



Whidbey Golf Club Fairway News

News and Happenings from Whidbey Golf Club



2020 MOUNTAIN MIST MEN'S INVITATIONAL

By David Phay

With the so many questions surrounding outdoor activities over the past couple months our Men's Invitational was in real jeopardy of getting completely canceled for 2020. It progressed from not happening, then to playing in twosomes with a limited field, then to being able to have foursomes and ending up with 112 players. This exceeded everyone's expectations and was even more than we had play in 2019.

Going into the weekend we saw a field that I can confidently say was the lowest cumulative handicap in the history of the event with 17 players registered as a 0.0 handicap index or lower. This, I assume, was partially attributed to the hunger for a competitive event from around the region. Many of the players that made the trek to Whidbey that weekend were college players that would normally be in midseason.

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Events

**June 5th (and every
Friday):**

Member Dinner

June 13th

Whidbey Dental 2 Person
Best Ball

The Ladies Invitational has been postponed to September, see Page 4 for more information.

Whidbey Golf Club

2430 S.W. Fairway Lane,

Oak Harbor, WA 98277

www.whidbeygolfclub.com

Board of Trustees:

President – John Geragotelis

Vice President – Steve Richardson

Secretary – Dave Acton

Treasurer – Brandi Gibson

Committee Chairs:

Capital Planning – Dave Acton

Club House/Restaurant – Pam Glach

Finance/Treasurer – Brandi Gibson

Greens and Grounds – Pat Ford

Golf Activities – Jeff Waller

Membership – Steve Richardson

Special Projects – Dave Acton

Ladies Club – Linda Haslund

Managers:

Club General Manager – Arik Dahlen

arik@whidbeygolfclub.com

Head Professional – David Phay

dave@whidbeygolfclub.com

Superintendent – Trevor Thorp

360-675-6124

Chef – Kris Burns

chef@whidbeygolfclub.com

Club Hours:

Office (Tue-Fri) 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Pro Shop (Summer Hours):

Mondays: 10:00 am – 7 pm

Tue-Sun: 7 am – 7 pm

Driving Range Closes at 6 pm

Restaurant:

Wed-Sat: 11:00 am – 8:00 pm

Sundays: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Contact Information:

Phone: 360-675-5490

Business Office: Extension 2

office@whidbeygolfclub.com

House / Reservations: Extension 4

Pro Shop: Extension 1

President's Comments

by John 'Germ' Geragotelis

May was an exquisite month for golf. The Men's Invitational tournament had one of its strongest fields ever, with over 10 contestants sporting "+" handicaps. WGC Professional, Dave Phay, WGC Superintendent, Trevor Thorp, and their staffs did a remarkable job setting up the event and the golf course. As always, a ton of member volunteers provided the special touches – checking-in players, announcing the starts, marshalling, marking the course, etc. – that lift WGC tournaments head and shoulders above the rest. Thank you all!

Now that it's June, we have re-opened the restaurant under Washington's Phase 2 guidelines. The coronavirus is still lurking, so Social members do not have a "food minimum" and we ask that all people continue to practice social distancing on the premises. We also recommend and encourage customers to wear masks in the clubhouse. Of course, our take-out menu is a nice option.

As I stated last month, WGC as a business, is not out of the woods yet. May was indeed a good month with lots of outside play, including over 100 participants in the Men's Invitational. Weather and Covid-19 guidelines permitting, we hope to build on May's success in the upcoming summer months.

Another business note – if you notice areas of the course that are not being mown as before, that is probably intentional. We have become accustomed to mowing vast amounts of acreage that are not designed to be in play. Some argue that golf courses traditionally look best completely manicured, like Augusta National; other golf purists enjoy the original, natural look, like Pinehurst Number Two. Aesthetic opinions aside, one thing is certain – shrinking the mowing footprint will reduce water use, chemical use, equipment wear and tear, and man-hours (save \$\$\$). In upcoming months, we will continue economizing mower patterns moderated with the primary criterium of not making the course harder for double-digit handicaps. If you have a constructive concern or question, please share it with me via the club manager.

Finally, I need to point out a couple of changes to the Website: 1) Read this Fairway News on the public domain prior to logging in to your member account. We have a large email list so this newsletter is tailored to everyone that has, and will, visit our club. 2) Read WGC Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report on the website after you log in to your account. We strive to keep members informed on all matters.

Hit 'em straight, or hit 'em often.

GREENS REPORT

BY TREVOR THORP

May is at an end, and the beginning of summer is just around the corner. With a limited crew we have been hard at work trying to keep the best possible conditions for the membership. The week leading up to the Invite was a busy one. The tournament went well and I have heard nothing but good things from the people that played.

You may notice some areas of rough getting taller. Dave and I have designated areas that we are not going to mow anymore to save on labor and fuel expenses. The largest and most noticeable area is the right side of hole #14.



We have also changed our mowing pattern on the tees, from square to rounded corners, while expanding the playable area of the tee surface. This cuts the amount of time to get them mowed by over an hour. Starting in June, we will be leveling some of the more mounded tees with volunteer help from the greens activities committee.



I am looking forward to a busy summer as the shutdown eases and we can get back to normal golf operations with proper staffing levels. Be sure to let the greens crew staff know their hard work is appreciated when you see them on the course.

Ladies' Club News

By Linda Haslund

Welcome back to our beautiful course. It is in great shape thanks to Trevor's hard work during the closure. Thanks.

The turnout has been good and it is fun to see our friends at a safe distance. Hugs to all of you. Now that the restaurant is open, we can have lunch together with 5 to a table.

Diane & Roger Pierce, thank you again for the great job on the events & roster booklet. The two of you are a blessing to the Ladies Club. We all missed the Short & Sweet competition this year.

It has been decided by a vote of the members present on May 29 to postpone the Ladies Invitational until Sept. 10 & 11. That will give us more time to get (hopefully) back to normal. We hope everyone can participate.

If you have any questions regarding the invitational, please call Lynn Coffey, Chairperson or David Phay.



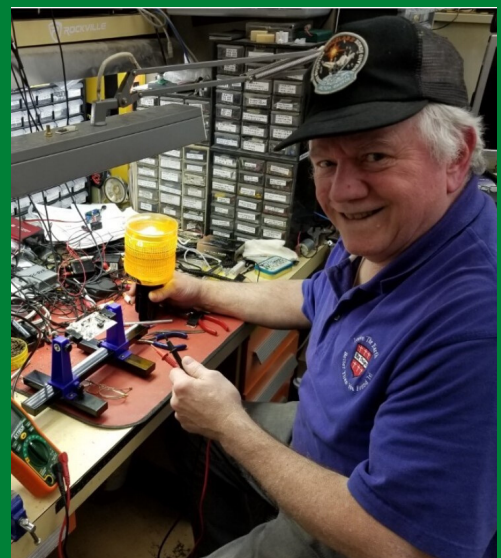
"The reason a pro tells you to keep your head down is so you can't see him laughing."

-Phyllis Diller

Volunteer Corner

A big "Thank You" to our social member Barry Rix for repairing all the Geese Away lights that were damaged in the flood.

Factory replacement of the damaged circuit boards for the seven lights would have cost over \$1,000. So we asked Barry, our tech guru, to take a look. In his home electronics lab, Barry was able to test each individual component and re-engineer the circuit boards with new parts, and successfully repaired all seven lights! We applaud Barry's effort!



What you can expect when you join us for a drink or meal, UPSTAIRS!

by Pam Glach

Our county, being approved for "Phase 2" the first week in June, has allowed us to open in a modified way. Please read all the details below and help us follow the state guidelines and avoid future service disruptions.

Restaurant/Bar hours: Wed thru Sat 11-8p, and Sun 9-5.

We may be closing the kitchen early if there are no members. Call ahead if you are coming after 6:30pm to ensure we stay open for you.

Friday Night Member Dinner and Sunday Breakfast are restarting. Please make a reservation for these popular meals. Our total capacity for the space has been decreased by 50%, which shouldn't be a problem, but making a reservation guarantees your spot. The guidelines require that we limit table groupings to a max of 5 people. So please be prepared for that when you come in.

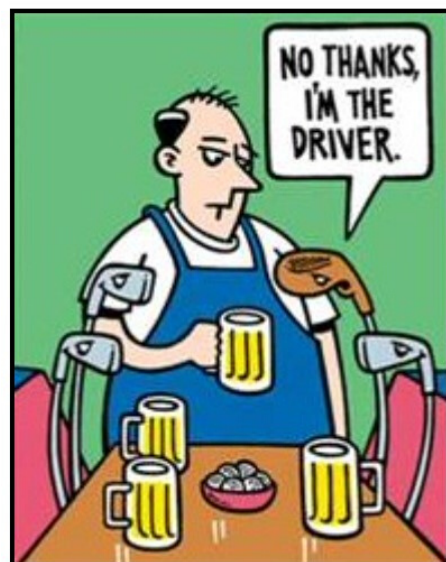
The house staff has increased cleaning protocols and removed "shared items" from the tables so that we can ensure everything is cleaned and sanitized for the next group. Hand sanitizer continues to be available at the entrance to the restaurant/bar.

We are not allowed to offer any buffets, so member appreciation buffet will not be offered in June.

House meetings for June and July will have a zoom option. If you aren't quite ready to return in person but want to join us for the call contact Arik for the meeting link and/or phone number.

Personally, I am very grateful to be a member at our club, where we can enjoy food and drinks, with friends and family, but has more limited access than other restaurants in town. I hope you feel that way too, and we see each other soon.

Next House Meeting: Wednesday, June 10th at 5:15pm



Membership News

WRITTEN BY ARIK DAHLEN

Well May was even busier than we had anticipated! Really great weather, and a full tee sheet has led to a strong month in membership!

We welcomed many new members in this month, some of whom came to us due to the closure of Gallery Golf course. The hope is that most of these new members will experience the difference of Whidbey Golf Club and enjoy their time here so much that they all stay when Gallery does open. I wanted to remind us all that we have a huge role in how new members are introduced to the WGC experience. I would encourage everyone to go say hello to anyone that you don't recognize and welcome them to our club.

As we open more fully, we will look to keep up the momentum, have some Membership Drives and restart our Membership Appreciation social events. For now, we are focusing our advertising efforts on brining new potential members to the club with the plan of converting them into Shareholders, or one of the other categories.

Please join our committee! We meet on the Wednesday prior to the board meetings at 4:30 pm in the clubhouse.

Mountain Mist Men's Invitational

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This made for an exciting Sunday final eight players:

TEE TIME 12:50

Doug Geffe Jr. 72(Swinomish Links)

Tim Wyer 73(Whidbey Golf Club)

Paul Melohusky 73(Gleneagle Golf Course)

Nick Krantz 73(Whidbey Golf Club)

TEE TIME 1:00

Chris Hatch 70(Bellingham G&CC)

Cody Roth 71(Bellingham G&CC)

AJ Davis 71(Whidbey Golf Club)

Mitch Factor 72(Eaglemont Golf Club)

As expected, the course was playing tough and only saw 4 players out of 112 manage to play to their handicap or better. This is a tribute to all the hard work that Trevor and his greens crew put in throughout the closure and leading up to the event. There were very few low gross scores on Saturday, but one player made it clear on Sunday that he had figured out how to tame the course and pull away from the field. Cody Roth fired a six under 66 with birdies on 5 out of the final 7 holes. Congratulations to Cody for shooting a great round and doing it when Pete Carroll says it counts; The fourth quarter!

On the Net side of the competition, you will find our local girls High School golf coach, Andy Wesley, a runaway winner shooting spectacular rounds of net 65-66. Rodger Johnson, in an effort to keep up, put together the low net round of the tournament on Sunday with a 64 and 10 putts on the back nine but it was a too late to catch Wesley's 13 under par total. He finished 7 behind at 138.

Mountain Mist was our Major Tournament Sponsor for this year's Men's Invitational. They deserve all our gratitude for sticking with us through all of the COVID-19 issues of late. Their business was hit hard by the shut down, but they still helped make the tournament a huge success! Thank you, Don Hart and Mountain Mist Spring Water!

For full results visit whidbeygolfclub.com and navigate the Men's Invitational using the Schedule & Results tab.



Hello Members,

It has been great seeing everyone back playing golf and really good to see foursomes! These past few months have put the club through a roller coaster of unusual decision making and it continues to this day. I will advise you to disregard the annual calendar that you may have received in the mail this past February and keep in touch with the pro shop for the up to date events as they seem to change weekly. Here is what we do know:

OHHS Athletic Scramble (June 6).

Cancelled

7 Course Clash (June 9).

Cancelled along with all the other 7 Course Clash events

2-Person Best Ball (April 25).

This event was rescheduled from April to **June 13th** and will be the only event in June right now.

Ladies Invitational (June 25-26).

Rescheduled from June to **September 10-11**

Junior Camp (June 29-July 1).

Cancelled in June and we are hoping to reschedule to sometime in August.

PGA Pro Am (July 6).

No Change (Closed All Day)

Men's Club Championship (July 11-12).

No Change (Tee Times 8:00-10:00)

5-Person Best Ball (July 25-26).

No Change except Horse Race is uncertain (Course Closed)

*If you drink, don't drive. Don't
even putt.*

~Dean Martin



Whidbey Dental Associates

Invites You To The

2020 Two Person Best Ball

Team Tee Times

Saturday, June 13, 2020



Shareholders	\$75
Members	\$80
Guests	\$90



Entry fee includes golf, range balls, lunch and prizes

\$1,000 Added to the Prize Fund

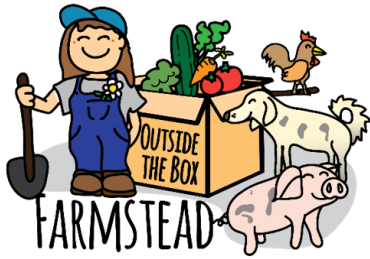
Tournament is open to all amateurs age 18 and over with a verifiable USGA handicap. Field will be divided into 2 divisions (by handicap). There will be the option, for men who qualify, to play from the white tees (to qualify for white tees your handicap and age combined must be 80+). Gross and net prizes will be awarded in each division. The tournament committee reserves the right to refuse any entry for any reason.



Whidbey Dental Associates

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For mid-July pickup!



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"Raising the Food our Grandparents Ate"

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brandi@otbfarmstead.com

503.602.1891

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**Having a Garage
Sale?**

**LET THE WGC
COMMUNITY KNOW
HERE!**

*Have Something
to Sell?*

**ADVERTISE
HERE!**

**Ads starting as low
as \$5.00 a month!**

**PROCEEDS WILL GO TO
HOUSE RENOVATIONS!**

Email inquiries to Arik Dahlen at
Arik@whidbeygolfclub.com or call
Arik at 360-675-5490 ext 2 or email
Krista at wgcnewsletter@yahoo.com