

Grand Golf Gazette –September, 2017

From the desk of the Manager:

Someone once said, “Laughter is the best medicine.” However, many of us think the best medicine is 18 holes of the greatest game ever played. Regardless of which idea works best for you, here’s a cartoon that really makes sense! ☺



Source: The Telegraph Journal, Friday, September 18, 2017

Well, the 2017 golfing season is now in the home stretch. However, our club only closes officially on October 15, so don't put those clubs away just yet. The course is in the best shape ever, so even though the regular leagues are done and most of our tournaments have been held, get out there and enjoy the fall colours changing from day to day!

In the last Gazette, we commented on the number of tourists visiting our club. This trend is still strong and we continue to receive positive comments from visitors. They rave about the course conditions and friendly atmosphere promoted by our staff and golfing members. One couple “from away” who make good use of the 2-4-1 cards on sale at our pro shop stated that Grand Falls was the best course they'd played all summer! We enjoy regular small groups from the Edmundston area and even a regular group from as far away as Amqui, Quebec! Earlier this week, the Amqui group arrived with twelve golfers! These are serious golfers who off the blue tees on #1 almost reached the pond – mostly using three woods! Their repeat visits to our club speak volumes about our course layout and conditions, as well as to the warm welcome they receive here!

Leagues & Events:

- **Junior Golf Clinics:** a good number of fledgling golfers enjoyed these clinics which ended on **Tuesday, August 22**. Everyone had a good time learning the etiquette and

fundamentals of golf. Please feel free to invite a young person to join this fun group next season. These youngsters will determine the future of our club!

- **Monday Men's Twilight League:** all wrapped up as of **September 18** with **Bob Carroll** and **Fred Dube** taking top honours!
- **Tuesday Ladies' Nights:** this weekly event finished up on **September 12** with a full house of participants and lots of prizes. Pizza was served up by **Le Grand Saut Ristorante** – fondly referred to by many of us as “Pizza Boy.” Thank you, **Rita Levesque and friends**, for organizing this activity.
- **Tuesday Senior Men's and Thursday Senior Mixed Scrambles:** these two groups held their wrap-up scramble on **Thursday, September 14**. Golf was followed by a traditional turkey dinner served up by **Lucy McLaughlin and friends**. In recognition of their efforts, all club staff members were invited to enjoy some turkey with all the fixin's. From later comments, **Joe, Michel, Bernard, Tim, Paul** and **Dominic** really appreciated this small gesture of appreciation. In lieu of the normal distribution of prizes, each regular senior participant was awarded a commemorative **“CANADA 150”** golf shirt. From the smiling faces shown below, it's obvious that this group really knows how to enjoy a good time!



- **Friday Night Fever:** This event was popular again this year! It wrapped-up on **September 8** with a full house of golfers who enjoyed a nine-hole scramble followed by a delicious chicken & ribs dinner supplied by **Pizza Delight**.
- **Saint John Valley Senior Men League:** To apply or obtain details, please contact **Jacques Bossé** (473-4815) or **Earl Toner** (473-6038 or 475-5190).

- **Saint John Valley Senior Ladies League:** To apply or obtain details, please contact **Lucy McLaughlin** (473-6645 or 475-8677).
- **Ladies gOlf League "LOL":** to apply or obtain details, please contact **Lucy McLaughlin** (473-6645 or 475-8677) or **Laurette McLaughlin** (473-5042).

Reciprocals with neighbouring golf courses:

There's still time left to take advantage of reduced or even FREE green fees at the following courses:

- **Aroostook Valley Country Club:** five free rounds per summer with the rental of a power cart. Obtain your personal punch-card at our clubhouse. Call 1-800-980-8747 to book tee-times.
- **Club de Golf de la Vallée du Témiscouata:** free green fees with the rental of a power cart. Call (418) 854-0539 to book tee-times.
- **Fraser Edmundston:** five free rounds per summer with the rental of a power cart. Obtain your personal punch-card at our clubhouse. Call (506) 739-6190 (48 hours in advance) to book tee-times.
- **Club de Golf de Rivière du Loup:** \$30 green fees including cart rental. Call (418) 862-7745 (48 hours in advance) to book tee-times.

Completed Tournaments/Events (since the last Gazette):

Wednesday, August 9 – Ladies 2 Person Scramble: eighteen teams played a fun-filled Texas Scramble followed by prizes and munchies at the end of the day. Top honours went to the team of **Laurette McLaughlin & Lucy McLaughlin who carded a final score of 69.**

Friday, August 11 – Valley Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament: 66 players turned out to enjoy this annual scramble with lots of prizes and other fun activities. Everyone enjoyed the all-day BBQ provided by **A&A Ouellette** of Drummond, NB. Did you know that The Valley Chamber of Commerce is committed to encouraging the economic and social development of Drummond, Grand Falls, Saint-André and Saint-Léonard?

Saturday, August 19 – Royal Canadian Legion Branch 21: 36 players came out for a good time in support of our Veterans. A post-golf steak supper was served at The Legion at 126 Broadway Blvd. Did you know that The Legion is Canada's largest Veteran and community service organization? Legion membership is available to anyone who commits to promote Remembrance, support Legion programs, and volunteer their time to provide essential services within their communities.

Saturday & Sunday, August 26-27 – Toner Home Hardware Club Championship:

This competitive two day event is always a fun challenge. This year, our champions are: **Men – Bernie Albert; Ladies – Denise Tardif; and, Seniors – Gilles Picard.**



L-R: André Levesque; Gilles Picard; Denise Tardif; Bernie Albert

Friday, September 1 – 9th Annual Town of Grand Falls Golf Tournament: Despite the weather – 10 degrees Celsius and some rain – 90 players showed up for this fun tournament and all-day BBQ. The grills were manned by Paul Michaud and some of the Grand Falls Town councillors who flipped burgers and hot dogs with a smile; sometimes a wet smile, but a smile all the same! Unfortunately, no one won the \$10,000 hole-in-one prize, but better luck next year folks!

Saturday, September 9 – Special Olympics: 64 golfers participated in this worthwhile fundraiser. Golf was followed by a scrumptious spaghetti dinner put on by **Maurice Rivard** of **Kozy Resto Bar**. Again, no one won the \$10,000 hole-in-one prize, but one of these opportunities is bound to come to fruition one of these days. However, you have to compete to be eligible for such a prize. Did you know that Special Olympics New Brunswick enriches the lives of Canadians by delivering world-class sport programs to people with an intellectual disability. Their programs cater to all ages and a wide range of abilities.

Upcoming Tournaments/Events:

Saturday, September 23 – 3 person Scramble: with a shotgun start at noon, this will be the last tournament of this golfing season. Cost is \$120 per team for current members or \$150 per team for future members (skins included). Division 1 is open and without restrictions. For Division 2, teams are allowed only one player with a handicap of 7 or under, with a minimum total team handicap of 30. Call the clubhouse at 473-4494 to register.

Hole-in-One Club:

We have two new members of this exclusive club!

- **Camille Michaud** scored an ace on Hole #11 on **Tuesday, September 5.**
 - **Dean Larabee** also scored a hole-in-one on Hole #11 on **Friday, September 8.**
- Earlier this season, **Doritha Lapointe, Norman Leduc, and Fernand (Fern) Dube** all scored holes-in-one. Congratulations to **Camille, Dean, Doritha, Norman** and **Fern!** Remember, the more you play, the better your chances to score a hole-in-one!

Gazette Golf Tips and other stuff:

Fall arrives this week and using one more club than usual might pay some huge dividends to your game. Right now the fairways are soft and, especially in the mornings when full of dew, a little wetter than usual. Even the air is heavier than normal. As a result, your balls won't carry as far as they usually do. So, instead of a nine iron, use an eight or seven; or instead of a six iron, use a five. The extra few yards you'll gain should help get you to the green and lower your score. The greens are also generally softer than they are in mid-summer. So, don't expect your balls to run too much. Aim closer to the pin than usual for better results!

Until next time....

Over the past few years we've made some great improvements to our club. We've fixed the soggy ground on the 12th fairway; installed a new road-sign, new waste/recycling bins, and new bridges on Hole #16; replaced the warning sign on Hole #6; refurbished the clubhouse balcony; cleaned-up the brush around Holes 15 and 16; and have spruced up the flower gardens. Dependent on budget, we'll continue to make additional improvements, where possible. YOU CAN HELP by bringing green-fee guests and new members to our club. Remember, if you sponsor a new member, you'll save \$50 off your own annual membership fee! You can also help by using the waste/recycling bins, raking sand traps, replacing divots on fairways, and fixing ball marks on greens. If our staff don't have to worry about such chores, they'll have more time for other tasks. If you have a suggestion for improvements or any other comments, please call 473-4494 or email us a short note to golfing@grandfallsgolf.nb.ca.

As noted earlier, we're in the home stretch of the 2017 golfing season; however, depending on the weather, the fairways will continue to be groomed until **Friday, October 6** and the greens until **Saturday, October 7**, so take advantage of those crisp mornings and warm afternoons to play a round or two or three or twenty before we close!

André Levesque

Gérant/Manager

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