2022 Season Opener Newsletter

Pen Pushers of America

Golf Society

www.penpushers.us

Welcome to the Pen Pushers of America's 21st season. It is hard to believe that our Irish Open in March will be our 177th event since we started this golf society. We hope to see everyone at our first event of the season, the Irish Open, March 16th, at Lansdowne.



2021 Pen Pushers Irish Open at Lansdowne



As the Covid pandemic continued in 2021, it was another difficult year for the world and for many of us who were trying to stay healthy and sane while respecting all the safety and social distancing policies. I am happy to say that we were able to hold all nine of our events with some changes to adhere to the safety requirements. Hopefully this season we can get back to our normal post event banquets and social aspects of our golf society. But we will have to see how things go Corona-wise regarding safety and may have to adjust our events accordingly.



Your 2022 Pen Pushers Committee Members met in January and has finalized the schedule of events for our 2022 season (attached later in this Newsletter). The meeting was well attended with 12 members and included our newest member and Vice-Captain Kibok Lee.

There are a few new things that we are doing this season so please read all of this newsletter to make sure you are well informed and ready to go for the season. The Committee has put together another great schedule of events for the 2022 season.

The Tradition Continues in 2022, Enjoy it!

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

- 2022 Committee Members
- 2022 Event Schedule
- Rules Review
- 2022 Membership Dues and Event Fees
- 2021 Season Awards
- 2021-2022 OC Trip
- Ocean City Golf Trip
- Recap of 2021 Event Results
- Other Interesting Historical Stats
- Perpetual Trophies
- Photo Gallery
- Code of Conduct

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. 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 public.

2022 Committee Members:

Special thanks to Pedro Lopez for his role as 2021 Captain. Your work and dedication to our events was much appreciated. Let's all welcome in the 2022 Captain Joe Radakovich and our new Vice-Captain Kibok Lee.



Kibok Lee
Vice-Captain



Joe Radakovich
Captain

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

Pedro Lopez 2021 Captain



John Sullivan – Chairman/Event Organizer/Membership Director
Brian Hogan– Vice Chairman/Director of Events
Paul Tierney – Web Master
Steve Smingler - Handicap Secretary
Mike Rubin –Treasurer/Communications/Event Organizer
Shane Langdon - Charity Organizer/ Shore Tour Organizer
Kibok Lee – Vice Captain/ Event Helper
Joe Radakovich–Captain / Event Helper
Chris Eller – Event Helper / Shore Tour Organizer
Bob Caines – Event Organizer/Event Helper
Gary Vanderheiden – Event Organizer /Event Helper
Jon Fraim – Event Organizer/Shore Tour Organizer

Pen Pushers Golf Society: 2022 List of Events

Date	Event	Location	Holes	Max Attendees
March 16th	Irish Open	Landsdowne	18	40
April 13th	Spring Challenge	Bull Run Golf Club	18	40
May 11th	British Cup	Stoneleigh	18	40
June 15th	Patriots Memorial	Shenandoah	27	40
July 15th	Founders Trophy	Heritage Hunt Golf and Country	18	40
August 18th	Summer Championship	Loudoun Golf & Country Club	18	40
September 13th	John Denale Memorial	Piedmont Club	18	40
October 19th	Autumn Challenge	Rock Harbor Golf Course (BOULDER)	18	40
October 21,22,23	Shore Tour in OC (Fri/Sat/Sun)	Various	18	20
November 9th	Turkey Shoot-Out	Raspberry Falls	18	40

Policy and Rules Review:

We have updated the Pen Pushers Handbook. to include a section on ***"Code of Conduct"*** and other rule and policy clarifications. Something new, 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 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 – We play scoring the by the Stableford Scoring rules. It is modified to give 2 points for a Net Par, 1 Point for a Net Bogie, 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 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 has the two options. Please read the Handbook Event Rules section regarding more details on this rule for requirements and options.

Closest to Pin winners must make Par or Better to win award.

Long Drive ball must be in our own fairway.

*Go to the **Pen Pusher Handbook** for more information and details.*

2021 Tour Winners and Champion

The Pen Pushers Tour of Events is our version of the USGA FedEx Cup. Our 9-event tour is scored with a Grand Prix point system. The top 15 finishers in each of our events receive points. The member with the most total points for the season is our tour champion. In addition to 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 Lansdowne, March 16th.

For 2021 our winners are as follows:



Ross Charles OR Kibok Lee (playoff at the Irish Open to determine)
"Big Dog"
Long Drive Competition



Ross Charles
"Putting Master"
Putting Competitions -



Kibok Lee
"Mean Green Machine"
Closest to Pin Competitions



Gary Pulino
"Birdie Master"
Most Birdies at Events



Brian Hogan
Two Event Winner



Gary Pulino
"Lion Man"
Most gross score wins



Shane Langdon
"TOUR CHAMPION"
Most grand prix points

At our first event this year, the Irish open, these awards we will be presented for the 2021 season.

New CTP and Big Dog Markers



A special shout out to Chris Eller who last year replaced our Big Dog and Closest to Pin Tee Markers. Chris, these two new markers are truly a trophy in themselves and the Pen Pushers thank you for your craftsmanship and these new additions to our club.

2021 Tour Stats:

	1st Place	#	2nd Place	#	3rd Place	#
Tour Championship Winner	Shane Langdon	63				
Total Best 5 Stableford Scores	Brian Hogan	166	Shane Langdon	163	Kibok Lee	159
Total Best 5 Grand Prix Scores	Brian Hogan	61	Shane Langdon	57	Mark Dudek	51
Highest Total Stableford Points	Steve Smingler	268	Shane Langdon	265	Brian Hogan	261
Highest Total Grand Prix Points	Shane Langdon	63	Brian Hogan	62	Smingler/Pulino	56
Total Wins	Brian Hogan	2	7 others with 1 each			
Total Birdies	Gary Pulino	15	Kibok Lee Ross Charles	14	Chris Eller	11
Big Dog	Lee/Charles	2				
Mean Green Machine	Kibok Lee	2	7 others with 1 each			
Putting Master	Ross Charles	3	6 others at 1 each	1		
Most Events Attended	Chris Eller Jon Fraim Brian Hogan Shane Langdon Kibok Lee Steve Smingler Ralph Tener Gary Vanderheiden	9	Mark Dudek Gary Pulino Joe Radakovich	8	Ross Charles Craig Collins Jeff Haymaker David Kennedy Pedro Lopez Chris Rossbach Mike Rubin	7
Most Lion Man Wins	Gary Pulino	5	Brian Hogan	2		

2021 – 2022 Fall Ocean City Golf Trip – Shane Langdon



For the 1st "official" Ocean City - Pen Pushers Autumn Tour Event, Shane Langdon/Chris Eller and Jon Fraim organized a fantastic 3 days of golf at some premium courses, Lighthouse Sound, Glen Riddle, and Rum Pointe. The format was standard Pen Pushers with stableford points daily, Grand Prix points for the tour totals, and some 2-man team blind draws for each day. It was well organized, and the courses were in perfect shape. At times, it felt like Scotland as those coastal winds were blowing and "wind cheaters" were often the shot of choice, (winds sustained at 15, gusting to 35 at times). We were lucky enough to have a couple of Pen Pusher "Heritage Members" join us for the weekend. Chris Hughes and Norm Aoresty. 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…). But, in the end, it was Mr. Mike Rubin who took top honors for the weekend by winning the 1st day, and taking 2nd place the second day, and earning the highest Grand Prix points for the weekend. Well Done Mike! Nice to see all your hard work pay off. Other notable day winners were Paul Tierney on the second day, and Ed Umpstead on the third day.



The Shore Tour is now on the schedule for this year. Look for the presentation of the new Perpetual trophy at the first event. Make sure you are registered now and pre-pay your $100 Dollar deposit to reserve your spot.

Location:	**Lansdowne Golf Course, Norman Course**
Date:	**March 16st, 2022 (Wednesday)**
Time:	9:00 – 9:45 - Registration, Putting Competition, driving range 9:45 Announcements 10:00am Shotgun Start
Prizes, Awards and 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, charitable donation, raffle entry and Food

Use web site if you are a member,
call John Sullivan if you have any problems or questions (540) 535-5386

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.
We will also be awarding the 2021 Tour Season Awards for the various categories at this event. One of which, the long drive category, will have a shootout between Kibok and Ross to break the tie. Good Luck guys!

2022 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 have a "Fixed Rate", of $100.00 for each event registration fee.

This now 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.
Annual Membership Dues: are now $100 which is for all 10 events. (includes the Shore Tour)

2022 - 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 2022 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 should also pay annual dues then. Otherwise, please send an e-mail with your intent to be a member to: penpushers@gmail.com, and follow the payment instructions from Mike Rubin. **For your GUESTS**: e-mail guest information to the same address.
- **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 only accepted by electronic payment method, Venmo and PayPal.
Contact Mike Rubin if you have any problems with the payment process.

2021 Recap of Event Results:

Event:	Location:	Date:	Champion		Goat Boy		Long Drive	Closest to the Pin	Putting Champion	Lion Man	
Irish Open	Lansdowne	17-Mar	Brian Hogan	41	Mike Rubin	12	Kibok Lee	Chris Eller	Steve Smingler	Brian Hogan	76
Spring Challenge	Bull Run	21-Apr	Gary Vanderheid	37	Brian Hogan	21	Martine Gidoni	Jeff Haymaker	Chris Eller	Kibok Lee	77
British Cup	Stoneleigh	12-May	Joe Radakovich	36	Bob Caines	17	Chandler Wilkins	Corey Reagan	Ross Charles	Gary Pulino	77
Founders Trophy	Heritage Hunt Country Club	6-Aug	Jeff Haymaker	34	Alan Egge	21	Ross Charles	Kibok Lee	Ross Charles	Ross Charles	78
Patriots Memorial	Shenandoah Valley	14-Jul	Wil Fekeci	37	Craig Collins	20	Kibok Lee	Chuck Harrington	Larry Newell	Gary Pulino	75
Summer Championship	Loudoun Golf and Country Club	19-Aug	Larry Newell	35	David Kennedy	20	Shane Langdon	Brian Hogan	Gary Pulino	Gary Pulino	78
John Denale Memorial	Piedmont Club	14-Sep	Chris Eller	34	Bruce Bibb	16	Ross Charles	Kibok Lee	Alan Egge	Gary Pulino	77
Autumn Challenge	Rock Harbor-Boulder	20-Oct	Brian Hogan	34	Gary Vanderheiden	11	Shane Langdon	Mark Dudeck	Pedro Lopez	Brian Hogan	81
Turkey Shoot-Out	Raspberry Falls	10-Nov	John Slye	35	Corey Reagan	16	Brian Hogan	Gary Pulino	Ross Charles	Gary Pulino	76

Lion Man Awards



The Lion Man is the person who shot the Low Gross Score of the Day, (or the best golfer of the day).

2021 Lion Man Winners

LION MEN Winners	Event	Lion Man Winner	Gross Score
	Irish Open	Brian Hogan	76
	Spring Challenge	Kibok Lee	77
	British Cup	Gary Pulino	77
	Founders Trophy	Ross Charles	78
	Patriots Memorial	Gary Pulino	75
	Summer Championship	Gary Pulino	78
	John Denale Memorial - Captains Day Challenge	Gary Pulino	77
	Autumn Challenge	Brian Hogan	81
	Turkey Shoot-Out	Gary Pulino	76

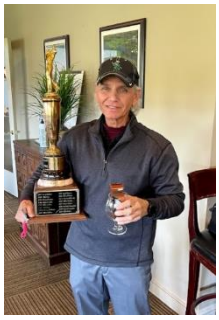
Perpetual and Photo Gallery Trophies:

We have a perpetual trophy for each of our ten events. All the past winners are captured on each trophy. Congratulations to all those Pen Pushers winners!

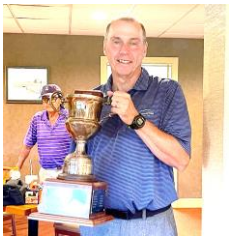
2021 Perpetual Trophy Winners: (Click each picture to see Event Photos)



2021 Irish Open
Brian Hogan



2021 Spring Challenge
Gary Vanderheiden



2021 British Cup
Joe Radakovich



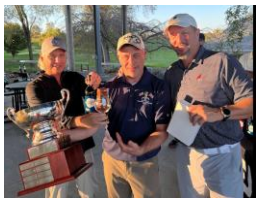
2021 Founders Trophy
Jeff Haymaker



2021 Patriots
Memorial
Will Fekeci



2021 Summer
Championship
Larry Newell



2021John Denele
Memorial
Chris Eller



2021Autumn Challenge
Brian Hogen



2021 Shore Tour
Mike Rubin



2021 Turkey
Shoot-Out
John Slye

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 are 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, good will, 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 good will are 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.
- Observes 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 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.