

Moose Memo

The first cold spell of the year has officially arrived. I noticed that when I came out the other day to hit some golf balls, I needed some long pants and a jacket, not to mention some boots for the wet ground. It is hard to believe all the rain we have had so far this winter season. I guess the good news is that we have some healthy turf entering the winter season and that usually means that next year's spring transition will be a good one. Soon the grass will go into the dormancy stage and greens will be quick and roll true. I love playing golf during this phase of the weather because I normally putt and chip better than my tee to green play. Now I hope to find the time to get out on the course and enjoy the season. The leaves have already starting to fall and the colors of the season are beautiful. I am about sick of football and thank goodness we live in a climate that allows us to play golf almost year round. I hope you can find the time to come out and enjoy the course soon and while you are at it, bring a friend and show off your course. It is in very good shape for this time of the year. With the holiday season approaching fast, we are again going to offer our members the golf package like we usually do each year. As a golfing member, you may purchase ten rounds of golf including cart for \$350.00. I recently was asked by a member, why we don't have a special rate for members to bring a guest out to play. Well here it is. When you account that a cart fee is \$15.00, this rate breaks down to a \$20.00 green fee. The cards are good for one year and you can use them whenever you want. Remember this golf package is only on sale for the next two months and you must be a golfing member of Castlewoods to purchase these passes. You can pick up the passes at the pro shop, so now there is no excuse for not bringing out a guest to play with you at Castlewoods Country Club. Please limit the golf pass purchase to one set per member and come play the Bear course.

Last month we started having our chef cook some fillet steaks and all the trimmings for Friday nights. I know that when you try his steaks, you will find it hard to beat at any restaurant in the state. What's more incredible is that we are only charging \$15.00 for these 8 oz. beauties as long as you purchase a two drink minimum per person at the bar. Now how can you beat that? If you don't believe me, just ask anyone who has eaten these steaks in the past few weeks. Please remember to call ahead and reserve a spot for supper as we only buy the number of fillets ahead of time and cannot serve you unless you have made a reservation. For reservations, just call the club house prior to Friday and add your name to the list. Talk about a cheap date and moreover we won't even tell them what you are paying for the meal. Well it looks like the end of the year calendar is starting to book up with holiday parties and such pretty quickly. If you are interested in having your office party, Christmas party or any other holiday season get-together, please call Jean Hee at the club to book your event. There are still several open dates available but you must hurry to get you event on the slate at Castlewoods. We also have many menus available from cold cuts to fancy menus and you will also find the cost very reasonable. This past month we finished up with our normal golf outings for the year and with the exception of a few events, there is not a lot of activity during the day time on the schedule. However there is still plenty of good weather for this month ahead and if you are thinking about having some type of golf outing at the club, now is a good time to call and set it up. You can call me at 601-992-1942 for more information and we can set up your event this month. What's more I will discount your outing by 20% if you book your event during November or December of this year. We can tailor your event to include almost any venue requested.

Congratulations to Chuck Souther for winning the Castlewoods Senior Men's Championship this past month. Even with the wet weather Chuck made up five strokes on first day leader Brent Brumley and tied for the lead on the final hole. Chuck went on to beat out Brent on the second play-off hole with a two putt par to claim the title. Finishing in third place by one stroke was John Rippy followed by Bob Landry in fourth place. Great playing guys and thanks for everyone who participated. Congratulations also goes out to one of our newest members, Dean Ramage, for making a hole-in-one on # 15 from 155 yards out with a six iron. His witness was Cindy Ramage. As most of you have noticed recently, the lake work on hole number 5 has been delayed until spring. Unfortunately rain did not allow us to finish this project on a timely basis but when the dry weather comes back next year we will finish the project. My plan is to once again create one of the most challenging holes in the state while making some improvements to the tee boxes on hole # 6. In the meantime, rest assured that our number one handicap hole is in great shape and will still collect your wayward shots without leaving any doubt as to where the ball ends up. A special thank you goes out to Randy Berg for his work and support in all the improvements on this lake project. Once this is finished I will always refer to this area as the "Berg Lake". On another subject, we are still looking for our new golf pro at Castlewoods. It looks like we will try and bring them on board in the early part of 2010 but we will continue the interview process through the end of the year. While on the subject of bringing new people to the club, we have decided this month to continue our membership drive through the end of the year with no initiation fee. Any new member can save \$1,000.00 by joining with a one year contract. If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining Castlewoods this month, now is a great time to introduce them to the club. Just give me a call at the club and I will be glad to set them up with a tour of the facilities. Thanks again for your support and I look forward to seeing you soon on the course. Moose

TURF TALK by Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

Last month we talked about how crazy it was to have so much rain in September and I promised once the rain let up we would get some work done on the course. Well guess what, it didn't quit raining until well into October. My number during October was 9.4 inches in the cylinders on the course. I have heard numbers in the double digits around central Mississippi. This is pretty incredible. But it did dry out a couple of days and we were able to get 95% of the course mowed. It looks great too. The next several weeks we will put most of our energy into blowing leaves. On days dry enough to get off the cart path this is exactly what we will be doing. With more and more of the course being outlined by houses it has become difficult at best to clean many areas of the course. There will be times in which we will stock pile debris in areas that are for the most part out of play until we have time to pick it up and dispose of it. Problem is there really isn't anywhere on the course that is out of play for many of us. You may want to put the leaf

Rule in effect, at least for the next few weeks. Speaking of being dry enough to get off the cart paths, We try to allow cart traffic on the course as much as possible during the wet winter months. However I am disturbed number 1, by the abuse by some of our members when we are designated to be on the cart path. There seems to be an attitude that some of us can do what we please and others follow the rules and have to pay the price of poor playing conditions and unsightly ruts everywhere we turn. Number 2, why not wait an extra 5 seconds for the cart in front of you to pull away rather than drive around it in the mud. All 18 holes have this damage. Number 3, for the next three months there will be areas of the course that will not dry enough to drive carts. They are the same areas every year so we all know where they are so please pay attention to where you are going and stay out of these wet areas. Number 4, abuse of the orange lines causes unnecessary damage to the areas exiting the fairways. Please, after you hit your shot and if you next shot is past the orange line return your cart to the path and use the 90 % rule as a guideline. Please help keep your course beautiful. Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

Castlewoods Tennis News

A fun night of tennis was had on our "Frightning Friday" night mixer held on Oct. 23. There was a great turnout for the event, especially with the weather being on the cool side. After six rounds of mixed, men's and women's doubles, only two participants could claim the top spot. On the men's side, Jon Salem finished at the top of the pack while Hope Ladner won the ladies division. In our racket drawing, Jennifer Spong was the lucky winner drawn by Rev. Beauchamp. Thanks to all who participated and the tennis staff looks forward to our next tennis night out.

Local November Tournaments

Nov. 6 RTC-NTRP State Chps-MW(Op)sd,FMLC, NM(3.0-5.0)sd,FMLC—Deadline:Nov.3

Nov. 6 Parham Bridges-Hardcourt Open Challenge-MW(Op)sd,FMLC— Deadline:Nov 3

Junior Winter Clinics

When: Tuesdays & Thursdays, **Time:** 4:00-5:00 **Ages:** 7-13 **Cost:** \$130 (six week session)

Tennis Tip Of The Month - Taking The Pain Out Of Your Calls

To avoid unnecessary controversy over a call, keep the following tips in mind:

- (1) Make your calls instantly. Nothing is worse than playing an opponent who hems and haws before making an "out" call. If you're uncertain about a call, you shouldn't be calling the ball out. Give your opponent the benefit of the doubt.
- (2) Make your call decisively. Prefacing your out call with the phrases like "I think," "I guess," or "I'm pretty sure" isn't fair to your opponent.
- (3) Make your calls loudly. Remember, you're making the call for the benefit of your opponent, who happens to be all the way on the other side of the net.
- (4) Keep the call simple. Just call, "Out!" when the ball lands beyond the boundaries. If you prefer, you can yell "No!" But don't ever call a ball "in" during a point, because it distracts your opponent. You don't have to give your opponent a vivid account of just how close the ball was to the line, how relieved you are that the ball landed out, and why you're so happy that you didn't call a let just before the shot.

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