Welcome Pen Pushers! This is our 14th season as the Pen Pushers of America Golf Society. We hope everyone has been getting ready for our first outing of the season. Your Pen Pushers 2015 committee met last month and have been working to firm up the schedule and get ready for our 2015 season. We have some exciting golf outings planned for everyone this year. Last year we continued to increase the membership and had some great turnouts at events as well. We are looking forward to having everyone back and hope to continue the trend with adding more members this year. Let's all help by spreading the word and bring guests to each outing. Keeping the outings numbers up helps us guarantee good rates and let us schedule shotgun starts. This allows us to play quicker and have less waiting around. Keep up the guest invites and help others enjoy more golf!

The Website is now open for event registration, so if you have not done so already, make sure you sign up ASAP for our first outing which is only a few weeks away. Our first event is the Irish Open at Lansdowne is on March 18th. We are all hoping our opener this year will again be a nice WARM day like we had last season. Our first and last outings of the season are always a little dicey with regards to the weather, as some of you recall last November at Raspberry Falls. Let's all hope for some more Global warming effect for our opener at Lansdowne. We will expect a good showing so… Go now and register for this great opportunity to play a course that is normally closed to the open public.

Speed of play (big focus this year).



At Pen Pushers, we don't care if you don't play well, but you need to keep the "pace of play". Last year we changed the ruling of lost balls by asking each of you to spend no more than 3 minutes looking for the ball. Once you arrive at the location where you believe you hit your ball, you have 3 minutes to find your ball. After 3 minutes you **MUST** take a 1 stroke penalty drop a ball, in bounds, where you feel the ball went. Even if it went out of bounds, Drop it, in bounds, and continue to play. We all need to work hard to keep up our speed of play! At this year's events we will begin the process of voting for the Slowest Golfer – **The penalty for this award will be they buy the foursome a drink! – and you will be on everyone's shit list!** Unlike Hole in One Insurance, there will be no Insurance for this. We will insist you Pick up the PACE!

Handicaps- We hit a hole in one with our handicaps last year. All that tweaking has finally paid off as we had different winners in each of our nine events! This year, as in the past, our handicap Czar will adjust handicaps, up and down, to even things out. Thanks to our last year's Handicap Czar Steve Smingler who did an excellent job keeping track. We think our system is fair and will give everyone an opportunity to WIN.

Annual Dues- We need everyone to Sign-up, send in their $50.00 membership dues, and get out there on the range and work on your game! Remember the $50.00 memberships help pay for the trophies and ensure we have lots of food at each venue. Some of the clubs make us put down deposits, so we use the membership's dues to help with this. We are also creating another perpetual trophy for another event this year. Thanks for sending in your membership dues! (Mailing details provided later in this newsletter)

Let's all plan this year to make as many outings as we can and make this a GREAT year for our Pen Pushers golf society. This year we are giving awards for "Perfect Attendance"

2015 Committee Members:

Special thanks to Brian Hogan for his role as 2014 Captain. Let's all welcome in the 2015 Captain John Kravatz and our new Vice Captain Kenny Engram. Thanks to everyone who helped plan and worked our events last year. We appreciate your hard work and dedication, and welcome those who want to help out more in the future.

Here are your 2015 Committee Members:

John Sullivan – Chairman
Paul Tierney – Vice Chairman
John Kravatz – 2015 Captain
Kenny Engram - 2015 Vice-Captain
Steve Smingler - Handicap Czar
Brian Hogan– Event Coordinator
Jon Fraim – Event Coordinator
Matt Jacobs – Event Coordinator
Bob Caines – Event Coordinator
Mike Rubin – Event Coordinator/Communications



Pen Pushers Golf Society: 2015 List of Events

Event:	Coordinator:	Dates:	Location:
Irish Open	Sullivan/Hogan	March 18th	Lansdowne
Spring Challenge	Rubin	April 15th	Bull Run
British Cup (27 Holes)	Sullivan/Hogan	May 20th	Stoneleigh
Founders Trophy	Caines/Hogan	June 17th	Belmont Country Club *
Patriots Memorial (27 Holes)	Sullivan/Hogan	July 15th	Shenandoah Valley
Summer Championship	Caines	Aug 12th	Loudoun Golf and Country Club
John Denale Memorial - Captains Day Challenge	Fraim/Hogan	Sept 23rd	Dominion Valley Country Club*
Autumn Challenge	Tierney	Oct 14th	Hidden Creek
Turkey Shoot-Out	Tierney/Hogan	Nov 4th	Raspberry Falls

*** New Courses for the 2015 Season**

2015 Outing Rates:

We will again keep to last years established, "Fixed Rate", of $80.00 for each outing. Keeping this rate should help out with speed of registration (exact change) and keep costs consistent throughout the year. Each year the courses have bumped up their costs for Food and Greens fees. We have done everything we can to make our events enjoyable and good value while playing quality courses. Please help us out by making sure you have exact change for each event.

2015 Handicap Adjustments: - *Steve Smingler Handicap Czar*

At the beginning of each year, we review the handicaps and the past season's scores of each member for potential handicap adjustments. The minimum handicap is 0 and the maximum is 36. For the beginning of the 2015 season we will adjust a member's raw handicap +1 stroke for each point where the rounded average 2014 score (3 event minimum) is below 30 points. We will adjust a member's raw handicap -1 stroke for each point where the rounded average 2014 scores (3 event minimum) is above 36 points. Raw handicaps are rounded for use at each event.

As we did last year in 2014, monthly handicap adjustments equal +0.1 stroke adjustment for every point scored at that event that is below 36 and -0.1 stroke adjustment for every point scored at that event that is above 36, added to your prior month raw handicap. A score of 36 incurs no handicap adjustment unless that player is the event winner.

The purpose of all of the handicap adjustments is to bring the members handicaps in line with their Stableford scores and create a level playing field where all members have a chance to win the event.

Steve Smingler, the new Handicap Czar reserves the right to make all handicap rule interpretations and rule changes and arbitrary adjustments are made to the handicaps of those members who whine and moan about the rules or their handicaps.

2014 Recap of Event Results:

Event:	Location:	Date:	Champion	Goat Boy	Long Drive	Closest to the Pin	Putting Champion
Irish Open	Lansdowne	April 9, 2014	Kenny Engram	Chuck Roney	John Sullivan	Steve Smingler	Subash Penmetsa
Spring Challenge	Bull Run	April 16, 2014	Mike Rubin	Michael Hunter	Subash Penmetsa	Jon Fraim	Brian Hogan
British Cup	Stoneleigh	May 14, 2014	Brian Hogan	Clifton Edwards	Brent Schnupp	John Kravatz	Gary Pulino
Founders Trophy	Blue Ridge Shadows	June 18, 2014	Gary Pulino	Matt Jacobs	Jon Fraim	Gary Pulino	John Sullivan
Patriots Memorial	Shenandoah Valley	July 16, 2014	Paul Tierney	Larry Brooks	Gary Pulino	Gary Pulino	Keith Ludeman
Summer Championship	Loudoun Golf and Country Club	August 13, 2014	Todd Davis	Mike Rubin	Shane Langdon	John Sullivan	Tanner Welsh
John Denale Memorial - Captains Day Challenge	1757 Gulf Club	September 17, 2014	Steve Smingler	Pedro Lopez	Jon Fraim	Subash Penmetsa	Chris Eller
Autumn Challenge	Hidden Creek	October 15, 2014	Jon Fraim	Paul Tierney	Jon Fraim	Kenny Engram	Bob Caines
Turkey Shoot-Out	Raspberry Falls	November 12, 2014	John Sullivan	Mike Volpe	Jon Fraim	Chris Eller	Adam Kennedy

2014 Season Awards:

((To be announced and awarded at the Irish Open))

* 2014 Tour Champion (Golfer of the year)
* "**Big Dog**" Long Drive Hitter
* Birdie Master
* Mean Green Machine
* Putting Master
* Perfect Attendance
* Most Improved

Mike Moody with **Tour Champion Bag**
(awarded for 2013)



For the 2014 Season Putting Master Award:

We have a nine way tie for which there will be a putt-off held at the Irish Open to determine the winner. Contestants are:

Subash Penmetsa	Brian Hogan	John Sullivan
Gary Pulino	Chris Eller	Tanner Walsh
Keith Ludeman	Adam Kennedy	Bob Caines

Must be there to compete!

New "Low Gross" Monthly Award



Beginning this season, we are adding a new monthly award to be awarded at each event. **The Low Gross Score of the Day**, or by its new name the **LION MAN AWARD!,** as the best golfer of the day**.** Like our Goat Boy winners each month, the Lion Man can only be won once per season per person. This award is reserved for MEMBERS ONLY. So now each month the member with the lowest gross score will be called "Lion Man" and be recognized as the best golfer of the day.

Other Interesting Historical Stats:

Statistic	Score / #	Name	Year	Course
Lowest Goatboy	1	John Denale	2002	Bull Run
Highest Goatboy	29	Dave Watts	2004	Stoneleigh
Lowest Champion	16	Jed Fotchman	2002	Bull Run
Highest Champion	50	Todd Davis Dave Watts	2011 2012	Shenandoah Bull Run
Lowest Score	0	Vernon Hardy	2002	Bull Run
Total # Championships	6	Steve Smingler*	N/A	N/A
Total # Goatboys	10	Paul Tierney*	N/A	N/A
Total # Closest to Pin	7	Steve Pera	N/A	N/A
Total # Long Drives	14	Jon Fraim*	N/A	N/A
Total # Putting Championships Total # Consecutive Events w/o Goatboy	6 52	Larry Brooks Jon Fraim*	N/A and	N/A Still Going

* **New record for 2014**

Pen Pushers November Myrtle Beach Golf Outing Recaps:

By John Sullivan

The Myrtle Beach golf trip event is a great time with very good courses to play, warm November weather, a fun group of guys, and an unbelievably good golf value. It is organized by a group of Veterans' who has been going down there for more than 20 years. It is always scheduled around Veterans' Day, which is the first week of November. It is both a team event and an individual event which had 56 golfers last year, and our Pen Pushers were well represented with 4 golfers in the top 10 money winners. (YES there is money to be won!) The four day trip cost $395 and included: 4 nights' accommodations in a nice townhome, 4 rounds of golf, breakfast and lunch each day with 2 beers (the beers are with lunch Jon. . .) and the opportunity to participate in all the daily and 4 day event competitions (individual and team). In addition to the golf, Myrtle Beach also offers other fun things to do and see including (but not limited to) the beach, tons of restaurant options, the House of Blues, a gambling casino boat (which we all did), and lots of Sports bars. The biggest rookie mistake (and sometimes not just the rookies) is the "too much to drink the first night", which often causes that first round getting off to a blurry start.

We had nine Pen Pushers there last year and it would be nice to get a full team of 13 for this year. More information regarding the deal and dates for this year will be coming in the next few months.
PS: Only Fun Loving Members need apply!









Sming shaking a lizard,
Gary trying to get a date with one. . . .

And NO, those are not shots of Tequila,
because I don't drink any more,
(or less, than I use to. . . .)

Perpetual Trophies:

Of the nine events we have each year; eight of them have Perpetual Trophies. This year we will fill the 9th Perpetual Trophy slot (the Spring Challenge).

Here are some of our past winners holding our other Perpetual Trophies:



May
British Cup



March
Irish Open



November
Turkey Shootout



July
Patriots Memorial



September - Captain's Day Challenge
John Denale Memorial



August
Summer Championship



June
Founders Trophy



April
Spring Challenge



October
Autumn Challenge

Upcoming Events and Activities:

The Irish Open



Location: Lansdowne Golf Course, Norman Course
Date: **March 18th, 2015 (Wednesday)**
Time: 10:00 – 11:00 Registration,
Putting Competition, driving range,
11:00am Tee off

Prizes, Awards and Meal: (Directly after the golf – as usual)
Champion, Long Drive, Closest to the Pin, Goat-boy, Putting Champion

Entry Fee: $80 - Includes Golf, Practice Range, Prizes, Awards, and Food
Event Registration: Use web site if you are a member,
or call John Sullivan at (703) 622-0084

All 2014 Season category winners will be awarded at the banquet!

Registration Cut-off: March 9th
Lansdowne is still a private course. Only "special events" allow non-members to play there. So, this is a rare opportunity to play a course that is not open to the general public. We are urging everyone to bring a guest, who would be a potential member,

So... **find a golf buddy and talk him into joining us for a great day.**

2015 - 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 2015 events. You can now go to the web site and register for events. Call or e-mail Paul Tierney if you forgot your log on ID and PASSWORD. If you register for the Irish Open you can pay annual dues then. Otherwise, please send an e-mail with your intent to be a member to: penpushers@gmail.com , and mail your check as described below. **For your GUESTS**: e-mail guest information to the same address, and/or call John Sullivan.
- **New Members:** Send your contact information: Name; Postal Address; E-mail; Phone(s); who nominated you, Handicap, etc., with $50 check to the address below.

Annual Membership Dues: $50 (Still the greatest golf value in America!)
Checks should be made out to: **Pen Pushers**

Mailed to:
Pen Pushers of America: C/O John Sullivan
19836 Frasier Hill Lane
Bluemont, VA 20145-2032

It would be greatly appreciated if you could mail in your dues ASAP or better yet, bring them to the first outing. Thanks

Pen Pushers of America Golf Society
19836 Frasier Hill Lane
Bluemont, VA 20145- 2032

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