Upcoming Events

April

01  New Rates
03  Clemson Club Golf (PM)
05  PGA Playing Ability Test
10  Super Saturday #2
12  Open Monday (11am)
15  Senior Interclub Match
17  JLF Memorial Tournament (2pm)
19  Dabo’s All In FCA Classic
22  Clemson Construction Science (1pm)
26-28 Spring Golf Trip: RT Jones Trail
26  Open Monday (11am)
30  Couples Twilight (6pm)

May

04  LGA Kickoff Day
02  Amateur Players Tour (PM)
03  Mulligans Fore Maggie (12 Noon)
04  Match Play Championship Begins
06  Senior Interclub Match
08  Super Saturday #3
08  Demo Day (PM)
10  Open Monday (11am)
12  LGA: Bring A Friend
14  MEMBER INVITATIONAL (PM)
15  MEMBER INVITATIONAL (AM)
16  MEMBER INVITATIONAL (AM)
17  Blue Ridge CoOp Outing (AM)
24  Open Monday (11am)
31  Memorial Day Open

Super Saturday Underway
We began season #20 last month with 19 members participating in Round One. Congratulations to Ray Johnson for his low net field score of 62. This month, Super Saturday will take place on April 10th. Please sign up in the golf shop by Thursday, April 6th. Entry fee for the season is only $40.00. You need three scores for the entire season. Join the fun!

Robert Trent Jones Spring Golf Trip
After a one-year hiatus, we will travel again to Birmingham, Alabama to play three of the Robert Trent Jones Trail golf courses: Ross Bridge GC, Oxmoor Valley GC, and Silver Lakes GC. The trip dates are Monday through Wednesday, April 26-28. The cost is $510 for shared accommodations and $620 for single accommodations for the two-night stay and three plus rounds of golf. We are already fully confirmed for 12 golfers. If you would like to be put on the waiting list please contact Brent Jessup.

Match Play Championship
Your annual match play championship will begin with first round matches on Tuesday, May 4th. Therefore, sign-ups are underway now. The last day to sign up will be Saturday, May 1st at 5pm. Entry fee is only $20 per player and players will be pre-flighted based on your handicap index as of May 1st. Winners from each flight will receive shop credits and the overall men’s and women’s champion will receive shop credits and the championship trophy. All players will have one month to play each match. Defending champions from 2020 are: T.J. Grove and Kandace Schatz.

Single Rider Cart Fee
Effective May 1st, there will be an additional $10 cart fee charge (total $30) for single rider golf carts for 18 holes or an additional $5 fee (total $15) for 9 holes. This action is being implemented to reduce wear and tear to the golf course and golf carts resulting from the increased cart traffic from single riders during the pandemic. Cart usage is up significantly and we are blocking off early afternoon tee times every day in order to have carts available for the later afternoon tee times.

Continued on pg. 2
BRENT JESSUP

GOLF PRO NEWS CONTINUED:

Now that vaccines are readily available and the infection rates are trending downward, we encourage everyone to return to pre-pandemic cart usage patterns by sharing a cart. Please note we will not charge the single rider fee if no one else is riding in your group. Your cooperation is appreciated.

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Member Invitational Coming Soon

Our current plans are to host the Annual Member-Invitational next month on May 14-16. This event is open to teams of two members or one member and one guest. There will be a Friday evening 9-hole event with a cookout, a Saturday morning shotgun start round, and a Sunday morning shotgun start final round. Entry fee is $325 per team. The sign-up sheet with details will be posted in the golf shop later this month. Start thinking now about your potential partner and get signed up!

Open Mondays

The Walker Course, will again this year, be open for play on Mondays in April and May. Please note there are four Monday special events already booked that will prevent play on those days. Make sure to call for a tee time. The first tee time available on the open Mondays is 11:00AM. The practice range will remain closed on these Mondays until 12 noon for weekly mowing and maintenance.

DON GARRETT, CGCS

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

March Status

We had a dry start to the first half of the month then the rains returned in the latter half, including a flooding event with the creek on holes 1, 2, & 9. It wasn’t the worst flood we’ve had, just a little debris and some silt deposits. We had to play 1 & 2 as par 3’s for a couple of days in order for things to dry up and for us to have some time for cleanup. We will see some of the scars for the next couple of weeks until the grass grows through the silt deposits and covers over.

Speaking of scars, we had a hydraulic leak on a mower early one morning that left a nice stripe down the middle of one of our fairways. It looks bad now but there does appear to be green turf down in the canopy. Our plan is to see if it will outgrow this mark on its own. If not, we will replace that strip with new sod.

The greens look pretty good considering they really haven’t had any growth for the last 4-5 months. They get beat up with no time to recover. With the milder winter, we never had to cover. The covers are now back in the maintenance building, stored away until next winter.

We did some Dryject aerification of some of the saturated runoff areas on the greens as planned on March 1st. It looks like these areas have begun to improve. In addition, we did a small solid tine venting of the greens on March 28th to allow the soil to breathe a bit and help with water infiltration. I’m afraid our single summer core aerification has not been sufficient so you will see us doing more solid tine, which is less disruptive, as a supplement.

For the second year in a row, we treated the fairways for Spring Dead Spot control, and the results are outstanding. It’s nice that we have several new fungicides that control this devastating disease.

We also completed the renovation of the second large fairway bunker at the dogleg on #10. The sand may be a little fluffy right now even though it has been compacted with a plate tamp, but give it a little time to settle and firm up, and I think you will agree this is quite an improvement.
We have wrapped up most of our winter project work that we were able to complete this year, but you may see us pecking away on a few things we still need to get to.

On March 15th, we were able to make our course wide application of slow release fertilizer and summer pre-emergent weed control. We had about 10 dry days leading up to it so the course was dry enough to put the bulk spreader truck out and get it done. This is such an important application as it feeds the course for 3-4 months and keeps us weed free though the summer.

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

Numerous applications of foliar fertilizers, fungicides for season long weed control, and wetting agents for moisture management will be made to the greens this month as well.

We plan to aerify the over-seeded tees around mid-month. This is usually a very smooth process that is hardly noticeable.

The fairways will also be lightly sliced later in the month to improve water infiltration and to stimulate new growth.

The orange/purple tee on #5 does not appear to be coming out of dormancy very well. This tee suffers from extreme shade (most of the problematic trees are not on our property) and with the heavy play we have had over the last 12 months, it’s easy to see why shade and traffic on close cut turf is a deadly combo. If the tee doesn’t show any signs of improvement in the near future, we plan to re-sod it later this month. We will look to address the shade issues next winter.

Your Help is Needed!
Spring is a critical time for the golf course as the turf emerges from dormancy. This is when it is trying to get off to a good start and traffic is the enemy. The late frosts we have had this month haven’t helped either, nor have single rider carts for the last year, but you can help us by watching where you drive your cart. Please observe the 90 degree rule when carts are permitted to be off the path.

The 90 degree rule is not a license to drive on the turf at your earliest convenience.
Stay on the path until your ball is at a 90 degree angle to the path.
After playing your shot, return directly to the path.

Too often, every cart enters at the first spot past the forward tees, drives down the fairway, and then returns to the path at the last spot prior to the green. This leaves 2 distinct wear spots on nearly every hole. Please avoid these spots at all costs.

We try to use as few ropes as possible. They are unsightly and hard to manage. We use signs, but they are too often ignored. Please, do your part to keep excessive and unnecessary wear and tear to a minimum.
### Membership by the Numbers

- **Individuals:** 164
- **Family:** 99  **Life:** 26
- **Non-Resident:** 42
- **Young Alumni:** 9
- **Inactive:** 3  **Legacy Life:** 7
- **Total Membership:** 350

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### Welcome New Members

- Richard Abbott
- Brenda & Jeffrey Barton
- Russell Childs
- Nick & Martha Lake
- David Otey
- Steve Vierra
- Tim Wright