

Grand Golf Gazette – Friday, May 19, 2017

From the desk of the Manager:

As you know, last season the course was in great shape, “*the best we’ve ever seen*” said most golfers. Well, hold onto your hats guys & gals, because this season is going to be even better! Our course has wintered well and the greens are nothing short of SPECTACULAR – and it’s only the middle of May!

Our irrigation system is running great and Michel Fraser and his grounds-crew have installed new cups in all greens and placed new markers on every tee-box. Unfortunately, our “pit-stop” cabin between the 16th green and 7th tee-boxes has been condemned. But don’t despair, as the boys have installed two porta-potties as a temporary measure pending the cabin’s replacement.

Top off superlative course conditions with “NO RATE INCREASE” and you just know you’re going to love getting out to play this summer! Bring a friend out to play and enjoy the course. Better yet, sign-up a new member and get \$50 off your own 2017 or 2018 membership!

Despite the great conditions, as usual at this time of year, please watch out for wet spots – especially on the back nine!

Leagues & Events:

- **Junior Golf Clinics:** will be held for ages 5-14 each Tuesday from 08:00–9:15 a.m., from July 4 to August 22 (8 clinics). Each clinic will include basic instruction, games, and other activities. Cost is \$50.00 per junior, tax included (free to junior members of the club). Register at the clubhouse from May 15 to June 30.
- **Monday Men’s Twilight League:** Format is two-member teams with a total combined minimum handicap of 15 per team. Each match includes 3 holes alternate, 3 holes best ball, and 3 holes scramble. Cost of \$25 per player (payable by June 9), includes an end-of-season party. This league is a great opportunity for some competitive fun. Register with André or Joe at the clubhouse (473-4494) by June 7, as the league will start in mid-June.
- **Tuesday Senior Men’s Scrambles:** Senior men meet each week at 9:00 am for fun & fellowship. Non-member guests enjoy a reduced green fee of \$25. All players will be asked to donate \$5 per 18 hole scramble towards weekly prizes and the wrap-up dinner & prizes in the fall. No need to register, just show up and join the fun! This league starts on Tuesday, June 6 – coordinated by Lucy McLaughlin (473-6645 or 475-8677).
- **Tuesday Ladies’ Night:** These nights offers an opportunity for both members and non-members to enjoy the camaraderie that our club offers. They also encourage future membership. Format is a 9 hole scramble with a 5:45 p.m. shotgun start, followed by a light supper. Cost is \$10 for members and \$20 for future-members.

This league starts on June 6. Call the clubhouse to register – coordinated by Rita Levesque (475-5527).

- **Thursday Senior Mixed Scrambles:** Senior men & ladies meet each week at 9:00 am for fun & fellowship. Non-member guests enjoy a reduced green fee of \$25. All players will be asked to donate \$5 per 18 hole scramble towards weekly prizes and the wrap-up dinner & prizes in the fall. No need to register, just show up and join the fun! This league starts on Thursday, June 8 – coordinated by Lucy McLaughlin (473-6645 or 475-8677).
- **Friday Night Fever:** Open to both gentlemen & ladies, members & non-members, the young & the not-so-young, and both pros & novices – heck, if you're alive & kicking and enjoy a good time – come on over for our weekly 9 hole Friday night scrambles! Pick your own foursome or we'll pick one for you, and enjoy a 5:45 p.m. shotgun start, followed by a light supper. Cost is \$10.00 for members and \$20.00 for future-members. Please register by noon each Friday at the clubhouse (473-4494). **"THE FEVER" STARTS ON JUNE 9.**
- **Saint John Valley Senior Men League:** join in some friendly cross-border competition up & down the valley (June 7 – Aroostook; June 21 – Woodstock; July 5 – Limestone; July 19 – Portage Hills; August 2 – Covered Bridge; August 16 – Long Lake; August 30 – Edmundston). 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:** enjoy some friendly competition up & down the valley (June 28 – Aroostook; July 12 – Fort Kent; July 26 – Mars Hill; August 16 – Caribou; September 6 – Va Jo Wa). To apply or obtain details, please contact Lucy McLaughlin (473-6645 or 475-8677).
- **Ladies gOlf League "LOL":** this league uses the Stableford format with all scores entered on the Golf Canada Score Centre. The "LOL" offers some friendly competition played according to a flexible schedule. This league will be active by mid-June. To register, please contact Lucy McLaughlin (473-6645 or 475-8677) or Laurette McLaughlin (473-5042).

Reciprocals with neighboring golf courses;

Reciprocal arrangements with other courses in the region offer our members the opportunity to "golf around" at reduced or even FREE green fees at the following:

- **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.

Tournaments/Events:

We expect to host a dozen or more tournaments this season. The first one will be one of our returning annual events:

- **June 17:** Tournoi de l'Écllosion" – an 18 hole scramble followed by a half-BBQ-chicken dinner and prizes. Cost is \$40 per member and \$55 per future-member. To register, please contact Jocelyne Deschenes (445-2304), le Centre de l'Écosion (445-3109), or the clubhouse (473-4494). This is one of the principal fundraisers for this charitable centre for persons with special needs. Come on out and have some fun while supporting a very worthy cause! // *Un « scramble » de 18 trous suivie d'un souper de demi-poulet barbecue et des prix. Le coût est de 40 \$ par membre et de 55 \$ par membre-futur. Pour vous inscrire, veuillez contacter Jocelyne Deschenes (445-2304), le Centre de l'Écosion (445-3109), ou le clubhouse (473-4494). C'est l'une des principales levée de fonds pour ce centre de soin pour les personnes ayant des besoins spéciaux. Venez et amusez-vous bien, tout en soutenant une cause très spéciale!*

Hole-in-One Club:

Surprise! Surprise! – no holes-in-one yet! However, the season is only just getting started, so we expect to see some names in this space very soon – will yours be one of them?

Remember, the more you play, the better your chances for a hole-in-one!

Gazette Golf Tips and other stuff:

Again this year, we'll provide some helpful tips starting next month. We will also introduce some of the people who ensure your rounds are 100% enjoyable. We'll start off with an *old* face in a *new* setting:

- Joe Dube – a member of our grounds-crew for the past four years, Joe has moved inside as André's assistant and the main "go-to" person for anything and everything in the clubhouse. Joe came to our club after 34 years with Canada Bread (Boulangier Lévesque) where he supervised sales & marketing and gained valuable experience in planning, organizing and serving the public. So, whether you want to book a tee-off, organize a tournament or just wish to order a beverage and a snack; Joe's your man!

Do you know of someone who might wish to advertise on one or more of our tee-signs or waste/recycling receptacles? Please invite potential sponsors to contact André or Joe at the clubhouse (473-4494).

- Tee-sign sponsorship is \$500 + tax, per sign, per season.

- Waste/recycling receptacle sponsorship is \$220 + tax per door, per season.

Our entire team is looking forward to making your 2017 golfing season as memorable as possible. For instance, did you know that all club members are automatically signed-up as “Bronze Members” of Golf Canada for score tracking and other features? For those who enjoy a more competitive experience, ask about Gold Memberships at the clubhouse to obtain an official handicap factor plus other benefits - just \$35!

I look forward to seeing you all out on the course soon!

André Levesque

Gérant/Manager