

# MESSAGES from MAX



## CASTLEWOODS COUNTRY CLUB

It's hard to believe that the New Year is here. Handicap fees are due this month and we ask that each of you that are interested in maintaining a handicap, please fill out the enclosed form and return with your January payment. The annual cost for a handicap fee is \$20. The Mississippi Golf Association requires that its members use this service through the MGA. The proceeds from handicap fees go to the enhancement of golf throughout the state of Mississippi.

While on the subject of the Mississippi Golf Association, Castlewoods will be the host site for two of their events this year. Once again we will be included in the MGA's State Father/Son Championship sponsored by Mississippi Sports Medicine rotation held over the weekend of June 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. We have also been asked by the MGA to be a host site for qualifying for the 2006 State Am on Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Castlewoods has also been honored by the Mississippi Women's Golf Association to host their 2006 State Amateur Championship over the week of June 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>. We look forward to having Mississippi's best women compete for their Championship at Castlewoods C.C.

We've had several members resign from the club over the last two months. Most of them listed "don't play enough during the winter months" as the reason for resigning. The owners have asked me to address this decline in membership to our current membership in this newsletter. So here goes.....In Mississippi, the country club business is a 12

month operation. Our seasonal expenses do drop some during the winter months but our fixed expenses, that our dues mostly cover, don't change. Without an initiation fee, it's easy for some members to say, well, I'll just get out until the Spring. To combat this wintertime apathy, Castlewoods will require all members who get out during the winter (or anytime for that matter) and then get back in, to not only pay back dues for the time they missed but also the initiation fee that we are going to begin in March.

Ouch.....please don't put me in the position to have to call you and inform you of this rule.

Since we did have a few more people resign than join the club over the last two months, we've decided to extend the membership drive until March 1<sup>st</sup>. So if you sign up a friend before March 1<sup>st</sup>, he or she will pay no initiation fee or dues until March 1<sup>st</sup>. Also as an incentive to you, for each member that you sign up, once they start paying dues, you will have three months of your dues waived. Sign up four new members and pay no dues for an entire year. The only restrictions are that they must sign a one year contract and they must fall in either the \$185/month or \$195/month categories. Once they start paying dues in March, your dues will be postponed in April for three months, if they continue to be a member. If you want to bring a prospective member out to play during this month, just call me and set up a tee time and we'll allow that person to play for cart fee only. Our goal is to continue to improve your facility, operate in the black and NOT increase your dues. Please help us obtain these goals and also save yourself some

cash by signing up a new member today.

For our Castlewoods homeowners that are trail fee members, there is an option to reduce the monthly fee of \$70 by 10% by paying for 2006 up front in January. Please call Joyce for more details at 601-992-1942.

The Castlewoods Men's Golf Association, 120 members strong in 2005, will have its first event of the year on Sunday February 5<sup>th</sup> with the Superbowl Scramble. This will be a two-man scramble with an 11 am shotgun with both gross and net divisions. Handicaps for the net division will be determined by one half of your team's combined total. Entry fee will be \$30 per player plus cart fee and include a hamburger lunch and keg beer following play. There will be a short meeting after play for the election of officers for 2006. Dues for the 2006 CMGA will be collected at The Icebreaker 4-man Scramble on Saturday February 25<sup>th</sup>. Non-Castlewoods members are invited to play for an entry fee of only \$55 plus cart fee per person. Sign up deadline will be at noon on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

In closing, the employees of Castlewoods have asked me to thank each of you that participated in the establishment of the Employee Christmas Fund. Your involvement ensured a great Christmas for all 29 of our employees and their families. We wish each of you a very Happy and Successful New Year!

## TURF TALK by Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

---

Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house not a creature was stirring except for... Daddy. He was up late that night pounding and banging and screwing and tweaking all the toys that Santa's elves were supposed to have put together long before they showed up at the house. And by the way what is with all the twisty ties holding the toys in the box. This is the end of weeks of planning, shopping, and budgeting to provide his family with everything they wished for when they visited Santa's lap back around Thanksgiving.

About half way through the evening's struggles he had noticed the cookies left for Santa piled high on a plate. One bite won't hurt. With a sip of milk to wash it down he was ready to finish the second round. AA batteries for this one, C batteries for that one, and then AAA for this one. He doesn't have any AAA. Oh No! A trip to the 24-hour Walgreen's was enough to get an ugly word or two while he put on his coat and found his way to the car.

After setting up his camcorder to record all the mornings events he checked on his children and went off to bed. Just before he dozed off to sleep his wife rolled over and said, "relax dear it's all for the kids." And with a sweet

"I Love you" she faded back off to sleep. Just before he fell asleep himself he thought "yes indeed it's all for the kids."

The morning came and all through the house everything was stirring even the mouse. The kids were playing and jumping and screaming out loud "Daddy look. Look what we found." Although Daddy didn't have anything to open or anything new to see he was the luckiest man in the house that day. His joy came from the sight of his family having such a good time. Besides it's the spirit of giving that touches his soul. Having the ability to provide for his family is the greatest accomplishment any Daddy can achieve and finding a little extra around Christmas to help make this joyous event better for his family is truly a blessing.

We have nine Daddies or Daddies to be, including myself, working in course maintenance. Through your contribution to the employee Christmas fund you have made our Christmas brighter for our families. On the behalf of course maintenance, THANK YOU VERY MUCH! I sincerely hope you had a Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year!

*Mike Stupica*

*Golf Course Superintendent*

---

## January 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Happy New Year! CLUB	2 CLUB OPEN	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1 February	2	3	4
5 Superbowl 2 Man Scramble	6	7	8	9	10	11



## CHALLENGE LADDER

---

The deadline for the Challenge Ladder is Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. The ladder will run from January 20<sup>th</sup> thru May 19<sup>th</sup> and will offer both doubles and singles format. The cost is only \$20 per person per event and non members are welcome. The matches may be played anywhere and on any day so agreed upon by the players. All scores must be submitted no later than 24 hours after completion of match. Prizes will be awarded.

---

The USTA **SPRING LEAGUE** will begin in only 6 weeks! If you are looking for a team or would like to form your own, please contact Buck at (601) 397-2825, or email at Buckspe@aol.com.

---

**CARDIO TENNIS** is coming in February. Come and get in shape for the swimsuit season or just to do your body good. You do not have to be a tennis player to participate. This program will be focus on heart health and is a great way to lose those pounds we all gain around the holiday season. Cost will be \$10 per session. You may register by calling Buck at (601) 397-2825 or emailing him at Buckspe@aol.com.

## BALL MACHINE RENTAL:

Available at \$10 per hour.

---



---

## Tips from the Tennis Teaching Pro by Buck Boyd

Now would be a great time to start your pre-season workout to insure that you are physically ready for the upcoming season. One of the most overlooked areas for all levels of players is the warm-up prior to the actual match, and the cool down, which is equally important.

Most players hit the courts in early February without getting their bodies ready for play. They usually hit the courts and do a little "light hitting" then they proceed full force into match play.

The smart players will start about 6 weeks prior with a light workout. This workout should consist of three (3) modes in addition to the actual exercise:

- (1) Jog very slowly for about 10 minutes to insure proper blood flow to the muscles and tissue. This is not a competition! You should exercise enough to break into a light sweat.
- (2) After the jog, go directly into stretching mode. You will want to stretch each of the major muscle groups for about 30 seconds minimum. Don't forget, however, to stretch the smaller muscles, as well. The smaller muscles include the forearms, shoulders, calves, wrists and neck.
- (3) After your workout or exercise, repeat the stretching. This is the cool down mode and is essential in keeping muscles flexible and is the best tool for injury prevention.

As with all exercise, please consult your physician or healthcare professional prior to beginning. This will even further insure a fun and safe season on the courts.

