

THE LAKES GOLF CLUB NEWSLETTER

November 2023



Happy Thanksgiving!



From The Lakes Golf Club



Members, Patrons, and Friends,

As the weather continues to cool, we see a different kind of golf bravery. In the sweltering heat of summer, one asks “Did you REALLY walk?” Now we brave the frigid mornings, heavy dew (frost-almost), and expect that the wind can make it all the more challenging in a minute. But those days where the sun is out, the air is cool, and the wind is calm seem like a true gift from the golf gods. Now, if I could only hit a good shot.

We continue to make good progress on the condition of the course. The irrigation improvement project is moving forward, and many repairs have been made. Hopefully, those pesky dry spots (like in front of #7 green) will finally get enough life-giving water to fade into a bad memory. My hat’s off to Jason, Todd, and Rodney for methodically ploughing through the tangle of twisted wires, obstinate sprinkler head solenoids, sticky gear heads, leaky connections, confusing design, and non-existent documentation to get this vital system (our very life’s blood!) back up to par (pun intended). The front nine holes are almost complete, and we expect the back nine to go even better.

Our employees and staff continue to work to give our customers the best golf experience possible. Often, this is walking a fine line when they have to be conscientious and courteous, but still enforce the rules. Folks, the days of driving up to the greens in a cart, driving carts on par 3’s, 6 player groups, and threesomes all in separate carts are over. My goal is to create an environment where everyone can enjoy a relaxing, friendly, informal, and yet organized golf experience. Most everyone, to whom I have spoken, is in total

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agreement that we can improve golf for everyone by enforcing the most basic of rules. I have instructed our staff to make this happen. So please, if you have a complaint about rules, bring them to me. And understand that our staff is doing their best to be accommodating, while holding the line on this mandate. And please keep the carts on the path when stopped at the tees and greens!

The best news is that we have selected a contractor for the new clubhouse. We are in the final stages of legalese to bind the contract to build with YMB Construction of Southport. It has been a long, arduous, negotiation but everyone should see some physical changes to our landscape within the very near future. I would like to thank all the contract competitors (even those who did not win) for the work they did and for tolerating the pressure I applied. I am looking forward to seeing some ‘vertical development’ on our clubhouse site.

I ask that you all continue to be an active participant in the improvement and maintenance of our community course. LET’S PLAY GOLF!

Respectfully,

Roger Dutton, Managing Partner

Swing “Fore” Sophia

On Saturday, November 18, over 130 golfers participated in a charity event in support of Sophia and her family. The 12-year-old Boiling Spring Lakes resident was diagnosed with brain cancer earlier this year. The event raised over \$8,000 for the family to help cover medical costs and other expenses. Thank you so much to all sponsors, participants, and other donors!



Congratulations to the first flight winners, the Miracle Movers team! The winning score was 9 under par.



Turf Talk

Happy Holidays from the golf course maintenance staff at The Lakes G.C. We hope everyone is enjoying this season with family and friends.

I would like to thank the participants that braved the elements and obstacles of our first Superintendent's Revenge. The event seemed to be well received and we look forward to making this event an annual occurrence, with some better weather hopefully.

We are still working our way through the electrical part of the irrigation system. Rodney Nelson, our technician, has gotten most of the front 9 problems repaired.

Also if anyone is still interested in pine straw for their home landscaping, we will be continuing to gather throughout the winter. Give Dale a call to set up a delivery.

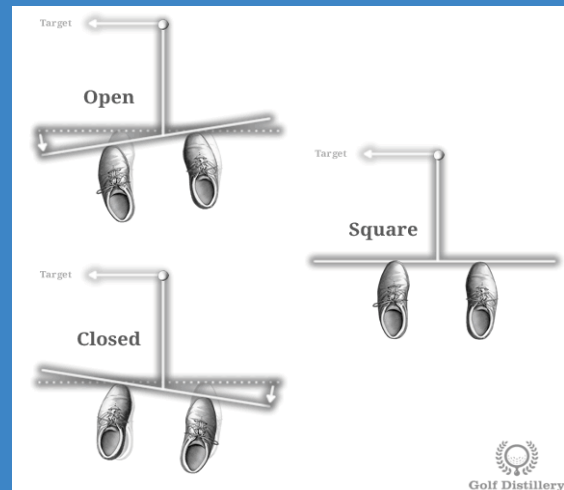
Have a safe Holiday Season and always keep in mind "Fairways and Greens."

-Jason Young,
Golf Course Superintendent

GOLF TIP OF THE MONTH

Alignment - Don't pull the trigger until you're aimed at your target!

This may seem like common sense, but it's surprisingly easy to get your alignment off if you're rushing, or if you're distracted, or if you just have a bad habit from setting up incorrectly over and over. Your club should be square to your target line, and your stance should be parallel to that.



And don't forget to make sure your knees, hips, and shoulders are all aligned with your feet. With an open stance, you're more likely to pull or slice the ball. With a closed stance, you're more likely to push or hook the ball. When you're practicing, try laying a club down at your feet to help visualize what direction your stance is pointing, and to get in the habit of always setting up with a square stance.

Upcoming Events:

Friday Night Captain's Choice

Every Friday at 3:00pm

Must sign up in advance with the Pro Shop



Email webmaster@thelakesgolf.com with comments, questions, or submissions for the next newsletter.

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