



THE SCORECARD

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF OCEAN PINES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

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FROM THE DIRECTOR OF GOLF JOHN MALINOWSKI



Summer is officially here and it's great to see so many players, both young and more mature, on our course. More people are discovering the hidden gem that is Ocean Pines, and we've been successful in introducing the sport to new, younger players, most notably with our junior golf camps.

With this increase in play and in filled tee times during the summer, the conversation always steers towards pace of play on the course.

The pace of play at Ocean Pines is 4 ½ hours for 18 holes. This pace takes into consideration the distances between greens and tees, the condition of the course and the familiarity with the course of the players. We expect that it will take golfers who don't know the course like the back of their hand to take a little more time than someone who plays the course three or four times per week. This pace is also calculated to take into account a short break between 9 and 10 and

also being able to take the carts off of the path and to the ball.

When it is necessary to restrict carts to the path, we realize and expect that the pace of play will get slower due to the extra time it will take to walk to the golfer's ball in the fairway, rough, etc.

I know that there are many golfers who play more quickly than this pace, and they often get frustrated when groups ahead are not playing at their desired pace. These players are not always receptive to hearing that the group is not "behind" and is in fact maintaining the standard pace of

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UPCOMING EVENTS

The Golf Members' Council will meet Wednesday, July 6 at 3 pm at the Country Club. This change is due to the Ocean Pines-Taylor Bank Tournament being held the following Wednesday. A portion of the agenda will deal with the logistics of the junior golf fundraiser.

July 13—Taylor Bank/OP Golf Tournament

July 15-16—OPMGA Club Championship

July 20—Jr. Golf Tournament

July 18-19—OPLGA Club Championship

July 24—Sunday Social

OTHER NEWS

The Golf Members' Council and the membership of Ocean Pines Golf & Country Club presented two scholarships to local students. On May 24 at the Stephen Decatur Senior Awards night, Allison Schumate was awarded a \$750 scholarship. Allison is a recreational golfer who is a member of the National Honor Society and has received a Gold Presidential Award for her community service work. Allison will attend Salisbury University in the fall.

On May 27 at the commencement for Worcester Preparatory School, John Meakin was awarded a \$1500 scholarship. John is a member of the National Honor Society and has played on his school's golf team since middle school. John will be attending The State University of New York Maritime College.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT RUSTY MCLENDON

Here on the Eastern Shore on the agronomic side of things, we work 10 months out of the year to help the turf survive two months of the year—July and August. When temperatures get hot and the air becomes humid for extended periods of time, a cool-season grass will use more energy than it can produce. Rain storms

during the day are deadly as well. If water puddles and inundates the plant during sunny and hot weather, turf can be killed or severely damaged in just a few hours. Also, high nighttime temperatures and elevated humidity offer no relief for the plant to recover from the high daytime temperatures. Therefore, over the

next couple of months as the temperatures soar and the environmental conditions are not favorable for the growth of cool season grasses, we may need to restrict traffic (mower and cart) on some of the fairways in order to safeguard your investment.

LADIES' ASSOCIATION NEWS



Margaret Yeats, Ginger McGovern, Karen Gerhart and Linda Frew sported American colors for the 2016 OPLGA Member-Guest tournament, "The Olympic Trials of Ocean Pines."

The OPLGA held its annual Member-Guest Tournament on June 21. This year's theme was "The Olympic Trials of Ocean Pines," and many players chose to support Team USA by wearing red, white and blue.

Tournament Chair Karen Gerhart and her helpers arranged a beautiful day of golf and lunch for the 50 players who came out.

First place went to Pat Beisler and her daughter, Sue

Quense. Second-place winners were Betty Holloway and Agnes Dowling. Meg Herrick and Suzanne Brooke took third.

Closest to the pin winners were Susan Morris on five and Chung Cho on seven.

A lunch of fried chicken, ribs, potato & pasta salad, coleslaw and desert followed.

The OPLGA's next tournament will be the Club Championship July 18-19.

MEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS

Match Play

Match Play started June 1 with 26 golfers playing in a single-elimination format. The event is in the quarter finals with eight golfers in contention. Players are given two weeks to complete their matches with July 10 as the deadline for this round. An awards ceremony should occur near August 8 with the winners honored with prizes

and hoopla!

Ryder Cup

Once again the Ocean Pines Men's Golf Association's Ryder Cup matches proved to be one of the highlights of season. The event was held Saturday and Sunday, June 25-26, and was coordinated by Jim Beisler and Kevin Hughes. In addition to OP-



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HANDICAP & RULES COMMITTEE NEWS

The purpose of the USGA Handicap System is to make the game of golf more enjoyable by enabling players of differing abilities to compete on an equitable basis. Two basic premises underlie the USGA Handicap System, namely that each player will try to make the best score at every hole in every round, regardless of where the round

is played, and that the player will post every acceptable round for peer review. The player and the player's Handicap Committee have joint responsibility for adhering to these premises.

The concept of "peer review" is an essential element of the USGA Handicap System. It allows other players to learn a player's potential abil-

ity and to form a reasonable basis for supporting or disputing a score that has been posted. Without peer review, a Handicap Index loses its inherent value, and is just a number.

To Post or Not To Post: A Player's Responsibility (Section 5 Handicap Manual)

The following scores must

be posted for handicap purposes: Post scores when at least 7 holes are played in accordance with the Rules of Golf (7-12 are posted as a 9-hole score; 13 or more are posted as an 18-hole score). Holes not played are posted as par plus any handicap strokes to which the player is

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FROM THE DIRECTOR OF GOLF

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play, which is 4 ½ hours. If the pace is moving more slowly than that, our marshals will work to move people along. There are times, however, when we may not have marshals monitoring the course, such as on days when our tee sheet isn't solidly booked or in the late afternoon when play has tapered off. In these instanc-

es, please do not hesitate to call the Golf Shop and let us know if a group seems to be moving particularly slowly. We certainly don't want the course to get clogged up and know that playing behind a slow group can be torturous. We want to know if that situation is occurring.

As I've mentioned before, I consider the membership to

be ambassadors of Ocean Pines Golf & Country Club and ask you to keep our standard pace of play in mind when you encounter groups that might be playing more slowly than you. My goal is that, at the end of the day, every player had an enjoyable round (regardless of how each may have played!) and will want to return.

While we all appreciate a round that can be completed in four hours (or fewer), an extra 30 minutes or so on the course is, all things considered, not a bad way to spend a portion of your day. I hope you agree with me and I look forward to seeing you on the links!

MEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS

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MGA members, participants included a number of guests of members. The two days of competition saw several exciting matches, and participants and guests had a great time at Saturday's steak and lobster feast held at White Horse Park.

On Saturday 48 golfers—divided into Team Red and Team Blue—teed it up for 2-man, 9-hole matches that

included a scramble and a best-ball format. Teams received two points for a win, and halved matches awarded one point to each team.

When the last putt was holed out on Saturday Team Blue held a commanding 10-point lead of 27-17.

Sunday's play included 2-man alternate shot matches and individual match play. Points for the day were in-

creased to three points for each match for the winners and two points for halved matches. Team Red dominated the individual matches and closed the gap by six points, winning the day 55-49. That left Team Blue with a scant four-point lead after the two days and the title of OPMGA Ryder Cup Champions for 2016.

Outstanding two-man teams included the Reifsneider team

of Bob Sr. and Bob Jr. who won all of their matches for Team Blue as did the team of Ron Rider and Jake Orazi. The team of Joe and Mike Zaia earned a total of 12 out of a possible 13 points for Team Blue while Steve and Mike Neal and Kevin Hughes and Jim "the Pencil" Spataro scored 12 of 13 points for Team Red.

HANDICAP & RULES COMMITTEE NEWS

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entitled. Post scores in all forms of competition: match play, stroke play and team competitions where players play their own ball.

Unfinished Holes and Conceded Strokes (Section 4)

A player who starts, but does not complete, a hole or has conceded a stroke MUST

record for handicap purposes the "most likely" score the player would have made on that hole. The most likely score may not exceed the player's Equitable Stroke Control limit. There is no limit to the number of unfinished holes a player may have in a round, provided the failure to finish is not for the

purpose of handicap manipulation.

Loose Impediments (Section 23/3)

A player's ball came to rest under a branch in a bunker. The branch had fallen from a tree during a storm. Can the player remove the branch before taking his stroke? No. The branch is a loose impedi-

ment and the player must play the ball as it lies.

The USGA website is a wonderful resource for rules and decisions. It also has some great videos that demonstrate the rules—look under "Let the Experts Explain." Whether you're a new player or seasoned golfer, check it out!