



THE WALKER COURSE
 ■ AT CLEMSON UNIVERSITY ■

Upcoming Events

December

- 1 Winter Rates Begin
- 9-11 Golf Shop Christmas Sale
- 10 Annual Membership Meeting
- 10 Member's Tough Day
- 24-26 CLOSED: Christmas Holidays
- 27 Open

January

- 1 Open

BRENT JESSUP

PGA HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL

Golf Shop Christmas Sale

The annual golf shop Christmas Sale will take place on the weekend of December 9-11. We will have our holiday balloons flying with great discounts to be used on your clothing purchases and, of course, the double discount elf-putting contest. If you have Christmas gift shopping left to complete, this is your chance to find that unique gift and save some cash. The sale allows our members to utilize tournament credit winnings from the past year. Come on out. Shop and mingle!



WCMA Annual Meeting

On Saturday, December 10th, we will host our annual membership meeting in the *BellSouth Auditorium* of the *Madren Conference Center*. The meeting will begin at 9:00 am with reports from the management team members. A review of 2022 events and projects will be given, as well as the plans for 2023. The latest information about the DAC building project slated to begin in early January will be included in the meeting. Plan to attend.

WCMA Tough Day Event

Immediately following the membership meeting, our annual "Member's Tough Day" event will take place. Participation in this nine-hole "tough and fun" event requires attending and registering during the membership meeting.

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WCMA Employee Appreciation Fund

The annual employee appreciation fund collection is underway through December 10th. Funds are collected by **Mr. Billy Rice** (WCMA treasurer) and then turned over to **Don Garrett** and **Brent Jessup** to distribute to their staff members. Last year, over \$7,000 was raised and distributed. Thank you for participating and appreciating these staff members' hard work in 2022!

Holiday Bowl Pool Contest

December is also the time for our annual holiday bowl pool contest. Last year's winner: **Andrew Massey** is ready to defend his title again by picking the correct game winners among the bowl games. The entry fee is \$5 per entry and is due in the golf shop before the first bowl game date. Drop by the shop to pick up your form and make your picks. Join the fun for a large jackpot!

DAC Project Updates

The DAC building project is scheduled to begin in early 2023. For up-to-date details, plan to attend the annual membership meeting. Pre-construction plans are coming together, and we are excited about getting Phase One of the project underway.

Range Club 2023 Renewal

The annual range club membership for 2022 ends December 31st. If you plan to renew your range club membership for 2023, please notify the golf shop staff since this is not automatic. Once you sign up, you will be billed at the end of January 2023. Fees will remain the same as last year, \$300 for the first family member and \$150 for each additional family member.

CGA GHIN Fee Renewal

Your USGA-GHIN handicap renewals will also be coming up for automatic renewal soon. If you want to discontinue the handicap service, please let the golf shop staff know before the end of January. Since this IS an automatically renewing fee, if your name is on the service list on February 1st, you will be billed for the 2023 season. Please let us know if you want to drop your service before the deadline since we cannot refund charges after February 1st. The rates will remain the same for 2023 at \$30 per member and \$40 for non-Walker Course members.

Big Foot in the Bunkers!

Have you seen this creature? "Big Foot" apparently plays golf at the Walker Course at least twice a week. The beast is inaccurate with his approach shots since most end up in the greenside bunkers. Once he gets out of the bunker (which he does not rake afterward), he tromps across the greens and leaves his sandy footprints on his way to the hole. If you see this creature walking across the greens, approach him carefully, and remind him to **clean his shoes beforehand**. Then if he is still visible, ask him to call one of our golf professionals so we can help him with his approach shots so he can stay out of the bunkers and keep our greens clean!

LGA Season Finale

The Walker Course Ladies Golf Association held its season finale on Wednesday, November 2nd. The following awards are handed out:

Most Birdies:	Alyson Dildine
LGA Net Champion	Marti Duda
LGA Gross Champion:	Alyson Dildine
Most Improved:	Marti Duda
Hole-In-One:	Janal Walton
Dee Mango Award:	Dee Mango

Hole-In-One Ron!

On Tuesday, November 29th, **Ron Thomas** scored his first career hole-in-one on hole # 17 at The Walker Course. **Mr. Thomas** could not see his perfect 106-yard Titleist wedge shot go in the hole due to the setting sunlight directly in his line of play. However, his playing group, Pete Santora, Jim LaRue, and Drew Willoughby, witnessed the shot. Unfortunately, **Mr. Thomas** was NOT a current member of the TWC Hole-In-One Club, so the current jackpot remains unclaimed. Sooner or later, someone will collect. Great shot, **Mr. Thomas!**

Newsletter Reminder

As is our standard practice, there will be no newsletter for January 2023. Our following publication will be the February newsletter. As news develops from the DAC building projects, we will send e-blast alerts as needed.

Holiday Greeting!

The entire staff of the Walker Course would like to thank you for another great year, and we wish you and your families a **Merry Christmas** and **Happy New Year**. Exciting times are coming in 2023!

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November Status

November has seen some hard frosts, and the bermudagrass has gone very dormant. It's been a little wet, with 6.2 inches of rain.

The rain has made it tricky to achieve our primary goal for the month: applying our winter weed control course-wide. We have about six holes left to spray and hope to complete this work in early December to have a clear course throughout the winter and spring.

The ryegrass overseeding of the Par 3's and practice tees looks good. A starter fertilizer was applied in late October, and another shot of complete fertilizer was used in late November.

Another priority this month has been edging, repairing, and adding sand where needed to the bunkers. Several have been done, including the greenside bunkers on 2, all three bunkers on 3, all three greenside bunkers on ten, and the back right greenside bunker on 11.

Cleaning up leaves keeps us very busy as well. The blowers run nonstop every morning.

We painted the target greens on the range that we did not oversee. Unfortunately, we ran a little short on paint and could not paint quite as much as needed. We have more paint on the way.

December Goals

During December, we should 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 December now that they turn dormant and go off-color. The greens covers will be placed on the course near mid-month to be ready in case we have to cover them.

On Monday, December 5th, we are planning to spread lime over the entire course. Lime supplies Calcium and Magnesium and also raises the pH of the soil. Our annual soil tests have shown a slight, steady decrease in our pH levels since our last liming in 2001, which is perfectly normal for the soils in this area. Ideally, we look for the soil pH to be in the range of 5.7-6.5. Any less than 5.7 and specific nutrients can become less available to the plant. Some areas have moved below this range. With fertilizer prices rising to all-time highs, we want to be sure that what we are applying is fully available to the plant and not wasted!

The practice tee continues to see heavy play. We have already used up the front tee, filled divots across it, and are about halfway through the back tee. We will utilize "Mat Days" throughout the winter to allow the turf to recover.

The start of the new Alumni Center construction will require some of our irrigation lines to be relocated. To be prepared for this, we will add some additional valves to isolate better sections being rerouted while keeping the rest of the system up. Mike Pitts and his staff at Environmental Landscapes will be here for a few days in December and January to do this work.

Projects Update

I spoke with the project managers for the Perimeter Road project recently, and they shared the following information:

As of now, the project is on schedule

They are currently ordering material for the guardrail/fence that will run along a portion of the 5th hole

The timing of the landscaping installation along 5 is unclear. This work may not be done until the end of the project in the fall of 2023.

Clarification

Last month, I mentioned the installation of the two temporary greens on the 18th hole. I said that we laid some "greens grade" sod and that it was the Tif-Eagle variety. Please understand that "greens grade" sod does not equal the quality of an established putting green. There is a significant difference. Do not expect it to put as good as our current green, mainly since it was laid in late October and had virtually no time to root and establish. Hopefully, it will be better than a scalped-down section of the fairway, which is the typical temporary green.

In addition, some have also questioned why we went with Tif-Eagle over Diamond. This was purely an availability issue, as Diamond was unavailable at the time.

The maintenance staff and I thank you for your support in 2022. We wish you all a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a great 2023!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Pro-Shop

Operating Hours:

Monday
11:00 am—7:00 pm
Tuesday—Sunday
7:30 am—7:00 pm

Practice Range Hours:

Monday
12:00 pm—6:30 pm
Tuesday—Sunday
7:45 am—6:30pm
(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

Membership by the Numbers

Individuals: 182
Family: 99 Life: 28
Non-Resident: 56
Young Alumni: 11
Inactive: 5 Legacy Life: 7
Total Membership: 385

New Members

Patrick & Lisa Butcher

Member Resignations

Hank Kears

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Winter Rates Begin	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Golf Shop Christmas Sale	10 Membership Meeting Member's Tough Day
11 Golf Shop Christmas Sale	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 CLOSED
25 CLOSED	26 CLOSED	27 OPEN	28	29	30	31