

COMPETITION COMMITTEE

NEWS

Do the Work | CoCaptains' Expectations | Tx Cup format

Tourney Dates

Sep 12-13 - HOKA Cup @ Winstar

Oct 3-4 - Texas Cup @ Wildcat Highlands

Tx Cup 2-Man Team Practice Dates

Thursday twilight tee time @ Wildcat Highlands:

Aug 20 Thu

Aug 23 Sun

Sept 10 Sat

Sept 24 Thu

Team Goals

#1-20 shoot 73-74 or less, or 1 bogey/9 holes

#21-44 shoot 80-81 or less, or 9 bogeys + 9 pars

Play 2X/week

Practice 3X/week

Putting Distance Drill 3X/wk

Putting Gate Drill 3X/wk

Chipping Drill 3X/wk

Do the Work

It's crunch time. We have **6 weeks left till Tx Cup.**

Everyone looks at a tree and notices the branches and leaves on full display. But did you know notice that a tree grows in 2 directions? It must first start growing downward, into the dark, dense ground, carving its existence through hardship, an inch at a time. And once the foundation is built, it grows upward toward the sun, soaking in the rays as a life-force to display the form and beauty it is destined to become.



Competitive golf is like that. Before we can bask in the glory of playing well in the heat of battle, we must do the work in the quiet hours away from the limelight, away from the watchful eyes of our teammates, competitors, and friends. Allow me to repeat, *we have 6 weeks left.* It's time to **do the work.**

CoCaptains' Expectations & Team Goals

On Wildcat Highlands on your own ball individual stroke play, **We expect every player ranked #21-44 to score 80-81 or lower. We expect every player ranked #1-20 to shoot 73-74 or lower.** If we can do this, our opponent doesn't have a chance. This is our #1 goal. That's 9 pars/9 bogies for #21-44, one bogey per 9 holes for #1-20. It's doable, we've seen enough of your game to know this is possible. And when you do, **post your score on WhatsApp Tx Cup Team thread**, for all of us to see, as Jamie & Mike Ta have done. Work on your game in the dark, in the hardship, build the foundation, and the winning will take care of itself.



Metrics to Track on App

- *Putting Gate drill*, gate 6" in front of setup, width of gate 0.5cm wider than ball equator, make 10 in a row, track how many putts it takes you to complete. 10 is perfect score
- *Putting distance drill*, putt ball from 30', 40', 50', need 3 in a row within 3', 4', 5' before moving onto next distance, log how many putts needed to complete all 3 distances. 9 is perfect score
- *Chipping drill* from 15, 20, 25yds to 3 targets 3' wide, must land 3 balls in target distance before moving to next distance. Log how many strokes to complete. 9 is perfect score.
- *15min Mobility*, recommended 5X/wk, track the days you do them
- *30min Strength/Explosive exercises*, recommended 2X/wk, track when you do them
- *Clubhead speed* while hitting ball with driver, track every 2 wks

How to Achieve Our Goals

- **play 2X/week** at least, record your scores in the SkinApp (by Tho). <https://dtsapp.cloud/casualGameBook>
- **practice 3X/week** the drills on the left margin at least. Log your practice sessions in the SkinApp Player Development tab (click on silhouette upper right corner of App).
- the putting Gate Drill trains you to roll the ball exactly where you're aiming. If you hit the left tee of the gate, you pulled the putt. Hitting the right tee, you pushed the putt. Through the Gate, you've hit your target. Feedback is immediate.
- the putting Distance Drill trains your lag putting. There's nothing worse than leaving your partner a 2nd putt that's outside 3 feet. Speed is the most important part of putting. Avoid 3-putts by lagging it close, some of them may even go in!
- Why do we ask you to practice chipping from 15, 20, 25 yards? Most approach shot miss by 1-2 clubs, so practicing from these distances will cover 90% shots you need on the course. Focus on hitting your precise landing spot with your pitching and chipping, just like the drill, until you can hit the spot you're looking at with ease and regularity.
- communicate with your partner, talk about likes/dislikes, whether he likes putts to die in the hole or hit back of the cup, know his most hated shots/distances, discuss course management, etc. Play with your partner as often as possible.
- know your minimum & average carry distances of each club for you and your partner, very useful to clear Cover Distances. CoCaptain Dr. Thinh has GC Quad, Simulators for rent by the hour at Golf Galaxy, or go to Diamond Boyz Pickleball Sim.
- ask CoCaptains and teammates for tips/help anytime.
- Know the reads on greens. We will give you the exact pin positions for both days of Tx Cup.
- ****No new swings!!**** Go with the swing that won you a spot on the team. It's too late to build a new swing now and have any hope that it will work in competition. Note your tendencies when you miss or under pressure and adjust your targets appropriately.

This is the *MINIMUM* the CoCaptains expect out of you.

Tx Cup Itinerary

Oct 2 7:30pm at Diamond
Boyz Pickleball
Meet & Greet. Sat Pairings
announcement.

Oct 3 8am at Wildcat
Highlands
Best Ball & Modified Alternate
Shot. (+ lunch)

Oct 4 8am at Wildcat
Highlands
Singles Match Play then Trophy
presentation (+ lunch)



Anthony Kim broke through to win, a remarkable comeback after 12 years of exile from pro golf. To get there, he did this for 100 days straight:

chip for 4hrs, putt for 3hrs, have lunch, hit balls for 3hrs. That's 10hrs/day for 100 days!



We've witnessed huge improvements in our own HVGA players: Alan Pham, Alex Trinh, DaQuy, Hoang Trieu, Mathew Nguyen, Mike Ta to name a few. Ask any of them and they will tell you that they asked for help from a trusted source and put in the work. What are you willing to do to improve in the short time we have left?

Tx Cup Setup: what to expect

TX Cup will consist of 3 match play formats:

Sat 8AM: 2-man Best Ball. Each player plays his own ball until hole out, best score counts against your opponents. Worth 1 point per 2-man team.

Sat 1PM: 2-man Modified Alternate Shot. Both players tee off. Select best shot, then the player who's shot was not chosen hits the next shot, alternate hitting shots till hole out. Repeat next tee with 2 shots off the tee. Worth 1 point per 2-man team.

Sun 8AM: Singles. Each player plays his own ball, best score vs your opponent wins the hole. Worth 1 point per player.

There will be lunch on Sat at the clubhouse, Burger Bar and sandwiches. After the singles matches on Sunday, there will be trophy presentation & commencement catered lunch.

Friday 10/2/26 7:30pm, meet and greet at Diamond Boyz Pickleball. Saturday matchups will be announced.

Remember that *making the team does not guarantee playing time*. CoCaptains will utilize the lineup that gives us the best chance to win. Those that sit out has the option of playing casually during the matches or drive around to support the team. Hopefully, players in the arena will give us spectators something to smile about... like an insurmountable lead!



Comments

It's back to school season, and I'm reminded of the way elite universities, from Oxford to Harvard to Rice, prepare students to excel in life after graduation. Freshmen are required to stay on campus for 2 years, divided into colleges of 100-150 students in their own dormitory, where they live together, study & play together. Throughout the year, Colleges are pitted against one another in organized group events, like camping, lock-ins, academic or athletic competitions like trivia or intramural. It's Team Building, but most of it is group therapy, where fellow College students within the larger University spend years within close proximity to each other to get through the trials and tribulations of University life. They see each other set goals, help each other achieve and celebrate milestones and accomplishments, but also nurture each other through difficult times. The whole College or 'Team' journeys into adulthood together, all the better and stronger because they have each other.

Our team is set. We paired you with your partner & matched you with your group of interchangeable partners. You will soon get the Pin Positions for Highlands for Sat & Sun so you can learn all the breaks near the hole. We will give you course strategies for long and short hitters so you will know where to aim every shot. Our practices are setup to help you compete and feel the nerves. You have the daily drills and weekly routines to sharpen your game.

Hopefully, Tx Cup is important enough to you to dedicate yourself for the next 6 weeks so you can shine under the intense pressure of Match Play.

Paul Azinger used the 4-man Pod System in the 2008 Ryder Cup at Valhalla, and won! Buy into the Pod System. You are the support to your partner, to your group of 4, to your Team, and vice versa. I'd like borrow quote for Planet of the Apes:

HVGA... Together... Strong

Together we are strong. Together we are unstoppable.

Your CoCaptains believe in you. So please, let us know what else we can do to help you play your best in TX Cup.

