

FORMAT FOR THE 2007 PONCE DE LEON INVITATIONAL
Sea Island, Georgia (January 11 – 15, 2007)
The Lodge at Sea Island

BLACK SUNDAY (BLACK)

JEREMY BIRD (3)
JAMES RANKIN (13) (CAPT.)
MICHAEL PALMORE (14)
BILL WAINSCOTT (21)

TEAM LACOSTE (PINK/GREEN)

SCOTT WINN (7)
ANDREW HOLLOWELL (9)
JOHN KLIM (17)
WES BATTLE (18) (CAPT.)

TEAM 30305 (RED)

RICHARD MASSIE (9)
HENRY MASSIE (11) (CAPT.)
MUSCOE GARNETT (14)
NELSON VINSON (18)

ROUTE 29 TIGERS (BLUE)

MIKE AIDE (9) (CAPT.)
JOHN McALLISTER (10)
NEIL THOMSON (13)
CLAY THOMSON (19)

A note on the Handicaps:

These handicaps are subject to change, since scores can be inputted up through Jan 1, 2007. If anyone takes issue with any of the handicaps, I appreciate you taking it up with me privately first. Chairman McAllister and I have the right to make changes up until the start of the tournament. My goal, like in all years, is to try and make this tournament as equitable as possible. I am confident that the team who plays the best will win the Invitational, and I do not think an undeserving champion has been crowned to date. All 4 teams' average index ranges from 12.75 to 13 – which is remarkably close. **ALL HANDICAPS ARE TALLIED OFF OF THE SCORECARD, NOT EACH OTHER (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE CAPTS CHOICE, WHICH IS A 4 MAN AVERAGE).**

PRACTICE ROUND

THURSDAY JANUARY 11

PLANTATION COURSE
TEE TIMES: 12:30 – 1:00PM

No real format. Play with your teammates, or whomever. It is the only round where mulligans and practice shots are permitted. This is subject to change, but the tentative order of play for the practice round (assuming everyone plays with their team): (1) 30305; (2) Lacoste; (3) Black Sunday; and (4) Tigers.

FIRST ROUND

FRIDAY JANUARY 12

RETREAT COURSE

TEE TIMES: 10:00 – 10:30AM

STROKE PLAY (2 MAN AND 4 MAN COMPONENTS). All 16 players' strokes count. No gimmes. The only caveat is that double-par is the stroke limit for everyone, regardless of handicap (eg. 6 = max on par 3; 8 on par 4; 10 on par 5).

****Please note: if you give up on a hole, your score is double-par, even if you would have stroked on that hole. However, if you sink a putt for 8 on a par 4 (and play the hole out) and you happen to get a stroke on that hole, then you would get a 7 for that hole.**

Order of Play:

1ST GROUP: BIRD/RANKIN VS. AIDE/MCALLISTER

2ND GROUP: WINN/HOLLOWELL VS. R. MASSIE/H. MASSIE

3RD GROUP: PALMORE/WAINSCOTT VS. KLIM/BATTLE

4TH GROUP: N. THOMSON/C. THOMSON VS. GARNETT/VINSON

(NOTE: A REPRESENTATIVE FROM LAST YEAR'S DEFENDING CHAMPS HAS HONOR TO HIT FIRST TEE BALL OF THE TOURNAMENT)

Point Value:

In this round, there will also be 2 separate point values at stake:

Value #1: Total Strokes of Winning 2-some = 1 POINT for overall team
Total Strokes of Losing 2-some = ZERO POINTS for overall team
Tie here would be HALF a POINT each for overall team

Value #2: Total Strokes of all 4 players of Team:

1st Place gets 3 POINTS

2nd Place gets 2 POINTS

3rd Place gets 1 POINT

4th Place gets ZERO POINTS

Tying issues: split the point value (i.e. if 30305 ties with Tigers for 3rd overall, they each get 0.5pt).

SECOND ROUND

SATURDAY JANUARY 13 (am)

SEASIDE COURSE

TEE TIMES: 7:30AM – 8:00AM (LOOK OUT FOR FROST DELAYS!)

MATCH PLAY (2 MAN). Play your own ball (HOLE BY HOLE). Concessions are allowed by the opponents. It will be 2 vs. 2. Handicaps will of course be used. **The lowest net score per hole = that 2-some's team score.**

Order of Play:

- 1ST GROUP: BIRD/PALMORE VS. R. MASSIE/GARNETT
2ND GROUP: WINN/KLIM VS. AIDE/N. THOMSON
3RD GROUP: RANKIN/WAINSCOTT VS. HOLLOWELL/BATTLE
4TH GROUP: H. MASSIE/VINSON VS. MCALLISTER/C. THOMSON

Point Value:

The winning 2-some of each match gets 2 POINTS for his overall 4-man team.
The losing 2-some gets ZERO POINTS for his overall 4-man team.
A tie after 18 holes halves the match, so each 2-man team would receive ONE POINT for his overall 4-man team. There is no such thing as extra holes in this round.

THIRD ROUND

SATURDAY JANUARY 13 (pm)

PLANTATION COURSE

TEE TIMES: 1:00 – 1:30PM (BASICALLY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MORNING ROUND)

4 MAN CAPTAINS CHOICE/SCRAMBLE. Play with your entire team...Camaraderie is critical here! There is a minimum of 2 DRIVES from each player that has to be used. **Please note:** if all 4 rounds can't be completed due to darkness, the match will officially conclude when the last group is able to finish a hole—that group then has to declare to the group ahead that they are finished (i.e. cannot start a hole and then decide to quit in the middle of a hole). Handicaps will be incorporated in the following manner (team composite handicap average – subject to change between now and when handicaps are locked in):

Black Sunday = 12.75 avg.
Team 30305 = 13.0 avg.
Team Lacoste = 12.75 avg.
Route 29 Tigers = 12.75 avg.

As it stands now, the gross score and net score will be the same...all 4 foursomes play to a 13 handicap.

Order of Play:

- 1st Group: Black Sunday
2nd Group: Team Lacoste
3rd Group: Team 30305
4th Group: Route 29 Tigers

FOURTH ROUND

SUNDAY JANUARY 14

Seaside Course

Tee Times: 11:00 – 11:30am (Caddies Recommended)

SUNDAY SINGLES. MATCH PLAY – WITH HANDICAPS. This is the tradition. This is what it is all about. The match-ups will not be determined until Saturday night at the Session. Points are more heavily awarded. This is the most important round of the tournament. You must ride with your opponent in the cart, even if you have a teammate in your 4-some (UNLESS WE GET CADDIES – If we get 1 caddie for 2 golfers, please have that caddie carry you and your opponent's bag).

Order of Play:

The easiest way to picture this is 4 tee-times of four 4-somes, similar to the other rounds, except, visualize a blanks for the names....An "A" player need not be matched up with another "A" player...that is the beauty of handicaps.

1st Place team's Captain after Saturday Round submits his Order of Play to the 3 other Captains by 8:00pm Saturday night. Each of the 4 players of this leading team will be playing in a different 4-some. The only strategy for this Captain is who he wants starting off, and who he wants anchoring. This leading team is most disadvantaged by this order. Not only are each of his players "on an island" (i.e. guaranteed to have no teammates in his 4-some), but this leading team has ZERO SAY over who they will be placed up against.

Next, the 2nd Place team's Captain submits his 4 players, with the stipulation that he has to put each player at a different tee time (different 4-somes--each of his guys are also "on an island.") **RULE: This 2nd Place Captain has some control though, as he can opt to pit none, one or two of his players against the 1st place opponents.** (He cannot place more than 2 of his players against the leaders, so as not to inhibit 3rd and 4th from having a mathematical chance of winning). Obviously, if he does not want to have one of his players face a 1st Place player, he will have the mystery of not knowing who exactly his guy will be playing (one of the 8 remaining players from the 3rd and 4th Place teams).

Next, the 4th Place team's Captain fills in his 4 players. It is OK (and maybe necessary) for more than one of his players to be in the same 4-some (obviously different cart). He gets the advantage over the 3rd Place guy b/c he doesn't get the feel that he is stuck with certain opponents. At the same time, he could put a guy in a blank 2-some and this will give the 3rd Place Captain a chance to have some control over a match-up.

Finally, the 3rd Place team's Captain fills in the final 4 spots with his 4 players.

Point Value:

The winning singles player gets 2 POINTS for his overall team.

The losing singles player gets ZERO POINTS for his overall team.

A halved match results in 1 POINT each for their respective overall teams.

**Note: A team sweep of all 4 of their individual matches gives that team 8 POINTS which could obviously be a huge swing. This value should keep a lot of teams, if not all, still in it going into Sunday Singles.

The Wager:

1st Place = Names Engraved on Trophy and Possession of Trophy until the Next Year's Invitational
= Free Sunday Night Dinner at Cellar at The Wine Cellar at the Lodge
= Right to Return as Defending Champs

2nd Place = only pay for their own tab at Sunday Night Awards Dinner

3rd and 4th Place = pay for Champs and themselves at Sunday Night Awards Dinner

*****In the result of an overall tie in points for first, the team who fares the best against the other tied team(s) in any and all match-ups will be declared the champ*** (i.e. the captains choice round will**

not figure in; neither will any 2-some or singles matches that involve team(s) who are not tied for first).

There are no tiebreakers for the other places. PLEASE TURN ALL SCORECARDS INTO ME AFTER EVERY ROUND. I KEEP THEM FOR STATISTICAL/HISTORICAL PURPOSES.

Postscript:

This should be a special Invitational as we hit the 5 year milestone. For the first time, all 16 players have played in at least one prior Invitational. The tradition is building steam, no doubt. John McAllister has done a fabulous job putting this event on and securing an incredible deal at this 5 star resort. How can one top Golf Digest's #1 Golf Resort in North America for 2006-2007?!!!

As always, I encourage sportsmanship and fair play. The bragging rights are unreal. We all have that competitive spirit; that is why each of you received an invitation. Golf is the priority at this event and it always will be. More details will follow regarding a new tradition this year: Thursday Opening Remarks. Essentially, each Captain will need to give a State of the Team address on Thursday night, prior to the competitive rounds. I will email each Captain with details. I will also be sending some follow-up regarding one-planned group dinner "off-campus," prior to the Sunday night dinner. For those who are not familiar with Sea Island, the Lodge and all courses are on-site. The Oak Room Bar is magnificent as a 19th Hole – I foresee a lot of time being spent by all of us right there at the resort.

A sidenote: A couple of miles away, it is my understanding that the new Spa at Sea Island recently opened, adjacent to the Cloister. You may want to refer to the website for details, but that may be something you want to consider post-round.

Finally, please wear a sportcoat or blazer to the Sunday awards dinner, pursuant to tradition. We are dining at the Wine Cellar at the Lodge – in private fashion of course. It promises to be top notch. At the dinner, the Fountain of Youth Cup will be awarded to the winning team. Of course, there will be a 16 man vote for individual MVP, and Mac and I will recognize the 2007 Spirit Award winner.

Game on.

Respectfully,

Neil D. Thomson
Chairman Emeritus

John G. McAllister
Chairman, 2007 Ponce de Leon Invitational

December 17, 2006