

# Moose Memo

Welcome to the Mississippi summer time heat indexes. As we are all aware we are starting to see those 100 degree and plus heat indexes and it seems that we are always hoping for those thunderstorms to drop a little rain on the course. This is quite normal for this time of year and frankly I prefer the heat to the cold that our northern neighbors contend with each year. It is important that whenever you are playing at the club or practicing on the range to keep yourself hydrated and drink plenty of liquids. While we are in the heat of the summer, we will also be trying to conserve energy at the club and remember we must water the turf from time to time in order to keep the grasses from burning up. Please excuse some irrigation water from time to time as it is just part of keeping Castlewoods Country Club green and beautiful. Speaking of beauty, the course continues to stand out as one of the best conditioned courses in the state and thanks to all who have given Mike and his crew the many compliments on the course conditions. This month while we continue to maintain the course, we are also in the process of interviewing for the position of head golf professional and food and beverage manager. I have had several interviews for both aforementioned positions but we are continuing to interview and make sure we have the right people in these two critical positions. If you know of anyone that would make a great addition to the staff, please don't hesitate to call me and tell me about that reference. Sometimes the best person is someone we already know but are not aware that they are interested in working with Castlewoods. I will keep everyone updated as we continue this process and welcome any feedback from our members. The 2008 Club Championship was recently completed and our new club champion is George Hinman.

Congratulations to George who captured the title over Jason Ryu on the first playoff hole with a clutch 4 footer for par. The course was set up a little easier than in the past for this championship but I have never seen it in such beautiful shape for the entire month of July. To my knowledge, I think that George is the only member to hold the distinction of being the club champion as well as the senior club champion at the same time. I have to refer to this feat as the Hinman from this time forward. Coming in third place in the championship was Chris Berry. The championship flight B was won by Denny Howell followed by Ken Peacock and Grady Lodes. The Championship C flight was won by Michael Gregory followed by Clay Overby and Bobby Park. First flight winner was Randy Parker followed by Kevin Webb and Larry Bain. Second flight was won by Bob Landry followed by Buddy Matthews and Yong Kang and Third flight was won by Rob Davis followed by Danny Burchard and David Fiveash. We want to congratulate everyone on their fine play and the competition was great. As everyone already knows we also completed The Invitational benefiting the Make-A-Wish foundation this past month. This event was one of the best we have ever had and the champions for 2008 were the team of Shane Humphries and Daniel Cross. Shane and Daniel edged out David Sinclair and Wayne Whitley by one shot and coming in third was the team of Ken Peacock and Jeff Zachary who were just three shots out followed by Adam Hand & Ben Brister and Justin & Kevin Brady. Championship consolation winners were the team of Spencer and Trevor Drake who beat Mike Gregory & Derrel Palmer in a scorecard playoff followed by Dees Hinton and John Oxley. First flight was won by Grady Lodes & Joey Delaski, Second flight was won by the

Team of Randy Robertson and Jay Phillips, Third flight was won by Kevin Webb & Buddy Matthews, Fourth flight was won by Dennis Legate & Walter Ketchings and the Fifth flight winners were Joel Ross and Tommy Piggott. We would like to Congratulate all who won, placed and played in this fine event. We hope to see you next year at Castlewoods Country Club. The month of July was again busy with new members signing up. Please welcome Jim Robinson, Amanda Smith, Royce Williams, John Bakelaar, Jack Walters, Brent Dane, Larry Beech, James Carver, William Bryan and Mark Eubanks. Be sure and introduce yourselves when you see these fine new members. While August does not have very many golf tournaments or outings scheduled, we have several receptions, parties and functions on slate. If you or your company is interested in setting up a meeting or event in the future, please call for information at the club and speak to JeanHee for the details. We also have two Men's golf association events scheduled for Saturday the 9th and 23rd of the month. Next month we will stage the Senior and Junior Club Championship on September the 6th and 7th and the men's golf association season ending event, The Trout, will be played on the 14th. Please be on the look out for these sign up sheets in the pro shop and make plans to participate in these fun events.

On one final note, enclosed you will find a letter from the ownership to all members concerning a necessary adjustment with everyone's billing. As is the case ever since the new owners purchased Castlewoods almost five years ago, every penny received and collected continues to go back into the club for improvements and to make Castlewoods a better place to live and play. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with these efforts to improve and I hope to see you soon on the course. Moose

## TURF TALK by Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

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The Invitational has come and gone and did we ever have a great course to play. The greens were perfect, the fairways were firm yet lush, and the rough was manageable. Everyone had a great time and the compliments on the course poured in. We got here so how do we stay here until the grass stops growing?

Believe it or not besides battling the heat this is the easiest time of the year for us. There is only one thing to do and that is mow. No choices to make at 5:30 AM get out on anything and cut grass and go to work. This will be our policy for the next 6 weeks. We will try to pour the water to the turf as much as we can and hope for some help from the clouds. What is the grass doing to stay alive in this heat? In past news letters I have written about where the grasses come from and their evolution to survival in the toughest of conditions. Bermuda grass has adapted to the sweltering heat and drought by basically shutting down most of its function to conserve energy until conditions become more acceptable for it to continue its annual cycle. The grass will actually stop growing as much and with a little help from us concentrate on staying alive

Until the weather breaks. This is called summer dormancy. What is a little help from us? On the course as well as your home lawn we must try to keep the soil some what moist. In our case we try to water just enough to give the plant water to stay alive. We will also count on potassium fertilizer to help the plant stay strong during this period of stress. Your lawn is much smaller and can be easily maintained to remain dark green and lush with enough water to keep the soil moist. Another application of high potassium fertilizer will help to insure your turf will make it through this tough period until the rains come again. Why is rain so much better than irrigation water? While rain falls it carries with it all types of essential elements in gas form which all plants need to survive. The atmosphere is full of these gases one of which is oxygen. Oxygen is probably the most important element for a plant. The plant burns energy just like we burn a fire. It takes oxygen to burn anything efficiently so it stands to reason the more oxygen the more burn. The more energy a plant can burn the healthier it will be. And we wonder why the environmental wacko's are on our case all the time.

Turf Tip: Keep your lawn moist during drought periods. That will help it pull through much easier.

Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

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### Tennis News

Thanks to all who came out and played in our 2nd annual 4th of July Mixer. Joanne Johnson and Chip Fisher finished on top of the pack after three fun hours of tennis, music and lunch. Be on the look out for upcoming information regarding our labor day mixer.

Congratulations to Glen Walker's 3.5 Sr. Men's team for winning the Mississippi state championships. They advanced to the Sectional regionals that was held in Mobile, Alabama. Competing against the South's best from nine different states, his team tied for 2nd place in Mobile.

#### 2008 Combo Doubles

\*Captains must be registered by Aug.1, \*Team entry forms due & captains must be registered on Tennis Link by Aug. 4.

\*Tentative Nights of Play - Monday—6.5 W, 8.5 M      Tuesday—5.5 W, 5.5 M, 8.5 W, 9.5 M  
Wednesday—7.5W, 7.5 M      Thursday—5.0 W, 5.0 M, 6.5 M

Note: All Castlewoods Home Teams must be registered and cleared to play through management before playing. All NON-MEMBERS must pay \$15 in order to be registered on a Castlewoods "home-based" team, in addition to the \$3 league fees.

Last week for junior summer camps is August 5-7. It's not too late to get your junior into a camp for this summer, call the pro shop and reserve their spot.

TENNIS TIP - You don't have to hit hard.

You don't have to hit the ball hard to have a BIG game. Consistency is a weapon just like a big forehand or serve. The only difference is it begins with the proper mindset. Consistent players value every shot they hit. In their minds, one big impressive shot does not make up for 3 errors. Firepower built on a consistent base has tremendous value. Your right to hit hard should be rolled on slowly, much like driving a car. When you can control the vehicle at slow speeds, you earn the right to move faster.

Have a great month and see you on the courts! **Mark Elliott...USPTA...Director of Tennis**

**Levi Patton USPTA... Head Pro, Brooks Buffington USPTA... Head Pro, Jourdan Smith...Assistant Pro**