

Long Beach, CA

August 2, 2009. The Long Beach Golf Hall of Fame will be welcoming three exceptional golfers as new members in 2009, according to Hall of Fame Chairman Len Kennett. The new members are John Mallinger, John Merrick and Peter Tomasulo.

“The City of Long Beach has a rich tradition of good golf and good golfers, and these fine young men have added to, and will continue to add to, that tradition”, said Kennett.

John Mallinger was born in Escondido, but played his college golf at Long Beach State, where he was a 3-time All Big West selection. Since graduating, Mallinger has made Long Beach his home. He was medallist at the 2005 Canadian Tour Qualifying School, but he earned the nickname “Monday Mally” by getting through several fall Monday Qualifying events and playing in enough Nationwide Tour events in 2005 to earn playing privileges for 2006. He breezed through all stages of the Qualifying School that year to earn his PGA Tour Card. It didn’t take long for him to prove he belonged in “The Big Show”, when he finished 3rd at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro Am that year, one of 8 top 10 finishes he has recorded so far in his career. Mallinger finished 68th on the money list in 2007, and 98th in 2008. He has also played in three United States Open Championships.

John Merrick was born in Long Beach and attended LB Wilson HS before playing his collegiate golf at UCLA. Merrick won the Moore League High School Championship while at Wilson, won the 2001 SCGA Amateur Championship at La Jolla CC. While at UCLA, Merrick was a three time All-American, and won the 2003 PAC 10 Championship at Glendale’s Oakmont CC. Merrick won a Nationwide Tour event in 2006 and finished within the Top 25 money winners for the year, earning his PGA Tour membership. He decided to enter that year’s Qualifying School in an attempt to increase the number of events he could enter, and it was a good choice, as he finished 4th, dramatically improving his playing opportunities for the following year. Merrick finished 135th on the money list in 2007, but again successfully navigated Q-School that year to improve his

position and finished 2008 with 4 top ten finishes, including a tie for 6th at the US Open at Torrey Pines, which earned him an invitation to the 2009 Masters. He finished second at this year's 50th Anniversary Bob Hope Chrysler Classic in Pam Springs.

Peter Tomaulo was born in Long Beach, and attended LB Poly High School before entering the University of California at Berkeley to play his collegiate golf. Peter was a four year starter at Cal and captained the Golden Bears to the NCAA Division I National Championship in 2004, and was named an NCAA 1st Team All American that year. Tomasulo earned privileges on the Canadian Tour in 2005, and during a 5-week stretch that summer, he won the Long Beach Open (defeating John Merrick by one shot), the Canadian PGA Tour's Montreal Open and the Nationwide Tour's Alberta Classic. Tomasulo was on the Nationwide Tour for 4 years, and after coming close several times, he finally earned his PGA Tour Card by recording seven top 10 finishes and claiming the #11 spot on the Nationwide money list in 2008.

As always, the Long Beach Golf Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will follow the conclusion of the \$165,000 Long Beach Open professional golf tournament at El Dorado Park GC on Sunday, August 2, 2009, at approximately 2:30 p.m.

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With the addition of these three individuals, the Long Beach Golf Hall of Fame now has 56 members.

Former Inductees:

1996: Marlene Bauer-Hagge, Bev Brines, Jane Burnsed, Tom Crosby, Paul Goydos, Betty Hicks, Adeline Jones, George Lake, Frank Newell, Jr., Millie Stanley, Del Walker, Marty Walker

1997: Laura Baugh, Sue Ewart, Marge Ferrie, Mark O'Meara

1998: Ralph Cryder, Doug Ives, Len Kennett, Chris Neal

1999: Alice Bauer, John Clock, Harlan "Pinky" Stevenson

2000: Harriet Glanville, Ruth Miller, Joe Robinson

2001: Tom Frost, Dan Gooch, Bob Livingstone, Jamie Mulligan

2002: Roland Davis, B. K. Jones, Les Padfield, Eldrick "Tiger" Woods

2003: Roger Cleveland, Monty Blodgett, Shirley Johnston, Wilbur W. "Bud" Lorbeer

2004: Mike Krantz, Mike Miles, Kemp Richardson

2005: Gordon Olson, Pearl Sinn-Bonanni

2006: Lisa Georgeson, Don Knabe, John Richardson, Bob San Jose

2007: Rudy Duran, Gwenn Hibbs, John Mansell

2008: Craig Kessler, Jeff Manson, Terry Small

2009: John Mallinger, John Merrick, Peter Tomasulo