

Moose Memo

Can you believe that the Christmas Season is already here and soon we will be toasting a new year while trying to remember to write 2009 on all of our new paper work? This year, we at Castlewoods Country Club are very excited with the upcoming new year and we also feel this year will be the best ever at the club. As most of you are already aware, Jay Jordan, is now working as the head golf professional with Castlewoods C. C. Jay started on the 15th of last month and has been working hard in the pro shop getting it re-organized and ready for the current holiday season. The shop looks great with lots of new merchandise and even some soon to be collector's items that Jay brought with him. If you have not seen Jay in a while or have not met him yet, please drop by and say hello. While you are at it, you might also want to schedule a lesson or two with Jay and get your game ready for the winter season. Jay is also ready and willing to do repair work on your clubs and that includes re-gripping or bending those clubs to suit your swing. Speaking of the winter season, the golf course is still in great shape and the greens are rolling true and fast. Now is the perfect time to come out and enjoy a little cool weather golf. Bring a guest and enjoy the course because Mike and his crew have the Bear in looking great. While on the subject of bringing out your guests, back by popular demand, we are offering the ten-round package for members just like last year. The cost is \$350 for ten passes and the passes includes the cart fees. Please limit your purchases to one package per member. You must be a golfing member of the club in order to purchase the ten-round package. If you want to pick up your package, please contact Jay or myself at the club and we will issue you the passes. With the holiday season already here, now is the time to reserve your next party or function here at Castlewoods C. C.

Last month several events and parties were staged and everyone involved had a great time. If you are interested in setting up any special event at the club, just call Jean Hee for more information. You will also notice that included in this mailing, is a form that can be sent back to show if there is any interest in your participating in a Fitness, Yoga or Exercise class to be held here at the clubhouse during the winter season. The certified fitness instructor is Jaelyn Ramsier who lives in the neighborhood. If you are interested in any of the fitness classes listed in the enclosed questionnaire, just fill out the form and return it to the clubhouse with your monthly payment.

You will also notice that on your December monthly statement, there is an additional \$15 added to the bill. This is the annual employee Christmas fund and of course your contribution is entirely optional. If you do not wish to contribute to this fund, just pay your regular amount. All of the cash collected goes to the employee fund to be distributed to our employees for the holiday season. I can assure you this is money well spent and all of the employees at Castlewoods are very thankful for the much deserved gesture and gift.

I would also like to welcome two new members to the club for this past month. Please welcome Dan Schmitz and Dwayne Fight. Make sure to say hello and introduce yourselves when you see this good people.

One final note, as the Christmas season is almost here and many of us are busy trying to find time to shop and decorate our homes, it is also important to remember the true meaning of Christmas. Many times we lose sight of what we are really supposed to be giving thanks for and I hope this season brings peace and joy.

I hope to see you soon on the course!
Merry Christmas!!!!!! Moose

JAY'S CORNER

Golf Tip Of The Month

Keep your head still while putting.

Keeping your head down is one of the worst tips that exists for the full swing, but for anyone wanting to hole more putts, it's sound advice. There are many ways you can do it. Over short putts you can wait for the sound of the ball dropping into the hole (hopefully!) before you look up. That works. A more popular method, which a lot of tour pros swear by, is marking and replacing the ball in such a way that the logo is exactly where you intend to strike the ball. This gives you something specific to keep your eye on. Without a doubt keeping your eye on the ball is an absolute fundamental to pure striking - you need to see the ball being hit. If you move your head too early you'll never hit the same spot on the putter face twice. It's like driving a car; if you move your eyes to the left your eyes veer that way. Same in putting. If you let your eyes wander the putter goes with them. Even better, draw your own identification mark on the ball. There are lots of variations you can use— a line along the logo is popular because as well as giving you something to focus on, it helps you line up in the direction you want the ball to start. I hope this tip helps you make more putts. More putts made means lower scores!

I want to take this opportunity to thank the owners at Castlewoods for giving me a chance to come back and be the golf professional at this fine facility. Many thanks to the membership for making me feel like part of the Castlewoods family, it's truly like coming home. I'm really looking forward to servicing all your golfing needs the rest of 2008 as well as the years to come. Can't wait to see all of my old friends at Castlewoods and meeting the new members as well. Jay Jordan

Golf Lesson Gift Certificates are now available for the holidays!

1/2 Hour Lesson \$30.00

1 Hour Lesson \$50.00

5 Hour Lesson Package \$200.00

TURF TALK by Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

After a full belly and a great football game during the Thanksgiving week we are back at work continuing the to do list. With the first frost coming 10 days early this year we have been full bore blowing leaves. The pre-emerge herbicide was applied on schedule but with a new twist. The experts have been telling us, "the weeds in this area have over the years, adapted and have become resistant to the chemicals we have been using." I say, "the chemical just doesn't work and it doesn't matter the reason." They say, "basically use our stuff but more of it." I say, "sure you can kill anything if you put \$150.00 per acre into it." So in cooperation with Annandale Country Club we have come up with a plan to get rid of the weeds and stay in budget. I am optimistic things will work out fine this season. What are we doing to our turf this time of year? Not a whole lot. We will watch the weather and look for rain.

The greens in particular still need water about once per week. We will be very careful not to let them dry out too much. This will hold true to your lawn as well. I don't think water every week is needed but if we go through an extended period of time without rain, I would give it a shot from time to time.

This will keep the root zone moist and help insulate it from damage caused by a hard freeze. Most of our crew as I am are looking for some needed vacation time. Over the next few weeks we will concentrate on making the course as playable as we can and cleaning up as much debris as possible. Enjoy the football and some beautiful days out on the course this winter. Spring is just around the corner and we are looking forward to seeing you on the course.

Have a great holiday!

Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

Castlewoods Tennis News

2008 Year End NTRP ratings will be published online at mstennis.com on December 1, 2008.

League News

The ladies winter interclub league will kick off December 14th. Play will be at 3:00 PM on Sundays and will go on for seven weeks. Call the tennis pro shop to reserve your spot.

2nd Annual Santa Shuffle Mixer is December 20, 2008 and play starts at 9:00 AM.

Warm-up, Cool-down and Stretch ...

It is amazing the number of club players who get out of their cars and go straight onto the court. Warming up before playing prepares the mind, heart, muscles and joints for the upcoming event. It improves performance, helps you get mentally prepared and is a great step towards injury prevention. Cooling down is equally important. It helps the body to recover and gradually return to it's normal temperature. This is also a good time to work on your flexibility.

Fair Play

If you know a ball is **out**, call it **out**.

If you know a ball is **in**, call it **in**.

If you **think** a ball is in call it **in**.

If you **think** a ball is out, call it **out**.

Merry Christmas!!!.....

Thanks to all our members for their contributions to the club in 2008. The club exists because of you!

May yo uall have a happy and prosperous festive season full of fun, family, friends, and fantastic tennis!

Tennis Staff: Mark Elliott - Director of Tennis. USPTA

Levi Patton - Head Tennis Professional. USPTA Brooks Buffington - Head Tennis Professional. USPTA