



FAIRWAY NEWS

News & Happenings from
Whidbey Golf Club

**St. Patrick's Day
Dinner!**

Friday,
March 15,
5pm

WHIDBEY
GOLF CLUB

**SATURDAY
MARCH 23** **10:00 AM
SHOTGUN**

SPRING SHOOTOUT

**MENS CLUB
MARCH MADNESS
4PM MARCH 14**

**LADIES CLUB
SHORT & SWEET
9:30AM MARCH 28**

**EASTER BRUNCH
SUNDAY 31 MARCH**

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PRINTABLES!

(last two pages)

- Major Social and Golf Events
- Ladies + Mens Club Events

2024 HANDICAP UPDATE

There are three significant changes to the USGA's Handicap Program:

1. A lower minimum length for a golf course to obtain a Course Rating and Slope Rating

Before 2024, an 18-hole course had to be at least 3,000 yards to receive a Course Rating and Slope Rating (or 1,500 yards for 9 holes). With the 2024 WHS Revision, the yardage requirements have been cut in half, to 1,500 and 750 yards. This is good news for golfers who regularly play par-3 and shorter-length courses and have want to count those scores towards their handicap index.

2. A new treatment of 9-hole scores

In 2023 and previous years, 9-hole scores were combined in the order posted to create an 18-hole Score Differential. This meant that a 9-hole score could have been combined with another 9-hole score from days, weeks or even months before, which leads to volatile results.

Today when a player posts a 9-hole score, it is combined with their expected Score Differential over 9 holes to create an 18-hole Score Differential for immediate use. The expected score is based on the player's Handicap Index at the time the round is played as well as a course of standard difficulty. Expected score is defined as: The score a player is expected to achieve over a specified number of holes on a course of standard difficulty. It is calculated using the player's Handicap Index and attributes a numerical value against any hole or holes not played during a round. *Net par is no longer used for this purpose unless approved by the Handicap Committee.*

3. An updated approach for holes not played

Prior to 2024, when a hole was not played (examples – darkness, player illness and match finishing before final hole), the score was recorded as a net par. With the 2024 revision, when 10-17 holes are played, an 18-hole Score Differential is determined by adding a player's Score Differential from the holes played to an expected Score Differential for the number of holes not played. Since a player's expected score is not specific to a course or reliant upon the courses stroke index allocation (as net par was previously), this will lead to more consistency. To facilitate this change, when a player plays between 10-17 holes, they will be required to post their scores using the hole-by-hole option. This allows a Score Differential to be calculated based on the specific holes that were played, which is then combined with the player's expected score for the number of holes not played.

(continued on next page)

2024 HANDICAP UPDATE

(cont'd)

The following guidelines for calculating a player's handicap are still applicable in 2024.

1. Between March 1 and November 15 (PacNorWest Area), all round scores should be posted on the day played (if posting late, put in the date when the round was played) with **following exceptions**:

- A. Rounds played as a single (no marker).
- B. Rounds played to practice or when hitting more than one ball.
- C. Scores played with non-standard individual formats, such as scrambles, shambles, alternate shot, etc.
- D. **(New)** For an 18-hole score to be acceptable for handicap purposes, a minimum of 10 holes must be played. For a 9-hole score to be acceptable for handicap purposes, all 9 holes must be played. If a player has not played at least 9 holes, the score is not acceptable for handicap purposes.

2. Maximum hole score for posting is a net double bogey. For example, if the member scores a gross 8 on par 4 where they get a stroke, the maximum score they can record for posting on that hole is a 7 (double bogey 6 + stroke = 7). Adjust the total score on each hole accordingly and post the adjusted total score for the course played and the tees used.

3. Your handicap/index is calculated based on the low 8 of the last 20 scores. When you go to the GHIN app, the handicap index you see when you open the app IS NOT your course handicap. To get your handicap for the day, players should insert/select the course where they are playing, then select the tees they will be using. The app will show the player's handicap on that day for those tees.

Handicap Committee Members (me) spot check daily to ensure that members are posting their scores. Most current handicap issues include players inadvertently failing to post qualified rounds on the day of play or failing to use the max net double bogey score metric for their posted round. Individuals are personally contacted when discrepancies are noted in order to correct the error and educate them on current handicap guidelines.

If you have any questions regarding your handicap and posting guidelines, please contact me at tjford72@comcast.net.

Sincerely,
Tom Ford, WGC Handicap Chairman

House Happenings

March is the final month of the first quarter where members are required to spend \$150 quarterly in the restaurant and bar. With the past few months impacted by bad weather, many members have not visited our club regularly to use the clubhouse. To provide more opportunities to use your food and beverage minimum, we are increasing the frequency for Friday dinners to a weekly event. We also will be having themed events planned where you can join your friends and other members for fun social gatherings. Some of the upcoming events are a St. Patrick's dinner on Friday March 15th, and our family Easter Brunch on Sunday March 31st. We are also working on presenting a Wine and Food pairing event in April.

Other opportunities to use your food minimum is to enjoy a Sunday breakfast or come out and play golf with either the Men's or Ladies Clubs and stopping upstairs for something to eat or drink afterwards. I personally find it easy to meet my obligation just paying off my losses on the course.

If you are not sure where you stand in meeting your minimum requirements, you can stop by or call the business office for an update. *The club manager will work with any member who requires more time to use the 1st quarter minimum.* Again, thank you for supporting your club by using the bar and restaurant.

Dave Bargeon
House Chairman

Whidbey Ladies' Golf Association

MARCH EVENTS

(See LAST PAGE for 2024 Calendar)

Ladies' Short and Sweet Tournament:

Ladies dust off those clubs and come on out and join us for this fun event on March 28. Entry fee of \$20 and shotgun start at 9:30. Course is set up for ALL holes to be 100 yds or less par 3's.

Sign up sheet in locker room or RSVP to Diane Pierce (360)929-9325.



A Note from the Greens Chair

Already into March by the time this is printed, or finally into March, if like me, you are enjoying the longer days. We have had some up and down weather for this winter, but when we have been able to play, the course was in great shape, especially for this time of year. I am from the Midwest, so when I tell people I am mowing my yard and playing golf in February, they are quite envious. Speaking of mowing, our maintenance crew has switched from the winter and slow season projects and are doing a lot more mowing as conditions allow. A few of the projects that have been completed since the start of the year are the following:

- Drainage from #6 front bunker to the water hazard should now prevent standing water in the bunker and around the apron.
- Widening the blue tees on #3 tee box so the adjacent trees do not encroach the teeing area nor block as much sunlight.
- Drainage from #16 right bunker to prevent water filling the sand trap after a rain or snow melt. The maintenance crew installed some trenching and a drain.

In addition, to longer daylight hours, we had several weeks of seasonal rains. As you may have noticed, the Green Flags for carts have been out quite often, but there are still those areas of the course that are always wetter than other areas - specifically parts of #1, #4, #15, #16 and #18 fairways and areas between the fairway and tee boxes on #3 and #5. **Please stay on the cart paths on all par 3's, and as much as possible on other holes.**

Also, a reminder to please, please, please repair ball marks on the greens. Our greens are one of our showcases for our course. They are also the costly to maintain and repair, if needed. Taking a minute to repair ball marks will make a significant difference.

Thank you everyone and please come out and enjoy our gem of a course. And, if you have the opportunity, please let Trevor and his crew know how much they are appreciated.

Lastly, please reach out to me as the Greens Committee chair, with any questions, accolades, etc. Any complaints can be directed to our club president, John "Germ" Geragotelis. Ha! 😊

Sincerely,
Todd Krantz

Ladies 9-Hole News

from Linda Lathem

WGC Ladies 9-hole League held 3 indoor clinics with Laurel Gill during the chilly winter Wednesdays. Laurel covered positive affirmations, course setup, and management. Overall, thirteen ladies attended one or more of the clinics - all were well-received presentations. Everyone gained valuable tips to improve their game!

Niners League is an informal organization with no dues, by-laws, or required meetings. All golfing levels, membership categories, and guests are welcome! Gathering every Wednesday afternoon on the putting green, we reserve tee times after 1 pm. Entering any competition is strictly voluntary and includes chip-ins and 50-50 raffle tickets at \$1 each. New this year: \$3 per round to compete for golf balls which will help fund our awards happy hour buffet at the end of the season.

Hopefully, future ladies' clinics will restart out on the ranges during April as well as our Challenge 36 on shortened course layouts. Here is our 2024 schedule:

- Division 1: All holes are par 4's from 30-yard tees on Wednesday, 4/3 and 4/10. So, all you need are wedges and a putter to start our season. It's a great way for us to restart our golf season and for new golfers to figure out which clubs work best from various distances ...a great walk in the park with new friends as well!
- Division 2: All holes from 50 yards on Wednesday, 4/17 and 4/24.
- Division 3: All holes from 100 yards begins in May (in June we will move to Orange tees and be able to post scores).

Our summer eclectic also begins in June and includes recognition for most improved and most rounds completed by October. There are several fun formats scheduled for each week after we complete the Challenge 36, including a summer exchange with 9-hole leagues from neighboring courses. Players will be invited via golf genius e-mail, so any ladies not already receiving them, just let the pro shop know you want to be added to our roster.

All golfing levels, membership categories, and guests are welcome. Currently, there are 46 ladies listed in our roster. A warm welcome to our newest members Chris Sayers, Suzy Hutchinson, Kathy Vass, Kathy Doll, Cindi Stoll, Megan Mills, & Paula Kestenbaum.

MENS CLUB UPDATE

from Roger Pierce and Rich Rosenberg

Our Men's Club Committee met on February 15 and set the schedule for 2024 (see the **LAST PAGE**). This year we will have 15 events running from March - October, culminating with our Men's Club Championship on October 24th. All Whidbey men golfers and their guests are welcome to play in any of these events.

There are no dues, just a \$12 entry fee to participate in each competition. Payouts for the winners will be golf balls (like we did last year), however in each event this year we are adding an optional \$5 side game "Honey Pot" (usually KPs, Skins, or Longest Putt) with the winners paid out in cash.

As in 2023, we will have a hosted dinner, no-host bar awards ceremony/social on November 14th, and JR Russell has agreed to provide the entertainment again. Thanks to Tom Ford and JR for volunteering to coordinate this event. We had over 50 men attend last year, and we hope to have a much bigger event this year. **All WGC men golfers are invited to this free meal.**

Our first competition this year on **Thursday, March 14 at 4PM** Shotgun, will be "*March Madness.*" Teams will be made up into 3-somes or 4-somes, depending on how the numbers work out. The competition will be "One Low Net" of the team using Stableford scoring. The man who has the low net for the team, will then try one putt from a designated area for extra Stableford points. His option will be a 2-footer for one point (Free Throw) OR a 6-footer for 2 points (Mid-Range Jumper) OR a 10-footer for 3 points (Beyond the Arc). If two or more men tie for low net, the team may choose between them for the "extra point shooter."

Our other **March 28 event is a 2PM** 18-hole shotgun start, "*Short & Sweet.*" This coincides with the ladies club "Short & Sweet" played earlier that morning. All holes will be set up with distances from 60-100 yards and this is a great opportunity to work on your short game. For this team competition, players will get half their handicaps and there will be multiple KPs. Trust me, for speed of play, you will want to ride in a cart for this event due to the long distances from the green to the next tee box. This is one of only two 18-hole events that we currently have scheduled, but we may add one or two more in the summer.

See you on the links,
Rog (Pierce) & Rich (Rosenberg)



Golf News from the Head Pro

... David Phay

Congratulations to Team Whidbey on another exciting victory over Team Reno at Bandon Dunes. We were behind heading into the last day - Singles Matches - but convincingly came from behind to secure the coveted Cup!



Team Whidbey Bandon Pic's



SUPER BOWL SCRAMBLE RESULTS

Pos.	Foursome	Stableford Points
1	Snavely, Keith + Krantz, Todd + Carson, William + Snavely, Brian	117
2	Jon, Phay + Phay, Jim + Phay, Marsha + Norris, Rick	114
3	Contreras, Adam + Crawford, Tyler + Bighouse, Andrew + Salatka, George	113
4	Dahlen, Arik + Elvebak, Ryan + Waller, Jeff + Elvebak, Mel	110
5	Wyer, Tim + Wyer, Logan + Wyer, Aiden + Anderson, Steven	109
6	Wood, Tobias + Wood, Jason + Johnson, Aaron + Smith, David	108
7	Tercero, Robert + Melnick, Todd + Amundson, Jeremy + Shelley, Tim	106
8	Lacey, Michael + Upchurch, Bernie + Lee, Dylan + Kubisiak, Tj	105
T9	Bowles, JB + Runk, Alice + Chaykin, Janet + Sheridan, Gary	104
T9	Collins, Eric + Reed, Trevor + Gentry, Eric + Gentry, Scott	104
11	Vass, Tracy + Murdy, Jared + Farris, Fred + Helm, Matthew	102
12	Gano, Mike + Prewitt, Michael + Ancheta, Alex + Gifford, Elton	100
13	Beargeon, Dave + Cushway, Gene + Ford, Pat + Sayers, Tom	94
14	Rodgers, Mike + Rodgers, Jeffrey + Geragotelis, John + Tod, Keith	92
15	Ford, Tom + Kidd, Thomas + McMahan, Tim + Nunn, Rick	73
16	Rosenberg, Rich + Boonstra, Gary + Laphorne, Bill + Yurcina, Chuck	72

TEAM SKINS

HOLE #9 & 15	TERCERO, MELNICK, AMUNDSON, SHELLEY
HOLE #17	BOWLES, RUNK, CHAYKIN, SHERIDAN
HOLE #16	WOOD, WOOD, JOHNSON, SMITH
HOLE #12	PHAY, PHAY, PHAY, NORRIS
HOLE #2	SNARELY, KRANTZ, CARSON, SNARELY

KP'S

HOLE #2	JON PHAY	2'7"
HOLE #7	JIM PHAY	11'3"
HOLE #13	BILLY CARSON	1'4"
HOLE #17	SCOTT GENTRY	21'3"



TWENTIETH ANNUAL SVC SPRING SCRAMBLE

Price: \$120 per player
Date: Sunday, March 17th, 2024
Location: Avalon Golf Course

Shotgun Start at 12:00 noon
Check-in begins at 10:30 am



Your entry fee includes the following:

- 18 holes of Golf at Avalon Golf Course
- Golf Carts and free refreshments
- Unlimited use of the driving range
- Barbecue Dinner immediately following
- Awards Ceremony and Silent Auction
- Long Drive and Closest to the Pin Contests
- A variety of prizes throughout the day



There will also be other events you can enjoy:

- Putting Contest • \$10 Keg Cup
- Designated Driver Hole
- Marshmallow Long Drive
- Par 3 Insurance



The format of the tournament is a four-person scramble. Each person will hit a ball off the tee, and the team will select the best shot. Every player will then hit from that location and the team will choose the best shot again. This will continue until the ball is holed out. This is a great format, and players of any skill level are more than welcome. The focus will be on having fun and raising money for the college golf team. We are really excited to see you all out there again, and we will work hard to make it a wonderful day!!

Proceeds will support:
Skagit Valley College's
Men's and Women's Golf Teams

Team Name _____

Players names _____

Handicap or Average Score _____

Make checks payable to:
 Cardinal Booster Club

Mail entry form and payment to:
 Daniel Graber
 Skagit Valley College
 2405 East College Way
 Mount Vernon, WA 98273

For more information contact:
 Daniel Graber
 360-416-7896
 E-mail: daniel.graber@skagit.edu

Method of Payment

- Cash
 Check

- Visa
 MasterCard

Credit Card # _____

Signature _____

Exp. date _____

Whidbey Golf Club

2430 SW Fairway Lane
Oak Harbor, WA 98277
www.whidbeygolfclub.com

Board of Trustees:

John Geragotelis – President
TJ Kubisiak – VP / Secretary
Mike Prewitt – Treasurer
Dave Bargeon
Todd Krantz
Bernie Upchurch
Jeff Waller

Managers:

General Manager – Arik Dahlen
arik@whidbeygolfclub.com
Head Professional – David Phay
dave@whidbeygolfclub.com
Superintendent – Trevor Thorp
poa_thorp@hotmail.com
Chef – Rhandel Epe
chef@whidbeygolfclub.com

Contact Information

Phone: 360-675-5490
Business Office: Extension 2
office@whidbeygolfclub.com
General Manager: Extension 3
House / Restaurant: Extension 4
Pro Shop: Extension 1

Committee Chairs

Club House and Restaurant
--Dave Bargeon
Finance / Treasurer
--Mike Prewitt
Greens and Grounds
--Todd Krantz
Golf Activities
--Jeff Waller
Membership
-- Bernie Upchurch
Ladies' Club
-- Anna Anderson

Club Hours

Office (Tue – Fri)
9:00 am – 3:00 PM
Pro Shop
Mondays: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Tues – Sun: Sunrise – 5:00 pm

Restaurant
Weds – Sat: 11:00 am – 8:00 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

WGC 2024 MAJOR SOCIAL AND GOLF EVENTS

(as of 2 MAR

Subject to change - SEE WGC WEBSITE CALENDAR)

MAR 15 - FR	ST PATRICK'S DAY DINNER
MAR 23 - SA	SPRING SHOOTOUT - 4 PERSON BEST BALL (10AM SG)
MAR 31 - SU	EASTER BRUNCH
APR 13 - SA	WGC CELEBRATE MASTERS - X-COUNTRY PAR 3
APR 15-17/M-W	COURSE CLOSED FOR AERIFICATION
APR 19 - FR	WINE AND FOOD TASTING SOCIAL
MAY 4 - SA	WGC 2 PERSON BEST BALL BY <i>WHIDBEY DENTAL</i>
MAY 5 - SU	CINCO DE MAYO PARTY
MAY 11 - SA	WGC OPEN HOUSE (BRIDGESTONE FITTING)
MAY 12 - SU	MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH
MAY 18 - SA	MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY
MAY 24-26/FR-SU	MENS INVITATIONAL BY <i>MOUNTAIN MIST</i>
JUN 1 - SA	OHHS ATHLETICS SCRAMBLE - 1PM (8:30AM MBR SG)
JUN 8-9/SA-SU	ISLAND CUP: GALLERY VS WGC (PING FITTING)
JUN 16 - SU	FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH
JUN 27&28/TH-FR	LADIES INVITATIONAL BY <i>WHIDBEY LOCAL</i>
JUL 26-28/FR-SU	5-PERSON BEST BALL BY <i>MELNICK AND SONS</i>
AUG 10-11/SA-SU	WGC MENS & LADIES CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS
AUG 16 - FR	CHAMBER SCRAMBLE - 1PM (8:30AM MEMBER SG)
AUG 24&25/SA-SU	COUPLES CHAPMAN BY <i>PACIFIC GRACE</i>
SEP 7&8/SA-SU	WGC MEMBER-GUEST - LOTS OF FUN AND GOLF
SEP 9-11/MO-WE	COURSE CLOSED FOR AERIFICATION
SEP 27 - FR	BEER AND CIDER PAIRING DINNER EVENT
SEP 28/SA	ANNUAL YOUNGLIFE GLOWGOLF CHARITY SCRAMBLE
OCT 4-6/FR-SU	WGC PRESIDENTS CUP (TOP 16 ON POINTS LIST)
OCT 18 - FR	OCTOBERFEST DINNER
OCT 19 - SA	FALL 5 BALL - 4 PERSON SCRAMBLE + 1 CHOKER
OCT 31 - TH	TRUNK OR TREAT
NOV TBD	APPLE CUP - 2 PERSON BEST BALL & MATCH PLAY
DEC 13 - FR	WGC HOLIDAY PARTY
DEC 31 - TU	WGC NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

WGC 2024 LADIES CLUB; MENS CLUB EVENTS as of 2 Mar

ALL EVENTS THURSDAY - LADIES 9 AM; MENS 5 PM - UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

- MAR 14 MENS (4 PM) MARCH MADNESS
- MAR 28 LADIES (9:30AM) SHORT & SWEET; MENS (2PM) SHORT & SWEET
- APR 4 LADIES SPEEDY SCRAMBLE
- APR 11 LADIES 2 PER BB BLIND DRAW; MENS PROGRESSIVE TEES
- APR 25 LADIES ACE OF THE MONTH; MENS 3-CLUB TEAM 2-NET
- MAY 2 LADIES PROGRESSIVE BEST BALL
- MAY 9 LADIES FRIENDLY FOURS; MENS HORSE RACE
- MAY 16 LADIES ONE GROSS ONE NET
- MAY 23 LADIES MUTT N JEFF
- MAY 30 LADIES ACE OF TGHE MONTH; MENS SCRAMBLE
- JUN 6 LADIES PRO-PICK;
- JUN 13 LADIES 3 PER BB BLIND DRAW; MENS 1,2,3 NET BB
- JUN 19 WED 9AM MENS EXCAHNGE USELESS BAY (THERE)
- JUN 20 LADIES ACE OF THE MONTH
- JUN 26 WED 9AM MENS EXCAHNGE USELESS BAY (HERE)
- JUN 27-28 / TH-FR LADIES INVITATIONAL BY WHIDBEY LOCAL
- JUL 2 LADIES PLANT THE FLAG;
- JUL 11 LADIES 3 CLUBS + PUTTER; MENS PICK YOUR TEES
- JUL 18 LADIES T'S AND F'S;
- JUL 25 LADIES ACE OF THE MONTH; MENS CHAPMAN
- AUG 1 LADIES MISS PIGGY;
- AUG 8 LADIES TEAM SCRAMBLE; MENS SHAMBLE
- AUG 10-11 / SAT-SUN WGC MENS AND LADIES CHAMPIONSHIPS**
- AUG 15 LADIES TOE;
- AUG 22 LADIES BETTER 9; MENS BLIND DRAW 2-SOMES
- AUG 29 LADIES ACE OF THE MONTH;
- SEP 5 LADIES STABLEFORD; MENS PROGRESSIVE TEES
- SEP 12 LADIES AUTO 2-PUTT;
- SEP 19 LADIES NET SKINS;
- SEP 26 LADIES ACE OF ACES; MENS CHOKER
- OCT 3 LADIES CARD TRICKS;
- OCT 10 LADIES ODD OR EVEN; MENS (4:30 PM) STABLEFORD
- OCT 17 LADIES 2 PER BB;
- OCT 24 LADIES MULTI-TEE SCRAMBLE; MENS CLUB CHAMPION (12:00 PM)
- OCT 31 LADIES NO CRYIN' IN GOLF;