

Masters Golf Tournament

What counts most at the Masters tourney?

By John Grabowski
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Scott Hoch won more than \$670,000 last year. He was the 10th leading money winner in 1989 on the PGA Tour. He began this year ranked 24th among golf's career money winners with just over \$2.5 million. In 10 years on the tour, he's won four tournaments, most recently the 1989 Las Vegas Invitational.

Unfortunately, when Scott Hoch's name is mentioned, the first thing golf fans think of isn't his stat sheet — it's the Masters.

It was at the Augusta National Golf Club — golf's "Sistine Chapel" — that Hoch missed a 24-inch putt last year on the first hole of his sudden death playoff with Nick Faldo. That putt could have earned the green jacket awarded to the Masters winner. Hoch's miss underlined the words of writer Bernard Darwin — "Golf is not a funeral, though both can be very sad affairs."

When the 1990 Masters gets underway on Thursday, April 5, golf's elite will try to wrest the crown from Faldo. The odds are against another victory for the Englishman — only once in the tournament's 53-year history has a player won in successive years: Jack Nicklaus in 1965 and 1966.

• The average winning score of the 53 champions has been 280.79 for the first four rounds on the par 72 course, or just better than 7 under par. The most common score for a victor has been 280, recorded 10 times.

Winning marks have ranged from 271 by Jack Nicklaus in 1965 and Ray Floyd in 1976, to 289 by Sam Snead in 1954 and Jack Burke Jr. two years later. Every score between the two extremes has won at least once, with the exception of 272, 273 and 287.

• The winning totals at the Masters by decade — 1934-39 average: 283.0 for six tournaments; 1940-49 average: 280.6 for seven tournaments (World War II led to 1943-45 cancellations); 1950-59 average: 283.0 for 10 tournaments;

1960-69 average: 280.1 for 10 tournaments; 1970-79 average: 278.5 for 10 tournaments; and 1980-89 average: 280.6 for 10 tournaments.

• Ten Masters' were tied after the first 72 holes, including two of the past three. The average winning score for those 10 ties was 283, with 280 recorded three times. The Masters has finished in a three-way tie after four days of play on two occasions — in 1962 and 1966.

• When Jack Nicklaus recorded his successive Masters victories in 1965 and 1966, he took the first title with a score of 271, breaking Ben Hogan's 12-year-old mark of 274. The next year, the Golden Bear struggled to an even par 288, ending up tied with

Tommy Jacobs and Gay Brewer Jr. Nicklaus won an 18-hole playoff, shooting a 70 to Jacobs' 72 and Brewer's 78.

• Thirty-four different golfers have won the Masters, led by Jack Nicklaus with six titles (1963, 1965, 1966, 1972, 1975 and 1986). Other multiple winners: Arnold Palmer, 4; Jimmy Demaret, Sam Snead and Gary Player, 3; Horton Smith, Byron Nelson, Ben Hogan, Tom Watson and Seve Ballesteros, 2.

By the way, no player has won any one of golf's major tournaments — the Masters, the U.S. Open, the British Open, the PGA — more often than Nicklaus. Harry Vardon ties his Masters total with six victories in the British Open.

The Masters Record winning golf scores

284 -- Horton Smith (1934)
282 -- Gene Sarazen (1935)
279 -- Ralph Guldahl (1939)
279 -- Claude Harmon (1948)
274 -- Ben Hogan (1953)
271 -- Jack Nicklaus (1965)
271 -- Ray Floyd (1976)

NEA GRAPHICS

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Bodanis Bruins suffer upset

Georgetown Major Peewee "AA" Bodanis Bruins faced off against Stoney Creek at Alcott Arena on Thursday night with the Tri-County title up for grabs.

In six previous encounters this year Stoney Creek had not beaten the Major Peewees.

The Bodanis Bruins controlled play for much of the game, except for the last four minutes of the second period, when the visitors scored three times to take a 5-3 lead.

Georgetown was unable to overcome this surge, eventually losing 7-5 when a last minute empty net goal solidified the victory for the visitors.

For the Bodanis Bruins, Doug Sheppard and Gavin Glaser each scored two goals. Duke Bouskill added a single marker. Jim Katsilieris earned two assists, with single helpers added by Mark Aldridge, Duane Erler, Jamie Stephenson, Stephen Onoprijenko and Stephen Yurichuk.

Chad Hughes and John Waller shared the goaltending duties for the Major Peewees.

A successful season will close for the team, coaches Chris Milne, Dan Curtis and Wally Petrie, manager Rick Aldridge and sponsor Dan Bodanis with a trip to Buffalo, April 20-22 to participate in one final tournament.

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SATURDAY

HOCKEY

Georgetown Minor Hockey Association "Day of Champions" at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena. Bantam, Tyke, Peewee, Atom, Novice, Midget/Juvenile teams taking part. Games start at 8 a.m. and run through 10 p.m.

SQUASH

Georgetown Racquet Club, Club Championships. 1 p.m. Men's "B" final; 2 p.m. Ladies' "B" final; 2:45 p.m. Men's "C" final; 3:30 p.m. Men's "D" final; 6:15 p.m. Ladies' "A" final; 7:15 p.m. Men's "A" final; 8:15 p.m. Open final.

HOCKEY

Georgetown Minor Hockey, Association final Spring registration from 1 to 4 p.m. at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena.

SOFTBALL

Kinsmen Girls Softball registration from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Cedarvale Community Centre, ages 18 and under as of May 1, 1990. \$30.00 per player or \$50.00 per family. For more information on the Kinsmen Girls Softball League contact Jim Ford 877-9373.

CURLING

North Halton Golf and Country Club mixed closing Curling Bonspiel. Games run through the day with dinner and dance to follow.

SUNDAY

HOCKEY

Georgetown Minor Hockey Association Spring rep team tryouts at Alcott Arena. Minor Novices, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Novice, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.; Minor Atoms, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.; Atom, 5:30 to 7 p.m.; Peewee 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Midget (Major and Minor) 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

SOCCER

Georgetown Youth Soccer Club winter soccer school at Georgetown District High School. Sessions run from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. through May 13. Coaches welcome to attend. For more information contact: George Baines, 877-5573; Bill Harrison, 877-4501; Isobel McNeily, 873-1073 or Paul Stubbins, 877-2692.

SOCCER

Acton Minor Soccer Association conditioning sessions at McKenzie-Smith School gymnasium. 7-8 yrs., 1-1:45 p.m.; 9-11 yrs., 1:45-2:30 p.m.; 15 yrs. and over, 3:15-4 p.m. Running shoes required, no soccer shoes. Free admission. For more information contact Steve Bailey, 853-3866 or Paul Hill, 853-1834.

MONDAY

BRIDGE

Duplicate Bridge, open competition. Starting at 1 p.m. at Georgetown Royal Canadian Legion Branch 120 on Mill Street.

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