SPORTS

Should PGA add a foursomes event?

Adam Schupak Golfweek USA TODAY NETWORK

AVONDALE, La. - The Zurich Classic is a one-week oasis from the desert of 72hole stroke-play tournaments. Sure, there is the WGC-Match Play and the opposite-field Barracuda Championship employs the Stableford scoring format, but in this "Super Season" of 50 events, these novelty acts are few and far between.

In post-Masters hangover season and with the PGA Championship just weeks away, the Zurich Classic's decision to adopt a two-man team format (two rounds of four-ball, two rounds of foursomes) in 2017 feels like a masterstroke.

After last weekend's fun at TPC Louisiana, the Tour reverts its old ways this weekend in Palm Harbor, Florida, at the Valspar Championship.

But the PGA Tour needs to think outside the box

more often, even if it is hard to mess with a successful formula. The powers-thatbe may want to listen to one of its own, Graeme McDowell, who after recounting his ace on Friday, pitched the concept of a 72-hole foursomes tournament.

"I kind of believe it's the purest form of the game," McDowell said. "There's nothing more difficult than having to hit one and then hand it over to your partner and then having him hand it back to you."

So, that prompted a question: would other Tour pros sign up for McDowell's event? It depends on who vou ask.

Zurich Classic winners Marc Leishman and Cameron Smith answered with a resounding no.

"That would be stressful," Smith said.

"I would be too worn out by Sunday night, I think," Leishman added.

On Sunday, in the final round at the Zurich, Smith,



Graeme McDowell, seen during the 2020 Wyndham Championship, thinks the PGA should add a 72-hole, alternate-shot foursomes tournament. ROB KINNAN/USA TODAY SPORTS

steered his tee shot to the left at the par-4 16th hole and it bounced into a pond. In the alternate-shot format, Leishman had to hit next after a penalty stroke and stepped up and chipped in for birdie from 23 feet to regain a share of the lead at 21 under

"It's just nice to be able to celebrate with friends," Leishman said of his gamechanging chip in. "I forgot to get the ball out of the hole, actually. Louis had to throw it to me. It was nice to make that, settle us down a little bit and we were able to finish it off in the playoff."

The Aussies needed one extra hole to break the tie with South Africans Louis Oosthuizen and Charl Schwartzel, winning with a par at the 18th hole after Oosthuizen led off by driving into the water that lines the right side of the hole.

The Aussies, who won on Anzac Day (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps), a holiday celebrated back home to honor the sacrifices made by its Armed Forces, built a two-stroke lead through 11 holes, but it would be a back-and-forth affair down the stretch as Smith and Leishman made bogeys at Nos. 13 and 15. That combined with a 15-foot birdie putt by Schwartzel at 15 and the South Africans were in the driver seat at 21-under.

Oosthuizen, who has won 14 times around the world, including the 2010 British Open, but has never won on U.S, soil and Schwartzel, who, hasn't hoisted a trophy on the PGA Tour since the 2016 Valspar Championship, were trying to join recent winners Jordan Spieth and Hideki Matsuyama in ending victory droughts on the Tour.

And while Oosthuizen has played well in this format, he agreed with the champion's assessment that it would be taxing.

"I think you'll be taking two weeks off after it because you'll be so stressed." Oosthuizen said.

But McDowell has his supporters of his concept,

"That would be awesome," said Viktor Hovland. "We don't get to do it a whole lot, and it's very stressful at times, but no, I think it gives you a lot of kind of pleasure after the day - like (Friday) after being 2 over par and then signing the scorecard for 3-under, that was a really good score, especially in those conditions and in that format. It's just when you do well, it gives you that much more pleasure, I think,

Count Bubba Watson, who said he enjoys the mental grind of alternate shot and noted it would lead to faster play, and his partner, Scottie Scheffler, as on board.

"I would love it. That would be awesome," Watson said. "I'd be the first one to sign up."

"Alternate-shot is the kind of days where you can separate yourself because you're making birdies and bogeys. Best ball it's really just birdies," Scheffler said. The ability to separate yourself, especially on a golf course like this where there's a lot of trouble, I think alternate shot would be a lot of fun."

Fun is good. More fun, please. And more thinking outside the box, too.

Guam Board of Social Work Regular Virtual Board Meeting

Thursday, May 06, 2021 - 11:00 AM (ChST) Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/843243261

You can also dial in using your phony United States: ±1 (571) 317-3122 Access Code: 843-243-261

For more information, please contact the Board office at 735-7404/10 thru 12. Persons needing telecommunication devise for the Hearing/Speech Impaired (TDD) may contact 475-8339.

Guam Solid Waste Authority **Board of Directors Meeting**

1:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, 2021

The Guam Solid Waste Authority Board of Directors will have a board meeting May 4, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be conducted virtually.

AGENDA: Call to Order, Roll Call, Approval of Minutes, Reports, Unfinished Business, New Business, Open Discussion, Public Forum, Next Meeting Date, Adjournment

Individuals who would like to join the virtual meeting can email GSWA's Chief of Administration, Alicia Fejeran, at Alicia.Fejeran@gswa.guam.gov for more information.

SPORTS

IN BRIEF

Gamer gone: A's lefty Luzardo breaks finger on video game

OAKLAND, Calif. – Athletics left-hander Jesús Luzardo will be off the mound for a while – and maybe off video games, too.

Luzardo is out indefinitely after breaking the pinkie finger on his pitching hand when he thumped a table while playing a video game before his start Saturday.

An X-ray after a loss to Baltimore showed a hairline fracture and Luzardo was put on the 10-day injured list Sunday.

Oakland manager Bob Melvin said he didn't know an immediate timeline for how much time Luzardo would miss or whether he would require a cast or splint on the finger Melvin was hopeful the pitcher could still keep his arm in shape given the location of the break.

"Before the game he was playing a video game and accidentally bumped his hand on the desk as he was playing the game," Melvin said. "He came in, was a little bit sore, training staff checked him out, we threw him in the cage before he went out there, watched him warm up. He was comfortable pitching, the training staff was comfortable with him pitching. After the game we got an X-ray and

there was a hairline in the pinkie finger."

Luzardo wound up pitching three innings and took the loss in the 8-4 defeat to the Orioles, allowing six runs - three earned - on five hits.

He is 1-3 with a 5.79 ERA over six starts this season.

Former NASCAR driver Eric McMclure dies at 42

ABINGDON, Va. - Former NASCAR driver Eric Mc-Clure died Sunday, his family and the series said. He was 42.

No details were given about his death.

McClure had posted on social media as recently as Saturday.

The Washington County sheriff's office said Mc-Clure's body was sent to Roanoke for an autopsy.

"We are saddened to learn of the passing of former driver and (team) owner Eric McClure. NASCAR extends its deepest condolences to Eric's family and friends," NASCAR said in a statement.

McClure was the nephew of former Cup team owner Larry McClure and spent the majority of his career racing in the Xfinity Series. He made 288 career starts over 14 seasons with a career-best finish of eighth at Daytona in 2013.

He last raced in 2016.

"The family of Eric Wayne McClure, former NASCAR driver, announces with great sorrow his passing on Sunday," his family said in a statement. "They would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support during this very difficult time."

McClure's career was cut short by health issues. He suffered at least two concussions in his career and the native of Chilhowie, Virginia, later said he was left with lingering headaches, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, sensitivity to light, bouts of depression and forgetfulness.

- Wire services

Undrafted

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defensive line rotation.
(Signed with Cleveland Browns.)

Ar'Darius Washington, S, TCU

Yes, he's only 5-8 and 176 pounds. But the ballhawk is a proven playmaker who deserves an opportunity to show what he can do in the slot at the next level. (Signed with Baltimore Ravens.)

Dylan Moses, LB, Alabama

The former five-star recruit's career path took an unfortunate turn after he tore his anterior cruciate ligament in 2019 and then struggled in his return to ac-

tion last year. While he too often takes himself out of plays, Moses' athleticism is worth a gamble, even after the injury. (Signed with Jacksonville Jaguars.)

Jamie Newman, QB, Wake Forest/Georgia

He sparked some intrigue in 2019 before transferring to Georgia and subsequently opting out of the season. The 6-3, 234-pound signal-caller is plenty raw and can be spotty with his ball placement, but he has physical tools that should earn him a look as a developmental passer. (Signed with Philadelphia Eagles.)

Shakur Brown, CB, Michigan State

At 5-10 and 185 pounds with pedestrian speed, Brown might lack the athletic traits to stick with topflight receivers. But he won't afford anything easy to opponents, deploying a flery and physical approach on every down. (Signed with Steelers.)

Charles Snowden, LB, Virginia

His frame (6-6, 243-pound) and agility are enviable for a pass rusher. If he can bulk up and hone his pass-rushing skills, there's room for him on an NFL roster. (Signed with Chicago Bears.)

Jaret Patterson, RB, Buffalo

With 52 rushing touchdowns in 33 career games, Patterson has already defied expectations for a 5-6, 195-pound back. He doesn't have the pure speed or receiving skills to be a thirddown back out of the gate, but his vision and balance will give him a chance to be a contributor in the NFL. (Signed with Washington Football Team.)

Christian Uphoff, S, Illinois State

Any safety who stands 6-2 and 209 pounds and runs the way Uphoff does deserves a closer look. He has work to do to develop his instincts, but he could be an intriguing player for a patient coaching staff. (Signed with Green Bay Packers.)

Matt Bushman, TE, BYU

He's already 25 and missed last season due to a ruptured Achilles tendon. Bushman, however, easily reels in passes outside his frame and can rack up yards after the catch. (Signed with Las Vegas Raiders.)

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Ponce

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The two-sport athlete plays middle when she's playing volleyball, but her love is with basketball, where she plays forward and center. She is inspired by former NBA and Defensive Player of the Year Dennis Rodman, and hopes to be as dominating in the paint as the Worm.

This year, Ponce is just grateful to play basketball at all, given the pandemic, so she wants to have as much fun as she can.

"We are lucky to have the opportunity to play," she said.

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