

Moose Memo

Hello Members, Thank goodness that January is over and the weather has been warming up a little. The first part of this year we saw fourteen days in a row that the temperatures dipped below freezing. In fact the club was closed for most of those days because we had to cover our greens. Then the last part of the month was wet but warmer. I liked the warm part but I am getting golf fever now and hope to get back playing a little. Hopefully the weather will cooperate for the next few weeks and we can all get out and enjoy the course and fellowship. How about those New Orleans Saints? The year appears to be the one that the whole "Who Dat Nation" has been waiting all these years for. How can you not pull for this team? I know that I will be glued to the TV watching those Saints in the Super Bowl! Speaking of the Super Bowl, We will once again be putting the boards up in the pro-shop for the game. We will again have three boards to purchase squares on and of course I will probably donate my share to the winners of those squares that I thought about picking but didn't. I keep thinking that one day I will get the right square but even if I don't it is always fun to keep up with the numbers each and every quarter. Don't forget to come in and pick your squares out as they usually go pretty quickly once we put the boards up. This last week, the Senior Men's group had their annual dinner and conducted their annual meeting at the club. The food was great and I thank you for the invite and fellowship. Last year this group was responsible for many of the improvements we notice around the course. It is very nice to have a golf association like the seniors and I want to express our appreciation for all they have done over the past several years. The newly elected officers are: Don Wimberly, President, Kirby Fight, Vice President and Treasurer, Randy Parker. If you are interested in joining the senior golf association, just contact any of the above for more information.

The women's golf association has scheduled their annual meeting at the club for Tuesday, February the 2nd. Please make plans to attend or for more information contact Roni Trout or Clara Wimberly.

The club has sent in the annual golf handicap fees with GHIN and those who have paid for the yearly service should all be listed in the computer. If for some reason you did not send in your \$20.00 handicap fee or do not have your name listed in the system and want to obtain a GHIN handicap for the year, just let us know in the accounting department and we will send it on to the MS Golf Association and get your name listed in the GHIN system.

Please don't forget that on Saturday the 13th of February, Castlewoods Country Club will have the 2nd Annual Valentines Ball. The food will be prepared by Chef Tommy from Osaka and the cost is \$35.00 per person. Cocktail hour is from 6:00 PM till 7:30 PM, followed by dinner from 7:30 till 9:00 PM and dancing with music from our DJ from 8:00 till 11:30 PM. The color theme is Red or White/Red with red roses given to all ladies dressed in Red. Limited seating is available, so call Jean Hee and make sure you make your reservations. We already have 80 plus reservations so hurry and call 601-955-0240 or the clubhouse at 601-992-1942. In the next week or so we will also schedule a meeting with the ownership of the club and the members at some time this month. There are several items that we would like to discuss and I feel it is always good to open the meeting for constructive suggestions that can help us make your club more enjoyable and a better place to play. It looks now like we will be able to set up the meeting the second week in February but we will make an announcement the first week of this month and post some flyers in the pro-shop and restaurant to that effect when we can set a time and date.

I have already started making the schedule for the 2010 golf season at Castlewoods and several nice events are being planned presently. We are also reserving dates for our golf outings at this time so if you are interested in setting up your next event, just give me a call and maybe we can have your next company or charity golf outing at Castlewoods Country Club. Today I attended a signing at Northwest Rankin high school for Weston Wallace. Congratulations to Weston for signing to play next year with Northeast Community College in Starkville on a full golf scholarship. Frank and Weston are members of the club and I am hoping this is the first of four such meetings I will attend this year. Go Cougars! I have just about finished our high school golf schedule for 2010 and we will be playing courses like, Reunion, Country Club of Jackson, Hattiesburg Country Club, Dogwoods Golf Club, Beau Chene, Deerfield Country Club, Dancing Rabbit and of course our home, Castlewoods Country Club. There are a few other matches at a few other courses on tap but how about these tracts for the kids to play? I am not sure if a better schedule of courses has ever been made for high school golf, at least not in this area. At the signing I also spoke with a few local teaching professionals and they were telling me how slow it has been at their respective courses the past couple of months. In fact three of them basically told me they had taken off work the past couple of months and were in hopes that this month and March will help kick start their golf seasons. I know a lot of us are working hard to try and get the economy kicked back up. Here's a thought, have some fun, come play some golf at the club. See you soon. Moose

TURF TALK by Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

I have been looking at the greens everyday since the brutal cold we had earlier this year. I have been looking for any signs of damage caused by the extreme temperatures. I take note of the below ground structures of the plant and am looking for destroyed plant tissues. Okay I know this means nothing to you but to understand how the cold effects the plant is pretty simple. Frozen water expands and what ever container the water is in will also expand to a point of break. The container in this situation is a plant cell. I don't use a microscope but there could be signs this has occurred. I try to look for a water soaked appearance on the rhizomes which could indicate an area of the plant has indeed frozen to the point of rupture. The diagnosis so far looks good. But I am a worry wart when it comes to things of this nature so officially, I will give an absolute report later in the spring when the above ground tissues begin to recover from the winter dormancy. All the plans we had for this winter have been shot down because of the weather. It has been so wet

We have been unable to take our equipment off the cart paths. I will have you know the crew is chomping at the bit to get back out and do something productive. We will be hard at it as soon as conditions improve. First on the list is weed control. Herbicides will be delivered soon and will be applied ASAP. Mulching and debris clean up will resume as well. We need a little dry weather and I suspect it is just around the corner. I would like to take a line or two to express my appreciation to the membership for your awareness of the course conditions this winter. In order to promote play especially on days when the temperatures are on the warm side we try to allow cart traffic off the cart paths. Many of these days it is a boarder-line decision. You have done an outstanding job of paying attention and are keeping your carts out of the traditionally wet areas of the fairways. Thank you! However when members or guests take divots from our greens that really crawls up my spine. There is no reason in the world to destroy areas of the course because of the inability to control your temper. Please report any such activity to the pro-shop the next time you see this happen.
Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

Castlewoods Tennis News

Sectional Champions!! Susan Runnels and Reveland Wheat's Super Senior 6.5 team recently competed in the Sectional Championships on January 22-25. In their flight they had a perfect record by defeating State Champions from: AL, TN, SC and NC. In the final team match, they played the State Champions from Louisiana and edged out a 2-1 victory as Reveland captured the deciding match 7-6 in the third set. Congratulations to them and their team mates for capturing this prestigious title.

Valentines Adult and Junior Mixer When: February 13, Time: Adult Mixer - 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM; Junior Mixer - 1:00-5:00 PM. ** Individual sign up - You do NOT need a partner. Cost: \$25 Members / \$30 Non-Members, Round Robin format with drinks, food, music and fun provided.

Upcoming Local Tournaments Feb. 26 Ms Junior Clay Court Closed Chps. River Hills Club. BG(18-10)sd. Deadline 2/22. Feb. 26 Adult NTRP Classic. Ridgeland Tennis Center. Men's & Women's singles, doubles & mixed doubles. Deadline 2/23.

Tournament Note.... Jenny Smith recently competed in the Courthouse Junior Indoor Challenge in the girls 14-U division. Jenny had excellent results by knocking off the #1 seed and finishing the event with a 3rd place finish!

NWR High School Practices... It's that time of year again where afternoon play at the club is in full swing as the NWR high school team is practicing each day from 2:00-3:30. Make sure to call and reserve your courts in order to guarantee your own court time.

Tennis Tip Of The Month.... "Riding Your Groundstroke To Victory"

No matter what kind of baseline game you ultimately play, keep this in mind: The player who is farther inside the court almost always has the advantage. So even when you are rallying with your ground strokes, try to move into your court as much as your opponents' shots allow. The farther in you get, the more you will be able to hit your own shots deep, driving your opponent even farther back. Working your way into the court also allows you to hit more and more sharply angled shots. When you're rallying, you want to be the puppeteer, not the puppet!

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