

Moose Memo

Welcome 2009! As I look back on 2008 there were many changes with Castlewoods Country Club and one of the biggest stories of the year came on December 2, 2008. Castlewoods Country Club met the qualifications set forth in the state statute revised by the legislature and obtained an On-Premise Retail Permit with the ABC department of the Mississippi state tax commission. With the new permit, Castlewoods is now able to add an extra amenity for our members and guests. The club can now sell your favorite alcoholic beverages and hopefully this will help the club continue to grow, prosper and increase revenue. As I told the C/L newspaper reporter, I look at this as a win/win situation for everyone. We can now draw many special events and company meetings which up until now have been going to another county to hold their events. It seems that many of our plans to bring Castlewoods Country Club to the premiere country club status we envisioned when we first purchased the club is soon to become a reality. We are also in the process of creating a new social membership for those in and around the neighborhood that don't play golf or tennis and just want to become part of the family with normal clubhouse privileges. For more information concerning how to become an associate member, just contact the club. The New Year Eve's party was a great success and now that we have worked out the kinks with the bar setup, we are now able to accommodate your next party, meeting or special event for the 2009 season. For more information call and speak with JeanHee at 992-1942.

Yesterday, I played golf on the Bear and even with all the rain we have had in the past few weeks, the course was in great shape. We have had some unusual weather so far this year and yesterday it was 78 degrees with windy conditions. The bunkers are looking good and the greens are

Rolling true. I did notice that there are quite a few ball marks on the greens and if we can remember to repair a couple each time we come to the green it will really help. We also continue to fill cart bottles with sand, so please fill your divots as needed. I noticed that quite a few members expressed an interest in the yoga and off season exercise programs by sending your questionnaire back with your dues. The classes are being set up and Jaelyn will be contacting you with the new schedules for the classes, so spread the word and we will have some great classes this year at the club.

This sounds like a great New Year's resolution by living a healthier lifestyle and shaping up our bodies for the upcoming golf and tennis season.

While on the subject of the upcoming season, we at the club are starting to arrange and create more membership social events this year. In fact several of the local restaurants have expressed an interest in possibly coming out to the club and cooking/serving their specialties. I like the idea of having a Mexican/Margarita night or an Italian/wine tasting night just to name a couple. If you have other ideas or would like to suggest some other events, just drop me a line with your ideas and we will take it from there. I hope to see more involvement with the club members this year and since most of us live or drive by the club on a regular basis on their way to dine out in the evenings, why not make it a simple and affordable choice for the membership. One last note, I want to give thanks to all who contributed to the employee Christmas fund this past month and I can assure you that all the employees at Castlewoods C. C. appreciated your generosity and gift. I also want to thank everyone for their support this past year and I hope to see more of everyone at the club and on the course in 2009. Here's to a prosperous and healthy new year!

Moose

JAY'S CORNER

Please notice that in this envelope is an annual handicap fee sheet, Please fill out & return this form.

GOLF TIP OF THE MONTH

Try to set aside at least one day a week to practice, and plan your day out the night before. The next time you go to the range leave enough time to hit each club in your bag 10 times. Measure how far the ball goes and take an average for each club. A range finder will help a lot in measuring these distances. Then write these down on a piece of paper and put it in your bag. When you're on the course make sure you know how far you have to the flag on every shot and refer to your yardage chart to select the right club. Remember - the distance you hit your clubs can change depending upon the conditions you're playing in. Generally, if it's raining, take an extra club, and if it's warm and dry, perhaps one less. If you don't have a lot of time to practice then the best way to improve is to concentrate on the parts of your game that can save you the most shots. For most players, this is usually the short game. The most important club in your bag is the putter, followed by wedges, short irons and , lastly the driver. Always keep it varied, never practice any one thing more than 30 minutes because your attention will wander and you'll put too much stress on that part of the body. Good luck and I look forward to seeing you on the rock pile. Jay Jordan

Santa Showdown Final Results

- 1st Gross— Ben Brister, Ryan Bukvich
 - 2nd Gross—Ken Peacock, John Oxley
 - 1st Net—Denny Howell, Red Coulter
 - 2nd Net—Michael Slack, D. Townsend
- Closest to the hole winners were:
- #4 - Ryan Bukvich
 - #7 - Jeff Zachary
 - #12 - Ryan Bukvich
 - #15 - Mike Brinson
 - #18 Longest Drive - Ryan Bukvich

TURF TALK by Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

It has been over 5 years ago that I started work here and in February it will be the 5th anniversary of private ownership of the club. Looking back I can see so many accomplishments made and looking forward I see many more which are to come. 2008 was an exciting year for the club. The course blossomed into a spectacular place to play, the tennis courts were booming with play and the additions to the club house have proven to be a success. So where do we go from here? I can tell you from my stand point there is still a long way to go. Although the course is in great shape, there are still many things which need to be done that will make a marked improvement over what we have now. First and foremost is a new irrigation system. This is the most costly investment the club can make. Irrigation is the foundation for all things on the course. Yes we need to upgrade and renovate many bunkers and even rebuild some of the

Cart path. Quality irrigation is the first step toward better playing conditions. How do we get a new irrigation system? The answer is simple, but to obtain, much more difficult. The answer is somebody has to write the check and be prepared to add several zero's to the number. See now wasn't that easy? Now really what needs to happen is the club and the surrounding community needs to support our efforts at the club and the zero's can add up rather quickly. I think we all see where I am coming from. 2008 was a successful year for the club. You asked and we provided. We plan to continue that philosophy throughout 2009 with the addition of a great pro and commitment to great playing conditions. 2009 will be another great year for the club.

After a trying year economically for most of our employees, your gift through the Membership Christmas Bonus was truly appreciated. On behalf of all the employees of the club, Thank You

Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

Castlewoods Tennis News

Thanks to all who came out and played in the 2nd annual Santa Shuffle Mixer. The event was a great success as we were luckily treated to unusual warm temperatures for the day. After a morning of mixed doubles play, our top two participants in the men's play was Dan Bennett and Anthony Carpenter. In the women's bracket, Carla Cleary and Shannon Poole edged out their fellow competitors to claim the top two spots. After Lunch, everyone played in our "one point" singles tournament that was played with wooden rackets. Zach Fisher defeated everyone in the mixer to take home his Christmas surprise!

League News The ladies winter interclub league has begun match play on Sundays at 3:00. For the next six weeks this league will take up all the courts at this time, so make sure to call and book your courts on Sundays either before or after this time if you want to play. The Spring League season is just around the corner so those wanting to play should start getting their teams in order. If you are not on a team and interested, please call the pro shop so we can help steer you in the right direction.

Get 'Em Down and Keep 'Em Down I've seen, in the course of hundreds of tournament matches, that the beginning of the second set is often when a big psychological shift can occur. It's a new beginning for your opponent who's just lost the first set. You can smash that new beginning with a strong start. Even a quitter can get their hopes up if they get going early in the set two. But most of all you must be aware of the Wounded Bear. When you win the first set tell yourself you've just created a big problem — you've hurt your opponent and motivated them to come out clawing out after you. You must pay attention or you'll get hurt. After winning the opening set, many players become the Happy Camper, relieved, pleased and satisfied. With this new attitude comes a decline in mental alertness and a temporary subtle lessening of competitiveness. When you are a Happy Camper, that's when you're vulnerable. That's when you'll play a loose game or games at a critical time. That's when you'll give your valuable advantage right back. It's truly a great player who get hungrier with a lead, who doesn't get complacent and relax.

Happy New Year!

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