

The



Fox

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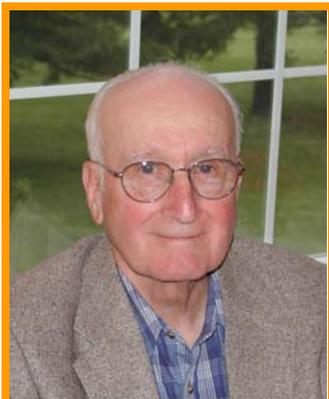
From the Membership Chair

We have not published a membership book since 2002 and the request was made at last winter's membership meeting that we do so. We would like to prepare a member directory of names and telephone numbers. Rather than actually publish the directory, we would put it online and make some copies for members who do not have computer access. If you would prefer NOT to have your name and/or phone number included in the directory, please communicate that to Laura in the business office by July 15. She can be reached at office@ballstonspacc.com or by phone at 885-1603. Again, this is an "opt out" request, you do not need to do anything to be included. If you have changed your contact information recently, you may want to be sure that Laura has your new information. Thank you.



Kate Oppedisano

From the Treasurer



June has been a very wet month with resulting reduction in income from outside play. In spite of this, and extra expenses incurred to upgrade the restaurant billing and reporting system, we are essentially within the overall projected budget at this time. I am confident that we will meet or exceed all forecasts for income, but remind all the members that we are the largest source of income for our club. Please inform your friends about the excellent condition of the course, the meals available here, and urge them to join us in enjoying benefits of membership.

Al Squire

Superintendent's Report

I want to first thank the membership for the great effort in keeping the carts off the fairways. It seems everyone has taken a great effort in working together in keeping our fairways as good as they can be. This past month my crew and I have been busy keeping up with the course. With all the rain we have been getting we have had to mow everything just about everyday. Our new rough mower that we bought over the winter has been out everyday to keep up with the rough. I think having two large rough mowers this year we have a better chance in keeping up with the rough. I am very excited about the upcoming member guest tournament next week. I hope everyone has a great time and let's hope for great weather. If anyone has any questions, please stop me and ask.



Steve Solisky



Do you run a league? Are you in charge of a tournament? Do you have an opinion about issues relevant to the management, care or other issues pertinent to BSCC? Do you have an announcement regarding events related to BSCC Members? Use the Fox to get your message out. Send all to wtucker2@nycap.rr.com or just drop it off at the office or golf shop.

Green Committee Report

Dave Runyon



Random thoughts from my visit to the U.S Open at Winged Foot

Being an avid fan of the U.S. Open Championship, I try to attend each time the tournament is held close enough to make the trip. In the last dozen years, I've been fortunate enough to attend the Open six times. Each time I come back with the same impression of the event: the golf course is the star attraction.

It's true that I enjoy the opportunity to see the players. But truly I can't help but smile when the course brings their games a wee bit closer to something I'm familiar with. This year being no exception, I saw and heard the usual muttering and the stray four-letter word fly. I saw golf bags being kicked, caddies scolded for bad advice on club selection, and a few clubs take to the skies. All this is the case at the U.S. Open because of the golf course. Winged Foot's west course played defense like Scott Stevens (it's a hockey thing), and I loved watching it. Thinking about what it was about the course that caused the players so much angst, there are a few things that I'd like to share:

-The rough was brutal as it usually is at the Open, but the fairways were relatively soft and the balls were not bouncing around like I've seen other years. The players missed the fairway with great regularity anyway.

BSCC – Have you taken note of the rough here lately? The grass seems thicker and healthier, and I can't seem to find the familiar patches of weeds in it any longer. A coincidence?

-The teeing grounds and the greens are all elevated. The tees were perfect (to be expected at a course like that). The sight line from the tees because they are raised was excellent. I'm certain that drainage also played a role in the decision to build them that way.

BSCC – As we consider tee work, we can learn from what we see at places like this.

-The greens were small, and the penalty for missing the green by more than a couple of feet was that the ball bounced away down a hill ON ALL SIDES. There were usually greenside bunkers on at least one side.

BSCC – Think about the right side of #4 green and what happens when you miss over there. Think about that being the case on each hole front, back, left, and right. Many holes looked like the right side of #18 green, except there would have been a deep bunker there (should we put one there?). Again, brutal.

The fairways were immaculate, which again one comes to expect from a course of the stature of a U.S. Open venue. They were very narrow, however, and that contributed to the number of players missing the fairways.

BSCC – The fairways here at home are looking as good as I've ever seen them in my years playing here. According to Steve, this is due to the combination of the aerification and top dressing program that began in the fall of 2004 and the careful application of the right chemicals to the turf. We're currently considering an over-seed program again for this fall, which will allow for the introduction of better turfgrass varieties into the mix.

Then there were the trees. Believe it or not, I spent time walking around this magnificent landscape looking at what the USGA had done with the trees. I read in the Washington Post, a publication on par with *The Fox*, that the USGA took out over 1000 trees on the west course in preparation for this Open Championship. I don't know what it looked like before, but it still looked like there were plenty enough trees to cause problems for the players who ventured near them. Ask Phil if you don't believe me.

BSCC – What was obvious to me was that their trees were spaced so that a ball far enough off the fairway to get near them would cause the player to have to play back to the fairway without the ability to advance the ball tremendously far. It was the placement and stagger that achieved the result and not just the quantity. You could easily see from hole to hole through the trees. The sun and air had no problem penetrating their cover. The trees were also limbed very high up in all cases. The trunks stood bare of branches until the upper portion of the hardwoods.

(continued on next page)

We began a tree program last year that continued with rigor during the winter months. Again, learning from the experts at the USGA and from seeing what other courses have done, we might take a page from Winged Foot and carefully continue our tree program here this coming fall and winter season.

Please keep your comments coming. I've had lots of good feedback from you over the last couple of weeks, and many great suggestions for things we can do to improve the conditions and playability of the course. As always, anyone interested in participating as a member of the green committee or the Adopt-A-Hole Program is invited to do so. Just let me know you are interested. Thanks, and have fun out there.

Tournament Committee Report

We have a few changes for the July Tournaments. We added a Tasting Evening for Friday July 21 at 5:30PM & the 2-Person Scramble was moved to Sunday July 23. Therefore, the upcoming July Tournaments are as follows:

Dates	Days	Tournament	Time	Start	Format	Chairperson	Fee Per Person
July 4	Tue	Holiday Mixed - food coupon at turn	9:30 AM	TT	2 BB of 4 Make your own team	Todd Manderson	\$20
July 12	Wed	Home & Home with The Skenandoa Club	1:00 PM	Shotgun	BB of Partners (Gross/Net)	Todd Manderson	\$40
July 13&14	Fri & Sat	Women's Member Guest	9:00 AM		2BB of 4	M. Assey, J. Taylor, R. Andrews	\$60
July 21	Fri	Tasting Evening	5:30 PM	Shot-gun	4 Person Scramble	Tom Hudy & Todd Manderson	\$25
July 23	Sun	2 Person Scramble	8:00 AM	TT / SG	Scramble	Tom Hudy	\$20

The weather for the June Tournaments was not as cooperative as we would have liked. The Men's Guest Day was shortened to 9 holes after the course became unplayable. The Men's Member/Member was shortened to a one day event. Even though the weather put a damper on those events Villaggio Greens did a great job accommodating the Guest Day participants by getting everything ready earlier than scheduled & putting on an outstanding appetizer spread for the Men's Member/Member.

Todd, along with his staff and Steve and his maintenance crew have been outstanding as always.

We did receive a few complaints about the pace of play at the Member/Member, however for the last two years we have tried to accommodate the entire membership not just the participants (90 tourney & 40 other = 130 golfers). To address the concerns about the pace of play the Tournament Committee will consider limiting the number of participants in scheduled events.

Also as a reminder if you have any questions or concerns about a specific Tournament please address that chairperson. If you have any concerns that should be brought to the Board of Directors please email me at tomhudy76@yahoo.com I will be sure to address all issues forwarded to me. Lastly, if you would like to make a difference in the member tournaments we welcome you to join us (Bob Cooper, Sue Delanoy, Tom Hudy, Steve Ludwin, Todd Manderson, Debbie Schwencke, Amy Upjohn & Roy Williams).

Tom Hudy

Bruce Kay asks the Senile Seniors to make a note that their 2006 outing will take place on August 24th. More details will be published in the August Fox.

Winners' Circle

President's Cup 6/4/06

1st Net: Jack Cottrell 65
2nd Net: Tucker 66
3rd Net: Bob MacFarlane 67
George Mahoney 67
5th Net: Tony Reed 68
6th Net: Paul Steves 69
7th Net: John Andrews 70
8th Net: Josh Cottrell 71
Bill Glindmyer 71

Men's Member/ Member 6/11/06

Championship Flight

1st: Larry D'Alberto
David Fizer 70
2nd: Jim Tedesco
Bob Cooper 70
3rd: Tony Ryan
Tim Fabozzi 73

B Flight

1st Gross: Bob Palumbo
Bill Glindmyer
1st Net: Tom Hudy
Chris Brady
2nd Net: Paul Dunkelbarger
Ken Stevens

C Flight

1st Gross: Jack Cottrell
Don Gallagher
1st Net: Pete Kanches
Hal Van Earden
2nd Net: John Keyzer
Walt Smith

Men's Guest Day 6/8/06

1st Gross: Jon Donavan Scott Davidoff Tom Latin Moe Mroczkowski	1st Net: David Bell Kurt Conroy Stan Trosick Terry Denny
2nd Gross: Doug Calvey Greg Calvey Sty Morris Keith McNabb	2nd Net: Ed Duval Doug Joslin Craig Farnsworth John Madden
3rd Gross: John Keyzer Scott Duffy Stef Sias Kenny Hall	3rd Net: Dick Cody Paul Guarnieri Jim Durkin Jack Jordan
4th Gross: Jon Paolucci Keith Reicheet Matt Moore Jim Toomey	Mike Lavigna Tony Ryan Jim Romano Tom Dean

Charlie Greenwood
Mickey Levornois
Mike Greenwood
John Longshore

Senior Member/Guest 6/22/06

1st Net: Bob Miskanin
John Hickey 61
2nd: Winston Wachtel
Bruce Homicz
3rd: Jud Sabey
Peter Britt
1st Gross: Dave Kaplan
Irv Finkel

Women's Member/Member 6/24/06

1st Gross: Mimi Kakob
Sue Kahler 71
2nd Gross: Fran Wayand
Kate Oppedisano 71
1st Net: Anne Jorgenson
Cindy Walkanowski 55
2nd Net: Barb Ashbee
Paulette Martin 57
3rd Net: Pat Stack
Marylaw Powell 57
4th Net: Pat Joseph
Jan Federice 60

From the Golf Shop

I would like to start off with a small piece of advice for all of you who enjoy walking our beautiful golf course. With the summer months in full swing right now I need to stress how important it is to keep fluids in your system while playing your round. Walking 18 holes here at BSCC is equivalent to walking 4 miles. As we all know BSCC has many hills which can take quite a toll on your body. It's important to make sure that you drink as much fluid as possible and keep your body hydrated while you play. Doing so will not only improve your health but will also help your stamina.

Ball Marks and Golf Carts

We are asking that all players do their best to fix ball marks and keep the carts in the rough as much as possible and cut at 90 degree angles when going into the fairways. The fairways are in nice shape and we would like to do our best to keep them in the best shape that we can.

Practice Time

I see many players who put a lot of time into the practice range and I would like to make a few recommendations to the membership. When you get to the range, try to hit balls and practice with a purpose. Try to shape the ball one way or the other, either from left to right or vice versa. Hit to the targets and pay attention to the distances that you are hitting the practice shots. When you get on the golf course your range tactics should apply to your overall aim.

Todd Manderson



Rules and Decisions

Striking the Ball

- A ball moving, such as falling off the tee, after the backswing has begun, may be struck without penalty
- A ball moving in water may be struck
- If a player ceases his intent to strike a ball on his downswing and intentionally alters the swing to miss the ball, he has not made a stroke. If there is any doubt about his intention, there is a stroke penalty.
- If a ball lies against an out of bounds fence, the player may strike at the ball from the other side of the fence, even though he strikes the fence first.
- If a player's ball lies close to a wall or other obstruction and after he places a club behind the ball there is only a 1/2 inch between the club and the ball, he will almost certainly have to "push" the ball to move it, rather than swing at it. This is not permissible.
- For whatever reason, a player decides to place the club head directly behind the ball and strike the shaft with his right hand while holding the club with his left. This is "pushing" the ball and is not allowed.
- A player is allowed to hold an umbrella over his head while putting. No one may hold it for him.
- A caddy or partner may not stand between a player and a setting sun in order to reduce the glare.
- Using adhesive tape on the hands for medical purposes is allowed, however binding fingers together to improve the grip or swing is a no-no. Applying tape to a glove to reduce wear or slipping is allowed. Go figure.
- If a bottle of liquid is placed on the green there is no penalty, unless it is being used to determine the slope of the green.
- The length of any club other than a putter may not exceed 48 inches.



Parring the 19th



Tucker

A friend was complaining about a course recently played. "I couldn't believe this course," my friend said, "the tees look like they'd been groomed with a bush hog and were positioned exclusively on the side of a 30 degree hill. The tee markers were pointing in any direction other than down the fairway, there were no ball washers, trash cans or hole signs within a sand wedge walk, and in some cases the tees were just a designated area of closely mowed jungle."

I had to ask where this abomination of a golf course was located and the answer was "Almost everywhere". You see, my friend is a woman. In a world where the corporate glass ceiling is at least rising, if not shattering, men continue to have the same Old Boy attitudes in one of the last bastions of chauvinism: the playground.

Aside from the practice of barring women from choice tee times at some clubs, there are other discriminatory policies and conditions that are gender oriented.

Most established golf courses are from an era that saw minimal female participation, therefore the course was designed mainly for the male contingent, with red tees and other women's amenities added as an afterthought. However, even women-friendly attempts at retrofitting were generally inadequate.

The USGA tells us the distance hit by bogey golfers of both sexes differs after three shots on a long par 5 by 32%. On other holes, it varies from 18-27%. If we take an average of 27%, only two local courses, Brookhaven and The Sagamore have the correct ratio of men:women yardage, with most coming in at 13-17%. BSCC comes in at 14% longer from the blue tees and 7% longer from the whites. Like BSCC, some courses compensate by making par 4's into par 5's from the red tees, but this is a band-aid answer which causes headaches for mixed tournaments and ignores the real solution.

The reason we didn't construct golf courses to be women friendly in the early 20th century is still true today: 99% of all golf course architects, club professionals and superintendents are male.

It's time golf course design moved into the 21st century. Let's start getting current with gender issues in golf. While we're making red tees level, let's thinking about creating a level playing field for both sexes.



From the House Chair

I'd like to apologize to our members who have had some problems in the restaurant.

This is Home Style's first venture running a full service restaurant, and they are going through some growing pains. They are trying very hard to please the members and guests. I hope if you have an issue with the food or service that you bring it to the attention of the manager on duty, and don't leave the restaurant unhappy.

Michael and I meet daily to discuss any problems or opportunities (for example, the Tuesday night buffet will be changing to better fit the need of the members). They recently hired a training person to organize and train the wait staff. A top priority is to provide faster response time for drink and food orders. We are all committed to making our members and guests enjoy our facility. Our wait staff and Kim are trying very hard to please our members, and most of the members are very generous with their gratuities. Somehow, this has not been the case this year. These girls work hard to earn money for college and to earn a living. Please support them as we have done in the past. Thank you

Carl Iovinella

Chopper's Corner

Doug Young



Last month, Tucker (was that really his picture?) asked "how did you get the bug?" and it prompted some memories that I thought were worth sharing.

I was 27 years old and working in sales to the oil industry in Bakersfield, California. The local chapter of the American Petroleum Institute held what they claimed to be the largest amateur golf tournament in the world, although the people at Guinness never confirmed that fact. But, the sold-out tournament was a scramble format played on five golf courses in the area and was followed by a Southwestern style barbecue at a park on the Kern River. I had attended the barbecue before but never played in the tournament as I had never attempted to play the game of golf up to that point. My boss, a bogey golfer, convinced me that I needed to take up the game as it would be good for my career and good for our business.

Thursday evening before the tournament, I went to a discount golf store and bought a set of used clubs, a bag and a couple dozen balls. The boss agreed to visit the driving range with me to give me a few pointers before my debut on Friday. After three large buckets of balls, I was getting the ball air-borne on about every other shot and it was moving somewhat toward the targets on the range. My boss declared me ready for the course and we had a discussion about etiquette over a couple of beers that evening.

On a gorgeous Friday afternoon at the Kern River Golf Course, we greeted our two playing partners at the registration desk and made our way to the 17th tee to await the sound of a horn for our shotgun start. It became obvious from the discussion that all three of my partners were familiar with the course and were experienced golfers as well. My confession about it being my first time on a golf course was met with encouragement and assurance that a scramble format was a good way to start.

At the sound of the horn, our first teammate, Greg Daisa stepped to the tee of this 220 yard, par 3 with his five-wood, took a relatively smooth swing and the ball left with a crack straight at the green. Two bounces on the green and a clunk of the flagstick later, the ball ended up in the hole for a smooth ace. It was the first shot I witnessed on a golf course as a player. Furthermore, I learned something about how golfers think right after Greg's hole-in-one. The rest of our group stepped up to the tee right after him, one-by-one, and attempted the shot that he had just accomplished perfectly. Like we were also going to make it?

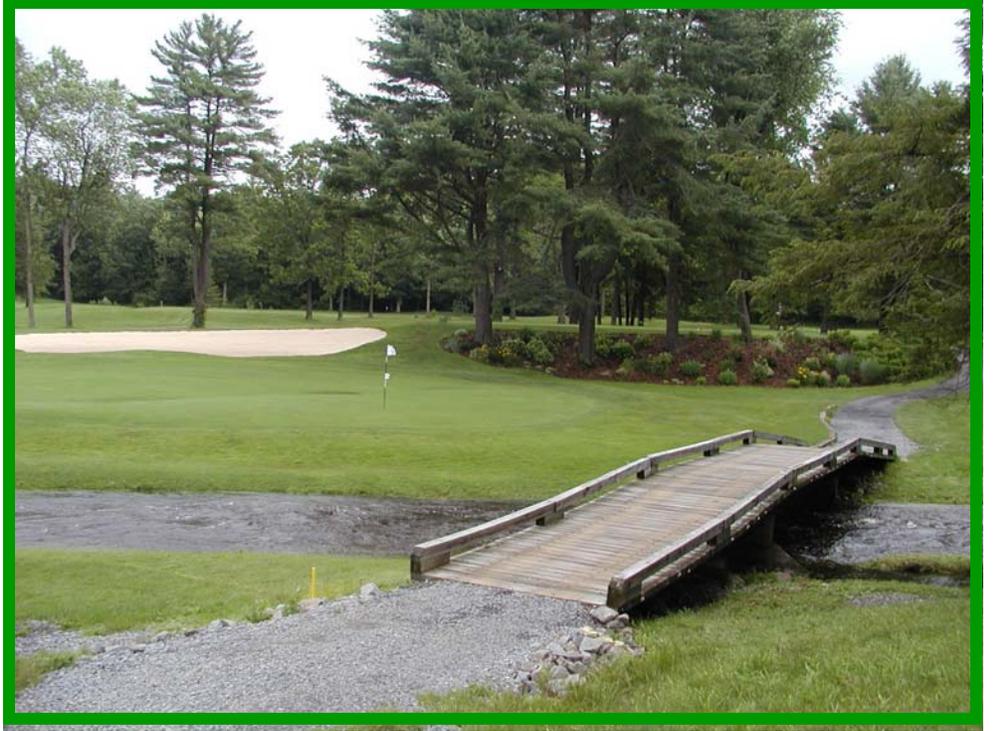
I didn't realize how special that hole-in-one was until several years passed before I saw the next one, again from someone else in my foursome in a charity golf event. That golfer, Bill Davidson from the Rochester area was the epitome of a chopper. Armed with full clips of yellow Top-Flite X-Outs, a t-shirt that said "Golf is my bag", Bill aced the 110 yard 2nd hole of the Coudersport Golf Club with a shot that never got more than six feet off the ground. A couple more highlights of that ace included the assistant reading the scores, three-by-three to the pro to record. Bill's 8-1-9 got a roaring laugh from the crowd surrounding the scoreboard. And, at the dinner where he was awarded the closest to the pin prize the crowd asked what he had hit for his ace. His response: A yellow Top-Flite X-Out!

I also saw Burt Martin ace our 17th hole in the practice round for the member-guest tournament a few years ago. Remarkable about that ace was the fact that Kate Oppedisano made a hole-in-one on the 2nd hole within seconds of Burt's shot finding the bottom of the cup. The golfing gods were somewhere overhead in that moment in time.

I've had the bug since that gorgeous Friday afternoon in Bakersfield. I'm still looking for the first hole-in-one from my own efforts and hope it is as much fun as the ones I've seen. See you on the course.

NEW MEMBER

Please welcome Peter Faith as a new member to BSCC for 2006. Peter lives on Saratoga Lake and joined BSCC after being at McGregor for four years. He thought that BSCC offered a better value, a better layout and a more relaxing atmosphere. He played our course a few times, liked the conditions and layout as well as the availability of a driving range. Since joining, he's found the course to be in excellent shape and a pleasure to play. He also is pleased with the way existing members have welcomed him. Welcome Peter!



***LOOKIN'
GOOD!***

***EVERYONE AGREES:
BSCC HAS NEVER LOOKED BETTER***

