

# Grants Pass Golf Club



# TEE to GREEN NEWS

230 Espey Rd. ❖ Grants Pass, OR 97527 ❖ Pro Shop 476-0849 ❖ Office 476-2454

August 2009

## Welcome New Members

Ralph & Kim Kozak 226-6033  
Allen & Cindi Bergstrom 474-3272

## So Long Old Members

Neale Schrimpf  
Jack James

## August Events

Ladies Club Championship 1st Round	5
GPGC Men's Club	5
Men's Club Championship 1st Round	6
GPGC Seniors	7
Friday Night Couples Mixer #8	7
Club Championship	8-9
Town Hall Meeting 5:30pm	12
Board Meeting 5:30pm	13
Youth for Christ Tournament 1:30pm	14
GPGC Men's Club	19
Friday Night Couples Mixer #9	21
Sponsors Tournament	23
The Scramble	29-30

## Greetings from your Board

Grants Pass Golf Club is one of a very few clubs where all members are equal shareholders. Our Club is here to provide the members and their guests with an enjoyable golf experience, a high level of service and friendliness, and to develop and maintain programs and activities that promote the facility from within and throughout the community. To achieve these goals, the Board must manage your money in the most efficient manner possible. This is especially important in the very difficult economic environment that we all face. Since the beginning of this fiscal year, the Board has been carefully evaluating the operations of the Club including our financial situation. We are also reviewing the operations of other clubs, attempting to identify what has made some clubs more successful than others. The result of this investigation is that we are convinced that the current method of managing our Club with a Board of Directors has many significant disadvantages and should be changed. It is the conclusion of this Board that a General Manager should be hired for GPGC. The General Manager would be responsible for the day to day operations of the Club, including setting budgets, controlling expenses, increasing revenue and managing our employees. The General Manager would report to the Board of Directors. There are many questions and issues that need to be addressed regarding this proposed change. In this Newsletter, we will share with you some of what we have learned from our past nine months of investigation. One key observation that we have learned is that just about every 18 hole golf course built in the last decade has a General Manager rather than a part time Board of Directors managing operations. See the chart for a comparison of the Board of Director's and General Manager's approach to managing our Club.



Marv Ransom  
President

## Nominating Committee

We have several Board members that will end their term in December. The Director of the Nominating Committee is Mike Forshay. If you are interested in running for the Board or know of someone who is interested, please give Mike a call at 474-3525. Mike will provide you with a statement of interest. We need your response no later than Sept. 10th.

One obvious question that must be answered is "how will we pay for a General Manager"? Other golf courses have found that because a GM is a full time experienced manager they were able to save money through improved control of expenses. We certainly expect that similar opportunities exist here at GPGC. However, the easiest way to see how the salary of a GM would be justified is to look at increasing public revenue. Remember, our intention to increase public play is not because we are concerned about providing the public golfer with another golf course to play. It is solely intended to provide significant benefits to our members in the form of additional revenue to maintain and improve our course and to minimize the need for increasing dues. Our Summer Special is a temporary program to attract public golfers to our course. After this special is over, there will be an opportunity to increase public play in the afternoons that will significantly increase revenue to our Club with minimal impact to our member's access to the course. To be successful it will require consistent attention to the greens fees of the local courses we compete with for public play, adjustment of our greens fees to remain competitive, and monitoring the feedback from our members, not just for a month or two but on an ongoing basis. With careful management of public play a GM could increase the revenue from the present level of approximately \$60,000 a year to over \$220,000 a year. To achieve this objective we would need to attract just 5 more public foursomes per day during the summer season and two more foursomes a day in the off season. Remember there are about 22 unused tee times every day even in the busiest months of the year. In addition, this increased level of public play would mean even more revenue from the driving range and the Pro Shop. The total revenue increase would be more than three times the salary of a GM.

I am sure there are still questions and concerns regarding this proposed change. However, it is important to realize that the move to a GM is not an untested concept nor is it "breaking new ground". Almost all recently built courses are managed this way and most older courses are making this change. We want to have the opportunity to answer your questions and listen to your comments, so please plan to come to the **second Town Hall meeting on Wednesday, August 12th at 5:30 PM.**



## From the Pro Shop

Well summer is half over and we have had a very busy year. The Grand Slam sponsored by Copeland Landscape Supply was an excellent event which drew rave reviews. Thank you to the Ausland family for your continued sponsorship. Here is a list of the winners:

### **Best Ball Gross**

1.Ryan Schaefer & Ryan Melnychuk	31
2t.Dan McLaughlin & Gene Napier	36
2t.Gary Schaefer & Lynn Myrick	36

### **Best Ball Net**

1t.Gene Chavez & Joe Brown	29
1t.Ross Jesswein & Ross Jesswein Jr	29
3t.Steve & Nancy Ausland	30
3t.Paul Biddle & Bob Blair	30

Kent DeRocher  
Head Golf Professional

### **Alternate Shot Gross**

1t.Ryan Schaefer & Ryan Melnychuk	37
3.Jennifer Ausland & Johnna Nealy	39
4t.Grant Brown & Terry Nelson	40
4t.Matt Bilyeu & Rob Holland	40

### **Alternate Shot Net**

1.Doug Milburn & Enno Duden	32
2t.Steve & Nancy Ausland	34
2t.Tom Jarvis & Robin Jones	34
4t.Gene Chavez & Joe Brown	35

### **Chapman Gross**

1t. Ryan Schaefer & Ryan Melnychuk	36
1t. Matt Bilyue & Rob Holland	36
4. Ross Jesswein & Ross Jesswein Jr	37

### **Chapman Net**

1. Gene Chavez & Joe Brown	31
2. Dan McLaughlin & Gene Napier	31
3. Paul Biddle & Bob Blair	32

### **Scramble Gross**

1. Ross Jesswein & Ross Jesswein Jr	30
2. Ryan Schaefer & Ryan Melnychuk	31
4t.Chad Guthrie & Jack DiMatteo	33
4t.Gary Schaefer & Lynn Myrick	33

### **Scramble Net**

2t.Rich Booth & George Roeske	28
2t.Bob & Lavone Kirkwood	28
4t.Marv Ransom & Rob Pratt	29
4t.Grant Brown & Terry Nelson	29

### **Grand Slam Gross**

1. Ryan Schaefer & Ryan Melnychuk	135
3. Ross Jesswein & Ross Jesswein Jr	144
4. Gary Schaefer & Lynn Myrick	149

### **Grand Slam Net**

1. Gene Chavez & Joe Brown	125
2. Paul Biddle & Bob Blair	129
3. Rich Booth & George Roeske	130
4t.Grant Brown & Terry Nelson	131
4t.Doug Milburn & Enno Duden	131

The Club Championship will be on August 5 – 9, make sure you sign up for the most important tournament of the year. The last half of the summer brings in a lot of tournaments to Grants Pass Golf Club. We have the Kaite Davis Tournament on July 25<sup>th</sup>. The Seniors play on August 7<sup>th</sup> and the Youth for Christ Tournament is on Friday August 14<sup>th</sup> with a 1:30 Shotgun start. A new tournament “The Scramble” is on August 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> the format is the same as the old “Gold River Scramble” entries are in the pro shop. That will bring us to the end of the month with Labor Day right around the corner. What a perfect time to come out and participate in your club. The ladies Cave Country Classic will return on the 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> of September.

The junior program is up and running at full speed with over 100 juniors participating. It’s great to see the future of GPGC participating in this program. The junior club championship is on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. The final Awards banquet is scheduled for Thursday August 6<sup>th</sup> with a quick round of golf followed by a BBQ dinner and the presentation of the Junior Club Championship Trophies.

A couple of things to be aware of when you come out to the golf course, first please check in when you arrive so that we know that you are here. Even if one individual in each group checks in and lets us know who is playing, this will help us out if we need to find someone in case of an emergency. Second, when you are using the range please be aware of players coming up the 9<sup>th</sup> fairway as we have had a few very close calls.

*Birdies Forever, Kent*

## Ladies Golf

One hundred-twenty women from all over southern Oregon and northern California enjoyed a wonderful day of golf on Wednesday, July 8. Thanks to the many members that played and especially to Mary Dabbs and her great committee for a fabulous job of handling all of the details; also to the guys that helped. We want to encourage everyone to consider signing up for the Club Championship. It’s a great experience and lots of fun.

## from your Superintendent

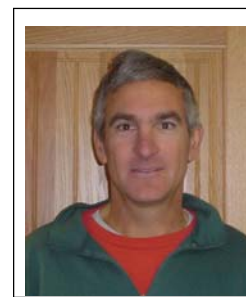
The summer season has been running at full speed. This is a busy time of year for golf maintenance activities. At this point we have a full summer staff of 13, with five full timers and eight seasonal people. The seasonal number will drop by two when school starts and the other seasonal help will dwindle down as we get through our fall projects and head into winter.

The course is holding its own for this time of year. We have had a very mild and cooler than normal season thus far with half the summer left. This might give us a false sense of security in terms of turf trouble. However in one case, this cooler than normal weather has produced higher than normal humidity that has aided in the largest outbreak of a disease called

dollar spot. Three weeks ago it blanketed almost every fairway on the course. It is a disease that shows up with these weather conditions. Since that time our fairways have grown out of this disease. I spoke with the superintendent at Eagle Point, and he said he had it everywhere.

There is another situation that has shown up, maybe from cooler weather I am not sure. The insect known as the bluegrass billbug has appeared. We noticed the damage on #3 blue tee first. Then it appeared on the lower ½ of 11 fairway and the upper part of 10 fairway three weeks ago. The damage will appear as irregular patches of yellowed or dead grass; it can look like drought stress. But the birds will be feeding on the larvae. We have had damage from this insect before. The green surrounds on 2,3,6,7 and 9 had a bad infestation about 5 years ago. Since then we treat those sites preventively each spring. It has prevented outbreaks of the bug. On the recent outbreaks we have treated them with insecticides, hoping to knock down the larvae populations. The problem is that what we see is grass that has already been damaged by larvae eating off the crown of the plant. This grass plant has no base. The larvae are in their final stage and will become adults soon. As adults they will over winter in woodlots and deep in the soil. Then in the early spring lay eggs in the thatch. This is the best time to treat the populations. So we will map these sites and treat them in the spring. As for the infected areas, we will use an insecticide and hopefully kill a lot of potential adults as well as overseed and fertilize.

We recently cut down the large pines trees that have been marked with ribbon. The stumps will be ground and soil hauled in and over seeded. The chips for these limbs will be used on some of our paths and around tree wells.



John Delaney  
Course Superintendent



### *Thank You*

On Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, we had 11 people show up for our work party. We got quite a bit accomplished including trimming the hedge along Espey, cleaning up the water feature in front of the club house along with flower/planter in front and back of the club house. We also spruced up the call box at the ninth tee and weeded behind the seventh green. Working around the juniors, we were able to put out about 30 gal. of sand and seed mix on the fairways. Thanks again to:

Denny Curle	Gary Fahl	Ginny Fahl	Doug Milburn
Cindy Nelson	Don Porter	Dee Shoup	Terry Soeteber
John Spetter	Doug Vetsch	Rick Wright	

### **The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Tournament had a great turnout here is a list of the winners:**

#### **Team Results Men**

##### **Gross**

1.Randy Hagerman – Ben Hagerman – Greg Wright – Lynn Myrick 63

##### **Net**

1.Andy Baida – Marv Ransom – Jeremy Alger – Jack DiMatteo 53.9  
2.Don Carter – Joe Colley – John Beirsto – Steve Taramino 55.5  
3. Dan Walters – Cole Tidwell – Don Blacksmith – Ric Marley 56.3  
4.Alan Krauss – Mike Sorenson – Steve Sorenson – Rick Mosley 57.2

#### **Team Results Mixed**

##### **Gross**

1.Tom & Mickey Jarvis – Glenn & Linda Edwards 65

##### **Net**

1.Paul & Tena Biddle – Walt & Pam Pace 51.6  
2. Dennis & Dee Shoup – John Smutko – Roger Hager 53.1  
3. Dick & Sue Cohen – Gary & Sharon Gates 54.3  
4. George & Ruth Oliphant – Dean & Dee Price 55.1  
5.Gordon Genskoe – Bart & Tammy Knudson – Greg Knudson 56.1

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## ***Great Shots for June & July***

Jim Harris shot "71" on June 13th.

Sid Davis shot his age "79" on June 18th.

Mike Coster shot his age! "85" on June 30th.

Fred Hitchens shot under his age "89" on June 30th. (He is 90 yrs old)

Marty McKenna eagled hole #1 from 18 ft. with a putter on July 6th.

Larry Shirley shot "72" even par with a 16 handicap on July 9th.

John Spetter eagled hole #1 from 30 yards with a lob wedge on July 9th

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**GRANTS PASS GOLF CLUB**  
**230 Espey Road**  
**Grants Pass, OR 97527**

### **OFFICERS**

Marv Ransom, President  
Jack DiMatteo, Vice President  
Randy Omdahl, Secretary  
Andy Dalisa, Treasurer

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mike Buschke, Andy Dalisa, Jack DiMatteo,  
Mike Forshay, Tom Jarvis, Randy Omdahl  
and Marv Ransom

### **STAFF**

Kent DeRocher, Head Professional  
John Delaney, Greens Superintendent  
Judy Ano, Business Manager

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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