



Weekly Member Play:

Ladies Day: Tues @ 8am & Thurs @ 9am

SMGA: Tuesday @ 9:00am

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

Local Knowledge:

● Spring Best Ball

With the continued disruption to our scheduled events this month, we're going to have a new Spring Best Ball competition for May. If you missed out last month, don't delay in getting signed up for this month.

● Hole In One

Congratulations to Shawn Miller on his hole in one made on April 10th; Hole #17, 130 yds, 8 iron. Shawn has been added to the Hole In One Archive on our website. Will you be the next one to be added? Tee it Up!

● Tee Times

In order to accommodate everyone that wants to play, we need to know who is planning to play. Members can make a tee time up to 1 week in advance. Be sure to secure your desired tee time by contacting the Golf Shop at (803) 957-3355.

● No Personal Coolers

As a reminder, personal coolers are not allowed on the golf course. Coolers and special prices for members are available in the bar.

● Pool News

As of May 1, pools in SC remain closed due to COVID-19. Our pool season usually begins on Memorial Day weekend. We are in hopes that the closure will be lifted in time for our pool to open on schedule. We will keep you posted as new developments are announced. Everyone's health & safety is our first concern and we will follow the guidance we are given on pool operations.

● Tennis Lessons

Kyle Koch offers tennis lessons for all ages & ability levels. Whether you're looking to pick up the game or improve it, he can assist. Contact Kyle at (803) 348-1595.

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News from the Golf Shop

The 2020 golf season is in full bloom. So is the golf course! We hope you and your family are doing well and looking forward to another great month to enjoy time at the club. With the longer days, there will be plenty of sun filled days to get some fresh air, exercise and enjoy the beautiful views your golf course has to offer.

Unfortunately, with the restrictions that have been put in place due to Covid-19, we were unable to host any of the events that were scheduled for April. As an extra precaution, we are also going to postpone events we had planned for May. That includes this year's Club Championship, it will now be held on June 27th and 28th.

Since we were not able to have any of our traditional April events, we came up with an alternative to get those competitive juices flowing. We called it the Spring Best Ball. What is the Spring Best Ball? Well, you may know it as a Ringer Tournament. Since it's an individual event it is something everyone can enjoy, on your own time schedule. How does the Spring Best Ball work? Your best score on each hole counts toward your total score. For instance, if the first 3 times you play during the month you make a bogey on #1 but on the fourth round you make a birdie; the birdie will count as your "best ball". Participants were able to play as many rounds as they wanted and each round provided a chance to improve their score. At press time for this newsletter, Shawn Miller held a 2 shot lead with a score of 56. Close behind, with scores of 58, were David Gibson and Frank Pinckney. Three other golfers, Trent Whitfield, Doc Griffin and Yeomin Yoon followed, only 3 shots behind, with scores of 59.

With the interest and fun the Spring Best Ball created last month, we've decided to do it again this month. Once again, it will run throughout the month and you can play as many times as you want. Handicaps will be used at 50% of handicap. The cost is only \$1 every time you play. We will have another array of exciting prizes and everyone will have a chance to win something, regardless of how you finish. We will have a leaderboard posted in the Golf Shop on Monday's so you can track your progress. The only thing you need to do to is sign up, pay \$1/round and play your "best ball"!

During the month of May our Senior Men's Golf Association will continue to meet on Tuesday

mornings at 9:00. We hope all the precautions we have taken here at Golden Hills has made you feel safe while you enjoy the great game of golf. We were certainly glad to see so many of you return to the links at the end of April. If you are new to the club, or have not joined the SMGA, this is a great bunch of guys who would welcome your participation. To sign up to play call the Golf Shop by 3:00 pm each Monday.

Our Ladies Play Days will continue in May on Tuesday's at 8am and Thursday's at 9am. We have certainly enjoyed seeing all your smiling faces at the club and watching our ladies group grow. If you are a beginner or scratch golfer, like to play 9 or 18, walk or ride, all are invited to come join in the fun. If you would like to come out and join the ladies, simply call the Golf Shop by 3:00 pm the preceding day to let us know you are coming. Hope to see you all in May! Unfortunately, with all of the restrictions put on us due to Covid-19, the Ladies Chip & Chatter will not take place in May. We will look forward to hosting it in the fall, so stay tuned for details.

The upcoming summer golf season is packed with opportunities to test your game against your fellow members. On June 27th and 28th we hope to finally hold our Club Championship. There will be four divisions: Men, Senior, Super Senior (70+) and Women's. As the number of players allows, we will have flights in each division based on the first round scores. Sign up is available in the Golf Shop today.

In July we've made a slight schedule change for the Member/Guest tournament. The Member/Guest will now be played on July 18th and 19th with the practice round, putting contest, long drive and players dinner on Friday the 17th. On August 15th and 16th we will hold our annual Member/Member golf tournament. Mark your calendars, sharpen your skills and be prepared for a great summer of golf!

In closing, we want to thank you for adhering to all the new guidelines we've put in place to keep everyone "playing through" COVID-19. We will continue to do our utmost to keep everyone safe and healthy!

Your Golf Shop Staff,
Steve Larick, Taylor Wright

Ladies Golf Association

With the great weather and course being in such good condition, playing golf has been a joyful blessing over the past several weeks. The good news? May promises more of the same. You have to find the good in things and golf is it for us. We hope you will consider joining us for some outdoor refreshment this month. Ladies, of all skill levels, are invited out for the weekly Ladies Play Days. The Play Days are held each Tuesday at 8:00am and Thursday at 9:00am. If you would like to join us, simply call the Golf Shop, at (803) 957-3355, by 3:00 on the proceeding day.

Due the continued restrictions for COVID19, the decision has been made to postpone the Ladies Chip and Chatter golf clinic until the fall. In the meantime, if any of you could use a little help with your game, contact our Head Professional, Steve Larick, for a lesson. Steve is an excellent instructor and can safely offer lessons while maintaining social distancing.

The LHML (Match Play), WSCGA and Sandlapper tournaments are still in a holding pattern due to COVID. We will continue to monitor for any updates and keep you posted on the revised schedule.

Let's remember to stay safe while we enjoy playing golf during this stressful time!

If you're interested in learning more about our group of ladies, contact LGA President, Annemarie Keene at (803) 318-3107 or email: snauzers@yahoo.com

Senior Men's Golf Association

With the additional safety measures that have been put in place at the club, we have been able to maintain our sanity by playing the game we all love. Do you need an outlet during these challenging times? Join us for our weekly matches. You can enjoy a little fresh air and the great condition of our course with us each Tuesday at 9:00am. Any male member of Golden Hills, age 55 or older, is welcome to participate. The format changes each week and it's fun for all skill levels. To be included, call the Golf Shop by 4:00pm on the proceeding Monday at (803) 957-3355.

On June 1 the Senior Ryder Cup team captains will meet to discuss plans for the 2020 season. We will keep you informed on whether it is decided to proceed with half a season or cancel. Hopefully they will be able to implement some sort of revised schedule for this year. The interclub matches provide us with a chance to play at other clubs, meet fellow golfers and enjoy the team comradery the competitions create.

In order to keep you updated with all the latest news from the SMGA, please be sure that we have your email address. If you have not been receiving our emails, send your address to Ray Chiellini. You can also contact Ray if you want more information on the SMGA. He can be reached by calling (803) 518-4215 or email him at: dober2plus1@gmail.com

Spring

Best Ball

We're going to TEE UP another Spring Best Ball challenge in May. How does it work? The best score on each hole counts towards your total score. Ex: if the first 3 times you play you make a bogey on #1 but on the 4th round you make a birdie; the birdie now counts as your "best ball". You can play once or 15 times; every time you play you have a chance to improve your score. The cost is only \$1 every time you play. We have another array of exciting prizes this month. Everyone has a chance to win something, regardless of how you finish. Leaderboards will be posted in the Golf Shop for you to track your progress. The only thing you need to do is sign up, pay your \$1/round & play your Best Ball!

As the world continues to respond to the threat of COVID-19, we are continuing to take steps to help keep everyone safe, healthy & informed. Please keep the following in mind:

- Practice social distancing in the clubhouse & on the course. We will continue to disinfect surfaces & provide you with wipes & sanitizer throughout your stay.
- You don't have to touch the pins & the cups have been adapted so you don't have to reach deep into the hole to retrieve your ball.
- Ball washers, bunker rakes and water coolers are being kept out of service.
- The Bar & Grill remains open for grab & go orders. The seating areas in the club are closed.
- The handicap computer has been turned off. You can post scores online or leave your card in the Golf Shop for our staff to post for you.
- The USGA, recognizing the challenge of trying to play during the COVID crisis, is allowing flexibility for players wanting to abide by the Rules of Golf. Visit USGA.org for special rules & handicapping guidance during the COVID-19 era.
- We want you to both FEEL safe and BE safe at Golden Hills. Like us, we encourage you to take every precaution and be considerate of others. If you don't feel well, stay home, there will still be plenty of golf to enjoy when this passes!