



THE
WALKER COURSE

■ AT CLEMSON UNIVERSITY ■

Upcoming Events

September

- 02 Open Labor Day (10am)
- 06 Home Football Friday
- 07 ASU vs. Clemson
- 09 Open Monday (11am)
- 14 Lacy Williams
Tournament
(PM Shotgun)
- 16 Open Monday (11am)
- 16 Mountains Mini-Tour
- 19 HMR Veterans
Tournament
(PM Shotgun)
- 20 Home Football Friday
- 21 NC State at Clemson
- 23 CLOSED: Course
Maintenance
- 27 Home Football Friday
- 27 Jim White Memorial
(PM)
- 28 Stanford at Clemson
- 30 Open Monday (11am)

October

- 07 Open Monday (11am)
- 09 LGA Member Guest
- 11-12 Senior Club
Championship
- 14 Regional High School
(AM Shotgun)
- 17 NHC Scholarship
(PM Shotgun)
- 18 Home Football Friday
- 19 UVA at Clemson
- 21 CLOSED: Course
Maintenance
- 22-23 LGA Championship
- 28 Open Monday (11am)

BRENT JESSUP

PGA HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL

Football Season

Your favorite time of the year is here and in full swing. During September, Clemson has three home games and then only one home game in October. Students and alumni alike are scrambling for tee times and so are our members. Please remember to take advantage of your two-week reservation privilege and make those tee times early. Be aware there are several “annual” university groups that have recurring tee times that may limit your access to the golf course on home game Fridays.

Also, if your plans do change, please let the golf shop know to cancel or reduce your times so others can play. Finally, remember the driving range is closed on home game days for public parking.

Open Mondays

As is our tradition, we are open on Mondays in September and October. The golf shop opens at 10:30am and the first tee time is 11:00am. ***The driving range is closed on Mondays until noon.*** This allows our maintenance team to mow and prep the range for the remainder of the week. We will be closed on September 23 and October 21 for full course maintenance in preparation for winter.

Clemson Women’s Invitational

The **Clemson** women’s golf team and The Walker Course hosted our first ever collegiate tournament on Monday, August 26th. Sixteen teams from across the southeast competed in a 36-hole marathon. When the dust settled (if it ever does) the **Georgia Southern** team posted an impressive 17-under par team score (559) to take the team title. **Campbell University** was second at (571) and **Clemson** finished third at (577). It was the season-opening tournament for all 16 teams and the first time **Clemson** has played host to a men’s or women’s collegiate tournament at The Walker Course.

Clemson was led by sophomore, **Ivy Schulze** with two rounds of 71 (142) to finish sixth in the individual competition. **Louise Reau** of **Georgia Southern** won the individual with rounds of 72 and 65 for a (137) total. We look forward to hosting another event in the future for our local fans to enjoy. Thanks to everyone that came out to support the Tigers on their home track!

Greg Carroll and Marti Duda: Match Play Champions for 2024

Last month the final championship matches were completed in each division and the following winners were crowned. The men's championship was won by **Greg Carroll** and the women's overall championship title went to **Marti Duda**. Additionally, each flight winner and runner up received golf shop credits to be used later. Please check with the golf shop for your shop credit totals.

Orange Tee:	Greg Carroll defeated Andrew McCord
P/W "A":	Giles Schanen defeated Kirk Luna
P/W "B":	Phil Weston defeated Brandon Lockhart
White "A":	Jerry Handegan defeated Clint Carlson
White "B":	Joe Rigter defeated Alan Pollenz
Gold:	Rick Hamilton defeated Frank Duda
Women:	Marti Duda defeated Alyson Dildine

Senior & Super Senior Interclub

Both our senior and our super senior interclub teams made the playoffs again this season. Unfortunately, they both fell short in their first-round matches against Pine Island CC and Lancaster CC. Congratulations to captain **Jack Mansmann** for guiding and coordinating the team play for another year. Hopefully, next season, our teams can move deeper into the playoff scene. Thanks to everyone that was able to compete in at least one of the matches this season. We hope you enjoy this fun competition opportunity.

Schroder and Harley Win Postponed Member Invitational

After being rain postponed from May, we were able to get the Member Invitational played in hot conditions last month. **Ron Schroder** and **Bill Harley** captured the team gross title with a 27-hole total of (87). Father-son duo **Kirk Luna** and **Garrett Luna** captured the overall low net division with a scorecard playoff victory over the father-son team of **Lance Vischer** and **Miles Vischer**.

Brian Johnson and **Jason Thomas** took the low net title in the white "A" flight while **Webb Jones** and **Luke Lucas** won the white "B" flight low net. **Andy Schaff** and **Will Schaaf** won the short shot competition on hole # 18 on Saturday afternoon. We had a record number of teams (27) competing this year. Hopefully, this trend will continue as everyone had a great time with Solé providing a low country boil feast on Friday evening before the nine-hole cross-country round and then a great spread on Saturday afternoon following play. If you missed out this year, we plan to return to May dates next year if the weather will cooperate!

Construction Update / Safety Reminder

As we continue to move closer and closer to the DAC building completion date, more activity is going on "outside" the building. Road construction, grading, drainage placement, concrete curbing, road paving, and fence moving will be the norm for the next month or so. Please be careful as you navigate your way to and through our parking lot in your vehicles. You never know what is around the blind curves.

On the inside, the golf shop is beginning to take shape as walls, windows, and doors are now in place. Fixtures are on order and should be arriving in the coming months. The new golf shop is going to be fantastic as well as the new grill area facing the 18th hole. Just a few more months to anticipate!

August Status

August was extremely dry. The golf course received less than half an inch of rain the entire month. We missed out on all the rain that Tropical storm Debby brought to the eastern half of the state, and the few afternoon thunderstorms that occurred missed us as well. All the gaps and limitations of the irrigation are exposed when it is this hot and dry. Areas that don't receive head-to-head coverage show drought stress and trying to water to keep these areas alive causes areas that have head-to-head coverage to become saturated. Slopes, mounds, low spots, compacted soils, prevailing wind and shaded areas further complicate even water distribution. The forecast looks better for September. Hopefully we get some rain soon so that the drought-stricken areas of the course green up, fill back in and get healthy before going dormant for the winter.

In addition to our regular mowing schedule and hosting the Clemson Women's Golf Teams Tiger Classic, we were able to accomplish the following:

- Greens were verticut every Monday during the month and topdressed three times. Growth regulator was applied, and we groomed daily in conjunction with mowing. We have also incorporated a new product into our growth regulator regimen that is showing promise in increasing ball roll.
- On Monday the 12th, we applied a slow-release nitrogen 20-0-25 fall fertilizer to all areas of the course.
- Lower 9 fairway was topdressed 3 more times this month, bringing the yearly total to 7 times. The soil profile shows that we have built up a 2 inch sand cap over these last 2 years of regular topdressing. We're hoping to make one more application in early September, then continue this program in 2025.
- The natural areas on the course have been mowed as scheduled. The "turnip patches" have been mowed as well and we will be reseeding them in September.

September Goals

- Continue to verticut and lightly topdress greens as long as the temperature stays warm.
- Treat the course for fire ants which will be emerging with the (hopefully) cooler temperatures
- Begin Spring Dead Spot control applications to greens, tees and fairways, once the soil temperatures reach 72 degrees. This is the temperature at which the pathogen becomes active and when fungicides are most effective.
- Apply a Potassium based fertilizer to the greens to assist hardening off.
- Apply growth regulator to greens to control seed heads that occur around the third week of the month.
- Prep and re-seed natural areas on 2/6 and 5.
- Raise the height of cut slightly on tees and fairways around mid-month to allow some additional growth prior to the onset of dormancy. This assists the bermudagrass in surviving the cold months of the year while it is not actively growing and gives us more of a base to withstand traffic during the months when it is not growing.
- Pray for rain!

18th Hole Update

As I mentioned last month, we ran into issues with rock supply. However, we received 2 loads in late August and will be resuming work in September. Our goal is to get the pond completed and surrounding areas sodded in October

In addition, things are beginning to wrap up with the new Alumni Center as the parking and road work began to take shape in late August. As they complete the work behind the building and adjacent to #18, we will be able to do the final tie in to the area behind 18 green, including finishing the cart path. There will be significant work in this area, and it will require us to play the hole to the temporary green at times while this work is done.

Home Lawn Tip

For those of you with warm season lawns who want to try to keep them weed free this winter, now is the time to apply a pre-emergent herbicide for winter annuals and poa annua (annual bluegrass). Most Home and Garden centers have a material in granular form that you can apply. Often times you can find it impregnated on a Potassium fertilizer carrier such as a 0-0-7 or an 0-0-15. Potassium is important for warm season lawns in the fall as it helps the turf to better handle the stress of dormancy. A follow-up application of herbicide in December or January will likely be necessary to achieve season long control and keep your lawn weed free until spring.

