

# Going Postal

■ WE'VE GOT MAIL

## You Go Girls!

The superintendent brought me your article on Girl Golfers Just Wanna Have Fun (July/August "Money Shot" column). It made me think about my all-girls league, OFF (Out For Fun), at Earlville CC. I manage the pro shop at the 70-year-old, 9-hole course. We have golfers from all walks of life, and Earlville has been a learning course for many of them.

I decided to see if there was an interest in starting a league for women that was relaxing and fun. Most of the women were skeptical at first and thought they weren't good enough to join a league. To convince them otherwise, I told them how much fun golf can be when you're playing with a group of girls. Well, in three years the league has doubled in size, and the girls are having a ball.

They have also learned the rules and are very supportive of each other. This kind of league is important. Thank you and keep the articles coming.

**Debbie Spears**  
**Earlville CC**  
**Earlville, Ill.**

## Our Aim Is True

I found the response letters to Geoff Shackelford very amusing, though predictable. For me, I find it refreshing to finally find a magazine that "tells it how it sees it."

The industry has built this profession larger than life. I hope its bubble doesn't explode in a few years when we all will be working for management companies for \$40,000 less than what we are earning now. Keep up the good work.

**Jeff West**  
**Director of Golf Operations**  
**Golf Course Development**  
**Rochester, Mich.**

## Fine Whiners

I loved your article on Philping Off the Whiners (September "Flagstick" column. Great job. I'm 15-year PGA

professional, and I'm embarrassed when Tour pros complain about how a golf course has been set up.

Let's put things into perspective: Did any NBA player ever whine to the press about how unfair it was that they had to play against Michael Jordan because he's too good? Did NFL quarterbacks ever complain how unfair it was that they had to play against Lawrence Taylor because he was too tough? No, they took their lumps, praised their opponents for their tremendous fortitude and went home, and in private, kicked their dogs (figuratively, of course).

Play the course as you find it, and may the best player win! Just because the boys who are historically the best at playing the impeccably manicured, fairly setup Tour courses got their (golf) balls handed to them at Carnoustie, everyone assumes that Paul Lawrie and Jean Van de Velde were just hacks who got lucky for four rounds. *Hello!* Has any player of the game ever gotten lucky for four consecutive rounds? I'm unaware of any. These guys (the Europeans) play that kind of setup week in and week out. Of course they had an advantage.

The setup at Carnoustie was European golf — so accept it, play it and shut up, or stay home and play the Northwest Mideastern Cuervo Open.

**Alyn K. Stanton**  
**General Manager, Head Golf Professional**  
**Raven GC at Sabino Springs**  
**Tucson, Ariz.**

Feel like going postal? We want to hear from you. You can e-mail your letters to Pat Jones at [patrick.jones@advanstar.com](mailto:patrick.jones@advanstar.com), fax to 440-891-2675 or send them via snail-mail to: 7500 Old Oak Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44130. Make sure to include your name and phone number for verification. Letters may be edited for length or relevance.

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