



the 19th HOLE

November-December 2016

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE LINKS AT STONO FERRY

From the Desk of the General Manager

Hurricane Matthew delivered a surprise to the course. Heavy rain and wind from the front side of the hurricane followed by 70-75 mph hour winds on the tail end caused quite a bit of destruction to the tree lines. The number of trees damaged and down started at 60, but quickly escalated upon further review. Quite a number of the trees moved after the storm. Once it is all said and done roughly 100 trees will have been removed due to the effects of the storm. The club was very fortunate to have very little damage to tees, fairways, and greens. The only real damage done to the playing surfaces were the bunkers. 10 of the bunkers were completely destroyed. They were put back together, but are under observation to see if the storm caused long term damage that may result in the rebuilding of these bunkers next season. The club hired BG's Landscape led by its owner William Green to handle the enormous job of safely removing the down trees and the debris left behind. Mr. Green has done a great job that has allowed us to reopen in a timely manner. Michael Eargle, Golf Course Superintendent, and his staff have been instrumental in the clean-up process as well as the day to day operations giving us some of the best turf conditions of the year.

I know the delay of two weeks was an inconvenience, and the staff and I appreciate the patience the membership has shown in allowing us to provide a safe golf course, free of falling trees or limbs. Your patience is also welcomed as the second phase of the tree removal process begins. This phase involves the removal of the logs and the grinding of the stumps. There will be minor inconveniences as the effort is made to make the course whole. Once the stumps and logs are removed the disturbed turf will be made smooth and level and sod will be placed providing all golfers great turf.

Please consider making plans for the oyster roast that was moved to November 18. The movement of the best party of the year was once again due to our friend Hurricane Matthew. Hope to see all of you at the party!

As the year 2016 comes to a close, I want to wish all of you a safe and happy holiday season.

General Manager, Greg Wood



GROUNDSKEEPER

Michael Eargle

As you probably know by now, Hurricane Matthew did a number on the golf course. If you could only have seen what it looked like the day after, what a mess! I am counting blessings, because it could have been worse. Every effort was made just to get back opened as quickly and safely as possible. However, there is a lot of cleanup and recovery to be done. Someone asked me along time ago, "How do you eat an elephant?" One bite at a time! We will be whole again sometime soon.

The golf course is just about prepared, with exception to the cleanup, for the winter season. The overseeding of the greens, tees, fairways, and driving range tees are complete. I want to thank you for staying on the path while we were trying to get it germinating and growing. We will continue to get it well established by cultural practices i.e., re-seeding thin areas, height of cut, fertility levels, etc. Keep in mind that you will be playing on this grass through the month of May and into June of next year, so it is very important to follow the ruling of the day. This leads me into frost delays and frozen greens.

When frost occurs, the moisture inside the plant freezes, and if weight is applied to the plant while frozen it is damaged or killed with little or no chance for recovery. Frost usually forms when night temperatures are below 38 degrees Fahrenheit. If night time temperatures fall below freezing, the top one to two inches of any green are very susceptible to freezing. If play is allowed while the green is frozen, permanent damage can, and will occur. Frost delays and frozen greens tend to encourage tense moments around the pro shop.



Golf Tips and Clinics

Tempo?

I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying playing some golf again in our great fall weather!

This month I wanted to talk with you about another phrase that I hear a lot of people say when I am out on the practice range. People will often critique their swing on a bad shot by saying they "got too quick". They will usually follow it up with some statement about how they need to slow things down to regain control.

Let me go ahead as state my case upfront, unless you think you hit the ball too far (and I'm guessing no one does), you cannot swing the club to fast.

So lets dive in a little to what people mean when they say this. The body is full of many different parts that work together in trying to move the club as consistently and powerfully as they can. Each different part of the body needs to move at the right time in order to do this best, we call this your swing sequence. The movement of the body should work from the ground up, much the same way that a great baseball pitcher will step with his feet before he throws with his arms. So, from the

top of the golf swing as you start your way down to impact, you will shift your weight forward, with your feet and legs, and begin to rotate to the target, with your hips and torso, before you swing your arms and the club at the ball. Many times when people feel that they "got too fast" and need to swing slower, what they are really feeling is that they got out of sequence, most often caused by swinging the arms first. This will usually feel a little jerky in the swing because the arms are trying to lead the body instead of the other way around.

If this is something you struggle with, lets work on trying to lead a little more with the weight shift and rotation. Try taking a half back swing and come to a full stop for a second or two. From there, try to make a full follow finish with your weight on your front foot and your belt buckle facing the target. They goal is to make your body move first, let the arms and the club follow. If your sequencing improves then your consistency with also, and you'll be able to swing the club much faster while still being under control.

As always, let me know if I can ever help you with any part of your game.

Director of Instruction
David Kite



GROUNDSKEEPER

continued...

I assure you, your golf course will be opened at the earliest possible moment the greens are safe from potential harm.

During the months of November and December the maintenance staff concentrates on keeping the course ready for play. Picking up falling leaves, continuing storm cleanup, and care of the winter grass are top priorities. The maintenance crew and I hope your holiday season allows for some memorable family times and a chance to play the course often.



Rules: Fallen Trees & Ground Under Repair

Hurricane Matthew has caused course conditions that raise questions for play. The USGA Rules/Decisions provides guidance on this situation. First off a fallen tree is treated as ground under repair. Fallen Tree in Process of Being Removed (From the Decisions Section)

Q: A greenkeeper is in the process of sawing up a fallen tree and stacking the wood. What is the status of such a tree?

A: The tree in its entirety is ground under repair as it constitutes "material piled for removal" - see Definition of "Ground Under Repair."

Ground Under Repair

"Ground under repair" is any part of the course so marked by order of the Committee or so declared by its authorized representative. All ground and any grass, bush, tree or other growing thing within the ground under repair are part of the ground under repair. Ground under repair includes material piled for removal and a hole made by a greenkeeper, even if not so marked. Grass cuttings and other material left on the course that have been abandoned and are not intended to be removed are not ground under repair unless so marked.

When the margin of ground under repair is defined by stakes, the stakes are inside the ground under repair, and the margin of the ground under repair is defined by the nearest outside points of the stakes at ground level. When both stakes and lines are used to indicate ground under repair, the stakes identify the ground under repair and the lines define the margin of the ground under repair. When the margin of ground under repair is defined by a line on the ground, the line itself is in the ground under repair. The margin of ground under repair extends vertically downwards but not upwards.

A ball is in ground under repair when it lies in or any part of it touches the ground under repair.

Note: The Committee may make a Local Rule prohibiting play from ground under repair or an environmentally-sensitive area defined as ground under repair.

Hole-In-One!

Congratulations Ed Brown!

Date: October 25, 2016

Hole: No. 2 - 116 Yards

Club: Pitching Wedge

Witnesses: Murray Lancer & Byron Jordan



Men's Golf Association News

This has been quite the year for weather with the extreme temperatures in July and August then the catastrophic damage caused by Hurricane Matthew. As you all are aware, our course suffered major damage and was closed for a short period for damage assessment and cleanup. We've had terrific weather since the storm and cleanup efforts by Michael Eargle and his crew are well under way. The course is in back in great shape and the greens are better than ever.

The annual Member-Member Tournament was held September 10th and 11th and we were favored with beautiful weather and playing conditions. Steve Cebulka and Jeremiah Evers won an exciting playoff and were crowned overall champions. Congratulations to the flight winners and many thanks to all who competed.

The Club Championship had to be cancelled due to the storm and has now been rescheduled for November 5th and 6th - stay tuned for the results and crowning of our new champion.

We also had to cancel the Men's Stag in July due to the hot weather and are considering rescheduling it for December 10th if there is sufficient interest. Stay tuned for more information.

We have scheduled the MGA annual meeting for December 15th at 6 p.m. We will be electing three new board members for a two year term, so if you are interested in serving on the board please contact any of the current board members or our nominating chairman, John Craig at jwc8@bellsouth.net.

In closing, I'd like to remind you that maintaining a proper pace of play is each members responsibility and is essential for everyone's enjoyment of the game. Just remember, "your place on the golf course is directly behind the group in front of you....not immediately in front of the group behind you"!

You're up - hit away.....and keep moving!

John Crocker, President
Men's Golf Association

Monthly Golf Funny

It was a sunny Sunday morning, and Murray was beginning his preshot routine, visualizing his upcoming shot, when a voice came over the clubhouse loudspeaker. "Would the gentleman on the ladies' tee please back up to the men's tee."

Murray remained in his routine, seemingly unfazed by the interruption.

A little louder: "Would the man on the women's tee kindly back up to the men's tee!"

Murray raised up out of his stance, lowered his driver, and shouted, "Would the announcer in the clubhouse kindly shut up and let me play my second shot?"

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Women's Golf Association News

What a difference a day can make – especially a day with a hurricane! October 8th and Hurricane Matthew caused considerable chaos to the WGA's golf schedule, as well as to the golf course, but we are back on track and enjoying some beautiful fall weather! Congratulations to Susan Shoemaker and Valerie West for winning the Member-Member tournament in September. Judi Dombek, Ande Savana and Jane Verdeck teamed up to plan this two-day event. Highlights of the weekend were a 2-player scramble format and special desserts made by Ande Savana.

Because of Hurricane Matthew we had to cancel our Home/Home event with the ladies from Seabrook, but look forward to playing with them in 2017.

The Club Championship has been rescheduled for Nov. 5th and 6th. Competitors will be playing on a somewhat different course than they are accustomed. Many trees that have caught golf balls in the past were lost to the storm. It should be an interesting day of golf. Because of low numbers the gross and net flights will be mixed. Anything can happen!! The "Fall Frenzy" is also coming up in November. Karla Abbott is chairing this fun event on the 12th. It will be a day of interesting challenges: only three clubs and a putter in each golf bag, Captain's Choice format, and an "orange ball" on par 3's. Lunch and very special prizes make this tournament one of the year's favorite.

Unbelievably, the Closing Day for the 2017 WGA season will be on Dec. 3rd, just around the corner! It has been a very interesting year with some challenges and adjustments. But as always, we are continually thankful for the expert help and guidance of the pros and staff of the Links at Stono Ferry. We enjoy some of the best and most beautiful golf in the state. Thank you for all that you do!

Libby Summerford - SFWGA President

THE GOLF SHOP - Mike Ramsden

Titleist will provide Free Personalization on all Titleist golf balls ordered between November 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016.

It may have taken some time but fall is finally here! Now that we are back open and its business as usual after Hurricane Mathew it's time to get yourself out-fitted in some warm winter clothing.

We have a large selection of outerwear for both men and women from Footjoy, Antigua, Nike and Dunning. The theme right now is layering! The Footjoy line of base layer shirts is the perfect way to battle those early morning chills before the temperature rises with the sun.

And to keep your head warm our new hat company Pukka has a colorful line of beanie's to get you through the winter! For those of you thinking ahead to Christmas and that hard to shop for person we just received our new shipment of TICA leather products with the new Stono Ferry logo. Come pick from a large selection of billfolds, flasks, toiletries kits and more.



MONTHLY CALENDAR OF

E V E N T S

NEW DATE!

The Stono Ferry Oyster Roast

- Friday, October 14 from 6:30-9:30pm along the Intracoastal Waterway
- \$35 per person includes Oysters, Lowcountry Boil, Open Bar
- Live music provided by the band *Two 3 Ways*
- Feel free to bring guests!
- Should it rain, the event will be held in the Clubhouse.

SAVE THE DATE

Member Holiday Party

Friday, December 9 from 7:00-10:00pm

We will have a DJ so bring your dancing shoes!

Invitations to Follow



FOOD & BEVERAGE

Happy Fall from Barry and the Food and Beverage Department. As you know we are entering our colder season, just want to touch base with everyone. If you don't already attend you should definitely stop in one Thursday between 5-8 and enjoy our fresh hand made hamburgers for "Burgers and Brews". If you have any suggestions on soups or future specials please feel free to email me at Grill@stonoferrygolf.com. Last but not least I have a wonderful Banana Nut Bread Recipe I would like to share with you.

Banana Nut Bread:

2 cups flour
1 1/2 cups Brown Sugar
1 1/2 tablespoons baking soda
2 large eggs
8 slightly over ripped Bananas
2 tablespoons Vanilla Extract

Mix ALL dry ingredients in one bowl. Mix ALL other ingredients in separate bowl. Combine both bowls mix until all is combined. Pout mixture into oil loaf pan. Preheat oven to 350. Place in oven on middle rack for 40-50 minutes or until toothpick inserted comes out clean. Let stand for 10 min then remove from pan and cut.

I hope you enjoy this simple Banana Bread Recipe. We look forward to seeing you at the clubhouse, stop by sometime and try one of our many menu items or daily specials.
