net 69) won the Women's Division and Clayton Ford won C Grade with a net 64.

THE PRESIDENT'S BLOG

Rob has been away so there will be no President's Blog this issue.



Glory Days

*Editor's Note: I told Mal I wasn't going to put this in the newsletter but after a long editorial meeting it was decided it had to go in! Sorry Mal.*

The photos below are of the Irish County Derry's Senior (bottom picture) and Minor (Under 18) Gaelic Football teams that both won the Ulster Football Championships in 1970.

Our own Mal McAfee was a top class Gaelic footballer and his feats have been reported in Fairway News a number of years ago. Mal is in the Senior team in this photo – 4<sup>th</sup> from the left in the back row.

Of interest in the Minor team is the young man on the extreme right – Martin O'Neill who went on to become a world class soccer player winning two European Cups with Nottingham Forest, representing Northern Ireland 64 times and having a successful managerial career at club and national team level (Republic of Ireland.)



*Recent Results (cont.)*

- The 2-Ball Ambrose competition on 13/5 was won by the 3 ball team of Scott Reed, Wayne Cox and Mark Engel with a 57.83. Anne Forwood and Dale Gilkes were runners up with a 59.
- There was a one horse race in the Par round of 20 May. Nick Hague's +8 was 7 holes better than the next best score and won the overall by a street. Craig Punshon (+1 A Grade), Peter McLeod (+1 B Grade), Laurie Spence (Sq C Grade) and Liz Mitchell (Sq. Women's Division) were the other winners. Some members missed out on their tee times as a result of heavy fog.
- Linda Best lived up to her name again and won the overall with 41pts on 27 May. Chris Labour's 39pts won B Grade and also the Les Stainsby Over 60s trophy. Craig Punshon continued his good form and won A Grade for the second week in a row with 35pts. Richard Grace's 37pts won C Grade and Fiona Reynolds the Women's Division with 35 pts. After driving to apron of the green James Lefebvre eagled the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Christine Nicholson's net 61 was the best score of the Stroke round on 3 /6 and won the overall. Neil Singh's net 62 took out the VGL Medal and A Grade. Rod Burke(net 63 B Grade), Grant Nicholson (net 68 C Grade) and Fiona Reynolds(net 66 Women's Division) were the other winners. Fiona's second win a row.
- Some of the best mid week scores in this period all occurred in the same week - Bailey McDonald (43pts), Tanner Browne (42pts) and Peter Hayden (41pts) all won their grades on 22 April. Two other 41pts were recorded – David Rothstadt and Colin Hunter.

**CAPTAIN'S CORNER**

Hello everyone.

The pennant season is over and the club improved our position in all grades compared to last year. The Handicap team came within a whisker of making the finals and should be congratulated on a strong result. The Seniors and Scratch teams also improved but need more work if they are to contest a place in the finals.

Course management will again start play from the 10th tee during June. This will become a regular feature over winter months as a large proportion of play is 9 holes.

Winter is starting to impact golf operations across many courses. Recently we have had wet weather and fog hamper our regular competitions and it is worth noting some rules that apply in these instances.

Course management will decide at any point how they manage the impact of weather on course operations and player safety. This can include setting barriers to manage waterlogged areas, excluding the use of carts, halting play until conditions such as fog or lightning clears or closing the course in the event of extreme heat or bushfires.

In all instances, these decisions must be observed. When play is halted or the course is closed you must stop play and seek shelter. If you continue to play, you are in breach of the rules of golf, you are not covered by insurance and risk being banned from the course.

That being said, golf is one of the great all year sports and there is plenty of equipment that will keep you warm and dry. So stock up on hand warmers, make sure you pack an umbrella and if it all gets too much, head north with a few mates.

Happy golfing.

Michael Kent





## News and Notes

### Callaway Fitting Day

A Callaway Fitting Day is being held on Wednesday 28th June from 9am – 3pm at the Sandringham driving range.

Bookings are essential via the Golf Service Centre or you can email Corrina on [cbryant@pga.org.au](mailto:cbryant@pga.org.au)

### Member Notes

Best wishes to Sean O' Sullivan, Cris Payne and Paul Ferguson who are dealing with health issues.

Welcome back to Andrew Steggall after the 3 months away following a medical procedure.

### Club Apparel

Members can purchase Club apparel.

- Polo shirt \$35. Women's polos now also available.
- Cap \$10

Email:

[captain@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au](mailto:captain@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au) or text 0413 438 048

### Noticed around the course:

Whilst they have been present in the past this year has seen greater numbers of the Eurasian Coot. Often in flocks of 20-30 they seem to be enjoying the current course conditions.



The Eurasian Coot is able to compress its feathers and squeeze out all of the air, which allows it to dive deeply and for longer periods.

Source: *Birds in Backyards*

## News from the professional ranks

### Signs of life in LIV?

**Note this story is a bit redundant after the breaking news on Page 1 but here it is anyway...**

After looking like life might be short LIVED for a while there LIV golf received a boost both on and off the course in the last few months. Off course the LIV Adelaide and LIV Singapore events generated plenty of crowds and excitement.

On the course was even better with LIV golfers defying pundit's predictions in the two major tournaments conducted so far in 2023. Many had predicted that the limited LIV schedule and lack of top class competition would have the LIV players behind the 8 ball in the majors. However three LIV golfers were in the top 4 at the Masters – Brooks Koepka and Phil Michelson tied 2<sup>nd</sup> and Patrick Reed tied 4<sup>th</sup>. And then Koepka went out and won the PGA Championship with Bryson DeChambeau tied 4<sup>th</sup> and Can Smith tied 9<sup>th</sup>.

Look out for the upcoming US Open starting next week 15 June at the Los Angeles Country Club – looks an amazing course!

### The Rise of Rose

On the LPGA side all the talk has been about the rising star Rose Zhang. Zhang won her second national collegiate title (NCAA Division 1) in May and then turned professional. In her first event as a professional she not only competed against a very strong field but won the event in a playoff with major winner Jennifer Kupcho. Amazingly in her last 12 stroke play events Zhang has won 10 and tied 5<sup>th</sup> and tied 12<sup>th</sup> in the other two. The 10 wins include the LPGA event and the national women's amateur event at Augusta.



If you are interested in finding out a bit more about Rose Zhang a couple of years ago the No Laying Up team did "A week in the life: Stanford" about the college team Rose was part of - search on YouTube.

## Major Competition News

The Club's major competitions are moving along. Here is an update on progress.

### John Pittard Singles Match Play

The second round of the singles Match Play has been completed and a couple of matches in Round 3 have also been played.

The current state of play in Round 3 matches is:

|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Clayton Ford def Bruce Baldey 4 and 2  | Andrew Bakker vs Tim Noonan         |
| Geoff Thornton vs James Lefebvre       | Alan Abbes vs Colin Burge           |
| Jason Rainbow vs Oliver Cunliffe       | Chris Labour def John McCarthy 1 up |
| Mark Brooks def Sean Weidemann 5 and 4 | Mark Engel vs Steve Brook           |

The draw and results can be accessed through the results page of the website or here <https://www.sandringhamgolfclub.org.au/cms/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Pittard-Draw-Sheet3-1.pdf>

The third round is due to **be completed by 24 June.**

### Ian Fraser Pairs Match Play

Eight pairs won their way into this competition and the first round needs to be completed by 24 June and the title decided by 28 October. The current state of play is:

|   |
|---|
| Mark Heaven/ Shane Upton vs James Mackie/David Upton              |
| Tim Noonan/ James Rainbow def Stuart Low/Geoff Thornton 2up       |
| Matt Scot/ Michael Sneyd vs Rob Harris/Colin Hockley              |
| John Bris/Laurie Spence def Alan Abbes/Gumby King Scott (Forfeit) |

### L G McDonald Memorial Trophy

The LG McDonald is a knockout competition played concurrently with the VGL Medal events as scheduled in the Fixtures. This year's event has suffered through a number of players not teeing it up on LG competition days. Three players are left – Jeff Coghill, Patrick Maginness and John McCarthy. The next round on 1 July will leave only two for the final on 5 August.

### Founders Shield

There is a new leader in the Founder's Shield Eclectic competition. Gavin Kinnaird is on 60pts and leads by 1pt from Don Tasevski(59pts) and 2pts from Dale Gilkes and Dan Harrison. Check the Eclectic tab in One Golf for progress and your own score. The Eclectic counts your best stableford score on each hole in stableford rounds. Remember 3 pts on all 18 holes would give you 54pts so Gavin is doing very well. He has scope for further improvement, as his best score on Hole 5 is only 2pts at this stage.

### Where to redeem your vouchers if you are lucky or good enough to win one!

Sandy PGA Pro Shop  
 House of Golf  
 Some Drummond Stores  
 Sandringham Café for food or drink  
 Grape and Grain Liquor Cellars, Station St Moorabbin  
 Royal Melbourne Golf Club Pro Shop

## More on Handicaps – from Michael Kent

Under the current formula for determining a handicap, golfers don't often play to their handicap. The first step in determining a player's GA Handicap is to average the best 8 of their most recent 20 rounds; the second and final step is to multiply this average by 0.93.

The result? In a Stableford competition you will only play to your handicap about 15% of the time.

***In summary - the golfing gods don't hate you, they are just unemotional statisticians.***

Full details on the article here. <https://www.australiangolfdigest.com.au/handicapping-questions-answered/>

To prove the point here are some of concepts those straight laced stats gurus are wrestling with:

- Consistency. Generally low handicappers are more consistent than high handicappers and high handicappers often have clusters of good scores which can cause a problem when they drop out of the calculation.
- Using an average of the last 20 scores (instead of the best 8 out of 20) would advantage high handicappers
- Again the 0.93 multiplier has been shown to provide more equity reducing the advantage for high handicappers
- Finding a balance between how quickly a handicap changes e.g. if only 6 out of 20 were used handicaps would be very volatile.
- Under the current system handicaps increase 50% more slowly than they reduce

Bottom line they say that if you score 36pts you will have played to your handicap!

## Vale Mark Heynemann

The Club was saddened to learn of the passing of Mark Heynemann in late April. Mark had been a member since 2012 and was a regular mid week player.

On the golfing front Mark represented the Club in Senior Pennant in 2013 and 2020-2022 and played with distinction. In 2021 he completed an unbeaten season winning 4 and drawing one of his five matches that year.

He was appointed Assistant Handicapper in 2014.

Mark also had a Hole in One on the old 7<sup>th</sup> hole in December 2015.

Mark really enjoyed his golf and those of us who played with Mark knew him as a friendly and engaged partner.

The Club expresses its sincere condolences to Mark's wife Gay and all of his family and friends.





## Course Management Stuff

### Burn Backs at Royal

Our resident (and unpaid) scout on course management issues Adrian Thomas has sent a link to a beautifully shot and photographed story about the ecological burn backs at Royal Melbourne. The story includes a short video explaining the process and the outcomes from the burns. Well worth a look if only for the movie quality footage



That shot (right) could be a poster for some post apocalyptic movie. Thanks Adrian.

<https://contours.golf/journal/the-royal-burn-back/>

If the link doesn't work just search for Contours Golf

### What are they eating?

Members are familiar with the flocks of galahs and little corellas tearing up the grass on the course leaving some areas unplayable. We even have a local rule giving free relief from these areas. So what are they after?

Apparently the rhizomes (underground stems) of the grass contain a sugary starch which is the bird's main target. One of their favourite grasses is kikuyu but they will also tackle other similar grasses like couch.



### Course mowing

We're fortunate that the course benefits from a very high standard of care.

Here's some mowers working in tandem on the 5<sup>th</sup> hole recently.



And here's how they do it at Augusta!

## Pennant Season Wrap

### Seniors

As reported last issue the Seniors team missed the final after finishing with a 2 Win, 2 Draw, 2 Loss record. Thanks and congratulations to manager Geoff Thornton and all members who represented the Club this season: Neil Evans, John McCarthy, George Andreetta, Colin Moyle, Chris Labour, Rob Harris, Colin Hockley, Bernie Bagley, Colin Burge, Craig Punshon, Russell Jones, Sean Weidemann and Brendan Murphy.

### Handicap Team.

The Handicap Team had a very good season and narrowly missed the final with a 3 Win 3 Loss record. The loss at home to Ringwood was costly but a clutch win away to Camberwell in the last round gave the team a chance which was cruelly dashed when the points were shared in the other fixture when the Northcote course was deemed not fit to play the match. Thanks and congratulations to manager Geoff Maynard and all members who represented the Club this season: Mark Brooks, Neil Singh, Sean Weidemann, Iija Sidoti, Jason Maynard, Sudesh Mudaliar, Ollie Cunliffe, Ricky Plummer, Michael Wang and Geoff Thornton.

### Scratch Team.

After a promising start the Scratch team struggled to a 1 win 5 Loss season. Thanks and congratulations to manager Andrew Rumbelow and all members who represented the Club this season: Matt Scott, James Honner, Tim Noonan, Andrew Hunter, Nick Hague, Michael Kent, James Lefebvre, Gary Boschen, Cooper Ford, Francis Armstrong, Liam Wallis, Adrian Thomas and David Mallen.

|             | Scratch (Div 2)                     | Handicap (Div 3)                  | Seniors                               |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Rd 1</b> | Altona Lakes (A)<br>L 13pts to 3pts | Northcote(H)<br>W 11pts to 5pts   | Centenary Park (H)<br>W 12pts to 4pts |
| <b>Rd 2</b> | Westgate (H)<br>W 9pts to 7pts      | Ringwood (A)<br>L 13pts to 3pts   | Eastern Sward (A)<br>L 9pts to 7pts   |
| <b>Rd 3</b> | Brighton (A)<br>L 14pts to 2pts     | Camberwell (H)<br>W 12pts to 4pts | Creekside (H)<br>W 16pts to 0pts      |
| <b>Rd 4</b> | Altona Lakes (H)<br>L 9pts to 7pts  | Northcote (A)<br>L 13pts to 3pts  | Centenary Park (A)<br>L 14pts to 2pts |
| <b>Rd 5</b> | Westgate (A)<br>L 12pts to 4pts     | Ringwood(H)<br>L 11pts to 5pts    | Eastern Sward (H)<br>D 8pts to 8pts*  |
| <b>Rd 6</b> | Brighton (H)<br>L 12pts to 4pts     | Camberwell (A)<br>W 9pts to 7pts  | Creekside (A)<br>D 8pts to 8pts       |

\* Points shared due to unplayable course

### Fairway News Contributions and Feedback

It's great to have contributions from members in Fairway News. This issue has material from four of our members – Michael Kent, Christine Nicholson, Adrian Thomas and Mal McAfee (reluctantly). Thanks to those and others who have suggested things over time.

The feedback on Fairway News is usually positive but it would be great to hear what areas members like or what areas are of no interest. So if you have any comments, suggestions, have a Sandy golf story to tell or fancy a bit of creative writing please send it along to

[newsletter@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au](mailto:newsletter@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au)



## Rules and more rules – but not what you think.

First some eerily similar quotes:

“We are a rules driven society “Look, that's why there's rules, understand? So that you think before you break 'em.” Terry Pratchett, Thief of Time

“Know the rules well, so you can break them effectively.” Dalai Lama XIV

### Rules to Avoid Becoming an Ancient Golfer

Discovered by Sandy Club Treasurer Christine Nicholson just before they were placed in the shredder at the R & A we present their Rules to Avoid Becoming an Ancient Golfer. Disclaimer: When asked for comment the R& A denied the existence of any such rules.

- Rule 1 Do not grunt or groan when retrieving ball from hole or general bending over  
Failure to comply – One Stroke Penalty
- Rule 2 No muttering or talking to oneself  
Failure to comply – One Stroke Penalty
- Rule 3 Avoid the use of arms to assist in standing up from crouched or seated position  
Failure to comply – One Stroke Penalty
- Rule 4 Walk in purposeful manner – no shuffling  
Failure to comply – One Stroke Penalty
- Rule 5 Ensure any spectacles are free from detritus which would otherwise impair vision  
Failure to comply – One Stroke Penalty
- Rule 6 Keep dementia in check to enable correct scoring  
Failure to comply – General Penalty = 2 Strokes
- Rule 7 Refrain from unexpected breaking of wind or taking relief behind a bush  
Failure to comply – Penalty: Loss of Hole
- Rule 8 Severe breach of Rule 7  
Failure to comply – Disqualification

### Satchel Paige's Six Rules for Staying Young.

By contrast (or maybe thinking about it) on the same theme. Satchel Paige was a black American baseball pitcher who spent most of his astonishingly long career playing in black only leagues. After Jackie Robinson broke Major League baseball's colour ban in 1947 Paige was the 7<sup>th</sup> black player to play in the Major Leagues. He made his Major League debut at the ripe old age of 42 and played his last professional game at just short of his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday – so maybe there is something to his six rules! Here they are:

1. Avoid fried meats which angry up the blood
2. If your stomach disputes you, lie down and pacify it with cool thoughts.
3. Keep the juices flowing by jangling around gently as you move
4. Go very light on the vices such as carrying on in society. The social ramble ain't restful.
5. Avoid running at all times
6. Don't look back. Something might be gaining on you.

### The 5 X 5 Rule

The 5x5 rule states that if you come across an issue take a moment to think whether or not it will matter in 5 years. If it won't, don't spend more than 5 minutes stressing out about it. When your problems need to be put into perspective, the 5x5 rule is a good thing to remember.

## Know your golf stats – a Fairway News long read plus a picture of Brad Pitt

### The rise of sports stats

Advanced stats seem to be taking over all professional sports. In AFL you get contested possessions, clangers and clearances to name a few. USA based sports are particularly stats driven with baseball leading the way (Baseball is full of statistics and there is even a word for a baseball statistician – a sabermetrician). Baseball even has a stat called WAR – wins above replacement that supposedly measures how many wins an individual player contributes to the team compared with a replacement player.

You can also probably blame it all on *Moneyball*! *Moneyball* was the name given to the stats driven approach adopted by Billy Beane the GM of the Oakland Athletics baseball team in the US. He used advanced stats on individual players and situations to recruit certain players and design game strategies that went against traditional baseball wisdom. Oakland had some success and the approach was adopted by other teams and is credited with helping the Boston Red Sox win their first World Series for 86 years in 2004. Also it was made into a Hollywood movie with Brad Pitt playing Billy!



The ready availability of match and player statistics have also fuelled the burgeoning growth of fantasy competitions and, regrettably, betting options. (None of that sponsorship here!)

### Golf stats (MLNA Rated - medium level nerd alert)

In golf we have the traditional stats - fairways hit, greens in regulation, putts per green, sand saves, scrambling %s etc. but now if you follow the professional men's game you will have heard of the "Shots Gained" stat.

Taking advantage of the *Shotlink* tool (which measures each shot to an accuracy of 1 inch) used on all PGA events a Columbia Business School professor - Mark Broadie, created a new set of statistics based on the concept of "*Strokes Gained*". The Shotlink data enables the calculation of the average number of shots taken by a tour player to finish a hole from a given distance. For example, on average PGA Tour pros take 1.5 shots to complete a hole from 8-feet, meaning they 1-putt 50% of the time and 2-putt 50% of the time. With this dataset any shot can be compared relative to the shot's start point and endpoint.

Here's an example. A golfer stands on the tee of long par 3 where *Shotlink* says the average number of shots taken to complete this hole is 3.2. The player hits their tee shot to 16-feet, leaving a putt for birdie. The PGA Tour average to complete the hole from the tee was 3.2. The average strokes taken to complete the hole from their new location (16 feet) is 1.8.  **$3.2 - 1.8 = 1.4$**

The tee shot has placed them 1.4 strokes closer to completing the hole. After you subtract the one shot they have used to get to that spot the result is a Strokes Gained measure of 0.4 on that shot:  **$3.2 - 1.8 = 1.4 - 1 = 0.4$  SG.**

Generally the formula is: (Average no. of shots taken to get in the hole from the start position) – (Average no. of shots taken to get in the hole from the finish position) – 1.

**Get it? Got it? Good! \***

## Know your golf stats – Fairway News long read Part 2

Here's a driving example. According to *Shotlink* data, PGA pros take an average of 4.17 shots to complete a 460-yard par four. *Shotlink* also says that pros take on average 3.19 shots to complete a hole from the fairway at 200 yards. Consequently, if a pro hits their tee shot 260-yards and lands in the fairway, leaving 200 yards they will have lost 0.02 shots to the field.  **$4.17 - 3.19 = 0.98 - 1 = -0.02$  SG. BUT...**

If he drives the ball so there is only 140 yards left the average no of shots taken to hole out from 140yards is only 2.91 and the Stokes Gained calculation is  **$4.17 - 2.91 = 1.26 - 1 = +0.26$  SG. The drive gains 0.26 SG.**

This just sound like common sense but the metrification of the process has helped to drive the obsession with distance particularly in someone like the golf professor Bryson DeChambeau.

### Can you use Stroke Gained in your own game?

A number of apps and devices enable the amateur golfer to also track their shots and work out where they are gaining or losing shots against the average. This can help with on course strategy and designing practice routines. Some of the ones that come up are Arccos, Shotscope, Garmin SwingU, Decade and GolfShot has promised one for later this year. There seems to be a lot of variation in cost (upfront, subscription), method of collecting data(some require sensors to be attached to your clubs), tech (some can be paired with an Apple Watch for instance) and output. *Note: If any member is using one of these or similar app and would like to give us a bit of a review please write to [newsletter@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au](mailto:newsletter@sandringhamgolfclub.org.au).*

### What's it mean?

To finish here is some food for thought from both some traditional stats and the strokes gained perspective. It seems that the average PGA Tour player will hole less than 1 in 3 putts from 3 to 4.6m and under 1 in 5 putts from 4.6 to 6m. Don't feel too bad next time you miss a 2m putt!

### PGA Putting 2022

| % Holed   | Worst | Average | Best  |
|-----------|-------|---------|-------|
| Ins 1.5m  | 93.1% | 96.7%   | 99.2% |
| 1.5 – 3m  | 42.6% | 56.3%   | 67.2% |
| 3 – 4.6 m | 20.0% | 30.2%   | 42.7% |
| 4.6 – 6 m | 7.9%  | 18.3%   | 30.8% |

Sources: A large part of this material was obtained from an article at <https://golfin InsiderUK.com/strokes-gained-explained/>

For up to date Strokes Gained stats the Data Golf site is amazing but prepared to be bewildered. <https://datagolf.com>

\* From previous page. Bonus points if you get the movie reference here but it means you are likely to be really old and should pay attention to the Rules section earlier this issue

In the most recent PGA tournament world No 1 Scottie Scheffler finished tied for 3<sup>rd</sup>. For the tournament he was No1 in *Strokes Gained Tee to Green, Off the Tee and Approach*. He was 10<sup>th</sup> in *Strokes Gained Around the Green* but was 59<sup>th</sup> in *Strokes Gained Putting* losing 1.46 shots to the field on the greens and more than 3 shots to the players who finished ahead of him. He lost by 1 shot! I think we know where his practice efforts will be directed!

