April

01  8:00am Tee Times Start
01  Couples Twilight
04  PGA Playing Ability Test
08  Clemson Letter Winners Tournament (am)
09  Super Saturday # 2
11  Open Monday (11am)
16-17  MEMBER-MEMBER
18  Open Monday 11am
22  Couples Twilight
23  JLF Memorial Tournament (2pm)
25  Open Monday (11am)
30  Better Theta Tourn. (2pm)

May

01  Match Play Begins
02  Open Monday (11am)
05  CAFLS Tourn. (2pm)
06  Couples Twilight
09  Mulligans For Maggie
13  Couples Twilight
14  Super Saturday # 3
14  DEMO DAY
16  Blue Ridge Co-Op (AM)
17  Carolina Auto (AM)
18  LGA “Bring a Friend”
20-22  Member-Guest
23  Open Monday (11am)
27  Couples Twilight
28  Pool Opens
30  Red-White-Blue Tourn.

Membership by the Numbers
Individuals: 123  Family: 121
Non-Resident: 27  Young Alumni: 12
Inactive: 11  Life: 26
Total Membership: 320

Upcoming Events

April

Member-Member Championship
The Member-Member Championship is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, April 16 & 17. The entry fee is $50 per team plus cart fees. This year’s championship is a MIXED FORMAT:

Saturday:  Front Nine = Best Ball
            Back Nine = Captain’s Choice
Sunday:    Front Nine = Texas Scramble
            Back Nine = Alternate Shot

Teams will be divided (by the tournament committee) into “competitive” flights based on Saturday’s combined scores. There are no gender or tee divisions. Everyone will play from their “home” set of tees and compete as one giant group. The winners will receive Golf Shop Credits for their performance. In addition to the golf, drink coupons and snacks from Sole are included in the entry fees.

A new twist this year will be a Closest to The Pin Jackpot. Each player will have the option to pay an additional $8 cash entry fee to form a huge CTP jackpot. There will be four CTP winners each day and they will split the jackpot collected. You must pay this entry fee in cash, before teeing off on Saturday. We hope to have a large turnout for this event, so start your “partner search” now.

Members who “sponsored” a new member last fall are encouraged to contact YOUR new, sponsored, member and invite them to play! Let’s have a big field for this event.

Couples Twilight April 1
The 2016 season’s first couple twilight takes place this Friday, April 1st. Play begins with a 6pm shotgun start and finishes with an after-golf gathering and eats at Sole on the Green. Entry fee is $40 for golf, carts, and prize fund for the winning teams. Format is regular four person team (two couples) playing 9 holes captain’s choice. Let’s get off to a great start this year!

Couples Twilight April 22
The second couple’s twilight event of the season will take place this month on Friday, April 22nd at 6:00pm. The format will be “Mixed-Up Couples Captain’s Choice.” Entry fee is $30 per couple including cart fees and prize fund. Following play, we will dine at Sole on the Green and the “winners get dinner!” Call the golf shop to sign up by the deadline on Thursday, April 21st at 5pm.

Open Mondays
Beginning Monday, April 11th The Walker Course is open on Mondays from 11:00am until 7:00pm through the end of May. Please note the golf shop will open at 10:30am and the practice range will remain CLOSED until 12 noon each Monday in order for our maintenance staff to mow the practice range area.

Continued on pg. 2
Golf Pro News Continued:

Member Guest Invitational: May 20-22

The tournament committee is putting the final touches on the plan for the Member Guest Invitational scheduled next month for May 20-22. Be on the lookout for more detailed information via e-mail in the coming weeks. Start thinking about whom you will invite to play in our “Major Event” of the golf season.

Super Saturday #2

This month’s Super Saturday competition will be held on Saturday, April 9. If you missed the first round last month, there is still plenty of time to get started and get THREE scores (gross and net) in for the season. Entry fee is a one-time only $30 for the entire season. Sign-up deadline for this month is Thursday, April 7th at 5pm.

March results: Frank Duda won the low net field prize with a net (63). Thirty-one members played. Let’s have a big turnout for Round Two!

Match Play Championship

It is time to sign up this month for the beginning of the annual match play championship. Members will be assigned to a flight of eight golfers based on their handicap index. Normally we have six or seven flights of male golfers and two flights of females. Entry fee remains only $10 per person and the winner of each flight will receive golf shop credits rather than trophies. The overall champion of the men and women’s divisions will receive a “Champions” trophy. First round matches will begin on May 1st. Don’t be left out of our largest participation event.

In Season Hours of Operation

We are approaching that “time of year.” We are running full blast until fall. Here are our hours of operation:

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>April</th>
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Peggy Kirk Bell Tour Volunteers: THANK YOU.

Thanks to the following members that volunteered a few hours of their time to help shuttle the participants of the Peggy Kirk Bell Girls Golf Tour in February. This event would not be possible without the help of these fine supporters of junior golf. If you were not able to help in February, we will have another opportunity for you this July when the Hurricane Junior Tour rolls into town. Stay tuned!

Amparo & Tom Beddoe, Claire Caskey, Kitty Chivers, Bill Clayton, Jerry Crabtree, Lewis Creel, Denny Dillon, Marti Duda, Archie Gentry, Kathy Jessup, Rick Long, Maurice Lopez, Cherryl & Randy Meadows, Betty & Greg Padgett, Bob Ryerse, Dan & Kandace Schatz, Allen Smith, Anna Tollison, and Bob Wall.

Member Appreciation Breakfast

Last month we kicked off the season with our annual Member Appreciation Breakfast at Seneca Family Restaurant. We had over 50 members attend. Everyone enjoyed catching up from the wet winter and many headed on out to play afterwards in the warm weather. Thanks to everyone for coming out. We appreciate you!

Updated Walker Course Web Design

If you haven’t looked lately, go to our newly redesigned website and check out the format. Clemson University has been upgrading the web designs to be more compatible for cell phone viewing. We believe you will like what you see. Newly added to our site is a tab for the Member’s Association that includes meeting summary reports, officers, tournament schedules, and more. Check it out and let us know what you think. And, while you are doing your surfing, check out our regular posts on Facebook and Twitter for up to date information about course happenings.

Eagle Report

Congratulations to Mike Hehir for his recent (March 22) eagle scored at hole #7. Mr. Hehir scored his “deuce” from 110 yard away with his trusty 9 iron. Witnessing the feat was Judge Dick Mattox. Great shot Mike!
March Status
Finally a month where the weather was a little more in our favor. The golf course received less than 2 inches of rain and has finally dried out. Temperatures were also favorable and with the exception of a frost on the 21st and 22nd, and have allowed the bermuda grass to start a nice green up from winter dormancy. The spots in the fairways that were struck with disease over the holidays are recovering as well. And for some reason, we don’t appear to have very much spring dead spot either.

Most of the tees that were renovated last fall seem to be doing well, with the exception of #1 white tee and #5 back tee. Both of these tees are quite shaded and #5 had an outbreak of large patch during all of the rain last fall which we found difficult to control. We will be pushing these tees with a little extra fertilizer and possibly limit play from them to give them a chance to fill back in. And if necessary, we will replace some sod.

A course wide fertilizer application was applied on the 24th. A slow release product was used that will feed the turf for several months. The lovegrass areas around the course have been cut back, winter weed control was completed, the second fairway bunker on #16 was renovated, repairs to a drainage basin on #12 were finished, and a 6 inch irrigation line leak was repaired on #6.

Greens
The frost did seem to knock back the greens a little bit as they went off color for several days, however they seem to have perked back up. We do have some thin areas and these were not unexpected for a couple of reasons. One, the excessive rains during the fall negatively impacted root development. Saturated soils are not conducive to developing a dense, deep root system and it is obvious by taking a soil profile that we don’t have many roots. Second, after going dormant in early December, the two weeks of very warm weather over the holidays caused the greens to green back up. To do this, they had to use food stored in what little root system they had. Then, they get zapped back into dormancy in January and February and come March, there is very little root system to feed the plants as they try to come back out of dormancy. Thus, the thin appearance of some greens. Therefore, we will be cautious with lowering mowing heights until we see some serious growth and root development.

Also, there are still some scars from scalped areas during grow in. As I said last fall, we are not going to repair any of these areas that don’t grow out of it until the weather is more favorable for recovery.
And again, please remember that it took a good aerification and topdressing of the chipping green one year after installation until it was really where we wanted it.
In the meantime, we will begin grooming, light topdressing, and fertilizer applications as the weather and plant growth dictates.

April Goals
During April, we begin more routine mowing and maintenance practices and less project type work. We will be brushing, rolling and making light and frequent applications of topdressing to the greens as mentioned above. We will also be treating the course for fire ants and spreading mulch in the remaining beds.

Rounds for Research
From April 1-10, the Environmental Institute for Golf, the Philanthropic arm of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) will be conducting their annual Rounds4Research (R4R) golf round auction. Rounds of golf from all over the Carolinas and the US will be up for auction with the funds raised going to support turfgrass research at universities across the US, including Clemson. For you, the golfer, it is a unique opportunity to play a course that might be otherwise difficult to gain access to, in addition to supporting research.
Since its inception in 2009, Rounds 4 Research has raised more than $250,000 for turf grass research projects in the Carolinas alone, with roughly half going to Clemson and half to NC State.
Between 250 and 300 certificates for rounds at golf courses in North Carolina and South Carolina will be auctioned off this year. Some of the packages will be for Harbour Town Golf Links, Sedgefield Country Club, Chechessee Creek Club and Sage Valley Golf Club. The Walker Course participates as well, having donated a Stay and Play package.
The auction website is http://www.biddingforgood.com/eifg. I encourage everyone to go online and take a look and support this initiative.
### Tennis Court Closing

Due to the continued lack of use and increasing safety concerns, effective April 1st, we are permanently closing the tennis courts located beside the swimming pool. This area is slated for conversion to additional guest parking in the near future. Thanks for your understanding.

### Passings

- Mr. Bard Brutzman of Charlotte, NC passed away on January 28th. He is survived by his wife Marie Brutzman. Mr. Brutzman was a non-resident member of The Walker Course since April of 1996.

### Welcome New Members

- Jordan & Kaitlyn Fiedler
- David & Veta Finch

### Member Resignations

- Jeff Davis
- Elmon Henry

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### April 2016

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