



September 12, 2015
The Golf Club at Fossil Creek, Fort Worth, Texas
www.TexasShotgun.com

Immediate RSVP Requested – Limited Space Available
Sponsorship Opportunities Available



Strom Aviation is proud to officially tee off the 17th Annual Aviation Texas Shotgun Golf Tournament benefitting Children's Health (formerly Children's Medical Center) on Saturday, September 12th at The Golf Club at Fossil Creek in Fort Worth, Texas and all you have to do is RSVP NOW with your intent to join us. Of course we hope you will also consider sponsoring, buying a foursome, or perhaps just raising money for the charity, but for now we invite you to sit back and enjoy what is part of this aviation community tradition: the official 2015 Texas Shotgun Golf Invitation.

I have got to be honest with you, your Texas Shotgun Golf Chairs, who thought they had seen it all in golf event planning, were seriously stressed this year prior to sending out this invitation (yes this is our

golf invitation!). We are talking about the accelerated level of heart-beating stress caused by an overaggressive John Daly-like backswing and the inevitable sliced tee shot which results where Nostradamus isn't needed to see clearly that this shot is absolutely, positively going to cost you both money and significant embarrassment. As for whether your financial liability will come as a result of property damage or possibly personal damage (including medical bills), and perhaps even plastic surgery in the event you end up hitting someone with the ball or that someone is about to hit you with a fist. You are forced to watch your ball hoping and praying for a quick resolution but much like the time leading up to a colonoscopy, time literally comes to a screeching halt to allow time for panic attacks and massive anxiety buildup.

It is in this slow motion moment when you realize your aging eyes that were previously incapable of reading a newspaper, book, or medication bottle are now somehow able to read clearly the brand stamped on your ball with each revolution and for the first time ever you count the dimples; 349, 350, 351, 352! Normally you would not be thinking like this but with so much time on your hands and desperately trying to take your mind off the pending collision between your ball and something you would rather not hit you start wondering why 352 dimples and not 351 or 353. Meanwhile, you notice your partners are almost motionless on the tee box seemingly stuck in this slow motion reality, while you on the other hand are somehow unaffected in movement as you confirm by running around your three partners and kicking one of them in the ass just because you can. Concluding that your partners won't miss you and being incredibly anxious and impatient, you decide the best thing to do is to go get a sandwich, some chips, and a beer thinking that at some point The Golfer in the Sky will select "play" on the remote control and life will return to normal.

The food has a temporary calming effect although you become immediately aware of some noteworthy gargling noises and pressure build up in your intestines. While standing there you cannot figure out why your Fitbit says that your journey to the halfway house to get the food was just under a mile and your damn ball has only flown what appears to be 175 yards. It is then when start feeling badly for your neighbor who just that morning shared with you by the fence line that he was hoping to pass that kidney stone. He really looked like hell and the stress from the mere thought that right now his passing stone was being delayed, perhaps mid-stream, bothers you immensely.

Then it happens. Your 352 dimpled ball finally reacts to gravity and makes impact with the mansion with the undeniable sound of WHAM which awakens your friends from their slow motion coma as they begin laughing hysterically. Whether there is damage or not doesn't seem to matter as the pressure, stress, and anxiety has been lifted and that my fellow Shotgunners, is how Jared and I felt after sending the Save the Date e-mail.

Our Save the Date e-mail is our shortest correspondence, yet it is incredibly important in the overall scheme of things because it sets in motion a flurry of activity on our part and generates one of two types of reactions from our aviation community. One group responds by immediately reserving their hotel room, booking airline flights, and reaching out to their company leadership to obtain sponsorship or a gift to Children's Health. The second group are those who ultimately will take the same action as the first group, however they know our actual invitation will soon arrive so they instruct their executive admin to "block off 3 days on Outlook and title it, Read Strom Aviation's Long Winded Texas Shotgun Golf Invitation". This year however there was a third unanticipated group which immediately replied

questioning whether our host course was even open for business due to the massive rain and flooding in the Dallas area. There was talk they were changing their name to Indian Creek Lantis.

Obviously you can imagine changing the date or course is a disaster and something to be avoided at all costs after 2,000 e-mails have been sent out. Not wanting to change the course and seeing this as an opportunity to introduce the Bubba Watson designed Golf Hovercraft experience to our tournament, Jared downplayed the negative news and stories as if there wasn't a problem at all. Jared reported back after a quick drive by, "Yea, the Trinity River does crest over the sand bagged embankments but it looks more like Niagara Falls or a really cool water feature". He then threw out that if we could get that crazy guy, Nik Wallenda, to tightrope across a few of the fairways it would add interest and maybe news coverage to our charity event. The idea actually did sound appealing at first until I thought with this group the tightrope walker would probably be picked off like a duck in some shooting carnival game. Truth be told, I did not want to change courses either for many reasons, but the thought of arguing with the new catering department about whether to get the overpriced burger buffet or soggy BBQ brisket sandwiches was too much to bear. The one thing I knew for sure and where I would draw a line in the sand, if it wasn't already underwater, was that with our previous golf cart issues there was no way in hell that I was going to approve hovercrafts. I was already having night sweats about some of you morons (you know who you are) trying to hovercraft over the club house or perhaps using it to go fishing or rafting down the Trinity, or worse yet driving it back to the hotel on Interstate 35.

While Jared and I were arguing about what to do we started getting more e-mails from you guys essentially saying, "Dude, the course is closed and under 4-5 feet of water and they are thinking about filming Sharknado 4..." Enough was enough. I sent Jared back one more time and I should have known that something was up when I saw his expense report which might be described as "questionable business expenses" since it included the purchase of a snorkel, some flippers, a waterproof otter box, and one hot pink wet suit (he said that was the only one in stock). It wasn't until he was on site, apparently in the pink wet suit, swimming around the course reporting back that we could still make this work when I literally lost him. I heard what sounded like a flushing toilet and then he was gone. I came to find out later that a rip tide off of hole 13 actually sucked him down the Trinity which then connected with the Brazos River in Waco. He had to take a day off to get back because no one would give him a ride as he walked North on Interstate 35 in a pink leotard carrying flippers and a snorkel. While finishing up the third Costco sized drum of colored Roloids, I made the decision to change courses. The stress has now subsided and I am told my purple colored tongue will return to its normal color in a week or two.

So it is with great pleasure that I get to announce The 2015 Texas Shotgun Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2015 at The Golf Club at Fossil Creek in Fort Worth, TX (www.thegolfclubatfossilcreek.com) where we will have a shotgun start at 1:30 pm immediately followed by a high number of "bag drops" as we head off to our respective tee boxes. Dinner, awards, and hopefully our largest check presentation to date will be given to Kyra Barnett of Children's Health with you to witness and experience it all.

As you know the party will continue and we have made arrangements with the Holiday Inn Express (Fort Worth I-35 Western Center) in Fort Worth, for a limited number of rooms at the Strom Aviation rate of \$99.00 per night. Click the following link to book your room today and take advantage of the special rate ([Strom Aviation Group Rate](#)) and keep it safe while we continue into the night telling tall tales about shots gone by!

We will again be holding an optional pre-tournament practice round on Friday, September 11th at a rate of \$50.00 per player, payable at check-in. This event will also be held at The Golf Club at Fossil Creek in the afternoon and we ask that you RSVP for this event as well. Come out and join us so you can scout the course, the generally weak competition and develop your strategy for pulling off a big win in 2015.

Texas Shotgun To-Do List:

1. Accept our invitation by replying to this e-mail with your confirmation to attend and then wait while we take care of the rest with less written words!
2. Create a team for just \$500 using the following link and reply with e-mail confirmation of your plans with the full contact information of each player from our aviation community ([Foursome Registration](#)).
3. Sponsor this event. Review the following link of options and feel free to call me to discuss further any other ideas you might have as we want this to work for you and your team. After determining the level of sponsorship send me an e-mail with your intent and any guests you would like to bring as golfers or perhaps volunteers to help a contest hole ([Sponsorship Options](#)).
4. Make a Donation directly to Children's Health through [our fundraising site](#).
5. Help us get the word out for the Texas Shotgun. Facebook, Tweet, LinkedIn, forward this e-mail or suggest our Texas Shotgun website in passing to others as that will help us a great deal. Do whatever it takes to help spread the word on this aviation charity tradition. If you have vendors with deep pockets that would benefit from the networking and could sponsor please call us. Or if you have an aviation colleague who you think would be an excellent addition to our esteemed group of aviation movers and shakers send us their contact information and we will see what we can do.

So there it is, you have officially survived the reading or more likely skimming of the 17th Annual Texas Shotgun Golf Invitation. As always we cannot do this without your help and generosity so please help us out in whatever way that you can. 17 years is a long time to be doing this with no improvement in golf whatsoever but I am proud that on behalf of all of us at Strom Aviation and Children's Health you have helped transform what started as simply a party into a party with a cause.

Thank you for being a part of this aviation tradition and for allowing us to work in an industry that we love.



