



LAKE PADDEN MEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER, SPRING 2019

Welcome to the 2019 Lake Padden Men's Club!

The LPMC is excited about what is happening at Lake Padden in 2019! We have Scott McBeath back leading our hard working maintenance crew and we have already witnessed improvements to the course this winter. Those of us playing in January experienced better greens than we saw in 2018. We will have to come up with new excuses for our poor play as the course conditions excuse clearly won't fly anymore. Golfers throughout the land have been educating themselves on the new changes to the rules of golf introduced this year. If you are anything like Mike Hatfield, you have practicing your drops from knee height in the mirror in order to achieve the most athletic appearance while getting the most favorable result. We welcome Mark Rachor as our "Rules Guru", he is very knowledgeable with certification by USGA and will help us navigate through this transition. We are proud to be playing USGA rules this season. All of us need to start remembering to hit provisional balls if we happen to launch an errant shot into the trees in an unmarked area. I look forward to seeing all of you at Lake Padden Golf Course, Phil and Sarah are doing everything they can to make our season more enjoyable. Great things are happening in 2019!

Joel Wark, President

SATURDAY TOURNAMENTS:

Welcome to this year's slate of events! There are 14 tournaments that offer up a variety of formats that appeal to all of our members. We have a mix of fun team and individual events. Score cards for each tourney are created the Friday morning prior to each event so it's very important that your entry be in and paid for by the Thursday, 5pm deadline. We also have a tournament handicap system which takes in to account tourney scores and GHIN. Read Mike Hatfield's info below for more clarification.

We will be playing USGA rules this year. This means **no point of entry rule** any more. If you think you may have lost your ball in an unmarked penalty area (woods, brush, long grass, etc.) please play a provisional. Remember, you now only have 3 minutes to look for a lost ball! I will be sending out the link to the rule changes a number of times in the Spring so it's up to you to become acquainted with the changes.

Finally, we will again have the sponsorship of Aerotech golf shafts. Chris Hilleary is donating Aerotech golf shafts and products with more details to come. See you on the course!

Steve Swank & Paul Berube, Tourney Co-Chairs

TWILIGHT LEAGUE INFO:

Twilight League now forming for 2019 season. There is still time to join a league as a team or as an individual. There are many fun events throughout the season with play on both Wednesday or Thursday nights. Season starts at the end of April so don't delay. Any questions, please contact: Craig Johnson, (360-305-2235 Email: cj.johnson@comcast.net) or Tom Bennett (360-739-9844 Email: tomb@bennettengr.com)

Craig Johnson & Tom Bennett, Twi-light Co-Chairs

HANDICAPS:

There will be no changes to the tournament handicap adjustment system for 2019. All Men's Club tournament players will receive a "boxed score" for every net 68 score shot in individual score tournaments. The second boxed score in a rolling twelve month period under the formula will result in an adjusted tournament handicap per the current handicap rules.

In order to ensure fairness and equity in the handicap system, the USGA Handicap formula relies on two basic premises: (1) individuals try their best on every shot taken, (2) golfers post every round they play.

It is widely known there are a few players who consistently shoot their handicap (or lower) in Men's Club events. Since the odds of shooting your handicap are only one out of four, and handicaps are based on a player's **potential** ability, the handicap committee will be reviewing tournament players' scores and adjusting handicaps, if warranted, to match those players handicaps to their potential.

All boxed scores and/or adjustments are posted next to the computer. Remember to post all of your scores, good or bad, immediately following your round. Your Men's Club tournament scores will be posted for you by the handicap committee. Have fun and play well.

Mike Hatfield, Handicap Chair

PRO-SHOP NEWS:

Welcome to the 2019 golf season at Lake Padden! We are excited to announce that Scott McBeath has returned as our course Superintendent and we look forward to him working his magic to have the course in tip top shape for all you events. Many of you signed up for the Premier Golf Center member rewards card last year, FREE of charge and offering discounts up to 20% on greens fee's, power cart and range balls. We encourage you to also download our app featuring special discounts and announcements only found there. We are excited to announce that the daily green fee's and Annual Membership prices all were reduced for this year, take advantage of our further discounts with 25 and 10 round play cards.

A few key dates to keep in mind:

- We will be hosting a local qualifier for the Drive, Chip & Putt on Tuesday, July 23rd. We will be looking for 30 volunteers to help the day run smooth
- Save the date of Friday, April 19th for a multi-vendor demo day. Callaway, PING, Taylor Made, Titleist and others will be represented featuring amazing one day only deals.

Phil Gaggero, PGA General Manager

SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWS:

I have to start by saying Thank You to everyone who has welcomed me back to Lake Padden. It is great to be back and I really appreciate all the kind words.

During this time of closure, we have been busy cleaning debris from the perimeters of the golf course where most of us tend to hit errant shots. This will be important as the club has decided to move away from the old "Point of Entry" local rule to the established USGA rules affecting a lost ball or unplayable lie. These areas will now be played as either a lost ball if you do not find it or unplayable if you do find it but decide it cannot be played from its spot.

At the time of this writing, these areas include most of the perimeter and interior tree lined borders of the course but there will be areas marked in RED. These areas are now defined as "Penalty Areas" .

Be sure to get with your most respected and knowledgeable Rules Guru about all the changes in this years updated version of The Rules of Golf, and I look forward to seeing all you On the Course.

Scott McBeath, Course Superintendent

USGA RULES NEWS:

The 2019 season at Lake Padden is looking pretty exciting with our return to playing golf as it is meant to be played. We will face some challenges getting used to all the changes in the 2019 rule book, as well as returning to "stroke and distance" and the use of playing a provisional ball when it appears the original ball could be lost outside a penalty area. You can find more information in rule 18.

Another change this year is the ability to do almost everything in a "penalty area" that can be done in the "General Area". You can ground your club, move loose impediments, and take practice swings. You will notice there are no more yellow stakes at Lake Padden so brush up on rule 17 and relief options for a "penalty area".

Those of you that watch golf on television have surely noticed players leaving the flagstick in the hole while putting from the green, as well as players and caddies touching the green to point out the line before the stroke is taken. And accidental movement of the ball on the green is okay (just remember to replace your ball).

Mark Rachor, USGA Rules Consultant

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