

The Prez Sez

We have ended another successful season. A full slate of events produced many winners. Our annual awards banquet proved that. We had one of our largest turnouts ever with 125 guests. There were 27 award winners from 2009. The evening started off with a great announcement from General Manager Kelly Beymer. Starting this year we will be offering a new membership package. When you pay your dues, we will be mailing you a packet that includes \$70 worth of discounts for the Golf Course and Riverrock Grill & Alehouse. This is a first for Maplewood. When you get the opportunity please thank Kelly, this is a great thing for all of us. We needed something like this to keep the members we have and to hopefully attract new members. With that being said we did have a 15% drop in membership this past year, down to 380. But on the up side participation in our events was great. We averaged almost 100 players in all the major events and even saw an increase many of the others. Your men's club continues to be very strong, and it shows for we paid back to you over \$29,000 in book credit. The awards ceremony ended with the presentation of the Hall of Fame award to longtime member Tom "Moose" Staudt. There were lots of door prizes and raffle drawings. We also would like to thank member Matt Johnston and his band Spider Noon for providing the entertainment. Everybody had a great time.

Now on to this year. Once again your Tournament Director Doug Mills has put together another great schedule. Please check the website and watch for the emails that he will continue to send out. This has been a great tool of communication. If you aren't receiving emails from us or GHIN then we don't have your email address. Please remember to include this when you pay your dues. Also if you have any information that changes during the year please let us know. By using email we have been able to save almost \$800 annually on printing and mailing. These savings get passed on to you by increasing our added money in events. It would be great if we could increase our membership this coming year. I would like to challenge all of you to bring in a new member. I know most of you know somebody who left for one reason or another. Let's try to get these members back.

Let's also not forget to thank the Pro-shop for all the work they do. The staff in the pro-shop is always there to help and go the extra mile to ensure that all of our events are run in a very professional manner. They are also there to assist with your golfing needs. And don't forget the greens crew. This past year was probably one of the most challenging of all. They did a great job in reacting quickly to the pythium blyte fungus that struck many golf courses on the west side. The ones that didn't catch this in time have had to re-sod a number of greens at their facility. They are now reacting to the challenge that the deep freeze presented this winter. We all need to be patient during this time, for Steve and his crew are working feverishly to ensure that we will continue to have a great place to play.

The past few months we held our bi-annual election. We thank all of you that voted. We do have a change as a result of this. I would like to announce that Jerry Norsby will be replacing Mark Maples as a trustee for the next two years. Join me in thanking Mark for his time on the board. He has been a great asset and did a great job while serving you. We are looking forward to having Jerry on the board. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank all of you for your vote of confidence to continue as your president. Thru the years we have made many changes, some good some bad. I just want you to know that I am honored to be your president and will continue to do what is best for you. The board members that you have elected will also continue to work hard for you. I would like to give a special thanks to your Rules Chairman, Dragan Jagnjic. This past year he was instrumental in learning the TPP software. This has been a great asset for all our tournaments. We know that you all liked having the score sheets, but we will continue to print and post results periodically during events.

Don't forget this is your club and your input is very valuable. We have a monthly membership meetings and you are encouraged to attend. The schedule of meetings can be found in this news letter and on the website. When you pay your dues please fill out all the information, and include your email address. This has been a great way to get your club information and you will receive your handicap revisions in a timely manner.

The Prez

2010 – Can It Really Be A New Decade Already?

It's hard to believe that we're just a couple of weeks away from the first Men's Club event for 2010. Unlike past years, we will be starting the season with the 5-Man Scramble. This is traditionally the tournament that gets the best participation, so we decided to open the season with our biggest field. Overall event participation was down slightly in 2009, but we still posted over \$29,000 to member's accounts through tournaments and weekly competitions. Please keep in mind that all tournaments require pre-payment, three of which are upon signing up (see schedule below). One change for 2010 is an increase in the entry fee for tournaments from \$15 to \$20. This is in direct response to input we have received from the membership over the last couple of years indicating they would like to see payouts increased.

2010 dues must be paid prior to playing in any tournaments listed below.

Date Tournament

Feb 20th 5-Man Scramble

Mar 20th Tombstone

Apr 17th Spring Field Day

May 8th Seniors Championship

May 22nd (*) 2-Man Team Match Play (36 holes in one day if you win your 1st match)

June 1st – 30th President's Cup

June 12th & 13th (*) 2-Man / 2-Day (Scramble/Best Ball)

Calcutta for 2nd day

July 10th Summer Field Day

July 24th & 25th (*) Match Play (First Two Rounds)

Aug 7th & 8th Club Championship

Aug 14th Club Championship (Low 8 gross & ties)

Sept 25th 4-Man Team – (3) Net

Oct 9th Fall Field Day

Oct 23rd 2-Man Triple Play

Jan 22, 2011 Banquet

(*) – Pre-Pay at Sign-up (*Pocket schedules are available in the Pro Shop*)

Your Board is extremely excited about the new membership package that we have been able to put together with a great deal of help from Kelly Beymer. Our Men's Club now has a competitive offering that should help to draw new members to Maplewood. Tell your friends that may have been contemplating a change that ours is the best overall value in the area. We averaged 83 players per tournament last year. However, with this new package and the great facilities and staff at Maplewood it is my goal to increase this number by at least 20% in 2010!

I look forward to seeing you throughout the year, and don't hesitate to let me know if you have ideas that could improve our tournaments and the experience at Maplewood. As is the case each year, I believe we owe Kelly, Mike and the Staff a big "Thank You" for all their efforts in putting on another successful Winter Series! See you at the 5-Man Scramble! Remember you can't win if you don't enter!!!

Doug Mills

Tournament Director

Western Washington Sweeps News

Many of you may not be aware, but we are a member of the W.W.G.A.. This association has member courses throughout Western Washington. They run numerous events throughout the year. These are a two man team crossover and individual gross and net. The schedule includes some great courses that you may not normally go play. The signups for these events are posted on the Men's Club board and if you have any questions let me know. I would be glad to give you more information. The events run Saturday – Monday. You can play on any of the days or choose to play all three.

Gene Knox

W.W.G.A Rep / President

W.W.G.A. Schedule

Tournament Date

Madrona Links Feb 28, Mar 1, 2

Dungeness Golf Course March 14, 15, 16

Brookdale April 18, 19, 20

Whispering Firs May 2, 3, 4

Meadow Park May 16, 17, 18

The Classic June 6, 7, 8

Lipoma Firs June 27, 28, 29

Riverside (Chehalis) July 18, 19

Lipoma Firs August 1, 2, 3

West Seattle August 22, 23, 24

Whispering Firs September 12, 13, 14

Maplewood September 19, 20, 21

Dungeness October 17, 18, 19

Madrona Links Oct 31, Nov 1, 2

2009 Award Winners

2- Man Best Ball / Scramble (36 Holes)

1st Div. Brian Holmberg / Jason Pedersen 119.75

2nd Div. Justin Mentink / Darren Case 122.25

3rd Div. John Lewis / Bill Hickok 125.50

Seniors Championship

Seniors (50 – 59) Dave Rosa 64

Super Seniors (60 – 69) Terry Montieth 69

Legends (70 – up) Ed Clendenning 72

Hole In Ones

Ross Barta #14 08/26/09

Jerry Norsby #06 09/12/09

Jay Graves #14 10/28/09

Field Day (Low Net of the Field)

Spring Jonathan Taylor 67

Summer Dave Whipple 61

Fall Jeff Johnson 64

Presidents Cup

1st Div Randy Beane 134

2nd Div Jay Graves 134

3rd Div Neal Diemert 138

Ed McCaffrey / Gordy Nielson Memorial

Justin Mentink / Darren Case

\$3600 was raised for Jr. Golf

(We will be sponsoring a Jr. Tournament)

Club Championship

Club Champion Anuj Bahl (68, 70, 74 = 212)

Net Champion Dave Whipple

1st Div Tim Pilgrim

2nd Div Russ Kilcup

3rd Div Bill Schuman

4th Div Santos Saloy

Match Play Championship

1st Div Anuj Bahl

2nd Div Scott Sutton

3rd Div Dave Whipple

Leading Money Winner

Anuj Bahl \$868.00

Golfer of the Year

1st Bill Schuman 200.00

2nd John Sheen 199.25

3rd Dan Cabot 192.25

4th Anuj Bahl 185.00

5th Jerry Dronen 182.50

Most Improved

John Dewyne Improved from 11.2 to 7.4

Jack Merrill Hall of Fame Award

Tom "Moose" Staudt

Do We Need to Worry About the New Groove Rule Change?

If you are reading this article – definitely NOT!

Every couple of years the USGA and R&A (the two world golf governing bodies) announce the new rule changes. This time around their hard work produced ONE rule change!!! I am sure you have heard of it mentioned on TV golf broadcasts gazillion times and what the impact (or not) it will have on the game. The new rule is regarding the grooves on the face of the irons - I guess they have to do their part to stimulate the economy. Without going into too much detail, unless you are playing on any of the pro tours or major amateur tournaments (surprising no Maplewood tournaments qualify as major amateur tournament) the change won't affect us until 2024.

Quick Recap of the rule change;

In 2010, the new groove applies to golfers on professional tours. Manufacturers can continue to make the non-confirming clubs thru 2010 and stores can sell them thru 2011. Major amateur tournaments implement the new rule in 2014. Recreational golfers don't need to worry about the rule change until 2024 at the earliest. Free investment tip for "buy and hold" investors (any left?) - You can load up on the non-confirming clubs in the next couple of years and make a killing in the '20s.

May your best shots in '09 be your worst in 2010!

Dragan Jagnjic

Rules Chairman

4050 Maple Valley Highway

Renton, Washington 98055

Hello gentlemen!

Well I'm definitely excited to say (knock on wood) that we are coming out of winter and haven't been closed due to snow or extreme flooding! Both the Maintenance and Pro shop crews have done an outstanding job again this past year and I know the entire Maplewood team is looking forward to a great 2010. Mike, Kirk and Chris put on another successful Winter Tournament Series. Thank you to all who participated! We (Maplewood and RiverRock Grill) are also excited about the "new" benefits that will be extended to new and renewing members. When dues are paid the new package will now include: (approx. \$70 value)

One 18 hole weekday green fee

\$10 off a ½ hour lesson – (instructor of choice)

Free Birthday Dinner (\$15 value)

Complimentary Pitcher of Beer

Complimentary Appetizer

The one larger project we have this year will happen at the end of the season and should not affect any playability on the course. We will be replacing the irrigation pump system in our pumphouse, which is over 20 years old. Lastly, I sent out an article regarding the problems affecting almost all Northwest golf course greens, and the health of ours. Again, Steve Meyers and his crew have been very proactive in keeping our greens as healthy as possible through this “new” trend of disease, and have done a great job of warding off a major outbreak. If anyone did not receive this article from me and would like a copy please let me know.

As always please call, email or stop by my office if you have any questions.

Again Thank You for being a member at Maplewood!

Kelly

Monthly Meetings have been
changed to Wednesday's.

Jan. 4th..... Jul 7th

Feb 3rdAug 4th

Mar 3rdSep 1st

Apr 7th..... Oct 6th

May 5thNov 3rd

Jun 2ndDec 1st