

BUNKER SHOTS

Ramblings from a Semi-Warped Perspective

By Ken Williams, CGCS

Bubba Watson is now on my S-List. Not only did he complain about the greens being slow in the Tucson Match Play event and use it for an excuse for losing, he showed up wearing a \$500,000 watch. You're from the swamps of Florida, your name is Bubba, and you played high school golf with Boo Weekley. Get real, Bubba!

Donald Trump is another one who irks me. "There are no good private golf clubs in Chicago." What an idiot. Well, it definitely won't be any better if he puts another Trump International there. Fake waterfalls don't make a good private club.

A funny exchange was heard during the run up to March Madness, Bill Rafferty: "The ball handler exposed himself in the lane." Sean McDonough: "That's never a good idea!"

Below are some of my random thoughts from the NCGA-USGA Green Section Meeting @ Green Hills CC:

Next time we have a meeting at Green Hills, we need a designated volunteer to yank Walt Barret off the golf course—and into the meeting. Walt, it's okay. Relax, the place looks immaculate as always! Unfortunately, I think handcuffs might be required to keep him inside!

Golf Professional Trevor Miller welcomed the group and was surprised by the Coat and Tie dress. He unfortunately suggested, "The upstairs locker room was available to change clothes, or even the parking lot, since it's just a Monday." Big mistake!

Michael Jordan might look good in Hanes, but our guys sure don't. I didn't know which way NOT to look when walking out into the parking lot. Luckily I got there before the rain squall hit. Can you imagine seeing our guys out there in wet skivvies? Yiiiikes!

OK, that being said, is it FINALLY time to dump the coat and tie requirement for this meeting? USGA, I hope you are listening. It is a breakfast/lunch meeting with golf afterwards. We don't want to be lugging a dang suitcase to our meetings. Many supers have to go from work clothes to coat and tie and then to golf clothes, lugging the pile along the way. Sorry, I know you mean well, but we're just not Diva types. I know the blue blazer gang from Far Hills is notoriously slow to change their ways. But look around, it is the year 2011, and Coat and Tie is overdressed for dinner these days....

And if you're like me and have been to the last 5 of these meetings, you've heard Mike McCullough and Pat Gross both talk about water. This meeting was no different. I have to admit my eyes were glazing over. But you know what? I'm finally thinking they are trying to tell us something.

And in conclusion, I have a couple comments for Ron Read, our fantastic moderator for the meeting. Thanks again for volunteering your time with us and congratulations on your new granddaughter—born mid-meeting! My only gripe, and I know you meant no harm, is to please not refer to the superintendent at your club as "my superintendent." We still get that quite a lot from golf professionals. The term "my" infers ownership. It is bad enough that we are already a slave to the 10 billion blades of turf, along with everything else. We all need each other in this crazy business. Hopefully this one small detail will help us to continue to build the great relationships we need, not alienate one another!

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