



Fairway News

The Newsletter of the Oneonta Country Club

Aug 2010

President's Message: Bruce Carroll

Just a couple quick notes for this newsletter. Summer golf is here and the course is in great shape, thanks to Todd and his crew. The Men's Member/Guest Tournament is over and except for one rainy and another very hot and humid day, everything else went great. Thank you's are in order to; the M/G Committee, Takis at Corfu at the Country Club and Mitch and his crew at the Pro Shop.

A couple of our members suggested a way to increase outside play when the course is not in use by members and it was presented to the Board at their July Meeting. The Board passed a motion to have a Twilight Rate, starting August 2, 2010, which will be \$25.00 after 3:00 PM, cart included and when tee times are available. As most of you know, except for Monday and Tuesday evening leagues the course is very empty in the evening and this should help our bottom line.

I met with Paul Jaycox on July 27, at Cobleskill about outstanding credit. He has agreed to honor any Gift Certificates that Members or Guests have from last year. He will honor those Certificates through September 30, 2010, at his shop at the Cobleskill Country Club. If you know of any non-members who hold Certificates please advise them about this agreement. I hope that this will bring this issue to an end. For those members who hold Pro Shop Credit from last year and have no paper trail, there is no way of proving the credit. Without proof our legal advice is that it is next to impossible to collect. Thanks to all for your patience with this matter.

I hope everyone one is enjoying the Country Club. Have a continued great summer.

Mitch Milavec: Director of Golf

We have had a great summer thus far. Another year, and another successful member-guest tournament. Unfortunately, we didn't have the numbers we've had in the past, but it was a successful weekend nonetheless. I would like to thank all of you that turned out to play in two beautiful days, and one very wet one. The words of support and encouragement, and the help of a fantastic staff made it a weekend to remember and enjoy, and not one to panic about. I would like to extend a special thank you to the members that donated their time to making it a great weekend. Thanks to Peter Hansen and George Netreba for their countless hours spent working on various projects to improve our facilities, and their help with cutting new hazard stakes to better mark the course. I would also like to thank Linda Smith, Rita Hansen, Joan Martin, Gail Hess, and all the other ladies who dedicate their time and take pride in the beautification of our wonderful course. I would also like to thank Brad Hess for spending many hours in the hot sun to help mark the golf course in preparation for the our favorite club tournament, the member-guest.

Member-Guest Flight Winners:

- 1st Flight – Rich Fink and Dave Elliott
2nd Flight – Dave Fersch and Doug Simonds

3rd Flight – Ron Whipple and Eric Whipple

4th Flight – Tim Catella and Mark Lane

5th Flight – Chris Wiltsie and Dave Wiltsie

6th Flight – Jack Reed and John Polo

It took almost half of the season, but we finally have our first two holes-in-one. The first was Ed Zawisza on #7 on June 27th, and the second was by Brian Burns on #10 on July 17th.

Next month is championship month. Please be sure to sign up in the golf shop for the Atchinson Cup (Otsego County Amateur) and the club championship.

Also, the Habitat for Humanity, Rich Couch Memorial Tournament has been rescheduled for Sunday, September 19th at 1:00. Please be sure to sign up, this a great cause in memory of a great friend.

Greens Committee: Kurt Schulte

Over the course of the year I received numerous inquiries from members regarding the marking of the left side of the sixth fairway. Specifically, they wanted to know why the area was being marked as ground under repair and not as a lateral water hazard.

The arguments favoring making the area a lateral water hazard focused on a couple of points. There apparently was confusion about the proper relief afforded a player hitting into ground under repair (especially in the instance where the player's ball could not be found) and more frequently that it was unfair for a player who hits his/her ball to the extreme left of the sixth fairway to receive a free drop in or near the fairway thus affording that player almost as good a position after the drive as the player who drove the ball in the fairway originally.

The Greens Committee discussed the issue and determined the better way to mark that area would be to make it a lateral water hazard. After checking with the Member Guest Committee (given the timing of the change) the change was made prior to the tournament.

I thought it might be a good time to review the rules applicable to hazards. Water hazards are designated by yellow stakes and lines and lateral water hazards are designated by red stakes and lines. The rules are different for each. In either case, the player always has the option to play the ball as it lies in the hazard (being careful not to ground his or her club).

Relief for a ball in a water hazard is set forth in Rule 26-1 of the Rules of Golf. In order to proceed under this rule, the ball must be found, or if not found, must be "known or virtually certain" that the ball is in the hazard. If that is not the case, the player must proceed under the lost ball provision in Rule 27-1.

If a ball is in a water hazard or if it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in a water hazard (whether the ball lies in water or not), the player must *under penalty of one stroke*:

- a) Play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played, or

- b) Drop a ball behind the water hazard, keeping the point at which the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the water hazard the ball may be dropped, or
- c) As additional options available **only** if the ball last crossed the margin of **a lateral water hazard**, drop a ball outside the water hazard within two club-lengths of and not nearer the hole than
 - (i) the point where the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard or
 - (ii) a point on the opposite margin of the water hazard equidistant from the hole.

When proceeding under this rule, the player may lift and clean his ball or substitute a ball.

So what does all this mean besides it is not a good thing to hit your ball into a hazard. It means if your ball goes toward a hazard pay attention because you need to be able to see the ball go into or state with "virtual certainty" that the ball did go into the hazard. You also need to identify where the ball last crossed the margin of the hazard.

Once you have established those facts, you must determine if the hazard is a water hazard (yellow) or a lateral water hazard (red). There are two options available for a drop from a water hazard and those two options plus two additional options for a drop from a lateral water hazard. All options come with a one stroke penalty.

Of course, you can always play the ball as it lies without penalty.

WGA: Joan Martin and Diane Terry

Ladies....Many thanks for posting scores on the Pro Shop board. It has been a help to me.

Please remember: August 26th-Member/Member Tournament. It will be "Happiness is a wild and crazy game of golf." Be sure to sign up with a WGA partner and plan for some "wild and crazy" fun!

Congratulations to President's Cup Winner Mary Ebberts!

Also, congratulations to the Runner-Up - Marcia Foote!

1st day winners were Mary Ebberts with low gross and Patti Burke with low net.

2nd day winners were Mary Ebberts with low gross and Ellen Whipple with low net (matching cards).

Flag Day results (July 1st)

18 Hole Winners:

1st: Marcia Foote and Linda Bouton

2nd: Karen Bulow

3rd: Patti Burke

4th: Heidi Hofbauer-Buzzy

5th: Pat Elliott

9 Hole Winners:

1st: Laurie Zimmiewicz

2nd: Bonnie Smith

3rd: Phyllis Gunther

July 15 (Regular Play)

18 Hole Winners:

1st Low Gross: Kathy Holmes

1st Low Net: Betty Schulte

2nd Low Net: Nancy Odorizzi

3rd Low Net: Andrea Strom

Low Putts Winner: Betty Schulte

9 Hole Winners:

Low Gross: Sally Tyler

Low Net: Joyce Atchinson

July 20 Four Ball for 28 Hole Players

1st Net: Team of Carolee Riddell, Karen Bulow, Betty Schulte and Josie Wright

2nd Net: Team of Kathy Holmes, Ellen Whipple, Julie DeLaurentiis and Nancy Odorizzi

3rd Net: (Tie): Team of Susan Nesbitt, Marcia Foote and Joan Martin

Team of Pat Elliott, Laverna Foree, Chris Mitchell, and Patty Burke

9 Hole Players (Low Putts)

Tie: Bonnie Smith

Diane Terry

Reminder:

**Contributions can be made to the
ONEONTA COUNTRY CLUB FOUNDATION
Contact Larry Leahy for additional information**

Win a High Definition 32 Inch Hitachi TV

OCC, through Stereo Lab, will raffle a TV, offering a limited 300 tickets at \$5 each. There will be a limit of 4 tickets to each customer.

The raffle will allow the club to own the present Hi Def TV that is currently in the bar/lounge. A new 32 inch set will be given away at the final MGA Stag Day.

With the \$1,500 generated by the raffle OCC will net \$700 to be used as needed.

Tickets will be available at the bar and the pro shop. Please buy a couple and get your friends to buy a ticket as well.