



Upcoming Events

3/6: *Battle of the Dam* 11:00am

3/7: *Battle of the Dam* 9:00am

3/14: *SMGA Ryder Cup* 10:00am

3/14: *Stag Night* 5:30pm

3/17: *LGA Couples* 10:00am

3/23: *MGA - Yellow Ball* 10:00am

3/26: *Citadel Club* 1:00pm

Weekly Member Play:

Ladies Day: Monday & Thursday @ 10am

SMGA: Tuesday @ 10:00am

Dogfights: Wednesday @ 12:30; Friday @ 12:00; Saturday @ 10:00; Sunday @ 12:00

Shootout: Saturday & Sunday ~ T-Times

Local Knowledge:

● **Stag Night**

It's back! Our infamous Stag Night returns this month on March 14. Join us at 5:30 for a little 9 hole competition followed by dinner and cards at the clubhouse. Mark your calendar and look forward to an evening of fun on the 14th.

● **Couples Tournament**

The first Couples Tournament of the year will be held on March 17. The format will be a Texas Scramble with a 10:00 shotgun start. Register in the Golf Shop and look forward to a great time at the club.

● **Yellow Ball**

It's 2 tournament in 1 and loads of fun. Join the MGA on March 23 for the Yellow Ball tournament. Read News from the Golf Shop for details and contact the Golf Shop to register.

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News from the Golf Shop

Spring is right around the corner! With all the rain we've had this winter we are all looking forward to drier, warmer conditions. Not only are drier, warmer conditions on the way, daylight savings time begins on March 10th which will give us more daylight to enjoy those late afternoon rounds of golf. The golf course will begin to turn greener with each passing week and it will once again be in fantastic shape to enjoy the game we all love. We hope each of you will be able to take advantage of every opportunity to enjoy some fun and fellowship on the links this month.

The 2019 Superbowl Superball was played on February 3rd. It is safe to say that the tournament was way more exciting than the game itself! 16 2-person teams teed it up in cold, damp, blustery conditions and competed in what turned out to be one of the closest events ever here at Golden Hills. The teams of Mike Moody/Dewayne Heffley, Shawn Miller/Frank Pinckney, Yeomin Yoon/David Ha, and Chris Ulmer/John Phillips all tied for first with scores of 63 in the net best ball tournament. The teams of Mike Ruddy/Dale Welch, Tommy Morin/Joe Pawluk, and Ron Stills/Todd Lindsey all tied for fifth, 1 shot back at 64. 7 teams separated by only 1 shot. Well done gentlemen! Thank you to all the teams that participated in the tournament and braved the elements with us.

With the added daylight this month, we now have the opportunity to bring back Stag Night! The first Stag Night of the year will be held on March 14th with a 5:30 shotgun start. The format will be the world famous 1,2,3 tournament. Each team will be made up of 3 players. On holes 1,4,7 only 1 best ball will count. On holes 2,5,8 2 best balls will count. On holes 3,6,9 all 3 balls will count. The cost is only \$22 per player which includes the cost of golf, dinner and prizes. Following play, there will be a poker game for those who wish to try their luck. Hope to see you all for the 1st Stag Night of the year on March 14th!

The MGA held their Wild Rules Open on February 23rd. Once again, the men had to brave the elements as a misty drizzle persisted throughout the day. However, the rain didn't dampen their spirits and some good golf was played. The format incorporated some of the rules we wish we all could play by sometimes: No out of bounds or lost balls, 2 mulligans, move up a tee, par escape clause & others. Phillip Gibson took home the top prize in the gross division with a score of 71 while Robb Hill took home the top prize in the net division with a score of 67. Thanks to everyone who braved the elements once again and enjoyed the day with us!

The next MGA Tournament on the schedule is March 23rd. The Yellow Ball Tournament is actually 2 tournaments in 1. Teams are made up of 3 people

with 1 person playing the Yellow Ball every third hole and the other 2 players playing a net best ball. The two events are the net score of the yellow ball and the best ball of the other two players. This is a fun event so grab your partners now and sign up early. Play will begin at 10:00am with tee times. You can sign up as a 3-some or, if you are a single or a twosome, the Golf Shop staff will assist in putting a team together for you.

Any senior men looking for more opportunities to play should check out our Senior Men's Golf Association. Every Tuesday at 10:00am, except for the 26th this month which will be at 9am, our SMGA meets to play 18 holes in a little friendly competition. If you haven't played with them before, don't be shy, they are a great group of guys who would love to have you join them. The SMGA is open to all male players over the age of 55. If you would like to join in the fun, call the Golf Shop by 4pm each Monday.

Our Ladies Days continue to be held each Monday and Thursday at 10:00am. The ladies are always welcoming new players to join them. If you are a scratch golfer or beginner, like to play 9 or 18, walk or ride, all are welcome to come and join in the fun. All we ask is that you call the Golf Shop by 4pm the preceding day to let us know you are coming to play. With the weather getting warmer this month, now is the time to come and play! The first LGA Couples event will be played on March 17th. The format will be Texas Scramble with a 10:00 shotgun start. Make your plans to join in the fun!

Have you seen or heard the latest rage in golf equipment. The Callaway Epic Flash driver was the only driver to be awarded 20 out of 20 stars by Golf Digest. Golden Hills is your local staff dealer! With demos and a Callaway Fit Cart available, we can match you with the perfect club and shaft. Come out today and see Steve to get fit with your new Callaway clubs with jailbreak technology. Maybe you already have a good set of clubs but who couldn't stand to make more putts or chip the ball closer to the hole? Your Golden Hills Golf Shop is also the place to find the finest putters and wedges made by Callaway and Odyssey. Come by today and get your equipment ready for the spring season.

Don't need clubs right now? March is a great time to get a tune-up for your golf swing or short game. With member exclusive pricing, now is a great time to get with your Head Golf Professional, Steve Larick, or your Director of Instruction, Jimmy Koosa to get that 1 tip that may take your game to the next level. Don't wait till the last minute to start fine tuning your game for the upcoming tournament season. Do it now!

Your Golf Shop staff,

Steve Larick, Jimmy Koosa, Taylor Wright & Jake Kea

Ladies Golf Association

The LGA year officially kicks off on March 1st. We're looking forward to another year filled with golf, good times spent with old and new friends and fun! Don't forget to record your birdies and be on the look out for Shot of the Year entries.

The ladies have expanded their play days to include an opportunity for play 3 days a week. In addition to the Ladies Day where you can play 18 holes each Monday and Thursday, with tee times beginning at 10:00 a.m., you can also sign up to play 9 holes each Tuesday and Thursday. Tee times for the 9 holes of play on Tuesday and Thursday will be between 9:30 and 10:00 a.m. To register call the Golf Shop (803) 957-3355 on the proceeding day you wish to play.

Our first LGA Couples Tournament will be held on Sunday, March 17th at 10:00 a.m. The format will be a Texas Scramble and lunch will be provided after play. The cost is \$20/couple for GH/LGA members and \$30 per couple for all others (plus regular green & cart fees). The Couples Tournament is open to everyone, any 'couple of golfers' can play (it doesn't have to be a mixed couple).

Your LGA membership also entitles you to play in Sandlapper, WSCGA, CGA and the Ladies Handicap Match League tournaments. It's the perfect time to join the LGA with new reduced dues (only \$25 a year). Please contact Annemarie Keene at (803) 318-3107 or snauzers@yahoo.com if you have any questions or to join the LGA. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 18th from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the Golden Hills clubhouse.

The first LHML tournament of 2019 will be held on March 11th at Cobblestone; Golden Hills will face off against Lexington CC. Good Luck Ladies! The WSCGA One Day events for 2019 begin this month on March 12. Formats and locations are as follows: 2 Person Best Ball at The Club at Brookstone (Anderson) & Spring Valley CC (Columbia); Stroke Play at Charleston National (Mt. Pleasant).

Senior Men's Golf Association

May the luck of the Irish be with us all this month and bring great golf, scores and moments on the course! If you are new to the club or simply looking for an opportunity to play more often, we welcome you to join our group each Tuesday at 10:00 for a fun and friendly round. All senior men, age 55 and over, are invited to participate. This month we would like everyone to note that play will begin at 9:00 am on March 26. If you would like to play, you can register by calling the Golf Shop by 4:00 on the Monday preceding each Tuesday match at (803) 957-3355.

Last month we incorporated a 50/50 raffle into our Tuesday matches. For \$5 you get 6 tickets. A number is drawn before the round and the winning number gets 50% of the money collected. The other 50% is held in an account until the end of the year; at year-end the SMGA will select a charitable organization to donate the funds collected.

March starts the Ryder Cup season. Our first match will be held on March 14, at Golden Hills, vs. Mid Carolina. Any of our senior men with a GHIN handicap are eligible to participate on our team. For more information on the SMGA Ryder Cup team contact Ray Chiellini.

Results of our matches since the last report are as follows:

Feb. 5 - Handicap: 1st - Mark Wales (64); 2nd - Dan Sass (68); 3rd - Mike Ruddy (69); 4th (tie) Jim Anderson, Knut Brockmann, Richard Wood (70); 50/50 winner: Jim Antil \$55

Feb. 12 - Points: 1st - (tie) Jim Anderson, Frank Jansen (+11); 3rd - Lee Session (+10); 4th (tie) Gary Liles, Steve Johnston (+6); 50/50 winner: Scott Zhang \$48

Feb. 19: No play due to weather. 50/50 winner: Bill Lorenzen \$18

Feb. 26 - Handicap: 1st - Don Goodwill (57); Jim Davis (58); 3rd (tie) Joe Ecker, Nick Rinaldi & Dick Woodward (62); 6th - Richard Wood (63); 50/50 winner: John Curry \$55; Closest to the Pin: Gary Liles 7' 1"

For more information on the SMGA contact Ray Chiellini at (803) 518-4215 or email him at: dober2plus1@gmail.com

Keep Perspective:

For most of the country, March is the time when golfers end their hibernation. Returning to the course is reason alone for celebration, but other influences - such as nice weather or the prospect of trying out new equipment - make this round one of the more anticipated of the year. Count us among the elated ready to hit the links. Before you tee it up, here are 7 things to keep in mind before your next round:

It's colder than it feels: Let's call this the "Weather Relativity" rule. In September, coming off a sun-scorched summer, a cloudy, 50 degree day feels like you're visiting an ice planet. After three months of winter, those same conditions translate to a trip to the beach but don't be too quick to pull out the shorts and short sleeves.

While your body may tell you it's warm, trust the forecast and dress appropriately.

Stretch out on the driving range: The golf swing uses a unique muscle combination and memory. Making your first swing of the year on the tee box is a recipe for a disaster. It's important to prime your muscles before athletic activity, so prior to heading to the first hole, make sure to swing and stretch on the range.

Slow and simple: Not only at the range, but throughout your inaugural round, tempo should be your primary focus. Chances are your swing is going to be rusty. Trying to smash your new driver or taking a hard whack from the rough will only aggravate any kinks. Establishing tempo means giving 70% of full effort on a swing. This will help you keep your swing under control. In a sense, you should view this round as a practice session. Like football's mini-camps or baseball's spring training, you don't see players going 110% in their first foray of the season. It's about returning to a rhythm.

You're going to stink: In extolling the virtues of not keeping score, Geoff Ogilvy, the 2006 U.S. Open champ, has said: "Stroke play is a nonsense game; I don't see why anyone would do it who didn't have to." That's easier said than done; moreover, the majority of golfers like keeping score, viewing the practice not only as a challenge but as a barometer of their game. But, at this juncture of the season, the words of Ogilvy ring especially true. Your swing needs work, your feel around the greens won't be there, and the course itself isn't in prime scoring condition quite yet. Keeping score in March serves one purpose: Jacking up your handicap.

Course conditions: Look out your front yard. See the yellowish hue and dormant state of your grass? Expect the same from the course's sod. While the fairways should be nice thanks to the divot respite, most of the grass will be a tad froggy and likely wet, and the greens won't be rolled or cut at a fast length. However, don't let these conditions sour your outlook on a course or its summer outlook. This is simply what Mother Nature looks like this time of the year.

Mind the cart rules: Courses can still tend to be in a vulnerable, fledgling state in spring, and the smallest amount of damage can have long-term implications. Carts aren't great for a course's health once you take them off the path. Do your part in preserving the course by minding the cart path rules or opt to putting the bag on your shoulder for a 9 or 18 hole walk.

Keep perspective: Just to recap: You're not going to score well, your game is going to be off and the course won't be aesthetically pleasing. Why even bother, you might ask. Because, in spite of the less-than-ideal environment, it's still going to be a good time. Spring golf may not be the game's best iteration. But first rounds, in any walk of life, rarely are; they pave the way for better things to come.