

Moose Memo

Welcome September and Goodbye to a wet and very hot August. I cannot remember in recent memory ever having gone through such a hot and wet month as we have just encountered. It was commonplace to have the heat index over 100 degrees and rain just about every other day this past August. In fact it has been so wet that we have been really struggling just to keep the grass mowed and the course open for play. I also understand that when we were brave enough to get out and play in these hot, wet, summer days that many of us struggled just to stay hydrated. I know that my energy level has declined and what normally took only a few hours to of rest to re-cooperate now takes a day or two. I guess that is all part of getting a little older too but that is hard to admit to at times. The good news is that we are now entering into the final days of summer and fall is just around the corner. This has always been one of my favorite times of the year to play golf. The temps are cooler and grasses are not growing out of control which makes for better golf, at least for myself. It is also the beginning of football season and in between the two time is limited for many other activities. It won't be very long until the time changes too and that is quite an adjustment to make for me each year. Now that we are drawing close to the end of the year, we are now looking to increase our memberships at the club. Now is the one of the best times of the year to play golf and over the next couple of months we are trying to look a little outside of the box to generate new members and get more play at the club. For the next couple of months we are allowing non-members to test drive Castlewoods and see what a great club we have to offer. In hopes of increasing our membership over the next couple of months, you can bring a guest to play or a non-member can get a tee-time at our new reduced rates to play the best course in the area and join the club with no initiation fee. Our new green fee rates are:

\$45 from Tuesday through Thursday and \$55 on Friday through Sunday. The cart is also included in this price. Now that is a great deal and hopefully we can increase our numbers over the next few months. If you know of anyone who might be interested in playing or joining Castlewoods, please bring them out or let them know that we are now open to the public for a limited time. I have also set up advertising in a couple of publications to advertise this special. I also want to ensure our faithful members that we will not allow the outside play to interfere with their normal games or groups during the week or on the weekends. In other words the availability for outside play will be limited during each day. Just call in to reserve your tee-time and Thank you for your support and patience during these upcoming months. The Men's Golf Association recently completed their fifth event, the Modified Stableford and the winners were: Randy Parker in 1st place with 31 points, Larry Hamel finished 2nd with 30 points, in 3rd was Duke Simmons with 29 points, in 4th was James Waylonis with 26 and Ken Peacock was 5th with 24 points. This also completed the MGA events to qualify for the final event on 9-12-10. The top thirty MGA players for the year are eligible to compete in the "Trout Cup". Good luck and thanks to all who participated during the year. The Senior Men's Club Championship will also be held on the 25th and 26th of September. Please sign up in the pro shop. The pool will close on Labor Day this month which falls on the 6th of September. We would also like to welcome some new members to the club. They are Leo Hughes, Jason Miller, Mark Keller, Charles Stricklin, John & Natalie Baten, Mark and Mary Canterbury and Brad Brister. Please Say hello to these fine people the next time you come out to the club. I hope to see you soon on the course. Moose

Pro's Corner

With Labor Day upon us, our summer season has ended. I know we have the start of football season (Go Texas), but remember, this is also the best time of the year for golf. This is also the best time to start preparing for next year with a few golf lessons to correct problems in your swing. Making changes in your swing now will allow you to work on those changes so this spring you will be ready to play well. *Alert* Titleist Golf Company will have their new Drivers, Fairway Metals & Hybrids available about November 1st. We will have a Demo & Fitting Day around November 1st. If you have interest contact the golf shop and let us know so we can contact you with the exact date. Last month I encouraged everyone to have a rule book in your bag at all times. The water hazard rule is probably the rule that is most applied wrongly. The rule states: If a ball is lost in a water hazard, under penalty of one stroke: (a) Play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played. (b) Drop a ball behind the water hazard, keeping the point at which the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball last is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the water hazard the ball may be dropped; or (c) as an additional option available only if the ball last crossed the margin of a lateral water hazard, drop a ball outside the water hazard within two club lengths of and not nearer the hole than the point where the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard or a point on the opposite margin of the water hazard equidistant from the hole. For more info contact your PGA Pro. Mike Hoelzer, Head Golf Professional

TURF TALK by Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

Last month we talked a little about rough and I promised in a few more weeks once the growing slowed we would be caught up and things would get much better. Well that still holds true but along the way we ran into 6 inches of rain in 8 days. We all know what water does to grass this time of year and I am sure most of you have to mow your own yard, so you can see my point. I can assure you we have every available man mowing rough everyday and this will continue until we get a handle on things. What is next for us? We will start preparing our turf for winter. With only a few more weeks of aggressive growth remaining our priority will be to make the plant as strong as possible. This will take a couple of applications of potassium fertilizer mixed in with a small amount of nitrogen to get complete coverage of all greens. This is very important because in the winter the dormant grass will slough off in preparation for the new growth to come in the spring. Basically the more leaf tissue we have going into the winter the more there will remain in

February. For some of you football fans you can still get your golf fix before you leave for Starkville each weekend. Autumn is the best time to play golf. Very soon we will be caught up with all mowing; the grass on the greens will slow its growth to a crawl and the course will be in spectacular shape. With the grass slowing its growth we can move our daily attention to areas we have put off maintaining for a while. This will spruce the course a bit and you will enjoy cooler less humid days with your friends on the course. Please remember to fill your divots with sand in the fairways and roughs as it will take a little longer for these areas to heal this time of the year. Moreover please remember to repair your ball marks on the greens and rake the bunkers after you play your shot. There is nothing any less pleasant than having to hit a bunker shot to the green only to find that your ball is in a foot print from the last golfer who did not rake the bunker after playing his last shot out of that same bunker. I hope to see you all here soon.
Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

Castlewoods Tennis News

Back To School Mixer

The back to school mixer was a great success as thirty three juniors came out for a fun day of tennis. In the junior division, Philip Christian claimed top honors and Jay Lemon and Flint Christian tied for second place. The senior division champion was Keaton Page followed closely by University Christian standout Kevin Millett. Thanks to all who participated and a huge thank you to all the parents who have supported our junior programs here at Castlewoods.

Junior Team Tennis Information

September 10 - Teams must be created online. September 13 - Entry Forms with deposit mailed. September 13 - Captains packet pick up. September 19 - Play begins for all age divisions. The junior team tennis coordinator is Angie Deleon. If you have questions call her at 601-951-0897.

Flex Leagues Now Registering In Jackson

1. Are you new to town and looking to find some people to play tennis with?

2. Wanting to find a weekly match but can't commit to a team or a certain night of the week?

If so, try playing in the USTA Flex League, where you will sign up individually and have singles matches set up for you against other players of the same level. Instead of finding a team and having matches on a specific date, you and your opponent may schedule matches at the time and place of your choice. **Sign up deadline: September 19. **Matches begin September 26.

**The Fee is \$25 for USTA members, \$35 for non-members.

**Format: 2.5-4.5 levels offered for men and women.

Tennis Tip Of The Month "Poaching"

Poaching is one of the most basic and productive tactics in doubles. The most common form of poaching occurs when the net player on the serving team intercepts the service return. Natural poachers tend to get carried away, feasting on service returns like sharks wolfing down hapless and helpless herring. The key to successful poaching is remaining still until the returner has committed to the cross-court shot. Then, even if the returner makes a great cross-court shot out of reach of the poacher, no real damage is done. The best defense against a marauding net player, especially one who plays up close to the net with impudence, is the lob return. When you use your lob return, you neutralize the serving team's net player and cause the serving team to change sides of the court, throwing them off balance!

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