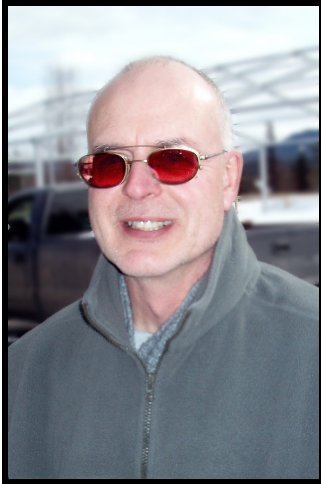


Mountainview Golf Course Newsletter

Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 4

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Weather can be our greatest ally, or adversary depending on what we are trying to accomplish. So far it has hindered our irrigation start up, helped on the day we laid sod on greens 4 & 6, delayed our plans to get the greens rolling truer and faster, helped water areas of the course our irrigation can't reach, and again set back the harvesting of the sod for around #4 green. Arguably, weather is mostly on our side. It's just that it doesn't always do what we want it to do when we want it to do it. So we will continue to adjust our plans and get things rolling (better) as soon as possible.

The sod laying for around #4 green is again on hold till the sod farm can get us usable sod. For those interested in helping lay it when this comes about Barry Davidson is a contact person, you can leave your name and number at the Pro Shop, or contact me at 333-1500.

Also, I would like to acknowledge Sheldon King at Pacific Northwest Trucking for his support with getting the new mower here, and Al Chisholm for donating his time almost every week for a few hours and helping us get things done that our crew doesn't always have time for. Enjoy your round.

Mick Nychka

Golf Humour

A young man who was also an avid golfer found himself with a few hours to spare one afternoon. He figured if he hurried and played very fast, he could get in nine holes before he had to head home.

Just as he was about to tee off an old gentleman shuffled onto the tee and asked if he could accompany the young man as he was golfing alone. Not being able to say no, he allowed the old gent to join him. To his surprise the old man played fairly quickly. He didn't hit the ball far, but plodded along consistently and didn't waste much time. Finally, they reached the 9th fairway and the young man found himself with a tough shot. There was a large pine tree right in front of his ball - and directly between his ball and the green.

After several minutes of debating how to hit the shot the old man finally said, "You know, when I was your age I'd hit the ball right over that tree." With that challenge placed before him, the youngster swung hard, hit the ball up, right smack into the top of the tree trunk and it thudded back on the ground not a foot from where it had originally lay. The old man offered one more comment, "Of course, when I was your age that pine tree was only three feet tall."

The schoolteacher was taking her first golfing lesson. "Is the word spelt p-u-t or p-u-t-t?" she asked the instructor. "P-u-t-t is correct," he replied. "Put means to place a thing where you want it. Putt means merely a vain attempt to do the same thing."

Message from the Pro



Jeff Wiggins

Hi everyone. I have a few other things to mention. The first is the handicap computer. It is up and operational. The website is www.rcganetwork.org. This will bring you to a screen that will ask you for a username and a password. All passwords are 123456. The usernames will vary so I encourage you to come into the Proshop and we will give you yours. It is really easy to use. You can do it from home or in the Proshop. The process will be the same.

As most of you know the range machine is taking cash or tokens. Anyone with credit in the computer can convert it to tokens. We have balances and tokens available in the Proshop.

The next thing is instruction. I am available for instruction during the week and on some weekend days. July is a busy month, with events slated for each week so my expertise will be focused on making sure that this month goes smooth. As the saying goes "Let's make hay while the sun shines". I will be gone from Whitehorse for 48 hours in the second week of July. I have a Pro-Am in Prince George to go to. For the next week you might see me playing on a regular basis in order to get prepared.

July dates to remember:

Biggs/Baldwin – July 5th

Yukon Championships – July 12th & 13th

Bob Park Memorial (Cancer Society) – July 26th

Coca Cola Championship – August 2nd

In my opinion the Golf Club is looking good, both aesthetically and financially, but there is still a lot more to be done and many golfing days left. In the meantime enjoy your golf, enjoy your Golf Club, and be assured that I am trying my best to give you the service you all deserve.

Jeff Wiggins
CPGA Head Golf Professional
Mountain View Golf Club

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Bag Tags

Bag Tags have been received and are now ready for pick-up .

If you have any suggestions for newsletter topics you would like to see, or have questions or comments about anything in this issue, please contact me at Reg.steers@northwestel.net .

Golf Tip of the Month by Jeff Wiggins

Short Game

This is the topic for this month. What is the short game? The short game is the part of your game in which you do not hit a full shot. For most of you readers, this means inside 75 yards. A lot of players come to me and ask how to hit the shots where they are not making a full swing. It is always a tough question to answer because every person is different. Everyone needs to find a practice area where they can make a full swing with a pitching wedge using normal power control. This will give us an average yardage. Then you make a bunch of three quarter swings with the same power control. This will give us a shorter distance than the full swing did. Do the same with a half-swing. You now need to write down the different distances for those three different length shots. For example: My pitching wedge full swing with normal power goes 130 yards. My three quarter swing with a pitching wedge goes 100 yards. My half swing with my pitching wedge goes 70 yards. I know this because I have done my homework, and I have spent the time to write the information down. If you do this with a pitching wedge, a sand wedge, and a lob wedge, you will have nine different yardages with nine different trajectories with only three different golf clubs. This will make you a more complete player from inside the 75 yard scoring range. You will hit more greens and hopefully have fewer putts.

The club that you choose for short shots has a lot to do with your lie and what lies between you and the pin. If you have a good lie and lots of green to work with, the club of choice becomes one with lesser loft, like a 7 iron or 8 iron. If you are in the rough and have little room between you and the pin, then you need to hit it up in the air, therefore making the club of choice one with lots of loft, like a sand wedge. Always imagine you have two golf balls in your hand. One you will toss low to the ground and have roll up to the pin. The other, you will toss high in the air and try and land it softly next to the pin. If you always approach the short shots with this idea, you will usually choose the right club in most situations. The technique with all these shots is the same. Lower body open to the target to free up a follow through to the target. Keep your clubface and shoulders aimed to the target. Ball position goes back in your stance. Your hands must stay forward from the ball to ensure the head of your club hits the ball on the downswing, compressing it against the turf, creating what we call check spin.

Bottom line folks-----NO SCOOPING!!!! Do not let your club head pass the hands at impact. Here is the tip.....make sure that your back knee moves through the shot towards your target. If your lower body ceases up, I guarantee you will hit a lot of skinny shots or scull shots.

Good luck and good practicing,

Jeff Wiggins
CPGA Head Golf Professional
Mountain View Golf Club

Driving Range / Chipping Green

Work will commence on the range once again this week with the laying of the irrigation pipe as the first task. We had to get approval on our proposed changes as we had varied from our original proposal. This approval was received July 8th. This week will see the laying of the pipe followed by work on the chipping area, contouring of the target greens, seeding and fertilization. The only area that is in question right now is the proposed covered tee boxes. At best we may only be able to do a portion as the actual practice area will be our priority.