



www.sgaofatlanta.org

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Vice-Pres: Ron Wade
Secretary: Ted Pogue
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JJ Goldsack 2023

Past President

Dave Mueller
770-298-2829

Chaplain

Norm Jaros
404-636-2159

Table Captains

Monday

Kevin Anderson 404-513-6347

Tuesday

John Cyran 404-272-1571

Wednesday

Ron Wade 706-318-2379

Thursday

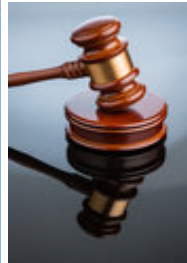
Bob Remich 404-822-1379

Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP

Volume 67 Issue 5

May 2023



President

Larry Fauconnet

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Every month the same thought comes to mind: "Didn't I just write one of these?". And the answer is: "Yes!" It seems the year is screaming by. We've already completed our first of four out-of-town events, about a quarter of our scheduled games, and half of our annual Board of Director meetings.

The out-of-town event at Little Ocmulgee was another great success. Our attendance was up year-over-year and all had a great time. Another one is just around the corner. I hope to a similarly great turnout at Smoky Mountain.

We also completed two CPR training sessions organized by Harry and conducted by Steve Holbrook. I believe the combined attendance at both approached 30. Thanks to Harry and Steve, we should all feel just a bit safer.

Sadly, we lost another Member when Jeff Burke passed early in the month. Jeff will be missed. We should be sure not to take any of our days in the sun and rounds with friends on the course for granted.

On a more positive note, we've gained 14 new members thus far this year. Let's keep that trend going!

Our 2nd quarter board-of-directors meeting covered a broad variety of topics. The key topics, in short, included:

- A vote to take no action for the time being on the acquisition of AEDs (defibrillators). Though we discussed the matter at length. The overall feeling of the BOD was that the primary response to an event should be immediately performing CPR while another player contacts 911.
- We addressed the increase in "irregular issues" arising during play that are not covered specifically by our current rules or USGA rules. Things such as how to deal with groups accidentally

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hitting from the wrong tees or what to do in the event that close-up pins are removed from the green but not replaced. The BOD voted to add a rule that in such cases, the table captain will have broad authority to adjudicate these matters, with the members impacted having the ability to appeal the decision of the table captain to the rules committee.

- We were made aware that our club doesn't currently have any insurance covering the club, its officers, and directors in the event of litigation. After some discussion the BOD voted to acquire this insurance. This is a common-sense practice for organizations such as ours.
- We addressed an issue raised by a member regarding inconsistencies regarding how we treat drops for various water holes, primarily par-3s. Some we have traditionally dropped on the far side, though such drop zones are not always marked, while USGA rules indicate that we should drop along the line of flight prior to the ball crossing into the hazard. The tee-box committee has been asked to undertake the standardization of drop zones for such holes.
- We discussed a member suggestion to allow members to opt out of the table fee. We voted to take no action on that suggestion at this time.
- We also discussed member-growth efforts. One proposal discussed was the sponsoring of a golf tournament for a charitable organization as an instrument for promoting the club. A working group was designated to further explore the proposal.

Please remember to abide by course requests regarding cart-path-only holes; treat all the courses we play with care and respect; judiciously & thoughtfully use handicap allowances where authorized, and play "ready golf" – do all you can to keep up our pace of play!



***Do you know who this is...
or this member?***



Well, wonder no more, head on over to the SGAA website (<http://www.sgaofatlanta.org/>) and select "Photo Directory" from the "More" menu and you will discover who both of these members are and possibly many more.

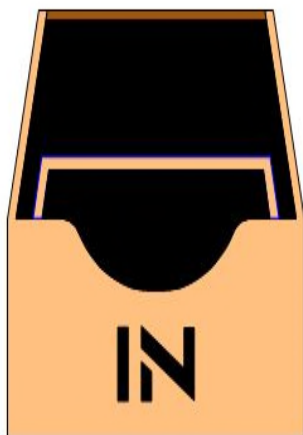
While you're checking out the Photo Directory, look to see if your picture is included. If not, take a minute to snap a picture and send it along with your name and membership number to steve.puster@gmail.com or look me up at the golf course and I'll take your picture

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Vice President

Ron Wade

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Praise For The Back Office

The analogy to an iceberg fails, but much of the important business of SGAA takes place below the surface. Let's have a look at some of what goes on virtually unnoticed (unless there's a glitch, of course).

This month we'll compliment the table workers. They arrive early for every tournament and stay late. They are responsible for the final roster and collect the tariff for play. But they also interpret score cards, which sometimes means they must deal with difficult handwriting (is that a 6 or an 8? or maybe a 5?) and basic arithmetic.

Then there's the Proximity Pins. Pins must be prepared in advance, and assigned to foursomes for placement and pick-up. Usually this is routine, but on rare occasions pins are not picked up, resulting in the necessity for one of the table workers to tour the course in search of the missing pins.

The table captain's job starts a week before the round, and isn't over when the round is complete. He must call the course to confirm the round and course conditions. He's also our weatherman, and must decide whether we play when inclement weather threatens. He must prepare the reports, insure their correctness, forward them for review, back up the scores and make the deposit. Occasionally he must also respond to calls from members about the results.

We can thank the table workers by keeping accurate and legible scores, signing and attesting scorecards, and using the correct flight designations on the Proximity cards.

In future articles we will discuss other back office activities.

In Memorium

Lest we forget, this golf we play is just a game. A game we enjoy as often as we can. These members passed away this year and no longer have that opportunity let us not forget them. Let us offer this golfer's prayer...

"For all the times I have swung a club, for the many friends and the game I love, for the patience I have found in sand or rough, for the excitement of making the shots though tough; for success is not measured by holes in one; but by the times that are shared when having fun.

Lord would you grant me one last request; to play You a round of the game I love best."

Jim Hood member since 1995

Bob Smith member since 2000

Jeff Burke member since 2021

EVENTS FOR
MAY 2023

May 2
TUES: 8:30 a/m
Bear Creek \$36

May 3
WED: 8:30 a/m
Honey Creek \$30

May 4
THUR: 8:30 a/m
Ashton Hills \$32

May 8
MON: 8:30 a/m
Mystery Valley \$34

May 10
WED: 8:30 a/m
PAR 3
Honey Creek \$30

May 11
THUR: 8:30 a/m
Browns Mill \$32

May 15
MON: 8:30 a/m
Bear Creek \$36

May 16
TUES: 8:30 a/m
Smoke Rise \$35

May 18
THUR: 8:30 a/m
Georgia National \$35

May 22
MON: 8:30 a/m
Chimneys \$45

May 23
TUES: 8:30 a/m
Southland \$32

May 28
WED: 8:30 a/m
Honey Creek \$30

May 30
TUES: 8:30 a/m
Providence \$35

May 31
WED: 8:30 a/m
Crystal Lake \$35

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Secretary
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We begin May 2023 with 211 active members Three Members have passed away in March, Jim Hood, Bob Smith and Jeff Burke.

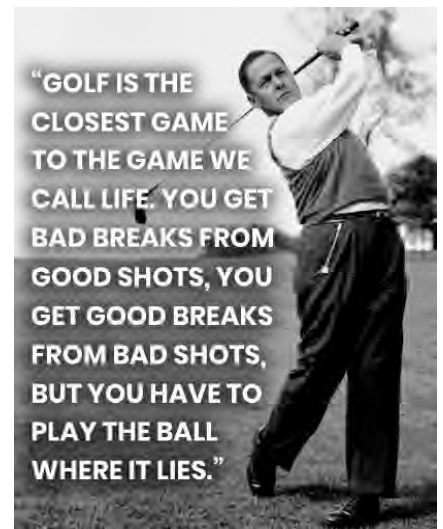
Keep up the good work on the new applications. We are accepting applications for 2023. Application forms are available at each registration table or by contacting me.

New applications should include a check for \$50 to insure membership.
MAKE SURE THAT ALL THE BLANKS ON THE APPLICATION FORM ARE FILLED OUT. MAKE SURE THEY ARE EASILY READ.

Continue to ask your friends and neighbors if they would like to join us. Get your blank applications from the registration tables. New applicants must have two (2) sponsors.

SEE YOU ON THE COURSE!!!!!!!!!!!!

ENJOY THE FINE FELLOWSHIP AND GOOD GOLF!!!!!!!!!!



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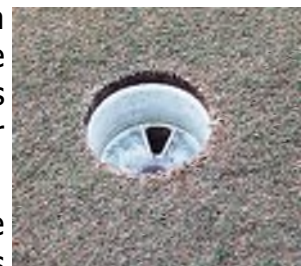


Rambling from Tee to Green

We like to believe that we are good stewards of the game of golf; that we play at a reasonable pace and we leave the course no worse than when we arrived. That really isn't the case. There is at least one course, according to what I've been told, that has not renewed our contract because we take too long to finish the round. Pace of play can be a mindset. We've played rounds that seemed to take forever and in actuality it was a round just over four hours. What's slow to one player might be a hurried pace for another.

What is not a mindset and can be documented is damage to the course. Case in point, we played Bear Creek on March 30th. There were sixty-six players that day, and due to our later than usual pre-registration our threesome started in the middle of the pack; there were thirty-five players ahead of our group.

The greens at Bear Creek were replaced toward the end of last year and were a rather expensive outlay for the new owners. The practice green is exactly like the greens on the course which is not always the situation for all the courses we play. I make this point because of what we encountered as we made our way around the course.



The condition of the cup as we started was like the picture shown here (picture taken of the cup on the first green we played). It's obvious the placement was not changed that morning by the fringe around the edges. But that fringe is uniform. And the green abutting the cup is flat.



As we progressed through our round we noticed a deterioration of the green abutting the cup. The deterioration got progressively worse until all the greens we encountered looked like the one on the left (picture of actual green condition). Not only is edge of the cup chewed up, the surrounding green is elevated slightly.

Gentlemen, there is NO EXCUSE for damaging the greens like this. There might be a reason, but no excuse. It's obvious golfers are using their putter head to extract the ball from the hole. I don't know if it's physical condition or laziness causing the use of the putter head instead of bending over and picking the ball out of the hole.

There are plenty of inexpensive devices that can be attached to the grip end of the putter to extract the ball from the hole without causing damage. I recommend anyone that is currently using the putter head as a pick up tool get one of these devices before we lose another course.

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**PAR 3 TOURNAMENT
HONEY CREEK
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10TH
8:30 A/M
SPECIAL \$10 TABLE FEE**

It's great that you long hitters can get 250+ yards off the tee; but how good is your short game?

Don't think you've got it where you want it to be? Then it's time to get it together because in a few short weeks you'll be put to the test.

That's right; SGAA is holding another Par 3 Tournament at Honey Creek on Wednesday, May 10th. This will be a shotgun start at 8:30 a/m. Special \$10 per player table fee applies for this event.

Payouts will be the same as our normal dogfight tournaments plus a low gross for each flight.

There's only a few short weeks left to dial in those distances and hone your aiming skill before this event.

Par for the course from the back tees is 68 and from the forward tees is 69 - though our treatment of the course will bring it up to 71 or 72 as we turn the longer par-4s into par fives. From the back tees, the course plays to 5,108 yards. The longest hole on the course is # 7, a par-5 that plays to 485 yards from the back tees. The shortest hole on the course is the par-3 #15 that plays 101 from the back tees.

As a mountain course, there is some elevation (more than the Waynesville Inn Golf Resort, but less than Smokey Mountain by our estimation). The most challenging hole is the par-4 16th hole, which has been featured in Golf Digest due to it's challenging nature. The challenge was created by the power company taking advantage of its right-of-way and placing several poles on top of a hill that dominates the left-center of the fairway. We'll be giving away a free sleeve of balls to any who can birdie this baby (though, it will be easier the second time you play it – it looks more intimidating than it really is).

As a point of reference. Dave, Ron and I played the course and we all would have made our points (+/- 1).



The Terrace Hotel at Lake Junaluska

We currently have 30 lake-facing rooms blocked at the Terrace Hotel at Lake Junaluska. The Terrace Hotel offers modern comforts and breathtaking views of the lake. We currently have 14 rooms with 2 queen-sized beds, 12 rooms with 1 king-sized bed, and 4 handicap rooms with 2 double beds.

Nestled in the heart of Lake Junaluska, the hotel has 105 guest rooms and is directly across a road (not a very busy road) from the lake-front venue where we'll be dining on Sunday and Tuesday evenings. Being on the lake, the Hotel is also convenient to the Rose Walk which encircles the lake and a gift shop (also in the building where we'll be dining).

We'll be taking advantage of the Terrace Hotel's dining room for a hot buffet breakfast on all three mornings of our stay.

The Terrace hotel also features a large great room with rocking chairs, board games (chess, etc.) and a large stone fireplace.

The hotel is located less than five minutes driving from the golf course.



Registration Form

SGAA Member-Guest 2023

Lake Junaluska, NC

1-4 October, 2023



Lake Junaluska Conference & Retreat Center
91 North Lakeshore Drive, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745

- Challenge yourself with three rounds of golf at the historic, 103 year-old Lake Junaluska Golf Course.
- Lodging in lake-front rooms at the Terrace Hotel offering breathtaking views of the mountains and lake.
- Enjoy three hot buffet breakfasts at the Terrace dining room overlooking the lake.
- Join us for two group dinners (Sunday & Tuesday) in a private space overlooking the lake adjacent to the Terrace Hotel
- A boat-tour of the lake followed by a light lunch and/or a shopping trip into Waynesville are being arranged for guests on Monday and/or Tuesday. (Price to be determined)

All packages include:

- 3 rounds of golf per players
- 3 breakfasts and 2 dinners per person

8:30 Tee Times
each Day

Check
Option

Occupancy	Price	✓
Single	\$895 per person	
1 Player + 1 Non-playing guest (Couples, etc.)	\$1,045 per couple (player+ non-playing guest)	
Shared room – 2 players	\$650 per person*	

*Shared room per-person rates require two people to split the room expense. If only one comes, that person will need to cover the total single occupancy rate per room)

** Additional packages/adjustments may be possible if available on a case-by-case basis

Name: _____ SGAA Member# _____

Guest: _____ Guest Handicap (if applicable) _____

SGAA Roommate: _____ SGAA Member# _____

Make Checks Payable to SGAA
Mail Reservation Form & Check to:
Larry Fauconnet
4439 Foxfire Crossing
Stockbridge, GA 30281

Golf Format: Dogfight

- Monday: Four-man teams (A,B,C,D)
- Tuesday: Two-man teams (A/B vs. A/B & C/D vs C/D)
- Wednesday: Individual dogfight

Check Preference

1 King

2 Queen

Handicap (2
Double)

Registration Deadline is August 15th. No refunds past registration deadline.

Steve Puster
122 Salem Ridge Drive
McDonough, GA 30253