

AZ Insider: Kathy's Up to Par with Nicklaus

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Shayna Shocket has the inside scoop on celebrities and the social scene



Legendary golfer Jack Nicklaus' big SCOTTSDALE announcement

Although it was pouring rain the day golfer **Jack Nicklaus** was in Scottsdale, the legend with a charming demeanor knows much better that the city's weather makes it one of the top golfing destinations in the world!

In fact, he has exciting news. Desert Mountain will host the 2012 Charles Schwab Cup Championship Oct. 31 through Nov. 4. The top 30 players in the Champions Tours season-long Schwab Cup will take to the greens of Desert Mountain's Cochise Course in **Scottsdale**, Arizona.

Amidst the sounds of the rain hitting the top of the tent we were in on the Desert Mountain course, as Jack talked about the tournament and golf. (Above is one of the pictures I snapped as **Jack** was looking at his watch to check the year inscribed on the back for which he won one of many tournaments.)

The 71 year-old young spirited **Nicklaus** (who has strong sentiments on the future of golf including the size of today's golf balls) is now consulting on preparing Cochise for the Champions Tour event. After all, his footprint in its history. It's one of six Nicklaus designs at Desert Mountain –for which he was one of the development's original visionaries. And it's one of the Scottsdale's jewels that have helped it emerge as one of the world's finest golf destinations. (**Scottsdale** is home to nearly 200 Scottsdale-area golf courses and boasts 330 days of sunshine per year.)

The event at Desert Mountain will be the culminating event for the Schwab Cup's year-long competition. The purse is \$2.5 million with the points winner to be awarded a \$1million annuity. By the way, popular golfer **Tom Lehman** was the 2011 Charles Schwab Cup Champion, which was held in San Francisco at TPC Harding Park. The 2012 event will mark its first year at Desert Mountain. Stay tuned.



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