



72 Years from Worcester to Brookline

"Why can't they get to know each other? I will give five pounds to each of the winning players, and give a party afterwards, with champagne and chicken sandwiches."

So proffered English sportsman Samuel Ryder after taking in a 1926 international match between U.S. and British golf profes-

sionals at Wentworth in England. These so-called 'unofficial' matches were won, 131/2-11/2, by the British, exemplified by a foursomes win, 9 and 8, by Abe Mitchell and George Duncan over the U.S.'s Walter Hagen and Jim Barnes.

That evening, the players did get to know each other. Soon, Ryder agreed to

donate a solid gold trophy for the 'official' Ryder Cup Matches, which were arranged for 1927 at Worcester Country Club — the Donald Ross-designed gem which had hosted the 1925 U.S. Open. Willie Ogg, Worcester's pro and Vice President of The PGA of America, played a role in the site selection.

Only American-born professionals were deemed eligible to represent the U.S. Thus, some great players of the time — like amateurs Bobby Jones and Francis Ouimet, and foreign-born Barnes and Tommy Armour — could not compete. The first British Team lost Mitchell, their expected Captain, who — suffering from appendicitis — stayed home in England.

Seventy-two years (including 32 competitions-worth of victory champagne plus countless chicken sandwiches) later, the Ryder Cup Matches return to Massachusetts.



Ogg was key in bringing the Ryder Cup to Worcester.



The first — and victorious — U.S. Ryder Cup Team in 1927 at Worcester CC: front (L to R) Leo Diegel, Bill Mehlhorn, Captain Walter Hagen, Al Espinosa, Gene Sarazen; rear (L to R) Johnny Golden, Joe Turnesa, Johnny Farrell, Al Watrous.

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Then... & Now

A capsule look at how things have changed from 1927 to 1999.

Fly Boys	Lindbergh: He touches down in Paris just before the British boat embarks.	Glenn: After year lay-off, he might just be ready for another jaunt in space.
Pond Crossing	Aquitania: The stormy, six-day Cunard passage on Atlantic caused sea legs.	Concorde: A somewhat noisy, 3+ hour flight unlikely to even cause jet lag.
Course Ware	Tweed: Coats and, of course, knickers — and Worcester required ties.	Cotton: Golf shirts, khaki pants, sleeveless sweaters — cashmere if it gets cold.
The Payoff	Lunch: Samuel Ryder suggests, "...five pounds and chicken sandwiches".	Prestige: Players will not receive prize money, but there is still a free lunch.
American Attitudes	Prohibition: Despite his offer for Champagne, Ryder couldn't buy it here.	Cheers: Fifty-seven corporate hospitality tents are being built at The Country Club.
Long Hitters	Hagen & Ray: Hickory shafts got them way out in the 250+ yard range.	Tiger & Love: Today's top players will likely attempt to drive some of the par fours.
Longer Hitters	Ruth: British saw him play in a game on May 28 — season he swatted #60.	McGwire: Europe can fly on to St. Louis for his last 1999 game, 10/3/99 — for #70+?

1927

▶ USA 9 1/2
GB 2 1/2

Worcester Country Club

Worcester, MA — June 3-4

A surprisingly dominating performance by Captain Walter Hagen's U.S. Team which wins nine and halves one of the 12 matches. British Captain Ted Ray praises the U.S. putting superiority and long iron play, and laments the central Massachusetts winds.

1929

▶ GB 7
USA 5

Moortown Golf Club

Leeds, Eng. — May 26-27

British avenge 1927 as Abe Mitchell, whose likeness adorns the Ryder Cup Trophy, makes his Matches debut and earns team's only Foursomes win. Led by George Duncan's rout of Captain Hagen, 10 and 8, British rally for 5 1/2 of 8 points in Day Two's singles.

1931

▶ USA 9
GB 3

Scioto Country Club

Columbus, OH — June 26-27

Captain Hagen reverses his 1929 fortunes, teaming with rookie Denny Shute to crush Duncan and Arthur Havers in foursomes, 10 and 9. On Day Two, Hagen, Shute, Billy Burke, Gene Sarazen, Wilfred Cox and Al Espinosa record victories as U.S. wins 6 of 8 singles.

1933

▶ GB 6 1/2
USA 5 1/2

Southport & Ainsdale Golf Club

Southport, Eng. — June 26-27

On the final green of the final singles match, Britain's Syd Easterbrook and America's Shute are all square on the final green, each facing 30-foot putts. Easterbrook leaves his within tap-in range. Shute putts four feet past and misses the comeback. British win.



'99 FAQs

["Frequently Asked Questions"] about the...

'99

The biggest names in golf are coming to Massachusetts next year.

The Big Picture

1. What Are The Ryder Cup Matches?

The Ryder Cup Matches are a unique biennial competition — held alternately every four years in either the United States or Europe — based on match play golf. Featuring competition between teams of American and European golfers, the Ryder Cup celebrates the skills of some of the world's best players. It is one of the last great sports events based upon prestige rather than prize money. The 33rd Ryder Cup Matches will be contested at The Country Club in Brookline from September 24-26, 1999.



2. What Is The Magnitude?

Though technically not a tournament or a championship, the Ryder Cup is considered by many of the game's most avid enthusiasts to be golf's — and all sport's — preeminent event. Says NBC vice president Jon Miller: "The Ryder Cup is the greatest event in sports right now."

3. Why Is It Named 'Ryder'?

In 1927, British seed merchant Samuel Ryder presented a trophy bearing his name to Great Britain's Professional Golfers' Association as the prize for an international competition between American and British professional golfers. The first formal Ryder Cup Matches were contested in Massachusetts at Worcester Country Club in 1927. (See *Fidelity Countdown to the Ryder Cup*, pages 14-15.)

4. What Is The 'Cup'?

The Ryder Cup trophy stands about 19 inches tall and weighs just over four pounds — about the weight of a human heart, and it's certainly captured and broken many. Made from beaten gold, a solid gold stem supports a golfer modeled after Abe Mitchell, one of the the top British golf professionals of his time as well as a friend of, and personal instructor for, Samuel Ryder.

5. Why Is It A European Team Now?

During the 1977 matches, on the verge of the U.S. team retaining its 10th consecutive Ryder Cup, Jack Nicklaus approached the British PGA about the urgency to improve the competitive level of the Matches. Beginning in 1979, natives and residents of continental Europe also became eligible for selection and play in the Ryder Cup Matches.

6. What Is The Overall Record?

The United States leads the competition with 23 victories to Great Britain/Europe's 7 victories with 2 ties.

The Present Status

7. Who Has Been Hot Lately?

Of the past seven Matches, Europe has won four and tied one (in 1989, with Europe retaining the Cup). Europe won in both 1995 and 1997 by identical 14 1/2 to 13 1/2 margins.

8. What Happened In 1997?

Get ready to hear the recountings of 1997 European Captain Seve Ballesteros who's been given much of the credit for leading his team to victory at Valderrama in Spain. The Americans' 'big three' — Tiger Woods, Davis Love III and Justin Leonard — recorded a 1-9-3 combined match record. Though U.S. Captain Tom Kite's team staged a rally the last day, it was Seve's week in the sun.



9. So The Captains Matter?

Both Captains have a say in their team's make-up as well as in arranging the draw for the matches. But the host team Captain has an advantage in being allowed to have a direct influence over the course set-up. Given the U.S. advantage in long hitters, a course set-up accommodating length could be a deciding factor.

10. 1997 U.S. TEAM

Captain Tom Kite

Tiger Woods, Justin Leonard,
Tom Lehman, Davis Love III, Jim Furyk,
Phil Mickelson, Jeff Maggert,
Mark O'Meara, Scott Hoch, Brad Faxon
Lee Janzen*, Fred Couples*

11. 1997 EUROPEAN TEAM

Captain Seve Ballesteros

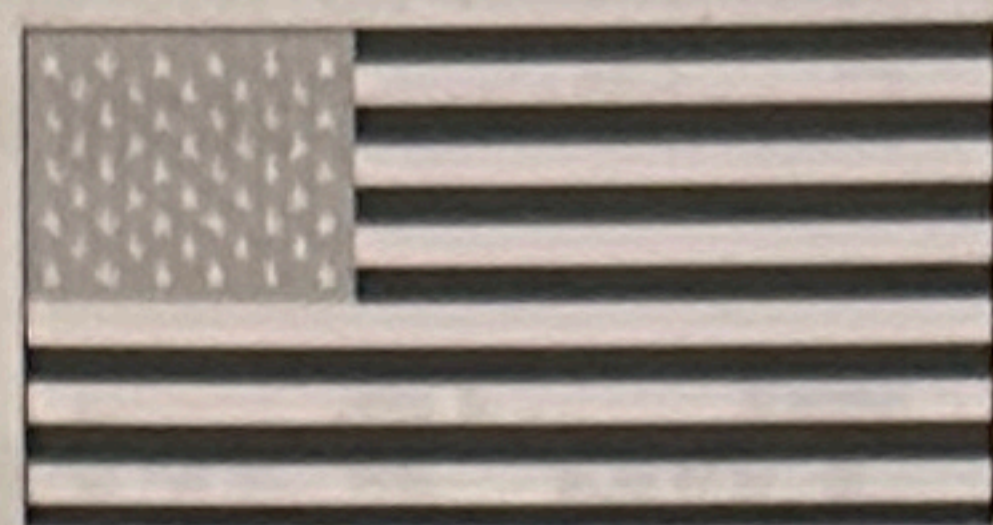
Colin Montgomerie, Darren Clarke,
Bernhard Langer, Ian Woosnam, Per-Ulrik
Johansson, Lee Westwood, Ignacio Garrido,
Thomas Bjorn, Costantino Rocca,
Jose Maria Olazabal
Nick Faldo*, Jesper Parnevik*

*CAPTAIN'S
SELECTIONS

Ryder Cup Matches

Here's everything you'll need to know about golf's biggest extravaganza.

The U.S. Team



12. Who's The United States Captain?

Ben Crenshaw is a Texan veteran of four Ryder Cup Teams. He is perhaps most well-known for his emotional second Masters triumph in 1995, during a

Captain Ben Crenshaw

14. Age: 46 (1/11/52)

15. Major Win/Victories:
The Masters (1984, 1995);
23 Total Career Victories

16. Ryder Cup Experience:
U.S. Team player —
1981, '83, '87, '95

17. Ryder Cup Record:
12 matches —
3 wins, 8 losses, 1 halved

18. The Country Club:
First visit was playing in the
1968 U.S. Junior at age of 16

week that he also served as a pall bearer at the funeral of his longtime teacher and friend, Harvey Penick. Quotable: "The spirit of the matches is to promote goodwill in golf, but it is a very, very hotly contested match."

13. How Are United States Team Selections Made?

Selection procedure has changed substantially over the years. Only American-born players represent the U.S. team. The 1999 U.S. Ryder Cup Team is chosen on the basis of points, compiled by the PGA of America, accumulated from January 8, 1998 through the

81st PGA Championship (August 12-15, 1999). The 10 top finishers on the point list will qualify for the 12-member team. Points are awarded for top 10 finishes at PGA Tour co-sponsored or sanctioned events, with added emphasis on major championships and events played during the Ryder Cup year.

The European Team



19. Who's The European Captain?

Mark James is an English veteran of seven Ryder Cup Teams. He won the 1974 English Amateur, missing by one year a likely Great Britain & Ireland team

Captain Mark James

21. Age: 45 (10/28/53)

22. Major Win/Victories:
Dunhill British Masters (1990);
23 Total Career Victories

23. Ryder Cup Experience:
European Team Player —
1977, '79, '81, '89, '91, '93, '95

24. Ryder Cup Record:
24 Matches —
8 wins, 15 losses, 1 halved

25. The Country Club:
First visit was on 11/24/98
for the Captain's Media Day

selection for the 1973 Walker Cup Match — contested at The Country Club. Quotable: "It is the ultimate team event in my chosen sport, but you'd have to be mad to accept the Captain's position."

20. How Are European Team Selections Made?

In 1997, the point system used to determine the top-10 finishers for European Ryder Cup Team berths included European player performances in European PGA Tour events, U.S. major championships — The Masters, U.S. Open and

PGA Championship — and other events. There is a movement afoot to reduce points earned in the 1999 World Golf Championships. The 1999 European points system began with the Canon European Masters (September, 1998) and concludes with the BMW International Open (August 29, 1999).

26. And The Two Captain's Selections?

The Captains lose a lot of sleep over these picks. Crenshaw likely speaks for both sides of the pond when he says: "I'm trying to think about two things: Who is playing the best at that time and who I think can tackle the golf course the best. A lot of people say you need a little maturity amongst those two picks and



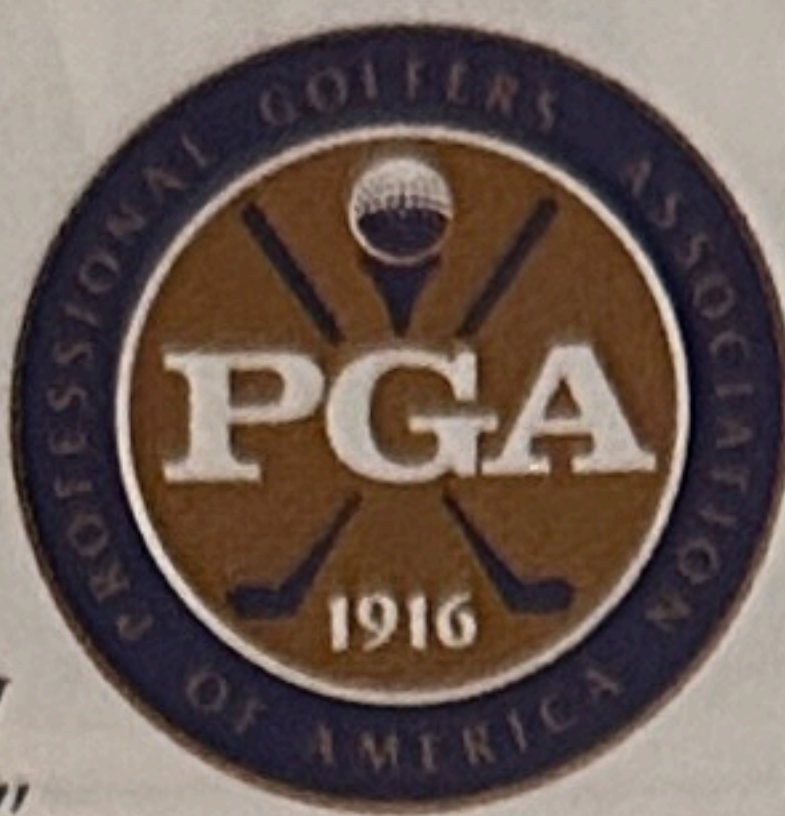
other people say you've got to go with a hot hand so it's very, very difficult to come down to two players. And you've got to disappoint some, and you get second guessed by a lot of people. But you have to pick two people who think they can really play well at that time — that's what counts."



The PGA Of America

27. What Is The PGA Of America?

With 23,000 members and apprentices, the Professional Golfers' Association of America is the member organization of golf professionals. Your club's professional is likely affiliated with one of these 41 PGA "sections"—New England, Connecticut or Northeastern New York.



28. Aren't They The Same As The PGA TOUR?

No. Touring pros broke away from the PGA of America in 1968 to form what is now known as the PGA TOUR (the two organizations continue to work closely together). Besides the Ryder Cup, the PGA of America continues to stage other premier golf events including the PGA Championship, the PGA Senior's Championship and the PGA Club Professional Championship. The organization also conducts the PGA Merchandise Show, the world's largest golf exhibition, and owns golf courses such as PGA Golf Club of the Reserve (FL) and Valhalla Golf Club (KY).

The Country Club

29. What Is The Country Club?

From its earliest days, The Country Club has championed the popularity of golf in America. Founded in 1882, the club hosted the first international golf tournament held in North America, in 1898, between the Royal Montreal Golf Club and The Country Club. One of five charter members of the United States Golf Association, The Country Club is the only club to host six different USGA competitions (*chart at right*).

30. How Does The Course Rate?

While many think it is second to none, The Country Club's Clyde/Squirrel course (*see page 38*) is ranked 13th on the *Golf Digest* 'America's 100 Greatest Golf Courses, 1997-98' list.

31. Can You Tell Us 'That Story' Again?

In 1913, golf in America became unalterably linked with The Country Club when Francis Ouimet (*middle, photo at right*), a 20-year-old amateur and caddie who lived nearby the club, defeated heavily-favored British professionals Ted Ray (*left*) and Harry Vardon to win the 1913 U.S. Open Championship in an 18-hole playoff. That event helped propel golf into the forefront of mainstream America.



32. What Was The British Reaction?

Here is London Times' writer Bernard Darwin's dispatch: "I felt like I was a correspondent on some stricken field sending home news of the annihilation of the British Army. But the victory was so glorious that no grudging was possible." The U.S. had defeated the best England had to offer. Fifteen years later, the residue of that historic moment was still fresh as the U.S. Team defeated Captain Ted Ray's Great Britain Team at the first Ryder Cup Matches in 1927.

The 'Partnership'

33. How Did The Country Club Get Involved?

A delegation of members from The Country Club met with officials at the PGA of America in the Fall of 1993. In January, 1994 TCC was officially



offered the chance to host the Ryder Cup. After review by a committee of members, the TCC Board unanimously recommended that the club proceed. In August 1994, a letter of intent was signed which, in essence, established a 'partnership' between TCC and the PGA to host the 33rd Ryder Cup Matches.

34. A 'Partnership'?

While not officially a partnership, it's similar to one in that both parties are working together to plan and operate the Matches. A more-or-less equal say in what goes on on-site puts the interests of The Country Club and The PGA of America in a consistent way to minimize the chance of conflict.

35. Is There A Community Angle?

The Country Club and the Town of Brookline have reached an agreement that provides the town extensive financial benefits and other services over time. In return for Brookline providing police, fire and municipal services, there will be 100 Corporate Hospitality Tables for sale at Brookline's Putterham GC (on Putterham's 6th hole, which abuts the 9th hole of the Ryder Cup Course). The first \$3 million of net revenue from these tables goes to Brookline. Other aspects include a \$100,000 donation to establish a fund for Brookline children's programs, and a donation of tickets to Brookline causes.

USGA & The Country Club

36. U.S. Women's Amateur: 1902, '41, '95

37. U.S. Amateur: 1910, '22, '34, '57, '82

38. U.S. Open: 1913, '63, '88

39. Walker Cup: 1932, '73

40. U.S. Girls' Junior: 1953

41. U.S. Junior Amateur: 1968

Method Of Play

42. Why Is Match Play So Great?

It's golf at its competitive best. An individual or team plays against another individual or team. Hole scores are very important. The side with the lowest score on a hole wins the hole. If a hole is tied, it is "halved"; neither side wins it and it is not carried over to the next hole. The match is over when one side leads by more holes than there are holes remaining.

43. What Are Points?

There are 28 total points available. Each win in a match is worth one point. If a match is tied after 18 holes, each team earns a half-point.

44. How Do You Win?

An outright victory for the competition is earned if one team scores 14 1/2 points or more.

If the final score is 14-14, the team that holds the Ryder Cup retains it. In other words, if the Americans tie in 1999, they lose.

45. How Many Days?

The Ryder Cup is a three-day competition with three separate match play formats.

Match Play Formats

46. What About The Foursomes Matches?

On both Friday and Saturday morning there are four Foursomes matches comprised of two-man teams playing alternate shot until the ball is holed. Players drive on alternate holes, and there is an important Captain's decision as to who tees off on the odd or the even holes.

47. What About The Four-Ball Matches?

On both Friday and Saturday afternoons there are four Four-Ball (some call this 'Better Ball') matches. Each of these matches pits two players from one team against two from the other team. Each golfer plays his own ball and the better score of each pair decides the outcome of the hole.

48. What About The Singles Matches?

Beginning Sunday morning and proceeding early into the afternoon there are 12 Singles matches. It features one player from each team competing head-to-head with the objective of winning each hole, again regardless of total strokes for the match. Assuming the matches are tight, tension builds minute to minute as tides can turn quickly.

Playing Strategies

49. What Is A Good Foursomes Strategy?

Opinions vary, but there is considerable sentiment that this is a 'second shot' golf course. The smallish greens with severe rough closely surrounding makes the execution of the second shot critical. Thus, the Foursomes player who hits better irons may be more important than his partner who hits better drives. You can get away with some less than perfect drives at The Country Club — all it does is make the all-important second shot somewhat more difficult.



50. A Good Four-Ball Strategy?

Four-Ball matches offer opportunities to gamble or play it safe. Depending on the status of a match, there are two par fours — #4 (335 yards) and #6 (310 yards) — which a Tiger Woods or Davis Love can easily reach the green. However, if either misses the green, his team could end up with a quick loss of the hole. There is a school of thought that it is better to have two balls 'in play' as the added pressure of playing the hole out alone is a dangerous route. There are a number of other holes where a player can get a shorter second shot (Holes 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 17 offer an option off the tee), but there will be a price to pay for errant drives.

53. Ryder Cup Course

#	PAR	YRDS	#	PAR	YRDS
1	4	450	10	4	447
2	3	190	11	4	450
3	4	451	12	4	486
4	4	335	13	4	436
5	4	432	14	5	534
6	4	310	15	4	432
7	3	197	16	3	186
8	4	378	17	4	370
9	5	513	18	4	436
Out	35	3256	In	36	3777

Par: 71

Yardage: 7,033

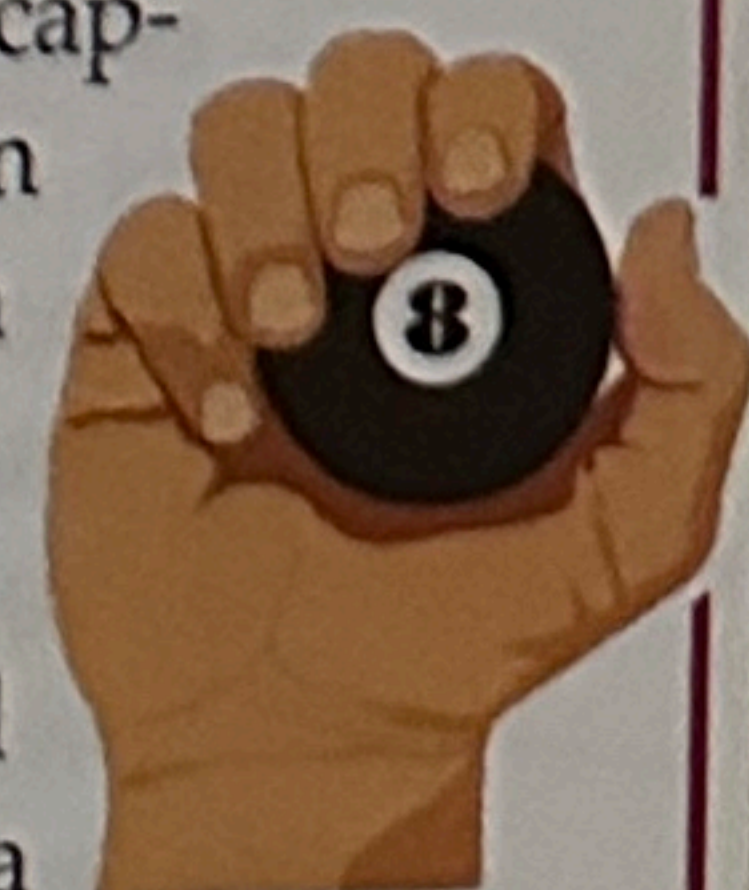
Captains Courageous

51. What Is 'The Envelope'?

Each Captain writes the name of one of his 12 players and seals it in an envelope as a contingency plan. If a player is subsequently injured or ill and is unable to compete in his Singles match, he is deemed to have played a halved match with the player named in the opposing envelope, and both teams receive a half-point.

52. What Is 'The Draw'?

Arranging the order of his players, and trying to second-guess the other captain's strategy, is perhaps the most important contribution a captain can make in influencing the overall outcome. The method for determining pairings has captains writing down the names of their players in starting order and then sealing the lists in envelopes. Which players will be the most compatible for each of the team formats? And, for the Singles, does he send out his best players early to build momentum, or will that put a weaker player in a pressure situation in a deciding match at the end?





Course Set-Up

54. What Is The Big Picture?

The Country Club is a 27-hole layout featuring the Clyde and Squirrel, two nine hole tracks which comprise the "Main Course" (that is, the 18 holes customarily used for member play) and the Primrose Course, a nine hole track built in 1927.



55. What Is The "Open Course"?

It's the 1988 U.S. Open Course (sometimes referred to as the "Championship Course" or "Composite Course") which replaces the 9th, 10th and 12th holes on the Main Course with three holes from the Primrose Course.

56. What Is The "Ryder Cup Course"?

The Open Course will be used as, and called, the Ryder Cup Course. The PGA agreed to accept this course "as is".

57. So There Haven't Been Any Changes?

Not exactly, but many can be categorized as of the necessary maintenance or cosmetic type. Captain Crenshaw has also had a number of his suggestions implemented. The most expansive recent work was the plan to restore bunkers on holes number three, six, twelve, thirteen and sixteen. The construction of these bunkers was completed for play during the 1998 golf season. The remaining bunkers on the course were reconditioned during 1998 including the removal of most of the existing sand and the definition of the bunker boundary. Tees on holes number seven, eleven and sixteen were also reconstructed in 1997 to provide level and firm teeing surfaces. A tree pruning program is also under way to remove all of the deadwood for spectator gallery safety and television coverage.



Captain's Choice

58. What Is Crenshaw's Role In The Set-Up?

If he desires, the Ryder Cup host captain can have a significant say in the set-up of the course. Captain Crenshaw is deeply involved in designing courses around the world and is taking a very active role collaborating with both The Country Club's Course Superintendent Bill Spence and PGA Senior Director of Tournaments Kerry Haigh.



The Long And Wide Of It

59. What Is Crenshaw's Main Thinking?

Crenshaw: "The golf course at Valderrama was extremely tight, many times 18 yards wide, and the first thing you do is club down. It took the drivers out of a lot of our players' hands. They did that by design, but that was their discretion. I want our longer players to haul out those drivers at Brookline." Fairways on the 1999 Ryder Cup Course should run 28-32 yards wide, the normal width for member play.

60. How About The Rough?

At the 1995 Ryder Cup at Oak Hill CC, players couldn't see their shoes in the rough. The rough at The Country Club will be cut at 3 1/2 inches, only slightly higher than for regular member play. This will make it possible for his players to get a club face on an errant drive and have a chance to make the approach shot. This should translate into fun for the spectators as they'll see great players in challenging second shot positions execute their shotmaking skills.

61. Will The 6th Be Driven?

During the 1988 U.S. Open, most played the 6th, a 310 yard par 4, with a 6-iron/wedge combination — dull but safe. Next September, you may see some Americans try to bust a drive to the green. To help, the rough up the hill to the green will be at a cut of 1 inch. An old pot bunker, about ten or fifteen yards short of the green to the right, that probably was filled in back in the 1930s, has also been restored.

62. Will They Go For It On The 9th?

In the 1988 U.S. Open, nobody tried to get home in two on this 513 yard hole, one of the only two par 5s on the course. That makes sense in stroke play competition — the rough around these greens would swallow any shot that is just a little off line, hindering a chance for birdie.

Crenshaw has suggested modifying this rough to give his long hitters a chance to go for it.

63. An 18th Driver?

Many players in competition hit irons off the tee on this great, 436 yard finishing hole because of a narrow landing area and left side bunkers. Again, Ben will cut back the rough to invite his team to take out the driver — and get in position for a wedge shot into the green — on what may well be the make-or-break hole of many a Ryder Cup match.

On Course

64. Superintendent: Bill Spence
PGA Director of Tournaments: Kerry Haigh

65. Primary Grasses:
Tees — Bentgrass;
Fairways and Greens: Bentgrass/Poa Annua

66. Cuts for Ryder Cup Play:
Tees — 3/8"; Fairways — 3/8"
Rough — 3 1/2 "; Greens — 1/8"

67. Course Rating (Champ. Tees): 74.3
Course Slope (Champ. Tees): 139
Stimpmeter: 10.5 feet

Grounds Under Prepare

68. Where Will Spectators Congregate?

There will be grandstands constructed in the practice facility area on the non-used 9th and 10th holes of the Main Course. It is a natural 'amphitheater' — terrific for staging the opening and closing ceremonies — serving some 20,000. There will also be a Jumbotron large video screen for spectator viewing here, as well as four or five more around the course.

69. Why Is The Practice Area Such a Big Deal?

Only eight players from each team are playing each morning and each afternoon on Friday and Saturday. Many of those not playing will be in this area. The 'range' is essentially the 9th hole of the 'Main Course' with two tee areas — one on that hole's forward tees and the other on the end of the Main Course's 10th Fairway. Players will hit balls up the hill about 320 yards towards the 9th green.

70. Who's Idea Was This?

During the 1963 U.S. Open, the tees were located in front of the 9th green, and the area was considered much too narrow. Jack Nicklaus came in prior to the 1988 U.S. Open and suggested the need for a wide open teeing area which is now accommodated with the 9th tee and 10th fairway.

Taking A Break

71. What About Hospitality?

There are three main locations on the course where hospitality tents — some 250,000 square feet worth — will be constructed. Coordinated by Dan Baker, they will be built in the woods to the left of the 17th hole, on the Main Course's practice range, and on the Primrose Course's 7th hole fairway. In addition, the skeet field, the pond house, the manager's cottage, the pool area, and the temporary clubhouse site on the right of the 14th hole will be converted into corporate hospitality areas. The curling building and the new and old tennis buildings will also be used for corporate hospitality for the 10-seat tables known as the "Champions' Club".



72. What About For Members?

A tent for members and their guests will be placed between the 15th and the 18th fairways, and a tented addition will also be constructed on the back of the clubhouse for member use.

73. And The Teams?

The Americans will take over the men's locker room, which also will house a dining area. The Europeans will likely take over the women's locker room, as well as the pro shop below it which will be converted into a dining area.



Inside The Ropes

80.

Working Behind The Scenes

Ryder Cup General Chairman: John Cornish
Ryder Cup Tournament Director: Dan Baker
Ryder Cup Tournament Administrator: Betse Gori
The Country Club General Manager: David Chag

81.

#1 Yank Fan & #1 Euro Fan:
Former President Bush — Valderrama pep talk in 1997 almost worked wonders;
Prince Andrew — will jet in on Concorde with team

Others On Site

74. Member Volunteers?

More than 900 members and spouses, coordinated by Betse Gori, are expected to help in some capacity.

75. Marshals?

Members from some 30 area private clubs and public facilities will assist here. The 1988 U.S. Open required 1,000+ marshals — that number could be reached again.

76. The Media Horde?

Some 1,200+ credentialed media are expected to capture the action. The central compound for NBC will be located near the Pine Manor soccer field behind the Primrose Course's 3rd hole, while the main media headquarters will be located on the outdoor tennis courts.

77. PGA Of America Members?

PGA of America golf professionals who show their credentials receive access to the grounds.

Short-Term Effects

78. When Will The Course Close?

Guest play ceases the first week in July. The Primrose Course will close around August 1. Members will play the Ryder Cup Course up to the eve of the event, and it should re-open for member play the following weekend.

79. What About Restoration?

There will be some wear-and-tear on the Main Course's 10th fairway, which will house a large merchandise tent, as well as on the Primrose Course's 6th and 7th holes, where most vendors will be located starting July 1. With some necessary re-seeding due to heavy traffic, the Primrose Course should be back in good shape in mid-to-late 2000.



Getting There

82. Where Can I Buy Tickets?

Unfortunately, weekly tickets have been sold out since winners of the public drawing were notified in October, 1998.

83. Where Did They Go?

There were about 30,000 tickets available to sell. Along with the 10,000 random drawing tickets (from 40,000+ applications including all 50 states and 46 countries), roughly 8,000 tickets go to corporate hospitality, roughly 6,000 to members of The Country Club, and roughly 5,000 to The PGA of America and European PGA.

84. What If I Was Selected In The Drawing?

Tickets will be mailed about one month prior to the Matches. Each ticket is good for three days of competition and three practice rounds as well as the opening and closing ceremonies. Tickets are transferrable day to day.

85. Are All Tickets The Same?

There are two types — the International Pavilion Ticket (\$375) which includes daily access to a large hospitality facility adjacent to the 2nd tee, and the Season Grounds Ticket (\$275) which provides general access to the grounds.

86. If I Wasn't Selected?

There are still some Corporate Hospitality Tables (inclusive of ten event tickets) available at Putterham Golf Course (call the Ryder Cup office at 617-547-1999), as well as tickets available in combination with PGA Travel packages (call 800-283-4653).

Being There

87. How About Parking?

There will be no public parking anywhere near TCC. A fleet of 100+ MBTA busses will shuttle spectators from Reservoir Station and Forest Hills, both 1-2 miles from the club.

88. Are There Any Ceremonies?

The Opening Ceremonies are Thursday afternoon. Closing Ceremonies will take place as soon as

everyone is back from the locker rooms, approximately 30 minutes after play concludes for the final group on Sunday (play should finish at approximately 4:50 if the final match goes 18 holes).

89. What About The Weather?

The formal policy is no refunds, no rainchecks. At Valderrama in 1997, some matches were not completed during Friday rains and were continued on Saturday morning.

90. What's That I Hear?

Along with the Jumbotron video screens, spectators can purchase an 'on-course radio' with headphones, which transmits live coverage — a popular item at Valderrama.

91. Will There Be Other Stuff To Buy?

Three full time employees have already been working on-site to serve the expected official merchandise demand.

Following From Home

92. How About TV Coverage?

Friday coverage will be on the USA Network (7:30-6:00), followed by NBC on Saturday (8:00-6:00) and on Sunday (10:30-5:00).

93. How Do We Rate?

Greater Boston's TV ratings for the 1995 Ryder Cup were the second highest in the U.S. top 32 markets measured, showing again that the Bay State can claim to have the country's most avid golf aficionados.

94. Any Web Sites?

During the 1997 Ryder Cup at Valderrama, 17.1 million "hits" were recorded in one 24 hour period on the PGA's rydercup.com — more hits than on the IBM cybercast of the 1996 Atlantic Olympic Games. The PGA of America's regular web site is pga.com.

95. Who Should I Root For?

"U.S." stands for Uncle Sam, and he says: "I want you to help win the Ryder Cup back in Massachusetts".

[SOME INFORMATION IN THIS ARTICLE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.]

The Week

96. Tuesday-Thursday, 9/21-23

Gates Open 7:00-6:30

Practice Rounds

97. Friday-Saturday, 9/24-25

Gates Open 6:30-6:30

Foursomes at 7:20, 7:35, 7:50 and 8:05
Four-Balls at 12:00, 12:15, 12:30, and 12:45

98. Sunday, 9/26

Gates Open 8:00-6:30

Singles at 10:38 and
every 12 minutes thereafter
until 12:50



99. The Last Word?

Byron Nelson, U. S. Ryder Cup Captain in 1965, said it best: "There's nothing else like it."