

# WORLD DEAF GOLF NEWSLETTER

News by Gavin Balharrie

Layout & Graphics by Arista Haas

## Post WDCG 2014

WDGF has been in contact with the USA WDCG 2014 OC to assist in final report including finance report, which is due by mid November. Key points from the report will be released to all members.

## Players' Feedback

Don Conway, our Vice President, has been in contact with a few countries to seek feedback on these Championships and the WDCG in general, to ensure the WDCG continues onwards and upwards.

## WDCG 2014 Video

Mark Hansen of USA has volunteered to receive selected photos and videos from to create a new WDCG 2014 video which will be ready for sale at the end of November or thereabouts. More information will be forthcoming in the coming weeks. Proceeds from the sales of videos will be split between the WDGF (20%) and USDGA (80%). This would be a great Christmas gift to your loved ones!

**Next World Deaf Golf  
Newsletter Edition:  
Winter 2015**

## WDCG 2014 Summary

Hard to believe it is now almost 4 months since completion of these Championships, however the memories are still very warm ! We trust all golfers and team officials got home safely, and are continuing in their golf and preparations towards the 2016 World Deaf Golf Championships in Denmark.

We would again like to congratulate the following winners, on their terrific performance, determination and endeavours towards their wins.

- Jack Besley (Australia) : Mens Individual
- Patty Lopez (USA) : Ladies Individual
- Kenneth Hoffman (Canada) : Mens Senior Individual
- USA : Mens Team
- USA : Ladies Team
- USA : Seniors Team

Our website has the 2014 WDCG Final Results. Please click on the following link should you wish for a copy.  
[Click here](#)

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the USA WDCG 2014 OC and all its volunteers, all golfers, team officials, referees, and supporters. You all made the 2014 WDCG what it is.

The Grand Traverse Resort proved to be a terrific golf course with its adjacent Hotel and quality of the two golf courses, ensured a great WDCG. On behalf of all, we would like to thank the Grand Traverse Resort for being a terrific host of the WDCG.



Jack Besley



Ken Hoffman



Patty Lopez



## Golf in Deaflympics

As mentioned and discussed during the General Meeting at USA WDGC 2014, WDGF remains committed towards inclusion of golf in the Deaflympics, and are in communication with ICSD to establish a timeline of events and milestones, as we step forward towards inclusion of golf in the Deaflympics.

We will keep you all informed on these important developments and will ensure our member countries have opportunity to provide input as to the qualification and competition format of the tournament at the Deaflympics.

Watch this space....indeed exciting times for our Deaf golfers.

## News from Members

Tetsuro Sodeyama won 2nd place at the Japan Speed Golf Championships on September 21st, 2014! For photos and news - [click here](#).

Several England golfers and Team England Golf have been shortlisted for nominations at the Deaf Sports Personality of the Year (DSPY) 2014 which is to take place on November 29, 2014.

Visit their website :

[www.dspy.co.uk/shortlisted.html](http://www.dspy.co.uk/shortlisted.html)

## WDGF Board Roles

WDGF is pleased to confirm the roles and portfolios, following our election at the General Meeting and subsequent Board Meetings in USA WDGC 2014.

President : Simeon Hart (ENG)

Vice President : Don Conway (IRE)

Secretary : Gavin Balharrie (AUS)

Treasurer : Ole Artmann (DEN)

Board Member (Technical Director) : Anders Hillding (SWE)

Board Member (International Relations & Development) : Arne Lundquist (SWE)

Board Member (Media) : Arista Haas (CAN)

If you wish to send an email to WDGF, please use this email address : [board@worlddeafgolf.com](mailto:board@worlddeafgolf.com) – this will automatically be sent to all Board members of WDGF.

For any confidential emails, please do not hesitate to send an email to the Secretary, Gavin Balharrie on this email address : [secretary@worlddeafgolf.com](mailto:secretary@worlddeafgolf.com), which shall be actioned on with the appropriate channels.



**2014-2018 WDGF Board (l to r) :** Ole Artmann, Don Conway, Simeon Hart, Arne Lundquist, Gavin Balharrie, Anders Hillding, and Arista Haas

## R & A Meeting - December 12

Simeon Hart (President), Don Conway (Vice President), and Arne Lundquist (International Relations & Development) will be attending a meeting / workshop with R&A at St Andrews on Friday 12th December 2014. This meeting will focus on:

- Debriefing on R&A support towards the past three World Deaf Golf Championships and presentation of business case towards future WDGCs;
- How R&A can assist towards development of opportunities for deaf and hard of hearing golfers via four main mechanisms:
- Modernisation and enhancing of website to meet current needs;
- Development of promotional video showcasing deaf golf internationally;
- Ensuring access of all videos on R&A website are either captioned and/or provided with a sign interpreter (in International Sign);
- To foster and promote the inclusivity of deaf and hard of hearing golf within the National Golf Organisations of each country, and the provision of pathways and opportunities for these golfers;
- IGF & Deaflympics: Fostering of relationship with IGF, and setting the path towards inclusion of golf in Deaflympics, which has, in principle, the backing of ICSD (International Committee of Sport of the Deaf – which is recognized by the IOC).

We will provide a summary of the outcomes from this meeting, in our Winter Newsletter.

If you have any further comments or suggestions for us to keep in mind for the meeting, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary on [secretary@worlddeafgolf.com](mailto:secretary@worlddeafgolf.com)

## 2016 World Deaf Golf Championships



11TH WORLD DEAF GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016



WDGF has been in regular contact with the Organising Committee for the 2016 World Deaf Golf Championships, and all is set for a great Championships.

As per the WDGF Hosting Policy, the WDGC 2016 OC are required to provide 2 reports per annum. Report submissions as per the MOU are required by December 2014, July 2015 and December 2015, which we will review and provide key points in our newsletters to keep you all updated with developments towards these Championships.

We provide a link for the website <http://www.wdgc2016.com/>

Bookmark this page, share on your networks and keep the awareness of these exciting Championships up. This website also has a link to the Facebook page. We encourage you all to like and share the page if you have a Facebook account.

## European Deaf Golf Open 2015

At the instigation of the European Deaf Golf Open [EDOGC] Board, we have provided assistance in developing the Tournament Rules and Procedures for this tournament. We have also provided advice in the set-up behind the scenes for the organisation of the Tournament including the Board and Organising Committee.

It is important to note that the EDOGC is **sanctioned by the World Deaf Golf Federation** and all rules and procedures (in particular audiograms / ICSD Identity numbers) are to be complied with.

The EDOGC Board along with the EDOGC Organising Committee [The Host of the Championships] are solely responsible for setting up all procedures and infrastructure required to ensure all rules are complied with.

Anders Hillding, our WDFG Technical Director, will liaise with the EDOGC to ensure all rules and procedures are followed thoroughly.

For any further enquiries re the European Deaf Golf Open, please contact David Fraser of Norway on [davidhockey@hotmail.com](mailto:davidhockey@hotmail.com).



### NOTICE : Website Migration & Emails

We will be doing the website migration from current web host to a new web host in November (during 2nd to 9th week). There may be a temporary shut down for approximately one week.

Emergency contact email during that week is: [gbalharrie@gmail.com](mailto:gbalharrie@gmail.com)

In the spirit of and to symbolise the unity and friendship, the Board would like each member nation to have same [worlddeafgolf.com](http://worlddeafgolf.com) email address.

In the month of November, an email notification with procedures will be sent out to request for the update of email contacts of member nations. Each member nation will receive a new alias from the WDFG. For example: [norway@worlddeafgolf.com](mailto:norway@worlddeafgolf.com) The email inquiry will automatically forward to appropriate Norwegian Deaf Golf contacts.

