

## **Police: Man, 43, Encouraged Two Underage Caddies to Drink Alcohol, Held Drinking Games on Golf Course**

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**Date :** August 19, 2019

A 43-year-old Darien man golfing at Wee Burn Country Club not only provided alcohol to two caddies, both under 21, but encouraged them to drink more by holding drinking games, police said.

The man's encouragement was "somewhat forceful" in the words of the Darien police announcement, which relied on the accounts of one or both of the caddies. Later that day, June 25, one of the caddies was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Police provided this further information about the matter, including accusations not proven in court (all

quotes are from the police announcement, not from witnesses):

Blaine Hurty, 43, of the Post Road, provided alcohol to the caddies "throughout the day," according to the announcement. He not only encouraged them to drink, but he got so intoxicated that he himself could no longer play, and he let the caddies play, holding small contests for them, in which the loser was supposed to have "an entire alcohol drink."

It didn't end on the golf course: Afterward, he invited them into the club bar, where he offered them another drink.

In the words of the police announcement:

- At the conclusion of the round, Hurty invited the suspect into the club bar where he provided him with an additional drink. The caddie asked for a beer, but Hurty provided him with straight vodka. The two parted ways without Hurty offering the caddie any safe means of going home.
- It was at this time that the suspect got into his car, against the wishes of the second caddie, and drove away ultimately becoming involved in a motor vehicle crash.

At 6:28 p.m. that day, a 19-year-old Stamford man was charged with driving while under the influence after his 2006 Honda Accord crossed the double-yellow line into the opposite lane and sideswiped a vehicle coming from the opposite direction, then crashed into a stone wall.

(The news release sent out Monday afternoon, from Detective James Palmieri, said the caddy later arrested on the DUI charge was 20. That man was not named in the Monday news release. The news release sent out July 1 about that incident was from Capt. Jeremiah Marron provides a birth date that makes the DUI arrestee 19 years old.

(The Monday news release also states that Hurty was arrested on Aug. 24, a date which hasn't yet occurred. Darienite.com will not assume that the 19-year-old is the caddy. We'll await confirmation from Palmieri on that. It's possible, as has happened more than a couple of times this year, that an arrest of somebody else took place that hasn't yet been announced.)

After police were told Hurty was encouraging the underage drinking, they tried to talk with him, but he didn't answer their numerous attempts. Police applied for and received an arrest warrant charging him with providing alcohol to minors and second-degree reckless endangerment.

Hurty turned himself in to police and was released on a \$10,000 bond set by the court. He is scheduled to

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appear Aug. 26 in state Superior Court in Stamford.