

# Grants Pass Golf Club



# TEE to GREEN NEWS

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

September 2009

## **Welcome New Members**

David Sumner 474-6300  
Ken & Terri Van Tassel 499-8617

## **So Long Old Members**

Bob Eiler  
Randall Shainin

## **September Events**

GPGC Men's Club Final Event  
and Dinner 2  
Labor Day Scramble 7  
Board Meeting 5:30pm 10  
GPGC Seniors 11  
Cave Country Classic Horserace 14  
Cave Country Classic 15-16  
Course Closed for Aerification 28-Oct 2

## **Greetings from your Board**

September marks the end of summer . . . the golf season is winding down and the kids are heading back to school.

Last month we had our 2<sup>nd</sup> town hall meeting to discuss the possibility of hiring a General Manager to run our golf course. There were about 70 members in attendance. The Board talked at length about the issue of a GM and why we feel that we need one. We feel that it is important for all members to receive the same information, so we have included in this email answers to the most frequently asked questions concerning the hiring of a GM.



Marv Ransom  
President

Q. Why do we need a GM?

A. The Board has stated, "It's our collective opinion that a GM would be a more efficient and professional way to govern our facility." A GM offers professional daily oversight that a board made up of temporary volunteers cannot.

Q. What would a GM cost?

A. In the National Golf Foundation (NGF) salary survey the GM position salary ranges from \$36,000 for small clubs and municipalities to over \$100,000 for larger high revenue country clubs in larger markets (gross revenue over \$3 million). GPGC revenue for 2008 was \$1.3 million. A GM for a club of our size would probably cost around \$60,000 to \$75,000.

Q. How would we pay for the position? And, could this new position be taken over by one of our existing managers?

A. The reason why almost all new courses and most older courses have moved to a GM is that they have found that the improvement in controlling costs and increasing revenue more than pays for the GM position. It is possible that one of our present managers could fill the role as GM.

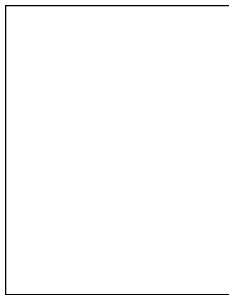
In 2000, the club hired a consultant, Mr. Robert Hollister, to advise us on several items. One of his recommendations was that we should hire a GM. He sighted reasons such as continuity between employees and the Board, and needed consistency due to the fact that our board turns over every few years. He highly stressed the benefit of a long-range plan, which a GM could implement and monitor.

Nine years after Mr. Hollister's visit and professional recommendations, GPGC still does not have a long-range plan, mainly because priorities change with each incoming board. The club also does not have a financial plan for future obligations such as replacing our aging sprinkler/irrigation system, which could cost well over \$1 million. Our debt has increased to over \$2 million, and we have a substantial balloon payment of over \$800,000 due in 15 years.

Now is the time to be looking to our future. The economy has changed, the outlook for golf around the country has changed, and our club, too, must make some changes in order to ensure that future generations will still be playing golf here at GPGC. The Board strongly feels that a GM would offer the continuity, consistency, and professional knowledge needed to keep our club at desired levels of playability while meeting the needs of our members both now and in the future.

It was suggested at the town hall meeting that we once again hire a consultant to review our current operations and needs. The Board is open to this idea, but costs associated with hiring a consultant range from \$4,000 to \$20,000 (based on 4 quotes we have received). We are working for the best interests of the club. Please feel free to contact any member of the Board with questions or concerns. We appreciate your input.

*Respectfully submitted, Marv Ransom*



Kent DeRocher  
Head Golf Professional

### From the Pro Shop

Well summer is half over and we have had a very busy July. The Thorns and Roses tournament went great with 72 teams participating. We thank Seven Feathers for their continued support and I want to thank Markeith Wittkopf and her committee for all their help in making this a great event. The following is a list of winners:

#### A Flight

##### **Gross**

1. Jennifer Ausland & Jimmy White

##### **Net**

1. Marv Ransom & Johnna Nealy

2. Dave & Markeith Wittkopf

3. Bob & Lavone Kirkwood

4. Tom & Mickey Jarvis

6t. Glenn & Linda Edwards

6t. Rob Pratt & Anita Wicks

#### B Flight

##### **Gross**

1. Claudia Baker & Mike Gallante

##### **Net**

1. Steve & Nancy Ausland

2. Matt Bilyeu & Cyndi Spencer

3. Garry & Veronica Hauser

4t. Steve Spargo & Marlene Creverling

6t. Ron & Reva Flower

6t. Stan & Dee Hushbeck

6t. Dick & Pat Tyler

#### C Flight

##### **Gross**

1. Daryl Boehm & Sue Lewis

2. Steve & Elizabeth Bonner

#### C Flight Net

1. Mike Buschke & Lee Cummins

2. George & Ruth Oliphant

3t. Paul & Sheri Holt

5. Dorothy Wolfe & Hank Munn

6. Peg & Chris Nussbaumer

*The Club Championship was played on August 8 & 9 with **Terry Faulkner** and **Mickey Jarvis** taking home the Men's and Ladies Championship Trophies. The following is a list of all the winners:*

#### Ladies Club Championship

##### **Ladies Championship**

Winner

Mickey Jarvis

Runner-up

Jennifer Ausland

##### **Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> Flight**

Winner

Vicki Moffatt

Runner-up

Reva Flower

##### **Senior Ladies Championship**

Winner

Lavone Kirkwood

Runner-up

Dee Hushbeck

##### **Senior Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> Flight**

Winner

Thelma Campbell

Runner-up

Nancy Smith

##### **Senior Ladies 2<sup>nd</sup> Flight**

Winner

Runner-up

#### Men's Club Championship

##### **Championship Flight**

Winner

Terry Faulkner

Runner-up

Dave Koch

##### **Men's 1<sup>st</sup> Flight**

Winner

Ryan Schaefer

Runner-up

Lynn Myrick

##### Senior Men

##### **Championship**

Winner

Jerry Gallardo

Runner-up

Tom Jarvis

##### **Senior Men's 1<sup>st</sup> Flight**

Winner

Gary Stevenson

Runner-up

Bob Kirkwood

##### **Senior Men's 2<sup>nd</sup> Flight**

Winner

Ray Sandoe

Runner-up

Frank McLaughlin

##### **Senior Men's 3<sup>rd</sup> Flight**

Winner

Russ Weber

Runner-up

Ed Weitzel

##### Super Senior Men's Championship

Winner

Ross Jesswein

Runner-up

Mickey Rhodes

##### **Super Senior Men's 1<sup>st</sup> Flight**

Winner

Jay Gum

Runner-up

Gary Fahl

### *Ladies Golf*

Congratulations to all the winners and participants in the President's Cup and the Club Championship! And a special tribute to our Super Senior Ladies - Lois Gates, Dot Shirley, Garry Downs and Dolores Myrick (winner) -- you're all amazing!

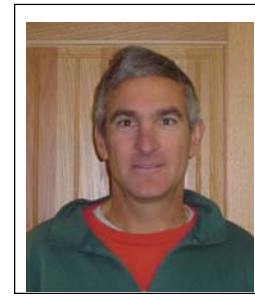
**Cave Country Classic** is just a few weeks away on September 14, 15, & 16 - be sure to sign up and get in on all the great fun!

From the Pro Shop continues



**from your Superintendent**

The summer golf season is in full swing and lots of golf is being played on your course. Along with all this play is wear and tear on tees, surrounds and approaches. We have been implementing a fairway divot fill program, where we do all the fairways once a week so that the majority of divots get filled. It takes time, but I feel enough divots don't get filled in so our efforts have an impact. The divots we come across are generally better filled with sand rather than taking the sod that comes off the club head. Unless you have a great dense patch of turf, its better this time of year to place sand and seed in the divots.



John Delaney  
Course Superintendent



The water from GPID has been flowing quite steadily since they had a day to move the gravel that was in the way of the pump station. The gravel was getting into the pumps causing some unscheduled shutdowns.

We have been slicer seeding and aerifiing some of our brown spots; when we do this we also add seed. Many of these spots are a result of trying not to over water. These zones at one point did get dry enough to stress the turf. However much of the brown grass you see is not dead, but simply dormant. The creeping bent grass for example will turn brown and not die, but the POA or annual bluegrass will die — it has no heat tolerance. The fact is that POA is a true winter annual and can't survive any temperatures above 90 degrees without many preventive treatments like we put on our greens. It would be nice to treat the entire course like the greens.

We have installed the Tee signs with the sponsors on them. It has taken a long time for this project to reach the final stage, so be thankful and enjoy.

Just a reminder we will be Aerifing the course the last week in September and into October and the course will be closed.

***Thanks, from the Greens Crew***

***More from the Pro Shop ....***

The Grants Pass Cup Points race finished with the Club Championship, and the top 22 points winners making up the players for the first ever Grants Pass Cup to be played November 18 – 19 at the Bandon Dunes Golf Resort. Congratulations to the following qualifiers:

Matt Bilyeu, Lavone Kirkwood, Bob Kirkwood, Markeith Wittkopf, Garry Hauser, Dave Wittkopf, Paul Biddle, Walt Pace, Ryan Schaefer, Marv Ransom, Cyndi Spencer, Sherry Williams, Veronica Hauser, Gary Fahl, Dave Koch, Rob Holland, Tom Jarvis, Ginny Fahl, Dee Hushbeck, Lynn Myrick, Rob Pratt and Alan Krauss.

Well summer is drawing to a close and kids are getting ready to go back to school. What a perfect time to come out and play golf. We have the Labor Day Scramble Tournament on Monday September 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. The ladies Cave Country Classic will return on the 14th thru 16th of September.

The Junior Golf Program is all done for this year and I would like to thank all the parents and grandparents who helped out during the summer. The Junior Club Championship was held on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and the winners were as follows:

<b>Boys Champion</b>	Ryan Melnychuk	<b>Girls Champion</b>	Cassie DeRocher
<b>9 Hole Boys</b>	Tanner Munsell	<b>9 Hole Girls</b>	Donnie Thomason
<b>6 Hole Boys</b>	Steven Tokarz	<b>6 Hole Girls</b>	Kennedy Beck
<b>3 Hole Boys</b>	Tucker Daniel	<b>3 Hole Girls</b>	Taylor Southwick & Haley Kersten
<b>Junior Exec Boys</b>	Porter Boersma	<b>Junior Exec Girls</b>	Hayley Hunt & Londyn Beck

Congratulations to all the winners and all participants it was a great year for junior golf. Football season is here, and we look forward to all the Duck and Beaver games. We wish all the local area high schools good luck in the up coming season.

***Birdies Forever, Kent***

***~~ Volunteers Wanted ~~***

During the week of Sept 28<sup>th</sup> thru Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>, while the course is closed, due to aerification, we will be cleaning the cart shed. There will be a sign up sheet posted in the pro shop for volunteers. If you can help even for a couple hours it would be GREATLY appreciated!! The specific day of that week has not been selected. I will call everyone that signs up with the details. This is the only time that the shed is cleaned out every year. Just a reminder, please remove any left over food items from your cart. We don't want any "Unwanted Guest's" setting up home in the cart shed.

***Thanks, Mike Forshay  
Director of Carts***

## **Great Shots for July & August**

Dave Flansbaum eagled hole # 7 from 160 yards with a 5 iron driver  
Jim Clark eagled hole # 3 from 138 yards with a 7 wood on July 23  
George Autry eagled hole # 1 from 75 yards with a sand wedge on July 24  
Walter Watson shot an 85 (below his age of 90) on July 28  
Paul Holt eagled hole # 14 from 80 yards with a GAP wedge on July 29  
Larry Wills shot his age, 86, on August 4  
Dick Winner had a Hole-in-One on hole # 13 from 121 yards on August 7  
Meredith Myrick had a Hole-in-One on hole #5 from 116 yards with a  
rescue club on August 7  
Walter Watson shot an 86 (below his age of 91) on August 11

## **Comments and Letters**

Your comment cards and letters are much appreciated. However, sometimes they are unsigned. Please be sure to sign your next correspondence to help us respond to you.

## **To All Members:**

If you are thinking of running for the **Board of Directors**, you will need to get a "Statement of Interest" form. They are located in the Pro Shop or from Judy, the Office Manager. Fill this out and give to Judy upstairs in the office. The Nominating Committee will then be in contact with you. We have already had some interest by members and hope to hear from more of you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact: Mike Forshay, Director of the Nominating Committee, at 474-3525. **We need your response no later than September 10th.**

**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

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