

Behind The Ryder Cup The Players Stories Behind The Jersey Series

In 1926, wealthy seed merchant Samuel Ryder agreed to provide a trophy for the best of teams from two countries. What he started is a unique competition that, for the last seventy years, has regularly raised golf tempers to the boiling point on both sides of the Atlantic. It all started amicably enough, but the sense of shock in British clubhouses was palpable when, in 1927, the United States took the first contest by a humiliating margin of 9-2/. The 1933 contest, hosted that year by Britain, saw patriotic fans overrunning the fairways, setting a tone of hostility, blame, and mutual animosity-with touches of grand displays of sportsmanship-that would last for more than half a century. With the American PGA Tour now producing a steady supply of hardened professional competitors, and with new European players making an increasing impact on the golfing scene, it was decided in 1977 that the Cup would become a "Europe versus America" affair. The Ryder Cup is a thorough history of this fascinating tournament and a well-written chronicle of its attendant glory, drama, and controversy.

The brainchild of Samuel Ryder, a wealthy seed merchant from St Albans, the Ryder Cup was a bi-annual British-American professional golf tournament that was first played for the trophy bearing his name in Worcester, Massachusetts, in 1927. America won the match and gradually became the dominant force in the competition. During the 1960s the results were so one-sided that the Ryder Cup was expanded so that players from Ireland could compete for the British team. As the Americans continued to win comfortably, Jack Nicklaus led the movement to alter the teams so that European players were also allowed to compete against them. Since 1983 the contest has become one of the most competitive tournaments in the world, with many players achieving sporting immortality for their exploits on green and fairway on both sides of the Atlantic. This book examines the careers and Ryder Cup contributions of 50 of the greatest golfers in history, from Tiger Woods and Arnold Palmer to Steve Ballesteros and Nick Faldo. Lavishly illustrated throughout, this book provides the perfect accompaniment to the upcoming tournament at Gleneagles in Scotland.

The definitive illustrated history of golf's most keenly contested team game, the Ryder Cup. Fully revised and updated to tell the story of the 2018 Ryder Cup, when Team Europe regained the trophy from Team USA.

America, the Ryder Cup, and the Long Road to Whistling Straits

Behind the Scenes At the Masters

The Incomparable Drama of the 1991 Ryder Cup

The Dream Ryder Cup

The Inside Story of the 2016 Ryder Cup

Totally Subjective History of the Ryder Cup

The true story of the dramatic 1991 Ryder Cup at Kiawah Island, which changed the competition in golf forever. The 1991 Ryder Cup began in 1985. Up to then, the biennial

match between all-star teams of golf professionals from America and Europe was more ceremonial exhibition than real competition, with the Americans consistently beating the Europeans. That all changed in 1985, when the Europeans wrested it away at the Belfry in Sutton Coldfield, England. The Europeans would go on to win again in 1987, and in 1989 the competition ended in a draw. By the time the 1991 Ryder Cup arrived, the American team had vengeance on their minds. The 1991 Ryder Cup also occurred between the United States's victories in both the Persian Gulf War and the Cold War that year, and the sense of patriotism that came along with the end of those conflicts permeated the national psyche. The competition was broadcast to over 200 million people in twenty-three countries across the globe. Fans forgot golf's gentlemanly code of conduct, and loud boos, jeers, and cheers of "USA!" could be heard from the gallery. The Ryder Cup began to resemble the Super Bowl, and it quickly became evident that this match was about more than just golf. In *The War by the Shore*, veteran golf writer and bestselling author Curt Sampson chronicles this pivotal competition. He interviewed dozens of key players from both Team USA and Team Europe, and provides historical context to explain why the tension was ratcheted so high at this particular Ryder Cup. Well-researched, engrossing, and deeply entertaining, *The War by the Shore* is the story of when golf lost its manners (and, to some extent, its mind).

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Palmer to Seve Ballesteros and Nick Faldo. Lavishly illustrated throughout, this book provides the perfect accompaniment to the upcoming tournament at Gleneagles in Scotland. A history of the longstanding US-vs.-Europe golf competition—told by those who have participated. Includes numerous photos. Go inside the locker room for a history of the Ryder Cup as you've never experienced it before. Ranging from the origin matches that preceded the first official trans-Atlantic encounter between Britain and America at Worcester Country Club in 1927 through to the fortieth installment at Gleneagles, this is the history of the Ryder Cup—told by the men who have been there. With extensive research and exclusive new material garnered from interviews with players and captains from across the decades, Behind the Ryder Cup unveils the compelling truth of what it means to play in golf's biggest match-play event, where greats of the game have crumbled under pressure while others have carved their names into sporting legend.

A Year Behind the Scenes on the PGA Tour

The Definitive History of Playing Golf for Pride and Country

Seven Decades of Golfing Glory, Drama and Controversy

Draw in the Dunes

Golf's Greatest Event

The Winning Ryder Cup Strategy : Make It Work for You

Taking readers through the 2014 season, it reports on the new talents arriving on the green to dethrone golf's recognized kings and reshape the traditionally old-fashioned sport for a new generation

The Ryder Cup is one of the biggest events in the golf calendar, attracting a huge global audience but how much do you really know about this eagerly awaited biennial tournament? If you are a fan of golf and would like to find out more about the history of the Ryder Cup from the very first match through to the present day, you won't want to be without this new quiz book. Where was the first ever international match played between Great Britain and USA in 1921? In what year was Sam Torrance the European Ryder Cup captain? Who was Tiger Woods first ever fourballs partner in the Ryder Cup? These are just a few of the 250 challenging questions in The Ryder Cup Trivia Quiz Book. Full of fascinating facts, this book includes origins, courses, captains, fourballs, foursomes, singles, legends, classic matches, milestones, records and much more Ryder Cup trivia. This is a must-have book for all golf fans from seasoned professionals to amateur enthusiasts.

Brian Cox provides an overview of the history of the Ryder Cup, from its original inception in 1927 when

the USA played the original British team, all the way through to its current carnation of Europe vs America. He also provides detailed profiles of Ireland's Ryder Cup heroes throughout history.

The Cup They Couldn't Lose

The War by the Shore

Oral History of the Ryder Cup

The Ryder Cup Trivia Quiz Book

The Illustrated History

A Complete History: Golf's Greatest Event

A chronicle of the 1995 Ryder Cup golf championship draws on extensive interviews with members of the U.S. and European teams to describe the events of the tournament, the players, and Nick Faldo's come-from-behind win. Tour.

For those old enough to remember, the Ryder Cups before the 1980s were often dispiriting affairs, especially if you were British. The Americans were simply too good and the British won only very occasionally. At the end of the 1970s, the great American golfer, Jack Nicklaus, suggested that the British invite golfers from Europe to join their team. Seve Ballesteros from Spain and Bernhard Langer from Germany were just coming to the peak of their careers and it was an inspired suggestion that fortunately the British accepted. The contest became more even and the Europeans began to win as often as the Americans. Indeed, since 1981 Europe has won ten of the sixteen contests. There have been many close and exciting contests with huge dramas developing on the last day. Standing out are the matches at Brookline in 1999 when the Americans overturned a deficit of 10-6 going into the final day; Celtic Manor in 2010, when the Americans nearly, but not quite, overturned a substantial European lead; and finally at Medinah in 2012 when the Americans were cruising comfortably to victory on Saturday afternoon with a 10-4 lead, only for the Europeans to fight back: first by winning the last two fourballs on the Saturday and then winning 8 1/2 points out of 12 in the singles on Sunday. The Ryder Cup captures all the glory of golf's greatest match.

The Ryder Cup battle between Europe and the USA is one of the biggest events in the golfing calendar and in 2006, the former underdogs showed they are now the dominant force in the biennial matches. It was another marvellous example of teamwork, and the caddies have played no small part in Europe overcoming the odds. The players hit the shots; their trusty caddies share the hopes, the glory and, occasionally, the misery. What was it like being beside Sam Torrance when he holed the winning putt and shed his tears on that historic moment at The Belfry in 1985? Fast forward to 2006 and a highly emotional appearance by Darren Clarke. What was it like being by his side? What was the story behind Colin Montgomerie's right-hand-man returning to his bag to help lay to rest the ghost of 1999? How do you cope when Seve Ballesteros is in full cry against the 'old enemy',

especially when you are an American yourself? In 1991, a spike mark cost Europe the tournament, but what really happened behind the ropes? Who knew his man had had a vision he would beat Tiger Woods in 1997 - and saw it come true? What was it like witnessing those awful scenes at Brookline up close and personal in 1999? Who knew exactly which line to take when Paul McGinley sank his memorable winning putt in 2002? How We Won the Ryder Cup covers all the drama that has unfolded in the competition over the years and includes the action from the 2006 tournament at The K Club, County Kildare in Ireland, which saw Europe storm to a third successive victory.

The Cup

The First Major

A Year Inside the Ropes on the New PGA Tour

The Players' Stories

The Ryder Cup

The 1969 Ryder Cup and the Finish That Shocked the World

For those old enough to remember, the Ryder Cups before the 1980s were often dispiriting affairs, especially if you were British. The Americans were simply too good and the British won only very occasionally. At the end of the 1970s, the great American golfer, Jack Nicklaus, suggested that the British invite golfers from Europe to join their team. Seve Ballesteros from Spain and Bernhard Langer from Germany were just coming to the peak of their careers and it was an inspired suggestion that fortunately the British accepted. The contest became more even and the Europeans began to win as often as the Americans. Indeed, since 1981 Europe has won ten of the sixteen contests. There have been many close and exciting contests with huge dramas developing on the last day. Standing out are the matches at Brookline in 1999 when the Americans overturned a deficit of 10-6 going into the final day; Celtic Manor in 2010, when the Americans nearly, but not quite, overturned a substantial European lead; and finally at Medinah in 2012 when the Americans were cruising comfortably to victory on Saturday afternoon with a 10-4 lead, only for the Europeans to fight back: first by winning the last two fourballs on the Saturday and then winning 8 1/2 points out of 12 in the singles on Sunday. The Ryder Cup captures all the glory of golf's greatest match.

Revised and updated, this in-depth look recounts The Ryder Cup's rich history and venerated place in sports, its champions and its characters, and its status as golf's greatest grudge match. From its humble origins in 1927 to its place today as golf's most gentlemanly battle—and a multi-million-dollar international sports event—The Ryder Cup has cemented its place in both its legacy and lore. Golf journalist Tom Clavin and golf commentator Bob Bubka have now made current their seminal work on the tournament, exploring the history and the rivalries, the extraordinary triumphs and devastating defeats, and the U.S. and the European contingents who have made this contest so remarkable. The names are legendary for any fan of golf: Palmer, Nicklaus, Jacklin, Floyd, Mickelson, Ballesteros, Faldo, Hogan, Nelson, Watson, Strange, Sarazen, Crenshaw, Woods, Montgomerie...the

list goes on, as do their pitched battles for dominance and accomplishments on the greens. This up-close and personal look at The Ryder Cup is a must-read for golf fans, especially in preparation for the landmark 40th Anniversary tournament in Gleneagles, Scotland, in 2014.

The War on the Shore, the Battle of Brookline, the Miracle of Medinah: the Ryder Cup is golf's - and arguably one of international sport's - most intense, high-profile tournaments. Two teams tussle through 28 matches over three days for no prize money but enormous national pride. And purportedly in charge of those two teams are the captains, whose reputations are shaped forever by their players' results out on the course. Justin Rose's unlikely 35-foot on the 17th green at Medinah Country Club set up Europe's triumph - and one of modern sport's most remarkable turnarounds - in the 2012 Ryder Cup. It also established Davis Love II as 'a bad captain' and saw Jos Mara Olazbal feted for a series of leadership masterstrokes. In reality, neither captain had much to do with that putt being sunk. Yet the pressure remains on the captains to lead their team to victory. As each Cup passes, more theories are put forward about how to win. Some of these combine traditional golfing nous with cutting-edge sports psychology. Others are red herrings that have led captains down any number of blind alleys. So what can a captain do to win the Ryder Cup? Using exclusive interviews and saturation reporting, Gillis shows how strategy has evolved since the very first match in 1927, exploring the enduring and often surprising role played by some of the game's greatest stars including Walter Hagen, Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Tony Jacklin, Seve Ballesteros and Paul Azinger. The Captain Myth uses golf's greatest event to examine some fundamental questions about leadership, teams and motivation.

Seven Days in Augusta

Us Against Them

Heartbreak Hill

The Man Behind the Ryder Cup : the Biography of Samuel Ryder

Collision Course

Samuel Ryder

The Only Oral History of the Ryder Cup Since Its Genesis in 1927 *Us Against Them* recounts how the Ryder Cup grew from the brink of extinction to become the most compelling and controversial tournament in golf. The popularity of the Ryder Cup, played every other year in the fall (alternately in the United States and in Europe), has soared in the last ten years. Its worldwide television audience is now the largest of any in golf, and the last tournament, in 2002, was viewed by an estimated 100 million fans. The story of this meteoric rise -- and all the rich history that predated it -- is told in the actual voices of more than forty players and other participants, including Ryder Cup players and captains Curtis Strange, Dave Stockton, Sam Torrance, and Tony Jacklin; American legends Hale Irwin and Billy

Casper; U.S. network television commentators Peter Alliss, David Feherty, Peter Oosterhuis, and Jimmy Roberts; Tour players Peter Jacobsen, Tom Lehman, and Brad Faxon; and such names from the past as Dow Finsterwald, Johnny Pott, and Tommy Bolt. More than recalling simply the play-by-play, Us Against Them also goes behind the scenes -- to the Ryder Cup tournament director whose participation almost ended in his own bloody death, to the matches in Britain that nearly ended in blows, to the car crash that some say decided the outcome of one of the matches, to a small plane carrying players that almost fell from the sky, and to the prominent American network golf commentator who introduced himself to a U.S. president while dressed in a large plastic garbage bag!

Everybody knows about the Ryder Cup - its famous history and its stories of success and failure that rest on a single putt. In a keenly contested battle between the finest golfers from the US and Europe, these stories continue to enthral. The Cup goes behind the well-known tales to reveal the real story behind the 2006 Ryder Cup, exposing the political and diplomatic dramas that unfolded behind the scenes. Reid also explains why and how the teams were chosen and demonstrates the unique atmosphere of the Ryder Cup that fuses sport and politics in a way like no other sport.

Chronicles the events and incredible finish of the 1969 Ryder Cup, a golf tournament that began a lifelong friendship between the two stars, Jack Nicklaus and Tony Jacklin.

The Players

The Scorecard Always Lies

Ryder Cup Player by Player

A History of Golf's Greatest Match

Ryder Cup Official Programs

Cracking the Code

In 1969, the 42-year history of biennial golf matches between the United States and Great Britain reached its climax. The U.S., led by Jack Nicklaus, had dominated competitive golf for years; Great Britain, led by Tony Jacklin, was the undisputed underdog. But in spite of having lost 14 of 17 Ryder Cups in the past, the British entered the 1969 Ryder Cup as determined as the Americans were dominant. What followed was the most compelling, controversial, and contentious Ryder Cup the sport had ever seen. Draw in the Dunes is a story of personal and professional conflict, from the nervousness displayed at the very beginning of the Ryder Cup matches—when one man could not tee his golf ball—to the nerve displayed by Nicklaus and Jacklin, who battled each other all the way to the final moment of the final match. Throughout the Cup, 17 of the 32 matches were not decided until the final hole. Most electrifying was Nicklaus and Jacklin's contest, which decided the fate of the Ryder Cup. At the last putt, Nicklaus conceded to Jacklin, keeping the cup for the Americans while letting the British walk away with their most successful Ryder Cup result in years. From this event, which came to be known as "The Concession," Nicklaus and Jacklin forged a lifelong friendship and ushered in a new era of golf. From the author of the critically acclaimed golf history *The Longest Shot*, Draw in the Dunes is the

gripping account of a legendary Cup competition, and the story of golf's greatest act of sportsmanship.

Every two years, the Ryder Cup pits teams from Europe and the US against each other, with national pride at stake. This beautifully illustrated and fully updated book follows golf's most unique tournament from its humble beginnings in 1927 to the struggles of today--including Team USA's 2016 victory. It looks at each Ryder Cup, and features the great players, pairings, captains, and courses.

Golf fans will not forget the 39th Ryder Cup in a hurry. Staged at the Medinah Country Club just outside of Chicago, the 2012 event has already gone down as the most remarkable competition in its 85-year history. The American team had home advantage, and a golf course unapologetically set up to suit its own players. Supported by tens of thousands of loud and proud fans, the USA's star-studded line-up dominated the first two days and ended the Saturday with a seemingly unassailable 10-6 advantage. No away team had ever won the Ryder Cup from such an unpromising position. Sunday was singles day, traditionally the forte of American teams. The situation looked bleak, especially when European team member and number 1 golfer in the world, Rory McIlroy, very nearly missed his tee-off time. Yet slowly but surely, the European team - who had top-loaded their line-up in one last throw of the dice - started to turn the scoreboard blue. With inspirational captain Jose Maria Olazabal stiring European blood with thoughts of the late Ryder Cup magician Seve Ballesteros (whose silhouette was emblazoned on the players' sweaters and bags), the tide turned and the previously dominant American players started to crumble in the face of the onslaught. Suddenly European players were holing miraculous putts to win holes out of the blue. Something very special was happening. When German Martin Kaymer sank his putt on the eighteenth green to clinch the point that retained the Ryder Cup, the most astonishing comeback in the event's long and distinguished history was complete. Miracle at Medinah is the compelling narrative of those amazing three days in Illinois, a fitting chronicle of an unbelievable sporting story.

The Captain Myth

Miracle at Medinah: Europe's Amazing Ryder Cup Comeback

Behind the Ryder Cup

Ryder Cup - Player by Player

How the Ryder Cup Is Won

How We Won the Ryder Cup

The Masters is unquestionably the crown jewel of golf's major tournaments, not only for the transcendent performances it has inspired over the years, but for the incomparable sights and sounds of Augusta National and its environs, each distinct element contributing to the storied, rarefied atmosphere which draws tens of thousands to Georgia each spring. Seven Days in Augusta spans everything from the par-3 contest, to Amen Corner, to Butler Cabin. Mark Cannizzaro goes behind the scenes of the exclusive competition, covering wide-ranging topics including green jacket rituals, tales from The

Crow's Nest atop the clubhouse, the extreme lengths some fans have gone to acquire tickets, and what goes on outside the gates during Masters week. Also featuring some of the most memorable and dramatic moments from the tournament's history, this is an essential, expansive look at golf's favorite event. Mary Decker's clash with Zola Budd at the 1984 Los Angeles Games is one of the biggest and most controversial events in Olympic history. In a head-to-head that gripped the imagination of the world, the 3000 metres race pitted the experienced and glamorous world champion from the host nation against a prodigious, teenage waif from South Africa wearing a hastily-organised British flag on her vest and, memorably, no shoes on her feet. Disastrously, a mid-race collision saw Decker tumble to the inside of the track after her legs tangled with Budd's as the 18-year-old overtook the American in a battle for pole position. Distraught and unable to carry on, the tearful Decker watched in frustration as Maricica Puica of Romania stormed to gold while Budd, who was heavily booed by the partisan crowd in the closing stages, faded to seventh. Using the famous Olympic moment as its focal point, Collision Course tells the story of two of the best-known and greatest athletes of alltime, analyses their place in history as pioneers of women's sport, and lifts the lid on two lives that have been filled of sporting and political intrigue that, until now, has never been fully told.

The definitive story of the Ryder Cup—the event that pits the best golfers from America against the best from Europe—exploring the modern history of the tournament that led to the showdown at Whistling Straits in 2021. The task facing Steve Stricker at the 2021 Ryder Cup was enormous. It was his job, as the American captain, to stare down almost 40 years of Ryder Cup history, break a pattern of home losses that had persisted almost as long, and reverse the tide of European dominance in one of golf's most tense and emotional events. This was the epitome of a must-win, but it was also something more—in the entire 93-year history of the event, no American side had ever faced this kind of pressure. Starting on the morning of September 24, those 12 players competed not just for a Cup, or for pride, but to save the reputation of the U.S. team itself. The great mystery of the Ryder Cup is that America loses despite having superior individual talent. The European renaissance began in the 1980s, led by the brilliant Tony Jacklin and Seve Ballesteros, and since then, the U.S. has suffered a slew of embarrassing defeats abroad and at home. The signs in 2021 weren't good: Tiger Woods was out after his horrific car crash, Patrick Reed ("Captain America," to his supporters) was hospitalized with double pneumonia weeks before the event, and America had to rely on its rising stars—including Bryson DeChambeau and Brooks Koepka, who spent most of the year immersed in an escalating feud—to prove their mettle. Meanwhile, the European team had a few major stars of its own, like Jon Rahm, the world no. 1 and the first Spanish player ever to win the U.S. Open, and Rory McIlroy, the four-time major winner. Throw in the complications of a global pandemic, and the stage was set for one of the strangest Ryder Cups ever. Following the drama in Wisconsin while deconstructing the rich history of the tournament,

The Cup They Couldn't Lose tells the story of how the U.S. defeated Europe in record fashion, restored their status as golf's global superpower, and transformed their entire way of thinking in order to truly understand the nature of the Ryder Cup.

Anatomy of a Ryder Cup

How the 2006 Ryder Cup was Won

Slaying the Tiger

The Greenbrier International Ryder Cup Matches

Ryder Cup Revealed

250 Questions on the History of the Golf Competition

The ultimate guide to what is perhaps golf's most dramatic event for both the players and fans--the Ryder Cup.

As Tiger Woods broke down in tears on the 18th green at Royal Liverpool Golf Club, legions of spectators strained their eyes to read the emotion on his face. Like the millions watching on television, they knew that Tiger had just won the British Open, and that his father had recently died. Beyond that, however, they knew precious little -- only that he played with a Nike golf ball, carried an American Express card in his wallet, and, presumably, drove a Buick. They were hungry for more, but everything else about his off-course life, and those of his fellow pros, was forbiddingly well-guarded. Until now. In *The Scorecard Always Lies* veteran Sports Illustrated golf correspondent Chris Lewis reaches past the results, stats, and sound-bites to focus on the personalities and personal lives of the sport's top players. While embracing all the drama and excitement of the 2006 PGA Tour season, he takes us inside the locker rooms, hotel rooms, and private planes to deliver an unrivaled, behind-the-scenes look at the Tour and the men who play it. Lewis spent thirty weeks of the 2006 season on the road with the best golfers in the world, exploring their backstories, motivations, and preoccupations, and collecting telling, character-revealing tales. He bore witness to both the hard work and the privilege that frame their lifestyles. But he also discovered a Tour that to this point remained largely unknown -- one where a player while pursuing dreams of glory might also be suing his agent, going through a messy divorce, or looking to throw down in the locker room with one of his peers. There's John Daly trying to explain how his wife has just been taken off to jail. There's Chris Couch making a midnight, barefoot run through a derelict district of New Orleans, fearing he was about to be kidnapped, and taking refuge in a tattoo parlor. We watch as Tiger Woods tries to deal with losing his father to cancer, while refusing to abandon his fondness for blue humor. We see Phil Mickelson hanging with rock stars, sharing a Masters victory gift with a national championship-winning college football coach, and hooking up a sportswriter with a would-be groupie's phone number. All in all, we get a rare glimpse of the off-course lives of the Tour's stars and their supporting cast. At turns humorous, touching, and insightful, the book sheds new light on every aspect of Tour life, from easygoing Tuesday practice rounds to feverpitch Sunday showdowns, always taking care to show how their off-course concerns inform their every swing. Fans will savor the fullest portrait yet of a group of players who, throughout their successes and struggles, remain unflinchingly smart, funny, and engaging, and make up the most intriguing subculture in all of sports.

Ryder Cup Revealed: Tales of the Unexpected is the previously-untold, behind-the-scenes story of golf's most iconic team contest. The book reports on the commercial mysteries of the money and business; the political games and social mischief-making; the controversial actions and conflicting viewpoints; the ever-changing, sensitive relationship between the players, captains and teams. Using new interviews, fresh insights, unique research and an alternative perspective, author Ross Biddiscombe debates and contextualises all nine decades of the Ryder Cup's history. Plus, he provides dramatic forecasts on the future of the matches that have grown from being financial liability to one of the most successful stories in the whole of sport.

A History

The Complete History of Golf's Greatest Competition

Ryder Cup Ireland

Ryder Cup Top 50 Players

The Caddies' Stories

From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of A Good Walk Spoiled, a dramatic chronicle of the bitterly-fought 2016 Ryder Cup pitting a U.S. team out for revenge against the Europeans determined to keep the Cup out of American hands. Coming into 2016, the Americans had lost an astounding six out of the last seven Ryder Cup matches, and tensions were running high for the showdown that took place in October, 2016 in Hazeltine, Minnesota, just days after American legend Arnold Palmer had died. What resulted was one of the most raucous and heated three days in the Cup's long history. Award-winning author John Feinstein takes readers behind the scenes, providing an inside view of the dramatic stories as they unfolded: veteran Phil Mickelson's two-year roller-coaster as he upended the American preparation process and helped assemble a superb team; superstar Rory McIlroy becoming the clear-cut emotional leader of the European team, and his reasons for wanting to beat the US team so badly this time around; the raucous matches between McIlroy and American Patrick Reed - resulting in both incredible golf, and several moments that threatened to come to blows; the return of Tiger Woods not as a player but an assistant captain, and his obsession with helping the US win - which was never the case when he was playing. John Feinstein's classic bestseller, A Good Walk Spoiled, set the bar for golf books. Now Feinstein provides his unique take on the Ryder Cup, which has clearly become golf's most intense and emotional event...it's 'first Major.'

The Wall Street Journal called it, "Team USA's management victory ... a group-dynamic philosophy with lessons for golf and beyond." With only three wins in twenty-five years for the United States Ryder Cup team, 2008 captain Paul Azinger employed a management style that focused on building strong relationships among the players. The resulting team won with the largest U.S. margin of victory in almost three decades. In Cracking the Code, Azinger and management consultant Ron Braund share the team-building philosophy that helped win the Ryder Cup and can work for you. "Zinger brought a very systematic approach. How we practiced and who we played matches with. The most stressful part of Ryder Cup week is always the uncertainty, but his system went a long way toward putting everyone at ease."---Stewart Cink, 2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008 U.S. Ryder Cup teams "We all bought into the pod strategy, then Paul set the tone by giving us ownership, and it worked."---Phil Mickelson 1995, 1997, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008 U.S. Ryder Cup teams "I've been on teams before, but

this was the first time I looked and grasped the idea of how I can make the other person feel more comfortable."---Jim Furyk 1997, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008 U.S. Ryder Cup teams The United States Ryder Cup team ended nearly a decade of European dominance in 2008 by laying aside their individual pursuits for a single week and bonding like brothers on golf's greatest stage. Inspired by team-building techniques from Navy SEALs, Ryder Cup Captain Paul Azinger divided the twelve-man team into small groups, or pods. With guidance from corporate team-builder and relationship specialist Dr. Ron Braund, he placed golfers in pods based on their personality types rather than their golf games. The relationships among teammates created an atmosphere where Phil Mickelson, Jim Furyk, Stewart Cink, Kenny Perry, and the other U.S. golfers could perform at their highest levels. Cracking the Code tells the compelling story of how the U.S. team, half of them Ryder Cup rookies, overcame their underdog status to bring the Cup back to American shores. In the telling, they reveal principles that can be used to build winning teams in sports, business, and all of life.