



## February 2009 Tour Report

### *PGA Tour*

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# Solus Starts Strong!!!

We took a **T5** at the Bob Hope Classic  
and  
a **Second Place** at the Ace Group Championship in  
Naples.

My presence on the 2009 PGA Tour has been delayed until the east coast swing in Florida. I missed the west coast leg because I was required to stay home due to a serious illness in my family. Our visibility continues, even in my absence, as we had the support of a lot of friends on tour as well as our tour van operated by Don Parker. A lot of other reps pitched in to help... thanks to all of you! We really appreciate it.

We had a great start to the season taking a T5 at the Bob Hope Desert Classic.

Here's a photo of how the "Tour Built" clubs will be identified in 2009.



It is a pretty simple change with the "T" stamped inside the Solus sphere. In 2008 it was right side up we have now turned the "T" upside down for '09. This gives the tour department a simple method of tracking clubs that have been spec'd for players and built on site at each event.

We will continue to personalize each custom built club with the players initials.

We will start the year featuring the new Satin finish while testing a new more flexible finish on tour which we will refer to as "Black Chrome". This finish will be more receptive to adjustments while maintaining the Solus "soft" feel and shot control. In addition, we will begin to test a slightly longer hosel configuration without compromising the CG of the design. This will also add more flexibility allowing more adjustment of the loft and lie angles.

Towards the middle of the season we will begin our first tests on the new groove configurations that will be imposed by the USGA on wedges. Solus wants to stay out in front with this testing. We feel the rules change will put us even further ahead of our competition because even with fewer grooves, our design will yield better stopping power and shot control.

The most read about and sought after news story in golf was put to rest this month, Tiger's return to the PGA Tour. The long anticipated wait came to an end when he announced he would play in the WGC Match Play and defend his title. I am as excited as is everybody on tour; he has been missed and brings so much to this great game!

### ***CHAMPIONS TOUR***

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Mike picked right back up where he left off in '08... continuing the Solus strong hold and penetration.

We finished really well at the first event on the east coast - the Allianz Championship in Boca Raton, FL. Gene Jones took a T21 using a 47\* 7.1, Steve Thomas took a T31 using four Solus wedges 47\*, 53\*, 56\* and 59\* Tour 7.1's, while Tom McKnight placed T47 playing the 61\* Series 4.1.

Steve Thomas fell in love with the new R/T Technologies Midas shaft and made the decision to re-shaft the balance of his set since testing the shaft in his 56\* last season. Tom McKnight requested a new Series 4.1/61\* to start 2009 with new grooves!

Mike also serviced a few new players for '09 - Bruce Fleisher took a Tour 7.1/59, Joe Ozaki a Tour 7.1/53 and 59, Jay Sigel a Tour 7.1/56 and Havier Sanchez added a Tour 7.1/47 to his set.

At the second east coast event, the Ace Group Classic in Naples, FL, Solus continued to increase the "clubs in play" count. Tom McKnight, Steve Thomas and Gene Jones had a total of six Solus wedges in play.

We also added two new players for the '09 season... Bruce Fleisher bagged a new Tour 7.1 59° and Keith Fergus added a Tour 7.1 59° adjusted by the Champions Tour Van. Keith had requested a ½" over standard but requested a D5-6 swing weight. The only way to meet this criteria is to remove weight from the head in strategic locations without compromising the design and function of the club. At ½" over standard the swing weight hit in the high "E" range which is way too heavy for control. It is fortunate that the Champions Tour techs are well versed at grinding and polishing. Keith is now happy and on board with a new Solus weapon!

Mike introduced the new Satin T7.1 to Teaching Pro, Sarah Stone who works both the Everglades Club and Trump National in NY.

The poor economy has taken its toll on endorsement contracts, as they have become virtually extinct on the Champions Tour and the Nationwide tour. Money is very tight and a lot of changes had to be made, so there are a lot fewer player contracts. This should give Solus a few more player opportunities this year.

Gene Jones made a really serious run at victory at the Ace Group Classic in Naples, FL falling short by only one shot to the "boss of the moss", Loren Roberts. Gene takes second place and made a great showing for Solus! Lots of TV shots of our wedge.

See you next month,  
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