

# Moose Memo

## CASTLEWOODS COUNTRY CLUB

Now that summer is in full swing, I must say that Castlewoods Country Club has never looked better. In fact back in the early 80's I joined the club when there was only nine holes and a trailer served as the pro shop. Since that time, there have been many changes both good and bad to the club and many of our current members also witnessed the various transformations that have been made. I can also truthfully state that the course has NEVER been in as good of condition as it is now, EVER. It also appears that with each week that passes, it continues to get better and better. Many reasons attribute to this current trend but the one thing that is evident, is that all of our members can enjoy Castlewoods Country Club as it was meant to be. The greens are great and rolling true, the fairways are lush, the bunkers are very good, the rough is manageable and the details of the layout are well manicured. The club house grounds are beautiful and offer all members and their guests a great setting and all the amenities that a premier country club should offer. Even with this current conditioning, we are still trying to improve each and every week. It just goes to show that if someone really cares about something and you pay close attention to the details, you can always improve and continue to create something that everyone can be proud of. If you have not played the course in the last few weeks, you are really missing a treat. It is also nice to hear all the positive comments from members and guests alike. We thank each and everyone of you for all your patience and support in Castlewoods Country Club. Even with all the great additions and wonderful conditioning of the course, we still are looking for new members. If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining the best club in the state, please have them contact me at the club and I will be glad to show them all we have to offer.

The annual MGA State Father/Son tournament was held this past month and Castlewoods was one of the host clubs for this event. It turned out that all who participated gave rave reviews of the course and thanks to Mike Stupica and his crew, there is still a buzz going around the state about how good your course is. This month will be even better than last and the club championship is scheduled for July the 5th and 6th. Be sure to get involved and good luck to all who participate. We are also continuing the tradition of staging one of the state's most popular events, The Invitational at Castlewoods benefiting the Make-A-Wish foundation on July 18th through July 20th. If you have not signed up for this event, please hurry as this tournament always fills up fast and limited spots are still available on a first come first serve basis. The Pool and Tennis facilities are doing quite well this year too. We at Castlewoods are very happy with how Mark and Gayla have turned the tennis operations into one of the best in the state. With new league tennis play in full swing, now is the time to contact the tennis facility and get involved with this great sport. After much effort and expense, the swimming pool is outstanding once again. Of course all our golfing memberships include rights to these facilities, however there are also memberships available for pool and tennis membership only. For more information concerning these memberships, contact the club or tennis facility at 601-992-5993.

The new venture of WeddingbyMuse is coming along nicely too. There are quite a few events planned in the near future and calls are coming in daily to schedule special events that include receptions, class reunions, parties, business functions and of course weddings. If you know of anyone that might be interested in booking their

Next event at the club, please give the staff a call and speak with one of the WBM staff for more information. You can call the club at 601-992-1942 or 601-955-0240 and have the planners set up your next function or event. They are happy to tailor make your event to suit whatever needs you have. We would also like to welcome this past month's new members at Castlewoods Country club. These new members include:

Scott Brewster, Michael Pruitt, Jeremy Ott, David Freeman, Milo Crabtree, Phil Landers, Morrice Taylor, Jason Stoker, Bret Dunnaway, Robert Stanton, Scott Werne, Jason Sibley, Tony Heimer, Jeremy Freeman, Kevin McGee, Shawn Oliphant, Kelly Elliott, Jimmy Kendrick, Susan Tinney, Matt Freeland, Latarsha Sterling, Ken Clough, Charles Holden, Cindy Williams, Shane Crowe, Virgie Caroll, William Stone, Jennifer Lewis, Jerry Shelton, Ron Barry and Diana Meridith. Please introduce yourself to these new members when you see them as I am sure they will be looking for a good golf or tennis game soon. I would also like to express my appreciation and thank Ken Peacock for all his help with the Men's Golf Association. Ken, who incidentally is the 2007 club champion, has spent many hours making sure the members are involved in the association. He and Duke Simmons, another multiple club champion, have spent countless hours setting up events, programs and helping others enjoy this great game with little thanks for their efforts. It's members like these that make Castlewoods really special and I want to make sure they know how much we value their support and help. I hope to see you soon at the course. Moose

## TURF TALK by Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

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I would first like to say thank you to the Senior Men's Golf Association for their help around the course. Most of you may have heard but on the first Monday of the month they are coming out to the course to help the course maintenance staff with a few things we can't get around to in the busy summer months. Last month they helped pull weeds in the flower beds and this past Monday they put out the pine straw. It all looks great. Also thank you to the membership for all the positive comments over the past several weeks. Nearly every morning the crew has a story about how a member stopped them to say how good a job they are doing. It makes the crew feel good to hear that and we appreciate it.

I have had a few questions about our cart path policy lately. During the summer we will usually be off the paths. You can buy a pink flag and place it on your cart. This will allow you to cross the orange line painted in the fairway and pull your cart no closer than the bottom of the slope around the green. However, you must have a written letter from your physician on file to have a pink flag. When it is deemed carts need to be on the path for any

Reason we must remain on the path even if we have a pink flag.

Many members and their guests are abusing the orange lines and taking their carts in places we would rather you not go. Right of # 2 green and left of # 9 green are a couple of examples. We are making a road in these areas, so please return to the cart path before the orange lines. What is the 90 degree rule? Basically you should stay on the cart path until you are even with your ball and then enter the fairway. Then return to the cart path after your second shot on a par 4 and your third on a par five if you are lucky enough to hit it past the orange line. If everyone would do this it will help prevent the trails we find through the rough at the beginning of every fairway and help preserve the rough along the cart paths all the way down the hole. Many members have asked if there is anything they can do to help us make this course better. Please obey all cart path policies and that would be a great help.

Turf Tip: slow release fertilizer is the ticket to a great lawn. Slow release fertilizers will allow us to slowly feed our lawns without huge flushes of growth. It will help keep good color in your turf for up to 12 weeks without another application.

Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

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### Tennis News

**Junior News:** Junior summer camps are in full swing. In July there will be two sessions for those juniors who are looking to get out and improve their skill level. The dates are: July 8—10 & July 22—24

Head Professionals Levi Patton and Brooks Buffington have done an outstanding job leading this program and both have a great ability to motivate your juniors to a higher standard

**Adult Updates:** 4th of July Mixer. Don't miss out on a fun morning of tennis, but sign up early as last year's event drew quite a crowd and this is one you don't want to miss.

July 31st—Michelob Southern NTRP Clay Court Championship. Deadline Sunday July 27. River Hills Club

Congratulations to Castlewood members Anthony Carpenter, Tony Hancock and Chip Fisher as their men's 3.0 competed and finished 2nd in their flight during the state championships. Chip had such a successful weekend that the state's league coordinators immediately promoted him to the next level. It took the best team in the state to defeat them in a tightly contested match.

Matt Rupert's 4.5 team also finished 2nd in their flight after upsetting the top Jackson team who had previously defeated them three times during the regular season.

Mark Elliott's 5.0 team finished 3rd and were only one point away from finishing in second place.

Gayla Elliott's 4.0 team were crowned State Champions after improving their record to 18-0 after the weekend championships. They defeated Laurel, Starkville, Gulfport, Jackson and Hattiesburg in the finals. They compete next in Mobile, Alabama.

**Tennis Tip:** Serve at the body and volley to the open court. Serving directly at your opponent can often produce a weaker return and reduces the angles that the receiver can choose from. A successful serve at the body will often produce a block return to the center of your court and can often lead to an easy volley into the open court.

Have a great month and see you on the courts! **Mark Elliott...USPTA...Director of Tennis**

**Levi Patton USPTA... Head Pro, Brooks Buffington USPTA... Head Pro, Jourdan Smith...Assistant Pro**