Calendar of Events

DECEMBER

10  Winter Rates & Hours Begin
11-13  Golf Shop Christmas Sale
12  WCMA Annual Meeting (9am)
12  WCMA Tough Day (9 Holes)
24-25  Closed
26  Open

JANUARY

1  Open (Holiday Rates)

Annual Golf Shop Christmas Sale: December 11-13
Our annual three-day Golf Shop Christmas Sale is scheduled for December 11-13. There will be plenty of tiger paw merchandise to select from since our football traffic was down this fall. Our famous 100% discount balloon will again be out there for you to find. Last year, Macon Sheppard picked the 100% balloon and had a very merry Christmas! Balloons with varying discounts will be flying all weekend and of course, the “elf” discount double putt will return. We will also have some special pricing on specific items, so come on by and shop our sales. This is also a great time to spend your tournament winnings from the past season. See you there!

WCMA Annual Meeting: December 12
Join us Saturday morning, December 12, at 9:00am in the BellSouth Auditorium for a year-in-review membership meeting. Social distancing and face-coverings are required inside the Madren Center. Don Garrett, Brent Jessup, and Andy Cajka will review the 2020 season, share some exciting news, and discuss events planned for 2021. Following the meeting, we will host our annual 9 Hole Tough Day Challenge for those members who attend the meeting. Hope to see everyone there safe and socially distanced!

Winter Month Newsletter Combined
With a slow couple of months anticipated, we have combined our December and January newsletters this year. Our next edition will be published in February. Any necessary alerts will be made via email.

Holiday Closings
The Walker Course will be closed for the Christmas holidays on Thursday and Friday, December 24 & 25. We will re-open Saturday, December 26. As always, we will be open on New Year’s Day, January 1, so you can start the new year off right - on the golf course!

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Winter Schedule
December through February we will operate on our winter hours schedule. The golf shop will open at 8:30am and close at 5:00pm Tuesday through Sunday. We will be closed on Mondays. The range will open at 8:45am (frost permitting) and close each afternoon at 4:00pm. Our first tee time each day will be at 9:00am (barring frost delays).

2021 GHIN Service Reminder
We made it through 2020 and the new World Handicap System premiered without too many hiccups, but as we begin the 2021 year, the USGA is requiring all GHIN service users to have a valid individual email for each handicap. Also, all minors (juniors) under the age of 13 are required to have an adult (guardian) email address on file as well. If you do not have an individual email on your PLAYER PROFILE, you will not be able to post scores via your cellular devices. You will only be able to post scores on our clubhouse posting kiosk. Please check to make sure your email is part of your player profile on your cellular device. If you have any questions, please contact the golf shop.

Annual GHIN service fees are AUTOMATICALLY renewed each January for our members. IF you do not want to have this service in 2021, you MUST notify Brent Jessup before December 31, 2020, to be removed from the billing cycle. Notices made after January 1, 2021, cannot be refunded.

Member Guest Pass Card Reminder
Last year we tested a new extended use period for our Member Guest Pass Cards. We are happy with the results and have decided to make this a permanent change for future pass cards. For the months of December through March ONLY, your Member Guest Pass Card is valid ANYTIME weekdays or weekends.
Come April, the time and day pass card restrictions will be as noted on the back of the card. Remember, these passes are good for greens fees only and you MUST accompany your guest to use the card when it is valid.

Holiday Bowl Pool Contest
With the uncertainty of the bowl season, we will have to make bowl contest plans on the fly as they develop. Please check with the golf shop once a schedule of bowl games is announced. Hopefully, we will have time to put something together so you can have more fun watching during the holidays.

2021 Range Club
January also begins the new year for Range Club membership renewals. For the fifth year in a row, we are not increasing the Range Club annual fees. They will remain $250 for the first household member and $125 for each additional family member. Renewals are NOT AUTOMATIC. You must notify the golf shop staff of your plans to renew for 2021.
(Note: If you were on the 2020 Range Club BEFORE MARCH 30, 2020, you will receive a discounted rate for 2021 due to our closure April of 2020. The discount will be $20 for the first member and $10 for the second member on a family plan).
Range balls will continue to be INSIDE the golf shop while the virus persists. This serves as a nice reminder to renew your Range Club membership.

Hole-In-One: Glenn Cantrell
Congratulations to Glenn Cantrell for scoring a hole-in-one on Thursday, December 3, on hole # 8. Mr. Cantrell scored his ace with a Taylormade 8-iron shot from 140 yards. Playing witnesses were: John Guest, Hugh Osburn, and Charles Clary. This was Mr. Cantrell’s second career hole-in-one. However, he was not a current member of the Walker Course Hole-In-One Club so the jackpot continues to build for our next winner ace! Nevertheless, great shot!

Dr. Charles “Cliff” Fain (1931-2020)
We are sad to share the news of the passing of Dr. “Cliff” Fain. Dr. Fain was a charter member of the Walker Course joining in 1992 before construction of the course even began. After a distinguished 45-year career with Clemson University’s Ceramic Engineering Department, he had a standing tee time each weekday afternoon at 2pm for a number of years and always brought smiles to the faces of the staff with his “complimentary ice cream cones” (orange tees) and “lights out” entrances with his friends. He is survived by his wife Lou and daughter Tish. He will be greatly missed.

Season’ Greetings
With the most unusual year now almost behind us, we look forward to returning to a “new normal” in 2021. Our staff is very blessed to work at such a great golf facility and we enjoy serving our wonderful and appreciative golfers. We wish each of you a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a safe and prosperous 2021!
November Status

November has been a good month for the maintenance staff. I can’t recall ever seeing the course retain so much green color through the month of November. Even the couple of light frosts we had at the beginning of the month hardly phased the turf. We continued to mow fairways, tees, and roughs right up to the week before Thanksgiving.

A primary goal for us last month was applying our winter weed control course wide. We were able to accomplish this work, and I’m looking forward to a much cleaner course this winter than we had last year.

The ryegrass overseeding of the par 3’s and practice tees looks good. A starter fertilizer was applied in early November and another shot of complete fertilizer will be applied in December.

We have begun edging bunkers this month. As we move through the winter, we will be repairing liners and adding sand where needed.

Finally, the falling leaves have kept us busy as well. We have the blowers running constantly every day.

Practice Tees

Maintaining good turf on the practice tees is quite a challenge for us this time of year when the growth rate slows due to cold weather and the bermudagrass enters dormancy. In addition, by USGA guidelines, we have less than half the minimum teeing ground that is recommended to provide for proper use and turf recovery for an 18 hole golf course. Only 45% to be exact as our two main practice tees combined are just under 20,000 square feet. One acre is the minimum recommended with two acres preferred. Additionally, recent use of the practice tees has been higher than ever before. In November alone, usage was double what it normally is for the month. To top it off, range use is up 156% since July. It has been a challenge indeed!

We have been busy filling divots with a seed/soil/sand blend to replace turf as it is removed, and will continue to do so regularly, but the seed is slow to germinate this time of year. Therefore, at times, we will have to restrict practice to the mat to let the turf recover. From the same USGA green section article referenced above, “Artificial surfaces are needed at most facilities to prevent extreme damage following inclement weather and during periods of slow turf growth.” We are aware that our mat is nearing the end of its useful life and have begun investigating into replacing it with a larger- sized, more realistic artificial turf that will accept a tee.

December Goals

During the month of December, we should really get rolling with winter project work such as under brushing, tree pruning, raising sprinklers, and replenishing sand in bunkers.

The greens will be painted in early December now that they are turning dormant and off color.

As of now, we are still limited on capital projects and therefore will not be having any outside contractors do work this winter. However, we have a number of small projects we will be doing in house that will make an impact. Some may require us to alter play on a hole for a couple days. For example, the 2 large fairway bunkers on #10 need some liner repair work and sand replenishment that can’t be accomplished on a Monday. Rest assured we will do our best to keep any inconvenience to a minimum.

Quote of the Month

“Bunkers are not a place for pleasure; they’re for punishment and repentance” - Old Tom Morris

The maintenance staff and I would like to thank you for all of your support in 2020. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a great 2021!
### Membership by the Numbers

- **Individuals**: 154
- **Family**: 106
- **Life**: 26
- **Legacy Life**: 8
- **Young Alumni**: 10
- **Non-Resident**: 41
- **Inactive Leave**: 2
- **Total Membership**: 347

### Member Resignations

- G. Mike Dixon
- John Allen

### December 2020

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- **Practice Range Hours**
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  - 8:45 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
  - (Weather Permitting)
- **Brent Jessup**
  - Head Golf Professional
  - 656-7516
- **Don Garrett**
  - Course Superintendent
  - 656-1814
- **Azenda Thompson**
  - Accounting
  - 656-0595
  - Golf Pro-Shop
  - 656-0236
  - Club House Grill
  - 656-7518
  - Sole On The Green
  - 656-7444
  - The Martin Inn
  - 654-9020
  - The Madren Center
  - 656-7155

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