

Golf

PGA Championship moving to May in 2019

By DOUG FERGUSON Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Players are allowed to wear shorts during practice rounds at the PGA Championship. That won't be necessary in two years when it moves to May. The PGA of America is moving its major championship to May for the first time in 70 years when it goes to Bethpage Black on New York's Long Island in 2019 as part of a long-term plan that involves a major shift in the golf calendar, including The Players Championship going back to its March date, The Associated Press has learned. Two officials involved in the discussions say the PGA of America and PGA Tour will discuss details of the move as early as Tuesday at Quail Hollow Club, site of this year's PGA Championship. They spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the move has not been announced. The change has been in the works for four years, one official said. The catalyst behind the movement was golf's return to the Olympics, along with the PGA

Tour's desire to wrap up its FedEx Cup before the NFL begins. The move to May also puts the PGA Championship in the middle of the major championship season — after the Masters, before the U.S. Open — instead of being stuck at the end in August when courses typically are softer because of the summer heat and sports fans have one eye turned toward football. Still to be determined is the how the rest of the PGA Tour schedule is constricted to finish around Labor Day. One official said the playoff event in Boston is likely to go away after 2018. Another official said one plan is for the Greenbrier Classic, typically held in July, to move to the fall. The PGA Championship has been in August since 1969 with two exceptions. Jack Nicklaus won in February 1971 when it was held at PGA National in South Florida, and last year it was held the final weekend in July at Baltusrol ahead of the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. The PGA is scheduled for Harding Park in San Francisco in 2020, so there was always the possibility of moving to May

during the next Olympic year. However, that would mean the PGA gets bounced around the calendar every four years. The PGA of America was interested in building continuity, and a move to May could energize what has been looked upon as the last of the four majors. That also would allow it to go to some areas that were deemed too hot for August, such as Texas, Florida and parts of the Southeast. It already has said the PGA Championship would return to Southern Hills in Tulsa before 2030. The last time it was held at Southern Hills, in 2007, temperatures topped 100 degrees. The move also could serve as a boost to golf courses around the country — the PGA of America has some 27,000 golf professionals — going into the heart of the season. But it also eliminates other parts of the country from hosting the PGA. One official said two traditional sites — Whistling Straits in Wisconsin and Hazeltine in Minnesota — would not be able to host the PGA Championship in May. Officials feel comfortable

with the weather and agronomy for Bethpage Black, and they are hopeful for good weather in 2023 for Oak Hill in Rochester, New York. The Players Championship, traditionally held in March two weeks before the Masters, moved to May in 2007 to get away from the biggest major of the year and create a sequence of big events through the summer. By going back to March, and creating space for the PGA Championship in May, it allows the tour to end its season around Labor Day instead of late September when the NFL is in full swing, and it keeps a strong sequence of events leading into the FedEx Cup playoffs. The PGA Championship celebrates its 100th anniversary next year, and it has a long history of moving around the calendar. The first one was played in October in New York. Since then, it has been held in every month except for January, March and April. The last time it was played in May was 1949, when Sam Snead won at Hermitage Country Club in Virginia.

BRIEFLY

Corley wins PCC Club Championship

PENDLETON — Matt Corley continued his streak of dominance at the Pendleton Country Club's Club Championship over the weekend, though he needed a late surge to do so. After a first round 70, Corley shot a second round 67 for a 137 overall to capture his eighth men's championship in 11 years of competing at the club, including his fourth straight. Tom Smith was the men's net champion with a 136 and Craig Christianson was the senior champion. Heather Reyes (179) took home the ladies championship. The club's next event is on Aug. 27 when it hosts the Patriot best ball tournament. It is open to the public and all proceeds will go to the Folds of Honor Foundation, which provides scholarships to families of fallen US soldiers.

SOLO:

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should I walk away from the game today, but I'm not one to retire. I have not retired." Even before her Olympic outburst, Solo was at odds with American soccer leadership as she lobbied for women's players to earn equitable salaries to the male national team players. "My contract got terminated because of my fight for equal pay with the United States Soccer Federation," Solo said. "I'm not sure until the lawsuit is over, that anything will change that. In the meantime I've had great opportunities and great contract offers to go back overseas and play. Possibly you'll see me overseas next year." Especially as Solo, who played in Sweden and France in 2004 and 2005, said her "shoulder is doing great." "I have a completely metal arm now — I'm bionic," she said. "I'm better now than I have been in the last 10 years so I'm pain free and I have more range of motion. I'm very happy with my health right now and I'm very happy with my fitness. I'm ready to get back." Solo, who was voted into the World XI team by fellow players in March, still hopes to be back in the United States side for the World Cup title defense in France. "I've always wanted to play in the 2019 World Cup," Solo said. "I'm in the best shape of my life in terms of my shoulder. I feel great. Should they (the United States) welcome me back then I will be in the goal competing and hopefully bringing back another World Cup trophy, but it's highly unlikely they are going to ask for me to come back. But I'm here guys."

SHRINE GAME: Locals help East to 29-23 victory

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championship game it didn't feel too good and ending on a win in the Shrine game feels pretty good." All five players were key contributors to their East team that ground out a 29-23 victory in the game. Murray, Grogan and Chester all got the majority of the snaps on defense, with Monkus and Grieb playing almost exclusively on offense. Murray was perhaps the defensive MVP of the game, as he picked up nine tackles with two sacks and one fumble recovery, along with numerous QB hurries. His fumble recovery came early in the third quarter which set up a touchdown for the East, and his second sack came on a third down play late in the fourth quarter which helped seal the East's victory. "I knew it would happen," Grieb said of his friend's performance. "Kevin is such a great player, especially defensively and it's been awesome playing with him for the past few years. He always made me look good back at (defensive back)." Grogan registered four tackles from his hybrid linebacker/safety spot, including a chase-down tackle that surely saved a touchdown in the second quarter. He also played three snaps at quarterback where he ran the ball twice for 13 yards before losing a fumble. "This week was better than what I expected because of the people I was with," said Grogan. "All of my teammates are just awesome and honestly and I would rather stay



Staff photo by Eric Singer Stanfield's Dylan Grogan runs a QB keeper during the first half of Saturday's 65th annual Oregon East West Shrine All-Star football game in Baker City. Grogan's East team won 29-23.

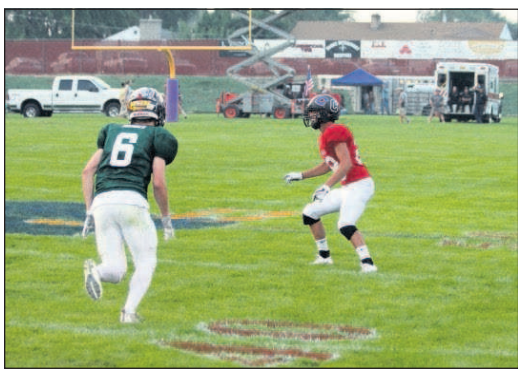


Staff photo by Eric Singer Heppner's Logan Grieb peers toward the sideline for instruction during the fourth quarter of the 65th annual Oregon East West Shrine All-Star football game on Saturday in Baker City.

and hang out with them more, we created a family with all these guys. I'm glad I got to end with a win now, especially with this team." Monkus was one of two primary offensive weapons that East deployed, lining up in his familiar slot receiver spot and doing a lot of damage off of jet sweeps where he picked up 73 yards on 10 carries. He also caught two passes for 45 yards, one of which was a 42 yard touchdown reception for the East's first points of the game early in the third quarter. "It felt good to be back out here," said Monkus. "I really missed it and I'm really going to miss playing under these lights and playing with my brothers."

Chester got a lot of playing time at corner back and on the kickoff coverage unit, where he registered three total tackles. He said being able to play in the atmosphere of the Shrine Game is something he'll never forget. "The crowd was awesome, the players were awesome, it felt like a state championship win," he said. "I'll never play football again and one last chance to play with all these awesome people, the best of Oregon, it was awesome." And aside from the game, the players were all happy to help out the Oregon Shriners who put on the game to help raise money for the Shriners Hospital for Children in Portland. According to the game

website, it is the No. 1 fundraiser of its kind in North America for the Shriners Hospitals where they raised approximately \$2.5 million through the first 64 years. "It was an unbelievable experience and to see what the Shriners do for no pay just out of their goodness of their heart," said Murray. "And to be able to come in and help them do something so good is unbelievable." Contact Eric at esinger@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0839. Follow him on Twitter @ByEricSinger.



Staff photo by Eric Singer Mac-Hi's Riley Chester drops back at his cornerback position during Saturday's 65th annual Oregon East West Shrine All-Star football game in Baker City.



Staff photo by Eric Singer Stanfield's Thyler Monkus gets tackled during the fourth quarter of Saturday's 65th annual Oregon East West Shrine All-Star football game in Baker City.



Staff photo by Eric Singer Heppner's Kevin Murray finishes off a QB sack during Saturday's 65th annual Oregon East West Shrine All-Star football game in Baker City.

SCOREBOARD

Baseball table with columns for MLB, American League, East Division, Central Division, West Division, Monday's Games, Tuesday's Games, Wednesday's Games, National League, East Division, and West Division. Includes team names, wins/losses, and percentages.

Soccer table with columns for South Division, Monday's Conference, Tuesday's Conference, Wednesday's Conference, West Division, Monday's Conference, Tuesday's Conference, Wednesday's Conference, and National League. Includes team names, wins, losses, points, and goals.

Basketball table with columns for WNBA, Eastern Conference, Western Conference, Monday's Games, Tuesday's Games, Wednesday's Games, PGA Tour, and Golf. Includes team names, wins/losses, and scores.

Auto Racing table with columns for NASCAR Monster Energy Cup Series, Final Results, and Race Statistics. Includes driver names, car numbers, and race times.