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Sergio Garcia is coming off his best year as a pro. He enters 2009 ranked second in the world, and with Tiger still on the sidelines Garcia has a chance to overtake him. One way to move up is playing some events in the Middle East, and I don't mean Missouri. Sergio, who won the Players Championship last year, has entered the Qatar Masters.

"The tournaments in the Middle East are great," he said. "The fields are good and you get a lot of World Ranking points. You're moving in the right direction." So Sergio, is your game exactly where you want it? "There are always a couple of things I can improve on," Sergio said. "I've been improving my short game quite a lot this year and that is probably what's going to give me the extra edge."

The Qatar event, sponsored by Commercial Bank, pays \$2.6 million to the players, so even a bunch of American's are skipping the 50th anniversary of the Bob Hope tournament to play it. That list includes young stars Boo Weekley and Brant Snedeker, and so the problem of players going for the big money elsewhere begins for the PGA Tour.

Speaking of Boo, I've done a bit of research to find out more about him. He spent so much time barefoot while growing up in Milton, Fla., that golf shoes still hurt his feet so much that he wears sneakers. Occasionally he bothers to tie the laces properly. Normal trousers impact on an irritating skin disease on his right leg that he believes was caused by rubbing it against his "granddaddy's cow" and so, as shorts are banned on Tour, he often wears rain pants. When storms toss alligators up on to the house porch he and a couple of pals jump them, tie their snouts and, his words, "move them on."

Boo has spent most of the past couple of months up a tree somewhere, draped in camouflage, chewing tobacco and patiently awaiting the arrival of an unlucky deer while he delicately stroked his rifle. Hunting, not golf, is Boo's passion. "I want to play golf for 10, maybe 12, years," he says. "Whatever it takes to get enough money in my bank and then I'm done. I love to play golf, but my heart is really in fishing and hunting."

You may have heard that John Daly was recently suspended by the PGA Tour. The suspension actually occurred awhile ago, it just wasn't made public. In fact, when John played three Australian major events a few weeks back he had already been suspended. John told me he will continue playing the European Tour, starting with a three-week swing in the United Arab Emirates. "There's always light with me. Right now, my home tour is probably Europe. And I love the European tour. I always have. But my home is the United States. That's where I would rather play."



SST PURE Begins 10th Year on PGA Tour

So how does SST PURE improve in 2009 on a spectacularly dominating 2008 season? That's easy, continuing just what they're doing by PUREing the clubs of the world's best players on every major tour.

How spectacular was 2008? Start with 37 tour victories, three major championships, the FedEx Cup Championship, the leading money winner and a total of more than \$137 million won by all the players on the PGA Tour who asked SST to PURE their clubs. SST even had a 12-week year-end winning streak.

Is 2009 the year of the Paddy Slam? After all Paddy Harrington, playing with clubs that were PUREd by SST, has won the last two majors – the British Open and the PGA Championship. He's at the top of his game and brimming with confidence.

Look for the list of players who regularly ask SST to PURE their clubs to grow even larger. The staff in the SST Shaft Alignment Lab, a fixture at tour events around the country, will be working overtime to meet the demand.

When they first began on Tour 10 years ago, SST patiently needed to explain how locating the shaft's most stable position would improve a player's game. Not everyone believed PUREing a shaft would have a positive influence. As more and more players tried it, first with one club then adding additional PUREd clubs to their bags, word began to spread. Even the manufacturers soon bowed to their endorsed players' demands that their shafts must be PUREd.

Now you see players, caddies and manufacturer's reps bringing clubs and shafts over to be PUREd. The SST PURE technology locates the only position that a specific shaft must be inserted in the clubhead to eliminate off-plane oscillations that make it virtually impossible, even for a pro, to repeatedly impact the ball in the same clubface sweet spot.

So begin 2009 like the best players in the world who week after week profit from the SST PUREing advantage. PURE your clubs and start improving your game! Make your clubs work for you not against you.

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