



LAKE PADDEN MEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER SPRING 2023

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Welcome to the 2023 season of the Lake Padden Men's Club! I'm sure many of you have been playing since our 2022 season ended last fall and have been impressed, as I have, at the way Mike and his crew have kept the course in top shape and an envy to the other courses in the region, the selection and service by Darcy and her crew at the Coyote Grill, and the attention and service in the pro shop. I'm looking forward to this year's season with the anticipation of a 90-yard wedge shot to a pin set at the bottom of a concave green that's as accessible as a Starbucks in a gentrified neighborhood.

Our slate of tournaments this year promises to be enjoyable and challenging and should be fun for all. One of the big changes this year is that the club championship will be held over two days to be in line with WA Golf guidelines to qualify for the State tournament. Our Wednesday and Thursday twilight leagues are shaping up to be full of competition and good times.

We have a vibrant and active Board that keeps us up to date on rules, handicaps, city parks goings on, and adding to the enjoyment of the game for the entire membership and looks forward to serving the membership. Many of the Board members have been members themselves for many years and we are always looking forward to the next generation taking over so I encourage anyone even thinking about getting further involved with the Men's Club to reach out to any of the Board members and see how you can contribute.

As I look forward to this year I tend to reflect and contemplate on the game of golf and life itself, my doctor told me to take my iron every day and live on greens. I hope you all are as

excited about the upcoming year as I am, get out to the course as much as you can.

Paul Randall-Grutter, President

TWILIGHT LEAGUE REPORT:

Twilight leagues are forming for the 2023 season. We will play on Wednesday and Thursday nights starting on March 29 and 30, running through mid-August. We plan to have 10 teams playing on each night. The Captain's Meetings will be held at 6:00 pm at the Lake Padden Coyote Grill on March 1 for the Wednesday night league, and March 2 for the Thursday night league. During the meetings, we'll discuss the scoring format, league rules, schedule for the summer, etc. Please bring the \$100 team entry fee to the meeting along with your completed roster (including the name, handicap, and contact info for each player). If you are an individual and want to join a team or form a new one, or have any other questions, please contact: Joel Wark, Thursday Night Chair (360-306-0526, email: jcwark@comcast.net) or Tom Bennett, Wednesday Night Chair (360-739-9844, email: tomb@bennettengr.com). We look forward to another great league season.

Tom Bennett and Joel Wark, Twi-Lite League Co-chairs

PRO-SHOP AND GOLF COURSE REPORT:

We are excited for the 2023 season to begin and look forward to seeing familiar and new players as well. Following 2022's amazing year for golf, our goal is to keep the momentum going in 2023. Mike Votipka and our top-notch maintenance team have the course conditions as good as we have seen at Lake Padden and he has a few more tricks up his sleeve for this year. If you have not registered for the **Premier Rewards Card** that offers up to a 20% discount on greens fees and power cart rentals this is the year to do so. The program is FREE of charge, inquire in the pro shop for more details and get signed up today.

A few additional dates to keep on your radar:

- Drive, Chip and Putt local qualifier will be held on Tuesday, July 11th so please save the date. We will be looking for 30 volunteers to assist in carry out the day's activities.
- Club fitting days for Taylor Made, Callaway, PING, Srixon and Cobra golf. These will be offered throughout the year and members are encouraged to sign up for 30-minute blocks of time to have your club needs custom fit just like the PGA Tour Players.
- We will be hosting a Western Washington PGA Chapter event on Monday, August 28th. Good chance your local PGA Pro's will need some great amateur partners so keep your game top notch.

Phil Gaggero, PGA General Manager

HANDICAP CHAIR REPORT:

Score Posting will start on **March 1, 2023**

Scores now must be posted on your personal devices either thru, wagolf.org, www.GHIN.com or the USGA /GHIN app on your phone.

Once again, a Point of emphasis is posting scores as soon as possible. Handicaps will update at midnight daily. The 2-week cycle for posting scores no longer applies, you will still receive a Bimonthly update of your handicap from WA Golf.

*The handicap system is in place to create fair play amongst different levels of golfers in our tournament and leagues. Please Post all scores high or low to keep your handicap correct.

Just a few reminders for the World Handicap System:

***Handicaps are based on your best 8 scores of the last 20.** Your handicap now changes the next day after posting a score.

***Max score per hole for posting purposes** is a Net Double Bogey, which is par + 2 strokes, plus any Handicap strokes allowed for that hole.

Tournaments- The handicap policy for our Lake Padden Men's Club Tournaments has not changed. Players will receive a "boxed score" for any net score of 68 or lower in tournament play. Two boxed scores in a rolling 12-month period will result in a

handicap modification in accordance with the policy. If you are boxed, you will be notified by email with a letter suitable for framing. The handicap committee reserves the right to adjust handicaps in Men's Club events in-order-to protect the integrity of the game.

To learn more about the World Handicap system you can go to wagolf.org website.

See you on the course,

Greg Schenck, Handicap Chair

TOURNAMENT CHAIR REPORT:

Welcome to the 2023 Lake Padden Men's Club tournament golfing season. Paul Berube and I are your tournament co-chairs and look forward to another great Tournament year. Briefly, we are the behind-the-scenes guys that try to make our tournaments run as smooth and as fun as we can while staying within rules of competition. I will send out the upcoming tourney rule sheets and reminders two weeks before each event as well as send out the results and Money Winners standings to keep you all informed.

Please get your paid entries in at the Pro Shop by EOB the Thursday prior to the Saturday event. Paul and I will do the score cards early Friday morning with the help of Phil and staff. It becomes more time consuming when players enter late and at the last moment. We try to accommodate those who are chronically late, but frankly, it's a pain in the ass so please mark on your calendar, program your smart devices or hire a reminder service to get your entries in on time!

We have a change in the way we will be determining ties. There will no longer be ties for any places in our events. With advent of the Genius computer scoring system, ties are easily broken and it's much more rewarding to win \$40 bucks for third place instead of sharing with three other players. We will also be changing the tie-breaking starting hole to #1, our number one handicap hole. It then would move to the number 2 handicap hole, number 3 handicap hole and so on, using the gross scores

to settle the tie. We have also increased the entry fees to each event. It's now \$25 for a Major event (plus \$600 added) and \$20 for the other events.

Our first event is "Opening Day" on Saturday, April 1. Check out all of this year's events on the attached Tourney Schedule. Thanks in advance for your participation. The course is in great shape and we're ready for play.

Steve Swank and Paul Berube, Tourney Co-Chairs

USGA RULES REPORT:

Just when you start to grasp the rules, the R&A and the USGA rewrite them. This happens every 4 years. Luckily the new changes are few, and the changes are in the spirit of making the rules user friendly. For our membership I will only address a couple here. The Board voted to adopt Model Local Rule L-1 that modifies the penalty for Rule 3.3b(2) in this way. If a player returns a scorecard without the hole scores being certified either by the player, the marker or both, the player gets the general penalty. The player will no longer be disqualified. The second change I will mention is the reduction of the penalty for playing an incorrectly substituted ball from the general penalty to one stroke. An example of this would be during the play of a hole, (under summer rules), a player marks his ball on the green and substitutes a "special ball" used for putting. Now such an action will only add one stroke to the score on that hole. Lastly, I would like to remind those players that enjoyed playing the "Winter Tour", that the Men's Club does not use the Point of Entry process when proceeding after the ball has been lost. Please take a moment to check out the links provided.

Mark Rachor, Rules Chair

Click on the links below for more rules information:

<https://www.usga.org/content/dam/usga/pdf/2022/rules/2023%20Principal%20Changes.pdf>

https://www.usga.org/RulesQuiz/rules_quizzes.htmlOnline

<https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/rules-hub/topics.html>

2023 LAKE PADDEN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: **Paul Randall-Grutter**

Treasurer: **Ken Brown**

Secretary: **Brad Peterson**

Tourney Chairs: **Paul Berube and Steve Swank**

Handicap Chair: **Greg Schenck**

Twilight League: **Tom Bennett (Weds) and Joel Wark (Thurs)**

USGA Rules Chair: **Mark Rachor**

Parks/Rec Representative: **Bob Norton**

At Large Members: **Dean Carpenter, Kyle Davidson, Von Smith, Kevin Kurtz**

Past President: **Rick Jansen**