

Men's Golf League News, January – 2024

Fake News Reporter - Tad Lague

The Men's League winter golf schedule is back with all the usual suspects standing out there behind the Pro Shop in the cold on Thursday mornings waiting their pairings and starting hole assignments while wearing an assortment of clothes layers which will gradually be peeled off as the day (hopefully) warms up.

The Lake Fairways Golf Course is in fantastic shape. When interviewed out on the driving range, Canadian and winter resident, **Rob McIntosh** was quoted saying "I've been coming here for 16 years, and I've never seen the course in such good condition."

Rob joins a host of winter residents who were pleasantly surprised to see that the course has not only recovered from Hurricane Ian's devastation but through the concerted efforts, dedication and knowledge of his trade, our **Superintendent, Scotty Helmig** has transformed our home course into a very challenging but playable venue.

A few sore spots are being dealt with, including the soggy grass to the left of the 3rd green which apparently is a leaky pipe underneath the cart path. Scotty cruises the course daily to stay abreast of pressing issues and thanks the observant members for pointing them out.

The sand traps have new sand and are drag-raked at least once a week, leaving no excuse for a free drop out of a bunker. It's time to learn how to hit a bunker shot. There is a practice sand trap down at the driving range and I'm sure instructor, **Dave Leonard** can help master the art of getting the ball out of a bunker and onto the green. "Sand saves offer a high degree of satisfaction." says Coach Dave.

Speaking of sand traps, golfers are still not cleaning up after they leave the bunker. We're seeing feeble attempts using the wedge or just raking the spot of the incident and not raking the footprints created when entering and leaving the bunker. This is very inconsiderate to anyone playing behind you and displays a lack of common golf etiquette.



The Lake Fairways Bureau of Investigation (LFBI) has collected clues into what is being called the **Cinderella Case** and is looking for the shoe and golfer who match these footprints discovered in the bunker on the left side of the 15th green in a blatant disregard for fellow golfers. Photos of the entire offense too gruesome to show here.

When contacted for comment, Course Marshall **John Westfere** said,

“You know who you are. If the shoe fits, you can’t acquit.”

The Hole-in-One Report is again disappointingly void of any reported Holes-In-One. We depend on the Men’s League members to report any such events with the names of witnesses, hole number, club used, relevant details and a photo. If you get an ace, don’t be humble, your buddies want to hear about it. If you get or witness a hole-in-one, we encourage you to text a photo with the culprit and details to the **Informer Sports Hotline (216) 255-2173**.

New Local Rule suggestion – Everybody who plays Lake Fairways has, at one time or another, faded, sliced, hooked, skulled, thinned or shanked the ball right on **Hole #10** down the hill and into the

bushes behind Ron and Diane Faria's house. Have a look into Ron's golf cart and you might see one of your golf balls sitting in his tray.

When you arrive at the green and are unable to find your ball, the area of offense is marked as OB with white stakes. Consequently, you are supposed to return to the tee and hit another ball. This not only slows down the flow of play but is quite embarrassing to have to re-tee and test the patience of the group waiting on the tee.



I propose that we mark this area as a "Penalty Area" (thanks for the terminology **Al Keefer**) with red stakes and designate a drop area which will minimize confusion, alleviate slow play and hopefully, eliminate some of the frustration brought on by what is already a difficult hole.

Golf Range Tokens are once again becoming a highly sought after commodity at the Lake Fairways Pro Shop.

When asked for comment, currency speculator and intuitive arbitrage trader, **Ray Burrows** replied "With the influx of lousy Canadian golfers and recent devaluation of the Canadian Dollar, it's possible that the golf range tokens have increased in value to the point that they are being hoarded and traded on the black market."



If you have more than 2 range tokens in your golf cart, we ask that you use them as you probably need the practice, while helping the community by putting them back into circulation for the rest of the struggling golfer population.