

Men's Golf League News, September – 2023

Fake News Reporter - Tad Lague

The Lake Fairways CC and Pine Lakes CC courses are the lead story for this month's edition of the Men's League News. To a man, members at both clubs are marveling at the improvements around the courses. Just think about it, we got wiped out by one of the worst hurricanes in a lifetime just under a year ago and not only is the course back and playable, but it's markedly better at every turn. I know, a few of my favorite trees where I'd bump into any one of my prostate brothers are no longer standing, but I have to say, tee conditions have improved, fairways are greener and thicker with fewer hardpan lies and the greens are rolling true with significantly fewer weeds.

So, Golf-Hat's Off to our course Superintendent, Scotty Helmig. He said he knew what the courses needed, he said he knew how to get it done, he said it would take a couple of years and, despite an added challenge by way of Hurricane Ian, he's delivering on his promise. And he says he's not done yet. Thanks Scotty from the Men's League. I'm sure the snowbirds are going to be pleasantly surprised at course conditions when they arrive in a few months' time. Keep up the good work. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed.

The Lake Fairways bunkers are being raked on a regular basis by our course maintenance crew and there is every reason to learn how to hit a bunker shot. Stop using the bunker conditions as an excuse to pull your ball out of the bunker without penalty. I've noticed through personal play that those who find themselves in a bunker are not taking the time to do a proper rake job, if they rake it at all. Come on guys! Let's treat our course with a little respect. Rake the traps, fix your ball-marks and repair your divots.

Men's League play has continued through the summer with the Lake Fairways boys joining up with the Pine Lakes boys and alternating venues for play as the summer maintenance projects alternate courses allowing the population of golf addicts an outlet in spite of the heat. The joint league play keeps the numbers up for better competition, larger 50/50 raffle pots, an opportunity to play with guys you might not normally play with, promotes inter course harmony, bigger winnings for that unlikely good round and the hopes of getting into a successful four-some even though you played like crap.



Bill Hilt and **Pete Greco** reviewing the days' pairings.

Hey Bill, think you forgot something !

Al Keifer is a very pleasant guy to play a round of golf with and he's a decent golfer. But as those who have gone around Lake Fairways with Al know, it's rare to hear him admit to hitting a good shot. In fact, I've known Al for almost 3 years and despite the good shots I've witnessed, he has yet to actually admit to hitting one. He pulled it, he pushed it, it wasn't solid, it wasn't close enough to the pin, it didn't hit the middle of the club, it didn't hit the middle of the cup and so on.



Well golf fans, we have an update. Al has in fact admitted to a good shot. For the record it was a Friday

morning round with Jerry Jaromin, Jim Divit and John Hunter at Lake Fairways on the 15th hole. It was a 9-iron 2nd shot up the hill which landed on the green about 4 feet from the pin. A typically modest Al turned to Jerry and said, "I hit that well". Jerry, not believing his ears, looked back at Al who had a rye smile and immediately called the Informer Hotline. We had a reporter out there before the group reached the 18th green to get more details about this rare event.

Upon more in-depth investigation by our fake news reporter, when asked if she had any idea why today was the day that Al finally hit a good shot, Sandy Keefer pondered for a moment then responded "Well, I had a pack of these cannabis gummy candy things that my grandson forgot here after his last visit, so I dropped one in Al's coffee this morning to add some flavor. He seemed rather chipper when he headed out to the course." Ya think?

We have unconfirmed reports that Dora Dismeyer got a call from Al that evening asking about chocolate chip cookies.

Robbery on the 14th green - normally this space is reserved for reported Holes-In-One. But we've had no reports of an ace so far this summer.



However, we had an incident on the 14th green worth reporting. August 1, **Tom Charboneau**, **Bill Hilt** and myself were playing a hot afternoon round on Lake Fairways. There was no one else on the course so it must have been the last group in the morning who was having a hard time putting the flag stick back in the hole properly. We'd played a couple

holes on the front 9 where the flag was leaning.

When we arrived at the 14th tee, we could barely see the flag which was lying down on the back left of the green. Not knowing where the hole was for sure, Tom let fly a smooth 5-wood which drew toward the center of the green, landed soft and took the slope of the green towards the back left where the flag was lying down.

After an unsuccessful search for my ball in the palmetto bush on the right we got up to the green where we saw Tom's ball had rolled up to the base of the stick and what might have been Tom's first ever Hole-In-One had the flag been properly placed back in the hole.

It was a really good shot, but you can't call it a Hole-In-One unless the ball is in the hole. We did however, return to the scene of the crime after the round and had a couple of beers in celebration of Tom's Hole-In-1½ .

The moral of the story is that you should always fix your ball marks, fill your divots, rake the traps and put the flag back in the cup properly. You don't know whose playing behind you and what effect your actions or neglect will have on their rounds.



Tom Charboneau at the scene of the crime still smiling about the shot that could have been.

Every Saturday morning , Paul kisses Carol on his way out the door to play with Fred Kline's Green Saturday group at Lake Fairways starting at precisely 8:00. After golf, he stops in the Sand

Trap for an iced coffee and to have a few laughs, then returning home at 12:00 for lunch with Carol.

This particular Saturday, Paul heads out as usual and Carol expects him back for lunch at noon. 1:00 rolls around, then 2:00, then 3:00. Carol is starting to get concerned about what might have happened to Paul.

Paul walks in at 3:15 and Carol says "What happened? I was getting worried"

Paul says well, after golf I saw this gal in her disabled golf cart on the side of the road so I stopped to see if I could help. She explains that she's new here and didn't know who to call. I got the cart going pretty quick so she offered to buy me an iced coffee at the Sand Trap.

We chatted for a while then she asked me to follow her home in case her cart died again. When we got there she said "Come on in. Let me show you the new house." Well, one thing led to another and I slept with her.

Carol's eyes got real small as she stared at Paul for a good 10 seconds and she said "You lying piece of \$%#@*!. You played 36 holes didn't you?"

If you have stories, holes-in-one or any news that concerns the Men's League or the golf community, please get photos, make note of details and contact your Fake News Reporter – Tad Lague (216) 255-2173 TadLague@gmail.com