



The Tee Times

The official newsletter of the Stoughton Country Club

View from the Club House

by Brad Calaway, General Manager

As we enter the 2022 Centennial golf season, I'd like to take a walk down memory lane. The Board of Directors, since my hiring in March of 2020, has been approving projects that improve our facility. Most of these projects have been 100% funded by the generous donations from our members.

The sunroom and golf shop makeovers were two projects that I first had a hand in. The sunroom received new paint, flooring, air conditioner, heating, windows, light fixtures, and ceiling fans. The golf shop received a similar makeover with new roof, flooring, drywall, light fixtures, slat wall, windows, shelving, and a custom-built check-in counter. New flooring was also added throughout the office.

When there was a need for a tent on the patio to insure a comfortable outdoor area due to Covid restrictions, our generous membership once again stepped up and purchased the tent.

Now we have approved a patio expansion project with most of the cost provided by member donations. This project will be beginning soon and should be completed during the Spring.

The improvements provided to the roof, exhaust hood system, HVAC, kitchen walls, lighting, ceiling, kitchen equipment, and gas pipes due to the May fire have us in good shape in that department for many years to come.

With the past projects, like the restroom improvements, the new putting green and cart shed building, Stoughton Country Club continues to show the commitment to improving the facility for the membership.

As recently as the end of February, and due in large part to the generous donation from our Ladies League members, the Founders room and Lake Kegonsa room have received much needed makeovers. In addition, the Ladies have provided roller shades for the bar windows (windows on both sides of the fireplace) and those should be arriving soon.

Why am I reminding you of all this generosity and improvement to our facility? It's because some may have forgotten how well we have it here at Stoughton Country Club. Many thanks to everyone here at the Club that share the vision of a prosperous food, beverage, and golf operation. Our future is bright.

Brad

From the Grounds Crew

*by Mark Livingston,
Golf Course Superintendent*

We are getting closer and closer to spring and that means it is time to think about when the course will be opening. This decision is based solely on the weather. Last year we opened on March 29th, which was about average. The earliest I can recall opening was March 14th and the latest was April 20th.

I think there might be a fair amount of frost in the ground due to the lack of deep snow cover for much of the winter. As the frost comes out of the ground, the surface is usually wet and soft, making the course unplayable even if it looks like the course is ready to go. Other courses may "firm up" faster, or slower, depending on their soil makeup or topography. Therefore, looking at other courses to see if they are open is not a good gauge as to when we will open. Each course also has a different level of damage they will tolerate.

Number four green went into winter in good shape.

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We started to lower the height of the cut and top-dressed it with sand to smooth it out. As soon as we come out of winter, we will continue with sand applications and slowly lower the height down to match the other greens. I am optimistic that we will be playing on the greens by May depending on the spring growing conditions.

We have purchased a new tractor to help around the course. It is a John Deere tractor with a loader on it. We will keep the old tractor as there are many times throughout the season that we need two of them. We have also purchased a new greens roller. This is a dedicated roller that rolls side to side verses the vibratory rollers that attach to a greens mower. This should help to smooth out our greens even more.

See you on the course,
Mark

Chef Shares

by Chef Tim Gale

I am working to develop a new, set, menu and am excited to share that with you soon. Along with the set menu, specials will be offered. I have been reviewing past menus in an effort to bring back some past favorites and to guide me as I work on new menu items. The current menus continue to use existing inventory, along with some new inventory, to offer great lunch and dinner options.

Please know that I am always open to your menu item suggestions and will try to incorporate them. I'm happy to chat with you or feel free to share recommendations with a member of the management team.

Chef Tim



2022 March Madness

NCAA no skill needed member pool.

Get ready to submit your NCAA basketball tournament brackets. SCC will send an invite to a pool for both the entire sixty-four team field and then once established, a Sweet 16 bracket.

Brackets will be \$20 each and 100% will be paid back to the top four winners in each contest.



Spring and Fall Golf Reminder

It was decided last fall that prior to the WSGA golf posting start date of April 1st and after the last WSGA posting end date of November 1st, any member, male or female, could golf anytime Wednesday and Thursday.

Once the WSGA posting season begins, the regular set Women's Day (Wednesday) and Men's Day (Thursday) guidelines will be back in effect.

Once April 1st has passed, the Board of Directors will revisit this policy.

Meet the Staff - Featuring Steve Hlavacek

by Paul Pitas

Decades of Service at SCC

As Stoughton Country Club celebrates its centennial this summer it is a special time for golf professional Steve Hlavacek.

1974 saw the beginning of a half century commitment to the club by Steve. Over the years Steve has worn multiple hats in addition to golf pro including course superintendent, general manager, and instructor. He has helped to oversee many of the initiatives that have contributed to the growth of the club. Through the years he has mentored young golfers to further their game and helped others pursue their interest in other aspects of the golf business. Steve has also opened the doors of SCC to support area communities and their fundraising activities.

2022 will be bittersweet for Steve as he looks forward to helping with the planning of the centennial celebration now scheduled for mid-July. But he acknowledges that it is time to look forward to the next chapter of his life enjoying retirement with his wife Kathy, their children and nine grandchildren.

"I love gardening," says Steve. "My love of gardening came from working on our family garden with my mom. Being the golf superintendent, offered me the opportunity to enjoy gardening as part of my profession. I look forward to more family time and taking care of our two smooth fox terriers."

As Steve reflects on the club's 100th birthday, he credits the members for making the club what it is today. "Over the years, our strong membership participation at the club has helped us through the lean years and make it strong. I'm so proud of this place and being a part of its success."



Welcome New Members

Join us in welcoming the following new members. Please take a moment to introduce yourself and share a story or two!

- Donna and Tom Vandygriff
- Frances Burns

Welcome!

News from Behind the Bar

by Tim Gille

WINE OF THE MONTH!



MARCH
HARBOR RIDGE ~ Merlot ~ Wisconsin
Medium-bodied wine with hints of cinnamon and clove, soft tannins and a long finish



APRIL
MEOMI ~ Pinot Noir ~ California
Expressive dark berry, juicy strawberry, and toasty mocha flavors

To Keep You Laughing



Join the Hole-In-One Club! Hole-in-one insurance is available at the club for \$5.00 and is available to any golf member. You may sponsor drinks for anyone who is at the Club the day of your ACE only, and the insurance will cover your celebration costs at the bar. Eligible holes-in-one are those made at Stoughton Country Club from the day the course opens until the day the course closes for the winter.

Each time a Hole-in-One Club member scores a hole-in-one an additional \$5.00 will be charged to your member account. Any remaining balance in the fund at the end of the season will be used for the Hole-in-One Club party at the end of the year. Only Hole-In-One Club members are invited to the Hole-In-One Club cocktail party.

If you were previously enrolled in the Hole-In-One Club, you will be billed at the beginning of the season for each family member who was signed up the previous year.

If you would like to enroll in the Hole-In-One Club, please contact the Club office at (608) 873-7861.

Valentine Dinner 2022 - A Wonderful Time!



Chris Wagner, Jill Ott, Jill Buckles



Golf Tip

by Darcy Kelly

I'm back to check and see how the spring training is going? (And I'm not talking about baseball!)

Remember, Mr. Groundhog predicted an early spring, so let's get a move on!

A quick story on how a little diligence now can pay off later. My junior year in high school my neighbor who was a golf pro, talked me into spray painting golf balls bright orange. (Hmmm, we should have marketed that idea!)

Anyways, we shoveled snow off an area until we found frozen ground. We then hammered a golf tee

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in the ground and hit golf balls all winter long... this was not done on the actual golf course, of course! The balls were easy to find because of the glow in the snow. We also chipped golf balls into a net and utilized a putting mat. That summer I had my best competitive performances, and, in the fall, I was the state high school medalist.

I encourage you to put into practice the following ideas:

- Have a scheduled time to stretch and or practice. Incorporate it while you are watching TV or have a little down time.
- Practice visualization. Think of a particular hole or a specific shot on that hole which gives you trouble. I've heard comments on hitting the green on holes 6 and 9. Visualize the ball flight with the end result being the golf ball landing on the green - right next to the pin!! Our brain and positive thinking are more powerful than we give it credit for.

**Strive for progress
not perfection.**
-unknown

Think SPRING!!

**SPRING IS RIGHT
AROUND THE CORNER!**



Online Tee Time Booking

We look forward to having online tee time booking available this spring. We encourage you to take some time to practice and become familiar with the online tee time option. Your practicing will help you and it will help us to learn of any glitches that may be in the system.

ONLINE TEE TIME FEATURES:

- There will be a button on the Club's website home page (next to the calendar button) that says "Book Tee Time."
- Book your tee time from your cell phone, computer, call or stop by the golf shop. The website will be bookmarked on the computers in the Handicap Room for members to use.
- You can now book a tee time 14 days out.
- Do you have a group you regularly golf with? You can set up a "Buddy List"!
- Receive an email confirmation of your reserved tee time.
- See who is golfing. If the word "available" is shown, you are welcome to sign up for that day and time and join that group.
- You have 10 minutes to complete the reservation process - you can see the time remaining at the top of the page. If you take longer than 10 minutes, it will tell you that your transaction has expired, and you will need to re-login and begin again.

Visit, and bookmark, the Stoughton Country Club website (<https://www.stoughtoncountryclub.com>).

You will use the same login information you use to access your member account. If you do not have an email and password set up or experience issues, please call the office at (608) 873-7861.

Please be patient with us as we transition to the online tee time booking system. Thank you!

What's Happening

MARCH

- 1:** Fat Tuesday Celebration
- 13:** Daylight saving time begins at 2:00 a.m.
- 15-17:** St. Patrick's Day Celebrations w/Corn Beef and Cabbage - Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- 16:** Brackets Due for NCAA Tournaments
- 20:** Happy First Day of Spring!
- 24-25:** Sweet sixteen NCAA Games
- 26:** Golf Event with Basketball Picks

APRIL

- 5:** Great Dice Shake Off
- 9:** Euchre Tournament
- 17:** Easter Brunch - Happy Easter!
- 23:** Poker Tournament
- 29:** Callaway Fitting (Noon - 5 p.m.)

MAY

- 7:** Kentucky Derby Party
- 8:** Mother's Day Brunch - Happy Mother's Day!
- 15:** U13 SCC vs. Nakoma @ 4 p.m.
- 16:** Classic Matches Start
- 17:** McFarland Chamber Golf Outing
- 18:** Woman's Spring Fling
- 22:** U13 SCC vs. Door Creek @ 4 p.m.
- 29:** Couples Kick Off Golf Event with DJ
- 30:** Happy Memorial Day!

*Please note:
Events and dates subject to change.*



We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Mike Burie. Please know you are held closely in our thoughts and in our hearts during this difficult time.



March 13 -
Set your clocks ahead
one hour



March 17 -
St. Patrick's Day



April 17

Stoughton Country Club Course Visitor

There have been many fox sightings this winter. We have two fox dens on the property, one by the maintenance shop and the other between #1 green and #18 tee.



Photo courtesy of Jeff Schraml.

Wintertime Fun!

When wintering in Wisconsin, SCC members make the most of the snow. Soon the boys will put the skis away and get their clubs ready for the first round of the season.



Photo courtesy of Dave Mannis.

Dave Mannis, Eric Smedal, Steve Peterson, Jim Brandt, and Rick Conroy enjoying a Thursday ski trip to Cascade Mountain.